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The Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Anaheim CA

VOLUME 53, ISSUE 6



JUNE 2016

A Special Message from our Director

May 2015 BLM/DAC Field Trip to Lavic Siding



On Friday May 20 there was a Field Trip for the Bureau of Land Management's DAC (Desert Advisory Council). Kim Erb was asked by the BLM Barstow Field Office manager to give a presentation at Lavic Siding regarding rock collecting in the area. Kim sent out requests for attendance both personally and via LA Rocks. The rockhound turnout was exceptional. What a surprise when the DAC arrived, members of the Culver City club had distributed and carried signs promoting rockhounding and earth sciences. Included amongst the 66 rockhounds present were 4 past or present presidents of the CFMS. Current CFMS president John Martin, Shirley Leeson (CFMS 1987 and also an AFMS past president 2008), Dick Pankey (2007) and Jennifer Haley (2014) were in attendance. BLM attendees, along with the DAC members, were Katrina Symons, the Barstow Field Office Manager, and Tom Zale, the acting District Manager. Everybody who wanted to say anything regarding rockhounding in general and Lavic in particular had their opportunity. They even let Robert Burson (Searchers CFMS ROTY 2015) talk!

We had a table with a display of rocks, jewelry, spheres, cabochons and photos that EVERYONE came by to inspect and gawk at. One photo album supplied by Adam Dean (CFMS Field Trips – South) had pictures of the local agates that would knock your socks off. A hearty thank you goes out to Jimmy Peterson and Kim for display items. Diamond Pacific's Bill Depue produced a beautiful display of cabs from the Cady's area. We even had a bucket of interesting rocks collected from within 100 feet of the display table for anyone to take.

After the discussion, Tom Zale presented Kim with a certificate and an award for her work with the BLM's DAC and her efforts for rockhounds specifically. That caught us all off guard! Sweet! It was very satisfying to note that the BLM field trip organizers had to make several calls to regroup their members when it was time for them to leave for their next stop. They were all searching the grounds for beautiful agates and jaspers!

On Saturday 5/21 there was also a decent turnout of rockhounds at the DAC meeting in Barstow that had the Mohave Trails National Monument as its focus. Rockhounds were far fewer in number at this meeting than at Lavic, but their opinions were voiced louder than ever and were well received by the Council. While I'm certain that it's easier to gather rockhounds on their natural desert hunting grounds than it is to cage them in a meeting hall, the caged rockhounds were very effective and persuasive advocates for the hobby. Also a Memorandum of Understanding regarding the Hauser Geode Beds was signed at the meeting by the BLM's District Manager Tom Zale, Field Manager Carlie Simmons and the CFMS/ALAA (American Lands Access Assoc.) reps John Martin and Shirley Leeson.

Additionally, in the latest edition of the BLM's California News Bytes Issue #725, rockhounding is mentioned. Not only that, but there is also a link to the original version of the LA Times story "A Lost Gem" which features comments by several Searchers as well as a picture of Jimmy holding the sphere of Thulite that was on display at the Lavic presentation.

Thank you to everyone who attended and supported these important rockhound related BLM activities.

Jay Erb - Director, Searchers Gem and Mineral Society



Field Trips

DATE	LEADER	LOCATION	STATUS
6-18-2016	Multi-club	SanDiego Himalaya Mine	planned

Field Trip: Himalaya Tourmaline Mine Combined Trip June 18, 2016 — 10am to 3pm Dig Your Own Stones

What: Tourmaline Dig Field Trip.

Where: We are planning a field trip to the world's most famous tourmaline mine, the Himalaya Mine near beautiful Lake Henshaw in San Diego County, 20 miles east of Pala. **Because of the popularity of this trip, and the limited number of spaces available, this trip is for members only. Guests may be placed on the "waiting list" and cleared to attend if space becomes available.**

Access: You can drive to within about 200 feet of the area, mostly on paved or maintained dirt road.

Minerals: Pink, green and watermelon tourmalines are what the mine is known for. Some other minerals found here are quartz crystals, apatite, morganite, clevelandite, calcite, lepidolite, feldspar, stibiotantalite, topaz, and spessartine garnet.

