

# The Rock Slab News

NOVEMBER 2006 VOLUME 41 ISSUE 11

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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!!

It's really hard to believe we're already into November, isn't it? Christmas is only weeks away, and I still have yet to begin Christmas shopping or making any of the presents I had planned to make this year. So once again I will be frantically trying to make presents at the last minute, fighting the crowds at the mall and sitting in traffic, or hunting in vain for that illusive empty parking space that most everyone out there will be ready to fight for, and for what? A case of heartburn so intense it feels like it is burning a hole clean through your esophagus, blood pressure so high your eyes bug out of your head and you feel as if you are ready to explode, and the veins in your forehead swelled and throbbing so hard you can check your heartrate just by looking in a mirror. Ah, yes, life is good.

As you know, my term as president is about ended. I'd like to tell you all it has been a pleasure being your president this year; I've enjoyed it very much. However, I have to tell you taking on this position was originally a scary endeavor for me as not only did I believe there was too much work involved, but I was petrified about having to get up and speak in front of a group of people, no matter how small the group was or how well I knew them! But now that it's about time to end this chapter of my life, I know I will always be able to look back on it as a wonderful experience as well as a helpful one for me personally. On the same note, I have a couple of regrets as well in that I was unable to complete my list of goals for the year (i.e. the library), and that I did not have the time to do more for the club due to my own lack of spare time in my own personal life.

To date, none of our members have agreed to take on the presidency for next year, hence, my name on the ballot. So if you have an interest in the position but have not been contacted by anyone in our Nominating Committee, please contact one of them immediately. And if you have considered it but think there is too much time involved or too much work, consider this: I managed while working as a live-in caregiver for a 90-year-old woman and a 96-year-old man who could not be left alone for more than an hour or 2 at a time. In the event there is a nomination on the floor for a new president, and it is accepted, I will step aside to give someone else a chance and myself a break. Then I could run again when I have more spare time to donate. However, if there are none, I will be happy to take this position on for another year, not that I would have a choice, but because I would enjoy it.

I wish everyone happy holidays and we'll be seeing you next year.

## 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:** 6 PM, 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month, 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:** 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](http://www.searchersrocks.org)

**Membership Dues:** Individual \$20  
Couple \$25  
Junior (17 & under) \$2  
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 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 <sup>st</sup> V.P. (Programs)	Virgil Talbott	714/871-7900
2 <sup>nd</sup> V.P. (Field Trips)	Steve Duncan	714/532-4703
Director	Karen Fox	714/832-3580
Secretary	Lorri Renck	714/397-3584
Treasurer	Patricia Underwood	562/864-4195
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		
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		
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
Rock 'n' Kids	OPEN	

## NOVEMBER EVENTS

11,12            **Field Trip**  
 14    7 PM        **General Meeting**  
 22    6 PM        **Board Meeting**

39th Annual Opal & Gem Show  
 Sat, 10am-6pm, November 11, 2006  
 Sun., 10am-5pm, November 12, 2006  
 Clarion Hotel Anaheim Resort (one block  
 south of Katella Ave. on Harbor Blvd.)

West Coast Gem & Mineral Show  
 Fri. & Sat., 10am-6pm, November 10 & 11,  
 2006  
 Sun., 10am-5pm, November 12, 2006  
 Holiday Inn-Bristol Plaza, Costa Mesa, CA

For a full list of CFMS Gem Shows, go to  
[www.cfms.org](http://www.cfms.org).

## NOVEMBER FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

Date	Location	Leader	Details	Status
Nov 11,12	Cady Mountains	Norbert Bernhardt	agates, jaspers, chalce- dony, jasp- agate	Planned

## DECEMBER EVENTS

3    7 PM            **Holiday Dinner and  
 Officer Installation  
 at Mama Cozza's  
 2170 W. Ball Rd.,  
 Anaheim, CA**

## NOVEMBER PROGRAM

By Virgil Talbott

Our November program is PIE NIGHT, elections, and a video. Please bring a pie to share. It need not be homemade. We will also be electing the new officers to serve next year on the board. Please see the article under "Nominating Committee" elsewhere in the newsletter. The 30-minute video is "Metamorphic Rocks" which outlines recrystallization process and types of rocks it can create – from claystone and slate to schist and garnet-bearing gneiss. See you there.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

By Kathy Clark

The nominating committee (Jimmy Peterson, Ester Reynolds, and Kathy Clark) present the following slate of officers for your voting approval:

President:	Clarke Benich
1 <sup>st</sup> V.P (Programs):	Walter Mroch
2 <sup>nd</sup> V.P. (Field Trips):	Steve Duncan
Secretary:	Lorri Renck
Treasurer:	Pat Lynch
Federation Delegate:	Virgil Talbott

We will enthusiastically and graciously accept all nominations from the floor at the November meeting.

