

SEARCHERS BOARD OFFICERS

- President: Kim Strange
- 1st VP: Sharon Burson
- 2nd VP: Andrew Bloxom
- Director: Doug Flaugh
- Secretary: Jamie Cassidy-Curtis
- Treasurer: Charlotte Spalding
- Federation Delegate: Charles Walker
- Committee Chairpersons
- Editor: Linda Horn
- Historian:
- Hospitality: Lorri Renck
- Library: Inez Flaugh
- Monthly Drawing:
- Sunshine:
- Veteran Liaison :
- Charles W.
- Website: Steve Duncan
- Workshop: Adrian Callard

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FIELD TRIPS

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The Rock Slab News

VOLUME 57, ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2020



The President's Message

Happy December Searchers,

I hope this message finds everyone staying healthy and doing well. As of this writing, the Anaheim Community Center remains closed until after the first of the new year. We are staying in touch with them and will let the club know as soon as they have a reopening date.

Thanks to everyone involved in submitting "show and tell" photos for our November general meeting. Because we received positive feedback on the November meeting and on the idea of holding a December general meeting in lieu of our holiday party, we decided we would hold another "show and tell" session for all club members to share their lapidary shop creation(s) or field trip find(s) on December 8. It's a simple process; email me a few photos that you would like to share with the club by December 6 (email me at kim-strange01@gmail.com) and then join the Zoom meeting on Tuesday, December 8 at 7pm to say a few words about your photos. At our November meeting, Dean Wanless shared photos of some of the jewelry pieces he has made (did you know he makes his own jewelry settings – first learning on copper and then using silver?), Margaret Hogarth shared what she has been busy making for show prizes and grab bags (Margaret is looking for unusual colored glass bottles for wind chimes and candles) and I shared some photos of a trip my wife and I took to the Ord Mountains visiting some old mine sites and minerals we found.

At the November general meeting, we also announced the results of the annual board officer elections. The proposed slate of officers was approved unanimously by all members who voted. I want to take this opportunity to thank Jamie Cassidy-Curtis and Charlotte Spalding who decided not to run for reelection this year. Both of these ladies have volunteered as board officers for several years and have done a great job serving the club. Please join me in expressing a big "thank you" to Jamie and Charlotte!

I need to announce that our CFMS Representative, Charles Walker, notified me after the election that he desires to resign from the board. I reluctantly accepted his resignation. Thank you to Charles for pulling "double duty" as both our CFMS Representative and Veteran Liaison this past year. Nancy Bird has graciously agreed to step back in as our CFMS Representative at least temporarily. I want to sincerely thank Nancy for helping us out in this way.

I know we are all looking forward to the new year – and to the promise of putting COVID behind us. There has been recent good news about COVID vaccines that promise to return our lives to a more normal state within the next 6 months or so. In the meantime, please remember to be considerate of others by observing public health advisories; maintain physical distance, wear a face covering when in public and avoid large group events. We do this not only to protect our own health but the health of our loved ones and the people we come in contact with.

That's all for now Searchers. Stay healthy! Best wishes for a peaceful Thanksgiving and holiday season.

***Please remember to save slab donations for the vets.**



Searchers Club Meetings and Presenters

Board Meeting- December 1st

Member Meeting– December 8th ZOOM meeting

NOTE: The latest is that the Community Center is still closed

Searchers Board Meeting – November

The Searchers board met via Zoom on November 3 at 6:30 pm. Items discussed included:

- The board has made an inventory of Searchers keys for our storage unit, workshop, portable library, and post office box. The library and post office box have only one known key, so the board will look into getting backup keys made.
- The board has purchased a Pro Zoom account for Searchers. Until we can meet in person again, Zoom is the best alternative.
- The board discussed the transition tasks needed for the 2021 board. The current Treasurer and Secretary are retiring from the board after this year.
- The Halloween field trip went well, and no one had any objections to the revised waiver.
- The board discussed when we'll need to decide whether to go forward with the 2021 show. The board also wants to look at possible alternatives if the regular show isn't possible; for example, would a small outdoor 1-day show be feasible? This issue will be discussed more early next year.

Searchers General Meeting – November

The Searchers general meeting was held on Zoom on November 10. At least 12 households attended.

