

The Rock Slab News

JUNE 2007 VOLUME 42 ISSUE 6

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The Purpose of the Searchers Gem & Mineral Society

By-Laws, Article 1, Sec. 2

This society was formed for the purpose of banding together a group of congenial persons for the purpose of studying mineralogy and the earth sciences by means of association with other mineralogical societies and with their members; presentation of public exhibitions, lectures, and similar programs; field trips for exploration, study and collecting of specimens; the encouragement of interest among young people and the fostering of interest in mineralogy and the lapidary arts; the procurement and maintenance of collections of minerals, mineral products and related pictures, writings and other information thereof; and all other means which are appropriate to the accomplishment of the primary objectives above set forth.

This organization is not formed for profit and none of its assets shall be used for the pecuniary gain or profit of any individual who is or may become a member thereof.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Clarke Benich

Hello Again Fellow Searchers!

I haven't heard the final figures yet, but I do believe we may have record profits from this year's Show. If so, Congratulations to Betty Nelson and everybody who participated, if not, Congratulations anyway to all because (I'm sure you'll all agree) this was one we can be proud of. Great Job!

Sorry I missed last month's general meeting, but the Show took its toll on me physically by helping my eczema run wild. If that wasn't bad enough, I then ended up with the flu after working at the Anaheim Children's Art Festival and missed the board meeting as well. With this streak I'm on, I believe I'll make sure I have my medical insurance cards up to date and in my wallet when we do the Heritage Day event on June 3rd.

The Children's Festival was a blast for a change, even though it was only Kathy Clark and myself working it. Knowing we were going to be short handed, we had no choice but to change the way we did the children's jewelry. If you've ever worked the Children's Festival you'd know there is no way 2 people can keep up with the volume of kids, it would be chaos and frustration for us, the kids, and the parents as well. So I made up a bunch of flyers consisting of an instruction sheet for the parents on one side and information on our club on the other side, picked up some baggies, put a ringlet and a flyer in each baggie and passed them out to the children. They picked out their own stones and the gluing was left up to their parents to do them later.

It went over surprisingly well with the parents. We did not hear one complaint, and all the kids got rings. We put out 300 flyers which told them about the Searchers and where and when we meet, and instead of concentrating on making the rings, we were able to relax, interact with the kids, talk to their parents, and basically spend the entire day promoting our club.

We will be doing Heritage Day the same as we did the Children's Festival, so if you've volunteered to work it, plan on having a good time educating the children and promoting the Searchers.

See you all at the next meeting on June 12, that is, if I don't end up with Bird Flu or Malaria or the Plague or something following this next event! Think anyone would look at me funny if I showed up in a suit of armor with a string of garlic around my neck, a bible tucked under my arm and clutching a lucky rabbit's foot? Tempting . . .

GENERAL INFORMATION

Check our website for unexpected changes in schedule! www.searchersrocks.org

- General Meetings:** 7 PM, 2nd Tuesday of each month, Jan - Nov
- Board Meetings:** 6 PM, 4th Wednesday of each month, Jan - Nov
- Workshop:** Thursday, 6 – 10 PM, free wire-wrap class.
Saturday, 3 – 7 PM Free silver-smithing class 1st, 2nd, 3rd Saturdays (schedule varies).
- No workshops:** Nov 23 & 25.
- Location:** Anaheim Downtown Community Center
250 East Center St.
Anaheim, CA 92805
- Mailing Address:** Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.
P.O Box 3492
Anaheim, CA 92803
- Website:** www.searchersrocks.org
- Membership Dues:** Individual \$20
Couple \$25
Junior (17 & under) \$2
- Bulletin:** Submissions due 3rd Friday of the month via e-mail to: editor@searchersrocks.org.
Bulletin distributed 1st week of each month. Mail exchange bulletins to the editors:
Jenny Stavreva & Kathy Clark
18661 Silver Maple Way
N. Tustin, CA 92705-2144
- Charter Date:** June 20, 1958
- Affiliations:**
- California Federation of Mineralogical Societies
 - American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

SEARCHERS BOARD

Officers

President	Clarke Benich	714/552-7336
1 st V.P. (Programs)	Walter Mroch	714/826-2132
2 nd V.P. (Field Trips)	Steve Duncan	714/532-4703
Director	Robert Burson	562/860-5938
Secretary	Lorri Renck	714/397-3584
Treasurer	Pat Lynch	909/393-2186
Federation Delegate	Virgil Talbott	714/871-7900

