

## SEARCHERS BOARD OFFICERS

- President: Robin Larzelere
- welcomehomestudio@gmail.com
- 1st VP: Gwen Sharp
- 2nd VP: Steve Duncan
- Director: Kim Strnne
- Secretary: Jenny Rohl
- Treasurer: Sue Gevedon
- Federation Delegate: Nancy Bird
- Committee Chairpersons
- Editor: Linda Horn
- Historian:
- Hospitality: Lorri Renck
- Library: Inez Flaugh
- Veteran Liaison :
- Website: Steve Duncan
- Shop Chairman: Charles Walker
- Show Chair: Margaret Hogarth

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## POINTS OF INTEREST

### FIELD TRIPS

### GENERAL MEETING

### SPEAKERS

# The Rock Slab News

VOLUME 58, ISSUE 12

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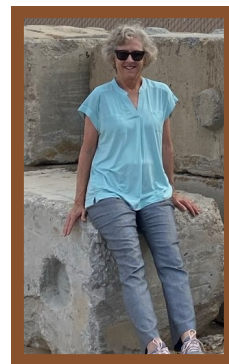
## The President's Message

Hello Searchers, last month, the board members voted to give new members, or returning members who have not signed up for a few years, prorated dues. That means if you sign up in Oct., Nov. or Dec. of this year, your membership is active until January of 2023. With that incentive, won't you consider signing up now? And get access to club activities for the month of December.

What should the club's priorities be for 2022? I will be asking the board members at the next meeting. New members are signing up, and I would like to hear from you. A good source for ideas is the past newsletters. There is a rich archive of information and tradition at your fingertips. The past newsletters are online at [www.searchersrocks.org](http://www.searchersrocks.org). The "past" is entertaining, as well as informative.

In 2022, one of my priorities for the Searcher's is to find a webmaster. Besides polishing up your rock and mineral treasures, would you enjoy making the website more attractive, and up-to-date? Everyone would appreciate your efforts. The other priority is to make the general meeting presentations available by zoom. Would you watch from home? And skip the drive? Or would you miss socializing and meeting new friends?

Sincerely, Robin Larzelere welcomehomestudio@gmail.com



Join us for a **Christmas Party**

see page 3

Check out our "new" Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/564049648337138>

## Searchers Club Meetings and Presenters

Board Meeting-

Member Meeting– December 14th in the Anaheim Community Center

### Searchers board meeting November 2nd

A review of the status of the board action items, which will be passed to the next board. This meeting is the last one for the current board.

Nancy Bird is now one of the Searchers Facebook administrators, taking over the position that was left vacant when Andrew Bloxom moved away.

The machine shop that was going to repair the Searchers slab saw is having equipment problems that is estimated to delay our repairs for months. We're looking for other options.

President Kim Strange brought copies of the Searchers financial review he's been working on.

We're planning to have a holiday potluck and party at the Anaheim Downtown Center this year instead of a holiday party at a restaurant. The party will be on Tuesday, December 14 at 6 pm, with setup and meet-and-greet starting at 5 pm. If you want to participate in a gift exchange, bring a wrapped gift that's rock-related (estimated value up to \$10). Sign up sheets will be at the November 9 meeting, or you can contact Sharon and tell her what you'll bring to the potluck.

The board reviewed the draft 2022 Searchers budget. It will be passed on to the new board, who will complete their own review, modify it as needed, and approve it when they're ready.

The board passed a motion that new memberships that are paid for in October or later are good until the end of the following year.

### Searchers general meeting – November 9th

The Searchers holiday potluck party will include a gift exchange and games, and possibly karaoke. The club will provide turkey and ham. Signup sheets are in the back.

We restarted our annual scholarship this year by sending a \$1000 scholarship to the CSUF Geology Department this year, which they will give to a deserving student.

We also plan to restart our annual show in 2022. The show needs more prizes. If you'd like company while making prizes, several people are meeting at the Saturday workshop once a month. Contact Margaret Hogarth for more information.

