

4-1994



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

April 30th the Searchers will open the doors on our 35th annual "Gem Round-up". As in the past years our show is an excellent opportunity for the membership to present our hobby to the public and without fail we have met the challenge in a fashion we can all be proud to be a part of.

Club members are reminded time is running out on donation ticket sales. All sign up sheets will be available this evening and should be filled. Don't forget to wear your name tag to the show set-up as well as to the show. Name tags are required if you are in the building after the show is closed Sunday.

Our 1994 roster was published and distributed last month. I want to extend a hearty welcome to our new members and encourage you to get involved in the activities of the club. The officers of the Searchers are here to serve you the member. If you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to contact one of us

Jim Williamson

## Not just any rocks for sale...

A 104-lb. piece of quartz, formerly on loan to the Smithsonian Institution's Museum of Natural History for more than a decade, will be among those offered for sale by the Defense National Stockpile Center at the 1994 Gem, Mineral, Fossil and Jewelry Show in Tucson, Ariz.

Marking a departure from past practices, DNSC contracting officers will be on-hand to write and process orders on-the-spot. "DNSC is in the process of changing its business practices in order to better accommodate customer needs," said Richard J. Connelly, DNSC administrator, "and this is one of the new approaches we are taking in response to feedback we've received from our customers."

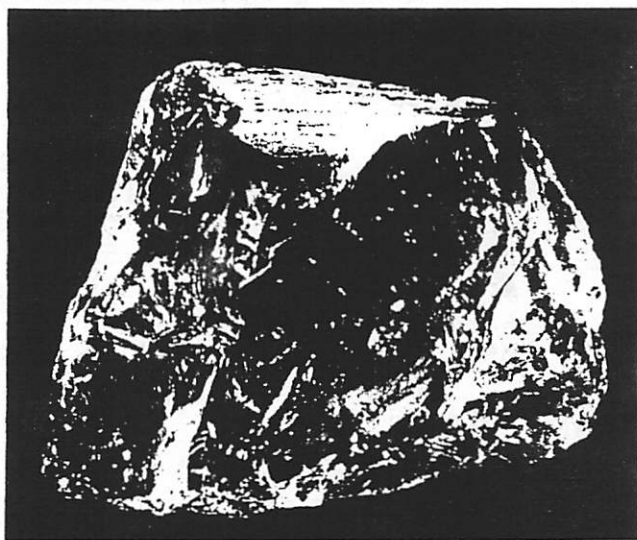
The 104-lb. champagne-colored crystal is one of 9,968 pieces currently owned by DNSC, which has been authorized by the U.S. Congress to sell 800,000 pounds of quartz during fiscal year 1994. Quartz was originally stockpiled by DNSC during and after World War II for optical and

electronic uses. DNSC-owned quartz was purchased from Brazil in the 1940s and 1950s. Since that time, however, natural quartz has been supplanted by cultured quartz.

Currently, DNSC is offering for sale grade 1 and grade 2, faced or unfaced crystals weighing from 200 to 10,000+ grams. Grade 1 crystals are free from all defects such as optical twinning, inclusions, needles, color and Tyndall effect that can be ordinarily detected in an oil bath when examined with polarized light and with moderate arc-lamp illumination.

Grade 2 crystals may contain inclusions such as all types of hard and soft blue needles; color, including color phantoms; Tyndall effect; and scattered fine or small inclusions—specks or points—in the usable portion when examined with moderate arc-lamp illumination.

Faced crystals, 200 grams or larger,



The 104-pound champagne-colored piece of quartz will be on sale along with almost 10,000 other pieces of quartz.

have at least one identifiable natural face, a side (prism) or a cap (pyramid), with an area three-fourths square inch or larger.

Stockpile quartz crystals are coded according to weight, grade, usability and crystal structure. A code such as S-16-F signifies a 500 to 700 gram Grade 1 crystal with a usability of 60-100 percent that is a faced crystal.●

-Beth Offenbacher, public affairs specialist, DLA Office of Public Affairs

## A "Thank You" from Milly Arvanites

I'd like to express my appreciation and thanks to all my "Searcher" friends who sent cards and expressed their kind thoughts on the passing of my mom. Milly

## Orange County Fair

A discussion was held at the March meeting regarding having a "Searcher" day at the Orange County Fair. Enough interest was evidenced to go ahead with the plan. July 16, the middle Saturday of the Fair's run, has been selected.

