

We're On The Web!



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SEARCHERS GEM AND
MINERAL SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 3492
ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA 92803



**Happy
Holidays!**



November 2002



SEARCHERS GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.

The Rock Slab News

Classification: Dana
Class: 52.3.1.1 Nesosili-
cate Insular SiO_4 Groups
and O, OH, F, and H_2O with
cations in [6] coordination
only Dana Group **Strunz**
Class: VIII/B.02-70 – Sili-
cates – Nesosubsilicates,
with anions unfamiliar to
tetraheders, cations of octa-
hedral and tetrahedral orien-
tation [4/6] - Disthene.

Physical Properties:
Cleavage: (001) perfect.
Color: colorless, pale blue, yellow, yellowish brown.
Density: 3.5-3.6, Average = 3.55. **Diaphaniety:** transparent. **Habits:** crystalline, coarse; occurs as well-formed coarse-sized crystals. Prismatic-crystals shaped like slender prisms (e.g. tourmaline), massive, granular, common texture observed in granite and other igneous rock. **Hardness:** 8 = topaz. **Luminescence:** fluorescent, short UV = golden yellow, long UV = cream. **Luster:** vitreous (glassy) **Streak:** white.



Special Interests:

- *Elections, Nov. 12*
- *Searchers Christmas Party, Dec. 21*

Club Officers 2002

☆☆☆☆ Club Officers ☆☆☆☆

President	Connie Van Kampen	714/993-2827
1st Vice-President.....	Betty Nelson	714/530-1365
2nd Vice-President.....	Robert Burson	562/860-5938
Club Director	Nancy Norlund.....	714/960-6957
Co Field Trip Ass't.....	Jim Peterson.....	714/633-7573
Secretary	Sharon Burson	562/860-5938
Treasurer	Beth Pelfrey	714/774-2754
Federation Delegate	Cal Caliendo	949/252-5269

☆☆☆ Committee Chairs ☆☆☆

Anaheim Arts Council	Margaret Neeley.....	714/535-2030
Badges.....	Nancy Norlund.....	714/960-6957
Editor	Judi McDuff.....	714/524-5998
Historian	Jan Gillette.....	714/776-9467
Hospitality.....	Nora O'Campo.....	714/490-0416
Library.....	Joan Macomber.....	714/821-0129
Membership	Milly Arvanites.....	714/838-1924
Monthly Drawing.....	Anastacio O'Campo.....	714/490-0416
Phone Tree Co-Chair	Marge Jordan	714/897-2407
Phone Tree Co-Chair	Audrey Nichols.....	714/533-4675
Publicity.....	Milt Green.....	714/838-1924
2002 Show Co-Chair	Betty Nelson	714/530-1365
2002 Show Co-Chair	Nancy Norlund.....	714/960-6957
Silent Auction	Walter Mroch.....	714/826-2132
Sunshine.....	Dottie Johnson	714/535-8579
Veterans Coordinator.....	Larry Richey	714/846-3573
Workshop Coordinator	Herb Beckman	714/778-1496
Youth Chairman.....	Norbert Bernhardt....	714/734-9665

Welcome, New Searchers!



We had five new members join in October:

JARED MEDBERY & NORMA G.

MORALES, 206 No. Kodiak,
Apt. B, Anaheim, CA 92807
562/761-9005
e-mail: jaredmedbery@yahoo.com.

LESTER & GABRIELLA
HAWORTH, 5712 Elinora Ln.,
Cypress, CA 90630 714/821-0766.

HANISHAH STEPHANIE
SOUKUP, 1 Walnut Via, Anaheim,
CA 92801-1045 714/871-5530
e-mail: aladyiam1906@aol.com.

We are happy to welcome back some old-time club members:

MERLE R. & JEANNE K.
HOWE, Emerald Ct. #172, 1731
W. Medical Center Dr.,
Anaheim, CA 92801 714/956-7660.

Merle and Jeanne Howe moved back to Orange Co. recently. They joined the Searchers in 1974. Both were always very active in the club. Merle has held most all of the Board positions more than once. He's been

President a few times and Show Chair more than once, as well. Jeanne has been our Secretary several times as well as held other positions. They entered a showcase each year, and went on all the field trips in their truck and trailer. His CB handle was "Grasshopper," since he used to ride on one of those large lawnmowers around golf courses. Jeanne worked for Shell and did some writing on the side. She is also an excellent baker, and made many delicious baked goods for club functions. In 1995 they sold their home in Fullerton and moved to San Jacinto and became active in the local club there. Now they're back with us.

John and Thelma Clinard have a new address: 15621 Beach Blvd. #19, Westminster, CA 92683 714/896-6772.

Dick and Nancy Reed have a new address: 6889 Diamond, Boise, Idaho 83709. No phone yet! We'll miss you!

And Patricia Boyd can be reached at 1714 Hazard Circle Dr., San Diego, CA 619/295-9405.

This makes a total of 134 members. Welcome to you all!

- Milly

PLEASE PICK UP YOUR ROCK SLAB NEWS
AT THE GENERAL MEETINGS!

2002 Shows

November 16-17, Palmdale, CA
Show, Palmdale Gem and Mineral Club; California Elks Lodge, 2705 E. Ave. Q; Sat. & Sun. 9-4; Gail Becker, 1508 Fall Ct., Rosamond, CA 93560; Gail1010becker@aol.com.

