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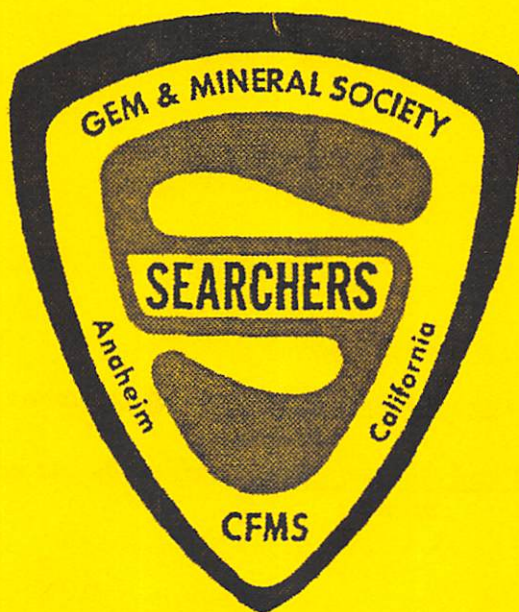
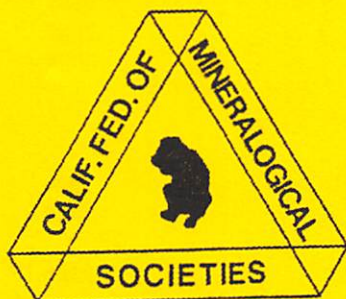
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The Rock Slab News  
Richard Butler Editor  
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Anaheim, CA 92801-7005





# THE ROCK SLAB NEWS

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE SEARCHERS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.

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Volume 35, Number 4

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Director	Walter Mroch	page

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**Classified Ads:** send in ads as soon as possible because space may be limited.

**Announcements, Birthdays and Anniversaries:** submit by the end of the first week of the month for publication in the next month's paper.



# The Rock Slab News



PUBLISHED BY THE  
SEARCHERS GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.

Established June 20, 1958

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

Mailing Address: PO BOX 3492, Anaheim, CA 92803

(E-mail): [Slabnews@aol.com](mailto:Slabnews@aol.com)

(web page) <http://www.gemandmineral.com/searchers.html>

## CLUB OFFICERS

President  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
Secretary

Betty Nelson  
James Perlowin  
Joan Macomber  
Nancy Norlund

714-530-1365  
949-837-7213  
714-821-0129  
714-960-6957

Treasurer  
Federation Director  
Director

Alicia Ojeda  
Beth Pelfrey  
Walter Mroch

714-635-4266  
714-774-2754  
714-826-2132

## COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Anaheim Arts Council  
Arts Council Alternate  
Historian  
Library  
Membership  
Monthly Drawing  
Phone Committee  
2000 Show Chairman  
Rock Slab Editor  
Hospitality

Margaret Neeley  
Richard Butler  
Jan Gillette  
Bob Dixon  
Milly Arvanites  
Jerry Norlund  
Doris Pelfrey  
George Lux  
Richard Butler  
Lana Brown

714-535-2030  
714-484-1947  
714-776-9467  
714-534-5063  
714-838-1924  
714-960-6957  
714-774-2754  
714-992-2757  
714-484-1947  
714-870-4859

Silent Auction  
Sunshine  
Veterans Coordinator  
Ways & Means Chairman  
Greeter  
Workshop Coordinator  
Youth Chairman  
2000 Co Show Chairman  
Rock Slab Mail Out

Jerry Norlund  
Dottie Johnson  
John Velazquez  
**Open**  
Larry Richey  
Herb Beckman  
Norbert Bernhardt  
Harry Nelson  
Paul Ellis

714-960-6957  
714-535-8579  
310-835-4432  
**Help needed**  
714-846-3573  
714-801-2181  
949-786-4691  
714-530-1365  
714-893-8238

Regular Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at the new Anaheim Downtown Community Center, 250 E. Center Street, Anaheim, CA.

Visitors are always welcome.

Board meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month January through December. The meetings are held at the new Anaheim Downtown Community Center, 250 E. Center Street, Anaheim, CA.

Members are always welcome.

**Membership Dues:** Annually: \$20 for adults, \$25 per couple, and \$2 for junior members under 17 years in age

**Field Trips:** Held on the published dates of each month. Trip maps, added activities, time changes and other pertinent information will be published in The Rock Slab News.

**Workshop:** The workshop time and dates can be found on the monthly calendar.

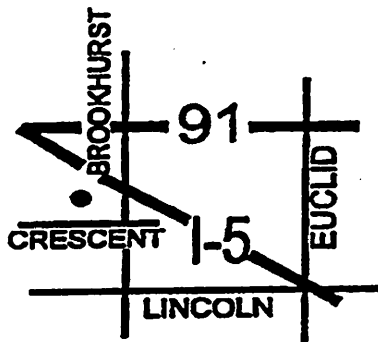
**Deadline for Articles:** Must be in the hands of the editor by the Friday following each regular monthly meeting to insure publication for the next month.

Mail to

Richard Butler, 205 North Western Avenue, #118, Anaheim, CA, 92801-7005, or Fax to 714-484-1949, or submit via E-mail: [Slabnews@aol.com](mailto:Slabnews@aol.com)

**SHOW COMMITTEE MEETING****April 4th 2000****7:00 PM To 9:30 PM.****Anaheim Downtown Community Center  
205 East Center Street, Anaheim, CA****THIS IS A MANDATORY MEETING FOR  
ALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS!****FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL  
GEORGE LUX - SHOW CHAIRMAN (714) 992-2757  
OR****HARRY NELSON- SHOW CO-CHAIRMAN (714) 530-1365****SEACHERS 41st ANNUAL  
GEM , JEWELRY & MINERAL SHOW****BOOKS,  
CRAFTS,  
DINING,  
FINDINGS,  
GEMSTONES,  
GRAB BAGS,  
JEWELRY,  
MINERALS,  
HOBBY SUPPLIES  
AND MORE!****DONATION TICKETS !****FIRST PRIZE:****Artwork by: Dale Ter Bush  
(Value - approx. \$500.00 )****SECOND PRIZE:****2 Tickets to Disneyland****THIRD PRIZE:****2 Tickets to Knott's Berry Farm*****FREE ! FREE!***

- PARKING • ADMISSION
- HOURLY DOOR PRIZES
- JEWELRY MAKING FOR CHILDREN
- EXHIBITS • EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS
- LIVE DEMONSTRATIONS

**Brookhurst  
Community Center  
2271 W. Crescent Avenue  
Anaheim, CA 92801****SATURDAY  
May 6th  
10 AM - 7:00 PM  
SUNDAY  
May 7th  
10 AM - 4:30 PM****Please check out our web site for additional dealer, program and club information.  
<http://www.gemandmineral.com/searchers.html>  
Sponsored by the Anaheim Arts Council**

# MORE PRIZES

## SEARCHERS 2000 DONNERS

**Westward—Ho**  
2900 Las Vegas Blvd., South  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89109  
**3 Days & 2 Nights for Two**

**Four Queens**  
202 Freemont Street  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
**2 Free Nights for Two**

**Riviera Hotel & Casino**  
2901 Las Vegas Blvd., South  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89109-1931  
**2 Free Show Admissions at the Riviera**

**Catalina Passenger Service**  
**The Balboa Pavilion**  
400 Main Street  
Balboa, CA  
**Round Trip Passage to Catalina for Two**

**Petsmart**  
19601 North 27th Ave.  
Phoenix, Arizona 85027  
**\$10.00 Gift Certificate**

**Mimis Café**  
17395 E. 17th Street, Suite D  
Tustin, CA 92780  
**Dinner for Two**

**Binion's Horseshoe**  
P.O. Box 520  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89125-0520  
**Buffet Dinner for Two**

**Avi Resort and Casino**  
P.O. Box 77011  
Laughlin, Nevada 89028-7011  
**3 Day, 2 Night Stay for Two**

The show committee chairpersons will need YOUR HELP come show time. If you have not found a job yet, let one of the committee chairpersons know that you can help. Thank you very much.

