

# The Rock Slab News

JUNE 2009 VOLUME 46 ISSUE 6

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.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Norbert Bernhardt

Hello Searchers!

What a show! I want to thank all of you that helped make our annual gem show a success. Thanks especially to Jim Williamson and Larry Richey and their assistants! It was great to see so many of our guests, dealers and members having a great time. Many of our guests were so excited about our hobby that they joined that weekend!

We thank Gene Meidinger for donating some wonderful condor agate material for the Silent Auction at our recent show. Gene has been donating quality materials to the Silent Auction for quite a few years, and we thank him for his many donations. If you are interested in purchasing some quality slabs or rough, give Gene a call, make an appointment and see what he has for sale (714-595-7230).

We want to congratulate Grant Miller again for having entered a display for 40 consecutive years in our show. Here's to the next 40 years!

The Anaheim Children's Festival was fantastic. I want to thank Pat Lynch for volunteering to take charge of that event and also thank her crew for helping out. Many kids came home with beautiful gemstone rings!

So, it's on to the **Searchers Picnic on Sunday, July 19**, at the Ralph B. Clark Regional Park from 10:30am to 4:00pm. Please mark it on your calendar!

See you at the meeting, June 9!

## JUNE PROGRAM

by Brian Kussman

Our June program will be Searcher member Elizabeth Madsen giving a talk on the geologic history of the Grand Canyon illustrated with photos she took during her recent Field Geology course at UCLA.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Check our website for unexpected changes in schedule!  
[www.searchersrocks.org](http://www.searchersrocks.org)

**General Meetings:** 7 PM, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month,  
 Jan - Nov

**Board Meetings:** 7PM, Wed. after general meeting,  
 Jan - Nov

**Workshop:** Thursday, 6 – 10 PM, free wire-wrap class.  
 Saturday, 3 – 7 PM Free silver-smithing class 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays (schedule varies).

**No workshops:** January 1, 2009

**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](http://www.searchersrocks.org)

**Membership Dues:** Individual \$25  
 Couple \$35  
 Junior (17 & under) \$10  
 Valid Jan.1-Dec.31,not prorated

**Bulletin:** Submissions due 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month via e-mail to: [editor@searchersrocks.org](mailto:editor@searchersrocks.org).  
 Bulletin distributed 1<sup>st</sup> week of each month. Mail exchange bulletins to the editor:  
 Kathy Clark  
 18661 Silver Maple Way  
 N. Tustin, CA 92705-2144

**Charter Date:** April 20, 1958

**Affiliations:**

- California Federation of Mineralogical Societies
- American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

## SEARCHERS BOARD

### Officers

|                                    |                   |              |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| President                          | Norbert Bernhardt | 714-734-9665 |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> V.P. (Programs)    | Brian Kussman     | 714-527-1531 |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> V.P. (Field Trips) | Steve Duncan      | 714-724-7102 |
| Director                           | Keith Droste      | 714-563-5063 |
| Secretary                          | Kathy Clark       | 714-639-9927 |
| Treasurer                          | Pat Lynch         | 714-829-4737 |
| Federation Delegate                | Virgil Talbott    | 714-871-7900 |

### Committee Chairpersons

|                       |                        |              |
|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Anaheim Arts Council  | Margaret Neeley        | 714-535-2030 |
| Editor                | Kathy Clark            | 714-639-9927 |
| Historian             | Beth Pelfrey           | 714-774-2754 |
| Hospitality           | Lorri Renck            | 714-397-3584 |
| Librarian             |                        |              |
| Membership            | Glenn Benedict         | 714-573-1424 |
| Monthly Drawing       | Skip & Connie Cone     | 714-827-8675 |
| Phone Tree            | Audrey Nichols         | 714-971-6789 |
| Phone Tree Asst. 1    | Sharon & Robert Burson | 562-860-5938 |
| Phone Tree Asst. 2    | Karen Martinez         | 562-423-2832 |
| 2009 Show Chairman    | Jim Williamson         | 714-995-9080 |
| Show Co-Chair         | Larry Richey           | 714-846-3573 |
| Sunshine              |                        |              |
| Veterans' Coordinator | Larry Richey           | 714-846-3573 |
| Webmaster             | Walter Mroch           | 714-826-2132 |
| Workshop              | Herb Beckman           | 714-778-1496 |
| Rock'n Kids           | Ana Lorenzo            | 714-734-9665 |

**Sponsored by:**  
**Anaheim Arts Council**

## ROCK'N KIDS NEWS by Ana Lorenzo

Thanks to all Jr. members that helped with the show: Lauren Benedict, Audrey Benedict, Julia Benedict, Julia Serna and Matthew Gammon.

On **Saturday, June 20**, at **3:30pm** we are having a class on how to cut stones with a trim saw. It will be at the Searchers workshop.

