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POINTS OF INTEREST

FIELD TRIPS

GENERAL MEETING

SPEAKERS

The Rock Slab News

The Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Anaheim CA

VOLUME 52, ISSUE 1



NOVEMBER 2015

The President's Message



Hello Searchers and Visitors!

Who would have thought that we'd be cancelling a field trip to Arizona because of rain? Tough luck.

Kim and Charlotte will be making centerpieces for the December dinner event. If you would like to join them please contact them at the November meeting. We are also seeking suggestions on how to make the dinner/gift exchange more entertaining.

Speaking of the gift exchange, please limit your gift to about \$10 and please let it be in some way rockhound related.

Reminder: Our Jewel Tunnel invitation is for Saturday 11/21/15. Their prices are typically 50% off retail and sometimes more.

Work continues apace on the calendar for next year's show. Please talk to Margaret or Jenny. We want your best pictures of your BEST STUFF (slabs, cabs, jewelry, spheres, and other lapidary art). There is a space on the website for submitting photos. There's also a place on the website to grant the Searchers permission to use your photo.

We are still looking for nominees to be the recipient of our annual \$500 student scholarship. Some of the qualifications are that the recipient be an Orange County resident, that they shall be attending college/university in the year of the award (2015) and that they have an interest or intent to study geology or a related earth science. The application is available on the website and, once filled out, should be sent to Charlotte via the Searchers' PO Box.

Remember that the pie/dessert meeting, as well as elections, takes place this month. You want to be there. Non-attendance doesn't mean you can't get nominated for a position! It's quite possible that our next president won't be there! (Give me a hearty Halloween-vampire HAAAAHAHA!!!)

[Jay Erb](#) President, Searchers Gem and Mineral Society

Become a Rockhound Activist. We're not asking you to 'Rock the World', just protect the places you love.



Its Pie time this month. Bring your hunger and have some fun. Page 3.

It is getting to be that time to plan for the annual Christmas party. See page 3.



Field Trips

DATE	LEADER	LOCATION	STATUS
11-14,15 2015	Robert Burson	Chuckwalla Mountains	planned

Field Trip Chuckwalla Springs

November 14-15, 2015

There will be a field trip on November 14, 15 to Chuckwalla Springs (between Desert Center/Blythe). The trip will be led by Searchers Robert Burson. We will be collecting agates (plume, moss, fortification, and banded), and Jaspers of many colors. Sagenite is found here too. There are also agate filed geodes and amygdules.

The camp will be accessible by RVs and cars, although the last stretch of the road may need to be driven carefully. This will be a dry camp, bring what you need. Don't forget sunscreen and hats, lots of water. It could be hot during the day and cold at night. Gas and simple supplies are available at Chiriaco Summit, Blythe has anything you could need, including motels. We will be having our traditional potluck on Sat night, so bring something good to share. Telling tall tales around the campfire is also on the agenda.

We will leave the camp every day at 0830, a high clearance vehicle will be necessary to reach the collecting sites. We will carpool as required. You will want to take lunch. Standard rock tools should suffice, rock pick and spray bottle. You may want a small sledge and gad.

Directions:

Take 91 freeway East to the 60 South. In Indio take 10 East travel to first exit past Desert Center. Take Corn Springs exit, which is 9.3 miles east of Desert Center. Take the old highway east 13.2 miles to Graham Pass Road. Turn right and go south for 5.9 miles to the Chuckwalla Springs Rd, there should be a sign here. We will

put out some Searchers signs

to help you find your way. Without traffic it is about 3 hours and 20 minutes from Anaheim to the freeway turn off.

If you have any questions about the trip feel free to contact Robert at 562 706 4892 or Steve Duncan at 714 724 7102, or wsd@iteris.com. P.S. rooms in Bythe are usually reasonable if you shop around ahead of time. There will be an option, Saturday night to visit Sizzler in Bythe, This is usually the better than average food selection.

THANKS HOPE YOU CAN MAKE IT THERE. Robert.

Field trip status

Although we try not to, occasionally we need to change or cancel a field trip. When we do we always send an email blast, and we try to talk about it in the monthly meeting if possible. Most importantly we update the News Flash section on the front page of the website. Please check the News Flash section of our website before you leave on any field trip to avoid any surprises.