### *The SEARCHERS Gem and Mineral Society* *Show Committee Chairpersons* *Year 2000*

Chairman  
Anaheim Arts Council  
Children's Jewelry  
Decorations  
Donation Awards  
Financial  
Geodes  
Hospitality  
Kitchen  
Membership  
Security  
Signs  
Special Exhibits  
Wheel of Fortune

George Lux  
Margaret Neely  
John Velazquez  
Trudie Reed  
Richard Butler  
Alicia Ojeda  
Paul Ellis  
Alice Lux  
Nancy & Jerry Norlund  
Ana Gabourel  
Larry Richey  
Walter Mroch  
Mike Casey  
Jeri Parkerson

Co-Chairman  
Cases  
Dealers  
Demonstrations  
Electrical  
Friday Night Dinner  
Grab Bags  
Hourly Door Prizes  
Layout  
Publicity  
Set-up/Clean-up  
Discovery Room  
Trophies & Ribbons

Harry Nelson  
Walter Mroch  
Marge Jordan  
Floyd Neely  
Herb Beckman/Larry Richey  
Betty Nelson  
Ken Landers  
Cheri Reda  
Herb Beckman  
Beth Pelfrey  
Roger Ewing  
Norbert Bernhardt  
Audrey Nichols





# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Betty Nelson

Spring is here, and the Show is just around the corner! The Committee has everything under control, and now it is time for the rest of us to get involved. If you have not yet signed-up for 'Show Duty' be sure to sign-up at the April meeting or call one of the chairpersons and volunteer. We need to have everyone involved. Also, we still need donations from our members for both the BIG drawing and hourly door prizes. Bring these to any Searcher Meeting or shop lab between now and the day of the show.

Our board and chair positions are now all filled except for a Ways and Means Chairperson. We still need someone to do that. Joan Macomber, our new Second Vice-president and Field Trip Coordinator, is offering a smorgasbord of field trip possibilities for the coming months. They will be listed way ahead of time in *The Rock Slab News*, so plan to take advantage of as many of them as possible. Jerry Norland has made new reflective signs to use on Searcher activities, so even in the desert at night the Searchers will be visible.

Harry and I have become great-grandparents for the eighth time. Little Laif Farrell arrived on March 13<sup>th</sup> weighing in at 7lb, 3oz. He is 19 inches tall and has brown hair. He and mother Amy are fine. Dad Art is recovering nicely.

See you all in April and at the Show in May.



## 1st Vice President

Our Program for April 11th

From: James Perlowin

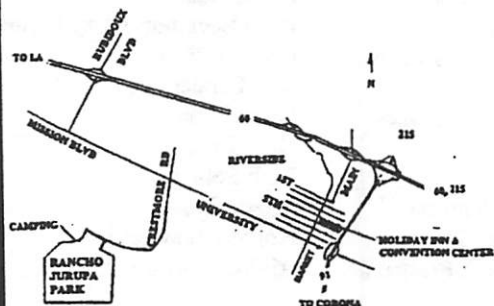
### The Art of Suiseki

Toy Sato is a past President of CFMS. She says, "I became interested in Suiseki in 1966 and made many trips to Japan. I was taught the art form by a very fundamental collector who rigidly followed the guidelines of the art. Also, I led numerous trips to Japan, meeting with club members who took us on collecting trips. Those on the trips were members of different Societies in the CMFS. Having been to Japan 18 times, I learned a great deal about the culture and have an appreciation of Suiseki, and have given programs in Miami Beach, Atlanta, Philadelphia, Allentown and of course California."

Dealers \* Exhibits \* Jewelry  
Lectures \* Prizes  
Gold Panning  
Metal Detecting  
Demonstrations  
Faceting Symposium

California Federation of Mineralogical Societies  
61st Annual Show & Convention  
**GOLD & GEM SHOW**  
Riverside, CA Convention Center

Chairman: Bural LaRue  
P. O. Box 1657  
Rialto, CA 92377  
Admission  
\$5.00 Adults  
\$4.00 Students, Seniors  
Under 12 free with adult



**AUGUST 4 - 6, 2000**  
Fri & Sat 10 to 6 Sun 10 to 5  
Hosted by: Valley Prospectors



## 2nd VICE-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### Trip Coordinator

*Joan Macomber*

March is Shark Month!

The Buena Vista Museum of Natural History would like to invite you to our Guest Speaker Program: March 25th at 2 P.M. The topic will be Sharks.

Also on 04/01, The Bureau of Land Management and the Buena Vista Museum Field Trip: Santa Maria Basin - Point Sal. The ecology, history and geology of the Santa Maria area is considered with stops at Point Sal and Vandenberg Air Force Base., Plate tectonics, continental accretion and shoreline processes are topics of discussion. Addition stops will be made at the Celite diatomaceous earth mine and La Purisima Mission. The program ends at Point Sal State Beach. Optional camping at Point Sal on Saturday night is possible for those not going on this field trip in private vehicles. This will require hiking to and from the Point on a steep trail. CB required or you can rent one from the museum for \$5. To reserve your spot; go to the Geology field trips page for field trip sign up information and an online form that you can print out and mail to. <http://www.sharktoothhill.com/fieldtrips.html>

#### California Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CFMS)

##### Earth Science Studies at ZZYZY

April 9 to 16, 2000

CFMS is organizing a week-long trip to their Desert Studies Center. The Center is located off I-15, exiting ZZYZX Road (near Baker) and traveling 4 miles on an unpaved road.

Studies will include the lapidary arts: bead stringing, soft stone carving, studying fossils, cabochon making, silver smiting and wire wrap. Field trips will be conducted for sightseeing and collecting. Lectures and programs will complete the evening.

Three meals will be provided daily, and field trip food will be included. There are adequate accommodations, and the bathroom is located nearby in a separate building.

Parking is available for RVs.

The cost is \$220.00/per person for the full week

An application can be found on the following page or on the CFMS website located at 'cfmsinc'

#### FOR SALE

1981 YAMAHA 175

Off road/Street legal

\$ 400.00

In good shape! Priced to sell.

