MOROKS

SEPTEMBER 2011

Monrovia Rockhounds Newsletter

P.O. Box 553
Monrovia, CA 91017
Editor – Janie Duncan

September 2011 MOROKS Newsletter

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 Board Mtg. @ Janie's	2	3
4	5 Labor Day	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15Gen Mtg "Crystal Lore"	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23 Fist Day of Autumn	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

MOROKS NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2011

MONROVIA ROCKHOUNDS

Club Information
Our Website is www.moroks.com

ELECTED OFFICERS

PRESIDENT – Cal Matthews	(626) 798-7481
VICE PRESIDENT – Janie Duncan	(626) 358-8157
SECRETARY – Michele Silcock	(626) 357 8425
TREASURER – Jim Lloyd	(626) 793-9239
BOOKEEPER – Jo Anna Ritchey	(626) 359-1524
REPRESENTATIVE – Ray Ritchey	(626) 359-1624
REPRESENTATIVE – Linda Wu	(626) 357-4296
REPRESENTATIVE – Rodney Warner	(626) 444-9013
FEDERATION – Jo Anna Ritchey	(626) 359-1624

CHAIRPERSONS

HISTORIAN – Nancy Hamrick	(626) 357-4106
BULLETIN – Janie Duncan	(626) 358-8157
CUSTODIAN – Jim Lloyd	(626) 793-9239
CLUB SHIRTS – Linda Wu	(626) 357-4296
PICNIC – Donald Sneberger	(626) 941-6214
SHOW – Jo Anna Ritchey	(626) 359-1624
WEBSITE – Jo Anna Ritchey	(626) 359-1624
ROCK RAFFLE - Louise Stack	(626) 966 0350
FIELD TRIP – Ray Ritchey	(626) 359-1624
PHOTOGRAPHER – Rodney Warner	(626) 444- 9013
FELLOWSHIP/cards – Louise Stack	(626) 966 0350

Membership: Annual donations are $15.00 per member and $5.00 per each additional member at the same address. $10.00 per name badge is payable on the date of initiation.

Meetings: MOROKS meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month. At 7:00 pm, in the basement of the United Methodist Church of Monrovia, located at 140 E. Palm Ave. Monrovia CA 91016. The building is on the corner of Ivy & Palm Ave. We use the door where there is handicapped access in the alley on the west side of the building. Do not try to enter from the front of the building. Guests are always welcome at our General Meetings. Please come and share our love of rocks.

Information: Monrovia Rock Hounds Inc. was founded August 28th, 1957. The club colors are green & white. The club is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing knowledge of the lapidary arts, geology, mineral logy, and other related fields. Members enjoy slide shows, lectures, demonstrations, displays, lapidary classes, our club library as well as field trips for exploration, study and collecting specimens.

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

If you have any submissions for this newsletter or need to contact the editor Janie Duncan please email her at janieduncan@altrionet.com

Monrovia Rockhounds September Birthdays

Janie Duncan	9	Ralph Fregoso	18
Donald Sneberger	17	Louise Stack	16
Rex Chambers	21	Maria Davila	26
Joel Tureaud	22	Louisa Davila	26
Harold Vannatta	12		

CHALK PREVENTS TARNISH Adding a small piece of chalk to a sealed bag with a sterling silver jewelry piece inside **does work** to prevent tarnish. The chalk will attract any moisture as well as most chemical residues that cause tarnish to occur. If you prefer not to worry about the chalk touching the jewelry, wrap it in a small piece of cheesecloth. This will work for jewelry as well as for flatware, tea sets, etc.

