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- **Website:** Workshop: Adrian Callard
- **Rock "N" Kids:** Norbert Bernhardt

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POINTS OF INTEREST

FIELD TRIPS

GENERAL MEETING

SPEAKERS

The Rock Slab News

The Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Anaheim CA

VOLUME 53, ISSUE 2



FEBRUARY 2016

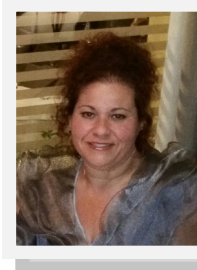
The President's Message

Hello Searchers and Visitors!

I'm Heather Jaeckels, and I'm pleased to support The Searchers as the newly elected President of the 2016 Board. Now that I've jumped in, I have much to learn and a lot of work ahead, as well as big shoes to fill in our last President, Jay Erb.

Last month we strayed from our normal meeting format, foregoing a speaker for an auction with a variety of goodies up for bid. Many of us went home with some new treasures and The Club benefitted by \$535. This month we are fortunate to have Jim Bowden speaking on flint knapping. It promises to be an interesting evening.

Going forward this year we have some great speakers, field trips, and workshop improvements planned. We have new and different areas where we can grow, as well as room to improve on what we're already doing so well. I'm confident we can reach new heights while remaining true to the original core of the Searchers organization.



Membership Scholarship Field Work Lapidary Workshop
Gem and Mineral Shows Youth and Community Outreach

Searchers is your club. Your opinion matters. I invite you to share your ideas on these and other topics. There is so much we can accomplish. I'm excited to work with you. I look forward to what we can achieve together!

Heather Jaeckels

2016 President, Searchers Gem and Mineral Society



See Pages 2 & 3 for information on upcoming field trip and trip report.

Field Trips

DATE	LEADER	LOCATION	STATUS
2/20-21/2016	Robert Burson	Sperry wash/Baker	planned

Field Trip: Multi-club Field Trip

Sperry Wash/Baker

February 20,21, 2016



For field trip information

contact: Robert

Burson V.P. Field

Trips, Searchers

Gem and Mineral

Society,

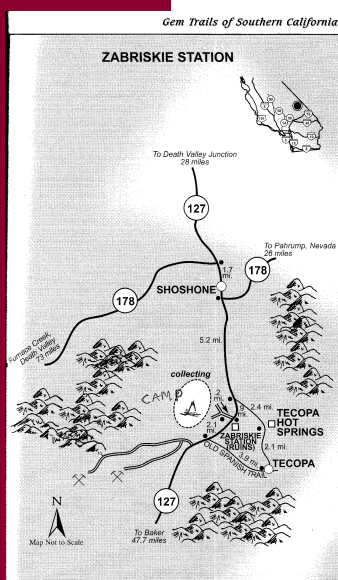
bursonrocks@veriz

on.net

Approximate distance from the Anaheim area is 170 miles. Travel time approximately 3.5 hours. We rally in Baker at the Denny's parking lot at 9:00 a.m. We will wait until 9:30 for all to show up. At 9:30 we leave on Hwy 126 north bound. This is the south entrance to Death Valley. We will turn on the Hwy. to Tecopa Hot Springs. We will head east to the Talc Mine Road.

Sperry Wash is an incredible outside museum, it contains a tremendous quantity of petrified organic materials. Petrified woods, palm, cycad, and variety of roots and twigs. This was riparian environment, probably a glaciated fed swamp. The thickness of the materials are in some places ten feet thick. Colors of material are gray, orange, red, and pink. Just down the road is the south entrance to Death Valley centered around Tecopa Hot Springs, which gives us the opportunity take a warm mineral bath. This might be a consideration if the majority wishes. To the south end our collecting area is the Amargosa River. There are pools that are inviting deep enough for a few hearty individuals. Of course you will have to share tadpoles and pupfish, but this can be very delightful on a warm day. The road in to the south end of Sperry Wash is challenging as well as scenic. It is hard to imagine that this was once a paved road in the 30s. Ruins of mining operations and camping during the depression consisted many of the man made sights. Those looking for gold and silver settled for borates, talc and gypsum. Best to enter the canyon from the east side. Road conditions have yet to be determined. High clearance a must. Usually corduroy, stock cars questionable. Will scout first week in February .