Ross

(714) 937-0560

## Rock'en Y2k

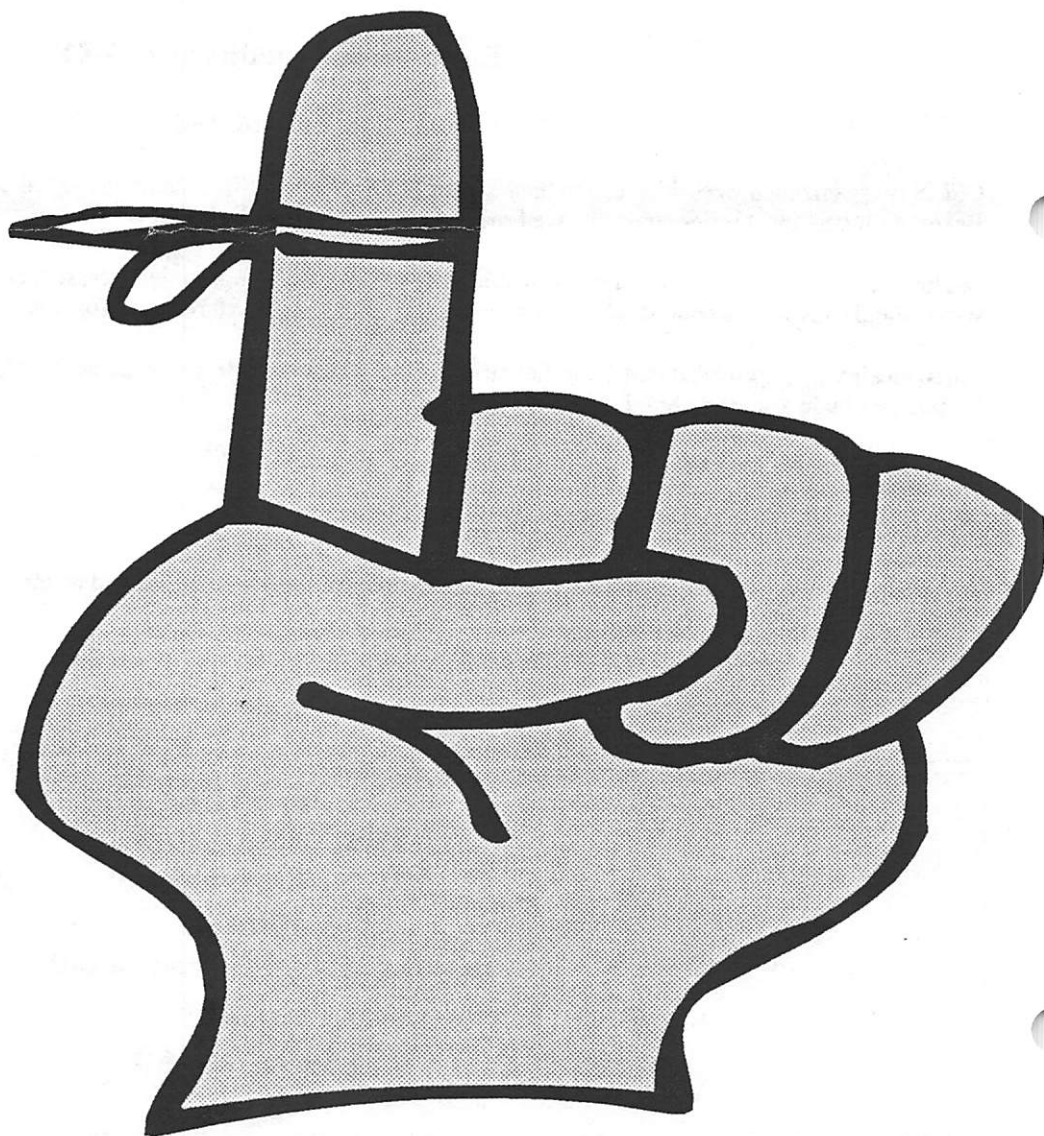
Don't wash that vehicle yet; instead, mark you calendars for the upcoming field trips made available by various groups! I've been 4x4ing the web in search of trips any rockhound might like to sink their pick into. We'll continue to build our field trip calendar as additional outings become available. As indicated, not all trips listed are under the authority of CFMS/Searchers. All members are allowed to attend the Youth Group outings; but adult attendees are requested to provide assistance to the group as a whole, allowing Norbert the opportunity to maximize his time spend with our Rock'n Kids.

Not many trips are scheduled during the summer months and I encourage those with knowledge of digsites along the coast, or west of the mountains, to share your experience and organize a day or weekend field trip. Our hottest days are at the end of September and the beginning of October, providing ample summertime digging opportunities in great weather. Under the guidance of George Lux, and influence of the low tides, I'm coordinating a trip to Jade Cove during September. I was there approximately 25-years ago and spent much of the day sitting in a tree. I'd cut across a farmer's field and the tree is where his bull chased me. Mindful of that interlude, and the fact that I'm quite new to rockhounding, I don't think you want me coordinating too many of your trips! We really need the expert assistance of our seasoned diggers to point out the digsites.

For your convenience, this packet contains a Trip Coordination form to assist you in organizing a field trip for inquiring minds that might be interested in these site specifics. As long as we keep at least 3 wheels on the ground at all times, I understand everyone would appreciate the opportunity to attend more field trips. Richard Butler and I will gladly add them to the trip calendar and provide trip specifics to the entire membership via The Rock Slab News. Thanks in advance for your assistance and enjoy digging-in.

WHAT  
DID  
I  
FORGET

I  
KNOW  
IT  
WAS  
SOMETHING  
WHAT  
WAS IT





**CFMS EARTH SCIENCE STUDIES****April 9 - 16, 2000****Zzyzx Road, Soda Springs, California**

The fifteenth annual CFMS Earth Science Studies Seminar will be held at the California State University Desert Studies Center, located in the National Preserve. To reach the Center take I-15 to Zzyzx Road, drive south on four miles of unpaved road.

Our program will offer classes in lapidary arts, lectures, and field trips to collecting sites and/or interesting historical areas. It is a great place to advance your learning in the midst of good comradeship.



The facilities are rustic. They are dormitory style rooms with a bed, mattress, and desk. Each person is responsible for cleaning his or her own room. Rest rooms and showers are provided in a separate building. No pets are allowed as this is a College Desert Study Center.

Register for this exciting and interesting seven day program by completing the form below and mailing it with full payment of \$220.00 per person by March 10, 2000. There will be no cancellation refunds after this date, unless we have a replacement on our waiting list or you can find a replacement, then 20% of the money will be kept for administrative expenses.

Make checks payable to CFMS  
Mail form to Florence Melsenheimer  
101 N. Wake Forest Ave.  
Ventura, CA 93003-2246  
(805) 642-3155.

Isabella and Bill Burns  
Chair Persons

---

Keep part above this line

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

The Facilities have ramps for physically challenged. Special diets are not provided, but you can bring your own diet foods.

Please check the workshops and/or activities in which you desire to participate. List choices  
1st, 2nd, 3rd.

<input type="checkbox"/> Field trips	<input type="checkbox"/> Cabochon Making
<input type="checkbox"/> Bead stringing	<input type="checkbox"/> Silver smithing
<input type="checkbox"/> Carving (soft stone)	<input type="checkbox"/> Wire wrapping
<input type="checkbox"/> Study of fossils	

Fees: Room assignment will be on a first registration basis. Fees include lodging, three meals a day, and workshops. There may be a small additional fee for materials used in some classes.

Double room	\$220.00 per person	_____
Dormitory room	\$220.00 per person	_____
RV (no hook-ups)	\$220.00 per person	_____
total amount enclosed		_____

Rock'n Trips Y2K

<b>March</b>		
27	Orientation; Nopah/China Ranch	NOCCC/Connie Van Kampen
<b>April</b>		
1-2	Nopah/China Ranch	NOCCC/Connie Van Kampen
9	Crestmore	Culver City/brad@greenhart.com
9-16	Earth Science Studies at ZZYZX	CFMS
11	Monthly Meeting	Searchers
15-16	Boron Mine	Boron Club
20	Board Meeting	Searchers
21-23	Lavic Siding	Searchers/Beth Pelfrey
24	Orientation; Buffington Pocket, NV	NOCCC/Connie Van Kampen
28-30	Buffington Pocket, NV	NOCCC/Connie Van Kampen
<b>May</b>		
6-7	41st Annual Gem and Mineral Show	Searchers
9	Monthly Meeting	Searchers
13-14	Stone Canyon	CFMS
15	Orientation; Jawbone Canyon, Lake Isabella	NOCCC/Connie Van Kampen
27-29	Peterson Mountain, NV	MSSC
27-29+	Rainbow Ridge Opal Mine, Denio, NV	Placerville/Lana Brown
29-7	Tonopah	Searchers/Marvin Mog
<b>June</b>		
-7	Tonopah (continued)	Searchers/Marvin Mog
5	Orientation: Highway 395	NOCCC/Connie Van Kampen
10-12	Highway 395	NOCCC/Connie Van Kampen
13	Monthly Meeting	Searchers
15	Board Meeting	Searchers
<b>July</b>		
11	Monthly Meeting	Searchers
20	Board Meeting	Searchers
TBA	Bar-b-que/Swim Party	Searchers/Betty & Harry
<b>August</b>		
4-6	CFMS Show, Riverside	CFMS
8	Monthly Meeting	Searchers
10	Board Meeting	Searchers
<b>September</b>		
12	Monthly Meeting	Searchers
21	Board Meeting	Searchers
TBA	Jade Cove, CA	Searchers/Joan Macomber
<b>October</b>		
10	Monthly Meeting	Searchers
19	Board Meeting	Searchers
14-15	Trona	Trona Club/Jon Gladwell at myrddin@imagina.com
<b>November</b>		
14	Monthly Meeting	Searchers
16	Board Meeting	Searchers
23-26	Calico Thanksgiving	Searchers/George Lux
<b>December</b>		
12	Monthly Meeting	Searchers
21	Board Meeting	Searchers
TBA	Holiday Party	Searchers

## Rainbow Ridge Opal Mine

May 27 to 29, 2000

Lana Brown and our Placerville CFMS affiliated group, are arranging a trip to the Rainbow Ridge Opal Mine May 27-29, 2000 (and a few are remaining the entire week). This is an exceptional trip to obtain some of the most beautiful wood cast opals in the world.

