

# The Rock Slab News

JULY 2007 VOLUME 42 ISSUE 7

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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.*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Clarke Benich

Hey there Searchers,

Well, as most of you already know, I have missed the past 2 meetings due to health issues, but I am finally on the mend and hopefully will be at the July meeting. I want to thank Walter Mroch for doing such an excellent job taking over in my absence, especially at such short notice!

I hope to see many of you on the July 14<sup>th</sup> field trip. We had a great time last year at this location, so I can't imagine having any less fun this year. I could, however, see it being more fun if more people should show up! I am going to go out on a limb here and make a prediction; ready for this? Ok, I predict that while we are out there gold panning someone will get rich beyond their wildest dreams!

The time is coming up quick where I am supposed to appoint a nominating committee, actually I am supposed to appoint the committee in August and announce the members at the September meeting. I would like to ask for 3 volunteers for the nominating committee at this time, so if you are interested in being on the committee or being in charge of the committee, please let me know as soon as possible. This is not a hard job, all you have to know is how to speak English and be fairly proficient at dialing a telephone.

Our annual picnic is coming up soon. I'm not sure of the date, but I'll let you know just as soon as I find out!

Well, that's all the news I have for now, so hopefully I will be seeing you at the July meeting. Until then, take care, be safe, and especially so if you head out to the desert in this heat!

Sincerely, Clarke

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Check our website for unexpected changes in schedule! [www.searchersrocks.org](http://www.searchersrocks.org)

- General Meetings:** 7 PM, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month, Jan - Nov
- Board Meetings:** 7 PM, 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month, Jan - Nov
- Workshop:** Thursday, 6 – 10 PM, free wire-wrap class.  
Saturday, 3 – 7 PM Free silver-smithing class 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](http://www.searchersrocks.org)

**Membership Dues:** Individual \$20  
Couple \$25  
Junior (17 & under) \$2

**Bulletin:** Submissions due 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month via e-mail to: [editor@searchersrocks.org](mailto:editor@searchersrocks.org).  
Bulletin distributed 1<sup>st</sup> week of each month. Mail exchange bulletins to the editors:  
Jenny Stavreva & Kathy Clark  
18661 Silver Maple Way  
N. Tustin, CA 92705-2144

**Charter Date:** JULY 20, 1958

**Affiliations:**

- California Federation of Mineralogical Societies
- American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

## SEARCHERS BOARD

### Officers

President	Clarke Benich	714/552-7336
1 <sup>st</sup> V.P. (Programs)	Walter Mroch	714/826-2132
2 <sup>nd</sup> V.P. (Field Trips)	Steve Duncan	714/532-4703
Director	Robert Burson	562/860-5938
Secretary	Lorri Renck	714/397-3584
Treasurer	Pat Lynch	909/393-2186
Federation Delegate	Virgil Talbott	714/871-7900

### Committee Chairpersons

Anaheim Arts Council	Margaret Neeley	714/535-2030
Editor	Jenny Stavreva Kathy Clark	714/736-4345 714/639-9927
Historian	Beth Pelfrey	714/774-2754
Hospitality	Patricia Underwood	714/293-2940
Library	Maggie Vigil	714/288-2072
Membership	Kathy Clark	714/639-9927
Monthly Drawing	Anastacio O'Campo	714/490-0416
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
2007 Show	Betty Nelson	714/530-1365
Show Co-Chair	Kathy Clark	714/639-9927
Sunshine	Carlene Blake	714/549-0099
Veteran's Coordinator	Larry Richey	714/846-3573
Website	Steve Duncan	714/532-4703
Workshop	Herb Beckman	714/778-1496

## JULY EVENTS

- |    |        |  |
|----|--------|--|
| 10 | 7-9 pm | General Meeting  |
| 14 | 9 am   | Field Trip, Gold-Panning on the East Fork of the San Gabriel River |
| 25 | 7-8 pm | Board Meeting  |

“Colors of Light and Stone” the Expanded Gem Collection of Michael Scott at Bowers Museum located at 2002 North Main Street in Santa Ana. Check [www.bowers.org](http://www.bowers.org) for information regarding daily times and admission.

For more information about shows and events look up [www.cfmsinc.org](http://www.cfmsinc.org).

