

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: Inez Flaugh
- Monthly Drawing:
- Sunshine:
- Veteran Liaison :
- Charles W.
- Website: Steve Duncan
- Workshop: Adrian Callard

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The Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Anaheim CA

VOLUME 57, ISSUE 10



OCTOBER 2020

The President's Message

Happy October Searchers,

I hope this message finds everyone staying healthy and doing well. As of this writing, the Anaheim Community Center has still not set a date for their reopening. For the foreseeable future, we have been educated on the importance to continue to maintain a 6-foot physical distance from others, wear a face covering when in public and avoiding large group events. We do this not only to protect our own health but the health and life of our loved ones as well as other people we may come in contact with.



Thanks to Sharon Burson and Margaret Hogarth, we enjoyed our third video general meeting via Zoom software on September 8. We had the pleasure of seeing and hearing Robert Burson who gave a great talk and demonstration on "windowing" various types of lapidary rough using an angle grinder. Robert is a virtual encyclopedia of knowledge on rock collecting and the lapidary arts. I really enjoyed Robert's talk. Thank you for sharing your knowledge with us Robert. We also were joined on our Zoom call by two new members to the club; Aurora Vidin and Greg Albert. Both are interested in learning more about lapidary and utilizing the shop when it reopens. Welcome Aurora and Greg!

The Board has continued to meet via Zoom web conferencing software. During our September Board Meeting, we discussed planning for a future field trip when the weather finally cools off. Andrew is working on the details and there will be more specifics available soon. We all must accept that COVID continues to be a real threat to our health and things like face coverings, avoiding large group gatherings and social distancing will continue to be part of our in person interactions for a while to come. When we do hold a field trip, it will look a little different than it has in the past – we probably will not promote a pot luck dinner and we will need everyone's cooperation with face coverings and social distancing. If we don't feel we can hold a field trip safely, or if attendees refuse to follow the rules, we will have no choice but to suspend club trips again. Let's please show each other mutual respect by following the rules.

Lastly, and this is **IMPORTANT**, please vote on the proposed Bylaw and Standing Rule changes. Ballots have been distributed by email and are also available on the club website. Only Members are eligible to vote – that means you must have paid your 2020 dues to be eligible to vote. We have until Monday October 12 to vote by email, phone or mail – but your vote must be received by no later than October 12. A second ballot for proposed 2021 club officers will be distributed in the coming weeks.

That's all for now Searchers. Stay healthy and stay tuned for more details on the club's reopening!



***Please remember to save slab donations for the vets.**

Searchers Club Meetings and Presenters

Board Meeting- October 6th

Member Meeting– October 13th ZOOM meeting

NOTE: The latest is that the Community Center will be closed through August.

Searchers Board Meeting – September

The Searchers board met via Zoom on September 1 at 6:30 pm. Items discussed included:

The board decided that the changes to the Bylaws and Standing Rules/Job Duties documents are ready to send to the members for voting, since no one sent any feedback. Members can vote in October whether to accept the changes, which include adding new board members for our Workshop and our Show. If the changes are approved, members will have a month to nominate candidates for all board positions (old and new) before the board elections in November.

We decided to set up multiple ways for members to vote in order to reach as many members as possible, assuming their contact information is up to date. Members can vote by email, mail, or phone. One vote for each adult member who's paid their 2020 dues (or who pay their 2020 dues at the time they vote).

It's still too hot for field trips, but it should start cooling down when we move into fall. Andrew is researching whether group field trips will be possible with the pandemic restrictions and, if so, what precautions will be required.

We're thinking about making a video series with some of our expert members showing how to create their beautiful rock products. More details will be available later .

Searchers General Meeting – September

The Searchers general meeting was held on Zoom on September 8. At least 21 households attended.

The speaker was our own Robert Burson, who gave a presentation on "Determine the Potential of a Rock and Prepare it for Cutting". Highlights included:

The first step is cleaning the rock. A high-pressure water sprayer works well for many rocks. Next you can use a lime-away product and a steel brush.