Tailings are provided to our group at a discounted rate of \$25/day. Children aged 10-15 years are half price, and kids under 10 dig for free when accompanied by an adult.

For \$150 you can purchase a fresh virgin ground scoop of approximately 3 yards in a loader bucket that the miners haven't gone through yet. Two people can share the scoop, and it will take you the full day from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM to sift through it. A new-comer struck the mother lode in a fresh scoop—finding an opal the mine owner offered him \$125,000 for on the spot—he refused to sell!

The mine, and many of the repeat participants and jewelers, will instruct you in some of the techniques to help spot opals with an 'educated' eye. You just sift through the clay tailings. Bring a small garden rake, trowel or small shovel, spray bottle with water, bucket for wood pieces, sun block, hat and gloves. The rock shop sells beautiful opal as rock and jewelry.

The opal mine is located in Virgin Valley, NV, in Northwest Nevada, approximately 135 miles from Winnemucca, NV and 1000 miles from Lakeview, OR. The closest town is Denio, NV, 35 miles away. All roads are blacktop except for the last 7.5 miles which are gravel and dirt. Trailers should be left at the CCC camp 5 miles before the mine, and the last couple of miles should not be attempted at all during wet weather. There is no overnight camping at the ridge, but there is camping available close by:

The phone number of Rainbow Ridge Opal Mine is: 775/941-0270 (May to October) and 541/548-4810 (November to April)

Lana Brown has a brochure to the mine.

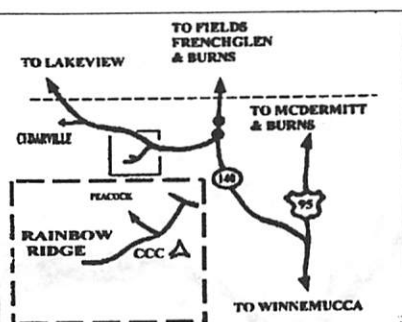
CCC Camp: 5 miles from Rainbow Ridge, free camping, good water, shower house and swimming pool.

Denio Junction: 32 miles from Rainbow Ridge, fuel, restaurant, bar and motel. Phone: 775/941-0371

Diamond Inn Bar: 35 miles from Rainbow Ridge. Motel, cafe, fuel and groceries. Phone: 775/941-0297

Fields Station: 58 miles from Rainbow Ridge. Motel, cafe, fuel and groceries. Phone: 541/495-2275

Frenchglen Mercantile: Groceries, fuel, restaurant, bar, gifts, Bed and Breakfast on the scenic Steens Mountain Loop. Phone: 541/493-2738.



### Turn off Info

Dirt road starts at turn off from hwy 140.

7.5 miles from turn off to mine.

2.5 miles from turnoff to CCC camp.

Follow signs from CCC camp to mine.

Turn off 24.5 miles from Denio Jct.

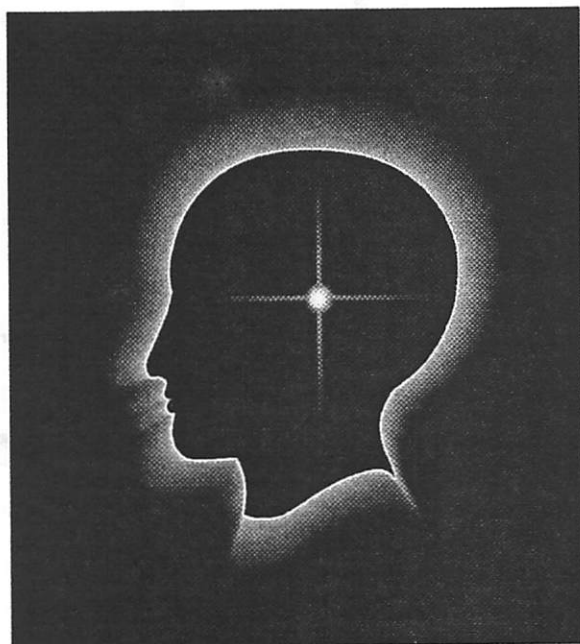
Turn off 90 miles from Lakeview, OR.

The last 5 miles to Rainbow Ridge is

dirt and clay road. In wet conditions,

consider the road and the mine closed.

How can I ever  
remember  
these thing if I  
can't remem-  
ber what I  
think I have  
forgot





## California Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CFMS)

### Stone Canyon

May 13, 2000

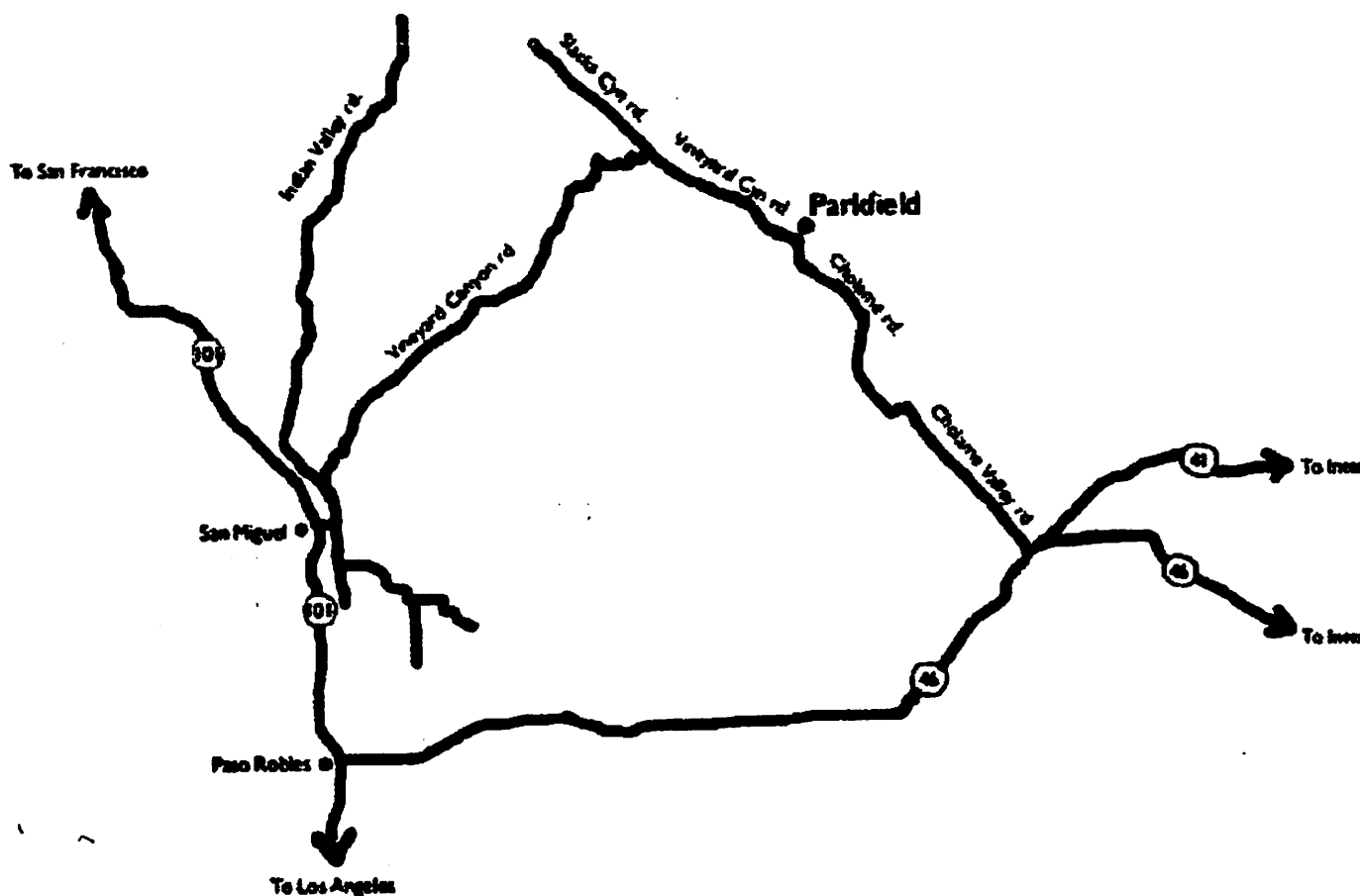
The California Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CFMS) is coordinating a trip to Stone Canyon, on Saturday, May 13, 2000. All inquiries can be addressed to Steve Ivie, CFMS Field Trip Chairman - South, 805/376-2340 / irockhound@aol.com.

