

SEARCHERS BOARD OFFICERS

- President: Kim Strange
- 1st VP: Sharon Burson
- 2nd VP: Andrew Bloxom
- Director: Doug Flaugh
- Secretary: Jamie Cassidy-Curtis
- Treasurer: Charlotte Spalding
- Federation Delegate: Charles Walker
- Committee Chairpersons
- Editor: Linda Horn
- Historian:
- Hospitality: Lorri Renck
- Library Membership:
- Monthly Drawing:
- Sunshine:
- Veteran Liaison :
- Charles W.
- Website: Steve Duncan
- Workshop: Adrian Callard

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FIELD TRIPS

GENERAL MEETING

SPEAKERS

The Rock Slab News

The Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Anaheim CA

VOLUME 57, ISSUE 2



FEBRUARY 2020

The President's Message

Searchers

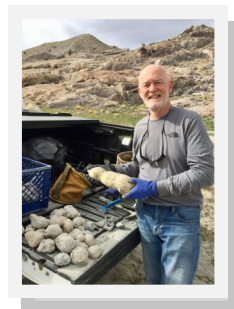
We are off to a great start this year. The new Board had its first Board Meeting and our January Regular Meeting had almost 40 attendees including 4 visitors and 2 new members. Kudos to 1st VP Sharon for arranging geologists Dick and Mary Pat Weber to speak on Australian Boulder Opal. The program was interesting and visual – the table full of Opal specimens was amazing and beautiful.

As I mentioned at the January regular meeting, there are still some club chairperson positions that are unfilled. It takes a group effort to make our club run and there is a role for everyone. Please consider joining the group of volunteers that make our club function by filling one of these roles. Unfilled positions include;

1. A Raffle Chairperson for our monthly meetings – this person acquires items for the raffle (donated from other Searcher members or purchased - the club reimburses the costs), collects money from sale of raffle tickets at the meeting, draws winning raffle tickets and turns in the money collected to the Treasurer.
2. An Asset Manager – this person maintains a list of the equipment that the club owns. We have a starting list but the Asset Manager should probably review the list to make sure it is complete and accurate. On an ongoing basis, the Asset Manager updates the list as new equipment is acquired.
3. A Librarian – did you know the club has a library of books and other resources on earth sciences? I don't remember the last time I saw the library (because we haven't had a Librarian). This person brings out the library at the Regular Meeting and keeps track of members who check out books and maybe acquires some new books for the club (the club reimburses the costs).
4. A Sunshine Chairperson – this person sends out get well cards and prepares announcements for the Slab.
5. A Historian - I'd like to see this role help document the club's activities (regular meetings, annual shows, field trips, lapidary shop) through photos. The Historian doesn't need to take the photos themselves – they can solicit/remind members to take the photos and be the coordinator for what is added to the website or monthly Slab.

If you're hesitant to take on one of these roles, please don't be. My philosophy is to make this year full of "fun and fellowship". There is no right or wrong way to accomplish the above roles and there is a group of people available to answer your questions and help support you. Please contact me personally if you have any questions.

Lastly, I want to thank a long-time member. I had the pleasure of meeting Lorri Renck at the January meeting. Lorri has been a Searcher's member for many years and I was surprised to learn that she has been the person who has provided the delicious refreshments for our regular meetings for many years. Lorri struck me as a tremendously dedicated member who operates quietly, behind the scenes. Thank you Lorri for what you do for our club.



***Please remember to bring any slab donations for the vets.**

Searchers Club Meetings and Presenters

Board Meeting- Tues. February 4th at 6 pm

Member Meeting— Tuesday February 11th at 7 pm, Anaheim Community Center

2020 Membership dues are now due for the year.

Searchers Board Meeting

The new 2020 Searchers board met on Jan 7. Two vacant positions are now filled. The board approved the appointment of Doug Flaugh, our 2018 President, as Director since the immediate past President isn't available this year. That completes all 7 board positions. Also, Charles Walker (Marine veteran) volunteered to be the Searchers VA liaison.

