

MOROKS

MAY 2015

Monrovia Rockhounds

P.O. Box 553

Monrovia, CA 91017



Monrovia Rockhounds Newsletter May 2015

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Prez Sez Well we got off to a tumultuous start this year with our auditor bowing out as the new board was taking office and our editor quitting just before our second bulletin but we look forward to only going uphill from here. The summary of the previous year's financials shows that the previous board spent more than we took in. In other words, our operating expenses exceeded our income. Needless to say, this new Board hopes to balance the books this year while still providing quality opportunities for our members.

In addition, our show cases are old, need to be upgraded or will need to be replaced soon. We pay \$150 per month to store these cases and our show supplies. Some cases that were deemed surplus were donated to the Boy Scouts. The bases are collapsible for storage but need to be rebuilt for improved safety and appearance. The obsolete lights will eventually need to be replaced completely (because of incandescent bulbs); the connecting wires are hot when strung for use. Quality LED lights will run \$200-300 per case. CFL, fixtures and ballasts do cost less but the lamps are a risk if broken because of the mercury and fluorescent powder in the bulbs. This is going to be considered carefully by the Board before anything takes place. While some people may look at our bank balance and think we are rolling in dough, with this looming expenditure, it is quite the opposite. Any repair of the cases will have considerable cost and we have found that all cases for clubs are custom fabricated so new ones would eat up most of the bankroll.

We look forward to working with the members in planning the future of Moroks. We welcome your input. We have two Representatives: Colleen Chestnut and Ray Ritchey. Their role is to communicate to the Board any issues from the membership. Please contact either one of them with your ideas, concerns and suggestions to improve MOROKS.

Cal Matthews



Vice Prez Sez Well my first month as Vice President has been a busy one. I have lined up speakers thru August already and I have been busy planning our Annual Moroks Picnic as well. Details are on another page of this Bulletin. The Silent Auction last month was successful, I hope everyone enjoys your purchases. Our next Silent Auction will be in October. Don't miss the May meeting, we have a great program for that evening.

Michele Silcock

2015 MULTI-CLUB FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

Expanded and current information for these collecting opportunities will be published in the various newsletters for the particular month. As always, you should to contact the field trip leader ahead of time because: 1. Sometimes field trips are canceled or changed for various reasons including inclement weather or areas being closed. 2. If we don't know you are coming we won't wait for you and you may not find out the planned camp site was moved until too late. Distributed to the representatives of the Delvers – Long Beach – North Orange County – Pasadena – Whittier – Searchers Gem - Monrovia Rockhounds Mineral and Lapidary Clubs For up-to-date information on these field trips and how to joining the trip please see your club's field trip leader or call Joe Goetz at (626)-622-9420.

JUNE 20: TOURMALINE DIG - Pala area. Mine location to be determined.

JULY 18: PALOS VERDES -: Glaucothane, barite and agate minerals.

AUG 2: LOS OLIVOS to collect Soap Stone and Serpentine, the California State Rock.

SEPT 19-20: GREENHORN MOUNTAINS - Kernville Rose Quartz, Epidote, Garnet

OCT 10-11: SEARLES LAKE SHOW & field trips: Pink halite crystals & borax minerals.

NOV 7-8: WHITTIER CLAIM AREA - Barstow for honey onyx, agate, jasper, palm root.

NOV 27-29: THANKSGIVING TRIP - Owens Valley or Afton Canyon.

DEC 12: SALTON SEA - YUHA Fossil Beds, Tour Geothermal Power Plant, Mud Volcano Field.

JAN 24-25: QUARTZSITE ARIZONA

MOROKS MAY 2015 NEWSLETTER



MONROVIA ROCKHOUDS



Our Website is www.moroks.com



ELECTED OFFICERS



PRESIDENT – Cal Matthews



VICE PRESIDENT – Michele Silcock



SECRETARY – Denise Davis



TREASURER - Jim Lloyd



AUDITOR NOMINEE - Kevin Doran

CHAIRPERSONS

BULLETIN - Denise Davis
CUSTODIAN – Jim Lloyd
EDUCATION - Janie Duncan
FEDERATION – Jo Anna Ritchey
FELLOWSHIP: - Victor Castellano
FIELD TRIP – Kevin Doran
MEMBERSHIP—Denise Davis
ORGANIZATION– Cal Matthews
PROGRAM - Michele Silcock
SHOW – Jo Anna Ritchey

REPRESENTATIVES– Ray Ritchey & Colleen Chestnut

WEBSITE – Jo Anna Ritchey
HISTORIAN – Nancy Hamrick
CARD FELLOWSHIP - Aynn Freeman

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 \$20.00 per member & \$10.00 per each additional member at the same address.