The elections for the 2022 Searchers board were held. Steve Duncan volunteered to fill the vacant 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Field Trips position. There were no other nominations from the floor, and each board position had one candidate. The voting members present at this meeting, as required by the Bylaws, decided to accept the slate of candidates. As required by the Bylaws, the Secretary certified and announced the results. Doug Flaugh then installed the new officers. Except for a few items that will be wrapped up by the 2021 board members during the transition, the 2022 board members have now assumed their duties. The 2022 board members are:

President Robin Larzelere  
 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President (Programs) Gwen Sharp  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President (Field Trips) Steve Duncan  
 Treasurer Sue Gevedon  
 Secretary Jenny Rohl  
 CFMS Representative Nancy Bird  
 Director Kim Strange  
 Show Chair Margaret Hogarth  
 Shop Chair Charles Walker

The meeting finished with a combination Silent Auction and pie party.

## Searcher News

December Meeting 12-14-2021



# Searcher's Holiday Party

**This will be a potluck party with the club providing  
Turkey and Ham at the  
Anaheim Community Center**

Contact Sharon Burson at [srbdancingrocks@gmail.com](mailto:srbdancingrocks@gmail.com) or at her cell 562 706 2054 to find what to bring for the potluck

Categories are:

Main Dish

Side dishes (suggested potatoes, yams, mac and cheese, stuffing etc.)

Other dishes (suggested green salad, broccoli salad, fruit salad, bean salad, rolls etc.)

Deserts



### 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"

## Upcoming Fields Trips

### December

December is a busy month for everyone, so we traditionally do a short one day trip. On Sat December 4th we will have a freeform field trip to Barstow "led" by me (Steve Duncan, [mrsteveduncan2@gmail.com](mailto:mrsteveduncan2@gmail.com), 7147247102). Diamond Pacific, a major lapidary equipment manufacturer, is opening their yard on the 4th from 9 AM to 3 PM to allow the public to pick through their rock piles. Material can be purchased for \$3/lb. They have some very nice material that they have collected over the years, a lot of it from "can't collect there anymore" locations. Their shop is at  
2620 Main St  
Barstow CA

That same day is the opening of the Mojave Desert Gem and Mineral Society show, which is also a good thing to visit. Their show is at the

Cora Harper Community Center  
841 S Barstow Rd  
Barstow CA

So it should be a fun day of rock stuff, wear your club T-shirt so we can make our presence known (and recognize each other). I hope to see you there. Get in touch with me if you have any questions. These plans are firm.

### January

We will make up for the short trip in December with a 4-10 day trip to Arizona in January. The first part of the trip **Jan 15-18 will be collecting at Burro Creek**. We will be staying at the [Burro Creek Campground](#) near Wikieup and field trips will leave at 8AM daily. The campground is a nice one with flush toilets, drinking water, and dump stations. There is a (funky) motel in Wikieup for non-campers. I expect fires will be permitted in camp, so bring some wood. We will have a potluck for those that wish on Sunday night. There was a barbeque joint in Wikieup we could visit for dinner one evening if people wish.

Burro Creek is a large (beautiful) area to explore with good materials. There is lots of Pastelite (a fine grained porcelain jasper with pastel colors) as well as other agates and jaspers, including the famous (but elusive) Burro Creek purple agate. Access to Burro Creek is sometimes possible along an easy graded road, but there is a stream crossing at the bottom, and if the water is high this can become impassable. If the stream is up we will be forced to enter Burro Creek using the 4x4 trail (aptly called suicide) we pick up at Nothing Az. Needless to say this route requires a high clearance vehicle, preferably 4x4. I will lead the Burro Creek part of the trip (Steve Duncan, [mrsteveduncan2@gmail.com](mailto:mrsteveduncan2@gmail.com), 7147247102), though I am always open to the idea of anyone showing us new locations (and am happy to have jeeps lead down suicide).

From this point the trip becomes self led. The **19th is a travel day to Quartzsite**, where the Desert Gardens show is in full swing. This is my favorite show for rough. I may very well be going home at this point because of some other commitments. But folk who stay can find lots of dispersed camping on BLM land (near all the snowbirds) or folks have been known to stay in local campgrounds with showers etc. I expect the group will firm up Quartzsite plans while we are in Burro Creek. The reason to be in Quartzsite at this time is the [PowWow](#), and its **daily Field trips Jan 20-24**. The field trip link has a lot of info about these trips, they are good trips, and cost \$2/person/trip. And the PowWow itself is a very good show.

Jimmy Peterson is a knowledgeable leader to the chipboard location. One of the PowWow field trips goes to this location, but the Searchers could possibly go on a different day with Jimmy leading.

So the hypermotivated can go on 9 days of field trips and visit 2 rock shows in 10 days.

These plans are firm. Contact me if you have any questions.