After the rock is clean, you can "skin the rock" to create one or more flat spots or windows that give hints of what the inside of the rock looks like. Robert says his new angle grinder does a really good job.

When you identify where you want to make your first cut, you can use a Sharpie to mark the location around the rock, which helps you line it up the way you want in the slab saw.

Robert's presentation also showed pictures of some of his favorite rocks in his backyard, and where he got them.

**For field trip
information**

contact:

Andrew

Bloxom Field

Trips,

Searchers

Gem and

Mineral

Society,

andrew.bloxo

m@gmail.com

October Meeting Topic

Our October guest speaker will be Brad Smith. The topic will be **Choosing the Best Tool Bits for the Freedom or Dremel.**

Brad Smith will share his 24 years of experience as a studio jeweler and adult-ed teacher to explain what each type of tool bit is good for, which can save time, and illustrate how the right bit can improve the quality of your work.

The presentation will help you to choose the best bit for each task. It includes a slide show plus a live demo for demonstrations and an opportunity for questions.

Smith is a studio jeweler, lapidary, author, and jewelry instructor. He enjoys rockhounding, is a long-time member of the Culver City Rock Club, and is the author of five jewelry technique books

Searchers will have the July **general meeting by Zoom, October 13th 2020 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/>



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"



South Cady Field Trip

October 31, 2020

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

Leader: Andrew Bloxom (vehicle: Black 2002 Toyota Tacoma)

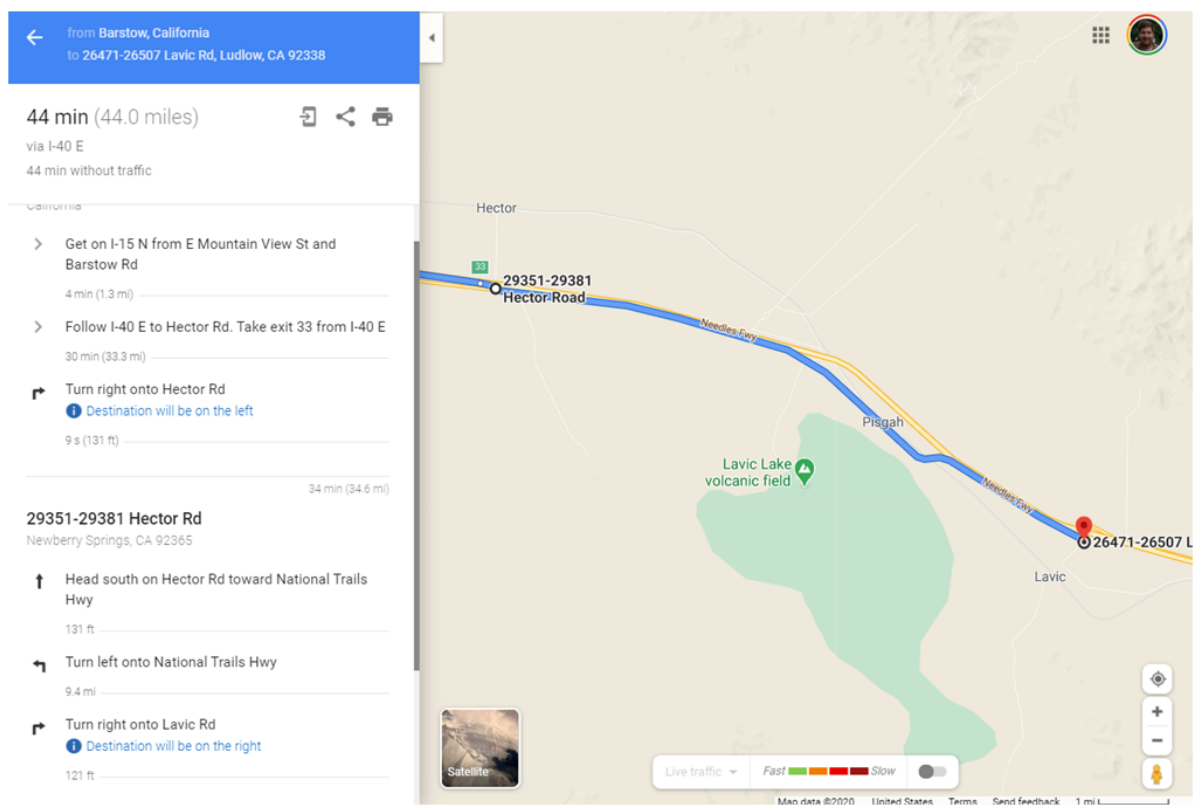
Cell# (571)-217-9536 (****Please text message only during business hours*)