November 23-24, Victorville, CA
27th annual show; Victorville Gem & Mineral Club; San Bernardino Co. Fairgrounds, 14800 7th St.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; free admission; dealers, demonstrations, door prizes, silent auction, raffles; contact Gil Gilbert, (760) 868-6900.

November 30-Dec. 1, Orangevale, CA
Show, "Winter Wonderland of Gems"; American Gem & Mineral Society; Orangevale Grange Hall, 5807 Walnut Ave.; Sat. & Sun. 10-5. \$1 donation; children free with adult; hourly drawing, grand prize drawing. Call Hugh Brady, (916) 961-6868.

November 30-Dec. 1, Barstow, CA
Show; Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society; Barstow Community Center, 841 S. Barstow Rd.; Sat. & Sun. 10-5; free admission; contact Bob Depue, (760) 255-1030.

Nov. 30-Dec. 1, San Francisco, CA
Show, "The Great San Francisco Crystal Fair"; Pacific Crystal Guild; Ft. Mason Center, Laguna/Marina Blvd.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; \$4, children under 12 free. Jerry Tomlinson, PCG, PO Box 1371, Sausalito, CA

94966; (415) 383-7837; sfxtl@earthlink.net; www.crystalfair.com.

December 6-8, Santa Barbara, CA
Show; Gem Faire; Earl Warren Showgrounds, Las Positas and Hwy. 101; Fri. 12-7, Sat. 10-7, Sun. 10-5; weekend pass \$5; contact Allen Van Volkinburgh, (760) 757-9215; www.gemfaire.com.

December 7-8, Los Angeles, CA
Show, "Southern Calif. Gem & Mineral Show 2002"; Mineral. Soc. Of So. Calif., Natural History Museum of LA Co. Gem & Mineral Council; Natural History Museum of LA Co. 900 Exposition Blvd., Exposition Park; Sat & Sun. 10-5; adults \$8, srs./students \$5.50; children 5-12 \$2, under 5 free.

December 7-8, San Bernardino, CA
56th annual show, "World of Rocks 2002"; Orange Belt Mineralogical Society; San Bernardino Women's Club, 503 W. 31st St.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; free admission; contact Emma Couveau, (909) 381-0089.

January 3-12, Quartzsite, AZ
Show; Tyson Wells; free admission; more than 350 selling spaces, big-name rock and gem dealers from all over the world; contact Kym Scott, PO Box 60, Quartzsite, AZ 85346, (928) 927-6364; website: www.tysonwells.com.

General Information

General Meetings

Held the second Tuesday of each month, January through November, at 7 PM. Visitors are always welcome.

Board Meetings

Held the third Thursday of each month, January through December, at 7 PM. Members are always welcome.

Workshop

Lapidary: Thursdays 6:30 to 10 PM, and Saturdays 3:30 to 7 PM (until 10 PM if staffed). Wire-wrap class on Saturdays.

Note: Exceptions to usual workshop hours are on the newsletter calendar.

Meetings and workshops are held at:

Anaheim Downtown Community Center
250 East Center Street
Anaheim, CA

Address inquiries to:

Searchers Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 3492
Anaheim, CA 92803

Newsletter

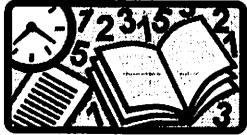
Articles are due at the end of each month. Newsletters are distributed at the following meeting. Submit articles via e-mail to: Searchersnews@hotmail.com, or FAX to 714/526-5337.

Workshop Holiday Hours

The Searchers lapidary workshop will be closed on the following days to accommodate the upcoming holidays:



November 28 (Thursday) - Thanksgiving
December 21 (Saturday) - Party; December 26 & 28 - Christmas



Calendar of Events

November, 2002

- 12 General Meeting, 7 PM
- 16 Sperry Wash, Toltec Mine
- 21 Board Meeting, 7 PM
- 23-24 Anza Borrego: Fish Creek Field Trip (see p. 17)
- 28-12/1 Wileys Well Field Trip (San Geronio Club)

December, 2002

- No General Meeting
- 7-8 Mecca Hills Field Trip (see p. 17)
- 12 Board Meeting, 7 PM
- 21 Holiday Party, 6:30 PM, Arbor Manor, Fullerton (see p. 11)

January, 2003

- 3-12 Quartzsite Rock & Gem Show, Quartzsite, AZ
- 14 General Meeting, 7 PM
- 16 Board Meeting, 7 PM
- 18-20 Geodes/Quartzsite Field Trip

February, 2003

- 11 General Meeting, 7 PM
- 20 Board Meeting, 7 PM

March, 2003

- 11 General Meeting, 7 PM
- 20 Board Meeting, 7 PM

Quartzsite 2003

10-Day Show Outdoor Spectacular

Tyson Wells Rock & Gem Show January 3-12, 2003

Location: Southwest corner of I-10 Freeway and Highway 95, Quartzsite, AZ
Arizona's Largest Winter Attraction!

(continued from previous page)

make a point made by another participant no more than five speakers earlier.

9. Point of pious posturing: This motion entitles a member to make reference to any local, regional, national or international bylaw that allegedly supports his or her point of view. A correct quotation, however, immediately disqualifies the point.

10. Point of grudge: Entitles the participant to raise an issue debated by the organization not less than five years earlier, for which the participant has not yet forgiven those involved.