Committee Chairpersons

Anaheim Arts Council	Margaret Neeley	714/535-2030
Editor	Jenny Stavreva Kathy Clark	714/736-4345 714/639-9927
Historian	Beth Pelfrey	714/774-2754
Hospitality	Patricia Underwood	714/293-2940
Library	Maggie Vigil	714/288-2072
Membership	Kathy Clark	714/639-9927
Monthly Drawing	Anastacio O'Campo	714/490-0416
Phone Tree	Audrey Nichols	714/971-6789
Phone Tree Asst. 1	Sharon & Bob Burson	562/860-5938
Phone Tree Asst. 2	Karen Martinez	562/423-2832
2007 Show	Betty Nelson	714/530-1365
Show Co-Chair	Kathy Clark	714/639-9927
Sunshine	Carlene Blake	714/549-0099
Veteran's Coordinator	Larry Richey	714/846-3573
Website	Steve Duncan	714/532-4703
Workshop	Herb Beckman	714/778-1496

JUNE EVENTS

- 12 7-9 pm General Meeting
17 Opening day of "Colors of Light and Stone" the Expanded Gem Collection of Michael Scott, Returns to Bowers Museum from June 17, 2007 for a Year-Long Run
27 7-8 pm Board Meeting

SUMMER FIELD TRIP

By Steve Duncan

There is a do-it-yourself field trip that is highly recommended for all Searchers and anyone else who loves rocks and gems. On June 17 a new exhibit "GEMS" will open at Bowers Museum in Santa Ana. Bowers is located at 2002 North Main Street, Santa Ana, CA 92706. This exhibit is a display of the collection of Michael Scott. This is an expanded exhibition; there was an exhibit of his collection at Bowers about 4 years ago. At that time I had the opportunity to see it and it was quite simply the most fabulous display of gems, stones, carvings and sculptures that I have ever seen. I recommend it highly. I expect there is a minimal charge for the display. Details will be available on the Bowers website which is www.bowers.org.

Admission prices for eight exhibits that include "Colors of Light and Stone" (Michael Scott's collection), "Treasures from Shanghai: 5,000 Years of Chinese Art and Culture" and "Mummies, Death and the Afterlife of Ancient Egypt. . . Treasures from the British Museum" and five permanent exhibits are adults: weekends \$19 and weekdays \$17; senior (62+) and students: weekends \$14 and weekdays \$12. Children under 6 are free. As a special membership privilege to commemorate the grand opening of the Dorothy and Donald Kennedy Wing, \$65 memberships (\$45 for seniors and students) gain entry for two adults and all children in the household under the ages of 18 all year until May of 2008.

"Colors of Light and Stone" (Michael Scott's collection) which opens of June 17, 2007 is scheduled for a year-long run in the new Anderson-Hsu-Tu Gallery of Bowers Museum.

NOTES FROM THE EDITORS

- Dear members, we will appreciate it if you share your impressions, suggestions and advice after your admission to the exhibition.

Thank you

- The pictures from the Show will be included in the next issues.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

By Kathy Clark

Almost all of these new members joined the Searchers at our Show in May.
Let's welcome these newest members of the Searchers' family:

<p>Kathy Weaver Andrew Matz (Jr. member) Carina Matz (Jr. member) 23441 Golden Springs Dr. #148 Diamond Bar, CA 91765 626-964-1032 LUV2Babaloo@aol.com</p>	<p>Thanh Ho Andrew Ho (Jr. member) 2542 Halfmoon Anaheim, CA 92804 714-290-7055 thanh.t.ho2@boeing.com</p>	<p>Reuben C. Perez Vincent Perez (Jr. member) 8081 San Miguel Buena Park, CA 90620 714-821-3522</p>
<p>Keith & Chris Droste 1547 E. La Palma Anaheim, CA 92805 714-563-4754 kdroste@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p>Marie & Melvin Huffman 8421 Munster Dr. Huntington Beach, CA 92646 714-536-0344 mhuffII@aol.com</p>	<p>Michael Heterick 4505 Calif. Ave. H504 Long Beach, CA 90817 562-422-1543</p>
<p>Barbara Braley 9621 Parade St. Anaheim, CA 92804 714-904-6966 barbiebraley@aol.com</p>	<p>Thomas & Kathleen Wilson 1327 Catherine Circle Corona, CA 92880 951-371—0671 tommy0624@juno.com</p>	<p>Larry N. & Edna F. Thacker 75 Sereno Tustin, CA 92780 714-667-8266 ThackerL@aol.com</p>
<p>Cheryl & Kevin Doane 3230 Oregon Ave. Costa Mesa, CA 92626 714-557-3279 cLdoane@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p>Jay Valle 1421 Latchford Ave. Hacienda Heights, CA 91245 626-934-9764 res19pnb@verizon.net</p>	