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.

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

If you have any submissions for this newsletter contact Denise Davis at 626-294-9043

Advertising is available starting with a Business card sized ad at \$5 per month with a 6 month minimum insertion.

APRIL**MONROVIA ROCKHOUNDS BOARD MEETINGS****April 16th 2015 Board Meeting Summary**

Board Members Present: President-Cal Matthews, VP-Michele Silcock, Treasurer-Jim Lloyd, Secretary-Denise Davis. **Chairs Present:** Victor Castellano. **Representatives Present:** Colleen Chestnut.
Members Present: Donald Sneberger.

Cal Matthews presented the Board with a financial report from Joanna Ritchey for the previous fiscal year. It showed a net loss for the year of \$216.11. (The balance difference in the checkbook shows \$390.55.) Items that were unclear could not be discussed as Joanna Ritchey and Janie Duncan were not present. Cal asked the Board and the Chairs to submit their proposed budgets for the new fiscal year as he needed to have the budget done by the May Board meeting.

Cal brought up the issue of the need to raise membership dues. He noted that \$8 of our dues goes to CMSA for insurance. No one could say for sure exactly what the insurance covers. It was noted that the newsletter costs as much as \$18 per year for those requiring it to be mailed due to lack of computer access. Club dues were discussed and the Board decided to discuss with the General Membership their feelings about the dues, with a plan for it to go to vote sometime in the future months. The proposal would raise the dues \$5 per person. The discussion of Junior Members was tabled until more research could be done before the Bylaws could be changed.

An additional item discussed was the need for a permit for future raffles, including the monthly Rock Drawing. This permit is required by the State of California to maintain our 501 3-C status. Denise noted that another local club has already been sanctioned by the state and lost their tax exempt status. Further discussion was tabled on this matter also.

April 30th 2015 Board Meeting Summary

Board Members Present: President-Cal Matthews, VP-Michele Silcock, Treasurer-Jim Lloyd, Secretary-Denise Davis. **Chairs Present:** Victor Castellano. Joanna Ritchey, Janie Duncan, Kevin Doran
Representatives Present: Colleen Chestnut. **Members Present:** Em Matthews

Joanna Ritchey started the meeting with her request for reimbursement/payment for her trip to the CFMS Lodi Show which will also include Michele Silcock. Some costs for Joanna will be shared by the Mineralogical Society. Totals cost to Moroks is \$548.45 which was approved by the Board.

Cal announced that he had appointed Kevin Doran as Field Trip Chair.

Cal discussed his budget with emphasis on watching costs related to the Programs and Bulletin in particular. He noted that the Bulletin cost should only be \$20 per month for 20 printed copies including postage. Cal went over some show expenses as well as operating expenses. Net show income was approximately \$2500, all of which was used for Club operating expenses.

Previous Board minutes were approved.

The President nominated Kevin Doran as Auditor. Kevin is a Professional Auditor and the Board voiced no objections. This will be presented for a vote at the next General Membership meeting per the Bylaws.

Denise Davis volunteered to draw up proposed Bylaw changes related to Junior Memberships and submit them for discussion at the next Board meeting.

Jim Lloyd reported that the Club made \$361 at the Silent Auction in April. He said 21 members have paid dues so far.

Michele announced the date, time, and details of the picnic as well as the speakers for the May & June 2015 general meetings.

An inventory of items belonging to the Club was requested. This includes A/V equipment, the garage, the Church storeroom and items belonging to the Club being held in private homes such as rocks, equipment, show items and office supplies.

Denise said she will format the agenda for the next membership meeting. Colleen asked for sign up sheets for the snack at the general meetings as well as for the picnic and Michele agreed with both items.

It was agreed that the Board meetings would be the first Thursday of the month in the evening. The Board is currently exploring locations for the meeting.

APRIL**MONROVIA ROCKHOUNDS GENERAL MEETING**

The April Meeting of Moroks had 26 members and 11 guests attending. It opened with current President Cal Matthews introducing his appointed Chairmen and their roles. Cal indicated that the Auditor position on the Board was open as was the Field Trip Chair position but he said he hoped to fill those spots soon.