Borax By David Jacobson via June 2011 **Canaveral Moonstone**

This month I am writing a few words about a mineral you most likely have used as a flux if you have done any casting. It is borax, Na2B4O7 10H2O, hydrated sodium borate. It is found in evaporate deposits in dry lakebeds called playa deposits in dessert regions. A playa is a temporary lake, which is filled water from mountain runoff during the rainy season. In playa's where borax is found the mountain runoff is rich in boron. Evaporation concentrates the boron forming borax and other borate minerals. It is associated with halite, trona, ulexite and other borate minerals. When borax looses water it alters to a mineral called tincalconite, Na2B4O7 5H2O, a pseudomorph, which retains the shape of the original borax crystal. Borax was originally discovered in Tibet. Today it is mined in many parts of the world including California; Stassfurt, Germany; Tuscany, Italy; and the Atacama Desert in Chile. Borax is in the monoclinic crystal system. Crystal habits can be blocky and prismatic, often with square cross sections. The mate-rial can be massive. It also forms crusts. The crystals are trans-parent to translucent. When the crystal alters to tincalconite it turns white maintaining the original crystal form. The range of colors is colorless, white, yellowish or bluish. Streak is white. Hardness is 2 - 2.5. Specific Gravity is 1.7. It has a sweet alkaline taste but I don't recommend tasting any minerals, as it can be hazardous to your health. It fuses easily to a small glass sphere, which colors the flame yellow. The yellow flame is an indicator of sodium. Borax also is soluble in water. Borax is mined as an important economic mineral. Some of its uses are in glass manufacture, pottery glazes, flux, fire retardant, water softener and fertilizer. A transparent borax mineral specimen would have to be sealed to maintain its appearance. When altered to tincalconite it is relatively stable specimen.

PREZ SEZ We had a wonderful and educational trip out to the Museum in San Bernardino. The rock, mineral and fossil displays are very nice. They have a hall of birds and one of mammals as well as some local history and a special exhibit on the 60"s. We are planning some other trips to places that are air conditioned this fall. You should come.

Cal Matthews

VICE PREZ SEZ I have a fun time at the Museum. There was a huge Smokey quartz. I think my favorite part was the 60's exhibit., It brought back a lot of memories. After Colleen Chestnut and Camille Rutkowski and I went to the Morongo casino for the buffet lunch. Holy cow was that a treat! You all should come with us on one of the upcoming trips. Janie Duncan

August 4th MONROVIA ROCKHOUNDS BOARD MEETING

President: *Cal Matthews* called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Vice President: *Janie Duncan* August will be Andrew Wilson on "Crystal Lore." September is open. October is the Silent Auction. November is Dr. Ralph Mitchell "The Molecular Structure of Gemstones." December is the Christmas Party.

Secretary: *Michele Silcock* was absent. Cal asked for any corrections or additions to the minutes of last month's Meeting as stated in the bulletin? The minutes were approved as written in the newsletter.

Treasurer: *Jim Lloyd* We have 32 paid members. Jo Anna needs to look for the latest receipt book which Jim needs.

Representative: *Linda Wu* was absent. *Ray Ritchey* absent *Rodney Warner* was absent

Fellowship: *Louse Stack* Ray is still having trouble with his braces. Micelle is in the hospital with back and leg problems related to her seizures.

Great Rock Drawing: *Louise Stack* August is a large calcite crystal.

Rock of the Month Talk: The talk for August will be Yvette Fitzgerald..

Fieldtrip: *Ray Ritchey* was absent. Janie will have flyers at the general meeting for a trip to the San Bernardino Museum in Riverside on Friday August 26th leaving from her house at 9am..

Federation: *Jo Anna Ritchey* No report.

Custodian: *Jim Lloyd* Jim will bring the old raffle box to Denise Davis at the August meeting.

Photographer: *Rodney Warner* was absent. Janie is going to bring her camera to the meeting to try it.

Historian: *Nancy Hamrick* was absent.

Show: *Jo Anna Ritchey* A couple more dealers have committed. We will get sign ups for the MAFA booth at the Sept. Meeting.

Website: *Jo Anna Ritchey* Needs to be updated. Janie will email Jo Anna the newsletter again.

Bulletin: *Janie Duncan* looks good.

Refreshments: Denise Davis has volunteered for August.

Picnic: *Donald Sneberger* was absent.

Old Business: *Cal Matthews* **1.**Budget this month. 2. We discussed getting rid of the safety deposit box and putting the stuff in Janie's big fire safe no charge. We need to make copies. 3. We discussed changing the bylaws. 4. Janie will call Monrovia High School about setting up a scholarship.

New Business *Cal Matthews*

President: *Cal Matthews* adjourned the meeting at 8:25pm

BenchTips by Brad Smith More BenchTips by Brad Smith are at Face Book or at groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips

FINISHING PIERCED PATTERNS

After sawing patterns there's always a little cleanup to do. Needle files (7-8 inches) can get into the larger areas, and escapement files (4 inches) can get into some of the corners. But I often find myself looking for even smaller files. Couldn't even find them at a watchmaker tools supply company, so I had to try something else. I ended up grinding down the tip of a 4" barrette file using a separating disk (or cutoff wheel) in your Dremel or Foredom. The wheels are inexpensive and do a great job grinding steel (poor at soft metals like silver). The disks have other uses like modifying pliers and making design stamps. My preference is the one inch diameter ones as shown at ttp://www.ottofrei.com/store/product.php? productid=3919&cat=3439&page=1 Be sure to hold the wheel firmly so nothing moves to break the disk, and definitely wear your safety glasses. A flake of steel in your eye makes for a bad day.