We will need volunteers for hosts to cover the entire day. It has always been a fun job and made even better by spending the hours after your shift enjoying other aspects of the fair. Among all the activities that promote our club, this should reach the most people on a personal communication level. The fair has a large attendance.

## CAUTION TO MEMBERS

Please do not give copies of our Roster to non-members. When telephone numbers and addresses are recorded for our use, we are appreciative of the information, but many of our members do not wish this data given out indiscriminately.

I'm sure we can all appreciate this fact, and help protect each other's privacy.

From the Board

## Club Calendar

April 12	General Meeting
April 16 - 17	Field Trip, Opal Mountain, See map
April 20	7:00 PM Show Meeting - Neeley's
April 23	Imagination Celebration
April 27	Board Meeting
APRIL 29, 30 MAY 1	SEARCHER SHOW DATES
May 10	General Meeting

## AREA SHOWS

Apr 16, 17	Hawthorne, CA Northrop Gem & Mineral Club Northrop (MRC) Clubhouse 12329 Crenshaw Blvd Gate 16 Sat 10-6, Sun. 10-5
Apr 15-17	Escondido, CA Palomar Gem and Mineral Club Vineyard Shopping Center 1511 E. Valley Parkway Fri., Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5

MEMBERSHIP:

WE DIDN'T HAVE ANY NEW MEMBERS JOIN AT OUR LAST MEETING, BUT WE HAVE THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WHO HAVE RE-JOINED FOR THIS YEAR. PLEASE ADD THEM TO YOUR 94 MEMBERSHIP ROSTER:

ANDERSON, ANDY  
6591 CHAPMAN AVENUE  
GARDEN GROVE, CALIF. 92645  
(714) 892-1962

McCAGUE, GARY A.  
1717 EAST BIRCH APT. M204  
BREA, CALIF. 92621  
(714) 990-3970

MAYER, TOBY A.  
14551 JEFFERSON STREET  
MIDWAY CITY, CALIF. 92655-1031  
(714) 895-3950

SHEPARD, GEORGE R.  
C/O FORESTER HAVEN  
28334 CHURCHILL SMITH LANE  
MT. DORA, FLORIDA 32757-9301

STEWART, WALTER H. C.B. TERMINAL TINKER  
220 6TH STREET  
HUNTINGTON BEACH, CALIF. 92648  
(714) 895-2876

Two new members joined through the mail:

John Carson  
1429 East Albion Ln.  
Orange, CA 92666  
714/639-7222

jimmy Pelfrey  
4525 E. Hartford Ave.  
Phoenix, AZ 85032  
1-602/278-8597

Now we have 143 members!

OUR BULLELTIN:

As most of you know, Marge Jordan edited our bulletin for several years. I agreed to take it for a year so Marge could have a much needed vacation. Unfortunately, she spent most of the year enduring her hip problem. However, she is ready to take this newspaper back. Please send information for the May issue to Marge Jordan, 12161 Bartlett Street, Garden Grove, CA 92645. I'm sorry, Marge, that your "vacation" wasn't a real vacation after all, but am really happy to see you well again.

Jeanne Howe

ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

Harry Nelson's cast is off his finger. Rockhounding is safer than dealing with horses, Harry.

Floyd Neeley's eye is improving, after cataract surgery.

IN SYMPATHY

On Friday, March 18, 1944, a special friend of the Searchers passed away, Mary E. Blood, sister of Marge Husby.

Over the past 20 years, Mary had accompanied Marge and Norm on many field trips. She also attended our meetings when in the area.

She especially enjoyed our shows and being an avid shopper, the dealers were happy to see her.

We the Searchers, extend our deepest Sympathy to Marge on her loss. We will miss Mary too.