The next order of business for Cal was to mention the proposed increase in Club dues that the Board had discussed at the previous Board meeting. After some discussion a motion was made by Ralph Fregoso, the vote was taken and passed. Dues were increased by \$5 per person. The issue of Junior Memberships was brought up and the Board will take that under consideration as it had already been brought to the Board's attention at their meeting. There was a reminder that Dues are due in April and payable to Jim Lloyd.

Snacks this evening were presented by newer members Kevin & Linda Doran. We thank them for all the goodies they brought and for being such great team players.

The rest of the evening was spent on our Silent Auction. We had great donations, great bids and a great outcome for our Auction. Thank you to everyone who participated.

MEMBERSHIP**DUES**

At the April Board meeting the Board voted to raise the dues. It was proposed that individual dues would go from \$15 to \$20 per year. The second individual in the same household would now pay \$10 dues per year, an increase of \$5. The Board recommended that this change take effect starting with new memberships to help reduce the costs we will have at our present expenditure level. When the proposal was brought to the General Membership meeting in April for a vote, President Cal Matthews felt the new dues should be retroactive for all members for this fiscal year, even those who had already paid. On a motion by Ralph Fregoso the membership approved this change. After the meeting the president has decided to pay, personally, the extra portion for those three continuing members who paid their full dues between Jan 1 to March 31 for the club fiscal year 2015-2016. The Board also discussed Junior memberships and they are looking at changing the current Bylaws that prohibit junior members. We wish to support and educate potential junior members as well.

Your dues are due now if you have not paid them. Please pay them to Treasurer Jim Lloyd.

SHIRTS

We still have some shirts left if anyone wants a Club shirt. These remaining shirts will be sold at the old price of \$10 for regular sizes and \$12 for 2XL & 3XL. I will do the next shirt order when there is enough quantity to make the order worthwhile. The next time a shirt order is placed the Club members will be asked to pay the actual cost of their shirts, which will be higher than the current cost of the remaining shirts in stock.

BADGES

We are asking members to please wear your Club badge at all Club functions, including the General Membership meetings. I will be placing an order for Club badges soon. If you need a replacement Club badge please let me know. I will be charging the actual cost of the replacement badges, not \$10. The amount should be less than \$10 per badge, hopefully closer to \$7 if you are ordering a replacement badge.

Denise Davis

Membership Chair, [626-294-9043](tel:626-294-9043)

PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES!

\$20.00 for an individual & \$10.00 for each additional person in the same household.

Send it to the PO Box or bring it to the meeting.

May Program will be "The Pilabara Region of Australia"

Upcoming Programs include: Friends of the LA River, exploring the Past, Present and Future.

Field Trip Safety by Mark Nelson, CFMS Safety Committee



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

NEW FIELD TRIP CHAIR

Please welcome our new Field Trip chair, Kevin P. Doran, who lives in Monrovia but travels all the way to west LA, near UCLA, for work. Rock collecting has been a hobby most of his life collecting in AZ, OR, NV as well as CA and he also collected a degree in Geology from Cal State LA. Among Kevin's favorite rocks is one rock specimen of Colemanite, $\text{Ca}[\text{B}_3\text{O}_4(\text{OH})_3] \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ that he collected near the parking lot at what we now call the Rio Tinto Visitor Center & later resided on display at the LA Natural History Museum. Both he and his wife Linda are no longer campers so we can look forward to collecting near hospitable stopping points



Photo courtesy of Mindat.org

MOROKS Annual Potluck Picnic & Rock Bingo in the Park



Sunday July 12th, 2015 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Memorial Park Pavilion

222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Sierra Madre, CA

We will have a short meeting before lunch. This is instead of the July General Meeting

Potluck, Please bring enough for 8-12 servings and your own beverage.

Sign up sheet at the May & June meetings or call Michele at 626 357 8425.

The club will provide chicken, paper goods, bottled water and ice.

Please bring a wrapped rock for a bingo prize, one that is no larger than your hand, in order to participate in the bingo, including guests.

Guests will be \$5.00. Must RSVP at least 48 hours before the event to Michele

Street parking, clean restrooms, handicapped friendly.



May Program: The Pilbara Region of Western Australia



This month Dick & Mary Pat Weber, retired geologists, will share their experiences while traveling extensively in the Pilbara. On display will be many examples of iron-stones, jaspers and specimens of the world's oldest agates.

The rocks of the Pilbara region are among the oldest in the world, up to 3.48 billion years. Rock formation took place when the earth's atmosphere contained little or no oxygen. Due to these unique conditions, many of these minerals are not seen anywhere else in the world. Nearly every year a new discovery is made in this desolate area of Australia.