The 2020 work is well underway. Andrew Bloxom (2nd VP Field Trips) has already led 3 field trips, with more coming soon. He's looking for experienced volunteers to suggest and lead more field trips. Sharon Burson (1st VP Programs) has several speakers and events already scheduled. Other board actions include approval of the 2020 show budget. Watch for more information soon in the Slab and on our website!

Searchers General Meeting

Our January meeting was held on January 14. President Kim Strange described a few agenda changes this year. New members, as well as visitors, are invited to introduce themselves and get a welcoming gift! And our meetings will include a Show & Tell where members can show off rock-related items such as rocks found on field trips or items made in the workshop. This year's focus is on fun and fellowship.

We're looking for volunteers for several positions such as Librarian, Historian, and Asset Manager. And it's never too early to start looking for prizes you can donate to our 2020 show. Not only do visitors get excited about winning something, but the prizes themselves show how beautiful rocks can be and why we love this hobby.

Our January speakers were geologists Mary Pat and Dick Weber, who gave a fascinating presentation about boulder opal; for example, how the opal's structure determines whether it has color play and, if so, which colors. It was also a special treat to see all the beautiful opal specimens.

Monthly Speaker

Andrew Hoekstra will be our guest speaker for February. His topic will be the following:

Geology and Scenery of Southern Utah. Geological sights to visit on vacation and mention of what and where you can collect. Timely since the government intends reopen a large area to collecting. Focuses on the Grand Staircase Escalante region. Reviews the geological history and rocks of the Colorado Plateau.

Lots of pictures. But only a few actual specimens for show and tell. I can also discuss how a few rock hounds struggled to restoration recreational collecting, and how regular people have to get involved because no one else is going to do it for you (I might make some disparaging remarks about the people running the CFMS/ALAA/AFMS).



Field Trips



For field trip
information
contact:
Andrew
Bloxom Field
Trips,
Searchers
Gem and
Mineral
Society,
andrew.bloxom@gmail.com

Chuckawalla Springs Field Trip


February 1-2, 2020

Meet 8:30am, Depart: 9:00am

Leader: Andrew Bloxom (vehicle: Silver Subaru Crosstrek)
Cell# (571)-217-9536 (***Please text message only during business hours)
Email: Andrew.Bloxom@gmail.com

The Anaheim Searchers will be heading into the Chuckawalla Mountains for what is sure to be good collecting and adventure. The road into this collecting area is fun but challenging, helping me to realize that sometimes the journey is half the excitement. 4x4 is highly recommended with high clearance, although drivers with Subaru type vehicles who have previous offroad driving experience may be able to reach the deeper regions up the canyons. We will encounter loose sand, steep rocky grades, and some small obstacles. This area is known for interesting agates, amygdules, and green moss and white plume agates. Other interesting specimens can also be found like sagenites and calcite rhombs.

We will be dry camping on Graham Pass Rd (GPS: 33.603560, -115.043118). Bring water, firewood, and food for the weekend as this location is fairly remote, but Blythe is 30-40minutes drive to the East. Take I-10 East from Indio until you get to the Ford Dry Lake Rd exit. Take a right at the exit and head back West

on Chuckawalla Valley Rd for about 3.2 miles. You will see a yellow  sign and Searchers sign for the left turn onto Graham Pass Rd. We will be a few hundred yards on the right by the low trees and drainage berm. We will meet at 8:30am on Saturday morning and head out at 9am. Those who stick around will head back out on Sunday for a shorter day of collecting.



Chuckawalla Field Trip



FIELD TRIP REPORT

Quartzite 1/18-1/19/2020

The weather in Quartzite was beautiful for walking around and exploring everything there was to see at the shows. I saw a number of other members and personally enjoyed browsing material from the Cady Mountains and other Mojave locales. Despite the many temptations, self control was dialed in to the max, and my bank account managed to survive the weekend. Five members joined for the dinner at Quartzite Yacht Club. On Sunday, we scouted the Chuckawalla Springs trail with two guests (Dave & Dave) from Santa Cruz who happened to run into Robert Burson at Dale's Rock Shop. We enjoyed the company and made some improvements to the trail, did some light collecting and located some nice seams to explore when we return.