11. Point of personal confusion: To be called when a member has lost complete track of where the discussion is going due to the extreme tangent that it has taken. At this point, the confused member calls, "Point of personal confusion; what in the world are we talking about?"

12. Point of personal strangeness: This is to be called when a member feels that the subject being discussed is of an extremely strange nature. Example: A discussion as to whether the chapter president would look better covered in Spam or grape jelly is going on. At this point, the member calls: "Point of personal strangeness; this is really strange."

GOLD ROAD MINE EXCURSION NOVEMBER 9-11

Tour the backcountry of Oatman, AZ; dig for fire agate, hike to petroglyphs, enjoy a BBQ dinner and entertainment Saturday evening inside the Gold Road Mine. Mine operator "WT" will provide cots for those who would like to sleep in the mine and will serve an early morning breakfast on Sunday. Interested? Call cAT Van Kampen, 714/993-2827.

REMINDER

Please save your discarded film cassettes for me to use in grab bags for the Searchers 2003 Show. They make great holders for small tumbled stones, crystals, jewelry, etc. I would appreciate getting some soon. Please give them to Betty Nelson at the meetings and she will get them to me. Thanks!

- Ken Landers



CVK's Proposed Rules of Non-Parliamentary Procedure

1. Point of personal outrage: at any time during a meeting when a member becomes extremely upset, the member shall have the right to interrupt any other speaker, will not be required to wait for recognition from the chair, and shall have the obligation to speak at a volume considerably higher than required for normal conversation.

2. Point of irrelevant interjection: Irrespective of the motion on the floor, a member shall have the right to monopolize the meeting for not more than five minutes by speaking on a point the relevance of which escapes all other participants.

3. Point of personal attack: In response to a point raised by another speaker, a member shall have the right to reply by launching a personal attack. At no time shall the point itself have to be addressed.

4. Point of associative guilt: A member shall have the right to impugn the integrity of any other members by alleging that they are, were, might be, have a third cousin who is, or may have great-grandchildren who will belong to any and all organizations

designated by the member as dedicated to the destruction of the organization.

5. Point of contempt: A member shall have the right to grunt, throw papers down on the table, shake his or her head vigorously, or otherwise demonstrate contempt for the proceedings.

6. Point of harassment: A member shall have the right to introduce irrelevant motions for the sole purpose of delaying the meeting. It is only permissible to resort to a point of harassment when the outcome of any imminent vote is obvious.

7. Point of redundant information: This is not to be confused with the more familiar "point of information." Whereas a point of information is a request for information from the chair, a point of redundant information entitles the participant to tell those in the meeting something they already know.

8. Point of redundancy: This is a motion that entitles the participant to
(continued on next page)

Rockhound Information E-Groups

LA-Rocks field trips, send a blank e-mail to: LA-Rocks-subscribe@egroups.com or join on the CFMS website under the Field Trips page. **Petrified Wood**, send a blank e-mail to: PetrifiedWood-subscribe@egroups.com.

Searchers Program Schedule 2002

November Betty Nelson: The Changing Desert Slide Show; Election of Officers and Pie Night

December Holiday Party!

Elections 2002



2002 Searchers Board Nominees

President
1st Vice-President (Programs)
2nd Vice-President (Field Trips)
Director
Secretary
Treasurer
Federation Delegate

Bob Burson
Anastacio O'Campo
Jim Peterson
cAT Van Kampen
Nora O'Campo
Beth Pelfrey
OPEN

Nominations will be open from the floor at the November meeting; voting will occur after they are closed. Installation will be Dec. 21 at our holiday party. Thanks to all who volunteered to run for office. If elected, I'm sure this Board of Directors will do a fine job representing our club.
- cAT

Searchers Program for December

by Betty Nelson

Our program for December will be the Holiday Party and installation of new officers on Saturday, December 21 at the Arbor Manor in Fullerton.

In January, we will have "Tell and Share." Please bring your favorite rock (portable) to the meeting to share with us, and tell us briefly why it is your favorite. It can be rough or finished, or even in jewelry.

SEE YOU AT THE PARTY!!!



President's Message

by Connie Van Kampen



Howdy, Searchers, guests, and friends,

Halloween has passed; the heavy-duty holidays are rapidly approaching. Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas will be here before realized. Followed by a consumed year of 2002, New Year's Eve will lend itself to the usual celebrations.

But, before all of this unravels, we have an upcoming celebration at Arbor Manor. Our Christmas party arrangements are finalized, and it is very important that you choose and purchase your dinner dish ASAP. Please consult your newsletter regarding the menu; you may pay Betty Nelson or Beth Pelfrey. At the party, we'll have a great dinner, install our new officers, and enjoy a bit of entertainment.

This has been a good year for the Searchers; our programs have been excellent, our field trips have been numerous, our workshop has been well attended, and members have enthusiastically supported our general meetings. A special thanks to: Milly, our Membership Chair; Nora and her "crew" for providing refreshments and working the raffle donation table; Walt Mroch who has donated countless specimens for the club raffle; and a special thanks to our "outstanding" Editor, Judi.

Finally, it's election time. At our November general meeting, please plan to vote for the slated nominees, or you may volunteer yourself or submit someone you feel would best serve and represent the club. Tonight, we'll enjoy pie, a desert slide show (presented by Betty Nelson), and an election... not necessarily in that order!

Reminder: There will be Board meetings on Nov. 21 and Dec. 12, so be sure to mark your calendars!

