

4-1998



P.O. BOX 3492
ANAHEIM, CA 92803





SEARCHERS GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY, INC
Established June 20, 1958

Mailing Address: P O Box 3492
Anaheim, CA 92803

CLUB OFFICERS

President	Cliff Warner	472-2083
1st Vice President	*Audrey Nichols	533-4675
	*Betty Nelson	530-1365
2nd Vice President		
Secretary	Louise Oleson	(562) 930-0989
Treasurer	Faye McDowell	(562) 597-7684
Federation Director	George Mitchum	897-2407
Director	Herb Beckman	778-1496

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Historian	Jan Gillette	776-9467
Anaheim Arts Council	Margaret Neeley	535-2030
Arts Council Alternate	Mae Freedman	774-6665
1998 Show Chairman	Milt Green	456-0550
1998 Co-Show Chairman	Jim Williamson	995-9080
Bulletin Editor	Marge Jordan	897-2407
Bulletin Editor Alternate	Audrey Nichols	533-4675
Bulletin Mailout	Janet Cole	639-9025
Membership	Milly Arvanites	838-1924
Public Lands	Max Johnson	535-8579
Refreshments/Hospitality	Nancy Norlund	960-6957
Sunshine	Doris Pelfrey and Froma Reiter	774-2754
Silent Auction	Jerry and Nancy Norlund	960-6957
Veterans Coordinator	Larry Richey	846-3573
Library	Bob Dixon	534-5063
Monthly Drawing	Harry and Betty Nelson	530-1365
Meeting Host		
Phone Committee	Marge Jordan	897-2407
Social Director	Beth Pelfrey	774-2754
Workshop	Herb Beckman	778-1496

AFFILIATIONS: California Federation of Mineralogical Societies
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

The Searchers Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. regular meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month on the basement level of the Anaheim Memorial Hospital Medical Office Building, 1211 W. LaPalma Avenue, Anaheim, CA. Meetings begin at 7:30 PM. Visitors are always welcome.

Membership dues are accepted January thru September. Adult Members: \$10.00 each, and Junior Members (under 17) \$2.00.

Board Meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month January through October and the third Tuesday in November and December. The meetings are held in the basement level Boardroom of the Anaheim Memorial Hospital Medical Office Building at 7:30 PM.

Field Trips are usually held on the second weekend of each month. These are announced monthly. Trip maps, added activities, time changes and other pertinent information will be published in the bulletin.

WORKSHOPS: 651 South State College Blvd, Unit # 9, Fullerton. Thursday 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM. Phone Number: (714) 870-7625.

REQUIREMENT: Items for the Bulletin must be in the hands of the editor by the first (1st) Tuesday of each month. Please mail all items to: Marge Jordan, 12161 Bartlett Street, Garden Grove, CA 92845-1525

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Are we ready??? Only eighteen more days until SHOW TIME! Our Show Chairman and Co-Chair and all the Committee Chairpersons have been busy in preparation to make our 39th Annual Gem Show a success.

During our March meeting clipboards were circulated asking for members to sign up to help with the many many tasks we have to do to have a good show. If you haven't signed up to help at the show PLEASE do so this evening. It takes ALL OF US and a lot of work to have a successful show.

If you have not picked up your \$10.00 worth of Donation Award Tickets I would like to remind you to pick them up this evening. It is each member's obligation to either sell the tickets or buy them yourselves. This is our one and only fund raiser for the year. To be able to continue to enjoy the fine Club that we now have and to support the workshop that we now have, it is important that we all do our share towards making this 1998 Show a success and perhaps help defray some of our expenses throughout the year.

Let's all get "on line" and do our part!

