

## SEARCHERS BOARD OFFICERS

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

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## FIELD TRIPS

## GENERAL MEETING

## SPEAKERS

# The Rock Slab News

VOLUME 58, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2021



## The President's Message

Happy New Year Searchers,

I hope this message finds everyone staying healthy and doing well. My family Christmas was a little different this year and lacked the usual group gatherings with meals and extended festivities. I imagine many of you experienced the same thing. As we look ahead to a new year, we have COVID-19 vaccinations coming by late spring/early summer that will allow us to safely return to a more normal way of interacting with each other. For me, those vaccinations cannot come soon enough.

Thanks to everyone involved in submitting "show and tell" photos for our December general meeting. We had a nice time visiting and reviewing the handiwork from a number of members. Sharon has a speaker lined up for our January meeting so please put the date of Tuesday January 12 at 7pm on your calendar and join us for a virtual meeting to start off the new year.

As we say "good-bye" to the incredibly sad, tragic and bizarre year that 2020 was, I want to take this opportunity to thank my fellow board members, both for their service this past year and for their volunteering to serve the club in this coming year. To Sharon Burson, Andrew Bloxom, Doug Flaugh, Aurora Vidin, Sue Gevedon, Nancy Bird, Margaret Hogarth and Adrian Callard, I want to thank you for giving your time and energy to help our club succeed under difficult circumstances. If we didn't have volunteers like these talented people willing to step forward and give of themselves, we wouldn't have a club. Another word of sincere thanks goes to Linda Horn who has been our bulletin editor for many years. You keep us focused on deadlines and providing important updates on the club through our Slab newsletter. And finally, I want to thank all our members who continued to support the club through this difficult year. I understand that most of 2020 has been difficult to say the least. But please know that the board is dedicated to making 2021 the best year yet.

**That's all for now Searchers. Stay healthy! Best wishes for a healthy, fun and enjoyable 2021.**



## Searchers Club Meetings and Presenters

Board Meeting- January 5th

Member Meeting– January 12th ZOOM meeting

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

**Searchers Gem & Mineral Society Board Meeting Minutes, December 1, 2020** Aurora Vidin, Secretary

President Kim Strange called the meeting to order at 6:42 pm.

Board members in attendance:

Kim Strange, President: Sharon Burson, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Andrew Bloxom, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Aurora Vidin, Secretary: Sue Gevedon, Treasurer: Margaret Hogarth, Show Chairman: Nancy Bird, Interim CFMS Representative

**Approval of 11/3/2020 Board Meeting Record**

**Motion to approve as written: Sharon Second: Aurora Motion Passed**

### Old Business

**Kim:** Transition of departing members, Charlotte and Jamie  
Banking update

**Andrew** Goal to regain the Facebook groups for outreach and field trips

Are there things that we'd like to do?

Website updates for discussion: Board only section; Members Only; Public

PayPal was set up for the Fine art America site for the sale of Searchers Merchandise

<https://fineartamerica.com/featured/searchers-logo-kim-strange.html>

Andrew is happy to continue working through these issues

**Margaret:** Need to document and list the sights, usernames, and passwords

**Kim:** 2021 dues

Kim: Follow up conversation on reducing, waiving or keeping dues

**Move to keep dues: Margaret Second: Nancy** Approved by unanimous board vote with decision for 2021 dues to remain at \$25 individual and \$35 couple/family (no pro-rating)

### New Business

**Kim:** Document sent to board regarding roles, any questions? **None**

We are volunteers and this should be enjoyable. Think about us as a board and what we want to contribute but also how we can have some fun. Our authority is as a collective action and not individual. There is not an expectation that we will always agree, and multiple opinions and diversity are valued

Goals for 2021: Enhance Website, Social Media Strategy, Jr. Youth programs, Other items for discussion with board

**Margaret:** Plans for the kitchen equipment.

**Andrew:** Field trip next weekend, hopefully the curfew and camping will not be an issue.

**Kim:** Counter signed by-laws to be distributed to the new board members

Reminder: Show and tell for next week's meeting have presentations in Night before the meeting