## JULY FIELD TRIP

SATURDAY, JULY 14, 2007

By Virgil Talbott

The July field trip will be Saturday, July 14, gold-panning on the east fork of the San Gabriel River in the San Gabriel Mountains. To get there from Orange County go to the 210 Fwy and take Hwy 39, Azusa Blvd. north. You will come to a Y; take the left road and follow it into the San Gabriel Cyn to East Fork Rd., turn right and follow it past Williams Camp and Oaks Picnic area. We will meet just up the road from Oaks Picnic area at 9:00 am. You can come later or earlier if you like. The distance is about 45 miles from Fullerton, an hour drive.

Bring something for lunch and other refreshments. Also bring drinking water. There are restrooms available. Dress for warm to hot and sun. Wear foot gear that can get wet or high enough to keep your feet dry. Expect to get wet-if it is hot-hot you will want to get wet. **THIS** is a **SWIFT WATER RIVER**, you should be able to **SWIM!!!** If not, consider wearing a PFD (personal flotation device or life jacket) if you plan on working in or near the water. The same goes for children.

Equipment: gold pan, classifier ¼-inch and/or ½-inch, shovel and/or 2-1/2 gallon bucket, small vial, sluice if you have one. Gold dredge o.k., too. I will be bringing my sluice and set it up as a community effort, those that help get their share of the gold. Keep your day job. If you need supplies, I suggest Pedersen's at 2521 N. Grand Ave. in Santa Ana (just off the 22 Fwy Glassel exit), phone 714-771-6463. If you have questions e-mail me at [virgiltalbott@adelphia.net](mailto:virgiltalbott@adelphia.net) or phone me at 714-871-7900.

## LAST MONTH'S PROGRAM

*By Walter Mroch*

Our scheduled presenter, Bob Burson, was out of town and not ready for the June Program so our First Vice President gave a new type of program – a quiz to test the audience's knowledge of things that a rockhound should know. The honor system was used and persons answering simply called out their names. Four prizes were awarded to the persons that answered the most number of questions correctly. Herb Beckman won first prize, a Topaz Mountain book which he donated to a new junior member of the club, Danny Jackson. The balance of prizes were thumbnail minerals (topaz, beryl, bixbyite) which went to Grant Miller, Bob Gilland and Al Conlon.

### **Searchers Meeting Quiz on Minerals/Gems/Collecting/Etc.**

- 1) What is the hardest gemstone?
- 2) Is calcite harder than rhodochrosite?
- 3) What element causes the color in rubies and emeralds?
- 4) Name two counties where garnets may be found in California.
- 5) What is the major element in lepidolite?
- 6) Name three colors of quartz.
- 7) What general class of mineral is garnet?
- 8) What is the name of the scale used to measure hardness?
- 9) What metal is extracted from rutile?
- 10) Name one state where one can find wulfenite.
- 11) How many carats are in 5 grams?
- 12) Name a single gemstone that shows two different colors?
- 13) What is the state gem of Utah?
- 14) On which continent does one find Tsumeb?
- 15) What process is used to bring out colors in gemstones?
- 16) Name two states where petrified wood can be found.

- 17) Name the two primary metals found in meteorites.
- 18) Name three classes of minerals.
- 19) What color is morion quartz?
- 20) What are two common colors in elbaite?

**Find the answers elsewhere in the newsletter.**

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

By Kathy Clark

Please welcome the newest members of the Searchers' family:

Johanna O'Connor (Jr. Member) Cavan O'Connor (Jr. Member) 1292 Veeh Drive Tustin, CA 92780 714—669-8149 <a href="mailto:joconnor@kfmengineering.com">joconnor@kfmengineering.com</a>	Stacy & Corby Jackson Danny Jackson (Jr. Member) 17330 San Mateo #1 Fountain Valley, CA 92708 714-791-0145 <a href="mailto:iluvmyhusb@aol.com">iluvmyhusb@aol.com</a>
Robert L. Piazza, Jr. 7822 Melrose Street Buena Park, CA 90621 714-523-5463	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Corrections:</u></b></p> Michael Herrick 4505 Calif. Ave. H504 Long Beach, CA 90817 562-422—1543



***Happy Birthday to all those Searchers' members who celebrate their birthdays in JULY!***

## **JULY'S PROGRAM**

by Kathy Clark

Our July program will be a powerpoint expose by Sharon and Robert Burson of their personal and group rockhounding field trips traveling through the western United States.

Sounds like fun! Maybe we will re-live some of the places we've been to before with our friends, but then again we may see something new that will demand a field trip. Come to the meeting July 10 and get out of the heat and let's enjoy ourselves.