Next Field Trip (after Chuckawalla Springs)

Trilobite Wilderness 2/22/2020

I thought it would be nice to get out and do some fossil collecting in a well known locale near Cadiz, CA. This location holds Cambrian trilobites in the Latham shale. More information will follow about where to meet. On Sunday, I was thinking to check out the Turtle Mountains, but maybe stay closer in the Marble Mountains. Keep an eye out on the website and club e-mail for a flier.

As always, let me know if you want to see any other locations or would like to volunteer to lead a trip to a favorite spot. I look forward to seeing you all at the meetings and sharing some of our finds from the field trips.



Anaheim Searchers 2019-2020 Field Trip Schedule

Date	Location	Leader	Notes
10/26/2019	Sleeping Beauty	Andrew Bloxom	
11/10/2019	Holbrook, AZ	Robert Burson	
11/16-11/17/2019	Baxter Wash	Andrew Bloxom	
12/14/19	Kramer Hills	Andrew Bloxom	
1/18-19/2020	Quartzite	QIA PowWow Show, Sat. Dinner @ YachtClub	
1/19/20	Wiley Well Rd.	Andrew Bloxom	
2/1-2/2020	Chuckawalla Springs	Andrew Bloxom	
2/22-23/20	Trilobite Wilderness/Turtle Mountains	Andrew Bloxom	
3/21-22/20	Opal Mountain	Jimmie Peterson	
March	Afton Canyon	John O'Connor	
April	Sperry Wash	Doug Flaugh	
May	Lavic Siding	Bill Hogarth	
June	Clear Creek	Andrew Bloxom	
July	Northern CA, Owens Valley, Davis Creek		
Aug.	Santa Monica Mtns		

Show and Tell / New Member Spotlight

We will again provide time at the February general meeting for both Show and Tell and New Member Spotlight. Members are invited to share their recent shop creations or field collecting finds with the club. New members are also invited to tell the club a little about themselves and their interest in earth sciences. These are both completely voluntary - if you want to participate in this part of the meeting, please indicate so when you sign in for the meeting.

If you are interested in participating in "show and tell" or "new member spotlight", please let the meeting host/hostess know when you sign-in for the meeting.

Show Committee Update

Other Show Committee meetings are:

March 7, 2020, 1-2:30 p.m.

April 25, 2020, 1-2:30 p.m.

Show Committee meetings are marked on the Searchers Calendar (as are workshop hours, field trips, and general meetings) <https://www.searchersrocks.org/searchers-calendar>

Our show is scheduled for the first weekend in May, May 2-3, 2020.

What you can do to help the show (our main income source):

Clean and check a donated 15 pound barrel tumbler (raffle prize)

Can we borrow your soil pipe cutter (see photo from Grainger)? We want to introduce a new activity at the 2020 show, geode cutting.

Make prizes big and small for children and adults. Need help thinking of ideas? Ask at a general or show committee meeting!

Sign up to help the show. We have jobs for all abilities! See the sign-up sheets at the general meetings.

Distribute show fliers at your clubs and activities

Save Starbucks bags for a children's activity at the show (see photo). You can bring them to the general meetings or workshop.

Tumble rocks for grab bags

Donate quality rough, slabs, specimens, and equipment to the Silent Auction (our main income producer from the show)
Sign up for a show case

Sell your rock-related wares at the Searchers Sale Table, or donate items for the Searchers to sell.

Join our incredibly talented, hard-working Show Committee!

Questions? Margaret Hogarth, hogarth.m@gmail.com, 909-815-3045



Did you know?

What is the process for Searcher's to change their Bylaws?