Linda will still be doing the newsletter, reminder to have content to her 7-10 days prior to publishing

**Nancy** joined the Federation Zoom meeting in November. They have a booklet with important highlights.

Insurance is due end of this month. Need to know how many members as of 12/20. We pay \$7 per member

CFMS newsletter can have up to 4 people on the distribution list for free. \$5.50 subscription fee annually otherwise and Doug is sitting in again this year as director

Meeting was concluded at 7:50 pm by Kim, board president

## Searchers General meeting December 12/8/20

Searchers General meeting December 12/8/20

Attendees

Margaret, Kim, Aurora, Bill, Steve, Veronica, Robin, Doug, Sujatmiko, Robert (and Sharon), Dave, Rick, Greg, Gwen, Charlotte, Jamie, Virgil

Meeting called to order at 7:06

Welcome to the December Christmas meeting. Aurora was the only one in a Christmas Sweater.

Quartzsite is going on, despite Covid. This is a swap meet type rock and mineral show through December and January about 20 minutes outside Blyth AZ

This is usually our Christmas party, but due to Covid, we are doing a show and tell this month, since it was so well received last month

Doug gave a presentation on Cabinet Knobs which he buys from D Lawless Hardware (<https://www.dlawlesshardware.com>) as a base and makes a stone cab to add onto it.

Veronica gave a video series presentation on working with Ethiopian opals

Steve gave us a tour of his yard and collections and projects including an opalized tree root, petrified wood and glass from a glass factory, a 300 pound piece of petrified wood and wire wraps his wife did with cabs. He and his wife collaborate on the jewelry

The other presenters are not here so we will hold these for another meeting. Robert showed more of the specimens that he picked up and discussed Quartzite, AZ, which is open and having shows:

<https://quartzsitetourism.com/events/>

<https://xpopress.com/cityguide/profile/7/quartzsite-show-guides>

Kim showed us his room and his preference to Laguna Agate and Geodes, and we discussed having this as a more formal agenda item

Additional topics?

Doug discussed the large slab that was dug from the S. Cady and wanted to know who to share that with.

Margaret gave an update on the field trip

They stayed off hwy 8 near Oglby and explored along the Colorado river. Margaret went to one site that has been very picked over, but on site near the American Canal that had nodules and geodes and fulgurites. Sunday Jimmy, Bill and Marg found a lot of Kyanite. The weather was great, and it wasn't too cold.

Aurora working with Heather Love on her sale and will keep everyone posted

Steve brought up Jay and his need to relocate and having a sale to move his inventory. He is selling at \$5 a bucket

Board meeting are the first Tuesday of the month and all are welcome

## Saw Oil Available

The club supplies saw oil at a good price. It is located at Jim Peterson's home. Bring your own 5 gallon container. The cost is \$60 for 5 gallons. Call 714 904-8573 and make a check payable to "Searchers"

## January Meeting Topic: Classic Collecting Localities of New Mexico

### About Stan Bogosian:

Stan Bogosian was born in San Jose, California in 1952. He has been a serious field collector since 1990, and has travelled throughout the western United States in search of fine mineral specimens and lapidary material. His current interest is micro-minerals, although he has an extensive collection of rocks and minerals of all sizes, including polished rounds of Miocene petrified wood he collected in Eastern Washington.

Stan graduated from Eastern Washington University, Cheney, Washington, in 1978 with a Bachelor's in Education. After teaching high school for several years in Washington and California, Stan worked as a manager in the private sector until his retirement in 2013.

### Club Affiliations:

Peninsula Gem and Geology Society, Los Altos, CA (President)  
Sequoia Gem and Mineral Society, Redwood City, CA  
Bay Area Mineralogists, Menlo Park, CA  
San Francisco Gem and Mineral Society, San Francisco, CA (Field Trip Chairperson)  
Northern California Mineralogical Association

Searchers will have the January **general meeting by Zoom, January 12 2021 at 7:00 p.m.**

Zoom is dependent on a computer/tablet/phone with a microphone and camera, and Zoom loaded on it.

