

SEARCHERS BOARD AND CHAIRPERSONS

- Slab Editor: Linda Horn
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- President: Robin Larzelere
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- 1st VP: Brian Lamberson
- 2nd VP: Bill Hogarth, Bob Rubino
- Secretary: Jamie-Cassidy Curtis
- Treasurer: Gwen Sharp
- Workshop Chair: Caleb Guyer
- Show Chair: Veronica Purpura & Yuval Dohn
- Webmaster:
- Federation Delegate: Nancy Bird
- Director: M.C. Kao
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POINTS OF INTEREST

FIELD TRIPS

GENERAL MEETING

SPEAKERS

The Rock Slab News

VOLUME 62, ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2025



The Searchers next meeting:
Dec 8th 2025 6:30p.m. Doors open at 6:00 p.m.

The President's Message

Hello Searchers:

2026 Membership Dues: keep the \$35 per person membership fee, but raising the additional persons in the house hold to \$20 each. **Vote of the membership on this increase will be held Dec. 9.**

Membership Dues for 2026 are due January 1, 2026 Payment can be made by cash or check at a meeting or Workshop, or pay with Zelle (anaheimsearchers@gmail.com Chase Bank)



White Elephant Secret Santa Gift Exchange: Dec. 9, What is this? Please bring a wrapped gift valued at \$10 or more, pick up a number when dropping it off at the gift table. We start after eating, the first number called gets to select from the entire table of gifts. The recipient opens the gift in front of the group, then, the next gift opener can either open a gift, or take the first gift. Only one gift steal per gift.



Sign up online www.searchersrocks.org with a Potluck dish (serves 6) for Dec. 9

Faceting Classes: Searchers will be offering faceting classes with Art Ravenscroft starting in January. Art will attend the Dec. 9 potluck, if you would like to meet him and ask questions. Thank you to Bob Gilliland, Paul Kosmala, Chrystal Vasquez, Panhia Vang, and John Kruceck for their work on restoring a donated faceting machine.

Irvine Boy Scout Troop 691 visited Workshop to have their Hauser Geode Bed rocks cut. Thank you Randy Barnes for cutting for the Scouts at the trim saw.

Robin Larzelere, President

Welcome new members:
Michele Lopez, Darlene Yoo



Searchers Club Meetings

Board Meeting- **Dec 2nd at 6:30 P.M.**

Member Meeting- **Dec, 9th Doors open at 6:00 PM Meeting at 6:30 PM**

Searchers Gem & Mineral Society

Minutes from General Meeting, October 14, 2025

Meeting location: Downtown Anaheim Community Center

Call to Order: The meeting began at 6:30 PM by Robin Larzelere.

Cleaning equipment: Bob Rubino and Robin met at the storage unit on Sept 11 to clean more donated equipment. Another day is planned for October 11; volunteers will be appreciated.

Miss Anaheim Beautiful scholarship event: Robin and Yuval attended last Saturday. The Miss Anaheim ambassadors have helped at our show for years.

Nominations for next year's Searchers board: members can make more nominations tonight if they wish. The election will be held in November. The current slate is:

President: Robin Larzelere

1st VP Programs: Brian Lamberson

2nd VP Field Trips: Bill Hogarth and Bob Rubino (sharing the position)

Secretary: Jamie Cassidy-Curtis

Treasurer: Gwen Sharp

CFMS: Nancy Bird

Workshop: Caleb Guyer

Show: Veronica Purpura and Yuval Dohn (sharing the position)

Director: McCando (MC) Kao

Faceting class: we're planning to hold a faceting class led by Art Ravenscroft. We have a location, and are working on the rest of the details. More information will be available later.

Searchers Juniors: we're planning workshop events for junior members, funded by several award donations and with material donated by Searchers members. More details will be available soon.

