

MOROKS

JUNE 2013

Monrovia Rockhounds Newsletter

P.O. Box 553

Monrovia, CA 91017

Editor – Janie Duncan



June 2013 MOROKS Newsletter

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					CFMS Show Ventura	1 CFMS Show Ventura
2 CFMS Show Ventura	3	4	5	6 Board Mtg. @ Janie's 2pm	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 Flag Day	15
16 Father's Day	17	18	19	20 General Mtg. Women Mining	21	22 PICNIC @ Janie's 4:30 pm
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	Please pay your dues. \$15 per person \$20 for more.					

MOROKS NEWSLETTER JUNE 2013

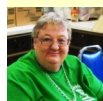


MONROVIA ROCKHOUNDS

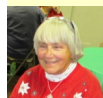


Our Website is www.moroks.com

ELECTED OFFICERS



PRESIDENT – Janie Duncan (626) 358-8157



VICE PRESIDENT – Camille Rutkowski (626) 289-2621



SECRETARY – Michele Silcock (626) 357 8425



TREASURER – Jim Lloyd (626) 793-9239



AUDITOR – Louise Stack (626) 966 0350

CHAIRPERSONS

REPRESENTATIVE – Ray Ritchey (626) 359-1624

REPRESENTATIVE – Cal Matthews (626) 798 7481

FEDERATION – Jo Anna Ritchey (626) 359-1624

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 – Rudy Lopez (626) 993-7989

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

Mission Statement : Our Purpose is to promote popular interest and education in the earth sciences, including geology, mineralogy, paleontology, the lapidary arts, and related subjects; to sponsor and provide means of coordinating the work and efforts of persons and groups with similar interests; and by and through such means to strive toward greater community and international good will and fellowship. We also support promoting and ensuring the right of amateur hobby collecting, recreational rock hunting and the use of public and private lands for educational and recreational purposes related to the earth sciences. We are a registered 501 C 3 non profit organization.

Affiliations & Accreditations: The Monrovia Rockhounds is affiliated with the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. (CFMS), the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS), and the American Lands Access Association (ALAA).

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.

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
JUNE Birthdays**

**Michael Carter
Aynn Freeman
Becky Fregoso**



JUN 15: Big Bear - collecting copper minerals, druzy & quartz
JUL 13: Pacific Palisades - collecting barite and other local material.
AUG 17: Museum trip - Jurupa Mountains Cultural Ctr & Alf Museum
SEP. 14: Lompoc Area - including Jalama Beach. Collecting petrified whale bone and other specimens. additional collecting on Sunday.
OCT 12, 13: Searles Lake Gem-O-Rama. Collecting pink halite and hanksite. This can be a one-day, two or three-day trip.
NOV 2, 3 : Whittier Claim - honey onyx, agate, jasper, palm root, others. One or two day trip.
NOV 28 - Dec 1: Afton Canyon agates, fluorite, amygdules, petrified wood.

What is a Rock? By May E. Hansen El Gambrisino
 A rock to a boy is something to throw,
 A rock to a jeweler has value like gold.
 A rock to a gardener is an ornament for flowers,
 A rock to a farmer is a burden when plowing.
 A rock to a fisherman makes a fine seat.
 A rock to a sailor is a landmark at sea.
 But of all the meanings it has been to man
 Since the world's creation and it all began
 Surely no value can be measured
 Nor can a rock be so highly treasured
 As that rock, the rockhound holds in his hand,
 A specimen so great, a specimen so grand.
 Be it pyrite, topaz, jade or a geode
 After digging and digging, that rock he holds
 Has value unmeasured, much higher than gold,
 The discovery of nature is an experience untold.

Chalk in a Box If you have finished jewelry that is not being used, to keep the gold or silver from tarnishing, add a piece of blackboard chalk to the box. This absorbs the moisture, which is one cause of tarnishing. Make sure that the jewelry is absolutely dry and that the box is sealed tightly.
 Via Rockhounder



PREZ SEZ I want to thank Louise, Camille, Jim, Thomas, Denise and William for all the help with the Monrovia Days Booth. You Rock!
Janie Duncan



VICE PREZ SEZ The program on geologists Disaster was great and the Women in Mining Group will have a fantastic program in June for us.
Camille Rutkowski

MAY 2ND

MONROVIA ROCKHOUNDS BOARD MEETING

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

Vice President: *Camille Rutkowski* April is the Silent Auction. May is Dr. David Prothero on Geologic Disasters in history.