This is an environmentally sensitive area. No driving is permitted off road because of its Wilderness status. Walking is required. I suggest you wear good walking shoes, and bring a backpack with the necessary provisions, rock pick, spray bottle, hat, sunscreen, sunglasses, snacks and plenty of water. There are no restroom facilities in this area. This area is bad land topography. This area resembles many areas of the southwest where petrified wood is found. One collecting location on the old Spanish trail is a Cambrian Trilobite location, which is a reasonable deposit for really old fossils. These bugs are about the same age as the Marble Mountains, trilobites, Cambrian. Geological note: the Dumont Sand Dunes are not only fairly spectacular but they are composed of white gypsum, which makes this a rare feature. I hope you will find this a fascinating area. China Ranch is an oasis date farm which will be on the docket. Try the cookies and date shakes, a tasty choice. Don't forget a trip to the hot springs, feels great on those sore muscles. Oh yes we do the Saturday night potluck. It truly has the characteristics of a great field trip. Other locations for collecting are Tecopa Hot Springs for fire opal reeds, somewhat rare but well worth it. Kingston Mountain for amethyst, Halloran Springs for turquoise, but not this weekend.



Field Trip Continued

A few motels are as follows:

Bun Boy Motel
72130 Baker Blvd.
Baker, CA
760-733-4363

Holiday Inn Express
430 Main Street
Baker, Ca
Hotel Front Desk
1-225-771-1123

Will's Fargo Motel
72252 Baker Blvd.
Baker, Ca
760-733-4477

Tecopa Hot Spings Resort
860 Tecopa, Ca. 92389
E-mail tecopahotspring.org

If you need additional information feel free to call Robert and Sharon Burson at 562-860-5938.

Field trip status

Although we try not to, occasionally we need to change or cancel a field trip. When we do we always send an email blast, and we try to talk about it in the monthly meeting if possible. Most importantly we update the News Flash section on the front page of the website. Please check the News Flash section of our website before you leave on any field trip to avoid any sur-

Trip Report: Quartzsite

Trip leader Norbert Bernhardt could not make the trip to Quartzsite because of RV problems, so Jim Peterson led a one day field trip on the 17th to look for Jasper that is red, black and white. 6 people went along for the fun. Much of the time was digging out one big rock but fun was had by all. Everyone of course, spent at least one day shopping at the Pow Wow and desert Gardens, the rockhounds version of a mega mall.



February Speaker Description: The guy who gave us ancient tools and meteorites returns to talk about the art of one of his great passions: flint knapping. For those who have seen him the past, you can recall the vast array of items he sells that many include beautiful, hand-knapped arrowheads and other flint-knapped beauties. Part artist and part historian, and a rockhound all the way, be prepared for a new realm of fun.

Club Meeting Activity

DATE	PRESENTER	SUBJECT
2-9-2016	Jim Bowden	Art of Flint Knapping
3-8-2016	Gregg Bunch	Lab-created Quartz 2.0
4-26-2016 ?	Robert Burson	Rock Swap Overview: Elements of Field Trips

For a more complete listing of shows go to web-site:

www.cfmsinc.org

Upcoming 2016 CFMS Gem Shows

2016

February 12 - 21: INDIO, CA San Geronio Mineral & Gem Society Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival 82-503 Highway 111 Hours: 10 - 10 daily Contact: Bert Grisham, (915) 849-1674 Email: bert67@verizon.net

February 20 - 21: ANTIOCH, CA Antioch Gem Club Contra Costa County Fairgrounds 1201 West 10th Street Hours: 10 - 5 daily Contact: Brenda Miguel, (925) 301-6957 Email: brenda.miguel@yahoo.com Website: www.antiochlapidaryclub.com

February 27 - 28: VALLEJO, CA Vallejo Gem & Mineral Society Solano County Fairgrounds, Mc Cormack Hall 900 Fairgrounds Drive Hours: 10 - 5 daily Contact: Dan Wolke, 707 334-2950 Email: dncwolke@sbcglobal.net Website: www.vjgems.org