For field trip
information

contact: Robert

Burson V.P. Field

Trips, Searchers

Gem and Mineral

Society,

[bursonrocks@verizon](mailto:bursonrocks@verizon.net)

on.net



Searchers Show information

From the Show Committee:

Do you have walkie-talkies? The Show Committee would like to borrow 3 pairs of walkie-talkies for the show weekend. We think this would help us provide better security and coverage of the show.

Please contact Margaret if you can help. hogarth.m@gmail.com

Contribute your best rock images to the Searchers calendar!

Please email your best rock images to searchers.calendar@gmail.com

Please include your name, contact information, and information about the image.

Searchers hopes to offer calendars at our show.

Questions? Please contact Margaret hogarth.m@gmail.com

Thank you,

Margaret

hogarth.m@gmail.com

909-815-3045



November Pie Time and Cabinet Member Elections

Description: We will be electing our new cabinet members for the year 2016. New faces, returning ones, and repeat position holders are all welcomed. Also, as the topic title suggests, please bring pies, so that we all can have some fun and enjoy sharing pie on our last official monthly meeting of the year.



Club Meeting Activity

DATE	PRESENTER	SUBJECT
11-2015	none	Pie Party and Cabinet Member Elections
12-2015	No meeting	Christmas Party

For a more complete listing of shows go to web-site:

www.cfmsinc.org

Upcoming 2015 CFMS Gem Shows

2015

November 7 - 8: ANAHEIM, CA American Opal Society 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 7 - 8: RIDGECREST, CA Indian Wells Gem & Mineral Society Desert Empire Fairgrounds 520 South Richmond Road Hours: 8 - 5 daily Contact: John DeRosa, (760) 375-7905 Email: jfrocks@dslextrreme.com

November 21 - 22: APPLE VALLEY, CA Valley Gem & Mineral Club Victor Valley Museum 11873 Apple Valley Road (x Bear Valley Rd.) Hours: Sat 9 - 5; Sun 9 - 3 Contact: Cyndy Mandell, 760.508.1080, 760.508.1080 Email: cynmandell@me.com Website: www.vvgmc.org

December 5 - 6: BARSTOW, CA Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society Cora Harper Community Center 841 S. Barstow Road Hours: 10 - 5 daily Contact: Danny Watts, (760) 373-1309 Email: dwatts@msn.com Website: www.mdgms.net

December 5 - 6: LAKESIDE, CA El Cajon Valley Gem & Mineral Society Lakeside Rodeo Grounds 12584 Mapleview Street Hours: Sat 9 - 5; Sun 9 - 4 Mary Ness, (619) 449-0759 Email: ecvgms@gmail.com Website: www.ecvgms.com

December 12 - 13: RIALTO, CA Orange Belt Mineralogical Society Across Street from Rialto City Hall 105 South Palm Avenue Hours: Sat 9 - Dusk daily Contact: Jessica Pierson, (909) 381-0089 Website: <http://OBMSrocks.yolasite.com>

2016

JANUARY

January 16 - 17: EXETER, CA Tule Gem & Mineral Society, Visalia Exeter Veterans' Memorial Building 324 N. Kaweah Avenue Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4 Contact: Margaret Buchmann, (559) 799-6034 Email: margaret-bu03@gmail.com Website: www.tulegem.com

FEBRUARY

February 12 - 21: INDIO, CA San Geronio Mineral & Gem Society Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival 82503 Highway 111 Hours: 10 - 10 daily Contact: Bert Grisham, (915) 849-1674 Email: bert67@verizon.net

February 20 - 21: ANTIOCH, CA Antioch Gem Club Contra Costa County Fairgrounds 1201 West 10th Street Hours: 10 - 5 daily Contact: Brenda Miguel, (925) 301-6957 Email: brenda.miguel@yahoo.com Website: www.antiochlapidaryclub.com