What is THE CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES?

The California Federation of Mineralogical Societies was organized in 1936 to bring about a close association of clubs and societies devoted to the study of Earth Sciences and the practice of Lapidary Arts in the western part of the United States. CFMS is an umbrella organization for gem, mineral and lapidary societies, as well as prospecting and treasure hunting clubs in California and Nevada and one club in Arizona.

The Federation serves the clubs through its CFMS Newsletter, workshops devoted to bulletins, uniform rules and judging, exhibiting, field trips, and programs; the CFMS Scholarship program; insurance; museum coordination; and through manuals for programs and speakers, slide programs, bulletin aids, field trips, and Society aids.

BENEFITS OF CFMS MEMBERSHIP

Following is a partial list, in no particular order of significance:

1. We establish and maintain avenues of communication through a monthly newsletter and a web site.
2. We maintain and promote an active field trip program through the focused efforts of several regional groups.
3. We promote an annual California Federation rock, mineral and gem show and convention; and publicize affiliate club shows to advertise our interests, educate ourselves and the public, and generate revenue to sustain our clubs.
4. We establish and maintain educational programs in the following areas:
 - (a) Earth science seminars;
 - (b) Guided junior activities;
 - (c) Museum and traveling exhibits;
 - (d) Safety seminars;
 - (e) Video and slides library;
 - (f) Competitive exhibit seminars;
 - (g) Newsletter editor seminars;
 - (h) Public relations seminars;
 - (i) Club program aids information;
 - (j) Effective use of the Internet.
5. We fund and operate an active scholarship program.
6. We maintain a public land use policies review committee to educate ourselves and to inform government policy makers of our views for appropriate public land use.
7. We sponsor an active tax advisory and legal assistance program to help affiliate clubs comply with State and Federal requirements.

Excerpt from The California Federation of Mineralogical Societies Brochure



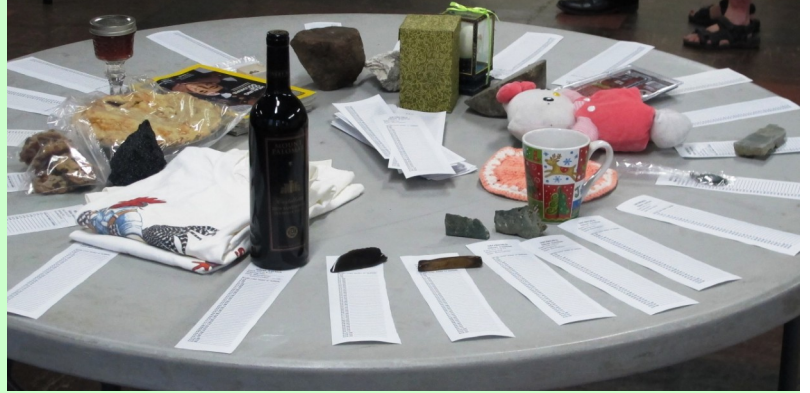
Pictures by Donald Sneberger

MOROKS PICTURE PAGE

April Silent Auction



Michelle Silcock Cal Matthews



Victor Castellano



Kevin & Linda Doran



The History of Birthstones By Mark Nelson, Pasadena Lapidary Society

In our lapidary hobby we often refer to the birthstone of the month, but who decided on this tradition? The first century Jewish historian Josephus proclaimed a connection between the twelve stones in Aaron's breastplate (known as the Foundation Stones and representing the twelve tribes of Israel) with the twelve months of the year, and the twelve signs of the zodiac. Theologian and historian St. Jerome (347 – 420), referencing Josephus, said the stones would be appropriate for Christians to use. Between the years 700 and 1000 religious treatises were written associating a particular stone with an apostle and his virtue.

The practice became to keep twelve stones and wear one a month. Wearing a single birthstone is only a few centuries old, with experts placing the origin in either in eighteenth century Poland or Germany in the 1560s.

