

MOROKS

JANUARY 2013

Monrovia Rockhounds Newsletter

P.O. Box 553

Monrovia, CA 91017

Editor – Janie Duncan



JANUARY 2013 MOROKS NEWSLETTER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Happy New Year!	2	3 MOROKS Board Mtg. 2pm @ Janie's	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 MOROKS Gen Mtg. 7pm	18	19
20	21 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

MOROKS NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2013



MONROVIA ROCKHOUNDS



Club Information Our Website is www.moroks.com

ELECTED OFFICERS

PRESIDENT – Janie Duncan	(626) 358-8157
VICE PRESIDENT – Cal Matthews	(626) 798-7481
SECRETARY – Michele Silcock	(626) 357 8425
TREASURER – Jim Lloyd	(626) 793-9239
AUDITOR – Jo Anna Ritchey	(626) 359-1624
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
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
PHOTO – Donald Sneberger	(626) 941 6214
FELLOWSHIP/cards – Louise Stack	(626) 966-0350
REPRESENTATIVE – Gail Parks	(626) 359-6811
REPRESENTATIVE – Camille Rutkowski	(626) 289-2621

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, mineralogy, 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

Permission to reprint is granted if acknowledgement is given.

We reserve the right to edit all material submitted for publication.

**Monrovia
Rockhouds
January
Birthdays**

Denise Davis 17
Linda Wu 11
Ray Ritchey 3
Ronnie Lewis 8
Sheri McCanless 14



Field Trip Schedule 2013

This is a combined Schedule from the Whittier, Pasadena, North Orange County and Monrovia Clubs. Each club sponsoring a trip will have a form to sign before each trip with the person leading that trip. This link is the waiver.

<http://www.cfmsinc.org/forms10/waiver/waiver.pdf> Websites for these club may have maps and detailed information. Call Ray Ritchey or Cal Matthews for more help.

Jan 19-20 Quartzsite

If you are interested in representing our club at the Jan. 2013 planning meeting please call Janie for details.

Mineral Word Scramble

By now you are probably very familiar with the common minerals like quartz, fluorite, calcite, galena and pyrite. But if you are going to grow in your mineral hobby and knowledge, you will have to learn about the rarer minerals, too. Here are some scrambled up mineral names.

- coselicte** _____
- telairuz** _____
- penseretin** _____
- nheprite** _____
- nptnteuie** _____
- actltonie** _____
- esidpoid** _____
- etaspdio** _____
- aurstltoe** _____
- ssarulrog** _____
- wvlltaeie** _____
- ianvviati** _____
- teiteimm** _____
- Super Challenge:**
- betrianzaiil** _____

A Big Thank you to William Davis for baking the fabulous carrot cake for our Christmas party!



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PREZ SEZ

The Christmas party at Max's Mexican Restaurant was a lot of fun. Good food and good friends! The gift exchange game was really neat. On another note is only 3 months till our show! Time to plan ahead. *Janie Duncan*



VICE PREZ SEZ

The Christmas party was very nice and a good time was had by all who came. As for programs upcoming, Jay Valle will do a January program on how the American Lands Access Association works. *Cal Matthews*

December 6th

MONROVIA ROCKHOUNDS BOARD MEETING

President: *Janie Duncan* called The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM

Vice President: *Cal Matthews* December is out Christmas party. January is Jay Valle who will explain the ALAA. February is a DVD on Rhodochrosite. I have seen it and it is a really good one.

Secretary: *Michele Silcock* The minutes were approved as corrected at the board meeting from what was written in the bulletin. **Representative:** *Camille Rutkowski* no report. **Representative:** *Gail Parks* was absent

Auditor: *Jo Anna Ritchey* Absent We still need the last 2 quarters reports in writing. Jo Anna will get the books from Jim soon.

Website: *Jo Anna Ritchey* was absent. No report.

Federation: *Jo Anna Ritchey* was absent. The CFMS Show will be in Ventura in 2013.

Fellowship: *Louise Stack* Jo Anna's surgery is over and she has had a few complication but doing better now. Michele's dog Scooter is now graduated and registered. Good Job!