March 4 - 6: NEWARK, CA Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley Newark Pavilion 6430 Thornton Avenue Hours: Fri & Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5 Contact: Cathy Miller, (510) 887-9007 Email: showchair@mgscv.org Website: www.mgscv.org

March 5 - 6: ARCADIA, CA Monrovia Rockhounds Los Angeles Arboretum-Ayres Hall 301 Baldwin Avenue Hours: 9:00 - 4:30 daily Contact: Jo Anna Ritchey, (626) 358-1624, Email: joan-naritchey@gmail.com Website: www.Moroks.com

March 5 - 6: VENTURA, CA Ventura Gem & Mineral Society Ventura County Fairgrounds 10 West Harbor Blvd. Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4 Contact: Show Chair, (805) 312-8467 Email: info@VGMS.org Website: www.vgms.org

March 12 - 13: SAN MARINO, CA Pasadena Lapidary Society San Marino Masonic Cen-

ter 3130 Huntington Drive Hours: Sat 10 - 6, Sun 10 - 5 Contact: Marcia Goetz, (626) 260-7239 Email: joen-mar1@verizon.net Website: www.pasadenalapidarysociety.org

March 12 - 13: SPRECKELS, CA, Spreckel's Veterans Hall 5th & Llano Streets Hours: 10 - 5 daily Contact: Karin Salomon, (831) 375-5233 Email: kcbakes27@yahoo.com Website: www.salinassrockandgem.com

March 12 - 13: TURLOCK, CA Mother Lode Mineral Society, Modesto Stanislaus County Fairgrounds 900 North Broadway Hours: 10 - 5 daily Contacts: Bud & Terry McMillin, (209) 524-3494 Email: Bud.mcmillin.b7yj@statefarm.com Website: www.motherlodemineralsociety.com

March 19 - 20: LEMOORE, CA Lemoore Gem & Mineral Society Lemoore Trinity Hall 470 Champion Street Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 4 Contact: Christopher Wertinberger, (559) 309-3433 Email: kim-morrell@hotmail.com

March 26 - 27: 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: robin-ski@yahoo.com Website: www.calaverasgemandmineral.org

March 26 - 27: ROSEVILLE, CA Roseville Rock Rollers Gem & Mineral Society Placer County Fairgrounds 800 All American Blvd (off Washington) Hours: Sat 10 - 5 daily Contact: Gloria Marie, (916) 216-1114 Email: gloriarosevillerockrollers@gmail.com Website: www.rockrollers.com

APRIL

April 2 - 3: CHICO, CA Paradise Gem & Mineral Society Silver Dollar Fairgrounds 2357 Fair Street Hours: 10 - 5 daily Contact: Kevin Wright, (530) 534-8364 Website: http://pgmclub.wix.com/paradise-gem-and-mineral-club

April 2 - 3: TORRANCE, CA South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society, Palos Verdes Ken Miller Recreation Center 3341 Torrance Blvd (entrance on Madrona Ave) Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4 Contact: Larry Hoskinson / Leslie Neff, (310) 318-2170 Email: lesneff@aol.com
April 8 - 10: VISTA, CA Vista Gem & Mineral Society Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum 2040 North Santa Fe Avenue Hours: 9 - 5 daily Contact: Ray Pearce, (760) 726-7570 Email: raysrocks@cox.net

April 9 - 10: MARIPOSA, CA Mariposa Gem & Mineral Society Mariposa County Fairgrounds 5005 Fairgrounds Road (south of Mariposa on Hwy 49) Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 4 Contact: Martin Fodin, (209) 742-4036 Email: martin@safarigold.com Website: www.camineralmuseum.com

April 16 - 17: SAN JOSE, CA Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society Santa Clara County Fairgrounds 334 Tully Road Hours: 10 - 5 daily Contact: June Harris, (408) 265-1422 Email: info@scvgms.org Website: www.scvgms.org

April 16 - 17: THOUSAND OAKS, CA Conejo Gem & Mineral Club Borchard Park Community Center 190 Reino Road at Borchard Road Hours: 10 - 5 daily Contact: Robert Sankovich, (805) 494-7734 Email:

February Birthstone - Amethyst



In the Field: Flash Flood Warning

It is the cool time of the year and a great time to get out in the desert for some good hunting. Rock hunting in the desert can bring a hazard most people do not often give much thought to. Most of the time the desert is dry and even warm in the winter. Winter rains are usually light, but there are times when it can really pour down in an area. Summer brings the most severe flash floods. It is good to always be aware of the possibility of a flash flood when out hunting those elusive treasures.