MARCH

February 27 - 28: VALLEJO, CA Vallejo Gem & Mineral Society Solano County Fairgrounds, McCormack Hall 900 Fairgrounds Drive Hours: 10 - 5 daily Contact: Dan Wolke, 707 334-2950 Email: dncwolke@sbcglobal.net Website: www.vjgems.org

March 4 - 6: NEWARK, CA Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley Newark Pavilion 6430 Thornton Avenue Hours: Fri & Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5 Contact: Cathy Miller, (510) 887-9007 Email: show-chair@mgscv.org Website: www.mgscv.org

March 5 - 6: ARCADIA, CA Monrovia Rockhounds Los Angeles Arboretum-Ayres Hall 301 Baldwin Avenue Hours: 9:00 - 4:30 daily Contact: Jo Anna Ritchey, (626) 358-1624, Email: joan-naritchey@gmail.com Website: www.Moroks.com

March 12 - 13: SPRECKELS, CA, Spreckel's Veterans Hall 5th & Llano Streets Hours: 10 - 5 daily Contact: Karin Salomon, (831) 375-5233 Email: kcbakes27@yahoo.com Website: www.salinasrockandgem.com

March 5 - 6: VENTURA, CA Ventura Gem & Mineral Society Ventura County Fairgrounds 10 West Harbor Blvd. Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4 Contact: Show Chair, (805) 312-8467 Email: info@VGMS.org Website: www.vgms.org



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. <https://www.americangemsociety.org/november-birthstones>

Most authorities agree that the name topaz comes from Topazios, the old Greek name for a small island in the Red Sea, now called Zabargad. (The island never produced topaz, but it was once a source of peridot, which was confused with topaz before the development of modern mineralogy.) Some scholars trace the origin back to Sanskrit (an ancient language of India) and the word topas or tapaz, meaning "fire."

History: The ancient Greeks believed that topaz gave them strength. In Europe during the Renaissance (the period from the 1300s to the 1600s) people thought that topaz could break magic spells and dispel anger. For centuries, many people in India have believed that topaz worn above the heart assures long life, beauty, and intelligence.

The name for imperial topaz originated in nineteenth-century Russia. At the time, the Ural Mountains were topaz's leading source, and the pink gemstone mined there was named to honor the Russian czar. Ownership of the gem was restricted to the royal family. <http://www.gia.edu/topaz-history-lore>

Jewel Tunnel Imports

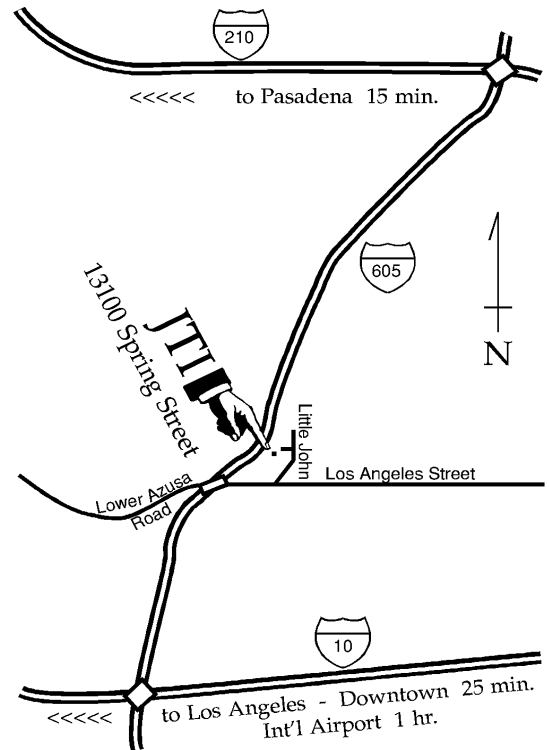
An invitation for the members and friends of the
Searchers Gem and Mineral Society to attend an open house at
Jewel Tunnel Imports
Saturday November 21, 2015 - 10 AM to 4PM

13100 Spring St., Baldwin Park, CA 91706, 626-814-2257
 Starving students and other will be fed. Unattended children will be
 sold as slaves.