Meet in Parkfield, near the town of San Miguel, at 9:00 AM prompt. Take I-5 or Hwy 101 north. Make sure you have gas, and food, before leaving the freeway area. We'll be traveling into a cow pasture so please drive an appropriate vehicle. A 4x4 will NOT make it through the pasture if it rains.

The owner will provide 50 pounds of material for \$25.00, after that material is 50 cents per pound--cash only. The jasper material is quoted to be of the highest quality. Jasper is sharp--wear good gloves and safety glasses, long sleeves are optional, long pants, and field collecting boots are recommended. Bring standard collecting tools; a sledge hammer, chisel and heavy buckets if you have them.

Story has it that large equipment was brought in last year and a giant piece of jasper was brought to the surface--you just have to whack your pieces off--no digging! Additionally, a guy nearly bottomed out his heavy-duty 3/4 ton truck when a giant piece was placed in the bed. He had a heck of a time getting it out of his truck and left it in the city park in Parkfield where you can whack pieces off of it! I guess if we can't make it through the pasture, we should meet at the Park!

CFMS affiliated members and guests can attend who abide by the AFMS Code of Ethics.



## Peterson Mountain and Hallelujah Mining and Exploration Site

May 27 to 29, 2000

MSSC is organizing the 6th annual trip to the Petersen Mountain and Hallelujah Mining and Exploration site, May 27-29, 2000, to dig for quartz, quartzscepters and amethyst. The mine owners reserve the right to keep one specimen per day (which hasn't happened yet) but if they do, they will pay the finder \$200. The mine owners will be hosting a BBQ on Sunday night and all are invited.

RVs are O.K., or stay in Reno. It's the holiday weekend, so make reservations in advance. Visit the web page at [http://www.mineralsocal.org/bulletin/2000\\_mar.htm](http://www.mineralsocal.org/bulletin/2000_mar.htm) for pictures of past field trips, a specimen photo, and the application to attend. They can only accommodate 25 people per day, so complete and return the registration form, with your check, by May 1, 2000 (first come-first serve). Any vehicle can get to the campsite, but you must have a 4x4 to get to the claim. They will caravan to the collecting site and be on site from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM daily. Be there early to register. You must come to the campsite to dig with the group.

From Reno, take US 395 North, 30 miles, to Hallelujah Junction (gas & food), and then 10 miles more to Red Rock Road. Turn right and go about a mile. The campsite is on the right. Look for the MSSC sign. DO NOT drive over the speed-limit between Reno and Red Rock Road as it is a high enforcement zone for NHP and CHP.

Questions: Contact Jim Schlegel

Telephone: 626/449-9197

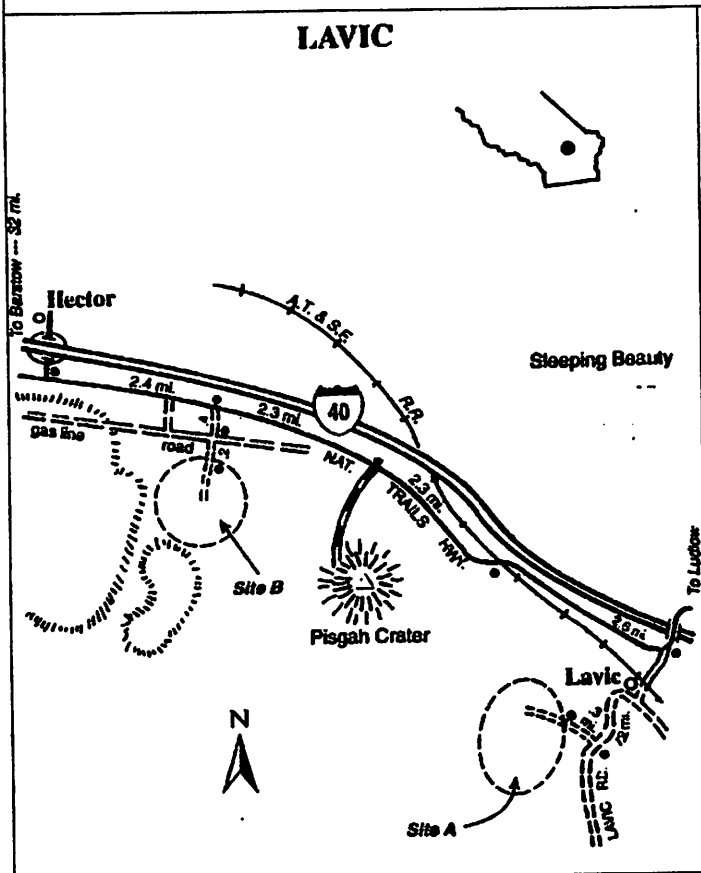
Fax: 626/449-5484

[jeschlegel@earthline.net](mailto:jeschlegel@earthline.net)

## Lavic Siding Field Trip

April 21-23, 2000

The March, 2000 *Rock Slab News* provided a map and information on the upcoming Lavic Siding trip coordinated by Beth Palfrey. You may find this map to be a little more detailed. Hope to see you there!



I  
Have Now Remem-  
bered  
What I Forgot.  
Did You?  
If Not Look On  
Page  
22

## ***Camping With Connie Van Kampen***

At age 5, I picked up my first rock on top of a hill in the Twin Peaks district of San Francisco. I admired its beauty and found that it was agate, just like the marbles I had won and collected through my youth. Years later to the present, I have been teaching geology, fauna, flora and history in 'Exploring Southwest Deserts' for 17 years, and it has been truly gratifying. If you are adventurous, enjoy camping and meeting nice people, this class is for you! I also teach a Kids' College 'Science Safari' class. Students enjoy hands-on projects and nature hikes in our local hills. I am currently employed with 'Science on the Go,' and enjoy my participation in the Searcher's Gem and Mineral Society.

Exploring Southwest Deserts courses are offered through the North Orange County Community College District (NOCCC) on a non-credited basis. Trips are held monthly, usually over the weekend, except during the summer semester when a week-long trip is offered. A course catalog may be obtained from the school district (including Yorba Linda and Cypress College), or viewed online at [www.sce.cc.ca.us](http://www.sce.cc.ca.us), under the Science and Discovery class schedule. Student enthusiasm is evident at their website under construction at [www.netwisedesign.com/vankampers](http://www.netwisedesign.com/vankampers).

The class utilizes CBs while traversing the landscape, educational handouts are provided, and often tours are lead by local experts. We enjoy many learning experiences regarding the interactions of geology, plants and animals, rockhound, take numerous optional hikes, share a gourmet potluck dinner around a campfire on Saturday night, and have established long-term friendships. A nominal tuition is charged for each class; children are free. Unless you make other arrangements with me, you must attend the class orientation (usually held on the Monday before the trip) at the Yorba Linda Continuing Education Center, 4175 Fairmont, Yorba Linda, CA, Room 303, at 7:00 PM.

### **Nopah Mining District/China Ranch**

Discover scenic and historical points of interest in the eastern Mojave Desert. Hike along the Amargosa River, stop at China Ranch where owners will discuss its history, visit the Nopah mining district to explore the War Eagle, Noonday and Gunsight mining camps. Rock collecting is permissible on dump areas. Primitive BLM camping, no facilities/no fees. Conventional vehicles O.K.

