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## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Searchers and HAPPY FALL!

Well the weather has cooled a bit, and we have several events coming up that promise to be lots of fun! There are some exciting rocking fieldtrips to various locations, some new and some we've been to before, but always prove to be worth the return visit. If your schedule permits it, you really should try to attend these trips, not only for the material that can be collected, but for the fun you will most definitely have while in the company of fellow Searchers! Also, remember we have a fantastic workshop that is open to all members for use, and there are always seasoned members available to help you learn from as well as how use the equipment to make beautiful creations from the wonderful material you find on the fieldtrips. For specific information on upcoming fieldtrips and workshop days/hours, just keep reading the newsletter... you'll find all the information you need.

*Tery-Lynn*

The circumstances of our lives have as much power as we choose to give them.

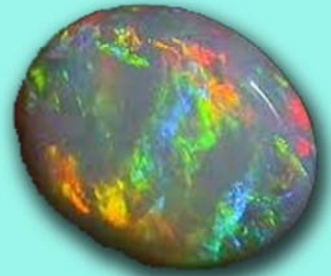
~David McNallyto

## OCTOBER BIRTHSTONES

### Tourmaline & Opal

**Tourmaline** has become a favorite gemstone among jewelry designer, and gem collectors the world over. Since it is available in a wide variety of colors, it is ideally suited to almost anyone's taste. Tourmaline also is known for displaying several colors in the same gemstone. These bi-color or tri-color gems are formed in many combinations; gemstones with clear color distinctions are highly prized. One multi-color variety is known as watermelon tourmaline, and features green, pink, and white colors bands; to resemble its name-sake, the gemstone is cut into thin slices having a pink center, white ring, and green edge. Tourmaline is found in many localities including Brazil, Afghanistan, East Africa, and the USA.

The name **opal** derives from the Greek Opallos, meaning "to see a change (of color)." Opals range in color from milky white to black with flashes of yellow, orange, green, red, and blue. An opal's beauty is the product of contrast between its color play and its background. Opal is a formation of non-crystalline silica gel that seeped into crevices in the sedimentary strata. Through time and nature's heating and molding processes, the gel hardened into the form of opals. The opal is composed of particles closely packed in spherical arrangements. When packed together in a regular pattern, a three-dimensional array of spaces are created that give opal its radiance.



## GENERAL INFORMATION

General Meetings: 7 PM, 2nd Tuesday of each month, Jan - Nov  
Board Meetings: 7PM, 1st Wednesday 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  
Membership Dues: Individual- \$25, Couples- \$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  
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies  
Sponsored by: Anaheim Arts Council  
Web Site: [www.searchersrocks.org](http://www.searchersrocks.org)

**FIELD TRIPS**

<b>FIELD TRIPS 2010/ 2011</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Leader</b>	<b>Location &amp; material</b>	<b>Status</b>
Sept 25&26, 2010	Robert Burson	Mule Canyon –agate and jasper, also possibly silver onyx	Done
Oct 9 &10, 2010	Norbert Bernhardt	Lucerne Valley-orbicular rhyolite and ??	Done
Nov Dates TBD	Steve Duncan- Joint trip with the Indian Wells club	Sheep Springs and Rainbow Ledge- agates and famous Rainbow Ridge jasp-agate	Done
Dec 12, 2010 Sunday	Steve Duncan	Sierra Pelona claim for banded onyx. Due to the busy holiday season this will be a one day trip	Done
Jan 21,22&23, 2011	Steve Duncan	Burro Creek AZ-agate, jasper, pastelite	Done
Feb 19&20, 2011	Jimmy Peterson	Siam Siding-Chapenite Cadiz-trilobite fossils	Cancelled
Mar 19&20, 2011	Robert Burson & Jay Valle	Chuckwalla Mts-agates (plume, moss, fortification and banded) and jaspers	Done
APR 9&10, 2011	Jimmy Peterson	Siam Siding-Chapenite Cadiz-trilobite fossils	Done
May 14& 15, 2011	Jim McGeough	Buffington Pockets Nevada (about an hour outside of Vegas)- Blue agate	Done
May 28, 2011	CFMS Trip	Calico Mountains for sagenite Details at CFMS website	Done
June 11, 2011	CFMS Trip	Somis-fossil sand dollars, clams, and scallops Details at CFMS website	Done
July 15-19, 2011	Norbert Bernhardt	Crystal Ridge Quartz crystals and Garnets	Done
July, 2011	CFMS Trip	Greenhorn Mt-rose quartz Details should become available on the CFMS website	Done
Sept 10 & 11, 2011	Steve Duncan	Sandy Wash for agate Lucerne valley for orbicular rhyolite	Done
Sept 16,17&18, 2011	CFMS Trip	Jade Cove-Jade and Serpentine Details should become available at the CFMS website	Done
Oct 22 & 23 2011	Jim McGeough	Goldfield Nevada Agates and more	Planned

		3 collecting days trip	
Nov 25&26, (Fri and Sat), 2011	Robert Burson	Baxter Wash or the Chuckwallas for fancy agates and jasper	Planned, final details pending

For a more complete listing of shows go to website: [www.cfmsinc.org](http://www.cfmsinc.org)

Also see [www.motherlodemineralsociety.com/events.html](http://www.motherlodemineralsociety.com/events.html).