*Happy Birthday to all those
Searchers' members who celebrate their birthdays in JUNE!*

LAST MONTH'S PROGRAM

By Kathy Clark

May's program "Treasure in Your Backyard" was presented to us by Jim Klein who is always a lot of fun. He demonstrated the uses of different kinds of gold-finding equipment and told stories from the old 49er days.

IN OUR MEMORIES

By Walter Mroch

Longtime Show dealer Dennis Mullane passed away on May 24 due to complications from pneumonia. He and his wife Ida, who passed away about two years ago, were fixtures in our Show up until they retired a few years ago. They will be missed by anyone that they ever encountered in the club. They were like your own grandma and grandpa and always had a smile and a story for anyone interested at the Searchers Show.

JUNE CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 3-7 pm Lapidary, silversmithing
3	4	5	6	7 6-10pm Lapidary, wire-wrapping	8	9 3-7 pm Lapidary, silversmithing
10	11	12 7-9 pm General Meeting	13 7:30 pm	14 6-10 pm Lapidary, wire-wrapping	15	16 3-7 pm Lapidary, silversmithing
17 "Colors of Light and Stone" Opening	18	19	20	21	22	23 3-7 pm Lapidary, silversmithing
24	25	26	27 7 pm Board Meeting	28	29	30

SEARCHERS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Kathy Clark
18661 Silver Maple Way
North Tustin, CA 92705-2144
hanky1panky3@yahoo.com
714/639-9927

Please Print!

Date: _____
 Name 1: _____
 Name 2: _____
 Jr. Member 1: _____ 2: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____ E-mail: _____
 Occupation: _____ Employer: _____
 Birthday: Month ___ Day ___ Birthday: Month ___ Day ___

Individual: \$20
 Couple: \$25
 Junior members (17 and under): \$2

Please indicate the club activities that interest you:
 Minerology () Geology () Lapidary () Fossils () Other _____
 Meet other Searchers and volunteer to help a committee(s):
 Anaheim Arts Council () Historian () Library ()
 Website () Membership () Monthly Drawing ()
 Phone Comm. () RSN Editor () Sunshine ()
 Veteran's Workshop () Hospitality () Workshop ()
 Rock'n'Kids () Annual Show () Silent Auction ()



Jenny Stavreva & Kathy Clark, *Editors*
18661 Silver Maple Way
North Tustin, CA 92705-2144



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JUNE BIRTHSTONE

ALEXANDRITE

The gemstone Alexandrite is the color-changing variety of the mineral Chrysoberyl. Its color varies from red to green depending upon the light source. Alexandrite is named for the former Czar of Russia, Alexander II, and was first discovered in the Ural Mountains of Russia, supposedly on the day of his birth. Chromium gives alexandrite its color and while, in most minerals, a trace element like chromium would provide only one color to the mineral, in alexandrite it gives it two. Coloring agents are dependent on the wavelength of light and the chemical bonds in the crystal to determine the color that they will cause. In a single specimen of alexandrite, the chromium is in such a balanced situation that the color of the specimen depends on the character of light that hits the crystal. If the light is natural sunlight or fluorescent light, the crystal will be green; however, if the light is incandescent light from a common indoor light bulb, then the crystal will appear red. Synthetic corundums spiked with trace elements that yield an alexandrite-like color change are sold as alexandrite on the gemstone market. These stones have a red-violet, near amethyst color in incandescent light and a blue-violet color in daylight. They are far cheaper than natural alexandrites, which are some of the rarest and most expensive of gemstones. Natural, top-quality stones can fetch prices over \$10,000 per carat.