Cliff Warner

FUTURE CLUB ACTIVITIES:

April 21st	Last Show Meeting
April 28th	Board Meeting
May 2nd & 3rd	39th Annual Show
May 5th	Bulletin items due
May 12th	General Meeting
May 23rd	Begin Extended Field Trip

SHOW DATES:

Apr 17 - 18	Las Vegas Gem Club Henderson Convention Center 200 Water Street Henderson, NV Hours: 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM each day
April 25 - 26	Orange Coast Mineral and Lapidary Society Huntington Beach Mall (Edinger Ave) Huntington Beach, CA (Community Room near Montgomery Ward 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM Sat and Burlington Coat Factory) 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM Sun
Apr 25 - 26	Antelope Valley & Palmdale Gem and Mineral Clubs Antelope Valley Fairgrounds Lancaster, CA Hours: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Sat & Sun

SHOW DATES (Cont'd):

- May 16 - 17 Conejo Gem and Mineral Club
Borchard Park Community Center
Newbury Park, CA
Hours: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Sat & Sun
- May 16 - 17 Yucaipa Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Community Center First Street & Ave "B"
Yucaipa, CA
Hours: Sat 10:00 to 6:00 PM
Sun 10:00 to 5:00 PM

Jul 3, 4 & 5th

California Federation of Mineralogical Societies

**GEM & MINERAL****SHOW****July 3, 4, 5, 1998****Monterey Fairgrounds**HIGHLIGHTS - APRIL GENERAL MEETING:

Meeting called to order at 7:45 PM

President Cliff Warner was present but due to a bout of laryngitis Herb Beckman conducted this evenings meeting.

Audrey Nichols introduced our program presenters for this evening Corliss and John Rose.

Milly Arvanites Arvanites distributed our 1998 Membership Roster (before her allergies kicked in and she left for the Emergency Room) so if you didn't get yours at the meeting they'll be available at the April meeting. Milly is doing fine. They got it under control and she was able to go home later in the evening.

Larry Richey, Veterans Coordinator, has returned to the Vet's workshop after an absence of five weeks due to workload problems at his regular job. Larry reported on the Vet's "People Contest", i.e., they were asked to create a person using rocks. They had 14 excellent entries. All of these items will be displayed in the Vet's cases during our Annual Show. Tools for use in their contest were donated by the California Crippled Veterans.

Show Chairman, Milt Green, reported that Donation Award Tickets are available for pick up this evening. Please see Roger Cole. Each member is asked to please purchase \$10.00 worth of tickets to either sell or keep for yourselves. If you do not pick them they will be mailed to members. Please pick them up to save postage.

Milt and Beth Pelfrey announced that Show Flyers are available again this evening and urged everyone to take some to pass to friends, relatives, places of business and in and around your workplace.

HIGHLIGHTS - APRIL GENERAL MEETING (Cont'd):

Committee Chairpersons circulated their clipboards asking members to sign up and help during the show. We'll need help in Security, Kitchen/Serving, Crafts, Children's Jewelry, Friday Night Dinner, Donation Awards. Membership and Hospitality times are filled but check with the chairpersons. Be sure to see Walter Mroch and sign up to put your case in our show.

We'll need pies and cakes for Saturday and Sunday so please get your name on the clipboard. Our last Show Meeting will be in April.

We need to wear our badges during the show. If you don't have a badge, see George Mitchum. The price is \$5.00.

Margaret Neeley reported that the new Senior Center is moving along and will be ready for occupancy possibly July or August. Clubs that are scheduled to have space in the new Center will be notified. The Arts Council will be holding their Annual Soiree on May 8th. The Searchers have in the past helped out during the event in addition to buying a table for the event at \$500 plus donating a piece of fine jewelry. Like everything, prices have gone up. This year the price of a table for 10 is \$75 per person or \$750. However a table of 8 would be \$ 600. We've not been asked for a piece of jewelry.

Nancy Norlund asked for volunteers to serve refreshments during the May, July, August and September meetings. Nancy also announced that the Santa Ana Club has 17 (fold-up type) showcases for sale. The price is \$30.00 each. If anyone is interested sign up or give Nancy and Jerry a call.

George Mitchum, Federation Director has information concerning the CFMS Show and convention to be held in Monterey from July 3rd thru 5th. Anyone planning on going to this show should start making plans since this is a holiday weekend.

Max Johnson, Public Lands, read a report that requesting that all members contact their Congressional members urging the re-opening of roads and trails in the forests and public lands. "The Public Lands for People Organization" held a peaceful demonstration (in the rain) during which 400 people visited George Brown of Colton, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Riverside and others showing support of this re-opening. He said the Charter Mining Company has been fighting for the reversal for five years. The suit went to the Supreme Court and the International Court. The original ruling has been reversed. The company is to go up next week to reclaim the land.

