

# MOROKS

SEPTEMBER 2013

Monrovia Rockhounds Newsletter

P.O. Box 553

Monrovia, CA 91017

Editor – Janie Duncan



## MONROVIA ROCKHOUNDS NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2013

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

# MOROKS NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2013

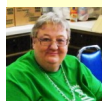


## MONROVIA ROCKHOUNDS

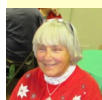


Our Website is [www.moroks.com](http://www.moroks.com)

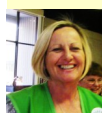
### ELECTED OFFICERS



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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 28<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto:janieduncan@altrionet.com)

**Monrovia  
Rockhounds  
SEPTEMBER  
Birthdays**

- Janie Duncan
- Maria & Louisa Davila
- Joel Tureaud
- Donald Sneberger
- Louise Stack
- Ralph Fregoso
- Rudy Lopez



**Garnet Bullets**

A cool fact about garnets is that they were actually used in ancient Asia and the American Southwest as bullets in guns. The strong, deep red of the stone was said to cause wounds worse than bullets. Read more about it on the

Omni-gems Blog  
- [omigems.com/blog/category/gemstones/](http://omigems.com/blog/category/gemstones/).



**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.

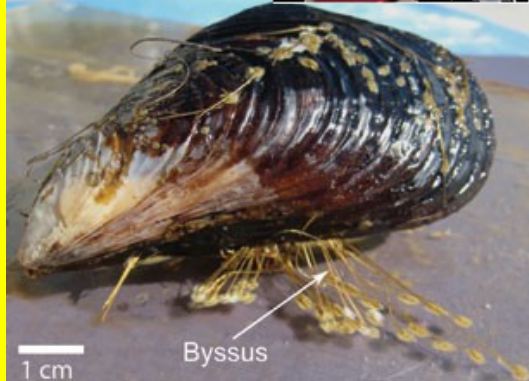
**NOV 2, 3 : Whittier Claim** - honey onyx, agate, jasper, palm root, others. One or two day trip.

**NOV 28 - Dec 1: Afton Canyon** agates, fluorite, amygdules, petrified wood.

**JAN 18: Quartzsite** for the QIA Pow Wow

**Cloth Of Gold**

Until the Middle Ages, underwater divers near the Mediterranean Coast line collected golden strands of the pen shell, which used the strands to hold itself in place. Called "byssus", the strands were woven into a luxury textile "cloth of gold" and made into ladies' gloves so fine that a pair could be packed into an empty walnut shell. Examples of this lost art exist in some museums, where the cloth retains its color and softness. Via El Gambrisino



**JEWELLERY CLEANER**

- 1 tablespoon salt
- 1 tablespoon baking soda
- 1 tablespoon dish detergent
- 1 cup water
- 1 piece aluminum foil

**Directions:** 1. Heat water in the microwave for 2 minutes. 2. Cut a piece of aluminum foil that covers the bottom of a small bowl . 3. Pour hot water into bowl. Place salt, soda, and dish-washing liquid into bowl. Place jewelry on top of foil and let it sit for 10 minutes. Rinse jewelry in cool water and dry jewelry completely with soft cloth. Discard solution after use and make a new batch next time.



**PREZ SEZ** I had a great time in Montana and have been super busy ever since. I did a talk for the Culver City Club and they have a great group of rockhounds. Lets all start helping Rudy with his plans for our 2014 show. It seems a long ways away but comes up fast! *Janie Duncan*



**VICE PREZ SEZ** The August Program by John Cook was very interesting. Please come to the September meeting for a night of rock related games. *Camille Rutkowski*

## AUGUST 1ST

## MONROVIA ROCKHOUNDS AUGUST BOARD MEETING

**President:** *Janie Duncan* called the meeting to order at 2:20 PM.

**Vice President:** *Camille Rutkowski* August is John Cook and blue Chalcedony of the Argus Mountains. He is from the Ventura Club. September will be the game Black Rock and a preview of Janie's new kid's game Rock-it Science. October is the Silent Auction.

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

**Representative:** *Ray Ritchey* no report. **Representative:** *Cal Matthews* was absent

**Treasurer:** Jim Lloyd. We have 34 paid members.

**Auditor:** *Louise Stack* The report was approved by the board.

**Website:** *Jo Anna Ritchey* was absent.

**Federation:** *Jo Anna Ritchey* absent. Janie reported Pasadena club plans to host the 2014 CFMS Show & convention at the Pomona fairground by the Sheraton Hotel May 30-June 1 Janie has been asked to do a children's table. They will need lots of volunteers.