### **IN REMEMBRANCE**

Our hearts go out to Skip Cone who lost his son Jonathan in a car accident in June.

### **SHOW REPORT**

By Betty Nelson

First, I want to thank all of the Show chairpeople who worked so hard and faithfully all year to make the 2007 Show a success. I especially want to thank my co-chair Kathy who was always right beside me getting things done. Walt was able to increase the number of dealers and worked hard to get variety. The dealers that I talked to were satisfied and said they planned to return next year. Our silent auction made a remarkable \$2,000 thanks to Norbert and Ana's hard work and year-long planning as well as the excellent items donated by members of our club. All of the grab bags were sold, although this was Chris's first show, and Kenny was a hard act to follow. The Wheel of Fortune, run by Jim and Ester, was especially successful. Beth and a small but faithful group of kitchen staff maintained our reputation for good food during the Show.

*[continues on the next page]*

**SHOW REPORT**

*[continues from the previous page]*

Larry's crew had a little extra work this year, and how about Burt's balloon animals? And those theme costumes she and Larry wore were something! Virgil's efforts to get the word out about our Show paid off. Steve's donated programs were very professional. Bob and Clare made sure we had demonstrators with a variety of skills. Clarke kept the kids happy making rings in children's jewelry. We even had a record number of new members sign up. As always, Herb took care of layout and our permit from the fire department. Pat L. was busy taking care of our money and Pat U. provided that good Friday night dinner for all of us. I apologize to Virgil and his hard working crew for not being able to get more members to help on Friday with setup and Sunday with tear down, and to Beth's crew for not having more help for them in the kitchen.

I especially want to thank those members who are there for us every year at every Show, and those new Searchers who pitched right in. To those members who didn't make it, we missed you, and we missed your help. I know that some of you had important commitments, and I thank you for letting me know in advance and for getting involved in pre-Show activities. For next year's Show I am asking that ALL our members mark May 2 thru 4 in red on their

2008 calendars NOW. Make the Searchers' Show your priority on that weekend. Spending a few hours helping out at our Show is a small price to pay to assure that the Searchers will continue as a club, with a place to meet, a workshop run by volunteers, field trips to remarkable locations, and interesting, informative programs. It also makes it possible for us to continue to contribute to our community, especially to kids and veterans. Our dues don't come close to covering these expenses. Our Show is what keeps the Searchers afloat. Running a versatile active club like ours does take money even though we are nonprofit. Again, thanks to all of you who worked at our Show for all your help, hard work, and enthusiasm.

I apologize for not thanking everyone sooner. Both Harry and I have had medical problems that have kept us "out of commission" since the show and we are just now getting back to normal.

There is good news. We have a new great grandson, Malachae born July 1<sup>st</sup>, and we have just learned that another great grandchild is on the way. Also a grandson has just announced his engagement. It will be another busy year.

Quiz Answers:

1) diamond, 2) rhodochrosite, 3) chromium, 4) Inyo, Kern, San Diego, Riverside, etc....., 5) lithium, 6) clear, rose, smoky, morion, 7) silicate or metamorphic, 8) Mohs, 9) titanium, 10) Arizona, California, Utah, 11) 25, 12) tanzanite, tourmaline, 13) topaz, 14) Africa, 15) heat treating, 16) Arizona, California, Nevada, Washington, 17) nickel and iron, 18) sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic, 19) black, 20) pink, green

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## THINGS TO DO THIS SUMMER

Lecture & Film Series for **Gems! Colors of Light and Stone** at Bowers Museum located at 2002 North Main Street in Santa Ana. Check [www.bowers.org](http://www.bowers.org) for daily times and admission.

Friday, July 13 1:30 PM

**FILM: GEMSTONES OF AMERICA**

Journey through the richest mines in the United States and through the vaults and high security room of the Gem and Mineral Collection at the Smithsonian Institution. Admission: Free with paid admission

Sunday, July 15 1:30 PM

**LECTURE: JADE, THE STONE OF HEAVEN**

Fred Ward, National Geographic photographer and founder and owner of Gem Book Publishers, discusses the reverential passion that China has shown for jade for more than a thousand years and locations throughout the world where this unrivaled stone is found. Admission: Members and Students \$8; General \$10