## SHOW TALK

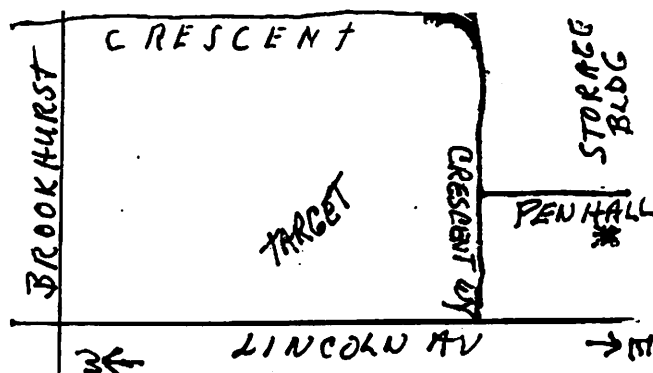
The March 16th show meeting presented a picture of an activity well under way. We have 32 cases signed up, with room for several more.

It was reported that the Center has added more tables to their inventory so we can rent fewer from an outside agency.

Parking permits will be required for any overnight parking of vehicles. Floyd will need the color, description, and license number of each vehicle or trailer by April 13.

The committee will purchase some large cooking vessels to be used in the kitchen. We have been in need of these for a number of years and have gotten by with equipment loaned by various members.

Anyone willing to assist with moving show paraphernalia from storage, please come to the storage facility on Thursday at five o'clock.



Betty Henderson has agreed to take charge of the plant sale at the show. She will appreciate any of you who have plants to contribute getting in touch with her. Also if you will require pick up of your plants, give her timely notice. Thanks.

Please remember that for set-up and tear down Searchers will be required to wear their membership badges. We hope you will wear them all the time, but the hours when the show is not open, they will be required for entry.

The final show meeting for this year will be April 20th at the Neeley's, 7:00 P.M.

THE IMAGINATION CELEBRATION will be held in Anaheim for the second year on April 23. This is a day long festival with the purpose of interesting children and young people in the Arts.

The Searchers participated last year with a booth of rocks, rough and polished, for the kids to look at and handle, and some small polished rocks for souvenirs. Those who participated found the experience rewarding, and because their date falls just before our show, we were able to garner some extra publicity. Margaret Neeley will coordinate.

SHOW TIME - YESTERDAY AND TODAY

by Jan Gillette, Historian, with an assist  
from Marie Cole

On the eve of our annual GEM AND MINERAL SHOW, I thought it might be fun to look back in time.

Our first show was held in 1960 at the Optimist Club in Anaheim. At that time there were a few displays, and only one dealer.

The show has grown every year since. Every one goes on like a well oiled machine regardless of what has gone on behind the scenes.

One year at the Retail Clerks we set up a table with literature and a petition against the BLM closing of the desert. We were asked to "Cease and Desist". We did.

Some of you will remember the day Fergie was working the swap table, when a young man liked one of the stones so much he wanted to take it outside in the sun for a better view. That's the last time Fergie saw the stone or the young man.

Then there was the time Dennis VanKampen purchased a beautiful fire agate only to lose it. He spent most of Saturday looking, but not finding it. On Sunday night, during tear down of the show, there was his stone. It had rolled under a dealer's table. A very elated man was Dennis.

Marie Cole will tell you where not to get sand to put in your case. It seems like the sand from her yard was the litter box the neighborhood cats preferred. Needless to say, she had to clean the case and start over again.

One year it poured down rain, and at the Retail Clerks, our kitchen and serving areas were on the patio. In order to set up inside, we had to obtain special permission, and the floor plan had to be shuffled around. When necessary the Searchers can move and get things done in a hurry.

An energetic foursome, Marie, Marge, Doris, and Joyce made 50 lbs. of ground beef into meat balls. Can you picture mounds of meatballs? They were good at the Friday Night Dinner, all day Saturday and Sunday too. They were still pushing meatballs to take home on Sunday night.

Another year we celebrated Hal's birthday with a cake decorated in his image. He was so overcome with emotion he was speechless. That was once in a lifetime! Love ya, Hal.

There was a time when we used to take flyers to all the motels close to our show in Buena Park. Millie offered a motel information on our show, and invited their guests to attend. The management informed her that people who frequented their motel had no interest in "Rocks & Gems."