Tuition: \$28

Lab fee: \$2

Orientation: Monday

March 27, 2000 7PM to 10PM

Field Trip: Saturday-Sunday

April 1-2, 2000

### **Buffington's Pocket, NV**

Located near the Valley of Fire, Nevada. Spectacular canyons where Aztec sandstone is mined. For the adventurous, 26 twisting and turning miles on a 4x4 trail from Muddy Mountains to Echo Wash. Bring your rock picks! A collector's paradise for quartz, chalcedony, banded agate, onyx and Aztec sandstone. Primitive camping, no facilities, no fee area. 4x4 high-clearance vehicles recommended.

Tuition: \$42

Lab fee: \$2

Orientation: Monday

April 24, 2000 7PM to 10PM

Field Trip: Friday-Sunday

April 28-30, 2000

### **Jawbone Canyon/Lake Isabella**

High desert exploration of various canyons in the southern Sierra Nevada Mountains. Explore Blue Point mine, hike or 4x4 to Alpine Canyon. Visit Lake Isabella, the Kern River and scenic Kelso Valley. Rock collecting O.K. Primitive camping on BLM land. No facilities, no fee area. 4x4 recommended.

Tuition: \$28

Lab fee: \$2

Orientation: Monday

May 15, 2000

7PM to 10PM

Field Trip: Saturday-Sunday

May 20-21, 2000

### **Highway 395 Geological Tour II**

One of the most scenic and geologically interesting highways in California. Trip includes: Fossil Canyon, Charcoal Kilns, Keough Hot Springs, Saddlebag Lake, Obsidian Dome, Mono Lake and more! Camping at Crowley Lake BLM group. Limited facilities, great view of the lake. Rocks and mineral collecting. Conventional vehicles O.K.

Tuition: \$49

Lab fee: \$2

Orientation: Monday

June 5, 2000

7PM to 10PM

Field Trip: Friday-Monday

June 9-12, 2000



## Searchers' Trip Coordination

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Trip Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Coordinator: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers: \_\_\_\_\_

4x4 Required/Recommended: Yes/No

RV/Trailer Accessible: \_\_\_\_\_

Driving Time/Mileage: \_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated Weather: \_\_\_\_\_

Altitude: \_\_\_\_\_

## Permits

	<b>Entrance</b>	<b>Fire</b>	<b>Site</b>	<b>Insurance</b>
Required:	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No
Obtained:	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No
Cost:	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

## Site

Contact Telephone# \_\_\_\_\_ Full Hookups: # \_\_\_\_\_ at \$ \_\_\_\_\_ No Hookups: # \_\_\_\_\_ at \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Overnight participants: # \_\_\_\_\_ Tents/Vehicle: # \_\_\_\_\_ at \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Day use only: # \_\_\_\_\_ at \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Potable Water: Yes/No	Toilets: Pit/Flush/No	Showers: Yes/No	Tables: Yes/No	Firering Allowed: Yes/No
Pool/Spa: Yes/No	Pets Allowed: Yes/No	Bar-b-que: Yes/No	Shade: Yes/No	Firering Available: Yes/No

## Itinerary

Date	Time	Activity/Site/Specimens
------	------	-------------------------

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

## Driving Directions (Specific to site/campground)

_____
_____
_____
_____

## Events/Local Activities

_____
-------

## Pick-up:

First Aid kit: Initial: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Direction Signs: Initial: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rules/Sign-In: Initial: \_\_\_\_\_

## Return:

First Aid kit: Initial: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Direction Signs: Initial: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rules/Sign-In: Initial: \_\_\_\_\_



## SHOW SECURITY CASES

Please remember that we do not allow any display cases or exhibit to be opened or removed during show hours.

Sunday at the close of the show everyone will leave the exhibit hall until security personnel have cleared the building. This should take 5 to 10 minutes with your help, after which time you will be allowed back into the hall to remove your case and the items inside it.

If you need help or have a problem, or want to volunteer to help, please let me, Larry Richey, or George Lux know what you can do to help. This is for your safety and protection.



## NAME BADGES

Remember to wear your club name badge to the show this year, especially on Sunday when the show closes. If anyone is in need of help with their display from someone who is not a club member, please see me on Friday, Saturday or Sunday for a temporary authorization badge.

Wearing the badge makes sense and makes it easy for visitors to spot club members to ask for help, identification of rocks and minerals, and information about the Searchers.

*Larry Richey*  
Security



## VETS' SHOP TALK

From  
*John Velazquez*



*Please remember to bring slabs to each meeting for the VA Rehab Center.  
They should be uniform in thickness and fracture-free.*

*The box will be in its usual place at the table by the back door.*

## COLLECTING ROCKS

By: unknown

I think that there shall never be an ignoramus just like me.  
Who roams the hills throughout the day to pick up rocks that never pay.  
For there is one thing I've been told I take the rocks and leave the gold.

O'er desert wild or mountain blue I search for rocks of varied hue.  
A hundred pounds or more I pack with blistered feet and aching back.  
And after this is said and done I cannot name a single one.

I pick up rocks where ever I go the reason why I do not know.  
The rocks are found by fools like me where God intended them to be.

**SHOW CASE  
CHAIRMAN***Walter Mroch***SHOW CASE SIGNUP**

**ABOUT 50 PEOPLE HAVE SIGNED UP AT THIS TIME.  
WE ONLY HAVE ROOM FOR ABOUT 55 CASES SO PLEASE  
SIGNUP ASAP**

**CALL ME AT (714) 826-2132**

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN A CASE OF YOUR OWN CALL  
BETH PELFREY (714) 774-2754  
IT'S ONLY \$20.00**

**IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID YOUR DUES YET  
THIS IS YOUR LAST ROCK SLAB NEWS**

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

**By: Milly Arvanites**

For the people that did not get their roster at the last meeting I will be passing them out again at the April 11th meeting so before you leave pick one up.

As you have noticed, the new rosters are quite different from the ones we have had for the past many years. I hope you will like this difference, use and enjoy it. I only wished there were more pictures along side your names.

Being totally illiterate as far as computers are concerned, I hope that I didn't incorrectly type any of your E-mail addresses. For any of the errors I may have done, I do apologize. Please give any corrections to myself, or to Richard Butler. All of this information is on his computer. We want to make the corrections.

I would like to advise that we had these new rosters printed for 'FREE'. Thanks to Richard Butler who obtained two advertisements that paid for all the printing. This is the reason why there are two advertisements in this roster for the first time.

Please don't hesitate to tell myself or Richard of any corrections or additions that should be made in connection with your name, address, phone number, or E-mail.

Thanks so much!  
Milly

**New members**

Shilling, Donald B.  
2285 Western Ave. Bldg. 301  
Anaheim, CA 92804  
(714) 821-8058

Pool, Lawrence (Larry)  
9611 Random Dr.  
Anaheim, CA 92804  
(714) 956-2327

Pearson, Carl A. & Patricia  
6442 Chapman Ave.  
Garden Grove, CA 92845  
(714) 897-9029