Treasurer's report : the CD we invested in matures on October 17. We currently have a budget deficit due to having to pay the full Brookhurst Community Center fees for next year's show (no grant this time), but will make up for it when the vendor fees come in. The workshop's income is currently ahead of its projected income.

Jade Day and Opal Show: coming up this weekend. For our Jade Day, because the speaker's room only holds 18 people, we'll have multiple presentations if needed.

Field Trips: Burro Creek is coming up the first weekend in November. Other clubs, the SCFM and Yucaipa club, also have field trips soon. More information is in the Slab and on our website.

Rockhound of the Year: Nancy Bird presented the Rockhound of the Year certificate and pins to Debbie and Bob Tanner.

Walt Lombardo help: Karen Kramer asked for volunteers to help Walt move books from his shop into storage on Sunday, October 26. Contact Karen if you want to help.

Meeting adjourned: The meeting was adjourned at 8:00PM.

This month was our annual Members Show and Sell, so there was no speaker this month.

Searcher Presenters and News



Christmas Party And Gift Exchange

Dec. 9th

Potluck



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 \$65 for 5 gallons to members. \$75 for non-members. Jim Peterson 714 904-8573

Call 714 904-8573 and make a check payable to "Searchers"

Searchers Field Trip December 6-7, 2025

Location: Castle Butte

Leaders: Bob Rubino and Bill Hogarth

Join us on Sat-Sun, December 6th and 7th, 2025 as we explore the Castle Butte area near Boron. We will be exploring the Castle Butte area with petrified palm, agate, jasper and perhaps some bloodstone. The Sierra Palona Travertine mine will be on the itinerary this time if there is enough interest. We might also add the Borax Mine Museum. While any vehicle can reach the camping area, the rockhounding will require high clearance vehicles, 4x4 recommended. For any who don't camp, this is a great day trip or lodging is available in Boron or Barstow.

Saturday and Sunday, meet at 8:30 a.m. at our campsite on Clay Mine Road, where the road makes a 90 degree turn

(Searchers and friends). Our campsite is marked with a star on the map, just before Aerial Acres. All vehicles can reach our meeting spot. This is a dry camping site without any amenities. Please bring all food and water that you may need and dress in layers appropriate for the weather.

On Sunday, meet at 8:30 a.m. at our campsite on Clay Mine Road. We will be exploring nearby jasper-agate sites.

Kids. We would like to encourage kids to participate in these field trips. If you plan to bring your kids (or grand-kids), please let us know so we can tailor part of the trip for them.

Recommended equipment: Rock pick, gloves and spray bottle.

Directions: Proceed to the 15 freeway north, past the Cajon Pass. Take exit 141 to Highway 395 north. Proceed to Kramer Junction. Take Highway 58 west towards Mojave. Take exit 188, Clay Mine Road, turn right. Proceed about 5 miles and look for the Searchers signs. We will be camping off of Clay Mine Road, before Aerial Acres, where the road makes a 90 degree turn. Our campsite is marked with a star on the map. Allow 2-1/2 hours from Anaheim; it is about 130 miles.

If you plan to attend, please contact: Bob Rubino; brubino54@gmail.com, 714-504-4518 or Bill Hogarth; whogarth@gmail.com, 909-264-1122. Text or call.

There will be a potluck on Saturday night, campfire will be allowed if the winds are low.



Burro Creek Field Trip Report

Hello fellow Searchers and Rock Hound friends.

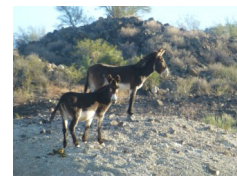
Today is Friday, November 7th....we start our journey from our dry campsite from a dirt road 2 miles past the 'Nothing' sign off the 93 hwy. We ventured forward about 4 miles to a fork (turn left) through a small scenic canyon, then another fork (go left) past 4 cattle guards, then finally across Burro Creek (mostly dry). As we came out of the creek, there was a 'Clay Hills Restoration' area sign and an area on the left which was an abundant agate area with some diggings. Further up and around the bend is another much larger area to the right of beautiful brachiated jasper agate of tan and multi pastelite colors continuing up and becoming more colorful as you walked further away from the road.