Searchers business items included:

Searchers members voted to accept the 2021 slate of board officers, and the new board was installed at this meeting. The new board, which will meet in December, consists of:

- President Kim Strange
- 1st Vice President (Programs) Sharon Burson
- 2nd Vice President (Field Trips) Andrew Bloxom
- Treasurer Sue Gevedon
- Secretary Aurora Vidin
- CFMS Representative Charles Walker
- Director Doug Flaugh
- Show Chair Margaret Hogarth
- Shop Chair Adrian Callard

Outgoing board members Charlotte Spalding and Jamie Cassidy-Curtis were thanked for their years of service. Additional field trips are being planned. More details will be available later.

The rest of the meeting was a Show & Tell, with Margaret Hogarth showing items she makes and donates to our annual show, Dean Wanless showing some of his jewelry designs using rocks and copper or silver, and Kim Strange showing minerals he found at the Josephine Mine at Ord Mountain.

We'll have another meeting in December to continue the Show & Tell. A few presenters couldn't make the November meeting. If you'd like to participate, contact Kim Strange for more information.

For field trip information

contact:

Andrew

Bloxom Field

Trips,

Searchers

Gem and

Mineral

Society,

andrew.bloxom@gmail.com

December Meeting Topic: Share and Tell Rocks

There was positive feedback received about the November general meeting's "show and tell" program, so we've decided to hold another "show and tell" for December's meeting. All members can submit a few photos of their recent lapidary shop creation(s) or share a recent collecting trip with the club and then share their experience during the December meeting. Please submit your photos to Kim at kimstrange01@gmail.com no later than a day or two before the meeting so I can put them in a Power-Point document.

We will use the same general meeting Zoom meeting number:

<https://tcc-services.zoom.us/j/2202768016> [tcc-services.zoom.us]

Searchers will have the December **general meeting by Zoom, December 8th 2020 at 7:00 p.m.**

Zoom is dependent on a computer/tablet/phone with a microphone and camera, and Zoom loaded on it.

If you need to download Zoom, do so at <https://zoom.us/>

We would set an appointed day and time (have Zoom downloaded) and then click on the meeting link below. Then you would click the "join meeting" button, then enable your microphone and enable your video. If you are using an iPad you might have to touch the screen to see the speaker and video options at the bottom.

NOTE: for those who can't use Zoom, call us, we would love to have you!

877 853 5247 US Toll-free

888 788 0099 US Toll-free

Meeting ID: 220 276 8016

Topic: Searcher's Meeting Room

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://tcc-services.zoom.us/j/2202768016>

Meeting ID: 220 276 8016

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,2202768016# US (San Jose)

+13462487799,,2202768016# US (Houston)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 253 215 8782 US

+1 301 715 8592 US

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 220 276 8016

Find your local number: <https://tcc-services.zoom.us/u/>



Saw Oil Available

The club supplies saw oil at a good price. It is located at Jim Peterson's home. Bring your own 5 gallon container. The cost is \$60 for 5 gallons. Call 714 904-8573 and make a check payable to "Searchers"



Cargo Muchacho Mountains Field Trip

December 5-6, 2020

Meet 8:30am, Depart: 9:00am

Leader: Margaret & Bill Hogarth, Jimmy Peterson

Contact Bill for logistical/information inquires

Cell# 909-264-1122 ; Email: whogarth@gmail.com

The Anaheim Searchers will be headed to the Cargo Muchacho Mountains in the southeast Colorado Desert in the Lower Colorado River Valley, in Imperial County, California. This will be an exploratory/prospecting style trip. We will arrive at the site on Friday, December 4. We will camp at an open area near the American Girl Mine.

Directions:

From Highway 8, Exit Ogilby Road, cross the highway and go north. Go 4 miles, cross the railroad tracks, and shortly after that turn right on American Girl Mine road. In about 2 miles, just before the Y in the road, you'll see a large flat open area where we will be camping. GPS Coords: [[32.832143, -114.814761](#)]

Watch for the Searcher signs! There is off-road vehicle activity in the area so we might have neighbors in the campsite.

Saturday we'll meet at 8:30 a.m. in the campsite.

We'll explore Site B [1] and look for dumortierite, agate, jasper, petrified wood and/or petrified palm. We'll check out the Tumco Ruins and Gold Rock Trading Post. If we have time we might go to Winterhaven Geodes [1,3] and check for geodes, chalcedony, agate, and nodules. We might explore other sites as time allows.

Sunday:

On Sunday morning we'll look for kyanite by the American Girl Mine area [2], and then head home.

Since this is a new area for us, we recommend 4-wheel drive high-clearance vehicles. Camping is dry; bring all water and food as necessary. It might be cold at night.

