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SEARCHERS GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.

Established June 20, 1958

Mailing Address: P. O. Box 3492, Anaheim, CA 92804

CLUB OFFICERS

President	Dr Chris Madsen	535-2936
1st Vice President	Herb Beckman	778-1496
2nd Vice President	Connie Van Kampen	993-2827
Secretary	Doris Pelfrey	774-2754
Treasurer	Betty Nelson	530-1365
Federation Delegate	Elmer Parsons	870-5495
Director	Jim Williamson	995-9080

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Historian	Jan Gillette	776-9467
Anaheim Arts Council	Margaret Neeley	535-2030
Arts Council Alternate	Mae Freedman	774-6665
1995 Show Chairman	George Mitchum	897-2407
1995 Co-Show Chairman	Floyd Neeley	535-2030
Bulletin Editor	Marge Jordan	897-2407
Bulletin Editor Alternate	Jeanne Howe	
Bulletin Mailout	Bernie and Elena Goldgorin	995-0542
Membership	Milly Arvanites	838-1924
Public Lands	Elmer Parsons	870-5495
Refreshments	Jeanne Howe	529-3613
Sunshine	Froma Reiter	879-3514
Sunshine Alternate	Doris Pelfrey	774-2754
Veterans Coordinator	Larry Richey	846-3573
Monthly Drawing	Floyd Neeley	535-2030
Meeting Host	Bill Keyes	535-1484
Phone Committee	Marie Cole	639-7983

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 \$2.00 each.

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.

Board Meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month, basement level Boardroom of the Anaheim Memorial Hospital Medical Office Building at 7:30 PM.

WORKSHOPS: Workshops have been temporarily cancelled.

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 92645-1525.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

September! The calendar tells us that summer is nearly over and -- fall is upon us -- but some how it sure doesn't feel like it!

Many of us have had our vacations (mine was frankly too hot - next year I think I'll go to Norway, or at least as far North).

The holidays are approaching and plans for our annual December party are in progress - thanks to those of you who have already volunteered to be on the planning committee.

The most important item on our agenda this month deals with the formation of a Nominating Committee to help select prospective officers for next year. Hopefully, I will be able to announce the committee members at this September meeting. They have a vitally important job - if you are asked to run for a position as an officer this year, please consider it carefully and say "yes." The strength of our club depends upon its diversity - we cannot depend upon the same few people all the time - we need the input from all of our membership. If you are a new member you can still serve as an officer - there are many people who will help you to understand and accomplish your duties - I speak from first hand experience. If you do find yourself serving on the Board, I can promise you, you will be surrounded by friends.

L. C. MADSEN, MD

FUTURE CLUB ACTIVITIES:

September 26th - Bulletin Items due to editor

September 27th - Board Meeting

September 30th - Beach Party - Huntington State Beach

October 3rd - Searchers General Meeting

October 14th and 15th -Field Trip - Trona/Searles Lake

SHOW DATES:

Sep 16 - 17      Delvers Gem and Mineral Society  
Apollo Park Neighborhood Center  
12458 Rives Avenue  
Downey, CA  
Hours: Sat 10 - 6      Sun 10 - 5

Sep 23 - 24      Faceters' Guild of Southern California  
Orange County Fairgrounds  
Costa Mesa, CA  
Hours: Sat 10 - 6      Sun 10 - 5

HIGHLIGHTS - AUGUST GENERAL MEETING:

The meeting was well attended. We had a quorum and the amendment to our "Articles of Incorporation" concerning our non-profit tax exemption status was voted on and passed.

Mr Klaus Cuthbert from the Long Beach Veterans' Hospital was our speaker. He thanked all of us for our support and participation in helping the veterans in their rehabilitation program and enlightened us as to how well and fast some of them progress.

Todd Schowalter, Orange County Fair representative thanked everyone who helped out at the Fair.

Connie Van Kampen announced that there would be no field trip for September but that the October field trip is scheduled for October 14th and 15th to Trona, CA and the Searles Lake area.

The American Lands Access Association (ALAA), the organization who lobbies for the Federation on behalf of all the Gem and Mineral clubs is working on a rock and mineral bill and needs all the support it can get. A motion was made, seconded and approved to donate \$100 to the ALAA.

We had one guest in attendance, Barry Levy, of Long Beach. Happy to say we signed him up as a member.

Doris Pelfrey

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR ALL MEMBERS:

Due to a special event at Anaheim Memorial Hospital the room we normally meet in will not be available the evening of October 10th, therefore, it will be necessary to change our October meeting to the first Tuesday in October, October 3rd. Please note this change on your calendars. This is the October meeting only. Our November meeting will be on the usual second Tuesday, November 14th as scheduled.