If you need to download Zoom, do so at <https://zoom.us/>

We would set an appointed day and time (have Zoom downloaded) and then click on the meeting link below. Then you would click the "join meeting" button, then enable your microphone and enable your video.

If you are using an iPad you might have to touch the screen to see the speaker and video options at the bottom.

NOTE: for those who can't use Zoom, call us, we would love to have you!

877 853 5247 US Toll-free

888 788 0099 US Toll-free

Meeting ID: 220 276 8016

Topic: Searcher's Meeting Room

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://tcc-services.zoom.us/j/2202768016>

Meeting ID: 220 276 8016

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,2202768016# US (San Jose)

+13462487799,,2202768016# US (Houston)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 253 215 8782 US

+1 301 715 8592 US

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 220 276 8016

Find your local number: <https://tcc-services.zoom.us/u/>



## Searcher Field Trips

Given the state stay at home order, and the COVID surge, the board will be discussing the advisability of scheduling field trips in the immediate future at our January board meeting. More details will follow.

### Trip Report: Cargo Muchacho Mountains Field Trip

There are multiple ways to get this location, and we went via highway 15 and scenic highway 8 where we could see the border not too far away. We met up with Jimmy at the campground by the American Girl Mine off of Ogilby Road at noon on Friday and headed up Ogilby Road to explore Indian Pass Road and take our chances finding dumortierite (in the *Gem Trails of Southern California* book by James R. Mitchell). Jimmy had actually been there once many years ago with Robert. It was a beautiful site with rolling hills and desert pavement with occasional fossilized palm and quite a bit of calcite, some large chunks. I looked for a long time and finally found a piece of dumortierite larger than a baseball. There might be more but it must be far afield.

There are many ATV folks camping in the area, particularly in the dunes along Highway 8, and we had a few neighbors, but they were far away. It was very peaceful and not as cold at night as we expected. We met Robert, Sharon and Dave the next morning and left to explore another site in the *Gem Trails of Southern California* book by James R. Mitchell, the Winterhaven Geodes site. As we drove through date fields, we discovered the Cloud Museum with the "largest collection of Model T's in the world" and other vehicles, and a date shop with excellent date shakes. The Winterhaven Geodes site is in the mounds left by construction of the All American Canal. There are nodules and geodes, minerals, and fulgurites. Jimmy and I kept looking at these strange sand concretions and didn't realize they were the result of lightning strikes until Dave explained it to us. Speaking without knowing for sure, the nodules and geodes were made of something like fine-grained sandstone and some had a fine black dusting of druzy in the vug, but not much lapidary material. There is a lot of material here limited only by how far you want to wander the mounds.

From there we went to Picacho Road to the Picacho Recreation Area, an area that Robert was familiar with. He took us on a glorious tour in the Picacho Peak area, with stunning vistas, stops at the Colorado River and associated lakes, Taylor Lake and Adobe Lake. It was amazing to see so much water in such a dry place! There is some collecting in various parts of this area, such as chalcedony roses, jasper, druzy quartz and perhaps other material, but we had an early sunset to beat and kept on. Eventually the road met up with the other end of Indian Pass Road with some thrilling 4-wheel drive high clearance driving as the sun went down. Suddenly we were out of the mountains and in the rolling hills of the dumortierite site as the sun set and darkness grew. Robert and his group left to go back to Palo Verde while we went back to camp.

Sunday morning we went nearby to an old (collapsed) mine shaft and loading area for a kyanite mine. There we found many pieces of kyanite, a sky-blue speckled mineral used to make electrical insulation ceramics. Some had streaks of green, white or grey. It is pretty stuff and Jimmy was pleased to find solid pieces big enough for sphere work. I picked up pieces for grab bags and other projects.

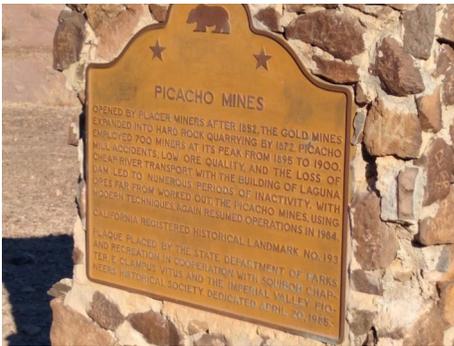
This was an exploratory trip to see if we could make a club field trip from these sites. Certainly the scenery and kyanite is well worth a trip and the fulgurites might be of interest. We would like to find one more stop, perhaps in the Picacho Recreation Area, to make this a productive trip. We look forward to going back!