James R. Mitchell's Gem Trails of Southern California (2003), pages 26-27 for Winterhaven Geodes; pages 30-32 for Cargo Muchacho Mountains region

Mindat for American Girl Mine (Cargo Mine; Cargo Muchacho Mine) :

<https://www.mindat.org/loc-76980.html>

Mindat for Winterhaven

<https://www.mindat.org/feature-5410123.html>



Dumortierite Quartz: Rare Blue Quartz

Dumortierite quartz is blue colored quartz containing abundant dumortierite inclusions.

Dumortierite quartz is one of the rarer and more unusual blue varieties of quartz gemstones. It is a gemstone-quality combination of quartz aggregate, intergrown with the mineral known as dumortierite. Although quartz can occur in a wide range of colors, blue colored quartz is surprisingly quite rare. The traces of dumortierite are responsible for its distinct color, which can range from light to dark blue and in some cases reddish-brown.

Dumortierite is an aluminum borosilicate ($\text{Al}_7\text{BO}_3(\text{SiO}_4)_3\text{O}_3$) with a hardness that can range from 7.0 to 8.5 on the Mohs scale. In aggregate form, mainly when cut, its hardness is 7.0. (the same as quartz), while crystal forms have a hardness rating of 8.5.

The mineral was first described in 1881 and was named after French paleontologist, Eugene Dumortier (1803-1873). Dumortierite also has a few industrial purposes other than jewelry. Since it is known to turn remarkably pure white in color when fired, it is often used for the production of porcelain and ceramics. It is sometimes mistaken for sodalite and has been used as imitation lapis lazuli.

<http://www.geologyin.com/2020/05/dumortierite-quartz-rare-blue-quartz.html>

THE GEMSTONE DUMORTIERITE

Dumortierite is a minor blue gemstone that usually forms as inclusions in Quartz. Its most common color is blue or grayish-blue, though pink and purple colors are also known. Dumortierite's durability, combined with a high hardness, would make this an ideal gemstone, but the lack of transparency and often dull luster limit its use.

ALL ABOUT

Pure Dumortierite gemstones are rarely encountered. Most lapidary-grade Dumortierite is dense blue inclusions of Dumortierite within Quartz. These gemstones are often called by the confusing term "Dumortierite Quartz", or may even be called "Blue Quartz". The inclusions can be present throughout the Quartz, or in splotches or zones, resulting in light and dark blue color zones.

The properties listed above are inherent to pure Dumortierite. However, since most Dumortierite gemstones are actually Quartz with Dumortierite inclusions, the properties listed under Quartz are the more accurate gemstone reference.

USES: Dumortierite is a minor gemstone used mostly in cabochons and lapidary carvings.

OTHER NAMES

Blue Denim Stone

VARIETIES

Bahia Blue Quartz - Synonym of Dumortierite Quartz

Blue Moon Quartz - Synonym of Dumortierite Quartz

Dumortierite Quartz - Dumortierite formed as dense inclusions within Quartz, creating a natural blue gemstone form of Quartz.

DUMORTIERITE TREATMENTS AND ENHANCEMENTS

Dumortierite gemstones are natural and not treated or enhanced.

https://www.minerals.net/gemstone/dumortierite_gemstone.aspx



Show Update

While we are all stuck at home it is an opportunity to either set aside or make prizes for our show, whenever it will happen. We were so inspired by the Show and Tell at our November meeting that Aurora and I are collaborating on candle and rock related projects. Speaking of which, I am on the lookout for unusually-colored bottles. Wine/beer/clear bottles are easy to come by, but if you have bottles that are blue, yellow, red, purple? please save them for me. Broken bottles are okay, also. You can bring them on a field trip or I could pick them up. I tumble glass and am making bells out of the top of bottles, so the glass will be put to a good use.

We have so many creative and artistic people in our club I am really excited about all of the possibilities!

Keep on rocking,

Margaret

UCLA Library Mines and Mining Resources for Southern California

If you would like to learn more about mine-related resources for Southern California, check out the UCLA Library site at <https://guides.library.ucla.edu/c.php?g=180533&p=1187821>. Each page lists mining-related information for each county in California, including electronic and print resources. Some electronic resources may require a UCLA library card, but you can at least get an idea of where to find more information. If a library is a federal depository library you can find many of the print resources. UCLA, CSUF, UCR, LA County Library, The Claremont Colleges Library, CSU Dominguez Hills, CSULA are depository libraries that may have print USGS resources. Check with the library first to make sure that they have what you are looking for and to make sure you can have access as many are closed due to COVID-19.