Herb Beckman, Workshop Coordinator, reported that sealed bids will be accepted at the April General meeting for the 16 inch drop saw and two disc cabbing unit. These were designed by Carl Pitzler who wants them to go to someone who will put them to good use. Units may be seen at the workshop.

Manny Sandico circulated a sign-up sheet for his workshop. He will be teaching stone setting, jewelry repair, casting, etc. He also has videos on these subjects. Advanced casting will also be taught. Herb Beckman invited him to hold the classes at the workshop.

Jay Cole has all types of lost wax and other materials. If interested please see him at the Victorville Tailgate, March 20 - 22nd. Marie Cole reminded everyone of the corned beef and cabbage potluck at 4:00 PM Saturday, March 21st at Victorville campout.

Nancy Norlund invited members to the Santa Ana Rock Club meeting, Thursday, 12 March. Walter Mroch will be their guest speaker and the subject is Topaz.

Meeting adjourned at 10:32 PM.

Louise Oleson

Secretary

BOARD MEETING - 24 MARCH 1998:

Meeting called to order by Cliff at 7:15 PM. Six Board members attended. George Mitchum absent.

February minutes read, typos corrected and approved.

Marvin Mog will be leading the extended field trip to Utah, May 23rd thru June 1st. Herb Beckman suggests that maybe the club should plan yet another extended trip at a later date, perhaps a coastal trip with a leader to be announced later.

Audrey and Betty announced that Allen Henderson will be our sponsor for the Christmas Dinner at the Elks Club and if needed Walt Johnson and Don Fredericks said they would be glad to. Future programs discussed. Max Johnson will be doing the April program and it was suggested that perhaps we could get Walt Johnson or Conrad Grundke for future programs.

Max Johnson invited the Board to join in the peaceful demonstration led by "Public Lands for the People" group to be held Thursday, March 25th from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM in front of Barbara Boxer's office in El Segundo.

Walter Mroch will supply some geodes for the show at \$1.25 and they are to be sold from \$3 to \$5. Cliff will also donate geodes from Wileys Well. We may need someone to lend a polisher to help with the project.

Cliff noted that the Orange County Museum at San Juan Capistrano needs some volunteers to do fossil digging with the kids. Cliff has a call in to the museum.

Herb Beckman said he is writing the Superintendent of Anaheim Schools to see if it could be arranged to distribute show flyers to the schools.

Herb will call Jim Williamson to get a reprint of job duties. Cliff will copy.

Herb has received notice from TRICO Realty that the Workshop Insurance has expired. Cliff will present this to the membership at the General Meeting concerning renewal. Manny Sandico is looking for a place to hold his Casting Class. Herb has offered our workshop. Manny is also looking at other locations. Manny will present his proposal to the Board. Manny can also do casting for members from his extensive mold collections. A discussion followed on how people other than Searchers and Opal Society members could be accommodated if Manny has them in the class.

Cliff stated that George Mitchum is working with the representative from the new Center concerning our allotted space.

Meeting adjourned at 9:58 PM.

Louise Oleson
Secretary

BULLETIN ITEMS:

Because of our Annual Show weekend ending the evening of May 2nd it may put some of you in a bind to get me your material by the 5th so if I could have your inputs NOT LATER THAN THURSDAY, MAY 7th. That's the absolute latest for your submission if you want it in the May bulletin. Mark your calendars.

Marge

FEDERATION REPORT:

CFMS will be holding their 59th Annual Gem Show, July 3rd through 5th, in the Monterey area at the Monterey Fairgrounds. There will be exhibits, lectures, demonstrations, museum displays, plus the unusual and usual gems, minerals, jewelry, rocks, equipment, etc.

If anyone is planning to attend it is important that you get your hotel/motel or camping reservations in as soon as possible. This is mid-summer and a holiday weekend so you can expect motel/hotel rates in the Monterey, Marina and Salinas area to be pricey. Salinas and Marina may be more reasonable but keep in mind Salin is 20 miles and Marina 10 miles from the event.

There will be RV Parking on the Fairgrounds where the Show is being held. There are forty plus hookups at \$20 per night and numerous dry camping spaces at \$16. There are bathrooms and showers convenient for RVers. If you plan on attending get your reservations in early. I have some forms for camping reservations if you need them.