Thanks for your support,

cAT

Magazine Subscriptions

There's still time to apply for *Rock and Gem* magazine subscriptions which are available to members at a discount. Proceeds will go to the club. Please contact Karyn Cummings at 714/491-8495.

Trona Field Trip Report continued

claim him, so I took him to the show information table and they said they would call the dog pound in Ridgecrest to pick him up. Wait! I said. If no one has claimed him when I get back from the field trip, I will take him. Sure enough, he was still there when I got back and we hugged and kissed. Must have been puppy love. A lady came up to me and insisted that I take \$10 to help the puppy out. I went to the only grocery store in Trona and got dog food, collar and leash. This lady was a dog angel.

That Saturday evening was our first camping experience together at the IMCC Valley Wells Recreation Area 6 miles north of the show. I only had an AeroSstar van and we slept on the floor together. The next day I named him Trona after his home town and we went on our first field trip together so I could collect pink halite. On the way home we camped over night by Red Mountain and he became my guard dog. We have been traveling and rock-hounding together for nine years and loving every moment.

The local sheriff's department car stopped traffic on the main highway and all the vehicles started pulling out, one line followed by another, at 2:30 PM. The south entrance was quite a long drive past the boiler ash pile and pink hanksite area out onto the dry lake to the Blow Hole. There must have been over 350 vehicles parked out on the crusty, white dry brine field. Putting on our old jeans, shoes, hats, gloves we leave our vehicles and head toward the blow hole with buckets, rugs, and claw tools. There is a bath of brine, mud and halite in front of the blow hole and the equipment used to bring up the material. Everyone is on their knees, squatting or sitting on rugs in the area, sorting through the debris and collecting double-terminated hanksite.

Finally there is a call for everyone to move behind the orange cones so they can pump some more brine with all the minerals. Warnings are given to not move forward until they are done blowing out the material. The equipment starts and two employees swing the huge pipe from side to side while the brine shoots huge and small chunks out and the pipe goes deeper and deeper (approx. 40 feet) into the lake. What a spectacular sight. The brine flows onto the surface and creates a lake which goes beyond where everyone is standing. The pump is stopped and the okay to end is given. A lot of people rush forward to seek the larger pieces of hanksite that are blown up. There is so much hanksite it is hard to decide which ones to collect. After filling our buckets with all the hanksite we need, we head for the water tank to rinse the brine off our hands and shoes.

We decided to leave the collecting area, and the north entrance was our route to exit the field trip and return to the show. We stop for one last check on the hourly drawing tickets to see if we have won; no such luck. We head back to Ridgecrest and then toward Lake Isabella to camp and fish.

Trona Field Trip Report

by Nancy Norlund



This year Jerry's niece, our dog Trona, Jerry and I returned to Trona to see the Searles Lake Gem and Mineral Show, collect hanksite on Saturday and show Trona his home town.

The second weekend of October has been the only opportunity for mineral collectors and novice rockhounds to collect halite, hanksite, borax, trona, sulfahalite and thenardite. At this time you also had the option to attend the 61st Gem-O-Rama put on by the Searles Lake Gem and Mineral Society. The IMCC Plant tours at the west end of Trona by bus are free and you could see the equipment used to process some of the 3 billion tons of commercially important minerals. The current mining operations began in 1916 and have been continuous for 86 years. Less than 2% of the mineral deposits have been extracted from Searles Dry Lake.

We arrived early Saturday morning in our RV after picking up Halie in Ridgecrest. After checking at the front desk for information on the Blow Hole Mineral field trip for hanksite and receiving our hourly drawing tickets we went from room to room looking at the dealers' wares, purchasing pink halite at the SLG&MS general store, looking at the mineral, lapidary and hobby displays, and indulging in the gem dig and spin. The Blow Hole field trip for hanksite, sulfahalite, borax wasn't going to leave until 2:30 PM so we moved our RV into one of the many lines of vehicles waiting to embark. We discovered that they have two lining up areas for the North and South entrances to the dry lake. We picked the south, not knowing which was which. We decided to eat our lunch while we waited for the 1 PM sign-up time for the field trip. Everyone was sitting around their vehicles eating lunch, napping, cleaning their hanksite from the earlier Sticky Black Mud field trip. What a mess that was for the women who did all the cleaning. The guys only watched.

Trona needed to stretch his legs and catch the scent of other dogs, so we took a walking tour of Trona to show him his home town and what he had been missing all these years. Now you're probably wondering what I'm talking about. While I was attending the Searles Dry Lake Show and field trips back in October 1993 I came across a cute rust-colored lab puppy, with one ear up and one down, that was wandering around the packing lot while I waited in line to go on the Blow Hole hanksite field trip. No one seemed to

Cathy's Kids' Corner

by Cathy O'Campo

Happy birthday to all you blue topaz rockhounds! Yellow topaz is another gemstone that is used for protective purposes: against envy, jealousy, disease, death, negativity, and lunacy. Mounted in gold, it is said to enhance these protective properties. Rings, wrist bracelets and necklaces with the stone next to the heart are thought to be the most protective.

When worn, it is said that the stone relieves depression, anger, fear, and other negative emotions. Topaz also protects the wearer from nightmares, restlessness, and sleep walking. Wearing topaz is said to bring friendship, better and deeper relationships, and to enhance one's ability to give and receive love.