Saturday, our journey took a different turn, turning right @ the 2nd fork, a sharp turn up away from the creek.....past the Bentonite mine (on the right), which was not active and had abundant salicious material (waste) from altered volcanic ash turned into clay. Further down the road we turned right into a dry gully away from the road into an area with abundant calcedony lace jasper agate. We had 10 vehicles and 15 people present in a challenging route of dry washes. Again, next stop further down the dirt road following Burro Creek; we came to an area where the Lavender agate has been found. My second visit and a vigorous search by all availed little but finally 15 feet from the road, a small nodule poking through the dirt revealed a large agate filled rock with lavender presence. Alva noted that lower area probably held many similar lavender agates covered with sediment up ahead. On the way back we became busy at a creek crossing with silica calcedony agate grey and white. A large 600 # protruding agatey rock became the focus of our 'rock team' for removal....with Virgil and Val determined to knock this piece out of its bedrock....we were successful....a great team effort... this is the same 'rhino horn' we tried to get out in March ...amazing !!! Unfortunately Val needed a rescue as her truck got stuck in a large rut, thanks to Michael (QR&M club) and some fellow 4byers.

Sunday.... Michael led a group out toward the Baghdad mine (airport view is an amazing view of the pit) area looking for bumpy jasper and dendritic agate. Two special stop for petro glyphs, and an unusual Sa-



For field trip
information
contact:
Bob Rubino
and Bill
Hogarth



Upcoming Field Trips

Dates*	Field Trip Name/Location	Leaders	Notes
December 6-7, 2025	Castle Butte, Sierra Pelona Claim, Aerial Acres/Boron, CA	Bob Rubino, Bill Hogarth	Sierra Pelona travertine is in a surface seam that requires digging for larger pieces. Jasper and Jasp-agate sites will also be visited.
January 21-25, 2026	Quartzite, Pow Wow field trips, AZ	Quartzite club members	Trips to local collection sites are conducted by Quartzite Club.
February 22-22, 2026	Turtle Mountains, Vidal, CA	Bob Rubino, Bill Hogarth	Chalcedony roses
March 21-22, 2026	Sperry Wash, Tonopah, CA	Bob Rubino, Bill Hogarth	
April 11-12, 2026	Mineola Road, Mule Canyon, north of Barstow, CA	Bob Rubino, Bill Hogarth	Several spots near Calico. Agates and jaspers
May 16-17, 2026	Lavie Siding, South Cadys, Hector Hills, Ludlow, CA	Bob Rubino, Bill Hogarth	All surface collecting, Jaspers and agates.
June 6-7, 2026	Greenhorn Mountains, Lake Isabella, CA	Bob Rubino, Bill Hogarth	
July			
August			
September 12-13, 2026	Quartz points, Big Bear, CA	Bob Rubino, Bill Hogarth	
October 3-4, 2026	Rainbow Ledge, Ridgecrest, CA	Bob Rubino, Bill Hogarth	
November 7-8, 2026	Buffington Pockets, NV	Bob Rubino, Bill Hogarth	
December 5-6, 2026	Bird's Eye Rhyolite, Johnson Valley, CA	Bob Rubino, Bill Hogarth	

*Dates and locations are planned to the best of our abilities. Dates and locations may change with weather or other conditions.

58th Annual Quartzsite POWWOW
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FREE Parking - FREE Admission

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Space reservation and additional information:
(928) 927-6325
QIAarizona.org
e-mail: PowWow@QIAarizona.org

CFMS November 8, 2025 Club Directors' Meeting

Wyndam Hotel, Visalia

Robin Larzelere attended as alternate for CFMS Director Nancy Bird.



May 2026 The CFMS Directors' meeting will be held by zoom.

