

## SEARCHERS BOARD OFFI- CERS

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## POINTS OF INTEREST

### FIELD TRIPS

### GENERAL MEETING SPEAKER



purple, orange, and the many popular blue tones.



# The Rock Slab News

The Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Anaheim CA

VOLUME 50, ISSUE 10

NOVEMBER 2013



## The President's Message

Hello Searchers Members and Happy Harvest!

Hope everyone is enjoying the cool in the air as fall arrives. The fall also brings some fun and important times for the club. November's General Meeting is Pie Night! Remember to bring your favorite pie to share. And if pie wasn't reason enough to come, we will be holding our annual officers elections, and have a grand silent auction! That's right, a really big and fun silent auction. So plan to attend on November 12th. Bring a pie, and go home with some rocks! The club also has a fun field trip planned for the 16th and 17th of November. Look further in the newsletter for all the details. Then before you know it, December is going to be here. We won't be having a field trip or our general meeting, but everyone knows December is the time we celebrate at the Annual Christmas Party. Veronica is organizing the dinner, and you'll find all information in this newsletter as well.

Happy Thanksgiving, and happy rocking!

*Teri Lynn Wheeler*

## November Birthstone Topaz

*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.

## November Birthstone Citrine

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.



Citrine



Topaz

# Field Trips



DATE	LEADER	LOCATION	STATUS
11/16-17/13	Steve Duncan & Jimmy Peterson	Siam Siding & Marble Mts.	Scheduled

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)

## November Field Trip

### Siam Siding & Marble Mountains

We will be camping in the same area we always camp when collecting trilobites at Cadiz. We are not going to actually target the trilobites this trip, but as you will be at the base of the collecting area.

Saturday Jimmy will be leading us into the Marble Mountains. I believe this will be for high clearance vehicles only, 4x4 preferred. We will carpool from the camp for folks without trucks. We will leave camp at 9 AM on Sat.

We will have our traditional potluck and fire on Saturday night.

Sunday we will collect at Siam Siding for Chapenite. You need to dig **big** holes (in soft sand). This is best done by grouping into small teams. Some shovels are needed. The material is beautiful fine grained jasper with nice colors and patterns, and not many cracks. We will leave camp at 8:30 AM on Sunday.

Limited supplies and gas are available at Amboy. There is also a small motel there, which may or may not be open; there is a motel in Ludlow which is a bit further away.

Remember to dress in layers, you will still want sunscreen and lots of liquid.

Google maps say 3.5 hours from Orange to Chambless (right next to Cadiz).

If you have any questions call me at 714 724 7102, or email me at [wsd@iteris.com](mailto:wsd@iteris.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](mailto:dsnelsonsmorgan@yahoo.com)

# Field Trip Reports

## September 9 2013 Omya Quarry

Heading up the 15 freeway toward Victorville, I thought I had made a big mistake as I was looking at the thunderheads in front of me. As I climbed up the Cajon pass the road became wet and at the top it was evident that a major downpour had occurred.

Stopping for a late lunch, my plan was to do some rock hunting around the quarries before having dinner and meeting the other Searcher members for the night time fluorescent rock hunt. Going up the road to the Omya plant facility the road was already drying out, skies opening up and a cool breeze was blowing. Instead of being the predicted ninety degrees, it was in the 70's and beautiful; I really know how to pick the day for a field trip. As I climb up to the foot of the San Bernardino Mountains I come to a crossroads right next to the plant, look around and off to my left is a huge mound of calcite in a variety of colors - a light beam from heaven and I think I heard angels singing (or it might have been the altitude). Checking a little bit further, no "No Trespassing" signs, no guards etc, I'm going for it. Walking fifteen feet from my vehicle I start picking out the most beautiful colored rocks and start loading them in my vehicle. I wonder after the fifth or sixth trip back from the pile where I was going to put the fluorescent rocks I was going to find tonight? Decided to go back down the hill and find my fellow Searcher's to have dinner and then show them my newly found treasure.

After loading down our vehicles we went to the Omya headquarters and got hard hats, a geology lesson, paperwork signing our lives away and then a caravan up the mountain to the quarry - from 3,000 to 8,000 feet.

## Oct. 12-13 Gem-o-Rama, Trona

A small band of Searchers joined a large band of rock hounds for the annual Gem o Rama on the 3 salt beds of Searles Lake, in Trona, CA.

Early morning pancake breakfast for energy, followed by purchasing tickets for the mud trip and browsing the gem and rock dealers before heading out to dig through piles of mud the small band ( Bob and Debbie along with Robert, the sage, Burson and his lovely wife and I) lined up with about 150 other like minded people to find fancy salt.

Two more trips out to the salt flats for blowhole crystals and pink halite, with one brave soul heading out to Ballard to find a fifteen pound boulder of orange onyx, I conclude the experience was a total success for all who ventured out.