Email: Andrew.Bloxom@gmail.com

The Anaheim Searchers will be to the South Cady Mountains region of I-40 on Halloween for a day of collecting moss agate and jasp-agates in an array of spooky red hues that would make even Dracula's eyes widen. We'll collect at 2-3 different collecting locations. This area has been a popular rockhounding locale for decades but still produces some fine quality material. The trails here are rather rough, and 4x4 is recommended, but some 2wd high clearance vehicles could be acceptable. If you want to stick around for Sunday, I will be camping and would be interested to explore some new territory where 4x4 is required. This location is slightly remote (not sure what food Ludlow has open right now) so it makes sense to pack food for lunch and bring plenty of water.

This will be our first trip since COVID-19 began. The Searcher's board feels that our hobby in particular is well suited to social distancing and nothing about being in the desert makes it difficult to follow the current guidelines and restrictions. With that said, we'll forgo some of the typical field trip traditions like a group camp and potluck dinner around the bonfire. If you'd like to camp amongst yourselves, feel free to do so, we're just going to keep the club out of that planning. Please bring a mask and wear it if/when we are in a close group talking. We should be fortunate to be able to resume our group activity in this way and make sure we do everything possible to make it successful and recurrent.

Directions from Barstow, CA (see attached image). We will meet at Lavic Rd., right at the sharp turn where Rt-66 turns left over I-40 toward Sleeping Beauty Mountain.



Searchers 2021 Slate!

The Searchers Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the 2021 slate of Board members:

President: Kim Strange

1st VP, Programs: Sharon Burson

2nd VP, Field Trips, Andrew Bloxum

Secretary: Aurora Vidin

Treasurer: Sue Gevedon

CFMS Representative: Charles Walker

And if the By-law and Standing Rule proposals are successful:

Shop Chair: Adrian Callard

Show Chair: Margaret Hogarth

Our Board of Directors ballot is coming soon; be sure to vote!

Thank you,

Robert Burson

Jim Peterson

Margaret Hogarth



New Officer Bios

Since we've been in lockdown, tell us about your favorite rock.

Did you find it? If so, where? What have you done/hope to do with it?

When working with rocks, what colors do you prefer?

Do you make things with rocks? If so, what?

What other things would you like the club to know about you?

SHOW CHAIR Margaret Hogarth

I've spent most of my lockdown rock time tumbling and sorting rocks for grab bags, prizes and future projects. The material is donated to the club for tumbling, including trimmings, and material I find. There are some fine rocks in the donations, and my most recent favorite is a piece of rutulated quartz the size of a Brazil nut. The rutulations are thick and shiny. I am saving it for a prize for the show. It is well known that I have a terrible weakness for green rocks; the search is endless. In terms of crafting, I have been stocking up on things for the Searchers to sell at the show: wind chimes, bells, and suncatchers made with small pieces of tumbled glass. I'm also working on larger tumbled spirit rocks in silky gathered treasure bags. I've hung some early wind chimes in the trees by the sidewalk for all of the neighborhood walkers to enjoy. I am eagerly looking forward to our next field trips; I collect myself, and find great solace, in nature.