L. C. MADSEN, MD

ITEMS FOR OCTOBER BULLETIN:

WITH THE OCTOBER MEETING BEING HELD ON THE FIRST TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3RD, I WILL NEED ALL ITEMS FOR THE OCTOBER BULLETIN SUBMITTED TO ME IN WRITING NOT LATER THAN THE 26TH OF SEPTEMBER. ITEMS FOR THE NOVEMBER BULLETIN SHOULD BE SUBMITTED NOT LATER THAN NOVEMBER 7TH.

MARGE

SHOP HINT:

Want to make your grinding wheels more efficient? Try using a teaspoon of non-foaming detergent with each 5 gallons of water you drip on your wheel. Your tumbler will work better, also, because it will hold the grit in suspension, thus preventing it from settling.

via Staurolite, Jul/Aug '95 and others

## LOUD & CLEAR by George Loud

### GOOD NEWS

While my sense is that the regulatory tide is still running against us, a number of recent events are very encouraging.

Consider the following:

<> Responsive to correspondence from Jon Spunaugle (President of ALAA) and myself, the Arizona State Office of the BLM has agreed to change their regulations governing mineral collecting in the Muggins Mountains Wilderness area to allow for the use of rock hammers (prospector picks). The Muggins Mountains Wilderness Management Plan specifically allows mineral collecting or rockhounding as an activity within the wilderness. Accordingly, if collecting in the MMWA feel free to crack a rock to see what is inside. However, remember that you are in a Wilderness Area and that creation of any significant surface disturbance is illegal. Use of shovels and any prying tool which disturbs the surface "in any significant way" is specifically prohibited. The same would be true for any wilderness area where rock-hounding is permitted. I wish to thank Dean Richardson of the Utah Federation for bringing the problem with the MMWA rules to our attention.

<> In connection with the above, the Arizona State Office of the BLM has requested the help of the AFMS in composing educational materials to be distributed to collectors on lands administered by the BLM in Arizona. We are for this opportunity to cooperate with the Arizona BLM. Please send any suggestions you may have to me at the address below.

<> At the AFMS convention in Boise, Idaho, Mary Andersen (CFMS President) reported that the BLM in California has requested the CFMS name a nominee for the Advisory Boards of each of their Susanville, Ukiah and Bakersfield offices. A nominee for the Calif. Desert District Advisory Committee was also requested.

<> Don and Betty Eastman and other Wyoming rockhounds have succeeded in reaching agreement with the Rock Springs Wyoming

District office of BLM regarding rules for collecting on BLM lands in the Rock Springs district. Jon Spunaugle reports having received numerous complaints from rockhounds of harassment by BLM rangers in their collecting of petrified wood in Wyoming. Hopefully, the problem has been successfully resolved.

<> Approximately one year ago, responsive to more than 1000 letters from rockhounds, the USFS agreed to change the new language proposed for 36 CFR parts 261 and 262 to clarify that the collection of rocks and minerals without a permit is permissible in national forests, if such collecting is limited to non-commercial or hobby purposes.

Hopefully, we can build on the foregoing to establish a more cooperative relationship with government agencies that manage the public lands. As Blue Ribbon President Don Amador writes, in the July 1995 issue of the *Blue Ribbon* magazine: "It behooves us to be thankful for the many dedicated and service minded rangers and officers in the USFS, BLM and our state land agencies." Please remember your responsibility in this area - obey the law. An incident or two of collector greed could undo everything we have accomplished within the last year or so.

<> Bill Smith (NFMS President) reports that the Kitsap, Washington club devoted one of its regular meetings to letter writing to Congress by the members present, with the assistance of several laptop computers.

<> The ALAA is soliciting contributions to finance sending a representative to Washington, D.C. to lobby for passage of the "Fossil Protection Act of 1995." A large number of clubs in the NFMS have contributed amounts ranging from \$100. to \$500. Please consider making a donation either as an individual or as a club. Donations should be sent to: ALAA c/o Ed Romack, Treasurer, 655 8th St., Idaho Falls, ID 83401

George Loud, Chair  
AFMS Conservation & Legislation Committee  
1628 Crowell Rd.  
Vienna, VA 22182

(excerpt from AFMS Newsletter, 9/95)  
via CFMS Newsltr, 9/95

## WHO PAYS FOR THEIR LOBBYING?

### The Nature Conservancy (TNC)

The richest of all environmental groups, with total assets over Nine Hundred Million dollars in 1993, with eight regional offices and fifty state chapter offices. They operate under a 501c(3) tax status.