Treasurer: *Jim Lloyd* He reported 42 paid members.

Photographer: *Donald Sneberger* Donald took pics at the general meeting and will photograph the party.

Field trip: *Ray Ritchey* No report. Janie will find a new date for the Alf Museum.

Rock of the Month Talk: Louise Stack will do Thundereggs in January.

Bulletin: *Janie Duncan* No report.

Great Rock Drawing: *Louise Stack* We will raffle the large petrified wood donated by Ann Dayne @ Xmas.

Custodian: *Jim Lloyd* Jim sprayed for termites.

Historian: *Nancy Hamrick* was absent. **Picnic:** *Donald Sneberger* no report.

Refreshments: Colleen Chestnut will do January.

Show: *Jo Anna Ritchey* was absent. Letters went out to all the dealers. 14 have paid. Janie printed flyers for Jo Anna. We will still need a new banner. Jo Anna is going to order geodes and tumbled stones to be picked up at Quartzite in Jan.

Old Business: *Janie Duncan* 1. Camille Rutkowski and Louise Stack are the chairman of the 2013 nominating committee. You may nominate someone with their permission or contact the committee. The proposed slates is President Janie Duncan Vice President Camille Rutkowski, Treasurer Jim Lloyd. Secretary Michelle Silcock and Auditor Louise Stack. 2. Christmas Party at Max's Mexican in Duarte 6 PM .

New Business There will be a meeting of the ALAA in Quartzite. Check their website for details.

Adjourned the meeting at 3:05 pm

January 01 - February 28, 2013 **Desert Gardens -Gem & Mineral**

January 04 - January 13, 2013 **Tyson Wells Rock & Gem Show**

January 07 - January 27, 2013 **Main Event**

January 18 - January 27, 2013 **Tyson Wells Sell-A-Rama**

January 19 - January 27, 2013 **Sports, Vacation & RV Show**

January 23 - January 27, 2013 **46th Annual Q I. A. POW WOW**

Quartzite
Show
Schedule



Bench Tips by Brad Smith More BenchTips by Brad Smith are at FaceBook facebook.com/BenchTips or at groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips

TIP FOR A TRANSPARENT CAB When bezel setting a transparent cabochon in silver, I worry that the silver will tarnish under the stone and will destroy the brilliance of it's color & pattern. So I take one extra step before setting the stone. I place a piece of thin silver Mylar plastic under the stone to act as a mirror that will never tarnish. This Mylar is readily available in craft and gift wrap stores, or in a pinch from a party balloon supplier. You may want to experiment with using colored or patterned Mylar (i.e. diffraction pattern) under some stones.

December 20th

MONROVIA ROCKHOUNDS GENERAL MEETING

President: *Janie Duncan* called the meeting to order at 6:55 PM.

Vice President: *Cal Matthews* Tonight is our Christmas party. January is Jay Valle who will explain the ALAA. February is a DVD on Rhodocrosite.

Secretary: *Michele Silcock* The minutes were approved as corrected from written in the bulletin.

Representative: *Camille Rutkowski* No report **Representative:** *Gail Parks* no report.

Treasurer: Jim Lloyd. 42 members and a guest tonight that wants to be a member.

Website: *Jo Anna Ritchey* It is up to date.

Federation: *Jo Anna Ritchey* The 2013 CFMS Show and meeting will be at the Ventura County Fairgrounds 2013 May 31-June 2nd. You can take the train there. It is hosted by 3 clubs. Conjo, Ventura and Northridge.

Fellowship: *Louise Stack* 3 guests present. Evert Hollingworth, Em and Fletcher. Jo Anna is recovering.

Photographer: Donald Sneberger took pictures for the club.

Field trip: *Ray Ritchey* No report. There is a meeting for the tri-club trips in Jan. Call Janie if you want to go.

Rock of the Month Talk: Louise Stack is working on one for January on Thunder eggs.

Bulletin: *Janie Duncan* no report.

Picnic: *Donald Sneberger* No report.