August 18th MONROVIA ROCKHOUNDS GENERAL MEETING

President: *Cal Matthews* called The meeting was called the meeting to order at 7:05PM and lead we the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice President: *Janie Duncan* Tonight is our own Ray Ritchey who is going to a program on chapinite. Ray filled in for the speaker who was ill and will do it next month. .September will be Andrew Wilson on "Crystal Lore." October is the Silent Auction. November is Dr. Ralph Mitchell "the Molecular Structure of Gem-stones." December is the Christmas Party.

Secretary: *Michele Silcock* was absent. The minutes were approved as written in the bulletin

Representative: *Ray Ritchey*

Representative: *Linda Wu has* absent

Representative: *Rodney Warner* reported that he was not at the board meeting as his friend John Hoshimoto's mother has passed away. John has been such a wonderful volunteer helping us each year at the show loading and unloading the truck. We asked Louis Stack to please send a sympathy card to John in care of Rodney.

Website: *Jo Anna Ritchey* Janie will email her the newsletter again.

Federation: *Jo Anna Ritchey*

Fellowship: *Louse Stack* We had 2 guests, Em and Patricia present, 23 members and 2 "rock hounds". Ray Ritchey is still dealing with health issues and Michelle Silcock is home recovering from sciatic nerve and back problems. They have finally gotten her medication problems somewhat fixed.

Treasurer: *Jim Lloyd* He reported 33 paid members.

Photographer: *Rodney Warner* took pics tonight with Janie's camera.

Field trip: *Ray Ritchey* **August 26th Friday. San Bernardino Museum Redlands off the 10 Freeway. Meet at 9am at Janie's House and carpool. Do not park at the Church lot see fliers We might go to lunch after out there somewhere. ·Adult: $8 · Senior (60 or over) & Military: $6 · Student (with I.D.): $5 · Child 5 through 12 - $4 RSVP Janie 358 8157 So far it is Cal, Janie, Colleen, Camille and possibly Yvette.**

Rock of the Month Talk: Ray turned it into a program and Yvette is set for September.

Bulletin: *Janie Duncan* same old thing.

Great Rock Drawing: *Louise Stack* The rock was a large calcite crystal from Cumberland England and it was won by beck Fegoso. Or should I say Lucky Fregoso.

Custodian: *Jim Lloyd* sold the raffle drum to Denise Davis tonight.

Refreshments: Denise Davis brought them tonight. Janie Duncan volunteered for September.

Show: *Jo Anna Ritchey* October is the MAFA Booth. We will get sign ups next month.

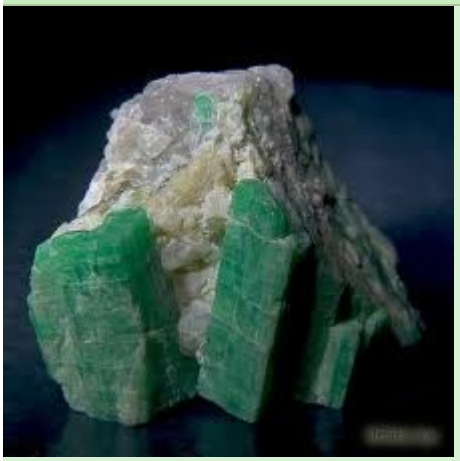
Historian: *Nancy Hamrick* no report.

Old Business: *Cal Matthews* 1. We will get signups for the MAFa Booth next month. 2. Denise Davis will buy the old raffle drum tonight. 3. We will vote on the budget next month. Janie did a talk at Monrovia Can-yon Pork for staff and volunteers and with the help of Dr. Bruce Cater made 3 boxes of labeled local rocks. One for the park one for her rock talks and one for Trask Scout Reservation.

New Business: *Cal Matthews 1*. A committee was made to change the bi-laws. Cal, Ralph, and Becky and Ray Ritchey are on the committee. Janie said they can come to her house and she will do lunch.