Details: Over 200,000 pounds of quality ore have been produced here since 1898. The miners tunnel into the pegmatite in search of rich pockets of tourmalines. Small pockets and individual gemstones are carried out with the overburden dirt and rocks. Now, the mine operators bring dump truck loads of the overburden material down the hill to a flat area to allow easier access for the public. "Digging" involves shoveling ore-containing dirt into your 3 or 5-gallon bucket and pouring it into a sifting screen on a wooden bench. The results have been quite good in the past. The mine operators provide buckets, shovels, sifting screens, a tub of water to rinse the dirt off of the gravel and a table to set everything on.

Cost: This is a fee-to-dig location. The fee for our group is \$50 for adults, \$25 for children ages 13-17 and children 12 years old and younger are free. All paid attendees will receive a raffle ticket for a special gem prize from the mine owners.

Reserve A Space: **Space on this field trip is limited to the first 25 people who confirm. A list of names will be on the list provided to the mine operators. Mark Nelson, of the Pasadena Lapidary Society, will coordinate the trip. Contact him to reserve your place. (909) 996-1784 or pasadenalapidary@aol.com.**

What you need: lunch, shoes that can get muddy, sun hat, gloves, a quart slide-lock plastic sandwich bag to put your finds in, an old toothbrush for scrubbing the crystal stones, and plenty of drinking water. They will provide all tools for digging at no extra charge! Also available: Bags of high grade gem pocket ore are available for purchase which can be taken home for screening. Faceted gemstones including Himalaya Mine tourmalines and Oregon Sunstones are also available for purchase on site.

For field trip
information

contact: Robert

Burson V.P. Field

Trips, Searchers

Gem and Mineral

Society,

bursonrocks@veriz

on.net

In the Field: BLM Update

I was asked by a BLM field manager to pass along this message from BLM's State Director:

The Mojave Trails National Monument is a stunning mosaic of rugged mountain ranges, ancient lava flows, and spectacular sand dunes. Protection of this area will preserve its natural, cultural and historic legacy while preserving traditional uses of the area.



The Presidential proclamation that designated the Monument provides latitude for existing uses and activities and does not limit or prohibit rock hunting. Rockhounds are welcome to continue collecting limited amounts of rocks, minerals, and gemstones in the Monument in accordance with the Bureau of Land Management's rock collecting guidelines.

Over the coming months, the Bureau of Land Management will be developing a management plan to help guide the uses and activities that occur in the Monument. We are committed to an open and transparent process with the public as we move forward in developing this plan.

Jerome E. Perez

State Director, Bureau of Land Management

All of you should also be aware that rockhounds have a friend in Diane Feinstein. When she recently learned that we were told that we could not collect in the Mojave Trails National Monument, she wrote a letter to the Interior Secretary requesting that the Department of the Interior clarify that rockhounding continues to be allowed. We believe that her letter resulted in the announcement I am sharing.

The BLM is required to develop management plans for each of the new monuments. It will be important that we be represented as stakeholders in that process if we want to keep our collecting locations open as well as the routes that take us there. I hope this is a wake up call to everyone to get involved in the process!

Kim Erb

June Speaker Description: Our favorite Ethiopian Opal dealer, Gabriel, is here to enlighten us with a fascinating presentation.

1. Different methods and techniques of Cutting Ethiopian Opal: cabbing, carving, etc.
2. The process of stabilizing Ethiopian Opals
3. Intro on Ethiopian Green Amber
4. Updates from the Opal mines in Ethiopia

Club Meeting Activity

DATE	PRESENTER	SUBJECT
6-14-2016	Gabriel Mosseson	Opals
7-12-2016	Walt Lombardo	History of Birthstones
8-9-2016	Lothar Vallot	Corundum

For a more complete listing of shows go to web-site:

www.cfmsinc.org

Upcoming 2016 CFMS Gem Shows

JUNE

June 3 - 5: LA HABRA, CA North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society La Habra Community Center 101 W. La Habra Blvd. Hours: Fri 5 - 8; Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5 Contact: Don Warthen, 626-330-8974 Email: od-warthen@verizon.net Website: www.nocgms.com