Margaret Hogarth

Pictures on pages 6,7

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





## Hiking in California with Joseph W. Wright

Check out the videos posted by Joseph Wright, a retired geologist and city planner who also teaches geography at Mt. San Jacinto College. He has filmed a wide variety of high quality geological, fossil, mineral and hiking videos, and one lecture on physical geography. Maybe his videos will inspire a few field trips!

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7Zsq2xV6Ymlb9No-FzYc3w/videos>

Enjoy!

# Upcoming 2021 CFMS Gem Shows

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

**Due to the ongoing virus check to see if any shows are still on. Most all have been canceled**

## 2021 Shows

### February 20-21, Antioch

Antioch Lapidary Club  
Jewelry, Gem & Rock Show  
Contra Costa County Fairgrounds, 1201 West 10th St., Antioch  
Hours: 10 am – 5 pm daily  
Admission \$6, Children 12 and under/ Scouts in uniform – Free  
Active Military with ID – Free  
Contact: (925) 301-6957, [brenda.miguel@yahoo.com](mailto:brenda.miguel@yahoo.com)

### February 27-28, Vallejo

Valejo Gem & Mineral Society  
56th Annual Gem & Mineral Show  
Solano County Fairgrounds, McCormack Hall, 900 Fairgrounds Dr.  
Hours 10 am-5pm  
Contact: (415) 254-1506, [dduhonvgms@gmail.com](mailto:dduhonvgms@gmail.com)

### March 6 – Ventura, CA CANCELLED!!!

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society  
Ventura County Fairgrounds, 10 W.

Harbor Blvd, Ventura 93001  
Saturday 10 am-5 pm, Sunday 10 am-4 pm  
A So-Cal tradition for 59 years! (Note: this listing is tentative and is conditioned upon conditions of the moment at the Ventura County Fairgrounds due to the COVID-19 pandemic.)  
50+ exhibits of gems, fossils & lapidary arts; demos; raffle silent auctions; flea market & plant sale; 15 dealers; kids booth & free resources for teachers.  
Contact: (805) 312-8467, [info@vgms.org](mailto:info@vgms.org)

### March 13-14, Arcadia CA

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

### June 12-13, 2021, Escondido CA

Palomar Gem and Mineral Club  
340 N. Escondido Blvd., Escondido CA 92025  
Saturday – 10 AM – 5 PM, Sunday 10 AM-4PM  
Palomar Gem and Mineral Show – presented by the Palomar Gem and Mineral Club. Held in the California Arts Centers museum and ballroom. A beautiful indoor facility. Secure for vendors and comfortable for attendees. 30-35 dealers.  
Website: [pgmshow@palomargem.org](mailto:pgmshow@palomargem.org)



## January Birthstone: Garnet



# Searchers Gem & Mineral Society

## General Information



Check our website for unexpected changes in schedule!

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

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

Nov

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

**Workshop:** Thursday 5:30 to 10:00 PM and Saturday 2:30 to 7:00 PM

**Location:** Anaheim Downtown Community Center  
250 East Center St.  
Anaheim, CA 92805

**Mailing Address:** Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.  
P.O. Box 3492  
Anaheim, CA 92803

**Website:** [www.searchersrocks.org](http://www.searchersrocks.org)

**Membership Dues:**

|            |      |
|------------|------|
| Individual | \$25 |
| Couple     | \$35 |

Valid Jan.1-Dec.31, not prorated

**Bulletin:** Submissions due 3rd Friday of the month via e-mail to:  
[editor@searchersrocks.org](mailto:editor@searchersrocks.org).

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

Searchers —Linda Horn Editor

P.O. Pox 3492

Anaheim, Ca. 92803

**Charter Date:** April 20, 1958

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

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