

The Rock Slab News

Volume 47 ISSUE 11

NOVEMBER 2010



NOVEMBER BIRTHSTONES Topaz and Citrine



Two gems are appropriate for November birthdays - *Topaz* and *Citrine*.

Topaz is a gemstone available in a rich rainbow of colors. Prized for several thousand years in antiquity, all yellow gems in antiquity were called *topaz*. Often confused with citrine quartz (yellow) and smoky quartz (brown), quartz and topaz are separate and unrelated mineral species. The most prized color of topaz is called *Imperial topaz* after the Russian Czars of the 1800s and features a magnificent orange body color with pinkish undertones. Topaz also comes in yellow, pink, purple, orange, and the many popular blue tones.

Citrine, the other birthstone for November is known as the "healing quartz". This golden gemstone is said to support vitality and health while encouraging and guiding hope, energy and warmth within the wearer. Citrine can be found in a variety of shades ranging from pastel yellow to dark brownish orange. It is one of the most affordable of gemstones and plentiful in nature. Citrine is found most frequently in Brazil, Bolivia, and Spain.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Norbert Bernhardt



Hello Searchers!

We are getting to the end of another exciting year! The holidays are coming up and I hope all of you have a great holiday season! Remember to join us at the Christmas Party on December 4th. Please send your payment to Keith Droste or bring it to the November general meeting. Please see Xmas party information in this newsletter and in a prior e-mail sent to all members.

We have elections at the November general meeting and we also have our annual "Searchers Pie Night". Please bring a pie to share!

I want to thank the Board and all Committee Chairpersons for working with me this past year. Next year looks to be another great year for the Searchers, with many field trips, our annual gem show and exciting general meetings.

I look forward to seeing you all during the holiday season!

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: 7PM, 3rd Tuesday 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).

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

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 editor:
Yery Camacho
13900 Studebaker Rd, #4
Norwalk, CA 90650

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 st V.P. (Programs)	Keith Droste	714-563-4754
2 nd V.P. (Field Trips)	Steve Duncan	714-724-7102
Director		
Secretary	Kathy Clark	714-639-9927
Treasurer	Pat Lynch	714-829-4737
Federation Delegate	Virgil Talbott	714-871-7900

Committee Chairpersons

Anaheim Arts Council	Beth Pelfrey	714-774-2754
Editor	Yery Camacho	714-952-5804

Historian	Beth Pelfrey	714-774-2754
Hospitality	Lorri Renck	714-397-3584
Library		
Membership	Glenn Benedict	714-573-1424
Monthly Drawing	Skip & Connie Cone	714-827-8675
2010 Show Chairman	Robert Burson	562-860-5938
Show Co-Chair	Beth Pelfrey	714-774-2754
Sunshine		
Veterans' Coordinator	Larry Richey	714-846-3573
Website	Gary Grayson	714-593-6488
Workshop	Herb Beckman	714-778-1496
Rock'n Kids	Ana Lorenzo	714-734-9665

Sponsored by: Anaheim Arts Council

FIELD TRIPS

FIELD TRIPS FALL 2010			
Date	Leader	Location & material	Status
Nov 6 & 7	Steve Duncan-Joint trip with the Indian Wells club	Sheep Springs and Rainbow Ledge-agates and famous Rainbow Ridge jasp-agate	Scheduled
Dec 12 Sunday	Steve Duncan	Sierra Pelona claim for banded onyx. Due to the busy holiday season this will be a one day trip	Scheduled
Jan 2011	TBD	Burro Creek AZ	Tentative
Feb 2011	TBD	Siam Siding-Chapenite Cadiz-trilobite fossils	Tentative
?	TBD	Baxter Wash	Tentative
?	TBD	Chuckwalla Mts	Tentative

For a more complete listing of shows go to website: www.cfmsinc.org
 Also see www.motherlodemineralsociety.com/events.html.

Other websites of interest:

- www.firemountaingems.com
- www.southsunproducts.com
- www.pioneergem.com

- www.route66goldminers.org
- www.auctionmasters.com

GENERAL MEETING

By Keith Droste

We have elections at the November 9th. General Meeting and we also have our annual "Searchers Pie Night". Please bring a pie to share!