Kids' Corner News

Rock'n'Kids is having a field trip to the Bowers Museum on Saturday, November 23, at 2 PM.

The group rate is only \$5 per ticket. That is just 15 rockhounds. Yep! Wash Mom's car, or rake the back lawn, and you can earn your entrance fee. Please RSVP to (714) 490-0416 by November 12. Checks should be made payable to: The Searchers Gem and Mineral Society. Let's do it!

Editor's Notes

by Judi McDuff

Hello, fellow Searchers!

If you have anything for publication, especially photos, please submit them by the end of the month; either e-me at searchersnews@hotmail.com or sebringal@aol.com; or fax to (714) 526-5337. And remember to pick up your *Rock Slab News* at the meetings; this will help keep our postage expenses down. Thanks and enjoy!



General Meeting Minutes

by Sharon Burson



October 8, 2002
President cAT Van Kampen called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM, followed by a welcome to members and visitors. The salute to our flag was followed by the introduction of Jeannie and Merle Howe, who recently rejoined the Searchers.

Announcements:

- Next month is pie night, elections, and slide show, "The Changing Desert."
- Opal Society Show is Nov. 2-3.
- West Coast Gem Show is this weekend.
- We still do not have a nominating committee for the 2003 officers.
- Recognition to the O'Campos and Karyn Cummings for our refreshments this evening.
- No report from Federation Delegate. Connie Van Kampen announced she would be attending the CFMS Fall Business Meeting in Visalia, CA.
- Rockhound stickers are for sale tonight. See Nancy Norlund if you would like to purchase one or several. The stickers were created by the CFMS to promote rockhounding.
- Door Prize winner - Dot Johnson.
- Board Meeting October 17.

Tonight's Program - Betty Nelson introduced Isabelle Burns who presented us with a very nice overview on Rocks of Priddyay.

Field Trip by Robert Burson - Those who attended the Clear Creek field trip had a really good time and saw a lot of wildlife. Something unusual happened: A man on a lawn mower came up the hill at the Aurora Mine, introduced himself and volunteered to take us out on Sunday for green and black garnet. This weekend is the Searles/Trona field trip; Robert encouraged members to attend. It's about a five-hour drive, motels are available in Ridgecrest; try to be there at 8 AM. On November 16, Robert will be hosting a one-day trip to Sperry Wash. For the November field trip, he suggested going to Wileys Well with the San Gorgonio club.

2003 Show Report by Nancy Norlund:

- Marvin Mog accepted Show Cases chair position.
- Still need to fill the positions of Donations, Decorations, Friday night dinner, and video.
- Milt Green printed 15,000 flyers.

Programs Report by Betty Nelson:

- Christmas Party Menu, details on page 11 in the *Rock Slab News* and a short overview of party events.
- The cost of the dinner and

- continued on p. 9

Campin' with Van Kampen

by cAT Van Kampen

Anza Borrego: Fish Creek

Orientation: Mon., Nov. 18, 7-10 PM

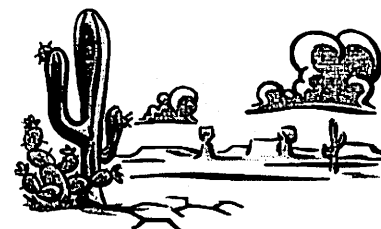
Field Trip: Nov. 23-24

Explore fascinating geological formations in one of Anza Borrego Desert State Park's most scenic areas. Class will 4X4 along Fish Creek to Olla Canyon, Shelf Canyon, and Sandstone Canyon with easy-to-moderate hikes to the Wind Caves and Elephant Knees. Park wildflowers should be blooming, and the weather is generally good at this time of the year in the low desert. 4X4s or high-clearance vehicles recommended. Non-fee area. Primitive camping, pit toilets available, no water or other facilities in camp area. Tuition: \$20.

Orientation: NOCCCD

Yorba Linda Center Campus
Room 124

NO PETS, PLEASE.



Mecca Hills/Ladder Canyon

Orientation: Mon., Dec. 2, 7-10 PM

Field Trip: Dec. 7-8

Located in the lower Colorado Desert, this Bureau of Land Management region encompasses a maze of colorful sedimentary rock formations in Painted Canyon, Ladder Canyon and other significant canyons. The class will hike Ladder Canyon and learn how to identify flora, fauna, and geology along its trail. 4X4s or high-clearance vehicles; primitive camping. Tuition: \$20



HAUNTED FULLERTON
WALKING TOUR
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14

6 - 8:15 PM

\$10 ADULTS

All those who've paid:
Be there or be scared!

FULL

CFMS Visalia Federation Report, Nov. 1-3

by cAT Van Kampen

The 3.5 hour drive to Visalia via the Grapevine was beautiful. Autumn colors from sycamores, cottonwoods, willows, alders, and oaks brilliantly dotted the landscape. Accommodations at the Holiday Inn were adequate, but pricy. The general feeling is to relocate this annual conference to the Ramada Inn in Visalia next year.