**Fellowship:** *Louise Stack* Michele is doing well and almost through with her therapy. Em is still having a hard time recovering. Jo Anna has more Chemo and hopes this is the last of it.

Jo Anna finished her Chemotherapy and we wish her a fast recovery.

**Photographer:** Donald Sneberger no report.

**Field trip:** *Ray Ritchey* Janie will print flyers for the PLS trip to Jurupa Mountains Center on the 17th.

**Rock of the Month Talk:** Janie will show and tell about her rocks she brought back from Montana.

**Bulletin:** *Janie Duncan* Rudy asked Janie to reprint the show report from July.

**Historian:** *Nancy Hamrick* was absent.

**Picnic:** *Donald Sneberger* no report.

**Great Rock Drawing:** *Louise Stack* Quartz crystal this month.

**Custodian:** *Jim Lloyd* had no report.

**Refreshments:** Judy McCulloch and her sister Pamela Osburne will do August.

**Show:** *Rudy Lopez* We need donations of gift cards, jewelry, good rocks and items for the lunch. Please take forms to pass out to stores. Janie is going to get tickets printed soon. Jim will buy the blanks at Kelly Paper. Does anyone have rocks good for tumbling?

**Old Business:** *Janie Duncan* 1. Janie is doing 1 more boy scout Merit Badge Class. We made a list of people to stop sending the bulletin to and Janie is sending letters to some who have not paid.

**New Business:** *Janie Duncan* . 1. Janie did a rock talk for Happy Day school in Monterey Park. 2. Rudy and Janie went to Joanne Jones who folks had been founding members of the club and looked at some rocks . We have her a tax donation for them. Nothing much good for grab bags and a couple that Rudy could work with.

**Janie Duncan** Adjourned the meeting at 2:50 pm



**Bench Tips by Brad Smith** More BenchTips by Brad Smith are at FaceBook [facebook.com/BenchTips](http://facebook.com/BenchTips) or at [groups.yahoo.com/group/ JUST A DROP](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/JUST_A_DROP)

Hobby shops and model airplane stores carry small plastic dispenser bottles that are handy bench items for putting a drop of oil or glue just where you want it.

The small metal tubing lets you squeeze out very small drops and reach into tight places. I use the small one on the left for oil when I'm sawing or drilling harder metals like steel. And I use the bottle on the right from a plastics store for the fast drying glues used to join pieces of acrylic.



**AUGUST 15TH****MONROVIA ROCKHOUNDS GENERAL MEETING**

**President:** *Janie Duncan* called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM.

**Vice President:** *Camille Rutkowski* was absent. Tonight is a program by John Cook and blue Chalcedony of the Argus Mountains. He is from the Ventura Club. September will be the game Black Rock and a preview of Janie's new kid's game Rock-it Science. October is the Silent Auction.

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

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

**Treasurer:** Jim Lloyd. We have 40 paid members.

**Website:** *Jo Anna Ritchey* was absent.

**Federation:** *Jo Anna Ritchey* absent. Janie reported Pasadena club plans to host the 2014 CFMS Show & convention at the Pomona fairground by the Sheraton Hotel May 30-June 1. Janie has been asked to do a children's table. They will need volunteers.

**Fellowship:** *Louise Stack* 3 guests present tonight. Our speaker and his wife Diane and Pamela Osburne, Judy's sister. Em Matthews is waiting for her next hip surgery. Michele is doing well and almost through with her therapy. Jo Anna has more Chemotherapy and we wish her a fast recovery.

**Photographer:** Donald Sneberger gave Janie the card.

**Field trip:** *Ray Ritchey* was absent but Janie had flyers for the August 17th trip to Jurupa with the PLS.

**Rock of the Month Talk:** Janie did show and tell rocks from Montana vacation /palladium ore core sample.

**Bulletin:** *Janie Duncan* No report. **Historian:** *Nancy Hamrick* no report.

**Picnic:** *Donald Sneberger* no report.

**Great Rock Drawing:** *Louise Stack* Quartz crystal was won by Janie and donated to Rudy for the show. September is a nice obsidian.