CHRISTMAS BANQUET - DEC. 4TH.

Here we are again reaching the end of the year and it's time to sign up for our Christmas Banquet. Once again it will be held at Marie Callender's, 540 N. Euclid in Anaheim. Date is Sat. Dec. 4th. at 5:15 p.m. to approx. 9:00 p.m. There will be three choices of dinners: 1. Pepper Crusted Hand Carved Tri-tip 2. Lemon Pepper Crusted Salmon 3. Artichoke & Mushroom Chicken. Soft drinks, coffee or tea is included. Price per person is \$25.00. This includes tax and gratuity. Junior member's dinners will be paid for by the club. **Alcoholic drinks are not included.** Alcohol must be ordered separately and you will pay the waitress. Tips on drink service will be the obligation of the individual. Again, will have **gift swapping**. Gifts should be hobby related, if possible, and a maximum of around \$10. If you bring a gift for swapping, you will receive one. If you don't, you don't. We will have some special entertainment at the banquet to be announced. However, I will announce now that I will be bringing a keyboard and we will all join together singing some Christmas songs. Bring your best voice. (A drink or two might be of some help.) I will have sign-up sheets at our next two meetings and you can pay then and make choices as to dinners. In Dec. new board members will be installed. If you're not going to be at the meeting, you can contact me at 714-563-4754 and I will get you signed up and give you my address to send your check. Room seats 60 people so get with it and take care of this soon. Thanks, Keith Droste, 1st. VP P.S. If you get my answering machine, please leave your number twice and speak slowly. Thanks

ANAHEIM ARTS COUNCIL MEETING

October 7, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 P.M. by the President, Carol Latham.

Carol shared an article about Artistic Vibrancy with the membership by Wolf Brown. Many organizations share similar problems today: lack of attention, lack of support and lack of attendance. This is addressed by raising and maintaining a level of artistic vibrancy with enrichment activities for existing audiences, creating new programs, keeping the programs relevant, capital increases, developing artistic skills and programming and partnerships with businesses in the community. Creating and maintaining vibrancy should be core to all arts organizations.

Announcements:

1. The Anaheim Assistance League celebrated its 70th Anniversary in September
2. The annual Philanthropy Awards are at the Anaheim Hilton November 15
3. Anaheim International Film Festival is in October. See the AAC website (http://www.anaheimartscouncil.com/About_AAC.htm) for details.
4. The Chance Theatre is still showing Edward Albee's 2002 play THE GOAT, OR WHO IS SYLVIA? (Adult themes) <http://www.chancetheater.com/?gclid=CP35wLfa06QCFR5Kgwod51Y-Ig>
5. The Altrusa Club of Anaheim Annual Festival of Trees will be Nov 6. See Carol Latham for tickets and information.
6. AAC fundraiser tickets are still available, Awards will be at the City Council Chambers November 4

7. The new website should be up and running soon.
8. The Harp Guild of Anaheim, of the Pacific Symphony invites everyone to the DIVINE REFLECTIONS: RUSSIAN ICONS AND ARTIFACTS (17th to 20th centuries) The exhibit will be at the Muzeo in Anaheim (241 S. Anaheim Blvd, old library). The Harp Guild is sponsoring a fundraiser on Sunday Nov 7, 1:00-5:00 P.M. Generous hors d'oeuvres and champagne. The price is \$45.00 per person, with opportunity Prizes and a Silent Auction. RSVP by Nov 3, to Dorothea Stephenson (714) 774-0750. [The Harp Guild is a volunteer non-profit raising money for Pacific Symphony's Class Act education program, supporting the participation of Anaheim's Price and Loara Elementary schools]