In 1993, TNC reported investments of \$49,017,000 in U.S. Government securities, \$27,262,000 in bonds, and \$169,043,000 in stocks and mutual funds. Only half of their total assets (\$519,619,633) were reported as land held for conservation.

Among its receipts for 1993 were government grants accounting for \$20,402,672. Operating as a non-profit 501c(3), the organization technically has no profit - though in 1993 it reported \$59,213,100 as "net assets excess" on federal Form 990 - on which, of course, it pays no income tax. During that same year it wrote off \$760,776 in expenses for acknowledged lobbying expenses to influence a legislative body.

The Nature Conservancy buys private land in the U.S., sometimes at the request of the Federal government. It then sells the bulk of it to the Federal government at a substantial markup. To get land from owners who would not knowingly sell to an environmental group, they have been known to use false front companies. Private landowners all over the country have filed complaints about TNC tactics.

Since 1951 The Nature Conservancy has bought more than five million acres of private land in the U.S., through outright purchases and gifts from donors, as well as twenty million acres in Canada and Latin America in "Debt-for-Nature" swaps.

Donations to TNC in recent years are: One-million dollars from Miller Brewing

Company; MCI donates 5% of the monthly phone bill of customers who sign up for MCI's "Nature Network" program; Key Bank pledged a minimum of \$100,000 to TNC through sales of its Washington Waters scenic checks. [reprinted from the Mother Lode Research Center News Bulletin].

### The Sierra Club

The Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund (SCLDF) and the Western Environmental Law Clinic (formerly located at the Univ. of Oregon Law School) received \$1.6 Million in taxpayer dollars to compensate for attorney and student time spent on spotted owl lawsuits. Judge Helen Frye awarded less than was asked . . . they billed their time for \$430. per hour (a 40-hour week would cost \$17,200 and \$894,400 annually).

They were only awarded \$205. per hour. SCLDF told the Oregonian newspaper that the award would go to pay for more lawsuits. [reprinted from Washington Commercial Forest Action Committee]

## YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK!

### HARDROCK MINING

#### Just the Facts!

Hardrock mining employs nearly 120,000 in the U.S.!

Mining support industries employ another 3 million people!

American mining has disturbed less than one quarter of one percent (.0025%) of the land in the United States.

About 3 million acres of our public lands have been removed to private ownership due to mining.

#### Compared to:

94 million acres of public lands granted to railroads;

288 million acres of public lands given as agricultural homesteads!

This page excerpt from ALAA, 5/6, 1995  
via CFMS Newsltr, 9/95

SHARING AND CARING:

Our sympathy goes out to Beverly Erhart on the loss of her brother, Don Blood, who passed away on August 6, 1995.

Many long time club members will recall that Don was an active Searcher member in the late 60's and 70's. In 1972 the Searchers hosted the "Fantasy of Gems", a combined AFMS/CFMS show celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the AFMS. Don Blood and Jessie Vance, our past Historian, were the Show Chairmen for this significant event.

We know how much Beverly will miss Don and our prayers are with her and Don's family.

Marie Cole

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Alf Osborne reports that Queenie is improving somewhat. She is receiving extensive speech therapy and is on blood thinners and if all goes well the doctors may do surgery in about sixty days. Cards and notes are appreciated.

Marge

MEMBERSHIP:

Welcome new member: LEVY, Barry T.  
5150 Candlewood, No. 8  
Lakewood, CA 90712  
(310) 364-4544

This brings our membership up to 138 members.

We really haven't lost touch with Merle and Jeanne...so many members have asked for their new address and here it is:

HOWE, Merle and Jeanne  
975 Windsong Land  
San Jacinto, CA 92582  
(909) 487-6907

Please note additions and changes in your 1995 rosters.

Milly

DON'T FORGET - SLABS FOR VETS!!

Larry Richey will have a box available at our general meetings to collect slabs for use at the Veteran's Lapidary Shop and would appreciate it if you would donate any of those surplus slabs that you may have on hand.

Editor

PROGRAM REPORT:

Klaus Cuthbert of the Long Beach Veterans' Hospital Lapidary department was our guest speaker for August. He gave an interesting talk on how the volunteer program benefits the vets and how much this contributes to their rehabilitation therapy. The lapidary department relies totally on donations of machines and material and all the help that is given by Searchers and other clubs. He thanked all of us for our support and participation and for the hours of help we have provided and for the materials, equipment etc. donated to their program.