June 4 - 5: GLENDORA, CA Glendora Gems & Mineral Society Goddard Middle School 859 E. Sierra Madre Avenue Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4 Contact: Bonnie Bidwell, (626) 963-4638 Email: Ybidwell2@aol.com

June 25 - 26: CULVER CITY, CA Culver City Rock & Mineral Club Veterans Memorial Auditorium 4117 Overland Blvd (@Culver Blvd, Near the 405 & 10 Freeways) Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5 Contact: Janice Metz, (310) 850-4398 Email: janicemtz@yahoo.com Website: www.culvercityrocks.org

AUGUST

August 13 - 14: SAN FRANCISCO, CA San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society San Francisco County Fair Building 9th Avenue & Lincoln Way Hours: Sat. 10 - 6; Sun. 10 - 5 Contact: Ellen Nott, (415) 564-4230 Email: ellen_nott@yahoo.com Website: www.sfgemshow.org

SEPTEMBER

September 16 - 18: PLACERVILLE, CA 77th CFMS Show & Convention Hosted by El Dorado County Mineral & Gem Society El Dorado County Fairgrounds 100 Placerville Drive Hours: Fri - Sun 10 - 5 daily Contact:

Barbara Terrill, 530 676-2375 Email Website: www.cfms2016show.com

September 17 - 18: CHICO, CA Feather River Lapidary & Mineral Society, Oroville Silver Dollar Fairgrounds 2357 Fair Street Hours: Sat 9:30 - 5; Sun 9:30 - 4 John Scott, (530) 321-6331 Email: jweazel@sbcglobal.net Website: www.featherriverrocks.org

September 24 - 25: LODI, CA Stockton Lapidary & Mineral Club Lodi Grape & Harvest Festival Grounds 413 East Lockford Street Hours: 10 - 5 daily Contact: Jerold Kyle, (209) 368-9411 Email: jeroldkyle@yahoo.com Website: www.stocktonlapidary.com

September 24 - 25: MONTEREY, CA Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society Monterey Fairgrounds 2004 Fairgrounds Road Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5 Contact: Janis Rovetti, (831) 372-1311 Email: janis12@sbcglobal.net Website: www.cvgms.org

September 24 - 25: SANTA ROSA, CA Santa Rosa Mineral & Gem Society Wells Fargo Center for the Arts 50 Mark West Springs Road Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5 Contact: Jolene Coon Website: www.srmgs.org

September 24 - 25: REDWOOD CITY, CA Sequoia Gem & Mineral Society Community Activities Building 1400 Roosevelt Avenue Hours: 10 - 5 daily Contact: Catherine Fraser, 650-954-6020 Email: catherinef@fraseradv.com Website: www.sequoiagemandmineralsociety.org

September 28 - October 2: YUCCA VALLEY, CA Hi-Desert Rockhounds Sportsman's Club of Joshua Tree 6225 Sunburst Street Hours: 9 - 6 daily Contact: Wayne Hamilton, (760) 366-2915 Email: jtsportsmans@gmail.com Website: www.jtsportsmansclub.com/gem.html

OCTOBER

October 1 - 2: VISTA, CA Vista Gem & Mineral Society Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum 2040 North Santa Fe Avenue Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4 Contact: Ray Pearce, (760) 726-7570 Email: rays-rocks@cox.net

October 8 - 9: ANDERSON, CA Shasta Gem & Mineral Society Shasta District Fairgrounds 1890 Briggs Street Hours: Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4 Steve Puderbaugh, 530-604-2951 Email: kelly13@shasta.com Show Website: www.shastagemandmineral.com

October 8 - 9: GRASS VALLEY, CA Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society Nevada County Fairgrounds (Main Building) 11228 McCourtney Road Hours: 10 - 5 daily Contact: Todd Lawson, (530) 305-9212 Email: webmaster@ncgms.org Website: www.ncgms.org

October 8 - 9: TRONA, CA Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society SLGM Show Building 13337 Main Street Hours: Sat 7 - 5; Sun 7 - 4 Jim and Bonnie Fairchild, (760) 372-5356 Email: slgms@iwwisp.com Website: www1.iwwisp.com/tronagemclub

October 15 - 16: WHITTIER, CA Whittier Gem & Mineral Society Whittier Community Center 7630 Washington Avenue Hours: 10 - 5 daily Contact: Frank Winn, (626) 239-5457 Email: rkhnfdw@gmail.com

June Birthstone - Pearl & Alexandrite



This poem is written by a lady whose dad was an avid rock hound. Steve Duncan organized a private sale for the Searchers of her dad's collection of slabs which was held just recently.