PROGRAM

The program was stupendous and very informative. Peter Perez, world renown artist and teacher presented the history and artistic foundation of the Mexican festival, EL DIA de los MUERTOS, or Day of the Dead. Briefly, traditionally it is a celebration from All Souls' Night to All Saints Day (Nov 1) at cemeteries. Families gather to celebrate the life of loved ones who have died with food, music, stories and gifts. This celebration has been identified as early as 3000-2500 BCE in many pre-historic cultures, not limited to Mexico and South America. There have been signs of celebration such as this in Australia/New Zealand, Europe and Asia. The Aztec culture in Mexico began the celebration as we know it today. Families get together and erect altars in their homes, cemeteries, and churchyards and remember the persons who have died with fond memories, stories and songs. Altars include pictures, artwork, crafts, food, artifacts and so on – anything that will keep the family member(s) current in hearts. The artist, Jose Posada, in the early 1900's probably did as much as anyone to popularize the images of the skeletons, sugar skulls and so on that you will see in the cases. The Fall Festival in Anaheim will feature 10-foot tall puppet skeletons and the famous "Dance of the Old Men". The date is October 30. The members of the AAC as well as other community groups will demonstrate other arts.

We also attended an exhibit and opening party after the meeting! Wonderful food and programs. Though the party's over, the exhibit of altars will run through the middle of November in the Downtown Community Center. The altars are beautiful and very touching, put in by very old and established Anaheim families celebrating the early members of their families and their accomplishments and lives. There are two altars to beloved family pets over the generations; so beautiful.

SO be sure to see the Festival of the El Dia de los Muertos in the DCC main exhibit area and the niches and enjoy this wonderful slice of the history of our community!

We had a quick workshop after the meeting: Peter showed us how to make paper flowers and the fanciful paper cutouts that decorate homes and altars.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 P.M.

Beth Pelfrey,
Club Representative

UPCOMING CFMS GEM SHOWS

November 6 & 7: CONCORD, CA
Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society
Centre Concord (Clayton Fair Shopping Center)
5298 Clayton Road (near Ygnacio Valley Rd.)
Hours: 10 am – 5 pm daily
Harry Nichandros (925) 289-0454
[Show09@ccmgs.org](mailto>Show09@ccmgs.org)

November 6 & 7: LANCASTER, CA
Palmdale Gem & Mineral Club
Antelope Valley Fairgrounds
2551 West Ave. H & Hwy 14
Hours: 9am – 5pm daily
SusanChaisson-Walblom(661) 406-0143
slchaisson@yahoo.com
www.palmdalegemandmineral.com

November 6 & 7: RIDGECREST, CA

Indian Wells Gem & Mineral Society
Desert Empire Fairgrounds
520 South Richmond Road
Hours: 9 am – 5 pm daily
John DeRosa (760) 375-7905

November 12, 13 & 14: SACRAMENTO, CA

Sacramento Mineral Society
Scottish Rite Center
6151 H Street
Hours: Fri. & Sat. 10-6; Sun. 10-5
Bob Johnson (916) 339-7007
www.Sacramentomineralsociety.org

November 13 & 14: YUBA CITY, CA

Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society
Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds (Franklin Hall)
442 Franklin Avenue
Hours:
Erik Anspaugh (916) 567-9750
inez_brg@yahoo.com

November 21 & 21: OXNARD, CA

Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society
Oxnard Performing Arts Center
800 Hobson Way
Hours: Sat. 9-5; Sun. 10-4
Frank Boulch (805) 271-0538
Show_info@oxnardgem.com
www.oxnardgem.com

SEARCHERS NOVEMBER FIELD TRIP NOV 6 & 7, 2010 SHEEP SPRINGS AND RAINBOW RIDGE

The Searchers' November trip will be to the Sheep Springs area, with a trip to Rainbow Ridge on Sunday. The Sunday trip will be in conjunction with the Indian Wells club (it is their claim). This weekend is also the weekend of their show in Ridgecrest, so you may want to visit their show sometime during the weekend also. Info for the show is available at <http://indianwells.weebly.com/gem--mineral-show.html>

Sheep Springs is an agate site, we will be collecting on the hillside. Normally a rock pick is enough equipment, but you may want some heavier artillery like a small sledge and gad. Rainbow Ridge is famous for multicolored jasp-agate, again some heavier equipment might come in handy, but you will also be able to surface collect.

We will be camping near the quarry on Terese Rd, this campsite is a dry camp (no amenities) and is accessible by RVs. Bring everything you need, don't forget lots of water and sunscreen, hats and rock tools. Saturday night we will have a potluck, so bring some goodies to share.

