

## SEARCHERS BOARD OFFI- CERS

- President: Teri Lynn Wheeler
- 1st VP: Veronica Purura
- 2nd VP: David Nelson
- Director: Jimmy Peterson
- Secretary: Jamie Cassidy-Curtis
- Treasurer: Jay Erb
- Federation Delegate: Kim Campbell
- Committee Chairpersons
- Anaheim Arts Council: Beth Pelfrey
- Editor: Yery Camacho
- Historian: Beth Pelfrey
- Hospitality: Lorri Renck
- Library Membership: Beth Pelfrey
- Monthly Drawing: Skip and Connie Cone
- Sunshine:
- Veteran's Coordinator: Larry Richey
- Website: Walter
- Workshop: Adrian Callard
- Rock's Kids: Terri Benedict

## IN THIS IS- SUE

Field Trips	2
Club Meetings	2
Upcoming CFM Shows	4
Show pictures	4

## POINTS OF INTEREST

### FIELD TRIPS

### GENERAL MEE- TING SPEAKER

# The Rock Slab News

The Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Anaheim CA

VOLUME 50, ISSUE 6



JUNE 2013

## The President's Message

Editor. Our President *Teri-Lynn* is on vacation this month.



## June's Birth- stones

### Pearl, Alexandrite, and Moonstone



Historically, **pearls** have been used as an adornment for centuries. They were one of the favorite gem materials of the Roman Empire; later in Tudor England, the 1500s were known as the pearl age. Pearls are unique as they are the only gems from living sea creatures and require no faceting or polishing to reveal their natural beauty. In the early 1900s, the first successful commercial culturing of round salt-water pearls began. Since the 1920s, cultured pearls have almost completely replaced natural pearls in the market.

**Alexandrite**, a relatively modern gem, was first discovered in Russia in 1831 during the reign of its namesake, Czar Alexander II, and is an extremely rare chrysoberyl with chameleon-like qualities.

Its color is a lovely green in both daylight and fluorescent light; it changes color to a purplish red in incandescent light. Due to its rarity, some jewelers stock synthetic versions of this enchanting

Stone. (Synthetic gemstones are man-made alternatives to the natural material, possessing the same physical, optical, and chemical properties as the natural gemstone.)

The third birthstone for June is the **Moonstone**. It was given its name by the Roman natural historian Pliny, who wrote that moonstone's appearance altered with the phases of the moon — a belief that held until well after the sixteenth century. A phenomenal gemstone, moonstones show a floating play of light (called *adularescence*) and sometimes show either a multirayed star or a cat's eye. Considered a sacred stone in India, moonstones often are displayed on a background of yellow (a sacred color) and are believed to encapsulate within the stone a spirit whose purpose is to bring good fortune. Part of the family of minerals called *feldspar*, moonstone occurs in many igneous and metamorphic rocks and comes in a variety of colors such

as green, blue, peach, and champagne. The most prized moonstones are from Sri Lanka; India, Australia, the United States, Myanmar, and Madagascar are also sources.



# Field Trips

DATE	LEADER	LOCATION	STATUS
5/11-12/13	Norbert Bernhardt	El Paseo Mountains, CA	Completed
6/1-2/13	Tracy Jackson	Cady Muntains	Completed

For a more complete listing of shows go to website:

[www.cfmsinc.org](http://www.cfmsinc.org), [www.motherlodemineralsociety.com/events.html](http://www.motherlodemineralsociety.com/events.html)

[www.firemountaingems.com](http://www.firemountaingems.com), [www.southsunproducts.com](http://www.southsunproducts.com)

[www.route66goldminers.org](http://www.route66goldminers.org), [www.auctionmasters.com](http://www.auctionmasters.com)



For field trip  
information contact:  
David Nelson, V.P.  
Field Trips, Searchers  
Gem and Mineral  
Society,

(714) 709-3242  
(cell) or  
dsnelsonsmorgan@  
yahoo.com





## Our Members Are the Heart of Our Club



### Club Meeting Activity

DATE	PRESENTER	SUBJECT
June 11	Conrad Grundke	Diamonds: Two Tales!

# Upcoming 2013 CFMS Gem Shows

**June 28 - 30: SAN BERNARDINO, CA**  
Orange Belt Mineralogical Society  
Western Regional Little League Ball  
Park

6707 Little League Drive  
Hours: 9 am to Dusk daily  
Contacts: Ken & Jessica Gard, (909) 624-1782, (909) 887-5507  
Email: kengard@roadrunner.com  
Website: <http://OBMSrocks.yolasite.com>

## JULY 2013

**July 13 - 14: CULVER CITY, CA**  
Culver City Rock & Mineral Club

Culver City Veterans Memorial  
Auditorium  
4117 Overland Avenue  
Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5  
Contact: Rick Shaffer, (310) 391-8429  
Email: [info@culvercityrocks.org](mailto:info@culvercityrocks.org)  
Website: [www.culvercityrocks.org](http://www.culvercityrocks.org)

## AUGUST 2013

**August 2 - 4: NIPOMO, CA**  
Orcutt Mineral Society, Santa  
Maria  
Nipomo High School  
525 North Thompson Ave.

Hours: Fri/Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4  
Contact: Wes Lingerfelt, (805) 929-3788  
Email: [info@omsinc.org](mailto:info@omsinc.org)  
Website: [www.omsinc.org](http://www.omsinc.org)

**August 30 - September 2: FORT BRAGG, CA**  
Mendocino Coast Gem & Mineral  
Society  
Town Hall  
Corner of Main & Laurel  
Hours: Fri-Sun 10 - 6; Mon 10 - 4  
Contact: Jerry Sommer, (707) 937-1833  
[OBMSrocks.yolasite.com](http://OBMSrocks.yolasite.com)

## In Case You Missed...



Herb Beckman, who spoke about our workshop - its history, the tools we have now and what you can do with them, and safety. Last month's meeting was held in the workshop so Herb could show the equipment, although none of them were turned on.