**For field trip  
information  
contact:  
Andrew  
Bloxom Field  
Trips,  
Searchers  
Gem and  
Mineral  
Society,  
andrew.bloxom@gmail.com**

### February

The February trip will be led by Doug Flaugh, dates and location TBD. Needless to say this plan is tentative at this time. More details to come.

### March

The March trip will be led by Robert Burson, probable location the Chuckwalla mountains. Dates TBD. This trip will require a sturdy high clearance vehicle, 4x4 preferred. This plan is tentative at this time. More details to come.

### April

The April trip will be a combination rock trip led by me and a mineral trip led by Kim Strange. Dates and locations TBD.

This plan is tentative at this time. More details to come.

### May

May trip is TBD. More details to come.

### June

Too hot. Monthly Field trips should resume in September. We may look for a hot weather trip sometime during the summer.

**Potential field trip leaders:** One of the club's biggest assets is the tribal knowledge of collecting sites. If you know a good collecting site and would like to lead a trip there let me know. I am happy to work with you on the logistics. We will need to pick a campsite, list possible nearby motels, pick a weekend etc. Ideally a trip would have at least 2 collecting locations, one for Sat and one for Sun, maybe more than one for Sat? Scouting the trip is a good idea if possible, however I have run a lot of trips without scouting them first. So you folks with knowledge, please let me know what trips you might be able to lead. I know who most of the knowledgeable rockhounds are, so you can't hide!

**Potential 2nd VPs (field trips):** I am happy to be the second VP for the upcoming year, I was 2nd VP for 6 or 7 years previously. During my previous times serving as 2nd VP I learned a lot and made a lot of friends doing field trips. So I felt the experience was really good for me as far as becoming a better Searcher and a better rockhound. And I believe that anyone else who takes over in the future will receive the same benefits. Some folks may think there is too much work involved in being 2nd VP, but for anyone who thinks they might want to try it in the future, the email above is probably about 1/3 of the yearly work for the 2nd VP. I will need to flesh out the above schedule, and then do the same thing for the fall, and I will be basically done. What the job really entails is getting people to volunteer to lead trips (or volunteering them!), setting up the schedule trying to keep a good balance between known productive sites and exploratory sites, and helping ensure that the leaders get their plans done in time etc. So if you think this is something you would like to do next year don't hesitate to talk to me (and to volunteer to the nominating committee next fall).

### **Early warning on an upcoming rock sale:**

We will be running a Searchers only rock sale for the rocks from Grant Miller's estate in early January. I looked quickly at the material and it looks to be quite a bit, and I expect it to be very good quality, I saw some very nice material which is basically unavailable anymore. The prices will be Searcher friendly. More details to come.





## Afton Canyon Field Trip Report, November, 2021

Searchers had a relaxing and fun field trip to Afton Canyon November 13-14, 2021 led by John O'Connor. We had sixteen people on Saturday morning as one group explored blind canyon, Virgil led another group bushwacking to a western canyon, and another group admired a herd of 4 desert bighorn sheep waiting for a drink at the mouth of the main canyon. We all found some treasures, but I think Gwen was most happy with the ten dollar bill she found. After lunch back at camp we crossed the freeway to the green rock site between



Powerline Road and the dry lake bed. We now know the green rock is not marble, but a suspected volcanic. Anyway, it is a lovely pistachio green and polishes well. We continued up Powerline Road to a site with mica schist. Some think they may have found a few garnet crystals in the schist, but we were all entranced with the beautiful rock formations and the crumbled foil appearance of the mica schist. From there we went a little further to a site with potential agates and jaspers. Most material was small but Doug and Virgil found some sizeable jaspers. It was already getting dark so we headed back to camp while the daytrippers turned for home.

On Sunday we explored the Alvord Gold Mine ruins. The scenery was spectacular, the drive exciting, and we all would like to go back for more exploration. There was marble, calcite, quartz, and Mindat says there is chrysocolla, hematite, pyrite, agate, chalcedony and jasper found there. The old ruins were interesting and photogenic on that beautiful day. After, most of the group went to the Saint Antony Coptic Orthodox Monastery in Newberry Springs, where a monk happened along and let the Searchers in to admire the beautiful intarsia and paintings in the buildings. Lastly, the group stopped by Harvard Road to look for jasper. We were very lucky with the mild weather and enjoyed our modest camp fires every night, with our BLM fire permit in hand.