## Club Meeting Activity

DATE	PRESENTER	SUBJECT
11-12-2013	NONE	Pie Party Silent Auction and Cabinet Member Elections
12-7-2013	NONE	Christmas Party at Mimi's (see page 6)

# Upcoming 2013 CFMS Gem Shows

**: November 2 - 3:** ANAHEIM, CA American Opal Society Festhalle at The Phoenix Club 1340 South Sanderson Avenue Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5 Contact: Veronica Purpura, (714) 501-9959 Email: info@opalsociety.org Website: www.opalsociety.org/

**November 2 - 3:** CONCORD, CA Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society Centre Concord 5294 Clayton Road (near Ygnacio Valley Rd.) Hours: 10 - 5 daily Contact: Harry Nichandros, (925) 289-0454 Email: show-c@ccmgs.org Website: www.ccmgs.org

**November 2 - 3:** RIDGECREST, CA Indian Wells Gem & Mineral Society Desert Empire Fairgrounds 520 West Richmond Road Hours: 9 - 5 daily Contacts: John DeRosa, (760) 375-7905; Vickie Black, (760) 371-4416 Website: www.indianwells.weebly.com

**November 9 - 10:** SACRAMENTO, CA Sacramento Mineral Society Scottish Rite Temple 6151 H Street Hours: Sat 9 - 5; Sun 9 - 4 Contact: Joe Shook, (916) 224-7248 Email: joe-shook08@gmail.com Website: www.sacramentomineralsociety.org

**November 9 - 10:** YUBA CITY, CA Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds - Franklin Hall 442 Franklin Avenue Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4 Contact: Katie Slightam, (530) 673-9649 Email: mktalternatives@comcast.net Website: www.sutterbuttes.net

**November 16 - 17:** OXNARD, CA Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society Oxnard Performing Arts Center 164 Seaspray Way Hours: Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4 Contact: Brett Johnson, (805) 822-3836 Email: show\_info@oxnardgem.com Website: www.oxnardgem.com

**November 23 - 24:** LIVERMORE, CA Livermore Valley Lithophiles The Lithorama 3131 Pacific Avenue, off So. Livermore Ave Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4 Contact: Lee Davisson, (925) 371-0699 Email: linfo@lithophiles.com Website: www.lithophiles.com

## November Silent Auction

We're going to have a GRAND silent auction in addition to elections and pie night in November!

Our workshop crew has been cleaning, and organizing our storage. We have an abundance of beautiful rough rock, slabs and even some equipment that will be auctioned off at the November meeting so be sure to join in the fun, eat some pie and place your bids!

Remember to bring a pie with you too!

Teri-Lynn





# Hidden Dangers in Our Hobby

**Acetone:** An industrial type of solvent containing harmful vapor

**Hydrogen sulfide:** By-product of sulfur and water. Deadly poison!

**Manganese:** In dust or vapors, it can damage the nervous system.

**Quartz, agate, sandstone, granite, chert, flint:**

All are of the silica rock family. The dust from this family contributes to silicosis of the lungs.

**Styrofoam:** When heated or burned, it releases toxic gases.

**Abalone:** Grind and polish only when wet. Be aware that any odor detected is highly toxic.

**Malachite:** Work wet, as the dust created when working dry is toxic.

**Lead:** Known to enter the body from dust, fumes, and water. It can damage the brain and neuromuscular system. While it is not healthy to fear everything, one should be aware of hidden dangers in apparently innocent looking material that we all use extensively in our hobby. If you are using a material that is new to you, read the labels and heed any warning. We want all lapidarists to remain a healthy lot and continue to live long, active lives!

*Via: Bems Tumbler, May 2008 and many other publications*

## On a Lighter Note:

### Attributes of a Rockhound

They just love the outdoors...where else can you find a rock?

They either have a strong back or good judgment. . rocks gain weight with every step.

They have a good sense of humor...that's how they can appreciate someone else's find after they just stepped over it.

They are cheerful...that's how they can smile even if every muscle and bone in their body aches.

They are adventurous...daring enough to take a road, even if it looks like it goes straight up.

They are persistent...not satisfied until they have turned over every rock twice.



They have imagination...visualizing that beautiful precious stone inside that plain old rock.

And finally, they are determined...able to lick any rock that has promise.

From *Modern Rock Tumbling* by Steve Hart



# Searcher's Banquet December 7th, 2013

**Location: Mimi's Café**

**Address: 1240 N. Euclid St, Anaheim, CA # (714) 535-1552**

**Price \$20**

Gift exchange: only those who bring a wrapped gift may participate in the gift exchange

Soups and Salads: you can choose to have a side soup or salad with your meal (but you must ask for it, because it does not come with it). The Blue Cheese & Walnut Salad comes with a fresh based muffin if you want it.

Dinner Choices: Pot Roast, Roasted Turkey Dinner, Atlantic Salmon and Blue Cheese & Walnut Salad

Desserts Options: Molten Chocolate Cake, Petite Apple Crisp, Petite Bread Pudding

Please see Veronica to sign up.

**Veronica Purpura**  
**1st Vice President**  
**[angeldragonoflight@yahoo.com](mailto:angeldragonoflight@yahoo.com)**



# 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:

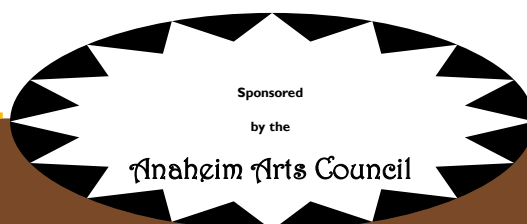
Searchers —Linda Horn Editor

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**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/>

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## Rusty's Gold & Treasure Hunting Supply

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

APPRASIAL THEORY \$275.00

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

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