We want to give special thanks to Walter and Donna Johnson for their generous donation of six slabs of jade that we will be using for our class.

Please be sure to RSVP by June 15 (714-734-9665).

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Please welcome the newest members of the Searchers family:

|                 |                     |                    |
|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| ▶ Susan Alsky   | ▶ Barbara Barron    | ▶ Beverly Best     |
| ▶ Hollis Best   | ▶ Jodi Boyd         | ▶ Sue Gallagher    |
| ▶ Thomas Gan    | ▶ Frank Gerny       | ▶ Gary Grayson     |
| ▶ Leah Grayson  | ▶ Scott Lamb        | ▶ Douglas Lithgow  |
| ▶ Diana Lithgow | ▶ Alexandra Lithgow | ▶ Joshua Lithgow   |
| ▶ John Robinson | ▶ Francisco Torres  | ▶ John Ward        |
| ▶ Don Todd      | ▶ Carl Whitehead    | ▶ Denise Whitehead |
| ▶ Joan York     | ▶ Walter York       |                    |

All of these new members joined at the Show in May.

Our new membership chairman Glenn Benedict has fast become a real asset to the Searchers and has done a fabulous job promoting membership with his fresh ideas and timeliness.

**There are no field trips scheduled for June.**

## JUNE EVENTS

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Time</u> | <u>Event</u>                                 |
|-------------|-------------|--|
| 4,11,18,25  | 6-10pm      | Thursday Workshop (lapidary, wire wrapping)  |
| 6,13,20,27  | 3-7pm       | Saturday Workshop (lapidary, silversmithing) |
| 9           | 7pm         | June General Meeting                         |
| 10          | 7pm         | Board Meeting @ Norbert's                    |

## JULY EVENTS

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Time</u> | <u>Event</u> |
|-------------|-------------|--------------|
|-------------|-------------|--------------|

**The Center will be closed Saturday, July 4**

|              |        |  |
|--------------|--------|--|
| 2,9,16,23,30 | 6-10pm | Thursday Workshop (lapidary, wire wrapping)  |
| 11,18,25,    | 3-7pm  | Saturday Workshop (lapidary, silversmithing) |
| 14           | 7pm    | July General Meeting                         |
| 15           | 7pm    | Board Meeting @ Norbert's                    |

19      **Searchers Picnic @ Ralph B. Clark Regional Park** from **10:30am to 4:00pm**. (To reach the park take the 5 or 91 frwy. to Beach Blvd, exiting to the north, proceed 4 miles and turn right on Rosecrans, drive 1/2 mile east and the park entrance will be on your right).

For a complete listing of Gem & Mineral Shows go to [www.cfmsinc.org](http://www.cfmsinc.org), [www.rockngem.com](http://www.rockngem.com) and [www.gemfaire.com](http://www.gemfaire.com). And don't forget the Route 66 Gold Miners at [www.route66goldminers.org](http://www.route66goldminers.org) and the GPAA at [www.goldprospectors.com](http://www.goldprospectors.com).

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

**Some Words of Thanks and Enthusiasm from Show Chairmen**  
**THE PARTY'S OVER . . . IT'S TIME TO CALL IT THE END**  
**from Beth Pelfrey, 2009 Kitchen Chair**

Well, another year, another kitchen crew is history.

Folks, we did fine; in this economy as prices rose, our sales increased from last year and we did a little better. Congratulations!

I have said in the past and I will say it again: I get the best team of the show! You guys are terrific. You put up with me and put out a good bunch of food and fun. 1959: Burt's poodle skirt, Sarah's rolled up jeans, the rock 'n roll attitude you all had.

Each one of you is a major necessary cog in the great wheel that keeps the hot dogs, chili, nachos, sandwiches, salads, sodas and good cheer rolling on out. I thank you so much; without each and every one of you it would fall apart.

Oh, did I forget the customers? Well, the serving line is THE place to meet and greet old friends and new. We don't just fix food; we help everyone to get through the day. Remember, a rockhound club, like an army, goes on its stomach. We keep 'em fed and happy.

Thank you everyone for all the help and body, didn't we have fun in spite of the sore feet, dishwater hands and heat!

**from Darshini, 2009 Decorations Chair**

For the Door Prizes there was a great air of excitement as we announced and gave away the fantastic donations for the door prizes which was continuous throughout the 2 days. We would like to thank the very generous donations from Bob Piazza and Francisco Torres (who were both very, very generous) and other generous donations were given by Steve and Marcia Duncan, John O'Connor and most of the vendors—all the beautiful gifts were excitedly and gratefully accepted by all the Winners! Thank you again to ALL our special contributors. We are deeply grateful, and they all made a huge difference in the 'Door Prize' give-aways. Thank You!

We hope that you all enjoyed the decorations. We would like to thank Sizzler's for the loan of some of their 50's decorations. We would also like to give a special THANK YOU to Chris for some of the balloons and also Lauren Benedict who took time away from assisting her father to help with the tricky balloon filling (helium) and decorations on Sunday.