**Other websites of interest:**

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

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

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

[www.route66goldminers.org](http://www.route66goldminers.org)

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

## CLUB MEETING ACTIVITY SCHEDULE 2011

Date	Presenter	Subject
Tuesday, Oct 11 <sup>th</sup>	NONE	Silent Auction
Tuesday, Nov 8 <sup>th</sup>	None	Officer election/pie night

## UPCOMING CFMS GEM SHOWS

### October 8-9 - TRONA, CA

Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society  
13337 Main Street  
Hours: Sat; 7:30-5; Sun. 7:30-4  
Jim & Bonnie Fairchild (760) 372-5356

Email: [slgms@iwvisp.com](mailto:slgms@iwvisp.com)

Website:

[www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub](http://www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub)

### October 15-16 - ANDERSON, CA

Shasta Gem & Mineral Society  
Shasta Distrist Fairgrounds  
Briggs Street  
Hours: Sat. 9-5; Sun. 10-4  
Steve Puderbaugh (530) 365-4000; Cell  
(530) 604-2951

Email: [steve@applyaline.com](mailto:steve@applyaline.com)

Website:

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

### October 15-16 - PLACERVILLE, CA

El Dorado County Mineral & Gem  
Society  
El Dorado County Fairgrounds  
100 Placerville Drive

Hours: 10-5 daily

Karen Newlin, (530) 676-2472

Email: [info@rockandgemshow.org](mailto:info@rockandgemshow.org)

Show Website:

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

### October 15-16 - SANTA ROSA, CA

Santa Rosa Mineral & Gem Society  
Veterans Memorial Auditorium  
1351 Maple Ave  
Hours: Sat. 10-6: Sun 10-5

Debbie Granat (707) 542-1651

Email:

[santarosarockshow@hotmail.com](mailto:santarosarockshow@hotmail.com)

Website: [www.srmgs.org](http://www.srmgs.org)

### October 15-16 - WHITTIER, CA

Whittier Gem & Mineral Society  
Whittier Community Center  
7630 Washington

Hours: 10-5 Daily

Marcia Goetz (626) 260-7239

Email: [joemar1@verizon.net](mailto:joemar1@verizon.net)

### November 5-6 - LANCASTER, CA

Palmdale Gem & Mineral Club  
Antelope Valley Fairgrounds  
2551 West Ave. H & Hwy 14

Hours: 9-5 daily  
Cheri George, (562) 243-8470

Email: [lizardwoman3@yahoo.com](mailto:lizardwoman3@yahoo.com)  
Website:  
[www.palmdalegemandmineral.com](http://www.palmdalegemandmineral.com)

**November 5-6 - SAN DIEGO, CA**

San Diego Mineral & Gem Society  
Al Bahr Shrine Center  
5440 Kearny Mesa Road  
Hours: Sat. 9:30-5; Sun. 10-4  
Bob Hancock, (619) 461-5783, (619)  
889-6886 cell  
Email: [rhbobhancock@cs.com](mailto:rhbobhancock@cs.com)  
Website: [www.sdmg.org](http://www.sdmg.org)

**November 19-20 - OXNARD, CA**

Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society  
Oxnard Performing Arts Center  
800 Hobson Way  
Hours: Sat. 9-5; Sun. 10-4  
Norb Kinsler, (805) 644-6450  
Email: [show\\_info@oxnardgem.com](mailto:show_info@oxnardgem.com)  
Website: <http://www.oxnardgem.com>

## SEPTEMBER FIELD TRIP REPORT

September 2011  
By Steve Duncan

The Sept trip to the Cadys and Lucerne Valley went well. Marcia and I got to Lavic Friday night, no one else joined us that night, maybe the above 100 degree temperatures scared people off. Everyone that wasn't there really missed something. We saw the most spectacular lightning display I have ever seen, and I have seen hurricanes come ashore on the outer banks, heat lightning storms over Tampa Bay, and September Chubascos in the Sea of Cortez. This put them all to shame. We set up our chairs and watched for hours as an estimated 300 strikes per hour danced before us, that is not counting the cloud to cloud lightening that never made it to the ground. And while this was happening we also got to watch the Marine gunships over Lavic Dry Lake firing machine guns with tracer rounds and streams of small missiles. All in all it was a quite an evening. The lightning went on from 4PM to 4 AM, occasionally getting uncomfortably close to where we were sleeping in our truck.

But we did come here for rocks, so the next morning we had a good group show up, for a total of 10 Searchers and 1 guest from the San Diego club. We started the day at Sandy Wash in the Cadys. This spot has a lot of very nice seam agate, but it doesn't give up its treasures easily, so there was a lot of hammering to be heard. But everyone found some nice material. The BLM has graciously closed off the road into Sandy Wash. The walk is almost a mile, which with empty packs in the cool of the morning is quite pleasant. But in the heat of the day with a pack full of rocks it feels like quite the long walk.

