

## SEARCHERS BOARD OFFICERS

- President: Kim Strange
- 1st VP: Sharon Burson
- 2nd VP: Andrew Bloxom
- Director: Doug Flaugh
- Secretary: Aurora Vidin
- Treasurer: Sue Gevedon
- Federation Delegate: Nancy Bird
- Committee Chairpersons
- Editor: Linda Horn
- Historian:
- Hospitality: Lorri Renck
- Library: Inez Flaugh
- Sunshine:
- Veteran Liaison :
- Website: Steve Duncan
- Shop Chairman: Adrian Callard
- Show Chair: Margaret Hogarth

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## POINTS OF INTEREST

### FIELD TRIPS

### GENERAL MEETING

### SPEAKERS

# The Rock Slab News

VOLUME 58, ISSUE 3



MARCH 2021

## The President's Message

Hello Searchers,

I hope this message finds everyone staying healthy and doing well. The COVID vaccine roll-out is slowly progressing – I'm hearing of some of our members getting their vaccination "jabs", which is great news. A few more months of continuing progress on vaccinations promises an end to the pandemic and a return to a more normal way of life. As of this writing, the Anaheim Community Center remains closed due to COVID-19. For now, we will continue to conduct our club board and general meetings via Zoom. More good news is that with the lifting of California's stay at home order, our Board has decided to schedule club sponsored field trips again. I look forward to seeing some of you in person in the months ahead on one of our field trips.



For those who joined our general meeting in February, Sujatmiko Miko gave a great talk on the rock collecting opportunities in Indonesia. Miko is a member of our club who is also a geologist. He shared many maps and beautiful photos showing some of Indonesia's gem and mineral wealth. The variety and vivid colors were breath taking. Thank you Miko for sharing your knowledge with us. And thank you Sharon for arranging to have Miko speak to our club.

At our February board meeting, we covered a few topics including a continuing discussion on how to better organize and share club documents online and how to better conduct club business in a "virtual" environment. To facilitate the storage and sharing of Board documents and help standardize our online presence, we have created a board Gmail email account with Google Drive folders where Board documents can be stored and shared. This should make the process of board transitions more seamless and less dependent on multiple emails and hand-offs of paper documents. The addition of a board email address should allow us to standardize access to a variety of online club tools and resources (such as our website, social media accounts, financial accounts, etc) without having to use individual personal board member email addresses as the log in credentials. Again, this has benefits from a board transition and club continuity standpoint. Other topics we discussed was finalizing a club budget for 2021 in order to project our year-end financial position. As of the February board meeting, our cash balance was \$27,863. While we project we will still have a sizable cash reserve at year-end, having a written budget will help document our assumptions for the year.

One last business item, we have received a couple of questions from members on how to go about paying dues this year. Without in-person meetings, about the only way to do this is via the mail. Dues payments should be mailed to; SEARCHERS GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY, P.O. BOX 3492, ANAHEIM, CA 92803

That's all for now Searchers. Stay healthy!



## Searchers Club Meetings and Presenters

Board Meeting- March 2nd ZOOM meeting

Member Meeting- March 9th ZOOM meeting

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

### Searchers General Meeting February 9th

Margaret, Diana, Dean, Miko, Theresa, Sharon, Robert (kevintime), Paul, John, Charlotte, Jim, Sue, Diana, Jennifer, R Larzelere, Kim, Virgil, Dave, Jean, Carol, Feni, Maren, Jamie, Gwen, Jay, Linda, Adrian

Meeting called to order at 7:05

New members: Jean Henryck new member and a friend of Jennifer who is a member; Feni, from GIA; Dave Duncan, newer member loves to rock hound and ran into members last year at Quartzsite

Dues payment: sending a check is the best way to pay dues and send to the PO Box

Meeting recap on the shows cancelation and possibility of a light show later in the year depending on vaccine and covid

A Brief Introduction to Indonesian Gemstones, by Sujatmiko Miko

Education from the Association of Indonesian Geologist Society of Indonesia. Indonesia is 5.2 million KM2 and is comprised of many small islands. 24 varieties of Indonesian gems were featured on stamps from 1997-2001

Focus for tonight is west java islands. Garut regency intense colors from petrified wood with copper and chrysocolla and other minerals including moss variation in intense bright colors.

Hardness of these stones is about 7. They are formations of minerals in cracks or fault lines in the stone. Look like very colorful landscapes.

Tasikmalaya Regency riverbed has jasper and is now protected by the government. Once these rocks are cut there is intense colors inside. Some resemble a burning forest (painting from Pinterest) Some specimens have coral when observed under microscope. Red Pepper jasper with Stromatolite Fossil and Bumble bee jasper is not really jasper and is also from Indonesia.