In last month's Slab, we noted that Bylaws are rules that are adopted by an organization which govern the activities of and the members of an organization. We also noted that generally speaking, by-laws are legal documents that formally set out the rules of an organization. Article 10 of our current Bylaws are written as follows:

ARTICLE X

AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS

Section 1 –	<p><i>These By-Laws may be altered, amended, repealed, or replaced by new By-Laws in accordance with the following procedures:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. The Board of Directors shall review the By-Laws, Standing Rules, and Job Duties annually. Alternately, the Board can appoint a committee to review the By-Laws, Standing Rules, and Job Duties.</i> <i>2. The membership will be asked to submit written suggestions to the committee.</i> <i>3. The committee will consider all suggestions and make recommendations accordingly to the Board.</i> <i>4. Proposed changes will be reviewed by the Board, then presented at a general meeting and published for review by the membership in the <u>Rock Slab News</u> and on a members-only page of the Searchers website.</i> <i>5. Additional written suggestions will be considered by the committee for final presentation to the Board.</i> <i>6. Any significant changes will be published and distributed to the membership for comment prior to the membership's vote.</i> <i>7. New By-Laws or changes to existing By-Laws may be adopted by a two-thirds majority of the membership present and voting at any regular meeting.</i>
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As you can see, there is a clearly documented process for how changes can be made to our Bylaws. Because Bylaws are a legal document, it is important that all required steps are followed. Following the proper steps when revising Bylaws can avoid unnecessary disputes and disagreements.

Next month, we will review two additional club documents – **The Standing Rules and Job Duties**.

Trilobite

FOSSIL ARTHROPOD

WRITTEN BY: [The Editors of Encyclopaedia Britannica](#)

Alternative Title: Trilobitomorpha

Trilobite, any member of a group of extinct [fossil](#) arthropods easily recognized by their distinctive three-lobed, three-segmented form. Trilobites, exclusively marine animals, first appeared at the beginning of the [Cambrian Period](#), about 542 million years ago, when they dominated the seas. Although they became less abundant in succeeding geologic periods, a few forms persisted into the [Permian Period](#), which ended about 251 million years ago.



Because trilobites appear fully developed in the Cambrian Period, it appears likely that the ancestral trilobites originated during the [Ediacaran Period](#) (630 million to 542 million years ago) of [Precambrian](#) times. An organism that may be ancestral to the trilobites, as well as to other arthropods, may be represented by [Spriggina](#), which is known from Precambrian shallow-water marine deposits in Australia. Trilobites are frequently used for stratigraphic correlations.

Trilobites had three body lobes, two of which lay on each side of a longitudinal axial lobe. The trilobite body was segmented and divided into three regions from head to tail: the cephalon, or head region, separated from the [thorax](#), which was followed in turn by the pygidium, or tail region. Trilobites, like other arthropods, had an external skeleton, called [exoskeleton](#), composed of chitinous material. For the [animal](#) to grow, the exoskeleton had to be shed, and shed trilobite exoskeletons, or portions of them, are fossils that are relatively common.

Each trilobite body segment bore a pair of jointed appendages. The forwardmost appendages were modified into sense and feeding organs. Most trilobites had a pair of [compound](#) eyes; some of them, however, were eyeless. Some trilobites were active predators, whereas others were scavengers, and still others probably ate [plankton](#). Some trilobites grew to large size; *Paradoxides harlani*, which has been found near Boston in rocks of the Middle Cambrian Epoch (521 million to 501 million years ago), grew to be more than 45 cm (18 inches) in length and may have weighed as much as 4.5 kg (10 pounds). Others were small.



For a more complete listing of shows go to web-site:
www.cfmsinc.org

Upcoming 2020 CFMS Gem Shows

FEBRUARY 2020

February 14 - 23: INDIO, CA

San Geronio Mineral & Gem Society
Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival
82-503 Highway 111
Hours: 10 - 10 daily
Contact: Bert Grisham, (951) 849-1674
Email: bert67@verizon.net

February 15 - 17: ANTIOCH, CA

Antioch Lapidary Club
Contra Costa County Fairgrounds
1201 West 10th Street
Hours: 10 - 5 daily
Contact: Brenda Miguel
Email: brenda.miguel@yahoo.com
Website: antiochlapidaryclub.com