The Friday night get-together was an opportunity to register, socialize, and collect our packets. On Saturday, the following items were on the CFMS agenda and are important to note:

- * 2003 Show "Seaside GEM boree," hosted by the Del Air Rockhounds, Inc., June 5-8 in San Buenaventura.
- * Demonstrators and Lecturers Registry Form must be in by May 19, 2003.
- * Guest displays are welcome; you will need an entry form.
- * Club/group camping reservations must be made in advance.
- * All forms are available from your Federation Delegate.
- * IRS Available Exempt Organization Information can be accessed at www.irs.gov/eo.
- * The final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Northern and Eastern Colorado Desert (NECO) and the Northern and Eastern Mojave Desert (NEMO) were completed and released. Both included a Coordinated Management Plan. Jim Strain, PLAC Chair, submitted his final report; look for this in our newsletter on p. 14.
- * There was an overview of the Federation's Insurance Program and a report is available.
- * Education Through Sharing is now known as Club Rockhound of the Year. The change was proposed to conform with the AFMS program, and was approved by the CFMS Executive Committee at their meeting in Placerville.
- * The Rockhound Stickers are a success. A proposal was made: CFMS recognize and adopt this sticker as a symbol for rockhounds and rockhounding.
- * Installations for new CFMS officers were presented by Izzie Burns after dinner. Dick Pankey presented a slide show on Hawaii.
- * An AFMS Scholarship report was submitted.
- * Field Trip Chair – North. The Northwest, Rocky Mountain and California Federations of Mineralogical Societies are hosting a tri-federation rockhound rendezvous and field trip to Texas Springs, NV, Memorial Day Weekend 2003. More information is available on this future trip from our field trip chair.

This was a great opportunity for me to attend the CFMS and represent the Searchers; I hadn't been to one in many years. If anyone is interested in any information, please call me and I will make copies for you.

Searchers Club Name Badges

by Nancy Norlund

I'm holding name badges for the following members to pick up:

Mark & Debbie Sumrow
Jim, Mary, Chris, & Kimberly Clarke
Mark & Amy Sanchez



Need a new name badge? They are only \$5.60 each including tax. Swingers (one line) for committee members are only \$1 each.

Don't forget to pick up your badge at our general meeting or call me at 714/960-6957 to arrange for pickup. To place your order by email: njnorlund@netzero.net.

General Meeting Minutes continued
entertainment is \$20 per person.

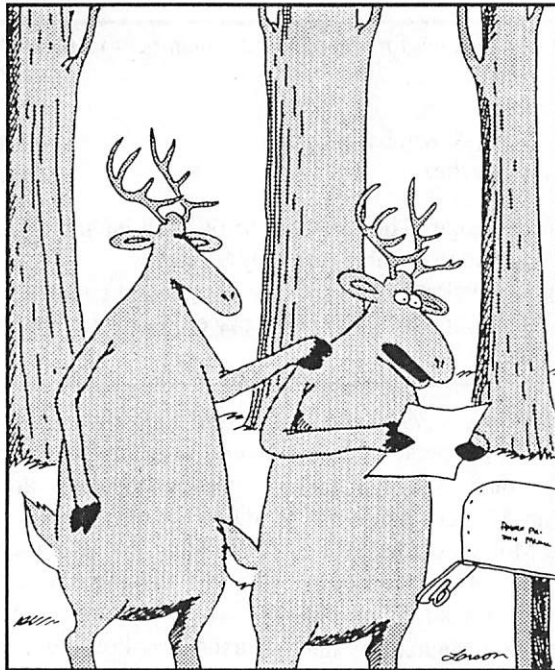
- Betty Nelson made a motion the club pick up \$5 per person for the dinner. Motion seconded by Robert Burson. Motion carried.
- We must have a head count and money in to the restaurant by the first week in December.

Treasurer's Report – Beth Pelfrey: Beth reiterated that the club's checking account is with Bank of America and reported B of A has a new policy charging \$5 per check cashed. For example, if you receive a check from the Searchers, and you go to the bank to cash the check and do not deposit it in your own account, B of A will charge the Searchers a \$5 fee. Beth recommended we switch to another bank. Beth has agreed to review some brochures and look at other banks. A motion was made by Milt Green to move the Searchers checking account to another bank, seconded by Anastacio O'Campo; the motion carried.

Jim Peterson gave a delightful overview of his and Esther's vacation to Alaska. It made us all want to go to Alaska the next day.

Connie Van Kampen opened the floor for nominees for 2003 officers.

- Jerry Norlund nominated Robert Burson as President, seconded by Nancy Norlund. Robert stated he would consider the nomination.
- Jerry Norlund nominated Jim Peterson as Second Vice-President/Field Trip Chair, seconded by Nancy Norlund. Jim Peterson accepted.
- Jerry Norlund nominated Karen Martinez for Secretary. She declined.
- Jerry Norlund nominated Anastacio O'Campo as First Vice-President, seconded by Beth Pelfrey; he accepted.
- Connie Van Kampen asked Beth if she would consider being Treasurer in 2003. She said she would rather not.
- There was no further discussion; nominations were tabled by Robert Burson, seconded by Jerry Norlund. Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.



"Oh my God! It's from Connie!
She's written me a 'John deer' letter!"

Sunshine Report

by Dot Johnson

Elmer Parsons thanks everyone for all the calls and cards while his wife, Mary Jane, has been recovering. She is now at home and doing much better.

Our own Milt Green had cataract surgery last month and



is seeing much better in one eye now – next, the other one!

Please remember these friends and send your thoughts and prayers their way. Cards and calls are always welcomed.



Kids having fun around the campfire at our Copper World field trip in April. - Photo by Nancy Norlund

PLAC Report continued

Contacts we have made over the years will still receive comments and input from us.

