The Rock Slab Rews

Volume 43 ISSUE 3 MAY 2008







MAY BIRTHSTONE

Emerald



The May birthstone is the emerald which symbolizes serenity and peace of mind. The alternative May birthstone is sapphire. Emerald is also the anniversary gemstone for the 20th and 35th years of marriage. Some people believe that wearing an emerald brings wisdom, growth and patience. The gift of emerald for an anniversary, or any occasion, is symbolic of love and fidelity. Emeralds were once prescribed for eye diseases because the green color was believed to be soothing to the eyes. Ancient Egyptians mined emeralds in the eastern desert region 2,000 years before Cleopatra's birth, yet today recent finds in North Carolina may provide a new source for quality emeralds in the United States. Colombia, Brazil, Zimbabwe, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Madagascar, Nigeria and Russia are where most emeralds are mined in the 21st century. Egyptians engraved emeralds with symbols for Spring foliage to represent eternal youth, and then buried the jewels with their dead. Romans associated emeralds with fertility and the rebirth brought about each Spring. Incas worshipped emeralds. In the 1500's they were invaded by Spanish Conquistadors who stole their gemstones and pillaged their mines. As a result, many of the world's most magnificent emeralds were lost in the bottom of the sea inside shipwrecked Spanish galleons. Emeralds range from strong bluish-green to green hues. If the hue is too yellow or too blue it loses its "emerald" status and is simply a different variety of beryl. Colombian emeralds are generally agreed to be among the most beautiful gemstones in the world, with a grass-green coloring highlighted by a touch of blue.

MAY 2008 CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 MAY	2	3 3-7 pm Lapidary, silversmithing
4	5	6	7	8 6-10pm Lapidary, wire-wrapping	9	10 3-7 pm Lapidary, silversmithing
11	12	13 7–9 pm General Meeting	14	15 6-10 pm Lapidary, wire-wrapping	16 10 am-6 pm West Coast Spring Gem and Mineral Show Holiday Inn	17 10 am-6 pm West Coast Spring Gem and Mineral Show Holiday Inn 3-7 pm Lapidary, silversmithing
18 10 am-5 pm West Coast Spring Gem and Mineral Show Holiday Inn	19	20	21 7 pm Board meeting	6-10 pm Lapidary, wire-wrapping 7-9 pm Board Meeting	23	24 3-7 pm Lapidary, silversmithing 9 am Field trip to Castle Butte and Kramer Hills
25 Field trip to Castle Butte and Kramer Hills	26 Field trip to Castle Butte and Kramer Hills	27	28	29 6-10pm Lapidary	30	31 3-7 pm Lapidary, silversmithing
1 JUNE 11-4 pm Heritage Day	2	3	4	5	6	7 - 8 10-5 pm Jubilee of Gems Show

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The Rock Slab News

MAY 2008 VOLUME 43 ISSUE 3

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By Keith Droste

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The Purpose of the Searchers Gem & Mineral Society By-Laws, Article 1, Sec. 2

This society was formed for the purpose of banding together a group of congenial persons for the purpose of studying mineralogy and the earth sciences by means of association with other mineralogical societies and with their members; presentation of public exhibitions, lectures, and similar programs; field trips for exploration, study and collecting of specimens; the encouragement of interest among young people and the fostering of interest in mineralogy and the lapidary arts; the procurement and maintenance of collections of minerals, mineral products and related pictures, writings and other information thereof; and all other means which are appropriate to the accomplishment of the primary objectives above set forth

This organization is not formed for profit and none of its assets shall be used for the pecuniary gain or profit of any individual who is or may become a member thereof.