Margaret Hogarth

Searcher Slab Needs

The Searchers are creating an archive of Slab issues on the Searcher web site. Thanks to Jay Valle, we have most issues from 2006-present. The archive is located at <https://www.searchersrocks.org/2019-slab-archive>. Below is a list of issues that we are missing. If you have paper archives, they can be scanned and returned to you unharmed. Please let me know, hogarth.m@gmail.com.

Missing issues:

2004 and before: Any issues.

2005: January, February, March, April, May, June, July, November, December

2006: December

2007: December

2008: January, February

2009: December

2011: February

2013: July

Thank you,

Margaret

Searchers' Board Officer News

Everyone thanks both:

Jamie Cassidy-Curtis

Charlotte Spalding

for all they have done as board members for the Searchers. All their hard work is much appreciated to keep things running smoothly.



Welcome to the 2021 Board

Treasurer Sue Gevedo - New board member but a long time Searcher

Secretary Aurora Vidin - A new member and new to the board

CFMS Representative Nancy Bird Temporary fill in

Show Chair Margaret Hogarth - Now a board position

Shop Chair Adrian Calla - Now a board position



For a more complete listing of shows go to web-site: www.cfmsinc.org

Upcoming 2021 CFMS Gem Shows

Due to the ongoing virus check to see if any shows are still on. Most all have been canceled

2021 Shows

February 20-21, Antioch

Antioch Lapidary Club
Jewelry, Gem & Rock Show
Contra Costa County Fairgrounds, 1201 West 10th St., Antioch
Hours: 10 am – 5 pm daily
Admission \$6, Children 12 and under/ Scouts in uniform – Free
Active Military with ID – Free
Contact: (925) 301-6957, brenda.miguel@yahoo.com

February 27-28, Vallejo

Valejo Gem & Mineral Society
56th Annual Gem & Mineral Show
Solano County Fairgrounds, McCormack Hall, 900 Fairgrounds Dr.
Hours 10 am-5pm
Contact: (415) 254-1506, ddu-honvgms@gmail.com

March 6 – Ventura, CA CANCELLED!!!

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society
Ventura County Fairgrounds, 10 W.

Harbor Blvd, Ventura 93001

Saturday 10 am-5 pm, Sunday 10 am-4 pm

A So-Cal tradition for 59 years! (Note: this listing is tentative and is conditioned upon conditions of the moment at the Ventura County Fairgrounds due to the COVID-19 pandemic.)

50+ exhibits of gems, fossils & lapidary arts; demos; raffle silent auctions; flea market & plant sale; 15 dealers; kids booth & free resources for teachers.
Contact: (805) 312-8467, info@vgms.org

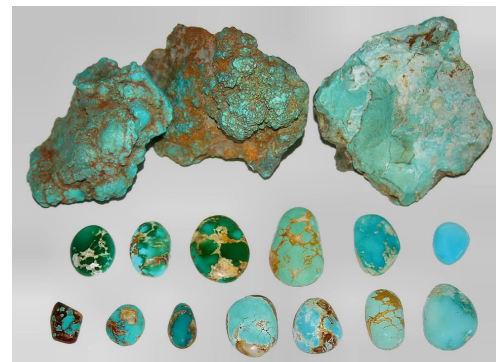
March 13-14, Arcadia CA

Pasadena Lapidary Society
"Inspiration Unearth", 62nd Annual Tournament of Gems
Arcadia Masonic Center, 50 W. Duarte Rd.
Hours: 10-5 Daily
Contact: Ellen Ferrell 1-727-512-0381
Email: ellenbf207@aol.com
Website: pasadenalapidary.org

June 12-13, 2021, Escondido CA

Palomar Gem and Mineral Club
340 N. Escondido Blvd., Escondido CA 92025
Saturday – 10 AM – 5 PM, Sunday 10 AM-4PM
Palomar Gem and Mineral Show – presented by the Palomar Gem and Mineral Club. Held in the California Arts Centers museum and ballroom. A beautiful indoor facility. Secure for vendors and comfortable for attendees. 30-35 dealers.

Website: pgmcshow@palomargem.org



December: Birthstone: Zircon, Tanzanite and Turquoise



Zircon Colors



TANZANITE

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 5:30 to 10:00 PM and Saturday 2:30 to 7:00 PM

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. Box 3492

Anaheim, Ca. 92803

Charter Date: April 20, 1958

Affiliations: California Federation of Mineralogical Societies
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

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