SHOW TIME Con't

Our BIG SHOW was Fantasy of Gems held in 1972 at the Anaheim Convention Center. It was a combination California and American Federation show. The committee of 27 Searchers worked for three years to present this show. The time spent proved to be very rewarding. The attendance for the three day show was over 28,000. We had 101 dealers, some are still with us. A total of 540 cases were shown by our members and Federation members from across the country.

One of our guest displays was the head of Christ, carved from one single crystal. The display had an appraised value of \$750,000.00. A guard was on duty at all times.

We were the first in Southern California to display the "Moom Rock." It was quite a responsibility for Jessie Vance who was in charge of it. Each night she tucked it in the vault, and each morning she got it out again. Jessie had a guard with her at all times, also we had to have one standing in front of the case.

Some of the things we offered our guests: A daily field trip for which we provided buses to the collection areas which were mostly in the desert. We also provided a camping area at the Orange County Fair grounds and ran a shuttle bus back and forth every hour for three days.

The icing on the cake was our first prize donation ticket, a new 18 foot travel trailer. Luckily the winner lived in this area, although we had a lot of offers to deliver it across country.

This show is still considered to be one of the best shows ever.

When our Searcher show moved to the Brookhurst Center, Ray and Ester, one of our dealers, parked their RV in the parking lot, only to be rudely awakened at 4 AM by a sprinkler aimed at their trailer.

In 1975 the kitchen had a real mystery--Who scorched the hot dogs? We still don't know!

Ten years ago we celebrated our 25th Anniversary. A big reunion was held and past members were invited to attend. We had 100 plus Searchers from Southern California, Northern California, Arizona and Oklahoma. It was great seeing our old friends again.

The last time Merle was show chairman he forgot to go to the Anaheim Citu Hall to get all the licenses and permits that were needed to open the show. After a mad rush on Friday morning, he was able to get everything under control.

Can't forget the time the Friday Night Dinner was stew. Janet spent all day Thursday cooking stew, but when she got ready to serve on Friday night, the stew had fermented. The garbage disposal ate well.

This year's Show Chairman is well known for the tears he shed while chopping onions in the kitchen. Soon after that show he was presented with a pregnant onion plant. We've always thought a lot of Floyd.

## SHOW TIME concluded

One of the tragic things that happened was the time Jay showed his opals. The night guards neglected to turn the case lights off and Jay lost three beautiful opals.

For all the new members, and those not so new, the Searchers show is one of the best. We have a good reputation and a big following. Our dealers are old friends. We have the best. Every facet of the hobby will be covered.

Just a note to all. This year's show committee still needs help in many areas. As you can see from the past, it can be fun, frustrating at times, but very rewarding. See Herb for more donation award tickets. This is our big money maker of the year.

Come join us, have fun and support your club. Come help with setup, put your case in and enjoy dinner with us on Friday April 29th. Lola is fixing a great menu. Stop by for a grab bag or magazines. The craft ladies have many handcrafted things to offer. Don't let the kids forget the wheel of fortune, or the chance to make their own piece of jewelry

## FROM THE CFMS NEWSLETTER

## Fortune Found

A mysterious piece of 15th century jewelry found by a treasure hunter who at first believed it to be worthless, sold recently in London for 2 million dollars.

Experts called the diamond-shaped gold and sapphire lozenge "the most important addition to Britain's known medieval jewelry since World War II."

Antique shop owner Ted Seaton found what is now called the Middleham Jewel while using a metal detector in a field. Seaton thought it was a worthless lady's powder compact when he dug it from the earth near Middleham Castle.

Some romantic speculation said the jewel might have belonged to King Richard III who owned Middleham. Seaton will share the millions with the owner of the land where it was found, the tenant who farms the land and two of Seaton's friends who were with him on the night of his discovery.

from the Memphis Commercial Appeal via  
Pegmatite 2/94

## UUR PROGRAMS

This evening Mr. Warren Link is going to tell us about Rock Pictures With Expression. Some members may remember Mr. Link from programs he did for us in the past. His previous visits have been very stimulating and were well received and thoroughly enjoyed. We look forward to another rewarding evening.

In May, Earl and Kathryn Burch will speak on Stones and their Superstitions. Superstitions are always a good topic, and may give us luncheon conversation for some time to come.