## NOVEMBER FIELD TRIP

By Norbert Bernhardt

Cady Mountains, November 11 & 12, 2006

Our upcoming field trip will be November 11 and 12, 2006. The trip will be to the Cady Mountains off of Sleeping Beauty Road. We will be in search of agates, jaspers, chalcedony and calcite crystals at a location that we call Sandy Wash and also a trip to Lavic Siding for jasp-agate. I have scouted the area and have also established a camp area. (Please see map).

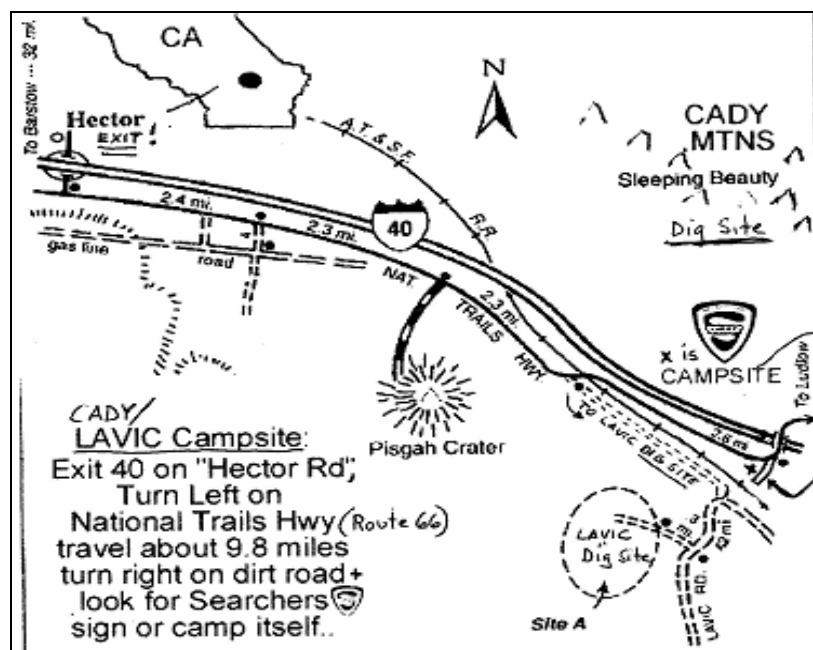
We will go to the Sandy Wash area on both days in the morning and to Lavic Siding in the afternoons. Please meet at the camp area as we will leave for the diggings at 9:00am on Saturday and Sunday morning. The Sandy Wash area is quite sandy and bumpy. A four-wheel drive vehicle or a high clearance vehicle is a must.

Let's plan on a potluck for Saturday night at 5 pm. Please bring some extra firewood for a campfire.

Directions are: Take Interstate 15 North to Barstow, 40 east towards Needles and exit at Hector Road. Make a right, and then left turn onto the National Trails Hwy. (Old Route 66). Drive approx. 9.6 miles, parallel to the freeway, and then make a right to the campsite. There will be a Searchers sign at the 9.6 mile area.

Warning! Do not miss the Hector off-ramp or you will need to drive all the way to Ludlow to turn around.

For those going on this trip, please contact me to let me know when you will be there. If you have any questions call me at 714-904-2181. See you there!



## LAST MONTH'S PROGRAM

By Kathy Clark

The silent auction and live auction were held during the October meeting. Virgil Talbott did a fabulous job as auctioneer selling all the excess equipment the club had accumulated and raising quite a sum for our treasury. Virgil kept the pace going and at times there was very brisk bidding for kilns, saws, and combinations. There were even a couple of antique items. The silent auction was also very busy for those of us who were not bidding in the live auction. We all had a great time bidding and socializing. Wish every one of you could have been there.

## DECEMBER PROGRAM

By Virgil Talbott

Our December meeting will be a holiday dinner held at Mama Cozza's at 2170 W. Ball Rd. (just east of Brookhurst) in Anaheim on Sunday, December 3, at 7:00 PM. The buffet dinner which includes a tossed green salad, pasta salad, chicken piccata, lasagna, baked potato with sour cream and chives, vegetables, and dessert and a beverage is \$26. I need reservations along with checks made payable to "Searchers" or cash by Wednesday, November 29. Vegetarians can be accommodated with a 3-day notice.