Tonights program will be in two parts. First, we will have a slide presentation on "Artifacts in San Bernardino County." The second part will be a video on "History of Searles Dry Lake."

I regret that the program I had lined up for October on Condor Agate had to be postponed until possibly January however, I do hope to have some type of agate presentation in October.

Our November Program will be a Silent Auction. I would like to ask all of you members to bring in a nice rock or rocks, minerals or specimens to donate to the auction. Proceeds will be given to the club.

Herb Beckman

AUGUST FIELD TRIP REPORT:

Sunday, August 13th, was a beautiful, warm and sunny day. Twenty-seven Searchers and friends rendezvoused at Williams Camp in the San Gabriel Mountains for breakfast and Searcher chit-chat before caravanning to an area that afforded comfortable parking and easy access to the river.

After a short lecture and demonstration on gold panning by yours truly, everyone was eager to forge the swift currents of the East Fork of the river and stake-out their spot. Searchers and guests quickly became acclimated to the warm water temperatures and strategically seated themselves on rocks in the river, chairs in the river or, along the river banks.

Some panners became so engrossed looking for the gold stuff they negelected the lunch call and spent several hours working the river. Trace specimens of gold were found in some local rock, but mostly small flakes were laboriously panned, tweezed and collected. I didn't hear about any Searcher/pro prospector becoming financially wealthy but, I do believe that we had a fun-filled and enriching day. Thanks to those who participated.

Connie Van Kampen

OCTOBER FIELD TRIP:

The October field trip will be October 14th and 15th to Trona, California where we will go to the Searles Lake Gem and Mineral Societies' "Gem-O-Rama '95." We will be participating in some of their field trips. Please see map and event information elsewhere in this bulletin.