Friday, July 17 1:30 PM

**FILM: DIAMONDS – OBJECTS OF BEAUTY, OBJECTS OF GREED**

Visit a world of ancient myths and magic, human adventure and tales of amazing wealth and power to understand the vibrant, alluring and dangerous world of diamonds. Admission: Free with paid admission

Sunday, July 29 1:30 PM

**LECTURE: WINDOWS IN THE EARTH – THE MICROWORLD OF GEMS**

John Koivula, senior gemologist for GIA and author of more than 50 articles on gemstone inclusions and microscopy, reveals the terrestrial origins, the mystery of the geologic processes, and the microscopic beauty of some of nature's most intriguing and treasured offerings. Admission: Members \$8; General \$10

Saturday, August 4 1:30 PM

**LECTURE: DEVELOPMENTS IN THE GEMSTONE TRADE**

Via stunning images, gemological photojournalist Robert Weldon, G. G., Manager of Photography & Visual Communications with the Gemological Institute of America discusses the development of fair business practices in the mining and trading of gemstones around the world. Weldon has authored hundreds of articles and his work has taken him to the world's most important and exotic gem localities. Admission: Members \$8; General \$10

Friday, August 10 1:30 PM

**FILM: SPLENDID STONES**

Join National Geographic on a journey around the globe to discover the origins of these most coveted gems. Admission: Free with paid admission

Friday, August 24 1:30 PM

**FILM: GEMSTONES OF AMERICA**

Journey through the richest mines in the United States and through the vaults and high security room of the Smithsonian Institution. Admission: Free with paid admission

Thank you, Searcher member Susan Hansen for sharing with us the information regarding the Bowers Museum.



# JULY CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5 6-10pm Lapidary, wirewrapping	6	7 3-7 pm Lapidary, silversmithing
8	9	10 7-9 pm General Meeting	11	12 6-10pm Lapidary, wire-wrapping	13	14 3-7 pm Lapidary, silversmithing Field Trip.
15	16	17	18	19 6-10 pm Lapidary, wire-wrapping	20	21 3-7 pm Lapidary, silversmithing
22	23	24	25 7-8 pm Board Meeting	26 6-10pm Lapidary, Wire-- wrapping	27	28 3-7 pm Lapidary, silversmithing
29	30	31				

## SEARCHERS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Kathy Clark  
18661 Silver Maple Way  
North Tustin, CA 92705-2144  
hanky1panky3@yahoo.com  
714/639-9927

*Please Print!*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name 1: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Jr. Member 1: \_\_\_\_\_ 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Employer: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Birthday: Month \_\_ Day \_\_ Birthday: Month \_\_ Day \_\_

Individual: \$20  
 Couple: \$25  
 Junior members (17 and under): \$2

Please indicate the club activities that interest you:  
 Minerology ( ) Geology ( ) Lapidary ( ) Fossils ( ) Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 Meet other Searchers and volunteer to help a committee(s):  
 Anaheim Arts Council ( ) Historian ( ) Library ( )  
 Website ( ) Membership ( ) Monthly Drawing ( )  
 Phone Comm. ( ) RSN Editor ( ) Sunshine ( )  
 Veteran's Workshop ( ) Hospitality ( ) Workshop ( )  
 Rock'n'Kids ( ) Annual Show ( ) Silent Auction ( )



Jenny Stavreva & Kathy Clark, *Editors*  
18661 Silver Maple Way  
North Tustin, CA 92705-2144



# The Rock Slab News

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## JULY BIRTHSTONE

### RUBY

The gemstone ruby is the red variety of the mineral corundum, the second hardest natural mineral known to mankind. All colors of corundum other than red or white are called sapphire. The red color in ruby is caused by trace amounts of the element chromium. The best shade of red for ruby is often given the name “pigeon blood red,” but ruby can be any shade of red up to almost pink. Oriented rutile crystal inclusions cause a six-rayed-star light effect (called asterism) to form the popular Star Ruby. Rubies come from all over the world but good gemstones are found in Thailand, India, Madagascar, Zimbabwe, North Carolina in the U.S., Afghanistan, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Kenya, Tanzania, Kampuchea, and perhaps most notably, Burma. Like most gemstones from the antiquities, Ruby is one of the Biblestones. In Exodus, the Breastplate of Aaron is described as containing a “sardius,” the ancient name for Ruby. Rubies have a famous place in science – the first lasers were made from artificial ruby crystals. They still are used for this purpose although other materials offer improved efficiency. Some ruby crystals show the fluorescence (actually very short term phosphorescence) that makes a laser possible.