**Custodian:** *Jim Lloyd* had no report.

**Refreshments:** Judy and Pamela brought them tonight and Nancy Hamrich will do September.

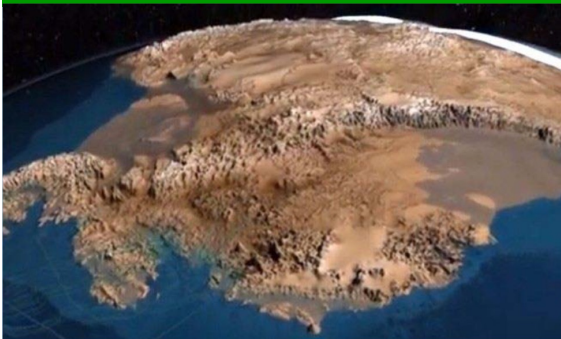
**Show:** *Rudy Lopez* We need donations. Janie will reprint the show report this month.

**Old Business:** *Janie Duncan* **New Business:** *Janie Duncan* 1. Janie is doing 1 more boy scout Merit Badge Class and did a talk at Happy Day School in Monterey Park.. 2. Loretta Silvers was initiated as a new member.

**New Business:** Rudy and Janie went to Joanne Jones who folks had been founding members of the club and looked at some rocks. We have her a tax donation for them. Nothing much good for grab bags and a couple that Rudy could work with.

**Janie Duncan** Adjourned the meeting at 7: 25 pm

### September program is playing rock games with Janie Duncan



Our geological cousins across the pond, the British Geological Survey, via its sister office, The British Antarctic Survey by combining decades of results of studies of various techniques to see what the Antarctic landmass looks like under two miles of glacial ice has published virtual 3-D photos of what the surface most likely looks like. Via THE STAMFORD MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY VUG



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



# MOROKS PICTURE PAGE By Donald Sneberger August Meeting program by John Cook



**John Cook from  
the Ventura Gem  
and Mineral  
Society**



**Loretta Silvera our  
newest MOROK  
WELCOME!**



SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Across the West, early miners digging for gold, silver and copper had no idea that one day something else very valuable would be buried in the piles of dirt and rocks they tossed aside. There's a rush in the U.S. to find key components of cell-phones, televisions, weapons systems, wind turbines, MRI machines and the regenerative brakes in hybrid cars, and old mine tailings piles just might be the answer. They may contain a group of versatile minerals the periodic table called rare earth elements. "Uncle Sam could be sitting on a gold mine," said Larry Meinert, director of the mineral resource program for the U.S. Geological Survey in Reston, Va. The USGS and Department of Energy are on a nationwide scramble for deposits of the elements that make magnets lighter, bring balanced hues to fluorescent lighting and color to the touch screens of smartphones in order to break the Chinese stranglehold on those supplies. They were surprised to find that the critical elements could be in plain sight in piles of rubble otherwise considered eyesores and toxic waste. One era's junk could turn out to be this era's treasure. "Those were almost never analyzed for anything other than what they were mining for," Meinert said. "If they turn out to be valuable that is a win-win on several fronts — getting us off our dependence on China and having a resource we didn't know about." The 15 rare earth elements were discovered long after the gold rush began to wane, but demand for them only took off over the past 10 years as electronics became smaller and more sophisticated. They begin with number 57 Lanthanum and end with 71 Lutetium, a group of metallic chemical elements that are not rare as much as they are just difficult to mine because they occur in tiny amounts and are often stuck to each other. Unlike metals higher up on the table such as silver and gold, there's no good agent for dissolving elements so closely linked in atomic structure without destroying the target. It makes mining for them tedious and expensive. "The reason they haven't been explored for in the U.S. was because as long as China was prepared to export enough rare earths to fill the demand, everything was fine — like with the oil cartels. When China began to use them as a political tool, people began to see the vulnerability to the U.S. economy to having one source of rare earth elements," said Ian Ridley, director of the USGS Central Mineral and Environmental Resources Science Center in Colorado. Two years ago, China raised prices — in the case of Neodymium, used to make Prius electric motors stronger and lighter, from \$15 a kilogram in 2009 to \$500 in 2011, while Dysprosium oxide used in lasers and halide lamps went from \$114 a kilogram in 2010 to \$2,830 in 2011. It's also about the time China cut off supplies to Japan, maker of the Prius, in a dispute over international fishing territory. That's when the U.S. government went into emergency mode and sent geologists to hunt for new domestic sources. "What we have is a clash of supply and demand. It's a global problem. A growing middle class around the world means more and more people want things like cellphones," said Alex King, director of the Critical Materials Institute of the Department of Energy's Ames Research Lab in Iowa. "Our job is to solve the problem any way we can." At the University of Nevada-Reno and the Colorado School of Mines, USGS scientists used lasers to examine extensive samples of rocks and ore collected across the West during the gold rush days by geologists from Stanford University and Cal Tech. "If we could recycle some of this waste and get something out of it that was waste years ago that isn't waste today, that certainly is a goal," said Alan Koenig, the USGS scientist in charge of the tailings project. One sample collected in 1870 from an area near Sparks, Nev., where miners had searched for a viable copper vein, has shown promise and has given researchers clues in the search for more. They have found that some rare earths exist with minerals they had not previously known occur together. "The copper mine never went into production, but now after all of this time we've analyzed it and it came back high with Indium, which is used in photovoltaic panels. It never economically produced copper, but it gives us insight into some associations we didn't previously recognize," Koenig said. Indium also has been found in the defunct copper mine that dominates the artsy southern Arizona town of Bisbee. Koenig and his colleagues are working to understand the composition of all of the nation's major deposits sampled over the past 150 years. In some cases, the mines were depleted of gold or copper, but the rocks left piled alongside mines and pits could hold a modern mother lode.