THE MARCH VICTORVILLE TAILGATE FIELD TRIP.

SINCE JAY & MARIE DIDN'T SHOW UP, MILLY & I TOOK OVER THE FIELD TRIP FOR MARCH (AHEM!). WE GOT THERE BEFORE NOON ON THURSDAY, WITH THE COAN'S ARRIVING SOON AFTER. THE FIRST THING I DID WAS ROPE OFF A VERY LARGE AREA FOR THE "SEARCHERS" WHO WE KNEW WERE COMING OUT. I SURE GOT A LOT OF DIRTY LOOKS, BUT HEY! WE GOT THERE FIRST.

MORE SEARCHERS STARTED COMING IN ON FRIDAY AND GETTING SET UP. BEFORE IT WAS ALL OVER WE HAD 16 STAY OVERS, 10 DAY VISITORS AND 3 EX-SEARCHER MEMBERS. NO USE TELLING YOU WHO THE STAYOVERS WERE, AS THEY KNOW WHO THEY ARE. THE DAY VISITORS WERE JIM AND JOAN EVERITT, JOYCE WHALIN, BOBBIE WAYNE, MIKE AND MICHELLE LEE, LOLA & TONY TAPIA AND THEIR GRANDSON TONY, GREG PELKA AND NANCY KRAMP WITH HER NEW DOG TRONA.

WE WERE HAPPY TO SEE 2 OF OUR EX-SEARCHER MEMBERS BOB AND FAITH HARPER, WHO ARE NOW ACTIVE MEMBERS IN THE VICTOR VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB. UNFORTUNATELY HOOTER WASN'T WITH THEM AS HE IS NOW IN DOGGIE HEAVEN. WAS GOOD TO SEE NORM HICKMAN AGAIN. HE WAS JUST DOWN THE ROAD A PIECE SELLING. HIS WIFE SUE WAS SELLING AT A SHOW IN PASADENA.

ALL IN ALL, WEATHER WAS GOOD EXCEPT FOR THE WIND THAT CAME UP. WE DIDN'T HAVE ANY CAMPFIRE. IT SEEMED LIKE THERE WAS A VERY LARGE CROWD THERE THIS YEAR ESPECIALLY ON SATURDAY. IT APPEARS THAT THIS SHOW MAY GET BIGGER AND BIGGER AS THE YEARS GO BY. WE ALL SET OUT OUR THINGS TO SELL, AND I HAD ABOUT 10 WINDCHIMES ON A RACK AND YOU SHOULD HAVE HEARD THE RACKET FOR THREE DAYS. MY SELLING POINT WAS "DRIVE YOUR NEIGHBORS CRAZY, BUY A WINDCHIME". I DID SELL QUITE A FEW AND DIDN'T LOSE ANY TO THE WIND. ONLY ONE SLAB FELL DOWN, BUT DIDN'T BREAK.

ONE NIGHT WE ALL SAT OUT WITH OUR BYOB AND SNACKS AND HAD A GOOD TIME TALKING ABOUT EVERYTHING. GEORGE MITCHUM & MARGE JORDAN WERE OUT THERE WITH US AND IT WAS GOOD TO SEE HER OUT ON A FIELD TRIP AGAIN. SHE EVEN SAID SHE DROVE THE RIG. GOOD GOING MARGE!

MOST OF US STAYED OVER UNTIL MONDAY. IT WAS A GOOD FIELD TRIP AS WE ALL ENJOYED OURSELVES AND WERE SORRY TO LEAVE THE AREA.

GEORGE & MILLY

An Opportunity/Invitation

rec'd from Gary McCague

This is to inform any interested member of your club that a Jewelry and Gemstone class starting on Tuesday April 26th at the Walker Jr. High School, 8132 Walker St., Room 43, LaPalma. (use south gate to enter campus) This is a eight week course specializing in lost wax casting, cutting of stones, fabrication, and gemstone identification. The \$55 fee covers the lab and use of all equipment including grinders, saws, and centrifugal casters. Come either Tuesday or Thursday evening from 7 to 10 P.M. Walter Johnson, a Searchers member, who has over 26 years of experience teaching jewelry will be the instructor. For further information phone (714) 533-1287.