The new PLAC chairman has now been announced. Please - PLEASE – step forward and assist him or her in representing CFMS and leading the continuing battle.

It has been a genuine honor to have had the opportunity to assist CFMS in trying to keep the various levels of governmental officials informed of our needs and goals.

Thank you and God Bless All of You.

For Sale – Slabs and Petrified Wood

Several thousand slabs and several hundred pounds of petrified wood for bulk sale. Petrified wood: \$1/lb., 10-lb. minimum; you select. Slabs (agate and jasper) \$10/lb., 2-lb. minimum; you select. Silverado area, a half-hour from Anaheim. Call Bill at (714) 649-3367; or email: otari@cox.net for appointment.

PLAC Report

by Jim and Beth Strain

Note: The following was an agenda item at this year's Visalia Federation meeting.

The final Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) for the Northern and Eastern Colorado Desert (NECO) and the Northern and Eastern Mojave Desert (NEMO) were completed and released. Both included a Coordinated Management Plan.

We were finally able to get the BLM to acknowledge the impact the Desert Protection Act had on our access for educational and recreational collection of rocks and minerals. We lost approximately 25% of our areas when the National Parks and Preserves were enlarged or created. Approximately 25% of the areas are included in the wilderness areas where access is very difficult (on foot or horseback only). We also mentioned the 6-8 percent loss by enlargement of military areas, enlargement of the state parks, and special areas created for various types of protection.

Several congressmen and congresswomen have joined to protest the closure of a portion of the Imperial Sand Dunes to off-road use and to try to force intervention by the Secretary of the Interior, based on the survey recently completed which proves that the Milkvetch is not endangered as the Sierra Club contends. This battle will probably go on for some time.

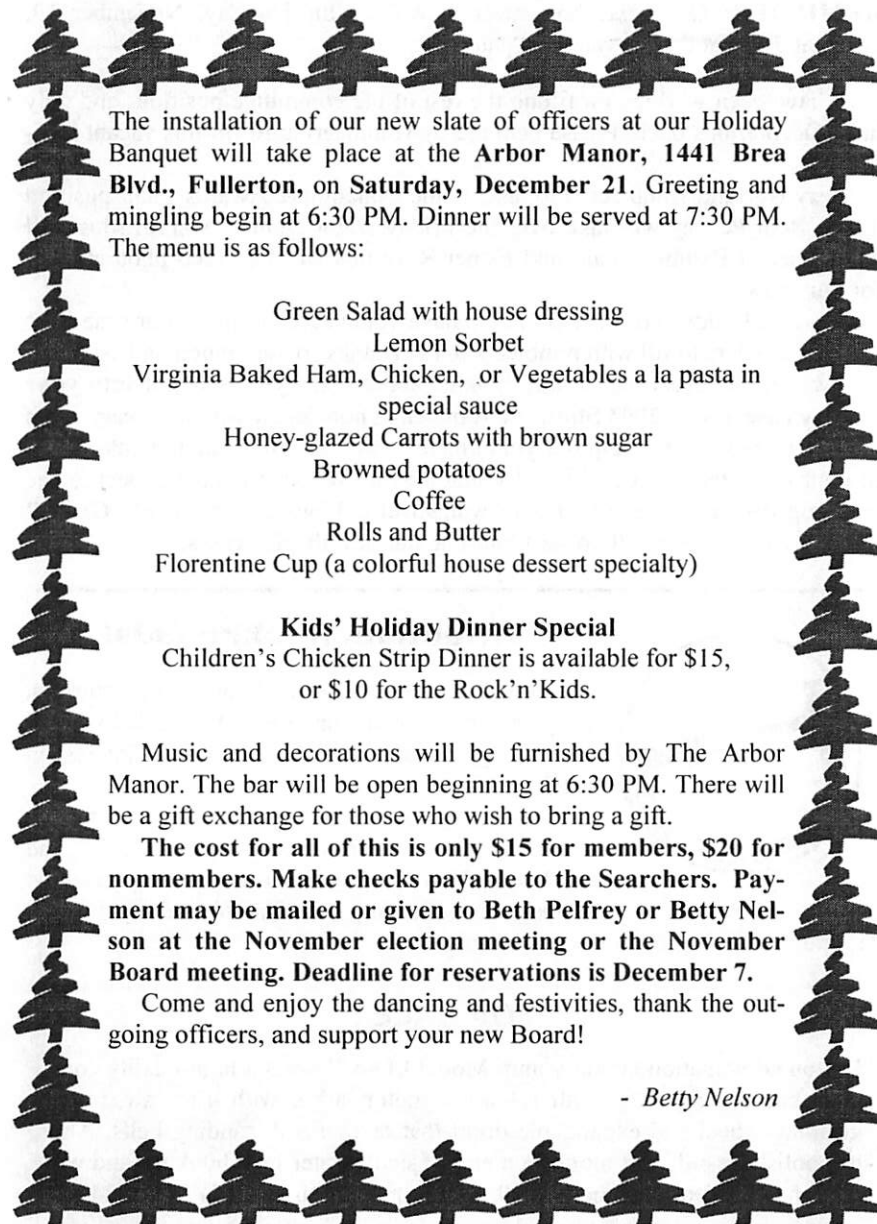
The same congressional representatives also voiced opposition and concern related to the NECO and NEMO Plans, stating the plans were biased and did not reflect the will of the public and local governmental agencies.