Are there clubs in Indonesia? How does one go about collection? He would publish discoveries and ask for government protection not to export. He published a book with short segments on the gems and works on the preservation of them. Chan is a risk in that they come in and buy the whole mine or collection (and not just from Indonesia)

Will Andrew be doing a February field trip? Not sure yet, Andrew was not able to join tonight.

Possible show and tell for next meeting - Jimmy for sphere making; Kim for his showcases any lapidary shops to do a virtual tour

The Searchers has a YouTube channel if you are out someplace and make a video make sure you post it out there

Sharon has a new great grandchild born January 24<sup>th</sup>, baby girl.

No other questions this evening, meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm

## Searchers Board Meeting Minutes, February 2nd

The board discussed Searchers social media accounts and web presence. We are in the process of consolidating and clarifying our social media presence and goals. The board is also excited about incorporating Paypal functionality to the website for paying dues. The board wants to remind Searchers that Searcher Merchandise is available from <https://fineartamerica.com/featured/searchers-logo-kim-strange.html?product=regular-tshirt>. There is a link on our homepage <https://www.searchersrocks.org/>.

The board also discussed recent donations to the club, budget preparation, and our CFMS insurance. We are scheduling field trips again, with COVID-19 precautions.

Margaret Hogarth 2/22/2021

## Searchers New Logo Wear Website

Here is the link:

<https://fineartamerica.com/featured/searchers-logo-kim-strange.html?product=regular-tshirt>

Once the page loads, the default is a men's t-shirt but the drop down menus on the right side allow the selection of different sizes, colors and types of apparel. In addition, scrolling down on the page then shows a variety of other logo items - from cell phone cases to tote bags to notebooks and everything in between. Let's see if we can work up some sort of standing notification in the slab each month to try to generate some interest. The club earns a small commission on each logo item sold so this is a fund raiser for the club. Let me know if you have any questions.



**SEARCHERS DUES** In our discussion of this topic over the past few months, we (the board) considered numerous alternatives including lowering the dues amount and offering some sort of "financial hardship" process for members. We ultimately decided to keep the dues at the same rate as 2020. Please send to the address on page 9. Make the check out to—**SEARCHERS GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY**.

## Show News

Our dedicated Show Committee works on our show all year long, making or gathering prizes, thinking about improvements, and collecting and tumbling materials. I am tumbling donated materials that were marked for tumbling in the Searchers' storage unit. If any wire wrappers or other fabricators would like to make show prizes with these tumbled materials, I could get some to you. Also, think about what we could do with tumbled rock bits and small tumbled pieces of glass. These offer creative opportunities for all of the makers in our club. Collaboration is encouraged! I tried to make clear Elmer's glue suncatchers in yogurt lids with bits of tumbled glass, but they fell apart in the rain. Resin is not sun safe; Dean suggested using superglue, and I've wanted to try marine-type coatings. We'll see if those work. All ideas are welcome. It would be great to have lots of prizes to bank for our 2022 and future shows. Let me know if you have any questions or if you would like to be added to the Show Committee.

## March Meeting

Speaker: Pete Goetz

Topic: Opal

Description: An Introduction. Etymology, Chemical make-up, Structure, how colors are created, types of Opal, where found and mining techniques.

Searchers will have the **General Meeting by Zoom, March 9th 2021 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!

Topic: Searcher's Meeting Room

Join Zoom Meeting

The club purchased our own Zoom account when we learned that Margaret would be retiring this year. The Zoom ID that has been set up for our general meetings is;

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86169783495?pwd=QzQwTndNc0lSajRNdW5raTZ5NkZaZz09>



## 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"



## Searchers One Day Field Trip to Baxter Wash 2-20-21

High winds ruled the day for a fun trip out into the North Cady Mountains and the Baxter Wash. We had 32 folks join in 17 cars, making for quite a caravan moving through the desert. The group had a nice mix of Searcher's, members of Santa Ana Rocks and Minerals, and a few other guests. A few folks were on their first rockhounding trip. Essentially from the meetup until we departed, the winds were sustained between 20-30 kts. While being sandblasted, we were still able to find many nice specimens at the Jewel Box deep in the wash and at a second location closer to Afton Canyon in the Pink Hills.