In the afternoon we went to Lavic Siding for some less strenuous rockhounding. It is hard to find large pieces of quality Lavic jasper today, but it is still quite easy to find medium size pieces of very nice material. Anyone coming for the first time is always amazed by the amount of material to pick from, and everyone left with material they liked a lot.

Sat night we had our standard potluck, a few less folks than normal, but still nice. We also got to watch the lightning display again which started up in the evening. Not quite as dramatic at camp,

but Chris and Rick got quite a show with lightning striking on either side of the road as they drove to Barstow for the night.

Sunday we convoyed down to Lucerne Valley, and collected some orbicular rhyolite there, again there was a lot to choose from, the trick was to find solid pieces, as it tended to want to split into slabs.

All in all another very nice trip, if you let the weather scare you off you missed a good one. Don't forget the next trip to Goldfield Nevada in October. This should be a good one too. Details are available on the website.

Steve

## **OCTOBER 22& 23 FIELD TRIP**

The searchers October trip will be on Oct 22&23, 2011 to Goldfield Nevada collecting rainbow agate, opalite and jasper. This trip will be led by Jim and Donna McGeough. Goldfield is approximately 175 miles north of Las Vegas on Hwy 95. We will be dry camping (no amenities) at the site which is accessible by any vehicle or rv, signs will be posted.

Leaders will get there on Friday afternoon, and Steve Duncan plans to be there Friday AM for anyone coming early. We will meet Sat at 9am, and check out this area, there are lots of loose rock all over the area. There are 8 separate sites listed in Gem Trails of Nevada in the general area that we can also think about (Goldfield is #64). Sunday we will do some of the same or check out some new areas or possibly go to Gold Point an old Ghost Town close by. Because this is a longer trip than normal you may want to do a full day of collecting on Sunday, and drive home Monday.

To get to the Goldfield area go 2.4 miles North from Goldfield on US Hwy 95 to where a Searchers sign will be seen on the left side of the roadway. Turn west and follow the signs approximately 4 miles. There are hotels in town (might want to check for reservations before you come) if you want to get a room. Bring backpacks, rock hammers, picks, gads, hiking shoes, water, sunscreen, hats etc. Plan for cool or warm weather. We will have a pot luck on Saturday night.

Contact info for the leaders and Steve:

Jim's cell is 909/225-5481

Donna cell is 909/234-1857

Steve's cell is 714/724-7102

## **NOVEMBER 25 & 26 FIELD TRIP**

The field trip for November has been narrowed down to two venues, Baxter Wash or Chuckwalla Springs. The dates are Friday and Saturday, November 25 & 26. Complete information on this trip will be available for the November Rock Slab news.

*Steve.*

## SUNSHINE REPORT

by Beth Pelfrey

***CELEBRATE, CELEBRATE, EVERY BODY IN THE SEARCHERS CELEBRATE!!!***

**OUR OWN MARGARET NEELEY IS TURNING 90. EVERYONE SEND HER A BIRTHDAY CARD. THIS IS A BIG DEAL, SO LET'S ALL WISH MARGARET MANY HAPPY RETURNS!**



Send to: MS MARGARET NEELEY  
815 N. HARBOR BLVD  
ANAHEIM, CA 92805-1810

I have also two not so sunny items to report:

First, our own Karl Norton left this earth last night, Friday, September 16, 2011, at 7 PM. His loving wife and Searcher member, Sarah Harris Norton was by his side and had been with him throughout his illness. Karl will be buried in Riverside National Cemetery with full military honors. We will miss him.

Please let Sarah know how you support her in this difficult time. Her home address is below:

Mrs. Sarah Harris Norton  
9172 Margate Circle  
Westminster, CA 92683  
(714) 394-6713

Second Item:

Sometimes members are in situations where they just need a boost to get them through the day. As I mentioned last night, Sarah and Karl Norton need your cheerful good wishes. Also needing your confidence-building is longtime (almost a founding member, he and brother Grant have been in the club for so long!) is Wes Miller. You might remember Wes was in a devastating accident a number of years ago at work and has never fully recovered. He is improving from his last surgery but needs daily medical care and assistance. The nursing home he was in was closed and he has been moved to:

Wes ("Bud") Miller  
9831 Royal Palm Blvd.  
Garden Grove, CA 92841

I know he will appreciate your good wishes and chatty news.

## A LOCAL SOURCE OF TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS

We would like to let the Searchers Gem and Mineral Society know about Pacific West Maps, a new, local, family owned topographic map store. We sell 100% authentic USGS topo maps. We have in stock authentic USGS 7.5 series topo maps for every state in the United States as well as other scales offered by the USGS. In addition we stock BLM, Forest Service, raised relief, and Tom Harrison maps.

We have in stock approximately 100,000 topo maps.

Pacific West Maps is located at:  
994 N Main St  
Orange, CA 92867  
714-633-0800 (714) 393-3813 cell

We are open Wednesday - Saturday 10 am – 6 pm. Feel free to drop by anytime during business hours.

Sincerely,

Gregg Miller  
Brian Simmonds-Miller

### 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