Great Rock Drawing: *Louise Stack* The petrified wood was won by Marcus Look.

Custodian: *Jim Lloyd* Jim No report.

Refreshments: Colleen Chestnut is doing January Nancy Hamrick volunteered for February.

Show: *Jo Anna Ritchey* 14 dealers paid. We have some new dealers lined up!

Historian: *Nancy Hamrick* No report.

Old Business: *Janie Duncan* 1. Camille Rutkowski and Louise Stack are the nominating committee for the 2013 proposed slate of officers. You may contact them if you want to run or be nominated. You must have permission from the person you nominate. This is the slate. President: Janie Duncan Vice President: Camille Rutkowski Treasures: Jim Lloyd Secretary: Michele Silcock Auditor Louise Stack.

New Business: *Janie Duncan* 1. The club will buy geodes and a case of tumbled stones at Quartzite. Jo Anna will pick them up. Janie wants 4 bags, Aynn 1 bag and Donald 1 bag. 2. Janie has 2 booths for us next month for the Girl Scouts. Cookie Kickoff day January 12th 10-2 Janie asked Louise to help from 9-3 at Holy Angels Church in Arcadia. Janie is helping with a booth at the Girl Scout Science day on Jan. 20th. More info to come. 3. We have a guest that wants to be a new member. We will vote at the board meeting and contact him.

Janie Duncan Adjourned the meeting at 7:15 pm

Ownership of Meteorites Once a meteorite is found, the question of ownership comes up. If the object is recovered on land belonging to an individual, ownership belongs to the holder of the deed to the land, and not the finder. In the case of the Willamette meteorite litigation over ownership was finally settled by the Oregon State Supreme Court who rendered their decision in these words: (Lange 1962) "Meteorites embedded in the earth are real estate and consequently belong to the owner of the land in which they are found." On the other hand if a meteorite is found on land owned or controlled by the US, under the Act of Congress, June 8, 1906, it may not be removed unless allowed by the US government through the Smithsonian Institution, whose permission must be obtained before a meteorite may be moved if lying on federally controlled land (Linsley 1939).

Reference: Mineral Information Service, July 1966, "The Meteorites of California" C.P. Butler. Via The Rockhoulder

<http://www.amlands.org> for more information on what you can do to protect our rock sites.

There will be an ALAA meeting at Quartzite in Janie. Check the website for more info on this.



EDUCATION THRU SHARING By Nancy Bird, Chair From Dec. 2012 CFMS Newsletter

Here are the latest submittals from societies for their Rockhounds of the Year: Ray and Jo Anna Ritchey

Monrovia Rockhounds "The world hasn't seen such a dynamic duo since Batman and Robin!"

I do not know where to begin when asked what makes Ray and Jo Anna Ritchey such outstanding rockhounds. They are involved in all aspects of our club as well as other rock clubs, the CFMS, the Mineralogical Society, and rock education for the public. Jo Anna has held most of our club offices and just finished up her term as President. She was show chairman and headed up this year's record breaking 44th Annual Gem & Mineral Show. You will find her and Ray on a field trip whenever they can make it. Their backyard looks like some kind of a lunar landscape with all the row upon rows of sorted rocks in wire bins. They host our grab bag stuffing parties and supply most of the rocks as well as donate rocks to schools. Ray spends most of his time working on items for our Treasure Wheel and making egg carton rock collections for our show and local youth. His enthusiasm for his hobby is what makes him such a great rockhound. After spending time with Ray, you will want to go out and start your own collection! Ray has various programs in his resume and is willing to speak to interested groups. Ray and Jo Anna are always ready to take a new rockhound under their wings and get them started in this great hobby. The Ritcheys are truly the salt of the earth, (or should I say Halite), and the Monrovia Rockhounds are proud to have them for longtime members.