For motel reservations you may want to check with Econolodge, Motel 6, Travelodge, Super 8 and others and if you are a member, the Auto Club directory.

Admission to the Show is \$4.50 per day or 3 days for \$10.00. Children under 12, free.

George Mitchum
Federation Director

MEMBERSHIP:

Please add the following members to your new 1998 Roster:

DESPAIN, Kendall L. (Renewal)
12271 Choisser Road
Garden Grove, CA 92840-4013
(714) 750-8066

VOGEL, Pauline (Paula) (new member)
6278 Marina View Drive
Long Beach, CA 90803
(562) 594-8309

WIKE, Gary L. (new member)
25184 Agate Road
Barstow, CA 92311
(760) 253-2541

Membership total at the end of March 1998 is 145.

Please make the following corrections to your 1998 Roster. Marjorie Wease's area code has been changed to 760. Connie Van Kampen's zip code is 92886.

Milly Arvanites

REFRESHMENTS:

Thanks to Marie Cole and Doris Smith for the yummy refreshments at our March meeting.

Margaret Neeley and Charlotte Blueell will be serving the goodies this evening.

We still need volunteers for May, July and August. June as you will recall is our Annual Potluck and Awards feast. We each bring a dish to share .

Nancy Norlund

MEMORIAM

It is our sad duty to announce that we have lost another long time member, Nadine Conway.

Nadine passed away March 13, 1998, after a short illness. Services were held at Westminster Memorial Park Chapel on Tuesday, March 17th. Interment at the Garden of Meditation, Westminster Memorial Park, Westminster, California.

Nadine and Burt became members on July 30, 1975. Burt was a member until his death in 1990 and Nadine has been a member until her demise. They both enjoyed being Searchers. Burt made beautiful jewelry and Nadine loved to wear it. Nadine was a gracious cheerful lady, always with a smile and great wit. To know her was to love her.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Nadine's family.

Doris Pelfrey and Froma Reiter

SHARING AND CARING:

Mae Freedman continues to improve but will be confined to a care center until she is able to walk and get around better. Mae's new address as of 1 April is:

Walnut Manor Care Unit (Rm 40) (able to use her own No.)
891 S. Walnut Phone: (714) 774-6665
Anaheim, CA 92802

Cards and phone calls welcome. The ankle is doing well but still requires therapy.

Doris

We've had word that our former Secretary, Maxine Gagnon has been diagnosed as having Alzheimer's and is confined to the John Douglas French Center. Maxine and her husband Clare have been so active in the various Gem and Mineral Clubs and have demonstrated at our show and many other shows and the Federation shows. Maxine, our bead stringing instructor. Not only has she demonstrated at our show she helped with classes. Many of us have learned from her. If any of you would care to drop her a note or perhaps like to visit for a short time the address is:

Maxine Gagnon
John Douglas French Center (Traviata Area)
3951 Katella Avenue
Los Alamitos, CA 90720 Visitor hours 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM

Marge

FROM MAE!

I would like to thank all of you for the cards, phone calls and visits since I've been confined with my fractured ankle. I'd like you to know I am improving and how much your thoughtfulness and keeping in touch means to me. Again, thanks, it's always so good to hear from you.

Mae Freedman

PROGRAM REPORT:

Our April program was on Basic Stone Joinery (Intarsia) presented by John and Corliss Rose. Their program included silversmithing and bone carving and a display of their custom jewelry. All members received a handout on Joinery (Intarsia). A very interesting program.

Our program this evening will be presented by Max Johnson and Tom Carufel. The topic "Small Gold Mining and It's Trials" as experienced by Charter Mining and Associates. There will also be a slide presentation of the area.

The program for May will be presented by Manny Sandico, who will speak on gold and silversmithing.

Audrey Nichols & Betty Nelson

EXTENDED FIELD TRIP INFORMATION:

Our extended field trip will be in Utah (May 23rd to Jun 1st). This information is provided to help those who wish to go on the trip to plan accordingly.