# SEARCHERS' GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

## OPAL MOUNTAIN/INSCRIPTION CANYON FIELD TRIP

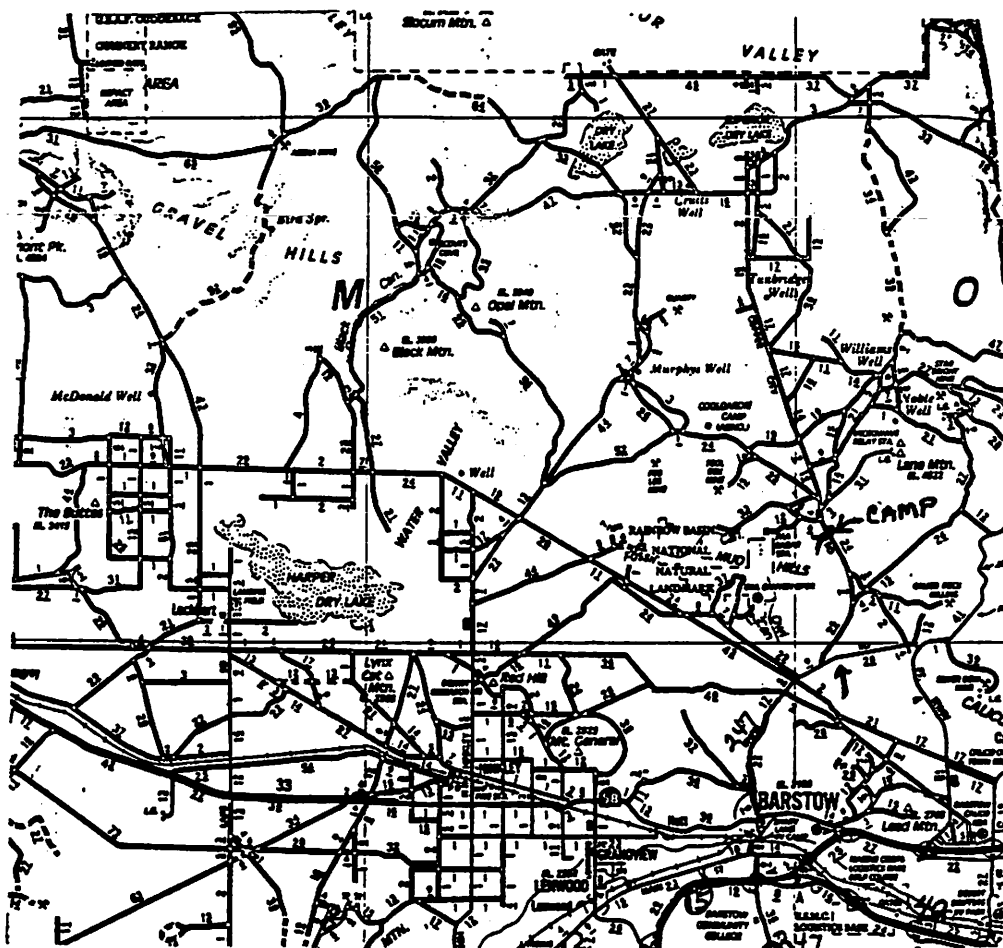
April 16 - 17, 1994

Take I-15 to Barstow RR (Barstow). Turn left; go to Main Street and turn left. At first street, turn right and go to Irwin Rd. Follow Irwin Road to Copper City Road (about 6 miles from town). Turn left one mile past Owl Canyon/Rainbow Basin sign. Go about 5-1/2 miles down Copper City Road (dirt road). Camp is on left side of Copper City Road.

What to Bring: Food, water, wood and essentials.

What to Collect: Green, orange, white and cherry common opals, apache tears, and banded rhyolite.

For more details, refer to Mary F. Strong's *Desert Gem Trails*. Trip will include a hike/drive to two petroglyph locations. Primitive campground. Graded dirt road to campsite; 4 X 4 or high-clearance vehicles recommended to dig sites.



Searchers' Gem & Mineral Society assumes no responsibility for injuries or property damage due to accidents, carelessness or Acts of God. Searchers and their guests assume all risks during club activities.