Moonstone Moonstone is a member of the feldspar family. The feldspars are a group of minerals found in many rocks (particularly granite, volcanic and metamorphic). It is a transparent, milky-white color with floating opalescent white and blue light within the body of the stone. The shimmer is caused by the intergrowth of two different types of feldspar with different refractive indexes. Moonstone can be colorless, gray, brown, yellow, pink, green, transparent or translucent. Rainbow moonstone is labradorite feldspar with a variety of rainbow hues. Labradorite is feldspar with a dark background that emits a multi-colored shimmer. The name "moonstone" probably came from the myth that one can observe the lunar month through the stone. A new moon is a small spot that gradually gets larger until it takes the shape of a full moon in the center of the stone. The Romans thought moonstone formed from rays of moonlight. Moonstone is a good luck stone. It is believed to arouse a lover's passion. Legend has it moonstone assisted crops for greater yields. Via Delvings





MARBLES By Jud Milburn via The Rockhound Marbles are, without doubt, among the oldest – it not the oldest – plaything in human culture. Clay and stone marbles are found in Indian graves all over America. The ancient Chinese worked agate and Jade into marbles. Glass and clay marbles have been found in Egyptian tombs. The Romans introduced them into England. In modern times the production of marbles centered during the 19th century in the Austrian Alps and Southern Germany: stone, agate, alabaster, onyx and glass were the common

materials used. Imitations in the U.S. and elsewhere followed. Hand methods of making marbles tended to disappear when marble machines were invented about 1900. Chalk marbles were used by poor boys of the 18th and 19th centuries because they were cheap, being rough molded and dried. They are generally gray-white or yellow-white, made of compacted calcium carbonate with varying amounts of silica, feldspar, and/or other material impurities. Clay marbles were very inexpensive and common in the 19th century. They are found in great numbers on Civil War battlegrounds, lost by soldiers who whiled away spare time playing games with them. They were rough-shaped from wet clay, some were left in natural colors, and others were dyed solid, mottled, spotted or marked with lines. Stone marbles were made in great numbers in the German provinces of Saxony and Thyringen in the 19th century. They were rounded mechanically by being rubbed between larger heavy plates of stone and wood. The common stone material was quarried out of local deposits of calcareous limestone. Agates are among the most beautiful of marbles, showing solid or banded colors of red, brown, white, and green chalcedony. Some agates, depending on the luck of the cut, show white or yellow spots at one or both ends. These were called “bulls eye” agates. China marbles are made of mostly porcelain or pure white clay, the material of which fine dishes, cups and saucers were made, hence, the name “china.” Most of them were made in Germany. The glass consists of silicon dioxide, boric oxide, aluminum oxide, etc. Each marble was originally a segment of glass cane, which had been built up of colored rods embedded in clear or colored glass. One end of the cane was heated, one segment twisted in a spherical shape, then broken off. The pontils were ground down when the marble had cooled. The first glass marble made by machines competed with the attractive agates and were called “imitation agates” or acro agates. The colors were dark red, brown, green, blue, and purple mixed with small streaks of white. There were also plain white mixed with clear glass. These first appeared in the 1890’s. Milk glass was a popular substance for Victorian bowls, water glasses, kerosene lamps, etc., so it is not surprising that it was used for marbles. Milk glass is opaque or translucent white glass made from silicon dioxide or boric dioxide mixed with stannic oxide. They are still manufactured. Opalescent glass marbles are a refinement of milk glass. These marbles are trans-opals. They come in various colors, mostly varying intensities of white.



Cameos During the time of Shakespeare, the agate cameo was very popular in England and went by the name of “agatestones.” Agate cameos of exquisite workmanship were worn by the nobility and were in the crown jewels. Cameo is a subject about which comparatively little has been written and much deal with cameos of years past. Practically nothing has been written regarding the techniques of cutting shell cameos.

The old Italian cameo cutters spent their lives in the work, and the “secrets” of the art were handed down from father to son for generations. Usually the apprentice would start work as a young boy so it’s to be expected that a number of highly skilled cutters could be developed.

Cameo is a gem carved with figures that are raised in relief. The term often refers to a gem that has layers of different colors. The figures are cut from one layer against a background of another color.