Meeting documents will be sent electronically for this meeting, and all future directors' meetings.

Sept. 18, 19 and Sept. 20, 2026 The Reno Gem and Mineral Society will host the 2026 CFMS Show and the CFMS in-person

directors' meeting during their Annual Show. Friday, Sept. 18, Sat. Sept. 19 and Sunday Sept. 20 at the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno, Nevada

The \$80,000 Dietrick Endowment Fund will be donated to two, earth science endowment funds. UC Berkeley and Stanford University are the designated recipient colleges.

New clubs applying for membership in CFMS may submit electronically now, rather than snail mail.

Call for CFMS Scholarship Honoree – deadline for submitting candidate from clubs is January 15, 2026. If selected, the Honoree can direct where the CFMS Scholarship will be given (undergraduate student in an earth sciences program.)

Currently, CFMS Assets are: \$1,069,372. Unrestricted assets total: \$313,899 CFMS can approve and fund programs suggested by the member clubs, such as a scholarship for lapidary arts.

Madison Vasques, Searcher, was elected Treasurer of CFMS. Congratulations, Madison!

Camp Paradise 2025: 131 Students, 14 teachers attended. 19 from So. Cal. For the 2026 Camp Paradise: \$660 a week covers classes, room and board, registration opens in March 2026

Robin Larzelere presented a possible venue for a Southern California "urban" lapidary camp at La Sierra University in Riverside in the Spring of 2027. This camp will have off-site RV/camping at a nearby regional park, a hotel within walking distance, and lunch provided to attendees. CFMS will run the camp, handling the money and marketing. The local clubs will be approached to provide saws and genie grinding machines.

CFMS Junior Achievement Award – 12 to 18 yr. olds who excel in four areas can submit their statement to CFMS. \$100 awarded, deadline to submit, March 15, 2026

CFMS dues and Insurance are the same as 2025. \$10 per Searcher is sent to CFMS for 2026.

Gem Hill in Rosamond is now closed to rock collecting.

No BLM work has been done this year on Chuckwalla or the Mojave National Trails Monument designations.

Free **SEARCHERS** *Gratis*

65TH ANNUAL GEM, MINERAL & JEWELRY SHOW

Saturday, **April 25th, 2026** / 10am - 5pm

Sunday, **April 26th, 2026** / 10am - 4:30pm

Photo courtesy of
Veronica Purpura
of Zincite crystal
from Poland

BROOKHURST COMMUNITY CENTER
2271 W. CRESCENT AVE, ANAHEIM, CA
www.searchersrocks.org

Upcoming 2026 CFMS Gem Shows

2026- Shows

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

www.cfmsinc.org

January 17-18, 2026, Exeter, CA
Tule Gem and Mineral Society
Exeter Mineral Building, 324 N. Kaweah Ave., Exeter, CA
Hours: Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM, Sunday 10 AM – 4 PM
2026 Gemboree-o Rock and Mineral

Show. Food and snacks. Free admission and parking.

Contact: ebcalpoly@aol.com
Website: <http://tulegem.com>

February 28-March 1, 2026 – Vallejo, CA

Vallejo Gem and Mineral Society
McCormic Hall, 900 Fairgrounds Drive (Solano County Fairgrounds), Vallejo, CA 94590
Hours: Saturday and Sunday 10 AM – 5 PM

Contact: (707) 644-9764,
vgms01@yahoo.com
Website: <http://vjgems.com>

February 28 & March 1, 2026 – Newark, CA

East Bay Mineral and Lapidary Club
The Newark Pavilion, 6430 Thorton Ave., Newark, CA 94569
Hours: Saturday 10 AM – 6 PM, Sunday 10 AM – 5 PM
Exhibits, Educational Presentations, Demonstrations, Gem ID, Kids' Spinning Wheel, Door Prizes, Geode Splitting, Live Auction. \$8 Admission, Kids 12 and under Free, Seniors 65+ free on Sunday, March 1