2. Janie will call Monrovia High School and ask about setting up a scholarship for a Earth Science Student go-ing into the field.

Cal Matthews Adjourned the meeting at 7:50 pm

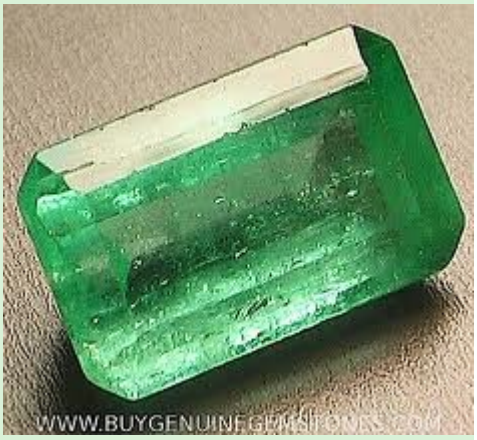


MAY'S BIRTHSTONE: THE EMERALD

By Lorna Larson via May 2011 Rockhounder

The Emerald belongs to the beryl family. The formula for beryl consists of Be3Al2Si6O16 with the emerald being formed when chromium replaces aluminum in the beryl structure. Technically, only the beryl colored by chromium is an emerald although those colored by vanadium are also allowed to be called emeralds. All other green beryls are called green beryl. Hardness is 7.5 - 8. Real emeralds and lab emeralds made with chromium will show up red when viewed through a Chelsea filter. Unlike the other beryls, emeralds are almost always included. Additionally, almost as soon as the emerald crystal is removed from the ground, it is dropped in oil, and may be oiled several times prior to being set. Hence, if it begins to look dull or rather chalky, it needs to be re-oiled. One author recommended re-oiling every 2 - 5 years. Never put it in a sonic cleaner or steamer as this removes the oil and could break the stone.

The name comes from the Greek work "smaragdos" which simply means "green." Early Egyptiansmined "emeralds" prior to 2000 BC in an area between the Nile and the Red Sea in upper Egypt. Supposedly these mines belonged to the Queen of Sheba, but are now called Cleopatra's Mines. But these stones were small and not always the best color. Some of the stones that have survived from that period were tested and determined to be green beryl. Unfortunately, prior to modern times when the composition of a stone could be determined chemically, people named gems according to color. Therefore, other green stones such as Peridot were called emeralds. Then in the 1500's, Spain invaded South America and began selling South American emeralds world wide which were sometimes misidentified as to their source Emeralds have long had a spiritual component. The Egyptian Book of the Dead instructed those who embalmed the dead to place emeralds at the throat of every mummy to ensure the limbs of the soul had sufficient youthful strength to protect it from harm. In Christianity, a Christian bishop dedicated the stone to St. John, and it is the fourth foundation stone for the New Jerusalem. It is named as one of the stones in Aaron's Breastplate with the tribe of Gad written on it within the Jewish tradition, and the Muslims use it to represent their first heaven. Many cultures attributed various healing attributes to the emerald and used them as talismans to ensure an easy birth and to treat various other ills. Nero was reported to have eye glasses made of emerald to enhance his eyesight. In actuality, it was probably one of the other beryls. It was also associated with lovers; and like the turquoise, a loss of its color indicated their beloved had been unfaithful.



Historically, this stone has one of the longest record of any gem and deserves its place in history as a major gemstone. Perhaps you will enjoy being a part of that tradition in owning such a stone. Just make certain you take proper care of it, and it will be a stone to pass down to descendants with a lore and history that outshines any other gem.

What Do Gold and Diamonds Have in Common? by Celia Tiffany **Livermore Valley Lithophiles**

· Diamonds and gold are both classified as Native Elements in the Periodic Table of the Elements: that is they are among the few elements that occur in the Earth's crust in a relatively pure, uncombined form.
· Both crystallize in the cubic system.
· Both most commonly occur as octahedral crystals.
· Large deposits of each have been mined in South Africa and in Australia
· Both are highly valued for use in jewelry, science, and industry.
· Both have inspired exploration, exploitation, and brutal conquests.