Continued on page 8

"We're revisiting history," he said. They are compiling data from 2,500 samples to better understand whether it's possible to predict where rare earths might be hiding based on the presence of other elements there, too. "If I had to venture a number, I'd say we have found several dozen new locations that are elevated in one or more critical metals," Koenig said. "With this project the goal would be to have this large data base available that would allow us to predict and to form new associations." Currently there is only one U.S. mine producing rare earths— at Mountain Pass in the Southern California desert. Molycorp Inc.'s goal in reopening the defunct mine is 20,000 metric tons of rare earth elements by this summer, including cerium oxide used to polish telescope lenses and other glass. The USGS is counting on companies like Molycorp to use the information they've gleaned to uncover other easy-to-reach deposits sitting on federal land and elsewhere. "Without rare earths we'd be back to having black-and-white cellphones again," said the USGS's Ridley. Via Reach Tracie Cone: [www.Twitter.com/TConeAP](http://www.Twitter.com/TConeAP)

## GEOLOGIC WONDERS - THE WAVE



The Wave is a fantastic sandstone rock formation located near the Arizona/Utah border on the slopes of Coyote Buttes, in the Paria Canyon-Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness, on the Colorado Plateau in Utah. It is famous among hikers and photographers for its colorful, undulating forms, and the rugged, trackless hike required to reach it. The Wave is made of Jurassic-age Navajo Sandstone that is approximately 190 million years old. Scientists who study The Wave say that the old sand dunes turned into hard compacted rock over the ages, calcifying in vertical and horizontal layers. Erosion by wind and rain has created the spectacular landscape which appears now. Breathtaking sculpted swirling bands of color run through

sandstone, which has eroded into interesting shapes. The colors and shapes change with the light as the day progresses. Red, pink, yellow and green rock has been blended together to form castles, beehives, chutes and other structures. The soft sandstone of The Wave is fragile, one needs to walk carefully to not break the small ridges. The Paria Canyon-Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness, which contains The Wave, is administered by the BLM, and a permit is required to visit The Wave. Due to the fragile nature of the site only twenty permits are issued per day. The best, and most popular, time to visit The Wave is in the spring and fall. The Wave is challenging to find. In an effort to maintain the natural integrity of the region, there is no formal trail to The Wave. The Paris Ranger Station will give hikers with permits a lengthy, full color photo and map handout called "Finding The Wave" with GPS, latitude-longitude and UTM coordinates. Regardless, it is easy to get lost, and in past years there have been a significant number of Search and Rescue for persons lost hiking to and from The Wave. If it rains the hike might be cancelled, as the mud formed literally sucks, and makes it dangerous to hike. During the summer it can easily get over 100°, so plenty of drinking water is a must as dehydration is a real risk. Everything must be carried in and carried out. Regardless of the hassles involved in the permit process and hiking in the rugged, trackless wilderness to reach it, The Wave is a photographer's delight. It is said that the best time to photograph it is when the sun is directly over head, but at other times the shadows give it nice contrasts. Beautiful, fragile and protected, The Wave is a geological wonder of the world!

Information for this article came from: <http://www.besthike.com/northamerica/usasouthwest/wave.html> >  
<[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Wave,\\_Arizona](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Wave,_Arizona)> and [www.utah.com/playgrounds/the\\_wave.htm](http://www.utah.com/playgrounds/the_wave.htm) via The Rockhopper



## 2014 Show Chairman's Report by Rudy Lopez

### The MORKS 2014 show is around the corner and I need your help!

We are having a silent auction for the first time and hope to have a big inventory of items that will sell fast. Donations are also needed for the following:

**Main Raffle-** we need finished jewelry, rock specimens, gift cards, Restaurant donations for dinner for two, or tickets to events/movie. The goal is for 50 items or more for the raffle.