Before heading home the next day John led a small group to the Afton town site and pointed out the graveyard and dump sites. We wandered around, found some interesting animal bones and a few nice rocks, then we headed for home, too. We are looking forward to the next trip!



## Show Committee Meeting Hours for the 2022 Show

Show meetings are held 1-2:30 p.m. at the Anaheim Community Center.

The December meeting has been cancelled.

Saturday, January 8, 2022

Saturday, February 5, 2022

Saturday, March 5, 2022

Saturday, April 2, 2022

Saturday, April 23, 2022 (during shop hours)

### Grab Bag Stuffing Party

Mark your calendars! There will be a grab bag stuffing party on Saturday, March 12 from 9 a.m. to noon, with a taco potluck to follow. It will be held at Karen's house. Directions to follow. An alternate rain date is March 26, same time.

### Show News

We are hard at working preparing for our 2022 Searchers Show, April 30-May 1, 2022. The first fairy house workshop is making 4 fairy houses for prizes and we plan to build more early in the year. If you'd like to participate, let me know so that we have enough bases ready.

In terms of big raffle prizes, we have a polisher, a 15 pound tumbler, a gorgeous beaded necklace built on a spiral shell theme that Jamie made, and a boulder holder. There will also be up cycled boulder holders for sale through the Searchers Sale Table. We can always use more prizes, big and small, for rockhounds of all ages. We will have some book prizes this year! Keep on collecting, going through your stash, and donating to the Silent Auction, too. The Silent Auction is our biggest fundraiser, so keep that quality material coming. If you can't use it, someone else would love to have it! Questions? Contact Margaret at [hogarth.m@gmail.com](mailto:hogarth.m@gmail.com).

### Have a Slabbing Saw?

If you have a slabbing saw and can slab some rocks for the vets at the Long Beach Veterans Hospital lapidary program, please let Margaret know. We have several donated buckets of rocks that need slabbing. Contact Margaret at [hogarth.m@gmail.com](mailto:hogarth.m@gmail.com).



For a more complete listing of shows go to web-site: [www.cfmsinc.org](http://www.cfmsinc.org)

## Upcoming 2021 CFMS Gem Shows

### 2021 Shows

**December 5, 2021 – Lake Elsinore, CA**  
Lake Elsinore Gem & Mineral Society  
Rock 'n Craft Winter Festival, 32097 Corydon Rd., Lake Elsinore, CA 92530  
Hours: Sunday, December 5 – 10 AM – 4 PM  
Contact: (909) 208-6956, berylman50@aol.com  
Website: Facebook: Lake Elsinore Gem & Mineral Society

### 2022 Shows

**January 15-16, 2022 – Exeter, CA**  
Tule Gem & Mineral Society  
Exeter Memorial Building, 324 N. Kaweah Ave., Exeter, CA  
Contact: (559) 802-6029

**February 26-27, 2022 – Vallejo, CA**  
Vallejo Gem and Mineral Society  
McCormack Hall, Solano County Fairgrounds, Vallejo, CA  
900 Fairgrounds Dr., Vallejo, CA  
Spring Bling 2022  
Hours: 10 AM – 5 PM both days  
Contact: (415) 254-1506, dduhonvgms@gmail.com  
Website: <http://vjgems.co/>

**March 5-5, 2022 – Ventura, CA**  
Ventura Gem and Mineral Society  
Ventura County Fairgrounds, 10 W. Harbor Blvd., Ventura  
Hours: Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM, Sunday 10 AM – 4 PM  
Gems and Minerals, fossils, jewelry, healing stones, silent auction, exhibits, dealers, kids activities, lapidary arts demonstrations, raffle, flea market, plant sale. A successful and valued South Coast show since 1963. We are happy to be back again after COVID!  
Website: <http://www.vgms.org>

**March 12-13, 2022 – Arcadia, CA**  
Pasadena Lapidary Society  
"Inspiration Unearthed", 62nd Annual Tournament of Gems  
Arcadia Masonic Center, 50 W. Duarte Rd., Arcadia  
Hours: 10-5 Daily  
Contact: Ellen Ferrell 1-727-512-0381  
Email: [ellenbf2007@aol.com](mailto:ellenbf2007@aol.com)  
Website: <https://www.pasadenalapidary.org>