- Start - Beaver United Campground, Exit 109 on I-15, Beaver, Utah. Arrive May 23rd for 3 nights. Earlier if you desire. Field trips on May 24 and 25.
- May 26 - Move to Capitol Reef National Monument Campground, Highway 24, or nearby Torrey-Thousand Lakes RV Park if Capitol Reef is full. Stay 2 nights, May 26 and 27. Field trip on 27th.
- May 28 - Move to Hanksville, Highway 24. Red Rock Campground, 3 nights. Field trips on May 29 and 30th.
- May 31 - Move to dry camp on Highway 24 toward Green River, one night. Field trip, afternoon of May 31st.
- June 1 - Move to Green River, Utah, I-70. Green River United Campground. Field trips, June 2, 3, 4 and 5. Stay as long as you like. End of extended field trip, June 6th.

Any questions??? Call Marvin Mog at (714) 774-6374

Marvin Mog

VICTOR VALLEY/STODDARD WELLS TAILGATE SHOW - MARCH FIELD TRIP:

Many members and others arrived on Thursday afternoon to find about half of the selling spaces already occupied.

The weather was at it's best for all four days, warm sunny days, cool nights and, very little wind. A lovely weekend.

As best that I could count there were 39 Searchers in attendance some time during the four days. Eight booths were manned by SEarchers during the four days and, word has it, everyone selling was pleased with their sales.

A large group enjoyed our campfire each night. Late Saturday afternoon John and Susane Wease hosted a rocktail party to honor the purchase of their lovely new trailer. Later, approximately forty-seven Searchers and guests enjoyed a SUPER Corned Beef and Cabbage potluck dinner.

On Sunday morning a very nice Sunrise (not exactly Sunrise, more like 8:00 AM) church service was held at the campfire ring. New Searcher member Manny Sandico conducted the service attended by several Searchers and members of the Santa Ana Club.

For those of you who were unable to attend this campout/tailgate you missed a good trip.

Marie Cole

SHOW REPORT:- 1998 GEM ROUNDUP:

Our last show meeting before the show will be held Tuesday evening, April 21st at 7:00 PM in the Board Room. I'm happy to report that show plans are moving right along. Some Committee chairpersons still have time slots to be filled. Please sign up to help with some of the jobs. We need all of you to pitch in.

We will be circulating Sign-Up Sheets again this evening SIGN UP, HELP OUT and GET INVOLVED and see how much fun it is to be part of the show. Committees in need of help are:

Children's Jewelry	Bob Gabourel	670-6786	or Marvin Mog	774-6374
Crafts	Doris Smith	639-9025		
Donation Awards	Roger Cole	639-9025		
Friday Night Dinner	Margaret Neeley	535-2030		
Kitchen/Serving	Mike & Michele Lee	(909) 674-7223		
Security	Larry Richey	845-3573		
Wheel of Fortune	Lola Tapia	776-9815	and George Mitchum	897-2407
Set-Up and Clean-Up	--Everyone Volunteers			

If you have not signed up to display a case please see me this evening or give me a call, Walter Mroch 826-2132.

Please be reminded for Searchers to have a successful show we need all members to help.

If you would like more show flyers to pass out please see Beth Pelfrey, Herb Beckman or me.

SHOW TIME!

Milt Green
1998 Show Chairman

WHAT WE CANT
DO ALONE
WE CAN DO
TOGETHER

SHOW SECURITY:

To ensure the trouble-free operation of our show, all members are urged to conspicuously wear their club badge whenever they are at the show site. Searchers must also make sure that any non-members they designate to help them set-up or tear down displays be clearly identified by a ribbon/badge, available at the show site from Larry Richey.

Members in need of a new badge or a replacement club badge contact George Mitchum ASAP at tonight's meeting. The cost is \$5.00.

Larry Richey
Show Security

HOURLY DOOR PRIZES:

I need donated items for our Hourly Door Prize Drawings. If you have any UNUSED ITEMS like necklaces, key chains, bracelets, pins, earrings, bolas, etc. Please bring them to set-up Friday morning. Go through those boxes you have stashed for UNUSED and no longer needed or wanted items. Someone may be happy to win that item.

Marie Cole
Hourly Door Prizes

DONATION AWARD PRIZES:

We do have some but we need many more items for Donation Award Prizes. These prizes should be high quality (remember when selecting your donation prize please be sure that the image we project is the one we are proud of). These prizes may be brought to set-up Friday and given to Roger and Jan Cole.