Well, as they say on Broadway, "Another opening, another Show!" And a great Show it was. Many, many people spent a lot of time and effort to make this happen and the largest part of our applause has to go to Betty Nelson and Kathy Clark. Betty took on the huge job of organizing the Show and once again batted 1000! Kathy assisted and juggled a bunch of other jobs to boot. Many, many thanks to both of them for all their hard work! As well as thanks to Betty and Kathy, our thanks have to go to everyone else who did their chosen jobs so well. Don't have space here to mention them all, but I do want to mention Larry "Wyatt Earp" Richey for handling our security and everything else that came his way. Thanks so much, Larry. Robert Burson also did a great job with our silent auction which was very successful. Robert has an unbelievable knowledge of rocks and minerals and we couldn't have done it without him. Also, a huge thanks to Ken Nelson, a member for many years, who donated over 500 pounds of great rock for our silent auction and our workshop stock. A lot of "rockers" went home happy because of Ken. Thanks again, Ken, for your thoughtfulness. Certainly not to be forgotten for their huge efforts are Jim Peterson and his bride. Steve Duncan, Norbert Bernhardt, Walter Mroch, our wonderful demonstrators and all of the kitchen elves, and on and on and on.

Before I sign off, we need to welcome and thank Yery Camacho for assuming the duties of our newsletter editor. Thanks, Yery, for coming to our rescue. We still need help in various other areas of our club, so especially to our newer and younger members I say, "It's times to step up!" Hope to see you all at our next meeting and "Keep On Rocking"

P.S. I don't want to forget Kathy Clark's husband, Curt, who is not a rockhound but is always available to help us. Also, Clarke Benich who just got new glasses and doesn't recognize anyone since he can now see, so you many have to introduce yourselves again!

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: 7PM, 3rd Thursday of each

month, Jan - Nov

Workshop: Thursday, 6 - 10 PM, free wire-

wrap class.

Saturday, 3 – 7 PM Free silversmithing class 1st, 2nd, 3rd Saturdays (schedule varies).

No workshops: Nov 23 & 25.

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 \$20

Couple \$25 Junior (17 & under) \$2

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 editors: Yery Camacho & Kathy Clark 18661 Silver Maple Way N. Tustin, CA 92705-2144

Charter Date: April 20, 1958

Affiliations: • California Federation of

Mineralogical Societies
• American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

SEARCHERS BOARD

Officers

President	Keith Droste	714/563-4754
1 st V.P. (Programs)	Walter Mroch	714/826-2132
2 nd V.P. (Field Trips)	Clarke Benich	714/639-9927
Director	Clarke Benich	714/552-7336
Secretary	Kathy Clark	714/639-9927
Treasurer	Pat Lynch	909/393-2186
Federation Delegate	Virgil Talbott	714/871-7900

Committee Chairpersons

Anaheim Arts Council	Margaret Neeley	714/535-2030
Editor	Yery Camacho Kathy Clark	714/952-5804 714/639-9927
Historian	Beth Pelfrey	714/774-2754
Hospitality	Lorri Renck	714/397-3584
Library		
Membership	Kathy Clark	714/639-9927
Monthly Drawing	Skip & Connie Cone	714/827-8675
Phone Tree	Audrey Nichols	714/971-6789
Phone Tree Asst. 1	Sharon & Bob Burson	562/860-5938
Phone Tree Asst. 2	Karen Martinez	562/423-2832
2008 Show	Betty Nelson	714/530-1365
Show Co-Chair	Kathy Clark	714/639-9927
Sunshine		
Veterans' Coordinator	Larry Richey	714/846-3573
Website	Steve Duncan	714/724-7102
Workshop	Herb Beckman	714/778-1496

Sponsored by: Anaheim Arts Council

MAY EVENTS

May 13	7 pm	May General Meeting

May 16 – 18 West Coast Spring Gem & Mineral Show

Fri. & Sat. 10am-6pm Holiday Inn, Costa Mesa

Sun. 10am-5pm 3131 S. Bristol St. (Just off the 405 frwy)

Free admission & parking

May 21 7 pm Board Meeting

May 24-26 9 am May Field Trip to Castle Butte & Kramer Hills

For a more complete listing of shows go to website: www.cfmsinc.org

JUNE EVENTS

June 1 11am-4pm Heritage Day

Oak Canyon Nature Center 6700 E. Walnut Canyon Rd. Anaheim, CA 714-998-8380

www.canyonhillswomensclub.org

June 7 & 8 10am-5pm Jubilee of Gems Show

North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society

La Habra Community Center

101 W. La Habra Blvd., La Habra, CA

June 14 8am – 3pm Public Land for the People (PLP) presents

Canyon Sweep – 2008

Cleaning up the San Gabriel Canyon, West Fork, North Fork & East Fork (San Gabriel, OHV

Area.