Margaret Hogarth

President, Kim Strange:

1. What is your favorite color rock? That is a hard question to answer - I have so many "favorites" - if I had to pick two, I'd say the deep blues and greens of Azurite and Malachite. There is just something about the strong vibrant colors that appeal to me.
2. What is your favorite rock-related activity? That is easy, field collecting
3. Tell us about your largest yard rock. It's not huge, but I have a large piece of Gold ore bearing Quartz that I collected from the Virginia Dale Mine outside 29 Palms many years ago. It's probably 25 pounds or so.
4. What is the best rock you've ever found? As a child, my Uncle took me on a field collecting trip to New Mexico where we collected at the Blanchard Mine. I have several Fluorites, Linarites and Barites that we collected on that trip that have great sentimental value. Much later in life (but still a very long time ago) my family and I stopped at Crystal Hill in La Paz County Arizona and I had the good fortune to hit a pocket of clear beautifully terminated Quartz crystals. I probably took out 60 or 70 specimens, many doubly terminated thumbnails, from that pocket. What a thrill that was.
5. Tell us about a rock that got away. I tried to find the Barite locality in Palos Verdes but could never find it.

1st VP, Programs: Sharon Burson

Since we've been in lockdown, tell us about your favorite rock. **My favorite rock is the rock on my left hand (my wedding ring)**

Did you find it? **No, I found Robert. Our first rock trip was to Indian Pass at 106 degrees. Crazy, huh.** If so, where? What have you done/hope to do with it? **Wear it for the rest of my life and cherish all it represents.**

When working with rocks, what colors do you prefer?

Do you make things with rocks? **That is debatable.** If so, what? **Rock gardens, stepping stones and display rocks in curio cabinets in our home.**

What other things would you like the club to know about you? **I like to travel to places I haven't been before (don't like to go the same place repeatedly), invite family and friends over to share a meal/BBQ, talk rock, dance, sing karaoke or watch a good movie.**

2nd VP, Field Trips: Andrew Bloxum

My favorite rock is actually a piece of shale with two trilobites from the Ordovician period which caused me to get into rockhounding. It sits on our mantle.

I am drawn to red stones because of their natural vibrance.

I make cabochons, polished specimens, knife blade handles, and tumbled stones.

I love being out in the desert with the prospect of that next big find always on my mind. Looking forward to spending time out there and trying to spread the joy of our hobby the best I can

Secretary: Aurora Vidin

Hello, I am **Aurora**, a new member of the Searchers. I recently moved to the Southern California area from North Carolina, just in time to quarantine. I am originally from the NW, so it is great to be back on the West Coast. I found Pala Chief mine shortly after moving here and I've been on a few digs there and found a beautiful pink tourmaline that is one of my favorite rocks. Pinks, purples, blues are my favorite colors but I just love anything unique. I love rocks in their raw form, but want to learn how to bring the beauty to life through the lapidary processes.

Professionally, I am a business consultant for Point B, and have spent many years working in Finance technology, Healthcare and telecommunications. My daughter is my best dig partner and we have a small rock shop on Etsy, Lady-Like Rocks.

I am looking forward to supporting the club however I can, learning and exploring new areas as well as meeting new friends with similar interests. Thanks!

CFMS Representative Charles Walker:

1. My favorite color rock is orangish...like Wingate Pass plume agate.
2. What is your favorite rock-related activity? Cutting rock slabs..."slabbin' "
3. My largest size yard rock is over 600 lbs of AZ rainbow petrified wood
4. What is the best rock you've ever found? it is a stinking Water petrified oak round... a very nice piece.
5. A rock that got away was a 300 lb petrified wood stump with old termite damage filled with barite crystals.
6. What is your wish for the Searchers? More field trips to the Cady Mts. and Hauser Geo beds.



Show News

Take advantage of this time at home to create some prizes for the show. We need prizes large and small, for young and old, for girls and boys. If we have a surplus we can always use them next year! Or, take a day to go through some rock stash and set aside quality material for the Silent Auction, the show's main income-generating event. We are a non-profit and everyone benefits when we share!