Directions:

Take 395 north until the 3 way junction where Brown Rd goes left, 395 continues straight, and S China Lake Blvd goes to the right to Ridgecrest. Turn left at this intersection onto Brown Rd. Continue straight on Brown Rd for a little over 2 miles where it will bend to the right. Approximately ¼ mile past this turn there will be a T intersection going off to the left. Turn left onto this dirt rd, I think it is called Terese, and there will be a Searcher sign at the intersection here. There is a sizeable shooting range at the beginning of Terese Rd. We will be camping off of this road, hopefully near the quarry, but if that site is full somewhere nearby. Look for the Searcher signs.

Saturday's trip to Sheep Springs is high clearance vehicles only, 4x4 recommended. Saturday's trip will leave at 0900. We will be out all day, bring a lunch, and lots of water, sunscreen, etc.

Sunday's trip will meet at Brown Rd and the Power line rd (back on Brown road, about half way back to 395). We will meet the folks from the Indian Wells club here. There is a \$5 fee per person to dig at Rainbow Ridge, this helps the club defray the cost of maintaining their claim. This trip has been passable in the past with standard vehicles if you take it easy, high clearance is preferred.

If you have any questions about this trip email me (Steve Duncan) at wsd@iteris.com, or call me at 714 724 7102.

SEARCHERS DECEMBER FIELD TRIP SUNDAY DECEMBER 12TH 2010 THE SIERRA PELONA CLAIM

Steve Duncan will lead a one day field trip on Dec 12th to the Sierra Pelona claim, near Edwards AFB. The material is North Edwards Onyx, some call it banded travertine. The colors run from vivid red/yellow/green/black "stripes to black and white to red and white and everything in between, it just depends on which vein you dig. That bring up the second big item: The best material is found about 2 to more feet down, so be prepared with picks, shovel to remove loose stuff, small sledges and chisels, gads, gloves, eye protection, pry bars (like tire tools!) etc to break it loose.

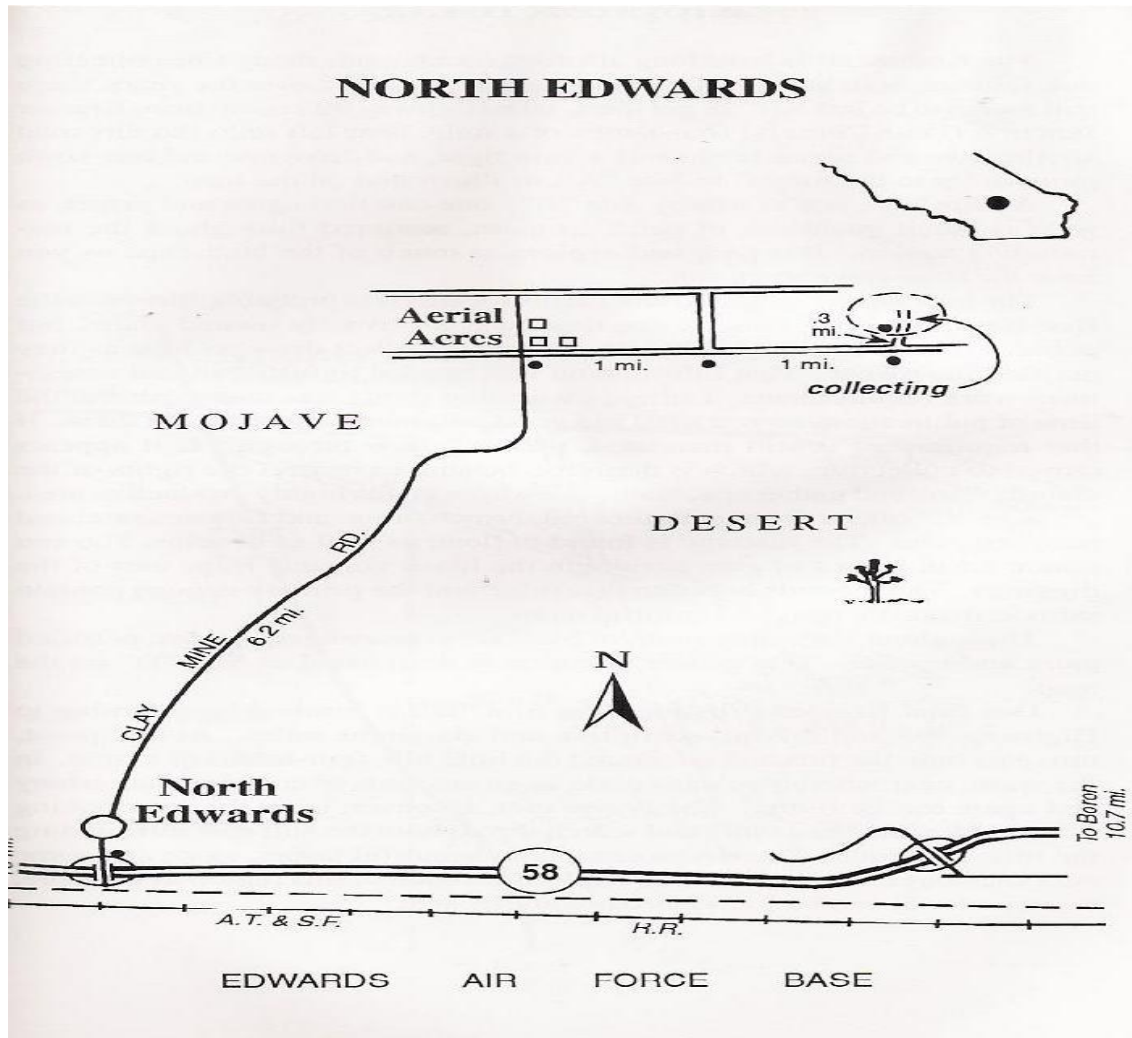
The onyx is not hard like agate so it is not difficult to wedge a chisel in and break off pieces any size you want to take home. I recommend team digging; the results will be better and it is more fun.