Secretary: *Michele Silcock* The minutes were approved as corrected at the board meeting from what was written in the bulletin. Minutes were accepted with a few minor errors in spelling.

Representative: *Ray Ritchey* was absent. **Representative:** *Cal Matthews* was absent

Auditor: *Louise Stack*. No report till July.

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

Federation: *Jo Anna Ritchey* was absent The CFMS Show will be in Ventura in 2013. May 31—June 3. Please take time to go. Lots of display, lectures, dealers. Easy train access. You can enter a case. See website for all forms and applications. The is a tri club combined show.

Fellowship: *Louise Stack* Gail Parks is in a rehab for therapy for a few days. Em Matthews had her surgery this month and is home recovering but doing ok. Michele is to have her hip replacement this month. Rudy Lopez is having a knee replacement also. Jo Anna is starting her chemotherapy soon. We wish all of our members a speedy recovery.

Treasurer: *Jim Lloyd* . He reported 30 paid members.

Photographer: *Donald Sneberger* No report

Field trip: *Ray Ritchey*

Rock of the Month Talk: Ray Ritchey on Onyx.

Bulletin: *Janie Duncan* No report.

Great Rock Drawing: *Louise Stack* May will be a nice petrified wood chunk.

Custodian: *Jim Lloyd* bought a new EZ up.

Historian: *Nancy Hamrick* was absent No report

Picnic: *Donald Sneberger* June 22nd. 4:30 pm at Janie's house 328 E. Foothill Blvd. Monrovia

Refreshments: *Yvette Fitzgerald* volunteered for May.

Show: *Rudy Lopez* was absent. Ray gave Jim a dealer check that came in.

Old Business: *Janie Duncan* 1Janie will give out the \$500.00 scholarship again this year. The date to give the scholarship is Monday June 2nd. We will vote at the may meeting.

New Business: *Janie Duncan* 1. Monrovia Days is May 18th sat. from 8-3. We will ask for sign up at the general meeting. Camille and Louse said they will help. Janie will bring chairs, the money box and fossils as welol as some good rocks for sale. 2. Janie has a talk for 2nd graders this week in LA 3. Janie will do one more talk for Mayflower school in May. 3. She is helping with a geology booth for 300 scouts at Expo June 1st. She is furnishing about 3,000 rock and minerals for the event.

Janie Duncan Adjourned the meeting at 2:35 pm

Dues are due now!



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

EASIER PRONG SETTING

When setting stones in a prong mount, the tool is less likely to slip off the prong if you grind a groove into its face or rough up the face a bit with sandpaper. Some folks prefer a prong pusher for doing this, and others like a set of pliers.

Easiest way to cut a slot on the pusher is with a file, and the easiest way to create a slot on one jaw of your pliers is with a cutoff wheel and then do a rough polish with a knife-edge silicone wheel.

MAY 16TH

MONROVIA ROCKHOUNDS GENERAL MEETING

President: *Janie Duncan* called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

Vice President: *Cal Matthews* Tonight is Dr. David Prothero on Geologic Disasters in History. June will be an interesting program on Women in Mining. They will do a mineral demonstration.

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

Representative: *Ray Ritchey* No report. **Representative:** *Cal Matthews* No report

Treasurer: Jim Lloyd. We have 30 paid members.

Website: *Jo Anna Ritchey* was absent.

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. Jo Anna will not be attending the CFMS meetings as our rep.

Fellowship: *Louise Stack* 2 guests present tonight. Out speaker and Corrie cash. Em Matthews is recovering from her hip replacement. Gail Parks will be home soon from rehab following her back surgery. Michele is have a hip replacement in May. Jo Anna is in the middle of Chemotherapy. Rudy Lopez is home following his knee replacement. We sang happy birthday to Jim Lloyd.

Photographer: Donald Sneberger took pictures for the club. Card is formatted.

Field trip: *Ray Ritchey* is working on a trip to the desert with Jeremy Berg. Go to the CFMS Show!

Rock of the Month Talk: Ray Ritchey did part one of onyx.

Bulletin: *Janie Duncan* No report.

Picnic: *Donald Sneberger* June 22nd 4:30 pm at Janie Duncan's home. 328 E. Foothill Blvd. See flyer.

Great Rock Drawing: *Louise Stack* May will be a nice petrified wood chunk. Won by Donald Prothero.