Stones commonly used for cameos include onyx, sardonyx, agate and tiger’s-eye. Shell and coral are also used, but the agate and tiger’s-eye have long retained their popularity. This is due to the fact that a well-executed portrait on one of these hard gemstones lasts for a lifetime. Beautiful artificial cameos are made from various kinds of shell and fine glass. Shell yields very delicate cameos.

Both the Romans and Greeks produced excellent cameos. Cameos were introduced for decorative purposes about 300 BC as a contrast to the older forms called intaglios, which were incised below the surface and also served as seals. Cameos and intaglios present the highest form of carving, since the cutter is truly a sculptor as well as a cutter. The cutting is done by means of a small lathe fixed to a table on a bench. The stone to be worked is held in the fingers and freely manipulated against the revolving tool on the lathe. In the 16th Century, cameos were carved from a single stone of five layers, each a different color. Cameos are much in demand today by collectors and are one of the latest fashion accessories. From *The Petrified Digest*, via *Waco Gem and Mineral Society Digest*

The Acasta Gneiss– Oldest Intact Crustal Deposit on Earth

Deep in the Canadian Northwest Territories, about 300 kilometers north of Yellowknife, on the banks of the Acasta River, stands a lone shed marking a very special place in this barren land of lakes and rivers. The shed holds geologist’s gear, and over the door a sign Acasta City Hall. Founded Gall commemorates the areas rocks, some of which are over 4 billion years old – the oldest rocks, and the oldest terrestrial crusts, on this planet. The rocks, part of the Slave Province Craton, are the 4-billion year old Acasta gneisses – a coarse grained metamorphic rock composed of quartz, plagioclase feldspars, biotite (black mica), hornblende and zircons. Less than 1% of the Acasta gneiss is composed of micro zircons that were formed as the rock cooled, but those zircons hold the clue to the ancient age of the rocks. Zircons act as timekeepers because they trap uranium in their lattice when they are formed, and the uranium then steadily decays into lead. In 1989, using a Sensitive High-Resolution Ion Microprobe (SHRIMP), scientists could analyze the atoms isotopic composition in the zircons. With this high-tech tool they were able to report that zircons in the Acasta rock were 3.96 billion years old. Since that time, they have dated the rocks back even further to 4.03 billion years ago. The rocks formed when the Earth itself was a little over 500 million years old, its interior still seething hot from its formation and its surface pummeled by asteroids and comets. (Geologists have found individual zircons in Western Australia that date back further, to 4.28 billion years, but they had eroded out of their original rocks and were incorporated into much younger sedimentary rocks.) Now the question remains – how did these rocks survive in this location while the earth experienced uplift, shifting tectonic plates, subduction, erosion, collision, and rifts? So the search is on to try and find matching pieces scattered around the globe to see if the mystery can be pieced together. In 2003, a team from the Smithsonian Institution collected a four-ton boulder of the Acasta Gneiss for display outside the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. from: www.wikipedia.org; <http://paleobiology.si.edu>; [.platetectonics.com](http://platetectonics.com) and <http://ockofagesnwt.com>. Via WICHITA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY ~ WICHITA, KS

MONROVIA ROCKHOUNDS PICTURE PAGE

By Donald Sneberger

December General Meeting & Christmas Party at Max's Mexican





Cub Scout Den 3 with their egg carton rock collections donated by the Monrovia Rockhounds at Janie Duncan's House

tias Figueroa
 @amion Rich
 Evan Lucas
 BRYAN
 Gabe DeClad
 Dylan
 R + A + D

Dear Ms. Duncan,
 Thank-you for inviting us into your lovely home and sharing your interesting artifacts with us.
 We loved learning about the Dinosaur bone, and completing our rock collection.
 Many Thanks -
 Den 3
 Cub Scouts
 Pack 136
 "Wolves"

West Coast GEM & MINERAL SHOW

Holiday Inn - Orange County Airport
 2726 S. Grand Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92705

(Take 55 Fwy exit 8 for Dyer Rd. to S. Grand Ave.)

MAY 17-19, 2013

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Tourmaline
 Jeff Scovil Photo©



Marcus Look won the big petrified wood prize at the Christmas Party donated by Ann Dayne