**Hourly Raffle-** we need finished jewelry, gift cards from Mc Donald's, Jack In The Box, Starbucks, and gift cards from bead stores, etc.

**Silent Action-** we need rock specimens, geodes, slabs, finished jewelry, and rock related items.

**Wheel and Rock Bags-** we need polished and rough rocks, small slabs, and inexpensive rock specimens ( petrified wood, agate for example).

#### **Food, drinks, and show set up supplies**

I am aware that not everyone has rough or finished rock lying around the house. But here are a few suggestions: You can purchase and donate a 20lb bag of mixed polished rock for about \$25.00 on line. Or you can preorder from Quartzsite, Arizona when the club orders theirs. The show is in January and if you haven't been to the Quartzsite show you're missing a great event with GREAT DEALS! I do have other options for purchasing rough rock at a great savings that is local.

If someone wants to sponsor a part of the show it will make a big difference on the clubs budget. All sponsors for the show will have their name on a board at the front entrance of the show for all to see and recognition during the show of the sponsors.

We will also need volunteers to help with the show booths, set up and take down. Our last show was very organized and the set up and close up were fast. We had to wait for vendors to clear their tables so we could close up (we were out by 7:00pm).

We need help from all club members with donations, whether it's a items, money, or helping out at the show. This show is for our club with all profits going to our club. Please help!!!

**For information or donations please contact Rudy Lopez 626 993-7989 or e-mail: [rclopez002@verizon.net](mailto:rclopez002@verizon.net). Donations can be dropped off at our monthly meeting . You will receive a MORKS donation form for your taxes.**



## Go see a CFMS Show this September!

**September 7 - 8: DOWNEY, CA** Delvers Gem & Mineral Society Women's Club of Downey 9813 Paramount Blvd. Hours: Sat 9 - 5; Sun 10 - 4 Contact: Nancy Bird (562) 697-0636, (562) 5876-5529 cell Email: [nancybird@verizon.net](mailto:nancybird@verizon.net)

**September 21 - 22: CHICO, CA** Feather River Lapidary & Mineral Society, Oroville Silver Dollar Fairgrounds 2357 Fair Street Hours: Sat 9 - 5; Sun 9 - 4 John Scott, (530) 343-3491 Email: [jweazel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jweazel@sbcglobal.net) [www.featherriverrocks.com](http://www.featherriverrocks.com)

**September 21 - 22: REDWOOD CITY, CA** Sequoia Gem & Mineral Society Community Activities Building 1400 Roosevelt Avenue Hours: 10 - 5 daily Contact: Preston Bingham, (650) 368-6351 Website: <http://sgms.driftmine.com>

**September 28 - 29: LODI, CA** Stockton Lapidary & Mineral Club Lodi Grape Festival Grounds 413 East Lockford St. Hours: 10 - 5 daily Contact: Jerold Kyle, (209) 368-9411 Website: [www.stocktonlapidary.com](http://www.stocktonlapidary.com)

**September 28 - 29: MONTEREY, CA** Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society Monterey Fairgrounds 2004 Fairgrounds Road Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5 Contact: Janis Rovetti, (831) 372-1311

**September 28 - 29: SANTA ROSA, CA** Santa Rosa Mineral & Gem Society Wells Fargo Center for the Art 50 Mark West Springs Road Hours: Sat. 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5 Jolene Coon, (707) 849-9551 Email: [Jolene@SRMGS.org](mailto:Jolene@SRMGS.org) Website: [www.srmgs.org](http://www.srmgs.org)

# West Coast GEM & MINERAL SHOW

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Tourmaline - California Jeff Scovil Photo©

### Heliotrope (mineral)

The mineral heliotrope, also known as bloodstone, is a form of chalcedony (which is a cryptocrystalline mixture of quartz and its monoclinic polymorph moganite). The "classic" bloodstone is green chalcedony with red inclusions of iron oxide or red jasper. Sometimes the inclusions are yellow, in which case the mineral is given the name plasma. The red inclusions are supposed to resemble spots of blood; hence the name "bloodstone". The name heliotrope (from Greek *helios*, Sun *trepein*, to turn) derives from various ancient notions about the manner in which the mineral reflects light. These are described, e.g., by Pliny the Elder (*Nat. Hist.* 37.165). Heliotrope is the traditional birthstone for March. Via Rimstones review



Invite