In 1912, in an effort to standardize birthstones, the National Association of Jewelers met in Kansas and officially adopted a list. There have been a few modifications to this list over the years - resulting in the current list of primary and secondary birthstones recognized in most parts of the world as shown in the chart below. (Courtesy of Rockhound Ramblings Feb. 2014)

Month	15th- 20th century	1912	2013
January	garnet	garnet	garnet
February	amethyst, hyacinth, pearl	amethyst	amethyst
March	heliotrope, jasper	heliotrope, aquamarine	aquamarine, heliotrope
April	diamond, sapphire	diamond	diamond
May	emerald, agate	emerald	emerald
June	cat's eye, turquoise, agate	pearl, moonstone	pearl, moonstone, alexandrite
July	turquoise, onyx	ruby	ruby
August	sardonyx, carnelian, moonstone, topaz	sardonyx, peridot	peridot
September	chrysolite	sapphire	sapphire
October	opal, aquamarine	opal, tourmaline	opal, tourmaline
November	topaz, pearl	topaz	topaz, citrine
December	heliotrope, ruby	turquoise, lapis lazuli	turquoise, zircon, tanzanite



Bench Tips by Brad Smith **MAGNETIC TOOL BAR**

An easy way to keep all your files organized at the bench is to use a magnetic tool strip. They're not expensive and help keep a lot of small tools from cluttering the bench top. I got a couple of them from Harbor Freight for about \$5 each. See <http://ww.harborfreight.com> and search on "magnetic-holder," My only regret was putting some of my small drills on the magnets. The drills got a little magnetized and now stick together when I carry them in a bottle in my tool box. (More BenchTips by Brad Smith are at FaceBook [facbook.com/BenchTips](https://www.facebook.com/BenchTips) or at groups.yahoo.com/group/) Get all of Brad's bench tips in "Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" on Amazon .com .



CFMS Rock Shows

June 6-7: GLENDORA CA Glendora Gems & Mineral Society, Goddard Middle School, 857 East Sierra Madre. Hours: Sat. 10—5, Sun 10-4. Contact Bonnie Bidwell, (626) 963-4638

June 12-14: LODI CA California Federation of Mineralogical Societies 2015 SHOW & CONVENTION "Rocks and Vines" Hours: Friday & Saturday 10-5; Sunday 10-4. Contact Margaret Kolaczyk, markolaczyk@gmail.com <http://www.cfmsinc.org/2015show/2015Show.html>

June 27-28, CULVER CITY, CA Culver City Rock & Mineral Club. 4117 Overland Blvd @ Culver Blvd, (near the 405 & 10 Freeways). Hours: Saturday 10-6 and Sunday 10-5. Contact Janice Metz, email: Janicemtz@yahoo.com. Website: Culvercityrocks.org.

August 22 - 23: SAN FRANCISCO, CA San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society San Francisco County Fair Building 9th Avenue & Lincoln Way Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 6 Contact: Ellen Nott Email: ellen_nott@yahoo.com Website: www.sfgms.org

August 29 & 30: CONCORD, CA Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society Centre Concord 5298 Clayton Rd. (near Ygnacio Rd.) Hours: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Daily. Harry Nichandros (925) 289-0454 Show-c@ccmgs.org http://www.ccmgs.org/gem_show/

September 19 & 20: REDWOOD CITY, CA Sequoia Gem & Mineral Society Harvest of Gems & Mineral Show 1400 Roosevelt Avenue Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Daily Carol Corden cordencarol@yahoo.com www.sequoiagemandmineralsociety.org

September 26 - 27: DOWNEY, CA Delvers Gem & Mineral Society Elks Lodge 11233 Woodruff Avenue-Hours: Sat 9 - 5; Sun 9 - 4 Contact: Dale Hardwood (310) 217-0551 Email: nancyjbird@verizon.net

SUPPORT YOUR CLUB-SUBMIT AN ORIGINAL ARTICLE FOR THE NEWSLETTER .

WEST COAST - SPRING **GEM & MINERAL SHOW**

MAY 15 - 17, 2015

SANTA ANA, CA

Holiday Inn - Orange County Airport
2726 S. Grand Ave.

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

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Beads ★ Decorator Pieces ★ Meteorites

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FREE ADMISSION ★ FREE PARKING ★ WHOLESALE ★ RETAIL

Show Hours: Fri. & Sat. 10 - 6 ★ Sun. 10 - 5

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Fax: (303) 223-3478, mzexpos@gmail.com, www.mzexpos.com

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Cobaltian Calcite- Morocco
Photo by Joe Budd©

CALIFORNIA'S GOLDEN BEAR



CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

2015

JEWELRY, MINERAL & GEM FESTIVAL

June 12, 13 & 14, 2015

10am - 5pm Friday & Saturday

10am - 4pm Sunday

Lodi Grape Festival & Harvest Fair

413 East Lockeford Street, Lodi, Ca

www.cfmsinc.org

\$6 Adults, Children under 12 Free