Custodian: *Jim Lloyd* got the EZ up and has a list of things we need for the Monrovia Days booth Sat.

Refreshments: Louise stack brought them tonight. Yvette Fitzgerald volunteered for May.

Show: *Rudy Lopez* has some really great ideas to help next year. We have a new a mission statement & donation forms and info on what our club does in the community. He has 3 donations already and needs us to please ask for more. Rudy also wants to do a silent auction. He has tumbled stones and cabs that need settings. He also did an inventory of Treasure wheel items. We have a new contract for next year.

Historian: *Nancy Hamrick* No report

Old Business: *Janie Duncan* 1. Janie 2. She also has 1 more scheduled for Mayflower School.

New Business: *Janie Duncan* 1. Janie has committed to do Scout Expo again. She will furnish about 3,000 rocks and minerals. 2. We will do the same \$500.00 scholarship again this year for MHS. We voted to accept the one application that was applicable. 4. We will do a booth May 18th Monrovia Days. 8-3 at Library Park We need help. 3. We voted to accept the proposed budget.

Janie Duncan Adjourned the meeting at 8:15 pm

June Meeting program is a program by Women in Mining.



Because obsidian is metastable (a longlived but not truly indefinite stability) at the Earth's surface (over time it becomes fine-grained mineral crystals), no obsidian has been found that is older than the Cretaceous age. This breakdown of obsidian is accelerated by the presence of water.
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Obsidian> via *Rolling Rock*



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

Roadman Mountains Petroglyphs Lucerne Valley / Barstow Area By Don Ogden

On February 2, 2012 Jay and I went on a scouting trip and visited the Roadman Mountains Petroglyphs. Following is information from the web on the area and pictures we took.

Situated in the Mojave Desert about 30 miles northeast of Lucerne Valley lies a historic wash where Indians once came to leave us reminders of the past. These "rock art" engravings were put here by Native Americans over the past 12,000 years using stone tools.

Some believe the rock art was left by the Cahuilla or the Chemehuevi Indian Tribes. We may never know for sure. Over the years the petroglyphs site has been visited by hundreds of people.

The BLM is keeping the access roads open, marked and available but the exact location is still somewhat unadvertised to help keep the destructive weekend warriors away. There is unfortunately a part of society that is not content with viewing and observing the beauty and history surrounding us.

The petroglyph visiting rules are quite simple: Only take pictures and leave footprints. A vehicle with good ground clearance is recommended. 4WD is not necessary. At the entrance there is a clearing with plenty of parking. Petroglyphs are found here due to the presence of lava rock and minerals suitable for "rock art" activities. **pet-ro-glyph** - A carving or line drawing on rock, especially one made by pre-historic people.

Today, the largest threat to cultural resources is unintentional damage caused by visitors. Many archaeology sites are scattered across the desert landscape. Although they have been present for thousands of years, they are not indestructible. Time and effects of nature are slowly erasing these precious traces of our past. The impacts of man accelerate this natural decay. When visiting archaeological and historical sites, please use minimum impact techniques. You may say, it's just a couple of us and it's just this time, but there may be thousands of visitors saying the same thing. If you do enter an archaeological or historical site, you should first STOP, LOOK, and THINK.

Many sites have fragile artifacts lying just beneath the surface. Try to visually identify each part of a site so you can avoid walking on it. If a trail has been made across a site, stay on it.

Remember, cabins and can dumps are archaeology too. The desert is dotted with the remains of old mining cabins, stage stops, and homesteads. The preservation of historic and prehistoric sites is equally important. The more time you spend within a site, the greater the chance for serious impacts to occur. Archaeological sites should not be used as picnic areas or camp sites.

Archaeological sites are protected by law. If you discover any illegal activity, please notify your local BLM office.

The Rodman Mountain Petroglyph site is just one of those very, very good reasons to get out NOW and explore the Mojave before precious sites like this get discovered by idiots who see nothing wrong with demolishing and destroying historical property, ruining entire desert experiences for many people, for-ever. If you're caught altering these sites in any way these days, I believe it's about a \$90,000 fine + possible jail time. That sounds just about fair to me.

Luckily this particular site is relatively spotless, except for a couple recent crude scratching in the rock which will be gone in a hundred years, these petroglyphs are in pristine condition. Some of them have been accurately dated back to about 10,000 years old.

We know this to be a fact because there is a certain desert fungus that grows over the rocks in the desert. This fungus takes about 10,000 years to form and a few of the petroglyphs are completely covered in this fungus.