San Gabriel Canyon Road, Hwy 39, just north of East Fork Bridge and North of Azusa) call:

818-957-1455 or 818-652-3016

June 27-29 10am-5pm Golden Bear Gem & Mineral Show

Ventura Fair Grounds, Ventura, CA Adults \$5, Seniors(60+) \$4, Students \$3, Children under 12 FREE w/paid adult

For a more complete listing of shows and information visit <u>www.cfmsinc.org</u>. Also see www.motherlodemineralsociety.com/events.html.

Other websites of interest:

www.firemountaingems.com www.auctionmasters.com

www.southsunproducts.com May 21 Jewelry & Lapidary Shop ONLINE

www.rocknrocks.com AUCTION

<u>www.pioneergem.com</u> see website for complete listings and more

www.route66goldminers.org information

MAY PROGRAM

By Walter Mroch

The May program will be a video called "Silver Linings – The Early Days of Idaho's Silver Valley." It covers the history of the Idaho Panhandle where most of America's silver ore comes from today. With the prices of all precious metals climbing, many mines that were once thought to be played out are economical again.

LAST MONTH'S PROGRAM

By Kathy Clark

April's program was a Huell Howser California's Gold video entitled "In Search of Buried Treasure" in which two buried treasures in California were sought.

Quadalupe Dunes run over an 18-mile stretch of coastal sand dunes on California's Central Coast extending from San Luis Obispo County and into Santa Barbara County. History was made in 1923 when Cecil B. deMille's silent version of "The Ten Commandments" was filmed in the Quadalupe Dunes. All the sets were built and the scenes were filmed in the sand dunes and are still there. No one locally knows for sure if there is a buried movie city here or not. There are a lot of broken pieces of plaster to be found here. As soon as plaster and plastic is exposed to the wind-blown sand it begins to disintegrate, but ground-penetrating radar shows that there is something six feet down.

Alleghany, California, is 180 miles SE of San Francisco. Since 1850 the "Sixteen to One Mine" has been a consistent producer of gold. It has 25 miles of tunnels and has a system of bells that alerts each level as to how many people are descending in the mine-shaft elevator and to what level they will be stopping. The FIRST level is 1,500 feet down. The miners ride a mine skiff or train down to their designated levels. They enjoy the ride down as they can see the quartz veins and crystals as they go by. It is quite beautiful. They use metal detectors to locate gold deposits in the quartz. When gold is found they drill holes, place dynamite with 100-foot fuses which burn 3 minutes and yell "fire in the hole!" The video showed this underground mining, talked to some of the miners and showed liquid gold being poured into bars.

MAY FIELD TRIP

Castle Butte, Kramer Hills
May 24-26, 2008
9 AM Departure Time from Camp
by Beth Pelfrey

The May field trip will be to Castle Butte, Kramer Hills and one other unspecified location. This trip will be on Memorial Day Weekend (May 24-26). Departure from the campsite will be 9:00 am on Saturday, Sunday and Monday. Monday will be a morning only trip. We will be looking for agate, jasp-agate, petrified palm wood, and maybe even bloodstone (green jasper with red flecks).

Camping: At the Sierra Pelona/North Edwards Onyx site, see map page 107 in James Mitchell's book or the enclosed map. It is about 135 miles from Anaheim. POTLUCK on Saturday night. CAMPFIRE on Saturday night, so please bring firewood. This will be a dry camp, so bring all the food and water you need. There are no facilities.

Directions to Camp: From State Road 58, go 10.7 miles East from Boron or 16 miles West from Mojave depending on which direction you come. Turn North on clay Mine Road. At 6.2 miles, turn right at the water tanks at Aerial Acres. Go 2 miles and hang a left at the dirt road where there will be an "S" Searchers sign. Proceed about 0.3 mile to camp. Park, set up, say "howdy do."

Motels:

- 1. BORON: Boron Motel (760) 762-5229 (old), Budget Inn (760) 762-6700 (newer) about 10 miles from camp.
- 2. MOJAVE: There are many motels, per the yellowpages.com website. Would be about 18 miles from campsite.
- 3. I have not decided whether I will tent-camp or motel-it.