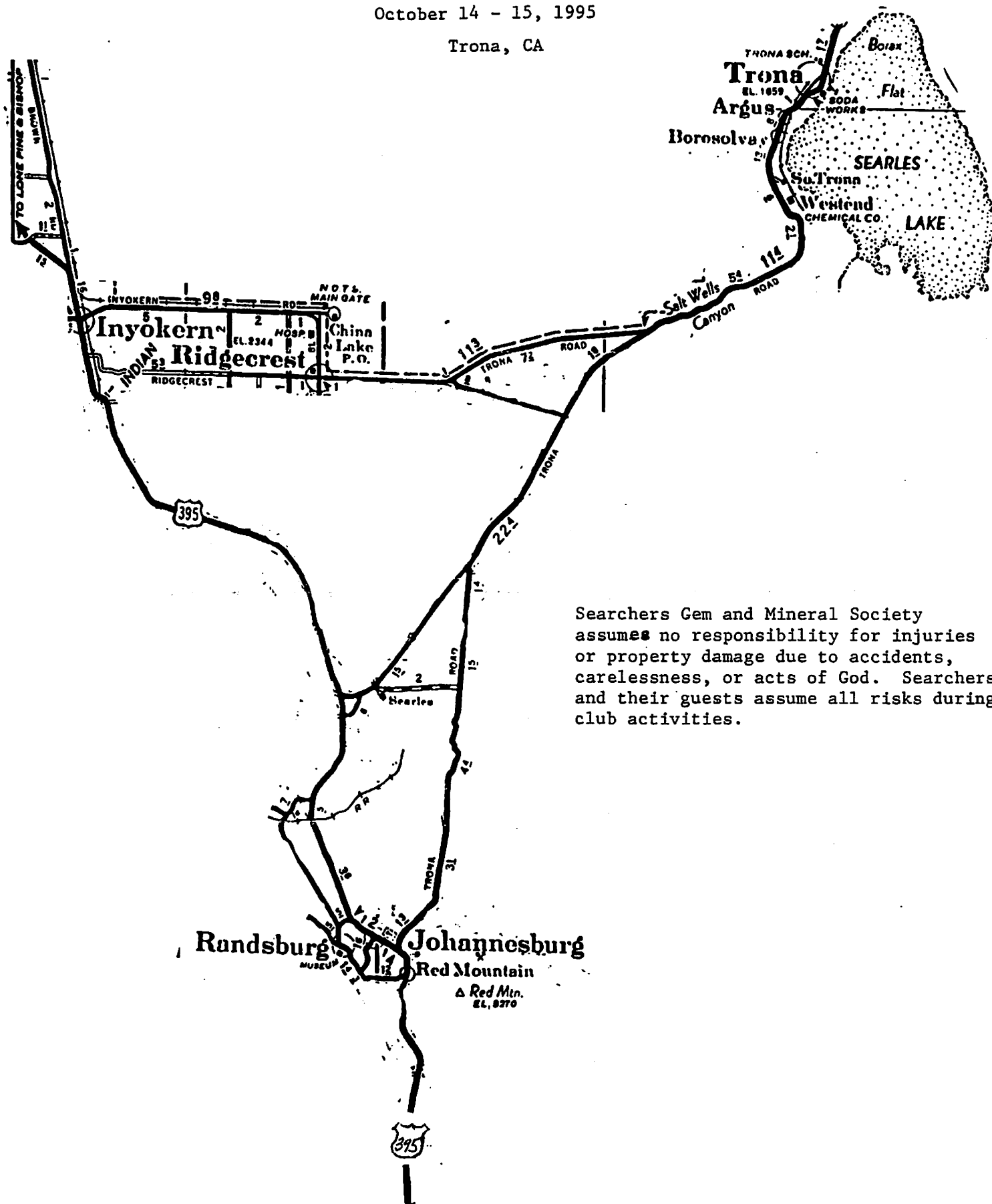
Connie Van Kampen



SEARCHERS FIELD TRIP

October 14 - 15, 1995

Trona, CA



# GEM-O-RAMA '95

54th Annual Show

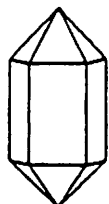
Sponsored by Searles Lake Gem &amp; Mineral Society

**October 14-15**

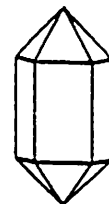
Saturday 8AM to 5PM - Sunday 8AM to 4PM

**TRONA, CALIFORNIA****SLG&MS Lapidary and Show Building**

13357 Main St. (corner of Main &amp; Trona Rd.)



Hanksite



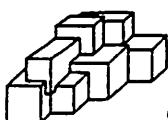
Hanksite

## OUTSTANDING SHOW - FREE ADMISSION

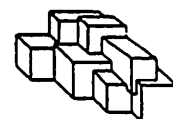
14 Dealers - Mineral Auction - 50 Exhibits - Pan for REAL GOLD

Demos - Games - Gem Dig - Free Parking - Food &amp; Drink

Grand Prize Drawing - Hourly Door Prizes



Halite Cluster



Halite Cluster

## FIELD TRIPS

**SEARLES DRY LAKE** \$5.00 per vehicle - sign in 1 hour before trip

Saturday: 9AM - Hanksite, halite, borax, sulfahalite - on dry salt surface

3PM - Large clusters of hanksite, trona, borax - in sticky black mud

Sunday: 9AM - Natural pink halite - in brine, some buried in hard salt

**FLUORESCENT ROCKS** - FREE - leave from Valley Wells Rec area

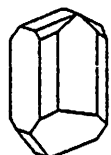
Saturday: 7:00 PM - portable short-wave black light needed

**PINNACLES NATIONAL SCENIC AREA** - FREE

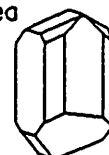
Self-guided - information and directions provided at show

**NORTH AMERICAN CHEMICAL PLANTS** - FREE

Sat: 11am to 4:15pm, Sun: 11am to 2pm - every 45 minutes until 4:15PM



Borax



Borax

## SPECIAL AUCTION OF RARE SEARLES LAKE MINERALS

Donated by North American Chemical Company -- Saturday only - 12 noon to 3 pm

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST** - TRONA COMMUNITY CHURCH (2 block north of show)

Saturday &amp; Sunday: 6 to 10 AM - Adults \$3.00, children under 7 \$1.00

Large groups: for prompt service, call 372-5106 for advanced reservations

**HISTORY HOUSE & OLD GUEST HOUSE MUSEUM** - Sat: 10 to 4 - Sun: 10 to 2**SPAGHETTI DINNER** - sponsored by senior citizens - \$5.50 - Sat: 3-8PM

Sulfahalite



Sulfahalite

## ACCOMODATIONS

**VALLEY WELLS RECREATION AREA** 5 miles north of show, \$5/vehicle (dry camp, no resv.)**TRONA TRAILER PARK** - full hookup - 81898 Trona Rd., Trona CA 93562 (619)372-5371**DESERT ROSE MOTEL & RESTAURANT** - 84368 Trona Rd., Trona CA 93562 (619)372-4572

For more information, call: Bonnie Fairchild (619)372-5356

**THANKS FOR COMING -- HAVE A SAFE TRIP**

TRONA PINNACLES

The popular and unique Trona Pinnacles represent the most outstanding example of tufa towers (calcium carbonate in the form of calciet and aragonite) in North America. This highly scenic area, located in the San Bernardino County's Searle's Lake Valley, contains over 500 spires, some as tall as 140 feet.