Boiling Water Makes Rocks *By Peter C. Keller*

Water is a solvent if it is hot enough or acidic enough. In the acid scenario, rainwater meets carbon dioxide, seeps down, encounters sulfides and bingo, sulfuric acid. This liquid foams and dissolves minerals and puts in motion mineral substances to tr avel and interact with other substances. Malachite is formed this way. The bumps on turquoise indicate dissolved minerals flowing in cool water. In the hot water scenario, rainwater seeps into the ground and goes deep enough to be heated by magma or already boiling water. Now heated, this water moves back up by a process of steam and condensation – dissolving minerals and redepositing their constituents along the way. Cooled, the water sinks, encounters again the heat source, moves upward, (and) repeats the dissolving and depositing. This repetition gives agate its layered look. Amethyst crystals can form once the silica content of the water thins out sufficiently. Perhaps the oldest, certainly for jewelers the most fortuitous, case of raindrop to rock is the formation of opal, in yet another scenario. In a dry desert area, the rainwater goes down through permeable rocks rich in silica. The down going water carries silica to the underground water table, raising it. Being raised, it spreads out to fill fissures and such. The rain stops, the dry desert eventually drops the water table down by evaporation, but the ledges and fissures are richer by evaporation. When the silica-to-water ratio is just right, spheres form (bubbles). These spheres are what make opal opal. With further evaporation, the spheres become gelatinous, eventually harden, and like adding ball bearings to a cup, they layer the cavity in an orderly fashion. Water is trapped between the spheres. The orderly arrangement of the spheres diffracts light (segments and moves it around). This light movement, in combination with the varying amount of water inclusions, gives the light play of precious opal. Water here acts as a sort of music to the spheres. Yes, water is a solvent. Find enough opal and many of your financial problems will be solved.

Via The **ROCKHOUND** Official publication of the Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches, Inc.

ANT HILL GARNETS *by Gayland Graves via* The **ROCKHOUND** Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches, Inc.

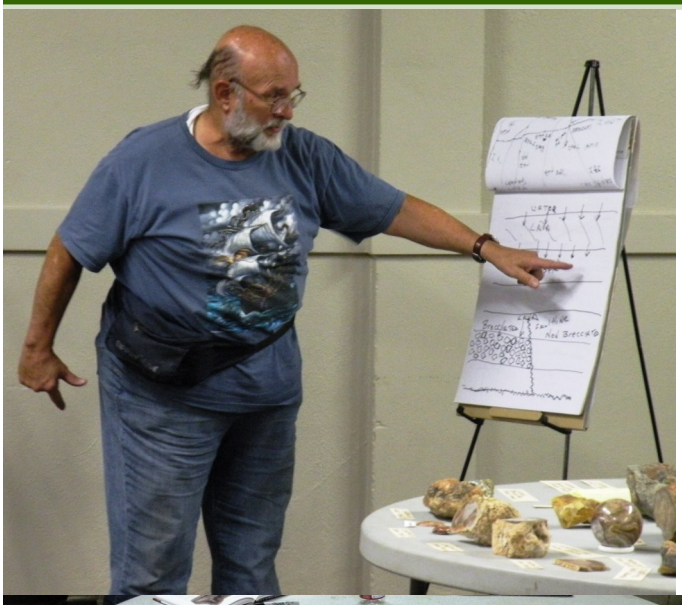
Arizona pyrope garnet is called ant hill garnet because ants bring up the smaller crystals from below ground and deposit them in the ant hill when building or remodeling. Ant hill garnets are recognized as possessing the finest bright ruby-red color of the garnet family. During the 1800s Navajos in this locale used the waterworn and rounded ant hill garnet crystals as bullets. This use had both a practical side (the stones were there, and free) and an emotional appeal; the Navajos believed the blood-red color helped produce fatal wounds. Ant hill garnets occur in a remote section of the Navajo Nation in Arizona. The gems have never been mined commercially because there aren't enough of them. That means these gems are beautiful...and rare. Gems over a carat are even more rare! The world supply of these gems depends on those living nearby who collect a few stones after the occasional rainstorm and trade them at the local store. The Four Corners area of northeastern Arizona derives its name from the fact that there the state borders of Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, and Colorado meet. Nowhere else in the United States can a person simultaneously stand in four states at one time. Monument Valley, the site of awe-inspiring sandstone pinnacles, spans the Arizona-Utah border, not far from the four corners. Just south of Monument Valley is the town of Kayenta and Garnet Ridge. Gem-quality garnets have weathered from the underlying intrusive rock and can be found scattered throughout the area. This location is on the Navajo reservation and is strictly off limits to non-tribal collectors. Most of the garnets are smaller than a pea, are smooth, and rounded. Often they are referred to as ant hill garnets because the tiniest garnets are thrown out on the surface of the ground as ants excavate their nests. The garnets are collected by the Navajo and sold in bulk for the gem trade. Ninety percent of the material is the deep ruby-red color of pyrope garnet, but small quantities of hodolite and spessartine garnets are also found. Although the hue of this pyrope is gorgeous, the saturation is so great as to make cutstones over a carat or two in size too dark. Nevertheless, if properly cut, Four Corner pyrope garnets are stunning gems. The ants carry up stones excavated from the soil they dig in, and can amass quite a collection over time. Such ant hills are a place where the Lakota historically sought out sacred, perfectly round stones used in making ceremonial rattles or for personal tokens. Elsewhere in the Badlands and Black Hills, we found smaller, active ant hills where tiny shells and even tinier garnets were being brought up by the ants. The treasures returned to the surface by the tireless work of ants collect very slowly. How many billions of ant hours went into making the massive fossil ant hill, I wonder?"