After dinner there will be an installation of officers for 2007. We are also planning on a gift exchange where we will draw numbers and a new gift may be chosen and opened or a gift may be taken away from someone else. After a gift has been back in possession 3 times that person may keep it. If you want to participate in the gift exchange please keep your spending to around \$10 per gift.

Holiday music will be provided by Yery Camacho. So call me, Virgil Talbott, at 714-871-7900 and make your reservations and we'll celebrate another successful year for the Searchers.

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<b>Mama Cozza's</b>	<b>Sunday, December 3</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>\$26</b>
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**For a list of CFMS Gem Shows, please go to [www.cfmsinc.org](http://www.cfmsinc.org)**

## SHOW REPORT

By Betty Nelson

The Show Committee has had its second meeting. Everything is on schedule. All but two dealers have confirmed and we have a waiting list. We have received tumbled and other rocks for the grab bags, but we still need more. Keep tumbling. Norbert and Ana need some really good items for the silent auction. The dealers and our auction are our main sources of income at the show followed by the kitchen. Some of us have material that can no longer be collected because so many locations have been closed. Those rocks are very desirable. Items other than rocks are also acceptable. Check with Norbert. Beth wants to return to homemade cakes, pies, and cookies as has been traditional with the Searchers. Don't disappoint her or our guests.

I am looking for tall dry weeds as part of our western decoration to mix in with dried flowers. Try to collect some for me on your field trips. Also think about items you would be willing to loan for the show that fit into our western theme. Things like old gold panning stuff, boots to hold the dried plants, horseshoes, water bags, old western hats, etc.

The next show meeting is on January 17<sup>th</sup>. I am asking everyone on the committee to come to that meeting or to call me. We have only two more meetings after that: February 21 and April 18, all at the Anaheim Center. All Searchers are welcome. I am still asking for ideas to improve our show. Get in touch with me or Kathy.

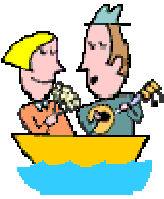
A list of the committee chair people is in the bulletin. We welcome more volunteers for the two unfilled positions. Both Pat Lynch and Chris Edmonds are new at their positions. We are asking some of you with experience in those two areas to volunteer now for their committees and help get them off to a good start.

Everyone have wonderful holidays.

DON'T FORGET TO COME TO THE MEETING ON JANUARY 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM.

## **CONGRATULATIONS!!!**

*By Kathy Clark*



*Two of our members, Skip Cone and Connie Ito, were married on August 28, 2006. They honeymooned in Las Vegas, Nevada.*

*We wish you many happy and healthy years together!*



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

## **MEMBERSHIP UPDATE**

By Kathy Clark

Please welcome the newest members of the Searcher's family:

### **New Members:**

Lydia Mendenhall  
2973 Harbor #124  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626  
714-317-9455  
[jenmendenhall3@aol.com](mailto:jenmendenhall3@aol.com)

Thomas A. Green  
4 Shadyside  
Coto De Caza, CA 92679  
949-589-8239  
[tomgreen@asce-consultants.com](mailto:tomgreen@asce-consultants.com)

### **Changes:**

Craig and Charlotte Bluell  
[cbluell@ci.costa-mesa.ca.us](mailto:cbluell@ci.costa-mesa.ca.us)

Clarke Benich  
949-581-9386 (home)  
cell remains same

### **Correction:**

Bernette and Jesse Garza  
[sirjmgarza@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sirjmgarza@sbcglobal.net)