Dad Came to Visit His Rocks Tonight

(by Maria Thomas 2016)

Dad came to visit his rocks tonight
I was just dropping off to sleep
but my kenneled dog started barking
and wouldn't shut up. It was more
urgent than his bird bark or the
warning about possums poking around.
Barks more insistent like when
a stranger invades the yard. But
it was past two, with gates locked.
Who's he barking at, I wondered?
Then it struck me that

Dad wanted to see his rocks again
before the thundering horde
of bargain hunters pawed his piles of
pyrites, sugilites, and malachites. Before
they sorted through slabs of silicate
bickering over his rocky treasure trove
of agates and azurites, snowflake
obsidians, or jaspers he'd marked
ready for cutting into cabochons.

So he'd come tonight to run his hands
over smooth cut stones lonely for
the play of colors; jades green as olives,
dark blue oceans of lapis lazuli, gold
chatoyance of tigers-eye, ruby gleam
of garnet, and hematite dark as night.

Decades of love's labor to be lost
early tomorrow morning
to people he likely never met.
No, he had to see his baubles
one more time, admire the deep
fire of that precious opal
he ripped out of a rocky field in
far off Australia and hauled
home in jars. Maybe Dad was
reliving rock hounding the hills
of every state in search of
the perfect gem like in those
golden summers when I was a girl.
collected, saved, and hoarded
for some unknown posterity.

But greedy like Gollum he'd
given little away and instead
collected, saved, and hoarded
for some unknown posterity.
Tomorrow I was to be that posterity
disposing of all that he'd had no time
to finish, shiny jewels yet unborn,
lapidary masterpieces never to be.

"Let someone else
have their turn now, Dad,"
I said to no-one in particular.
My dog barked as if in agreement.
I turned over and went back to sleep.

Searchers Show Report

Hello:

First of all, I want to send a huge thank you to the Show Committee and all of our volunteers for your dedicated and thoughtful work for the show. Thanks to you, it was a huge success! Thank you to our wonderful vendors! We're still working on the numbers, but you know we are a non-profit organization and we're hoping that the proceeds from the show will go a long way in terms of covering our recent major expenses for shop equipment. Please be sure to give feedback about the show. I'll bring a pad of paper to the next meeting, but you can also email or phone me. We will continue to fine tune and improve the show.

Jimmy has graciously offered his house for our post-show meeting/party. If you helped with the show or are interested in finding out how to help with the show, please come. It will be a taco bar lunch (I'll supply taco meat, you bring food and drinks, etc., that goes with it) 12-2 p.m. on Saturday, June 4, 2016.

Jimmy's house: 18611 Silver Maple Way, Santa Ana, CA 92705-2144

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/18611+Silver+Maple+Way,+Santa+Ana,+CA+92705/@33.768658,-117.8100057,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x80dcda35f643b4d1:0xce7c28b5fc8e3046!8m2!3d33.768658!4d-117.807817?hl=en>

If you haven't been to Jimmy's house before, you are in for a fantastic rock treat!

If you can, bring a folding chair in case we have a large turnout.



Have a rocking summer,
Margaret Hogarth

Next year I need to be more assertive and proactive about getting volunteer signups ahead of time for helping at the show. We have enough members that any one person should not be overworked. I think if you ask anyone who helped at the show you will find that they had fun and made many friends.



Silent Auction a Success (again)



The Silent Auction at the show was a big success, a lot of people left happy, and I think we made a new record amount for the club. Thanks to everyone who donated, and a special thanks Betty Nelson and Loni Bartlow, both of whom donated the rock collections from their husband's estates. Ladies, those donations made a big difference, and the Searchers thank you.



Searchers Gem & Mineral Society

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: 6PM, 1st 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:

Searchers —Linda Horn Editor

P.O. Pox 3492

Anaheim, Ca. 92803

Charter Date: April 20, 1958

Affiliations: California Federation of Mineralogical Societies



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