Members who may be contacting business people for Donation Award Prizes, there are copies of Donation Request letters available for your use. Also, Show Flyers. Please see Milt Green.

Roger and Jan Cole

DONATION AWARD TICKETS:

We have Donation Award Tickets available for pickup again this evening. The sale of these tickets is our biggest and ONLY fund raising project for the Club for the year. It is the obligation of each member to either sell or buy himself/herself \$10 worth of tickets. Tickets are 3 for \$1.00. REMEMBER this helps the Club with expenses throughout the year. The more YOU sell the more YOU help YOUR Club. Please pick up your \$10 worth of tickets tonight. If we have to mail them to you postage gets expensive. All checks are to be made payable to "Searchers Gem and Mineral Society." All monies and ticket stubs are to be returned to Roger Cole by show time, May 2nd.

Please pick up your \$10 worth of tickets tonight so we don't have to mail them to you. Let's have a bigger and better ticket sale in '98!

Roger and Jan Cole

CRAFTS:

I've volunteered to do the Craft Booth again this year. I know many of our ladies have been busy making items and so have some of our male members. You all make such lovely things and this is why our Craft Booth has been so successful over the years. Your items and talents are appreciated. Please bring the items you've made to set-up on Friday morning. I need all your help.

Doris Smith

PLANTS:

I know several of you have plants to donate for sale at the Show. Please bring them to the Center on Friday morning.

Milly

WHEEL OF FORTUNE:

We need prizes for the WHEEL. If you have any polished rocks, slabs, tumbled stones, geodes (cut ones) small vials of tumbled rock or other items attractive to children (or adults) please bring them to set-up Friday morning.

Lola Tapia

WORKSHOP REPORT:

Workshop attendance in March was fair. Income other than shop fees was good (almost \$100) due to better than usual monthly drawing income, and sale of rocks at Stoddards Wells tailgate. Thanks to Max Johnson for extraordinary efforts!

Two wirewrap workshop classes have been held by Dave Gough and Ben Byland since my last report. Both classes were very productive. A third class is scheduled for 8:00 AM to Noon on 18 April '98. Location to be announced at April meeting. Dave informed me that there is still room for as many Searchers as wish to attend. Cost will be \$25.00 for tools if you do not have your own. Wirewrap wire will be available at cost, but you must provide your own cabochon or faceted stone suitable for a wirewrapped ring). If you're interested in attending this class contact Dave Gough or myself at the April meeting.

The Sealed bid auction of lapidary equipment donated by Carl Pitzler will close on 18 April '98. To date, several bids have been received for the 16" drop saw, and the two disc cabbing unit. If you wish to bid on these items please submit your bids to be by the closing date. This equipment may be examined at the Workshop at the 16 April evening session.

Carl Pitzler has donated several fine books and periodicals to the Searcher library. These items have been entered into the library records by our librarian and are now available for check-out during workshop sessions.

The workshop's 14" drop saw is being upgraded to use for cutting geodes at our show. Lets hope this will be as successful with the children as similar attractions at other club shows.

Herb Beckman

REMINDERS FROM LARRY:

I would like to remind everyone to invite their friends and neighbors to our annual Gem show next month. I'd also like to thank everyone on the Show Committee for the great job they've done. I know there is much work still to be done and I'm confident the show will be a great success.

The Orange County Fair is just around the corner. Last year we got off to a late start so I'm reminding all of those who would like to participate by placing a display case or demonstrating lapidary skills please contact me.

Larry Richey

SLABS FOR VETS:

The box marked "Slabs for Vets" is located at the back of our meeting room - near the coffee pot. I will also have a box at our workshop and if you are down to the shop slabbing rocks and you have extras that you will not be using put them in the VET'S box. Believe me they are used by the Vets and appreciated.

Larry

CUTTING PLUME AGATE:

Want to try something different and beautiful? First, pick out a good grade of White Plume Agate and slice it thinner than usual, but thick enough to bevel. Then cut slabs of black jasper as thin as possible. Boil the slices to remove oil. Epoxy the jasper to the underside of the White Plume. Press together and rub slightly to get the bubbles out and then weight it down or clamp it together until it dries. Mark and cut the same way you would regular cabochons. These are stunning and you will surely want to cut more.

via Orange Coast Gazette 1/98 and others