## SEARCHERS 48<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GEM ROUNDUP

### CHAIRMEN

1. Show Chairman: Betty Nelson 714-530-1365 [betty@azteche.com](mailto:betty@azteche.com)
2. Co-Chairman: Kathy Clark 714-639-9927 [hankylpanky3@yahoo.com](mailto:hankylpanky3@yahoo.com)
3. Publicity: Virgil Talbott 714-871-7900  
[virgil\\_talbott@adelphia.net](mailto:virgil_talbott@adelphia.net)
4. Security: Larry Richey 714-846-3573 [sandbandit1@verizon.net](mailto:sandbandit1@verizon.net)
5. Friday Night Dinner: Patricia Underwood 714-293-2940  
[springmoon58@yahoo.com](mailto:springmoon58@yahoo.com)
6. Demonstrations: Bob Gilland 714-776-4958
7. Kitchen: Beth Pelfrey 714-774-2754 [beth714sc-rocks@yahoo.com](mailto:beth714sc-rocks@yahoo.com)
8. Dealers: Walter Mroch 714-826-2132 [hwmroch@comcast.net](mailto:hwmroch@comcast.net)
9. Grab Bags: Chris Edmonds 714-758-7065 [cdedmonds1@att.net](mailto:cdedmonds1@att.net)
10. Hospitality: Steve Duncan 714-724-7102 [wsd@iteris.com](mailto:wsd@iteris.com)
11. Membership: Kathy Clark 714-639-9927 [hankylpanky3@yahoo.com](mailto:hankylpanky3@yahoo.com)
12. Decoration (western): Betty Nelson 714-530-1365  
[betty@azteche.com](mailto:betty@azteche.com)
13. Layout and electrical: Herb Beckman 714-778-1496  
[hbeckman@earthlink.net](mailto:hbeckman@earthlink.net)
14. Setup and Tear Down: Virgil Talbott 714-871-7900  
[virgil\\_talbott@adelphia.net](mailto:virgil_talbott@adelphia.net)
15. Hourly Door Prizes: Anastacio O'Campo 714-490-0416
16. Donation Awards
17. Clown: Burt Fortin 714-890-8083
18. Cases and Trophies: Cathy O'Campo 714-490-0416  
[way2mystique@sbcglobal.net](mailto:way2mystique@sbcglobal.net)
19. Silent Auction: Norbert and Ana Bernhardt 714-734-9665  
[nbern@cox.net](mailto:nbern@cox.net)
20. Show Secretary: Patricia Underwood 714-293-2940
21. Show Treasurer:
22. Wheel of Fortune: Jim Peterson and Ester Reynolds 714-633-7573  
[jimmypeterson@msn.com](mailto:jimmypeterson@msn.com)
23. Signs: Beth Pelfrey 714-774-2754 [beth714sc-rocks@yahoo.com](mailto:beth714sc-rocks@yahoo.com)
24. Special Exhibits: Floyd and Margaret Neeley 714-535-2030
25. Children's Jewelry: Pat Lynch 909-393-2186  
[pat.lynch@experian.com](mailto:pat.lynch@experian.com)



# NOVEMBER CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4 lapidary, silversmithing
5	6	7	8	9 6-10PM lapidary, wire-wrap class	10	11 Field trip 3-7 PM lapidary, silversmithing
12 Field Trip Cady Mountains	16	14 7-9 pm General Meeting	15	16 6-10 PM lapidary, wire-wrap class	17	18 3-7 PM lapidary, silversmithing
19	20	21	22 6-7 PM Board Meeting	23 6-10 PM lapidary, wire-wrap class	24	25 3-7 PM lapidary, silversmithing
26	27	28	29	30		

**DECEMBER 3, Mama Cozza's 7 PM**

## SEARCHERS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

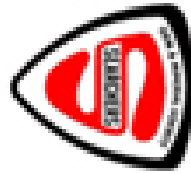
*Please Print!*

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

2006 dues are valid January 1 through January 31.

Individual: \$25  
 Couple: \$30  
 Junior members (17 and under): \$5

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 ( )



# The Rock Slab News

Volume 41 ISSUE 11

November 2006



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

## TRADITIONAL NOVEMBER BIRTHSTONE

### CITRINE/TOPAZ

Citrine was usually thought to bring happiness, hope and cheer to the wearer. It is one of the few minerals which is thought to not hold any negative energies. Often referred to as the “Merchant’s Stone” it is believed that placing a Citrine in a cash register will produce more income for the merchant. Natural healers use Citrine to chase away nightmares and ensure restful sleep. In ancient times it was carried as a protection from snake venom and evil thoughts. Citrine symbolizes self-confidence, healing, endurance, and mental clarity.

Known as the “stone of strength” Topaz was thought to protect the wearer from all accidents while traveling, prevent injury in a fire, and rid one of all fear of death. If one wore Topaz on the left arm or around the neck it would break all evil enchantments and attract financial success. Topaz has been attributed with the widest range of curative powers of all the gemstones, and has been known to change colors in the presence of poison. It was also thought to enable the wearer to become invisible. Topaz symbolizes wisdom, courage, and sincerity.