# **THANKSGIVING FIELD TRIP**

**NOVEMBER FIELD TRIP  
NOVEMBER 25-28  
CALICO STATE PARK  
RESERVE BY APRIL 1ST**

**LEADER IS GEORGE LUX**

**Call George at 714/992-2757 to reserve your site**



## **Rockhounds' Code of Ethics**

**I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without the owner's permission.**

**I will keep informed on all laws, regulations or rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.**

**I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.**

**I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas,**

**I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind: fences, signs, buildings, etc.**

**I will leave all gates as found.**

**I will build fires in designated or safe places only, and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.**

**I will discard no burning material: matches, cigarettes, etc.**

**I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.\***

**I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supplies.**

**I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.**

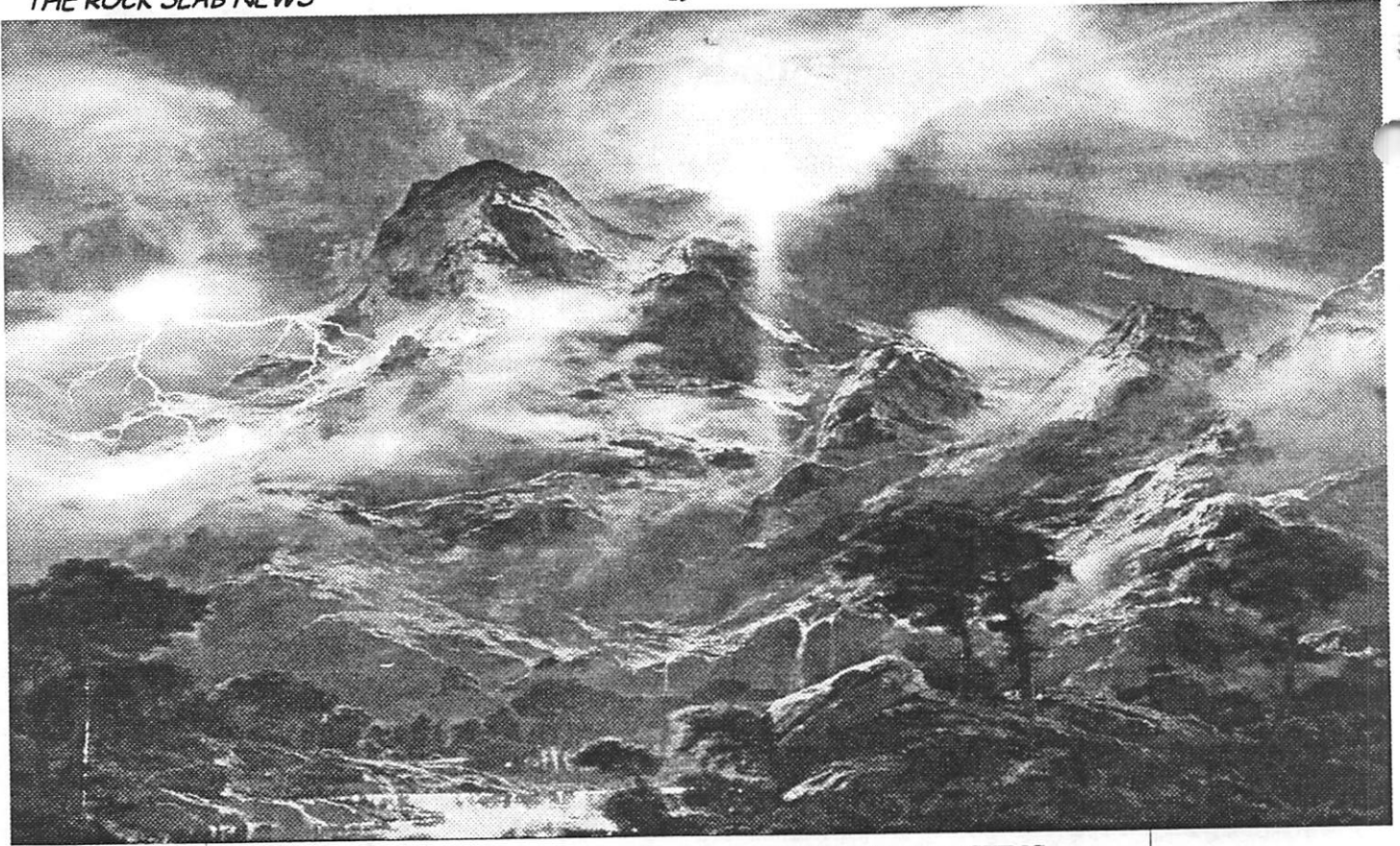
**I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.**

**I will cooperate with fieldtrip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.**

**I will report to my club or federation officers, Bureau of Land Management, or other authorities any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public, educational, and scientific purposes.**

**I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources. I will observe the 'Golden Rule,' will use 'good outdoor manners,' and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and public 'image' of rockhounds everywhere.**

**\* Note: a recent mandate has been made to assist in the protection of the endangered desert turtle. Dig sites left unfilled should have an incline with no more than a 30% grade to allow turtles to exit the hole.**



See more of Dale Ter Bush's work online at [www.TERBUSHPUBLISHING.com](http://www.TERBUSHPUBLISHING.com)

### **THE ROCKHOUND**

By John Wilson

THE ROCKHOUND IS A DIFFERENT BREED.  
FOR COLLECTING ROCKS, HE HAS A NEED.  
TO FAR-OFF PLACES, HE WILL TRAVEL  
TO SIMPLY LOOK THROUGH PILES OF GRAVEL.

HE PICKS UP VARIOUS ROCKS AND STONES,  
PETRIFIED WOOD AND FOSSIL BONES.  
HIS COLLIGATION USUALLY OCCUPIES  
A GROWING SPACE OF CONSIDERABLE SIZE.

HE LOOKS FOR ROCKS WITH SPOTS OR STRIPES,  
OR ROCKS OF RARE OR UNIQUE TYPES.  
THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS "A PLAIN OLD ROCK,"  
TO HEAR AN AVID ROCKHOUND TALK.

THE ONES WHO LIVE WITH HIM HAVE SAID,  
"HE MUST HAVE ROCKS INSIDE HIS HEAD."  
COMPULSIVELY, HE DOES HIS DUTY  
TO GATHER ROCKS OF QUESTIONABLE BEAUTY.

HE SPENDS A LIFETIME LOOKING FOR  
THE PERFECT STONE, AND THOUSANDS MORE.  
WHEN TRAVELING, HE'LL ALWAYS STOP  
TO PROBE ANOTHER ROCK OUTCROP.

HE'LL PICK UP ROCKS UNTIL HE DIES,  
TO FIND ANOTHER GEMSTONE PRIZE.  
AND IF HE COULD, HE WOULD EVEN RAVE  
ABOUT THE TOMSTONE ON HIS GRAVE.



officedepot.com

# Office DEPOT®

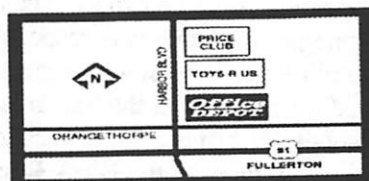
**Buying Elsewhere? You're Paying Too Much!**

**Save** Even More at Our  
**Fullerton Store!**

You'll get the guaranteed low price on more than 7,000 office essentials, including:

- Office Supplies • Computers & Peripherals
- Digital Cameras • Software • Business Machines
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Plus, visit our in-store Copy & Print Center for guaranteed low prices on professional printing, copying, faxing, custom signs and more!



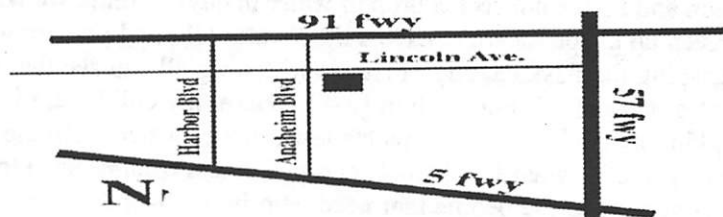
Harbor & Orangethorpe  
 (Fullerton Town Center)  
 (714) 879-9530

**Store Hours:** Mon.- Fri: 7am to 9pm Sat: 9am to 9pm Sun: 10am to 6pm

## Bella Marris's

ITALIAN FAMILY RESTAURANT

20 S. Anaheim Blvd. Anaheim CA, 92805 Downtown Anaheim 714.991.9700



**Hours:**  
 Sun-Thu 11:00 am - 10:00 pm Fri-Sat 11:00 am - 12:00 am

We Accept only:



Personal checks not accepted.

1194 West Katella  
 Anaheim, California  
 Across from Disneyland  
 714-533-1631



6436 East Stearns  
 Long Beach, California  
 Near Cal-State  
 562-596-5771

## THE DEATH ROUTE

They sat and stood around the fire, and by its light the thoughtful faces of the older men told of the importance of the decision, which must be made

During the past week, rumors had come back about the line of wagons, about a new trail which offered not only a shorter distance to the valleys of California but would bypass the dreaded Forty Mile Desert. They had come to this point this afternoon. The deeper ruts were heading south toward the Humbolt River, and the newer ruts heading west towards the unknown.

The older men were undecided and cautious. They had examined the tracks and had pointed out that for every wagon that had taken the new trail, hundreds had followed the old one. Would it be wiser and safer to stay on the established route? That was the decision that they would have to make.

The young men, welcoming a gamble which might save weeks, argued that it was late in the year and had pointed out what had happened to the Dinner party a year before when almost all of them perished on the mountain.