Contact: (510)j 353-3787, info@ebml.club
Website: <http://ebml.club>

February 12 – March 1, 2025 (13 days) – Indio, CA

San Gorgonio Mineral and Gem Society
Riverside County Fairgrounds, 46350 Arabia St., Indio, CA 92201
Hours are Thursday-Friday (12-13th, 19-20th, 26-27th) 3 pm-10 pm. Saturday-Monday (14th-16th) 10 am-10 pm and Saturday-Sunday (21-22nd, 28th-March 1) 10 am-10 pm.

2026 Riverside Co. Fair and National Date Festival has a Gem & Mineral Building. For vendor space see datefest.org or call 760-863-8247. San Gorgonio Mineral and Gem Society helps with management of the building. Indoor space 10 feet x 10 feet is \$1000.00 and all space applications are available through the fair website. SGMGS has been involved in managing the Gem & Mineral building at this fair since the 1940's and it is a fun crowd and busy show. We hope you can join us in February 2026. Contact: (951) 963-6751, peggyrichard@yahoo.com
Website: <http://sgmgs.org>

March 7-8, 2026 – Ventura, CA

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society
Ventura County Fairgrounds, 10 W. Harbor Blvd., Ventura, CA 93001
Hours: Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM, Sunday 10 AM – 4 PM
Ventura Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Show. Exhibits of gems, minerals, fossils & lapidary arts; jewelry-making demos; gold panning; raffle prizes & silent auctions; rummage sale & plant sale; 15+ dealers; kids' activities. A SoCal tradition for 6 decades & counting!
Contact: (805) 312-8467, info@vgms.org
Website: <http://www.vgms.org>

March 13-15, 2026 – Apple Valley, CA

Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club
7 Miles down Stoddard Wells Rd., Apple Valley CA
Hours: 9 AM – 5 PM daily
Stoddard Well Rockhound Tailgate
Contact: (760) 490-8401

March 15, 2026 – Fallbrook, CA

Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society
123 W. Alvarado St., Fallbrook, CA 92028
Hours: 12 Noon – 3 PM
Rough and Cut – This is a kind of clearance sale for miscellaneous minerals. Includes some fine minerals flats of lower end minerals, and lapidary rough. For the kids, there is a rock pile. \$5.00 for a bucket to be filled as many times as they want. Also, larger very nice garden rock. Good family event and open to the public.
Contact: (760) 728-1130, info@fgms.org
Website: <http://www.fgms.org>

March 28-29, 2026 – Lancaster, CA

Antelope Valley Gem and Mineral Club
Location: Antelope Valley Fairgrounds, 2551 W Ave H, Lancaster, CA 93534
Hours: Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM, Sunday 20 AM – 4 PM
Parking will cost \$10. Show will be in the Van Dam building.
Contact: marylandoriele@gmail.com
Website: <http://AVGem.weebly.com>

December Birthstone – Tanzanite, Turquoise, Blue Topaz



Searchers Gem & Mineral Society

General Information

Check our website for unexpected changes in schedule!

www.searchersrocks.org



General Meetings: 6:30 PM, 2nd Tuesday of each month, Jan - Nov

Doors open at 6 PM

Board Meetings: 6:30 PM, 1st Tuesday of each month, Jan - Nov

Workshop: Thursday 5:30 to 9:30 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 \$35

Each additional household member is \$20

Valid Jan.1-Dec.31 The dues are prorated for new members. If new members sign up from October to December, their dues are good for those months, plus the entire next year.

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
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

Click here for a link to the CFMS newsletter <https://cfmsinc.org/newsletters/>

Check out our "new" Instagram page:

<https://www.instagram.com/searchersgemandmineral/?hl=en>

THE NEVADA MINERAL & BOOK COMPANY

<http://minbooks.net/>

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Ph. 714-633-1549

Hours may vary, please call before coming.