The material is lovely with good pattern and color, no planned digging this trip unless someone really wants to! The roads I plan to travel are typical desert roads, no deep sand as far as I know. Any high clearance vehicle will be ace; 4x4 not required but might make driving easier on some slopes. I hope we all can plan to offer a ride to those who come in autos.

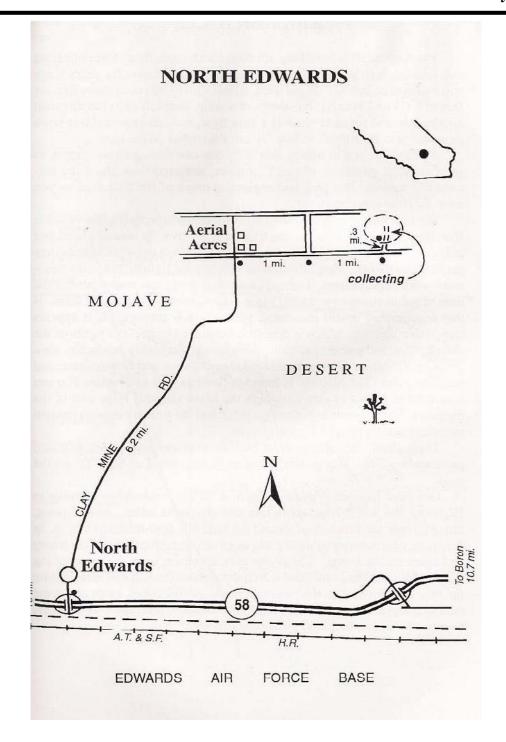
Tools: Rock picks, geopicks, bags, backpacks, or buckets. A gad tool might be very helpful to pry something loose from a surrounding matrix. If you want to dig deeper for larger rocks or into seams, feel free. If so, bring shovels, chisels, sledge and so on. I dug one seam out some years back and was so pleased with a big piece of agate, looked like palm and was reddish. I usually go for float nowadays.

Be sure to wear layers, temps are fickle in the desert especially after dark. Sturdy shoes or boots for lots of walking on uneven ground. Remember the further you get off the parking area, usually the better the material. Some of you might remember I have liberated many big rocks from these areas.

Have I forgotten anything? I hope not.

I want to see a lot of folks on this trip as it is all-rockhound friendly!

Call me if you have questions: BETH PELFREY (714) 774-2754.



ALERT!!!

Searchers Officers are notifying you now that they are working on an appropriate membership dues increase to become effective January, 2009, that will help to offset the huge increase of CFMS membership dues.

ROUTE 66 GOLD MINERS

Field Trip/ Outing News. Tentative plans & "Subject to Change"

CONTACT: David Cheverier-- The Coordinator cheverier@sbcglobal.net

WHO: Route 66 Gold Miners, other clubs (TBD) & friends. Show of interest, (looking for about 60 people)

WHAT: Oceanview Tourmaline Mine & Possible BBQ (TBD)

WHEN: July / August timeframe (TBD). Note: July 19 East Fork, A Gold mining Experience

Where: Pala, San Diego County (Near Pala casino),

http://www.digforgems.com/

WHY: Pink tourmaline, Aquamarine, Beryl, Quartz, Morganite, Kunzite, Goshenite, Blue Apatite,

Black Schorl. Tour of the mine, BBQ (TBD). No fishing here! Sorry

Additional info: Cost \$60 per person, full day activity, unlimited buckets

Rte 66 GM Forum, Get registered, "Now"

http://route66goldminers.freeforums.org/index.php

Breakfast @ Pala Casino

Camping, check on the internet

More stuff to follow... Always looking for help & ideas to make it an experience

MORE FROM ROUTE 66 GOLD MINERS

WHO: Route 66 Gold Miners & Searchers clubs (Virgil Talbott)

WHAT: A Gold Mining experience & Pot Luck dinner

WHEN: Saturday, July 19 (For you Die-Hards that don't get enough, "Me",

camping is also an option, Friday to Sunday)