The fire had burned the last of its fuel before the decision was made. The next day, the wagons would head west to follow a trail that was destined to become known as 'The Death Route.' The year was 1849.

It is not possible that one person alone was responsible for the misinformation which caused the 1849 disaster, but many historical accounts credit Peter Lesson with such an achievement. Lesson, was born in Denmark and migrated to the U.S. In 1843, he received a land grant in the Sacramento Valley. Hoping to bring emigrants to his ranch, he went east and acted as a guide to hopefully bring people west to settle on his land. This was in 1847-48. He new of the Applegate Trail but had blazed a trail through the Black Rock that would lead others to follow that were not as fortunate as he was. Now back to the original story.

From Lessons boasting of the shorter route, this next party would try and follow his route. That was a mistake. Alonzo Delano a writer with the ill-fated wagon train would document the things that happened next. The Party had started from Lessons Meadows. This is in the middle of the desert. From there it was another 40 miles to Rabbit Hole Springs, which had the promise of water, if it hadn't dried up. Sure enough, when they hit rabbit hole, there was only a few sips left for the people. The animals had nothing to drink. The Party left Rabbit Hole Springs "with anxious hearts and a reality that they were really in trouble." As I walked on slowly and with effort, I encountered a great many animals perishing for want of food and water. Some would be gasping for breath; others unable to stand would issue low moans as I came upon them. Showing intense agony, the poor horse or oxen would stagger along side of me with a low sound as if begging for a drop of water. I was helpless, for I myself was in need of that precious drink of water. "I was now on the forbidding Black Rock, there was no turning back. I had secured a little water from Rabbit Hole in a rubber flask that was made in India and was saving it for an emergency. Never did I realize that what lay ahead of me would test my love for my fellow man. I came upon a wagon. Seated in the wagon was a young woman with a small child. The little boy was crying for water. The poor mother with tears running down her cheeks was trying to pacify the little sufferer. "Where is your husband, I enquired?" He has gone on with the cattle in search of water, but I think we will all die before he returns. My son and I have not seen a drop of water in days. I think we will die before he returns. I cannot endure it much longer." "Keep up a stout heart. I have a little water left, and you are welcome to it." "God bless you-- God bless you," she said, gasping the flask eagerly. (This is where we all can see that the love that this woman had for her child would be the greatest love of all. Putting him first.) "Here, my child, here is water. The gift of life is now in your hands. Thanks to this kind man who has given us his last drink of water." (In the story, you can see how each one put the other ahead of them) I live by what I call Bob's commandment to himself. God First. His fellow man second. This includes his wife and children and the people that need help in this world. Then I can look at myself and say that Bob has lived his life like the people in the story. Putting them ahead of himself. Now I am at piece with my God and myself.

Before she had tasted a drop, she gave it all to her child which was a little more than a teacup. Even in distress and misery, a mother's love is for her children, rather than herself. This all happened in 1849. What has happened to morals that they had then. "Where have all the flowers gone, gone to graveyards everyone." That is a song of the sixties that may say how we have changed our way of thinking. Let us all think of the story and get to know it's meaning. We all should be concerned for one another and learn to live in this world and to learn to help one another when someone is in need. Maybe one day, we will be that person that is reaching for the cup of water and we can say, "God bless you and thank you for your kindness."

The End

## Show dates for April 2000

**April 1-2, Angels Camp, CA**

Calaveras Gem & Mineral Society  
Calaveras County Fairgrounds  
Hours: 10-5, Saturday and Sunday  
Earl Klein at (510) 632-9373

**April 1-2, Torrance, CA**

South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society  
Torrance Recreation Center  
3341 Torrance Blvd.  
Hours: Saturday 10-6, Sunday 10-5  
Leslie Neff/Larry Hoskins  
(310) 318-2170

**April 8, Escondido, CA**

Palomar Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.  
Redwood Senior Center  
13th Avenue at Redwood Street  
Hours: 9-6, Saturday  
Don Parsley at (760) 745-6181

**April 8-9, Hacienda Heights, CA**

Puente Hills Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.  
Steinmetz Park  
1545 S Stimson Ave.  
Hours: Saturday 10-5, Sunday 10-4  
(909) 594-6177

**April 8-9, Paradise, CA**

Paradise Gem & Mineral Club  
Veterans Memorial Hall  
Elliot and Skyway  
Hours: Saturday 10-5, Sunday 10-4  
Charlee Brouse at (530) 877-9266

**April 14-16, Las Vegas, NV**

Las Vegas Gem Club  
Henderson Convention Center  
200 Water St.  
(About 5 miles east of Las Vegas  
off Hwy 93/95)  
Hours: Fri 12-6, Sat 10-6, Sun, 10-4:30  
Jerry or Lynne at (702) 597-5104

**April 15-16, Boron, CA**

The Mojave Mineralogical Society, Inc  
Boron High School - Multi-purpose Room  
Hours: Saturday 9-6, Sunday 9-4

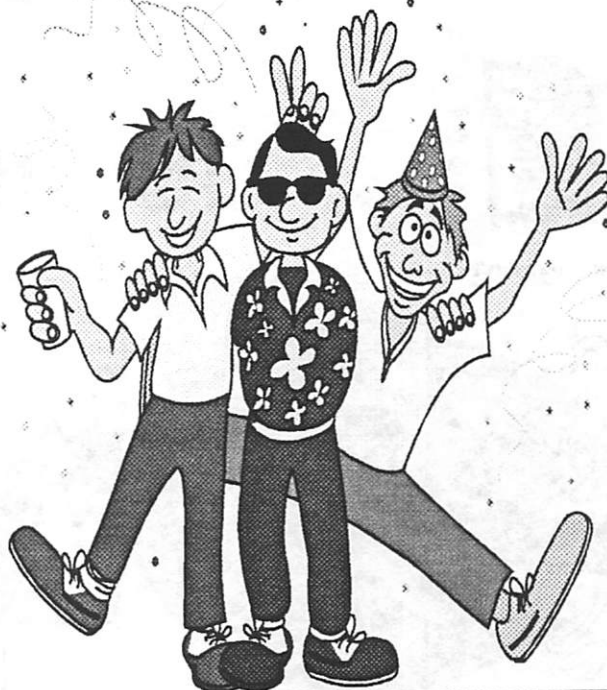
**April 29-30, Lancaster, CA**

Antelope Valley and Palmdale Gem & Mineral Club  
Challenger Memorial Hall  
Antelope Valley Fairgrounds  
Hours: 9-5, Saturday and Sunday  
Fred Ebel

**April 29-30, Santa Cruz, CA**

Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society  
Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium, Corner of Center  
And Church Streets  
Hours: 10-5, Saturday and Sunday  
Pat Clarke at (831) 479-8759

Don't forget all you SEARCHERS your help  
will be needed at this year show so keep  
May 6th and 7th 2000 open and please let any  
of the show committee people know that you  
will be happy to help.





# April 2000



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				Workshop 6:30/10:PM		Workshop 3:00/7:PM
2	3	4	5	6 Workshop 6:30/10:PM	7 PAPER DEADLINE "YOU MUST HAVE ALL ARTICLES IN TODAY"	8 Workshop 3:00/7:PM
9	10	11 Searchers Meeting 7 PM Downtown Center	12	13 Workshop 6:30/10:PM	14	15 Workshop 3:00/7:PM
16	17	18	19	20 Searchers Board Meeting 7 PM Workshop 6:30/10:PM	21	22 Workshop 3:00/7:PM
23 Easter	24	25	26	27 Workshop 6:30/10:PM	28	29 Workshop 3:00/7:PM
30						

**Anniversaries**  
 Karen Martinez—2nd  
 Jim Williamson—2nd  
 Thelma Clinard—11th  
 Walter Mroch—15th  
 Delbert Parkerson—19th  
 James Perlowin—19th  
 Weston Miller—24th

**Anniversaries**  
 Ross & Connie Miesel—19th



Regular meeting, Board meeting and the Workshop are in the  
DOWNTOWN COMMUNITY CENTER  
250 E. CENTER ST.  
ANAHEIM, CA