Our workshop has been in the Anaheim Downtown Center since the center opened around 12 years ago. Before that, it was in smaller rooms at a school and in a suite we rented.

Our Genies (the grinding/polishing machines) are also about 12 years old. We bought them as new equipment when we moved to the center.

The wheels are removable. Because the 80 grit grinding wheels are used most often, we can set up some of our 5 Genies with 80/220/280 grit wheels on both sides when needed. It's also easy to send out wheels for resurfacing.

Our equipment is good for making cabachons and domed items such as belt buckles. We don't have the equipment to make faceted material.

Adrain Callard is the Workshop Coordinator. Lydia Pattison and Herb are shop supervisors. If you want to learn silversmithing, John O'Connor teaches it at the workshop by appointment. Silversmithing is useful when, for example, you want to make your own settings. At the workshop, we teach students how to make cabachons in standard sizes. You can purchase settings for them.

Our workshop has a slabbing saw and a trim saw. There's also a larger saw that's being repaired now.

When you're making a cabachon, you should stay on the 80 grit wheel until the shaping is nearly finished, and then move up. Don't go higher than the 280 grit wheel until the stone feels smooth. You need to get rid of the microfractures that occur during grinding for the best results.

A very fragile stone, such as opal, may require you to start on a finer-grit wheel such as 600-grit.

Geodes and nodules can be cut in half by using an adaptor with our slabbing saw. Although we currently don't have an adaptor, Herb has a drawing for one.

The best way to tell when your final polishing is good is to check the reflection of the overhead lights on the domed surface of the cabachon. The reflection should be clear and sharp at all angles. Note that some types of stone will give better results than others.





## Bench Tips *by Brad Smith*

More Bench Tips by Brad Smith are at [facebook.com/BenchTips/](https://facebook.com/BenchTips/) or see the book "Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" on Amazon

### EASIER PRONG SETTING

When setting stones in a prong mount, the tool is less likely to slip off the prong if you grind a groove into its face or rough up the face a bit with sandpaper. Some folks prefer a prong pusher for doing this, and others like a set of pliers.

Easiest way to cut a slot on the pusher is with a file, and the easiest way to create a slot on one jaw of your pliers is with a cutoff wheel and then do a rough polish with a knife-edge silicone wheel.

### FANCY RIVET HEADS

For a nice looking rivet head, use brass escutcheon pins. You'll have perfectly rounded heads that are all the same size and shape. The pins are a little hard to find, so try the best hardware stores first. Be sure to get solid brass pins, not brass plated steel. If unsure, test them with a magnet.

The pins are readily available online. Lee Valley Tools has them in 14 - 18 gauge and lengths from 1/4 inch to 1 inch. Go to <http://www.LeeValley.com> and do an item search on "brass escutcheon pin"

For best results, select a drill that gives you a hole with a close fit to the rivet. Trim the rivet to a leave a little less than one diameter sticking out the back side. Place the head on a scrap of hard plastic on the anvil so as to not flatten the head. I prefer a ball peen hammer (with a small 3/8 inch ball) for setting the rivet.



# Searchers Gem & Mineral Society

## General Information



Check our website for unexpected changes in schedule!

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

<b>Membership Dues:</b>	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](mailto: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



## PtCreations

2812-B Walnut Ave.  
Tustin, Ca 92780 714-904-2181

[www.ptcreations.net](http://www.ptcreations.net)

## THE NEVADA MINERAL & BOOK COMPANY

<http://minbooks.net/>

342 S. Tustin Street • Orange, CA 92866  
Ph. 714-633-1549

## Rusty's Gold & Treasure Hunting Supply

Club members show your ID card and receive a 10% off purchases over \$100

Authorized dealer for Garrett, Fisher, and Tesoro metal detectors

5642 E. La Palma Ave., #208, Anaheim, CA 92807 (corner of La Palma and Imperial Hwy.)

714 693-GOLD (4653). Store hours: Tu - Sat 10am - 6pm



### The Agateer Lapidary Supply

[www.theagateer.com](http://www.theagateer.com)

(657) 464-0400

Licensed Dealer

Saws, Diamond Saw Blades – Cutting Oil – Dressing Sticks  
Cabbing Machines – Diamond Wheels – Dop Supplies  
Tumble-Bee Tumblers, Grit Kits, Tumbling Media

Free Delivery within Orange County for orders over \$150



15131 Triton Lane #117  
Huntington Beach, CA 92649  
714-893-6643  
[www.sccgemology.org](http://www.sccgemology.org)

The classes will all be held at Pt Creations, 2812-B  
Walnut Ave., Tustin, CA 92780

INTRODUCTORY COLORED STONES \$120.00

Tuesday 7-16-13 & Thursday 7-18-13 6:30 – 10:00pm

ADVANCED COLORED STONES \$120.00

Tuesday 7-23-13 & Thursday 7-25-13 6:30 – 10:00pm

DIAMOND GRADING \$120.00

Tuesday 7-30-13 & Thursday 8-01-13 6:30 – 10:00pm

PEARLS \$120.00

Tuesday 8-06-13 & Thursday 8-08-13 6:30 – 10:00pm

APPRAISAL THEORY \$275.00

Saturday 11-16-13 & Sunday 11-17-13 9:00am – 5:00pm