Don't be alarmed if this sounds daunting, there are lots of smaller pieces lying around which can be picked up.

There is plenty of material here. The colorful onyx is perfect for bookends, paperweights, spheres, and much more. You can make lovely jewelry as well, but do bear in mind it is not as hard as agate and jasper and though it works up faster and shines well; it would scratch if you tried a belt buckle or ring.

As this is a one day trip, there will be no potluck. You will want to bring lunch, and lots of water, sunscreen, etc. We will meet at the site, the target time will be 0900, but because we collect where we meet late arrivals will not be a problem.

Directions: 395 to Kramer Junction, then go west on 58 to Clay Mine Road. After that follow the map below, the only tricky turn is the final one into the claim, I will have a Searchers sign there to help. You can access this claim in any vehicle, although there is a bit of dirt road driving. One hint, when you turn right at Ariel Acres there will be a chain link fence on your left. I will have a sign there also. This is really quite easy to get to, and quite easy collecting for some very colorful material. I hope to see you there; if you have any questions email me at wsd@iteris.com or call me at 714 724 7102.



THE PERFECT LIGHT WEIGHT FIRST AID KIT

by Chris Ryland via *The Rockhoulder*, September 2010. Originally from AFMS Newsletter 11/96 via *Opal Express* 01/97

The idea is this kit is small and lightweight but yet is an all around life saver.

- **One of those blue plastic eye cups** if you need to wash out your eye, and an eye patch and eye ointment for infections. Most rockhounds do not bother using their eye protection. Next time you go out watch...
- **Water purification tablets.** The cheapest of one of those fancy pocket water purifiers if you are in a mineral rich area with springs or flooded mines.
- Hmmm. Nice vug. Lost your footing? AAAAAAHH!!! WHAM!!! **Roll of black electrician's tape** . It is elastic, waterproof, and air tight and can be used for things like slings, worse yet tourniquets.
- I hear the plane and can see it but cannot see me. There is no wood or it is too wet to have the smoking fire. Go to your local boat supply for **orange smoke pots**. Not flare guns, unless you want to burn to death in the forest, or be on CNN as he subject of the all-time most stupid rescue.