They are extremely important in understanding how life even came to be in this part of the world (my favorite drawing is that of a 10,000 year old flying craft). Flying crafts are actually easy to believe considering that about 200 yards from this site, there are 2 rock formations built into the ground which can only be seen.....from the air. One rock "intaglio" is of a rams horn & the other of a boomerang. These intaglios are fenced in for their protection but it also makes them easy to find in this flat landscape.

Cahuilla Tribe

The Cahuilla were a desert tribe which dwelled slightly north of Barstow. Although their location indicates a good possibility that they produced the Barstow glyphs, several aspects of their culture do not fit with the clues given by the pictures themselves. The Cahuilla were **not migratory**. They travelled to different levels of the desert region through different seasons depending on what vegetation or game was in season. They would hunt the mountain goats of higher elevations during one season, wait for a crop of acorns slightly lower another season, or even harvest small shrubs in the lower desert regions. However, they did not travel significantly aside from these seasonal migrations and were not terribly likely to have stayed in the Barstow area long enough to create these glyphs.

Chemehuevi Tribe

The Chemehuevi were a small tribe of Native Americans who migrated to Southern California in the 1770s. The Chemehuevi were peaceful and quiet; in fact, other Native American tribes often referred to them as the "timid people." The Chemehuevi were **migratory people**, spending only three months out of the year in the Twenty Nine Palms area and the rest of the year at Bear Valley during the pinion season and at Banning and Indio during the fruit harvest. Their territory started in the Kingston Range, south of Death Valley and stretched through the Providence Mountains to the boundaries of Riverside and Imperial Counties. It is within these boundaries that our petroglyphs lay. Perhaps it is the ancestors of these people who created the younger glyphs of the swastika, migratory symbol.



MOROKS PICTURE PAGE By Donald Sneberger May Meeting program by Dr. Donald Prothero



Ray Ritchy talks on onyx
Club Officers



Dr. Donald Prothero
Ace



Dendrites vs Moss Agates: Orbicular Jasper vs Polka Dot Agate



We are usually delighted but not surprised to find inclusions in crystals, eg., quartz of one color or another, rutile, sagenite 'stars'. The appearance of inclusions in microcrystalline varieties of quartz, however, have a mysterious ambiance that brings out the *name-making* propensities of collectors. When our vision of inclusions is obscured, our imagination takes hold. Chalcedony (clear to cloudy), agates (clear but usually banded), and jasper (opaque) are all variations of silica oxides, with hardness between 6 and 7, which makes them very suitable for polishing. They may all have included material and the nature of the inclusion is dictated by the composition of the host rock material and the manner of rock formation. Dendritic chalcedony and moss agate are terms or names frequently applied to the same material. They are basically similar, but dendrites can form not only in chalcedony and agate, but also on limestone and soapstone and some sandstones. The dendrites, so called from the Greek *Dendron*, or tree, are branching structures of mainly manganese and iron oxides, in or on the host material. Dendrites occur in many places in the world, basically wherever water rich in oxides flows across rocks. The dendrites form on a surface and are two dimensional, like snowflakes or frost crystals on a windowpane. If the rock is chalcedony, the dendrite forms on the surface, but more chalcedony may entomb it. The dendrites are usually earthy, black, brown, reddish, but near Four Corners, in the eastern Mojave, near the junction of highway 58 & highway 395, rockhounds reputedly find blue. The 'mosses' of moss agate, not organic material at all but *chlorite* or *celadonite*, are visible impurities in the agate. Scientists attempt to distinguish between the two by determining, if possible, whether the dendrite/ moss or the mineral rock formed first. The moss forms while the chalcedony is still gel-like and can then form three dimensional shapes within the stone. Moss agate, also widely distributed, can be a variety of colors, green, black, white, yellow, red, orange, and tan. It is widely used in jewelry, and polishes beautifully, if care is taken not to cut into and pluck the moss. Multi-colored balls can appear in rhyolite flows. Rhyolite is a fine-grained igneous rock that, if it contains sufficient silica to take a brilliant polish, and is sometimes called jasper. Orbicular material usually appears as a mass of rhyolite that has silicated. As the rhyolite cools, sometimes excess silica starts to precipitate out of the magma, forming spherical balls. The ball shape is the form that any extremely concentrated silica (cristobalite) takes, as opposed to the crystal from in dilute concentrations. However, any material that by composition or consistency is immiscible (not mixable) with the host magma will also form balls. Regional metamorphism can also form orbicular jaspers. We hear names like Rainforest Jasper from Australia, Leopardskin Jasper from Mexico, Poppy Jasper from California, and Ocean Jasper from Madagascar. We may find one color surrounding another, or bands of balls, or veils of lighter colors staining the background. Polka Dot Agate from Oregon, has iron rich spheres floating in a snowy extremely fine-grained jasper, along with veils of golden brown. This material is so fine-grained it is almost chert, and resembles porcelain. The rockhound distinction of jasper and chert is; if its a t t r a c t i v e , its j a s p e r ; if its d u l l , its c h e r t . Some jasper represents replaced limestone or dolostone, some occurs as nodules, and sometimes it is part of the *gangue* of mineral deposits by hydrothermal or metasomatic processes. Agates are *translucent* and usually banded, with subvitreous luster; jasper is *opaque* with a dull to pearly luster; to a rockhound *jasp-agate* is a fine mixture of these beautiful oxides.