February 22 - 23: VALLEJO, CA

Vallejo Gem & Mineral Society
McCormack Hall, Solano County Fairgrounds
900 Fairgrounds Drive
Hours: 10 - 5 daily
Contact: Debra Duhon, (415) 254-1506
Email: dduhonvgms@gmail.com
Website: vigems.org

MARCH 2020

March 6, 7 & 8: NEWARK, CA

Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley
Newark Pavilion
6430 Thornton Avenue
Hours: Fri & Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5
Contact: Cathy, (510) 305-4196
Email: cdmiller59@gmail.com
Website: www.mgscv.org [Show Page](#)

March 7 - 8: VENTURA, CA

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society
Ventura County Fairgrounds
10 West Harbor Blvd.
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
Contact: Richard Slyker, (805) 312-8467
Email: info@vgms.org

Website: vgms.org

March 13, 14 & 15: VICTORVILLE, CA

(Club is Victorville) Victorville Valley Gem & Mineral Club
44th Annual Rockhound Tailgate
Stoddard Wells Road/Dale Evans Pkwy
Hours: 9 - 5 daily
Contact: Ruben Martinez, (760) 429-8263
Email: rmstonewalk54@gmail.com
Website: vygmc.org [Show Page](#)

March 21 - 22: SAN JOSE, CA

Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Santa Clara County Fairgrounds
344 Tully Road
Hours: 10 - 5 daily
Contact: (408) 265-1422
Email: info@scvgms.org
Website: www.scvgms.org

March 29 - 29: ANGELS CAMP, CA

Calaveras Gem & Mineral Society
Calaveras County Fairgrounds
101 Frogtown Road
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
Contact: Robin Williams, (209)-728-8277
Email: robinski@yahoo.com
Website: www.calaverasgemandmineral.org [Show Page](#)

March 28- 29: ROSEVILLE, CA

Roseville Rock Rollers Gem & Mineral Society
@the Grounds
800 All American City Blvd
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
Contact: James Hutchings, (916) 995-7380
Email: jhutchings22@hotmail.com
Website: www.rockrollers.com [Show Page](#)

APRIL 2020

April 4 - 5: CHICO, CA

Paradise Gem & Mineral Society
Silver Dollar Fairgrounds
2357 Fair Street
Hours: Saart 9 - 5; Sun 9 - 4

Contact: Trish Haggerty, (530) 966-5112
Email: hagboyz5@gmail.com
www.paradisegem.org

April 4 - 5: RENO, NV

Reno Gem & Mineral Society
Reno Convention Center
4390 S. Virginia Street
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
Contact: Daniel Ellis, (775) 229-2442
Email: greybeard65@hotmail.com
Website: www.renorockhounds.com

April 11 - 12: MARIPOSA, CA

Mariposa Gem & Mineral Club
Mariposa County Fairgrounds
5007 Fairgrounds Road
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
Contact: Meredith Meehan, (559) 868-3535
Email: mngmc@sti.net
Web Site: <http://mariposagemclub.org> [Show Page](#)

April 25 - 26: LANCASTER, CA

Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral Club
Antelope Valley Fairgrounds
2551 West Avenue H
Hours: Sat 9 - 5; Sun 9 - 4
Contact: Susan Chaisson-Walblom, (661) 406-0143
Email: slchaisson@yahoo.com
Website: www.avgem.weebly.com

Feburary Birthstone: Amethyst



Searchers Gem & Mineral Society

General Information



Check our website for unexpected changes in schedule!

www.searchersrocks.org

General Meetings: 7 PM, 2nd Tuesday of each month, Jan - Nov

Board Meetings: 6PM, 1st Tuesday of each month, Jan - Nov

Workshop: Thursday 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

Membership Dues:	Individual	\$25
	Couple	\$35
	Junior (17 & under)	\$10

Valid Jan.1-Dec.31, not prorated

Bulletin: Submissions due 3rd Friday of the month via e-mail to: editor@searchersrocks.org.

Bulletin distributed 1st week of each month. Mail exchange bulletins to the editor:

Searchers —Linda Horn Editor

P.O. Box 3492

Anaheim, Ca. 92803

Charter Date: April 20, 1958

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



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