A couple of noteworthy happenings. On the initial drive up the main wash, I spotted a DSLR camera on the side of the trail! Fortunately, I saw it as the lead vehicle, for it certainly would have been lost in the dust cloud had I not. Turns out it belonged to one of our own, and I was glad to return it to him. Secondly, I accepted a donation of a Rockhounding Barstow book by Justin Zzyxx. We appreciate this donation made by Cyndy Mandell of Mining Supplies & Rock Shop and we happy to have them join our trip. (<https://www.miningsuppliesandrockshop.com/>)

**For field trip  
information  
contact:**

**Andrew  
Bloxom Field  
Trips,  
Searchers  
Gem and  
Mineral  
Society,  
andrew.bloxom@gmail.com**



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## Future Field Trips

Our next field trip will be to Tecopa, CA on March 13-14, 2021. This was a trip we had planned for last year right at the beginning of the pandemic, and we've been eager to execute it ever since. On Saturday we will visit Sperry Wash and collect a variety of agatized flora fossils and on Sunday we will visit the War Eagle Mine in Shoshone in search of interesting minerals. This was an old iron mine, with secondary mining of gold and silver. Stay tuned for an email with detailed info in a field trip flier.

## Searchers Information

### Slab Archive on Searchers Website

Thanks to Kendall and John (our Wheel of Fortune team at our show) we have even more years of the Slab in an archive on the Searchers Web Site. Do you have any paper Slabs tucked away? If you do, please check to see if you have any of these issues. They can be scanned and returned to you:

Pre-1991: all issues

1991: January, June, July, September-November

1992: January, July

1993: January

1994: October

1995: June

1997: April

1999: March, May-December

2000: January-July, September

2001: June-December

2002: January-December

2003: January-December

2004: January-December

2005: January-July, November-December

2006: December

2007: December

2008: January, February, December

2009: December

2011: February

2013: July

Check out the archive at <https://www.searchersrocks.org/2019-slab-archive>

Margaret Hogarth

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### How to Read Topographic Maps

For an overview of topoView, the USGS topographic map viewer, an interesting history of topographic maps, and how to read a topo map see <https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/topoview/help/>

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## Do you want to learn about Quartz?

I came across a link to a wonderful website that explains just about everything you could want to know about Quartz. Did you know that the agate that many members of our club love to collect, cut and polish is actually a cryptocrystalline variety of quartz? Did you know that banding in agate can be described as either "wall-lining banding" or "horizontal banding"? Information on these and many more topics, many beautiful photos and a host of reference material is available at the below website. Check it out...

<http://www.quartzpage.de/index.html>

For a more complete listing of shows go to web-site: [www.cfmsinc.org](http://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

**March 6 – Ventura, CA CANCELLED!!!**  
Ventura Gem & Mineral Society  
Ventura County Fairgrounds

**April 10-11, 2021 – Mariposa, CA**  
Mariposa Gem and Mineral Club  
Mountains of Minerals Show  
Mariposa County Fairgrounds, 5007  
Fairgrounds Rd.  
Saturday 10 AM-5 PM, Sunday 10 AM-4 PM  
Website: <http://mariposagemclub.org>

**May 1-2, 2021 – Jackson, CA**  
Amador County Gem & Mineral Society  
Kennedy Mine Gem and Craft Show  
Hwy 49 in Jackson CA  
Saturday – 10 AM – 5 PM, Sunday – 10 AM – 4 PM  
Contact: (209) 296-4061, black-wolf@vgolcano.net

**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](mailto:pgmcshow@palomargem.org)

**August 14-15, 2021 – Arcadia CA**  
Pasadena Lapidary Society  
"Inspiration Unearth", 62nd Annual Tournament of Gems  
Arcadia Masonic Center, 50 W. Duarte Rd., Arcadia  
Hours: 10-5 Daily  
Contact: Ellen Ferrell 1-727-512-0381  
Email: [ellenbf207@aol.com](mailto:ellenbf207@aol.com)  
Website: [pasadenalapidary.org](http://pasadenalapidary.org)

**September 18-19, 2021 – Chico, CA**  
Feather River Lapidary and Mineral Society  
Silver Dollar Fairgrounds  
2357 Fair St., Chico, CA 95928  
Saturday 9 AM – 5 PM, Sunday 9 AM – 4 PM  
Contact: 1 530 586-7052; Website: <http://featherriverrocks.org>

**October 9-10, 2021 – Los Altos, CA**  
Peninsula Gem and Geology Society  
One No. San Antonio Road, Los Altos, CA 94022  
Saturday and Sunday 10 AM – 5 PM  
Contact: 1 (408) 834-5384, [steve\\_job@sbglobal.net](mailto:steve_job@sbglobal.net)  
Website: <http://pggs.org>



## March Birthstone: Aquamarine & Bloodstone





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

<b>Membership Dues:</b>	Individual	\$25
	Couple	\$35

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

P.O. Pox 3492

Anaheim, Ca. 92803

**Charter Date:** April 20, 1958

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

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