Source: Calumet Gem, via PGGGS Petrograph 6/03, via Golden Spike News 7/06 Via Strata Gem

SATURDAY June 22nd 4:30 pm

Janie Duncan's Home

328 E. Foothill Blvd. Monrovia 91016

Foothill Blvd 3 blocks East of Myrtle Ave. South side of the street with a wheelchair ramp. We will be in the back yard and there are a set of steps up into the house where the bathroom is. Street parking only. I would not cross foothill to park as it is very dangerous. We will have dinner outside and maybe play bingo inside if it is dark or too hot. Please let me know if you have a few folding chairs we can borrow.



The club will furnish the hot dogs, hamburgers, paper goods, beverages and silverware. Please bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share. We will be playing bingo and we need everyone to bring along wrapped bingo prizes. Please label man, woman or leave blank if they are for either. We have not had any kids for a while so we will not need kids prizes. The picnic is free for members. Guests are \$3.00 each.



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.)

NOV. 8 - 10, 2013

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Tourmaline - California

Jeff Scovil Photos©

Go see a CFMS Show this JUNE

May 31 - June 2: VENTURA, CFMS SHOW & CONVENTION, "California Rocks" Sponsored by: Conejo, Oxnard, & Ventura Gem & Mineral Societies Ventura County Fairgrounds, 10 W. Harbor Boulevard Hours: Fri & Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4 Show Chair Rob Sankovich rmsorca@adelphia.net, (805) 494-7734

June 8 - 9: LA HABRA, CA North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society La Habra Community Center 101 W. La Habra Blvd. Hours: 10 - 5 daily Contact: Loretta Ogden, (909) 598-2456 Email: donogden@aol.com, fbriktr1@aol.com Website: www.nocgms.com

June 14 - 16: WOODLAND HILLS, CA Rockatomics Gem & Mineral Society Pierce College Farm 20800 Victory Blvd Hours: 10 - 5 daily Contact: William Rucker, (818) 428-7834 Email: rockhound@rockatomics.com Website: Rockatomics.com

June 28 - 30: SAN BERNARDINO, CA Orange Belt Mineralogical Society Western Regional Little League Ball Park 6707 Little League Drive Hours: 9 am to Dusk daily Contacts: Ken & Jessica Gard, (909) 624-1782, (909) 887-5507 Email: kengard@roadrunner.com Website: <http://OBMSrocks.yolasite.com>

Know Your Rocks

Leaverite: Also known as Dropite, Junkite, and Crudite. This type of rock should be discarded immediately. It constitutes 90% of most rocks. This includes Sourgrape Agate and Mutilated Quartz.

Sack Rock: This is material that is stuffed into a sack but falls from the top as the bearer struggles back to the car. If taken home, it will be tossed into a corner and forgotten.

Wonder Rock: You always wonder why you brought it home and where you found it.

Braggin' Rock: Also called Pocket or Eating Rock. This material is licked, rubbed, spit upon, and fondled until it assumes a near polish and is frequently passed around for admiration.

@#S%& Rock: A large, heavy, possibly angular rock that falls on your foot as soon as you have removed your hiking boots.

Via beehive buzzer



Stone house in Portugal

California Rocks!

May 31 - June 2, 2013

CFMS Show Website:

www.cfms2013.com

Maps, hotels, hours, fees,

The Ventura County Fairgrounds *You Are Invited*

10 W. Harbor Boulevard
Ventura, California 93001