Here are a few facts from Wikipedia.

The United States National Weather Service gives the advice "Turn Around, Don't Drown" for flash floods; that is, it recommends that people get out of the area of a flash flood, rather than trying to cross it. Many people tend to underestimate the dangers of flash floods. What makes flash floods most dangerous is their sudden nature and fast-moving water. A vehicle provides little to no protection against being swept away; it may make people overconfident and less likely to avoid the flash flood. More than half of the fatalities attributed to flash floods are people swept away in vehicles when trying to cross flooded intersections. As little as 2 feet (0.61 m) of water is enough to carry away most SUV-sized vehicles. The U.S. National Weather Service reported in 2005 that, using a national 30-year average, more people die yearly in floods, 127 on average, than by lightning, tornadoes, or hurricanes.

In deserts, flash floods can be particularly deadly for several reasons. First, storms in arid regions are infrequent, but they can deliver an enormous amount of water in a very short time. Second, these rains often fall on poorly absorbent and often clay-like soil, which greatly increase the amount of runoff that rivers and other water channels have to handle. These regions tend not to have the infrastructure that wetter regions have to divert water from structures and roads, such as storm drains, culverts, and retention basins, either because of sparse population, poverty, or because residents believe the risk by flash floods is not high enough to justify the expense. In fact, in some areas, desert roads frequently cross dry river and creek beds without bridges. From the driver's perspective, there may be clear weather, when unexpectedly a river forms ahead of or around the vehicle in a matter of seconds. Finally, the lack of regular rain to clear water channels may cause flash floods in deserts to be headed by large amounts of debris, such as rocks, branches, and logs.

Deep slot canyons can be especially dangerous to hikers as they may be flooded by a storm that occurs on a mesa miles away, sweeps through the canyon, and makes it difficult to climb up and out of the way to avoid the flood. And remember, do not camp in dry stream beds or other low lying areas.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flash_flood



Searchers Show Information

Searcher show meeting schedule:

February 6, 2016
 March 5, 2016
 April 2, 2016
 1:00-2:30 p.m., 2016

Meetings will be held at Veronica's house; please contact Margaret for directions

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



Grab Bag Stuffing Party!

Sunday, March 20, 2016, 10-2, we will be having a grab bag stuffing party. We will have a taco bar potluck. Please bring your polished, pretty or interesting small items and we will form a series of tables and stuff grab bags. Please bring any spare 5-gallon buckets to store the stuffed bags. It will be held on Karen Kremer's driveway rain or shine (we will have canopies and folding tables). karenandkay@aol.com, 714-639-8082

Truck + Driver Needed for the Searchers Show

We need a driver and a truck able to pull a 6x12 trailer. The Searchers will book and pay for the trailer rental. Normally we load the trailer at the storage unit on Thursday evening (May 5, 2016), and deliver to the Brookhurst Center on Friday at 10:00 a.m. (May 6, 2016), and then load at the Brookhurst Center on Sunday (May 8, 2016) evening and deliver to the new storage unit.

Since we are planning on changing our storage units, we may have some extra trips during the weekend. Please call Margaret if you are interested.

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

How Can You Help the Show?

We need children's prizes for the Minor Miner sand sifting game and for the grab bags with prize tickets. We need door prizes for hourly drawings. If you are making something, make an extra one for the show! We need polished, pretty or interesting small rock-related items for the grab bags. We have jobs for everyone with any kind of abilities. Be sure to sign up on the volunteer sheets at the general meetings.

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, 6 – 10 PM, free wire-wrap class.

Saturday, 3 – 7 PM Free silver-smithing class 1st, 2nd, 3rd Saturdays (schedule varies).

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



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