We were successful in keeping several roads open (called non-routes in the original draft plan). PLAC wishes to acknowledge the hard work of San Diego Mineral & Gem, Shadow Mountain Gem & Mineral, Needles Gem & Mineral, Lake Havasu Gem & Mineral, and unknown others, in calling the "errors" to the attention of BLM representatives.

We (PLAC) had stated that there appeared to be an effort to prohibit educational and recreational use of the California desert to further earth science education at all levels, grammar school through college. BLM did react to the statement and specifically acknowledged that they left the "Non-Routes" open due to our combined efforts. If you were involved, THANK YOU! If you weren't involved in assisting to keep our remaining areas open, you should have been. PLEASE GET INVOLVED.

This is my final report as Chair of PLAC. Both my wife and I find traveling any distance increasingly difficult, so it is time to step aside and let others lead the charge. We will not just sit back and watch – you can be assured that the

Searchers Holiday Banquet and Installation of New Officers to be Held December 21



The installation of our new slate of officers at our Holiday Banquet will take place at the **Arbor Manor, 1441 Brea Blvd., Fullerton, on Saturday, December 21**. Greeting and mingling begin at 6:30 PM. Dinner will be served at 7:30 PM. The menu is as follows:

Green Salad with house dressing
Lemon Sorbet
Virginia Baked Ham, Chicken, or Vegetables a la pasta in special sauce
Honey-glazed Carrots with brown sugar
Browned potatoes
Coffee
Rolls and Butter
Florentine Cup (a colorful house dessert specialty)

Kids' Holiday Dinner Special

Children's Chicken Strip Dinner is available for \$15, or \$10 for the Rock'n'Kids.

Music and decorations will be furnished by The Arbor Manor. The bar will be open beginning at 6:30 PM. There will be a gift exchange for those who wish to bring a gift.

The cost for all of this is only \$15 for members, \$20 for nonmembers. Make checks payable to the Searchers. Payment may be mailed or given to Beth Pelfrey or Betty Nelson at the November election meeting or the November Board meeting. Deadline for reservations is December 7.

Come and enjoy the dancing and festivities, thank the outgoing officers, and support your new Board!

- Betty Nelson

Show 2003 Update

by Nancy Norlund, Show Chair

REMINDER: Our next show meeting will be on Tuesday, November 19, 2002, at 7 PM at the Downtown Center.

I have been working on filling the rest of the committee positions and only have Decorations open. Please help me by volunteering to fill this vacant position.

Jerry Norlund volunteered to take on the Donation & Awards Chair position again, Beth Pelfrey will take over the Friday Night Dinner, Marvin Mog will chair Special Exhibits again and Esther Reynolds will be video photographer for our show.

Kusuma Reddy and Nora O'Campo have volunteered to make our grab bags for Ken Landers to fill with tumbled stones. Thanks so very much, ladies.

I would like everyone to start thinking about **what you will put into your display case at our 2003 Show**. Start planning now and it will be so easy when the day comes. Please help our youth members to get involved and enter some of their collected items and jewelry that they make. Karen and I expect to see our long display tables filled with wonderful exhibits of "Nature's Gems." January will be the month to start building our new display cases.



Attention, Rockhounds!

We now have the CFMS Rockhound logo stickers. They will be seen nationwide with the help of all rock and gem clubs. They will create an interest in rockhounding.

They really look great – you might want to buy several to put on your window, car, truck, RV and notebooks. You can buy them from Nancy Norlund at the general meetings, the Christmas Party on Dec.

21, and the 2003 Show for only 50 cents each.

FOR SALE

Lorton combination lapidary unit. Model LU-6. This is a high-quality complete cab cutting setup with 1/4 horse motor, arbor with trim saw, rough grinding wheel and expandable drum that takes finish sanding belts. Also has polishing buff that mounts on end of shaft, water feed hookups and water pan. Excellent condition. \$200. Call Ram Das Bir at (714) 547-1324.

Monthly Silent Auctions

The Gem and Mineral Exploration Company (GAMECO) donates all the mineral and fossil specimens to support this great club fundraising activity. The dollars we raise are desperately needed to support and supplement the fees collected in the workshop to keep our First-Class facilities operating. Although we did not have an auction in October, there will be one at this month's meeting.

GAMECO will continue to provide minerals and fossils for the auctions; but if you have some mineral(s) that you'd like to contribute, don't hesitate to bring them to the meeting, as well. This is, after all, for the good of the club. Our sole goal is to keep the club vibrant and growing.

- Walter Mroch

GAMECO Holiday Sale – For Members Only

GAMECO is having a sale in November. All minerals and fossils in my stock will be reduced in price from 20 to 40%. You can pick up the Thomas Range book for \$10 per copy to give as gifts for the holidays. Pick up a PC screensaver for \$10 each.



If you don't have time to come visit, you can order the book or screensaver by phone with a credit card, or by mail for \$12 including all charges. For more information, please call (714) 826-2132 or email:

hwmroch@gemandmineral.com

Please call and schedule a visit in small groups. There is a large assortment of minerals to choose from. Stock up for your friends or loved ones. We pay all state taxes.

- H. W. Mroch

Gem and Mineral Exploration Co.
PMB 373, 4141 Ball Rd.
Cypress, CA 90630

**DON'T FORGET THE SEARCHERS
CHRISTMAS PARTY ON DECEMBER 21.
IT'S ONLY A MONTH AWAY!**