**March 12-13, 2022 – Turlock, CA**  
Mother Lode Mineral Society  
Stanislaus Fairgrounds, 900 N. Broadway in Turlock, CA 95380  
Hours: 10 AM – 5 PM daily  
55th Annual Rock, Mineral & Jewelry Show! EDUCATIONAL FAMILY EVENT!  
Rocks, Minerals, Fossils, Jewelry, Beads, Fluorescents, Children's activities, and More! Learn to make beautiful jewelry out of natural rocks and gemstones from our demonstrators.  
Admission: \$6 adult, children 12 and under free with paid adult.  
Contact: Bud & Terry McMillin (209) 484-4416, [terry.mcmillin@yahoo.com](mailto:terry.mcmillin@yahoo.com)  
Website: <http://www.turlockgemshow.com>

**April 1-3, 2022, Vista CA**  
Vista Gem and Mineral Society  
Vista Gem and Mineral Show  
Antique Gas and Steam Engine Museum, 2040 N. Santa Fe Ave., Vista, CA 92083  
Hours: April 1 & 2, 10 AM – 5 PM, April 3, 10 AM – 4 PM  
Come on out for a fun-filled weekend at the Vista Gem and Mineral Show April 1-3, 2022. Held outdoors at the Antique Gas and Steam Engine Museum. All proceeds go to support our non-profit school and you do not need to be present to win.  
Contact: [info@vistarocks.org](mailto:info@vistarocks.org)  
Website: <https://vistarocks.org>

**April 9-10, 2022 – Mariposa**  
Mariposa Gem and Mineral Club  
Mountains of Minerals  
Mariposa County Fairgrounds, 5005 Fairgrounds Road, Mariposa, CA 95338  
Hours: Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM, Sunday 10 AM – 4 PM  
Contact: [mcmc@sti.net](mailto:mcmc@sti.net)  
Website: <http://mariposagemclub.org>  
**April 30 – May 1, 2022 – Anaheim, CA**  
Searchers Gem & Mineral Society  
Hours: 10 AM – 5 PM  
Website: <https://searchersrocks.org>

**May 6-7-8, 2022 – Lancaster, CA**  
**CFMS Gems, Minerals, Fossils & Jewelry Show**  
Antelope Valley Fairgrounds, 2551 W Avenue H, Lancaster, CA 93536  
Hours: Friday, Saturday 9 AM -5 PM, Sunday 9 AM – 4 PM  
Gems, Minerals, Fossils, Jewelry, Demonstrations, Exhibits, Dealers, Kid's and Family Activities. Free parking and Free Admission.  
Contact:  
Bob Backus (661) 526-3564, email: [lbbacus@aol.com](mailto:lbbacus@aol.com)  
Susan Chaisson-Walblom (661) 406-0143, email: [slchaisson@yahoo.com](mailto:slchaisson@yahoo.com)  
More information coming!!

**June 11-12, 2022 – Escondido, CA**  
Palomar Gem and Mineral Club  
Palomar Gem and Mineral Show  
California Center for the Arts, 340 N. Escondido, Escondido 92025  
Hours: Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM, Sunday 10 AM – 4 PM  
Faceted gems, Slabs, Cabochons, Unique custom jewelry, Rare and common minerals, Fossils, Rough, Beads, Crystals, exhibits, Demonstrations, prizes.  
Contact: (425) 281-6218, [tonifloyd41615@gmail.com](mailto:tonifloyd41615@gmail.com)  
Website: <http://palomargem.org>

## December Birthstone: Topaz Tanzanite Turquoise



Topaz Colors





# Searchers Gem & Mineral Society

## General Information



Check our website for unexpected changes in schedule!

[www.searchersrocks.org](http://www.searchersrocks.org)

**General Meetings:** 7 PM, 2nd Tuesday of each month, Jan - Nov

**Board Meetings:** 6:30 PM, 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](http://www.searchersrocks.org)

<b>Membership Dues:</b>	<b>Individual</b>	<b>\$25</b>
	<b>Couple</b>	<b>\$35</b>

**Valid Jan.1-Dec.31, not prorated**

**Bulletin:** Submissions due 3rd Friday of the month via e-mail to:  
[editor@searchersrocks.org](mailto:editor@searchersrocks.org).

**Bulletin distributed 1st week of each month. Mail exchange bulletins to the editor:**

**Searchers —Linda Horn Editor**

**P.O. Pox 3492**

**Anaheim, Ca. 92803**

**Charter Date:** April 20, 1958

**Affiliations:** California Federation of Mineralogical Societies  
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

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