Great Rock drawing for September will be Dolomite with Pyrite

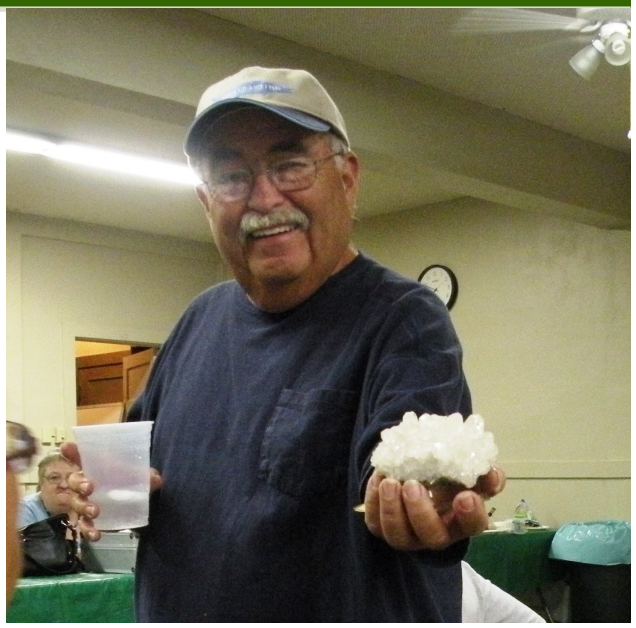
Rock Talk September will be Yvette Fitzgerald