Several conditions need to be met in order for pinnacles to form - a lake with dissolved sodium carbonate, calcium-rich groundwater, local heat, and fractures in the lake bed. The most logical explanation of the unusual circumstances surrounding their creation is that they were formed by underground springs in a period of high rainfall during the last ice Age, at a time when water covered much of the California Desert. The "spires" were "pipes" fed by these springs.

The strangely shaped geologic formations rose in Searles Lake, one link in a chain of lakes draining water from the Sierra Nevada to the Colorado River, nearly 25,000 years ago. The lake level rose or fell as precipitation fluctuated, resulting in three groups of pinnacles that are obviously of different ages.

The oldest, in these two groups nearly 15 miles south of the third group, are greatly eroded. Today given a change in climate and a new lake, the pinnacles could resume their growth!

The jagged appearance of the spires contrasted against the flat lake bottom has often been described as a "landscape from another world." In fact, these visually striking and even bizarre 19,600 acre area has been the setting for several science fiction or futuristic movies and television shows.

via The Tumble Rumble, 7/95 and others

CFMS SEMINAR/FIELD TRIP SOUTH - Sep 29 - Oct 1, 1995:

Everyone (not just field trip leaders) is invited to this CFMS Field Trip/Seminar at Hector Siding, 32 miles south of Barstow via I-40. Bill Burns, CFMS Field Trip Chairman South, announces that this seminar/field trip is planned to help us sort out where we can still go to collect rocks and minerals in the desert. Topics to include lectures on desert rock hunting, field trips, uses of the Global Positioning System (GPS), a BLM Ranger, A National Park Ranger, a Search and Rescue expert, and a geologist and, of course, fellow rockhounds. Bill will be out there as early as Wednesday night.

Friday evening - Campfire and information on GPS use.

Saturday morning - BLM and National Preserve and Park up-date by BLM and National Park Rangers

Coffee Break - Exchange of maps (bring your latest up-dated ones)

Saturday afternoon - Geological study trip to Pisgah Crater

Saturday - 6:00 PM - Potluck to be followed by campfire, songfest and stories

There will be a \$1.00 charge per person to help defray cost of printing, etc. Any questions call Bill Burns, (818) 288-2896.

via CFMS Newsletter, 8/95 and Others

Editor

REFRESHMENTS:

Beth, Doris and Hal Pelfrey will be serving refreshments this evening. Trudie Reed will do the October 3rd meeting. Who would like to volunteer to cut and serve pie at our November meeting, "pie night?" Please let Marge Jordan know. The date will be November 14th. Thanks.

Jeanne Howe

BEACH PARTY

WHEN: SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 30, 1995  
TIME: LATE MORNING -- AFTERNOON -- EVENING  
PLACE: HUNTINGTON STATE BEACH  
DIRECTIONS: PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY AND BROOKHURST  
 AT THE ENTRANCE, GO LEFT AND WE'LL BE AS NEAR AS  
 POSSIBLE TO THE # 4 OR # 5 LIFEGUARD STATION.  
LOOK FOR SEARCHER BANNER



PARKING FEE: \$5.00

WHAT TO BRING: YOUR CHOICE OF FOOD TO BBQ (hot dogs, hamburgers or  
 whatever) SNACK AND MUNCHIES, ETC. DRINKS, CHAIRS, BEACH  
 UMBRELLAS, GAMES AND ANYTHING NEEDED FOR YOUR COMFORT AND  
 ENJOYMENT. DON'T FORGET SUNSCREEN AND JACKETS IF YOU ARE  
 PLANNING TO STAY FOR LATE AFTERNOON AND EVENING.

A DON'T FORGET ITEM: FIREWOOD --- FIREWOOD --- FIREWOOD

STATE BEACH RULES: NO GLASS CONTAINERS  
 NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

COMMENTS: WE PLAN TO ARRIVE AROUND 10:00 AM. IF YOU ARRIVE BEFORE  
 WE DO -- GRAB ON TO A FIRE RING TO RESERVE FOR THE SEARCHERS.

BRING FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND LETS MAKE THIS A GREAT PARTY!!!

HOSTS: ROGER AND JANET COLE  
 JAY AND MARIE COLE