Keep on rocking,
Margaret Hogarth

TravelStorysGPS

TravelStorysGPS is a Wyoming based, woman-owned company that developed a mobile app (TravelStorys) that delivers podcast-like audio content about places and travel routes. The audio launches automatically as travelers approach sites of interest without the need for cell service or Wi-Fi. The audio is accompanied by images, videos and weblinks. Tour topics are wide ranging, but some rock/nature-related tours include: Devils Tower Area, Grand Teton National Park, Trona Trail, Yellowstone National Park, [Kiawah Island's] Beach Scavenger Hunt, and Lander Trails. The historic tours look so interesting!

We can prepare for our next road trip in our armchairs! See the site, tours and download the app at <https://www.travelstorys.com/tours/>.

History and Meaning of Halloween

The tradition originated with the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain, when people would light bonfires and wear costumes to ward off ghosts. In the eighth century, Pope Gregory III designated November 1 as a time to honor all saints. Soon, All Saints Day incorporated some of the traditions of Samhain. The evening before was known as All Hallows Eve, and later Halloween. Over time, Halloween evolved into a day of activities like trick-or-treating, carving jack-o-lanterns, festive gatherings, donning costumes and eating treats.



Upcoming 2020 CFMS Gem Shows

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

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

October 10 – 11; TRONA, CA

Searles Lake Gem and Mineral Society
13337 Main St., Trona
Gem-O-Rama Hours: Sat 7:30 am – 5 pm,
Sun 7:30 am – 3 pm
Contact: Jim & Bonnie Fairchild, (760) 372-5356
email: slgms@iwvisp.com
Web site: <http://www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub/>

October 11: FALLBROOK, CA

Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society
123 W Alvarado St
Hours: 9-4
Contact: Michelle Shearer; 760-805-2184
Email: info@fgms.org
Website: www.fgms.org

NOTE this show is on

October 17-18: SANTA ROSA, CA

Santa Rosa Gem & Mineral Society
1351 Maple Ave., Santa Rosa, CA 95404
Hours: Sat 10 am – 6 pm, Sun 10 am – 5 pm
Contact: 1 707 849-9551, santarosarockshow@hotmail.com
Website: <http://SRMSG.org>
Flyer: [agate-one.jpg](#)

October 24 – 25: SACRAMENTO, CA

Sacramento Gem & Mineral Society
Scottish Rites Center
6151 H Street, Sacramento, CA 95819-2604
84th Annual Sacramento Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show
Hours: Sat 10 am – 5 pm, Sun 10 am – 4 pm
Contact: (916) 662-5819, gemshow@sacramentomineralsociety.org
Web site: <http://sacramentomineralsociety.org>
Show web site: <http://sacgemshow.com>

November 14 – 15: YUBA CITY

Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society
Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds
442 Franklin Hall, Yuba City, CA 95991
Hours: Sat. 10 am – 5 pm, Sun. 10 am – 4 pm
Contact: (916) 677-6696, horita@comcast.net
Show web site: <http://sutterbuttesgemmin.org>

November 21-22; ANAHEIM

American Opal Society
Business Expo Center, 1960 S. Anaheim Way, Anaheim 92805
Adults – \$5, Students and children under age 15 are free; Free parking
Hours: Sat 10 am – 5 pm, Sun 10 am – 4 pm
Contact: (714) 501-9959, aos.editor02@gmail.com
Website: <http://opalsociety.org>
Show Flyer: [2020Flyer.jpg](#)

Shows that are a go

VISTA GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY

Oct. 2-4 at the Tractor and Steam Engine Museum in Vista, Ca.

The Hesperia show at the Mining Supply and Rock shop (parking lot) show is a go, Nov. 21-22. This is the last year for this show, as the shop is being sold.



October Birthstone: Opal and Tourmaline



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

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Anaheim, Ca. 92803

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American Federation of Mineralogical Societies



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