MONROVIA ROCKHOUNDS PICTURE PAGE

AUGUST 2011 Ray RITCHEY CHAPINITE



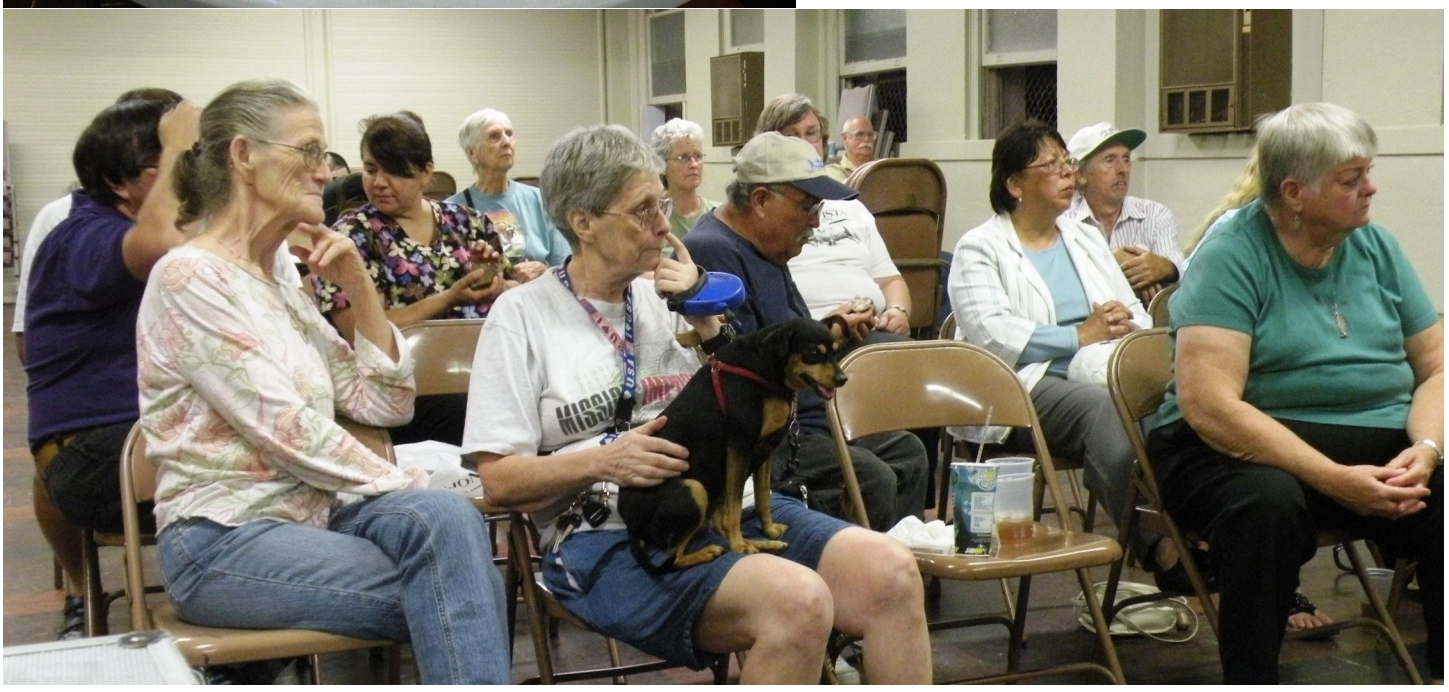
← Ray Ritchey



↑ Lucky Ralph Fregoso wins again!

← Ray's Chapinite specimens

↓ General Meeting



Word Search: Mineral Names That Aren't Used Anymore

If you look through old mineral books, you will see mineral names that are not used anymore. Why don't you search for them in this word search puzzle?! The old mineral names are listed below. They can be found diagonally, left to right, right to left, top to bottom and bottom to top.

C	R	O	C	O	I	S	I	T	E	A	B	N	O	T
H	H	O	N	E	Y	S	T	O	N	E	M	O	V	I
R	A	L	L	O	C	H	R	O	I	T	E	S	C	E
I	S	C	A	L	C	S	P	A	R	O	S	E	T	E
S	A	N	D	D	E	S	M	I	N	E	O	L	U	C
T	A	L	B	I	N	T	L	C	T	T	T	I	E	N
I	H	O	L	L	Y	I	Y	I	P	I	Y	T	T	A
A	W	E	S	L	E	Y	T	I	F	T	P	E	I	L
N	H	A	N	N	A	N	F	E	R	A	E	P	X	G
I	T	R	I	S	O	P	Y	R	E	R	C	S	O	R
T	B	O	A	M	I	A	N	T	H	U	S	X	R	E
E	P	L	U	M	B	A	G	O	Y	B	K	J	O	P
D	I	A	L	O	G	I	T	E	A	S	D	F	M	P
M	E	L	K	J	H	T	U	E	T	I	G	E	N	O
B	I	T	T	E	R	S	P	A	R	D	A	N	D	C

Albin; Allochroite; Amianthus; Beaumontite; Bitterspar; Buratite; Calc Spar; Chladnite; Christianite; Copper Glance; Crocoisite; Desmine; Dialogite; Honeystone; Isopyre; Mesotype; Moroxite; Noselite; Onegite; Plumbago

You Might Be a Rockhound If via June MSSC

- You're planning on using a pick and shovel while you're on vacation.
- Your internet home page has pictures of your rocks.
- You will walk across eight lanes of free-way traffic to see if the outcrop on the other side of the highway is the same type of rock as the side you're parked on.
- You can point out where Tsumeb is on a world globe.
- The baggage handlers at the airport know you by name and refuse to help with your luggage.
- You have ever found yourself trying to explain to airport security that a rock ham-mer isn't really a weapon.
- You never throw away anything.
- You have ever taken a 22-passenger van over "roads" that were really intended only for cattle.
- You consider a "recent event" to be any-thing that has happened in the last hundred thousand years.