- Water out of sand for your desert rock hounders. 2 dark green thick jumbo plastic garbage bags and one 3 foot long, 1/4" diameter plastic fish tank tube. First dig a 3 foot diameter by 2 foot deep hole and place one bag in the bottom center of the hole, shaping it as a cup. Then, lay one end the plastic tube in the plastic cup bottom and up and out of the hole. No, cover the hole with the other plastic bag one layer thick and totally seal the circumference of the hole and bag with sand. Place a small stone in the center so as to make a depression in the bag over the cup. Then you can suck on the tube-straw. Remember, you can also soak the pit sand with whatever fluid you want as long as it has H₂O in it: radiator fluid, wet dirt, mashed up weeds/foilage, etc, or even your own you-know-what. After all, this is what the astronaut's life support systems do.
 - 30-something, sealed, wax-dipped, strike anywhere, **wooden matches**, wrapped with wax-dipped paper. By the way, did you know that you can start a camp fire with fine steel wool and your flash light battery??
 - **Pocket thermal space blanket.**
 - **Chemical toe warmers.** These are about \$2.00 a pair at your local sports store and can be used as a warm compress or to save your cold toes or fingers.
 - You may have a big geode stuck in your mouth, and cannot yell for help, and it is night. One phosphorescent **snap-and-glow stick.**
 - One of those oval, green, rubber **snake-bite kits.**
 - **A pocket card on CPR**, head injuries, shock, burns, fractures, dislocations, cold injuries, bleeding, etc... Most fire departments and/or hospitals have these free items. After all, if you save your partner's life, he or she may give you their rock collection.
 - **One safety pin**, for among many things, picking out things.
 - **One candle.**
 - **A pencil and a 3"x5" card.**
 - Some waterproof cloth type **Band-Aids.**
 - And remember, if you are in a cold or damp climate, "**COTTON KILLS**".
- Did you forget anything?

AFMS LAND USE POLICY

via AFMS Newsletter - September, 2002

1. Adherence to the AFMS Code of Ethics assures compliance with most statutes and regulations governing collecting on public lands and encourages respect for private property rights and the environment. Clubs are urged to read the AFMS Code of Ethics in at least one meeting every year, to publish the Code frequently in the club newsletter, and to compel compliance on club field trips.

2. Individuals and clubs are urged to write their elected representatives and land use management agency supervisors regarding issues of rule making, legislation and enforcement affecting field collecting of minerals and fossils.

3. Individuals and clubs are urged to join and support activities of the American Lands Access Association (ALAA), a sister organization with responsibility for advancing the interests of earth science amateurs with legislatures and land use management agencies.

4. The AFMS will receive a report from ALAA at its annual meeting.

5. The AFMS endorses the principle of multiple use of public lands as a guarantee of continuing recreational opportunities.

6. Wilderness and monument designations are inconsistent with the principle of multiple use. In view of the vast amount of public land already designated as wilderness and monuments, future such designations should be minimal, taking into account the increased demand for recreational opportunities, including rockhounding, created by a growing population.

7. In furtherance of the principle of multiple use, the AFMS believes that laws, regulations and rules established by relevant governmental authorities should be designed to allow freest possible access to all public lands, coupled with minimal restrictions on the recreational collection of minerals, fossils, gemstone materials and other naturally occurring materials.

8. A right to collect minerals and fossils on public lands should be protected by statute.

9. The AFMS urges its members to work with any or all government authorities to achieve a good working relationship in order to improve the "Public Image" of recreational collectors.

The American Opal Society proudly presents its:

43rd Annual OPAL & GEM SHOW

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- * **Rough and Cut Opals, Opal Jewelry**, other gemstones, books, tools, etc.
- * **Huge Raffle** with many prizes of opals, gemstones, jewelry, lapidary tools, etc.
- * **Free Seminars** on opals, jewelry making, mining, etc. on Saturday and Sunday.
- * **Free Demonstrations** on gemstone cutting, jewelry making, etc.

WHEN:

Saturday, 10am-6pm, November 6, 2010

Sunday, 10am-5pm, November 7, 2010

WHERE:

**White House, West Wing Event Center
1238 S. Beach Blvd.
Anaheim, CA 92804**

ADMISSION:

Adults \$3.00, children under 15 FREE. Plenty of FREE Parking.

One FREE raffle ticket is included with each paid admission.

FOR INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Gene LeVan at (562) 208-7494; e-mail: fineblackopal@sprynet.com

Corey Kuepper at (714) 736-0581; e-mail rockwnd@aol.com



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