## **Thanks and Enthusiasm (continued)**

**from Keith Droste, Demonstrators Chair**

I want to thank all the demonstrators who did such a great job for Searchers. Looking forward to seeing you at the next show.

**from Chris Edmonds, Grab Bag Chair**

Whew! Can't believe it's over, but the Show was great fun. I want to thank all my Stitchers, Stuffers, Contributors and Helpers and extend an invitation to one and ALL to join in for next year's Show. A reminder for everyone to gather material all year on field trips and anyone who has a tumbler to get it shaking Now!

**from John O'Connor, Children's Jewelry Chair**

I would like to thank Connie Owens, Margaret Hogarth and Pat Lynch for their help and assistance in making the rings. Of course, getting a break meant I could buy more rocks which is a good thing. I think. I would also like to thank Darshini for always seeming to be around and asking how things were going.

## **SOME BAD NEWS FROM THE SHOW**

**from Mike Eubank, Chapter President, Route 66 Gold Miners, inc.**

I want to thank all of you for your hard work of making our booth such a success at the Anaheim Gem and Mineral Show. With deep regret I must inform you all that Route 66 Gold Miners Inc. was robbed of all of the funds that we brought in on Sunday. Someone smashed Bryan's truck window and stole the safe. I also lost all of my work keys, and the keys to my RV. Max M. had just bought a bag of Sapphire that we were planning to add to our \$30 bags and that, too, was stolen. All of the members of Searchers feel very bad for us. I told them as we left that we are looking forward to next year.

This robbery is just a little bump in the road for us. We are counting our blessings that no one was hurt. My board members will change our protocol of transporting any amount of corporate cash. We have an exact inventory of items that were stolen, and the monies lost. We are still waiting on the estimates for Bryan's truck. Route 66 Gold Miners Inc. is strong enough to absorb this loss and continue on. But I think added Security is a great idea.

Note from Editor: This was a devastatingly sad event to happen at the close of our 50th Show. I admire Mike Eubank and the Route 66 Gold Miners Inc. for their attitude has been a lesson on graciousness and optimism. I wish them all the best.

# The Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 3492 Anaheim, California 92803

www.searchersrocks.org

## Membership Application

**PLEASE PRINT**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name (1): \_\_\_\_\_

Name (2) \_\_\_\_\_

Jr. Member (1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

(3) \_\_\_\_\_

(4) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate your field of interest by checking any/all of the following:

Mineralogy ( ) Geology ( ) Paleontology ( ) Lapidary/Workshops ( ) Field Trips ( )

Other ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

How did you become aware of the Searchers? Friend/Relative ( ) Member ( ) Internet ( )

Other ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

The Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Inc. is a non-profit organization and we rely upon volunteers within our club to serve on our committees as well as our board members. This field is optional and only serves as future information. Making a checkmark in any area in no way obligates you to volunteer or serve in any of the positions or on any of its committees.

**Please mark any/all fields you may be interested in, or have a special expertise in:**

Anaheim Arts Council ( ) Club Historian ( ) Librarian ( ) Webmaster ( )

Phone Comm. ( ) Membership Chairman ( ) Monthly Drawings ( )

Newsletter Editor ( ) Sunshine ( ) Hospitality ( ) Annual Show ( )

Veteran's Workshop ( ) Silent Auction ( ) Rock'N'Kids ( ) Workshop ( )

**Annual Dues: Individual: \$25 Couple: \$35 Junior Members (17 & under) : \$10**

Valid Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, not prorated. *Subject to change.*

**Please make Check payable to: "The Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Inc."**

**mail to: Glenn Benedict  
Membership Chairman  
1202 Skyline Drive  
North Tustin, CA 92705**

# The Rock Slab News

February 2009

Volume 46 ISSUE 2



## JUNE BIRTHSTONE: Pearl

From one of the humblest of life forms, the mollusk, comes the pearl—a gem of unsurpassed beauty and elegance. The ancient Greeks believed that pearls were the hardened tears of joy that the goddess of love shook from her eyes as she was born from the sea. Arab legend says pearls were formed when oysters were lured from the depths of the ocean by the beautiful moon and then swallowed moonlit dewdrops. And the ancient Chinese thought that these gems originated from the brains of dragons. Pearls have been ground up and used in cosmetics and as a medicine for heart and stomach conditions. Some cultures use pearls as an aphrodisiac. Once only those with royal status wore pearl jewelry, but eventually these gems were seen among all classes. They are deemed a mark of taste and refinement as well as a symbol of purity. Pearls are nature's perfect gift, suitable for all ages, and elegantly worn with everything from jeans to an evening gown.



Kathy Clark, *Editor*  
 18661 Silver Maple Way  
 North Tustin, CA 92705-2144