WHERE: Azusa, East Fork river (exact location on the river TBD)

WHY: "Thrill of Adventure", Gold & Lost treasure, Metal detecting, E-Ticket

http://www.e-adventure.net/land/treasure/eticket.html

Hiking, Bridge To Nowhere, Bungee jump (I don't think so)

Oh yea did I mention fishing? Caught some nice trout

Additional info: Wilderness Pass is required for you vehicles Burgers & chips are on Rte 66 GM (Lunch)

Rte 66 GM Forum, Get registered, "Now"

http://route66goldminers.freeforums.org/index.php

Searchers Web-- http://www.searchersrocks.org/

Road to East Fork is paved, No special vehicle required. More stuff to follow. Always looking for help & ideas to make it an experience.

What are you waiting for? Get it together and create your adventure!

This will be posted on the Rte 66 GM Forum-- http://route66goldminers.freeforums.org/index.php

SHOW REPORT

By Betty Nelson

The Searchers 2008 Show is over. It will take a few weeks to figure out how much we actually made. If you have bills to turn in, please do it as soon as possible. It looks like the show was another success thanks to the hard work throughout the year of all the Searchers on the Show Committee. Also thanks to the members who rallied to help during the three days of the Show. Kathy and I want to thank all of you. We had an especially excellent selection of home made deserts this year, which was a bonus.

Attendance was down by about a third, possibly due to the cost of gas coupled with competing local activities. However, most dealers said they did all right and want to return next year. Dealers are our top moneymaker at our Show. Their success is important for future shows. If any of you have ideas for increasing show attendance, please share them with the show Chairman. Dealer success depends on good attendance.

The silent auction has been our second best moneymaker. It took in over \$1,800 this year. Its success also depends on the quality of the items contributed. So start putting aside a good selection to contribute to the auction for next year.

Once again all 450 grab bags sold out. Chris says she will make even more bags for next year. Putting prize tickets in some bags has proved a big success. So start picking up interesting and colorful bag-sized stones on your field trips for Chris, and let her know if you can help with sewing the bags. She has a pattern. If you have a tumbler, tumble some stones for the bags. We can use lots of tumbled stones.

Other than club dues, the Show is our only way of raising money, so the Show's success is vital to our club. Annual dues to the CFMS have been raised to \$9.50 per member. Insurance for each member, for our meeting room, for the workshop, for our field trips and for our Show has all gone up significantly. It is only through membership in CFMS that insurance is available to groups such as ours. We must have proper insurance to be able to use our current facilities.

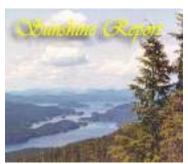
Also, we have financial obligations to our sponsor, the Anaheim Arts Council. Our membership in the Council has made it possible for us to use the Senior Center for our meetings and our workshop without charge and the Brookhurst Community Center for our Show just at the cost of the salary for employees needed to keep the building open for us during the hours we use it for our Show. Otherwise we could not afford to pay for these excellent facilities. The cost of Show security took a huge increase this year and we are required to use the security firm approved by the City of Anaheim.

Next year we will celebrate our **FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY**, a huge milestone for any club. We want to make it an especially gala event. We need to have all our members be a big part of this celebration. We are really fortunate to have two very special Searchers in charge of next year's Show. Jim Williamson will be Chairman and Larry Richey will be Co-Chairman. They are both long-time members with previous Show Chairman experience. Please go all out to work with them and to help make our fiftieth anniversary memorable.

Betty Nelson

P.S. We want to thank Burt "Miss Alberta" Fortin for attending the Show in costume in keeping with our Western theme. Miss Alberta, you are lovely, and thank you for being so generous in helping out wherever help was needed.

Ken Landers would be so proud of the grab bags. Chris Edmonds did a fantastic job. This is truly a legacy from Ken who took care of the grab bags on his own for 15 years.



By Kathy Clark

I am extremely relieved and very pleased to report that Steve Duncan is recovering and got great news regarding his recent second leg surgery.

Our prayers and thoughts go out to Virgil Talbott on the passing of his mother.