The Gemological Society of San Diego announces their schedule for 2011. It is a one year course of study and will provide the basics of gem material formation and gem properties. At the end of the course students will be pre-pared to begin Gem Identification where they will learn hands on gem identification through additional study and use of gemological instruments

Classes are scheduled from 0900 AM to 1200 PM in the Gem & Mineral building in Spanish Village, Balboa Park

COST= $50.00 CLASS SCHEDULE

Oct 8-Introduction, gem formation,crystal systems and physical properties of gems
Oct 15-Optical properties, light and phenomenen
Oct 22-Birfringence,synthetics and 3 gem stones Diamond,Beryl and Corondum
Oct 29- Mid term and 3 gem stones Chrysoberyl, Spinel and Topaz
Nov.5- Five gem stones Tourmaline,Zircon,Peridot,Garnwt Group and Feldspar Group
Nov 12- Six gemstones Quartz,Turquoise,Jade,Opal,Amber and Pearl
Nov 19 Review and final exam, Introduction to Gem Testing
for additional information Contact Cecil Waterhouse cwaterhouse@san.rr.com Larrey Shute lshute @gmail.com

CFMS SEPTEMBER SHOW DATES

September 4 - 18, Camp Paradise at Clipper Mills, CA. Sponsor - CFMS Earth Sciences. Ask Jo Anna Ritchey

September 2-5: FORT BRAGG, CA Mendocino Coast Gem & Mineral Society Town Hall 363 N. Main St, (corner of Main & Laurel) Hours: Fri-Sun 10-6; Mon 10-4 Jerry Sommer (707) 917-1833

September 10-11: DOWNEY, CA Delvers Gem & Mineral Society Woman's Club of Downey 9813 Paramount Blvd. Hours: Sat 10-6; Sun 10-4 Guynell Miller (562) 633-0614

September 17-18: PASO ROBLES, CA Santa Lucia Rockhounds Pioneer Park & Museum 2010 Riverside Avenue Hours: 10-5 daily Dale Conrad (805) 226-0719 Email: Conrad@att.net Website: http://slrockhounds.org

September 17-18: STOCKTON, CA Stockton Lapidary & Mineral Club Scottish Rite Masonic Center 33 W. Alpine Avenue Hours: 10-5 daily Jan Bradley or Dorothy Tonnacliff (209) 629-3837 / (209) 603-4539 Email: slmcshow@juno.com

September 23-25: SAN BERNARDINO, CA Orange Belt Mineralogical Society Western Regional Little League Park 6707 Little League Dr. Hours: 9:00 a.m. to Dusk daily Steve Williams (909) 389-8680 Email: ironelk@ymail.com Website: http://obmsrocks.yolasite.com

September 24-25: MONTEREY, CA Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society Monterey Fairgrounds 2004 Fairgrounds Road Hours: Sat 10-6; Sun 10-5 Matt Biewer (831) 659-4156 Email: mattbiewer@aol.com Website: www.cvgms.org

California State Mining & Mineral Museum Mariposa, California Slated for closure July 1, 2012

The museum belongs to the people of California. The Collection officially started in 1880 and has over 13,000 mineral specimens and mining artifacts. It represents years of study and exploration by some of the world's most eminent scientists. Donations from 150 years of mining and study by scientists from around the globe have produced a world class mineral collection that represents our ever growing relationship with minerals past, present and future. This collection has been on continuous public display for over 130 years, preserving & exhibiting the finest examples of western minerals and inspiring generations of new scientists, prospectors and mineral collectors. **The California State Mining & Mineral Museum is the one and only park dedicated to preserving and interpreting the official State Mineral collection, which represents the great mineral resources and world famous mining heritage of our state.** Many of the specimens represent famous mining localities that have been mined out. Such specimens provide the only record of these past deposits and cannot be replaced. The interest in science and history inspires our future scientists and business leaders by visiting science museums. Our hands-on educational programs help thousands of students learn concepts required in the State curriculum guidelines for Science & History. Tours, activities and interpretive displays bring out the significance and the stories behind the stones. This is the only earth science museum near the central valley. Great care is needed to properly maintain such a large and valuable collection. You can help by Contacting the California State Parks Foundation at: http://calparks.org. Use the "Take Action" tab. Contact Ruth Coleman of the Department of Parks & Recreation, P.O. Box 942896, Sacramento, CA 94296 or by telephone (800) 777-0369 Email comments and concerns to: info@parks.ca.gov Contact your state Senators and Assembly members directly (locate your legislator) We need your help the keep the California State Mining & Mineral Museum, in Mariposa County open.
Thanks, Inez Terra, CFMS Director Mariposa Gem & Mineral Club