Map also available at <http://www.jeweltunnel.com>

Jewel Tunnel Imports is a leading wholesale distributor of mineral specimens, crystals, fossils, tumbled stones and many different kinds of lapidary items like balls, eggs, jewelry etc. made from different minerals. We have a warehouse in excess of 10,000 sq. feet full of mineral related natural history items, perhaps the largest of its kind in the United States. Check out our website jeweltunnel.com.

Historically Jewel Tunnel Imports has had limited open house parties for mineralogically and geologically oriented groups such as the students and faculty of various university geology departments and members of certain gem and mineral societies. These open houses, by invitation only, on a few weekends just proceeding Christmas, offer a chance for individuals belonging to these groups to buy minerals and crystals at wholesale prices and to learn something about the wholesale gem and mineral business



Other Local Upcoming Field Trips

2015 MULTI-CLUB FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE Expanded and current information for these collecting opportunities will be published in the Bulletin for the particular month. As always, you should to contact the field trip leader ahead of time because: 1. Sometimes field trips are canceled or changed for various reasons including inclement weather or areas being closed. 2. If we don't know you are coming we won't wait for you and you may not find out the planned camp site was moved until too late. Distributed to the representatives of the Delvers – Long Beach – North Orange County – Pasadena – Whittier – Searchers Gem - Monrovia Rockhounds Mineral and Lapidary Clubs For up-to-date information on these field trips and how to join the trip please see **Kevin Doran, our club's field trip leader or call Joe Goetz at (626)-622-9420.**

NOV 7-8: WHITTIER CLAIM AREA - Barstow for honey onyx, agate, jasper, palm root.

NOV 27-29: THANKSGIVING TRIP - Owens Valley or Afton Canyon.

DEC 12: SALTON SEA - YUHA Fossil Beds, Tour Geothermal Power Plant, Mud Volcano Field.

JAN 24-25: QUARTZSITE ARIZONA

Searcher's Holiday Banquet

Mimi's Café December 5th 2015 at 6 P. M.

1240 N. Euclid St, Anaheim, CA

Price \$20

Questions: Veronica's cell # (714) 501-9959 or return email (angeldragonoflight@yahoo.com)

Checks made out to: "Searcher's Society" or "Searcher's Gem and Mineral Society"

Cash or Check payments need to be sent to: P.O. Box 3492, Anaheim, CA 92803

Deadline for payments and sign-up needs to be no later than: Monday November 30th

Gift exchange: only those who bring a wrapped gift may participate in the gift exchange (minimum \$10 or more value)

Soups and Salads: All entrees comes with a choice of Caesar salad or a cup of soup. The Dinner entrée of the Blue Cheese & Walnut Salad can come with a fresh baked muffin as your side if you want it.

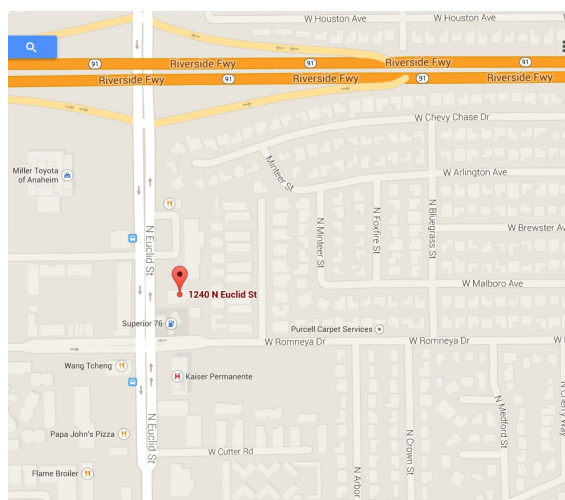
Dinner Choices: Pot Roast, Roasted Turkey Dinner, Fish or Blue Cheese & Walnut Salad

Desserts Options: Chocolate Mousse, Petite Apple Crisp or Petite Bread Pudding



Please respond and RSVP ASAP to secure your spot and payment before the deadline if you wish to attend the banquet. You do not have to indicate your whole dinner selection (just the entrée choice is fine; although you may indicate the rest if you wish).

Members must pay for their own drinks if non-standard (Searcher's only pays for basic like water, soda, ice tea and such). Alcoholic drinks and others the individual members pays for themselves. (Searcher's takes care of taxes, basic drinks, and tip on the check.