If you know about someone who needs a little "sunshine," please let me know (Kathy Clark, 714-639-9927 or hanky1ganky3@yahoo.com). Also, we need a volunteer for the Sunshine committee. All that is required is to keep tabs on those who are ill or bereaved and need to know that we care about them by sending a card. That's all. Someone please volunteer.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

By Kathy Clark

Please welcome these newest members of the Searchers' family who all joined at the Show either on May 3 or May 4:

New Members:

George Clarke 115 8th Street Seal Beach, CA 92740 562-331-7300 gooodevils@yahoo.com

John H. Smith 2 Primula Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688 949-466-4630 johns@savoury.net David & Kay Masuyama 6751 Berry Avenue Buena Park, CA 90620 kaymasuyama@yahoo.com

Mary Lyons
P.O. Box 52
Silverado, CA 92676
714-649-3166
canyonmary2003@yahoo.com

The Rock Slab News

Searchers Gem & Mineral Society

Crystal Deleon Sarah Deleon (Jr. Member) 2011 Katella #27 Anaheim, CA 92804 714-322-2439 whybeeme@yahoo.com

Aiden Rose Morff (Jr. Member) (Patricia Underwood's niece) 525 Newman Circle Placentia, CA 92870 714-993-3838

Craig & Valerie Curry 8302 Michael Drive Huntington Beach, CA 92647 714-842-9233 craigrcurry@msn.com



Some pictures from our show. More pictures, next month. Send your pictures to share with us ©

After Show Stress Reliever!!!!!!!!!!

THIS IS GREAT - CLICK ON BUBBLE WRAP AND HAVE FUN WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT YOU COULD DO THIS ONLINE!

A great stress reliever for this time of year!!! Go ahead, you know you want to......

Click below: Make sure your sound is up!

Go to: http://www.therightfoot.net/mystuff/whatever/swf/bubblewrap.swf

HERITAGE DAY

SUNDAY, JUNE 1, 2008 11 am to 4 pm By Kathy Clark

Clarke Benich and I have volunteered to represent the Searchers Gem & Mineral Society for Heritage Day held Sunday, June 1, 2008, at the Oak Canyon Nature Center from 11 am to 4 pm. Last year Clarke and I volunteered and had an absolute ball! I had no idea that this beautiful little park and nature center even existed and was so close by. If you get a chance, by all means attend Heritage Day. You don't have to be a child to enjoy this, because there's a kid in all of us.

Canyon Hills Women's Club is hosting this 27th Annual Heritage Day at Oak Canyon Nature Center at 6700 E. Walnut Canyon Road in Anaheim Hills. The Anaheim Parks and Recreation Community Services is also a co-sponsor of this community event. At the end of the day the Canyon Hills Women's Club donates \$100 to the Searchers. We have fun and get paid, too.

Heritage Day is a free day of fun encouraging young children and their parents to make crafts, learn about local history and Western culture, and experience the beauty of nature. Exhibits in previous years have included blacksmith demonstrations, wax candle-making, folk arts and crafts, quilt displays, butter churning, tortilla making, pony rides and petting zoo, panning for gold, nail pounding, setting up teepees, and historic re-enactors like Benjamin Franklin. A cowboy roper, Native American singers and dancers, and also live bluegrass music were also performed. Food and beverages will be sold on site also. Heritage Day is well-attended with more than 1000 visitors each year, and admission is always **FREE**.

Canyon Hills Women's Club (CHWC) is a non-profit volunteer organization established in 1976, and is comprised of 30 Anaheim- and Yorba Linda-based women who dedicate their time to build a better community through arts, education, conservation, and scholarship programs. Canyon Hills Women's Club donates to local schools, libraries, charities and community events. CHWC also hosts an annual Teddy Bear Picnic at the Canyon Hills Library in Anaheim Hills which is also a free event. Hundreds of

children gather each June at the library for storytelling, performers, punch, cookies, and of course, the annual Teddy Bear Parade.

For more information about Heritage Day see the enclosed flyer. For more information about the Canyon Hills Women's Club and its events visit www.canyonhillswomensclub.org.



Happy Birthday to all those Searchers' members who celebrate their birthdays in MAY

To all you Mothers... Happy Mother's Day!