Kid's Corner

This is the section for new and upcoming Searchers. The information will be coming from a newsletter for kids called *Mini Miners Monthly* by Diamond Dan Publications. He is kind enough to allow us to use parts of his newsletter. This is from Vol. 9 No. 8.

Mineral of the Month Fluorite

Fluorite is found all over the world. It occurs in many different colors including colorless, blue, purple, green, yellow, white, pink, and brown.

It is number 4 on the mineral hardness scale (called Mohs' Hardness Scale). Fluorite crystallizes in the isometric system (also called the cubic system) and is found mostly as cubes or as octahedra. An octahedron is an eight-sided crystal that looks like a diamond.

The name comes from the Latin word fluere which means to flow. This name was chosen because when fluorite is added to iron ore, the iron melts (flows) out of the ore at a lower temperature than it does without the fluorite. Fluorite contains the elements calcium (Ca) and fluorine (F).

Its chemical formula is CaF_2 .



Your Mineral Collection By Darryl Powell

What do you do after you take a mineral specimen home? There are a few things that you should do to take good care of your specimens.

When you add a specimen to your mineral collection, it is important to write down as much information about the specimen as you possibly can. Mineral dealers from all over the world tell me that a specimen that has information with it is much more valuable than a specimen without any information.

1. When you get a new specimen, give it a number. Keep a list of your numbers and the specimen that goes with each. It is easiest to number them 1, 2, 3, 4, and so on.
2. Write down the name of the mineral on the long line.
3. If there are other minerals with it, list those next.
4. In the next section, record how you came to own the specimen. Did you buy it? If so, from whom and for how much? Was it a gift? Who gave it to you? Is it an old specimen that was owned by another collector? Who was it? Do you know who actually dug it out of the ground? When was it found?
5. Then measure it with a metric ruler and describe the crystals if there are any.
6. On the second page, add any other special information you may have. I like to mention magazine articles about the specimen or the place where it was found. I also make comments about anything special that happened or that I learned when I received the specimen. If it reminds you of a special event or person, make a note about this. I even make personal comments like, "This is one of my favorite minerals!" or "This is ok, but someday I'll buy a better specimen." Anything you want to write here is ok.
7. Save any labels that came with the specimen, including the dealer's label. Labels are very collectible by themselves. Also, a specimen with all its labels is worth more money.

Amber by Wesley Powell

Amber is fossilized tree sap which often has different things in it such as bugs and spiders. (Don't worry! The bugs are dead!) Hundreds of years ago, amber, which is today used in jewelry, was used in many other different ways. In the 1500's, many different items like bowls, plates, and sometimes chess sets were made from amber.



The two best places to find amber is in are in the Baltic States, and the Dominican Republic. The price of amber can be from \$20 to as high as \$40,000!



Amber is very useful for people called paleontologists. Paleontologists are able to identify different things inside the amber. Over 1,000 extinct different insects have been discovered in amber!

Some of the insects and bugs inside the amber can be pretty old, too. Millions of years old! In fact, one scientist claimed to have found an insect inside of amber which is 135 million years old! That's when the dinosaurs roamed the earth!

A few of the most common insects and other things you can find in amber is termites, moths, caterpillars, spiders, and midges.

There have been many different myths about this gemstone. For example, Phaethon, who was the son of Helios, the sun god, asked his father if he could ride the chariot of the sun for a day through the heavens. Helios agreed. Phaethon got too close to the earth and burned it! To save the earth, Zeus threw a lightening bolt at Phaethon and killed him. His mother and sisters mourned and turned into trees and their tears are the amber.



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Darryl Powell, editor Emma Fajcz, contributing editor

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, 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

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:

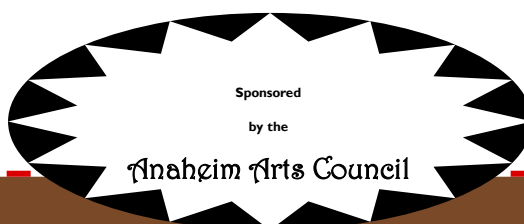
Searchers —Linda Horn Editor

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