

ROCK CHIPPINGS

The Bulletin of the Woodland Hills California Rock Chippers, Inc.



Volume 47 Number 8

August 2007

This Month's Calendar

Saturday, Aug. 18th

At the Shop:

10:00am—Show Committee

11:00am—Standing Rules

Discussion

1:00pm—Wire Wrap Class

Saw unavailable until repaired..

At the Center

6:30pm—Potluck—Finger Food and Ice Cream Social

Guests always welcome..

7:00pm—Business Meeting

Open to all members.

7:30pm—General Meeting:

Program: Stu Chalfant—
"Broom Casting".

Refreshments: Club members—
items to go with ice cream.

Membership Information

For any questions regarding membership in the Woodland Hills Rock Chippers, please email Steve Dover at skdover@yahoo.com, or call (310) 477-2279

Prez Sez

I will be out of town in September and will miss our general meeting for that month. At our September meeting we will be working on the last minute show preparations. October's meeting will have visitors from our show and a great program. Neither of these seems to provide enough time for discussion and working out the club's desires on the rules. As a result, it seems appropriate to complete the process of approving the Standing Rules in August. Please note the information below regarding the discussion meeting which will occur on the same day as our August general meeting.

We have had very favorable results with the updating of our web-site. Some of our recent visitors found our site and attended our July meeting. If you haven't visited our internet site recently, do so. The address is below. This newsletter is on the club website. You can print from there in color. Email a request to me if you want to receive email notice of the newsletter postings to the website instead of a hard copy in the mail..
Thalia email: qanun@earthlink.net

Standing Rules Discussion Meeting—Saturday, August 18, 11:00am

There will be an opportunity for club members to go over the Job Descriptions and Standing Rules which were handed out or mailed to every member who has voting rights. Because these rules have not been part of the membership packet in the past, most club members have not seen the rules in total. The committee agreed that a separate meeting before the vote was in order so that members could express their views. This meeting will be held at the Buetow's in the exercise room on Saturday, August 18th at 11:00am, following the Show Committee meeting.

We will discuss the proposed rules in detail before the vote to accept the proposed rules at the general meeting later in the evening. Members of the committee who worked on the revision will be available to discuss their perspective on the items proposed. Comments, suggestions and input from members will be very welcome. At the general meeting any changes or input from the morning meeting will be included in the evening's discussion prior to voting on the rules.

Regular club meetings are held at 7:30PM on the 3rd Saturday of each month at: Canoga Park Community Center 7248 Owensmouth Ave. Canoga Park

Visit our website <http://www.rockchippers.org>

Upcoming Programs

Our August program is a demonstration/presentation of “Broom Casting” by Stuart Chalfant of Simi Valley. A long-time designer, fabricator, repair specialist and instructor, Stu also offers private instruction in Silversmithing. His broom casting method is illustrated in the June 2007 issue of Lapidary Journal’s Jewelry Artist in the article by Brad Smith who was taught this method by Stu. We are looking forward to seeing this process live. The program will start promptly at 7:30pm as it will be outdoors in the parking lot and we need the daylight.

August Pot-Luck Theme—Finger Foods

Since this is also our Ice Cream Social night, we ask those attending the pot luck to bring foods that can be picked up and eaten with our fingers. This is our first attempt with this type theme, but should produce some interesting dishes. Pot Luck will start promptly at 6:30pm so we can prepare for the outdoor presentation.

Ventura County Fair—August 1—12



Our club is exhibiting our publicity showcase at the Ventura County Fair. This is an old time fair with livestock events and cooking competitions along with the usual activities, food and events. There are special event days: Youth Day, Fri, Aug. 3—free admission to all visitors 12 years of age and younger; Seniors and Persons with Disabilities Day on Tues, Aug. 7 with free admission, special exhibits, displays and entertainment; Military Appreciation Day on Thurs, Aug. 9 with free admission with valid military i.d. Fair is open 11am weekdays, 10am Sat. and Sun. Closes at 10pm. The Fairgrounds is across the street from the Ventura Amtrak Station and accessible from LA via Metrolink trains.

Wire Wrap Class—Saturday August 18, 1:00 pm—at the Buetow’s

We will be exploring the workshop that I goofed earlier this year—the Prong Pendant. I have revised the directions regarding length of wires for size of stone. And, I will have a sample available as I am making it before the class. This is a challenging ADVANCED wire wrap project for club members who have previous wire wrapping experience. The normal \$5.00 class fee applies.

Bring your usual wire wrapping tools, a faceted stone or cabochon 12 x 16mm or close to that in size. You will need a minimum of 25 inches of 22ga square wire and 12 inches of 22ga half-round wire for the 12 x 16mm size. If you stone is larger, plan on more wire length.

Call me if you have any questions.

Thalia

Courtesy

Happy Birthday to Gary Levitt on his birthday August 9th. .

Lillian Berwager



August Ice Cream Social

Our refreshments for our August General Meeting will be our annual Ice Cream Social. The club provides the ice cream, the members supply everything else. Club members are asked to bring toppings or other fixings for the ice cream, cookies or other appropriate accompaniments

Future Silversmithing Class Series Update

Many people signed up for the series of video classes on Silversmithing last meeting. The sign-up sheet will be out again for the next few months so others may add their names to the list. So far, the general consensus is to have the classes on a monthly basis. These will start in January 2008. For more information on the specific topics refer to the June 2006 issue of Rockchippings or go to the club web site www.rockchippers.org and click the Newsletter button and look for the June 2006 issue in the archives.

Workshop

Just a reminder that the 24" saw is still incapacitated. The new lever is in the making and a couple of adjusting screws need to be replaced. Bob Meyer will buy new Pella cutting oil for the saw when it is to go back into operation. It was also discussed with Ron Rizer that this is a good time for the belts to be replaced and repositioned to run a little slower so that the blade does not get too hot. The heat on the edge of the blade can cause warping. So, we should be back in business soon.

Also, as a reminder, the Pixie is in the workshop for anyone who has been instructed on its use. The only requirement for use is keep track of the time (hours or minutes) used on the Sign-In Sheet, so that we can keep the pump properly oiled.

We will be getting the drill set up as well as replacing the bearings in the 6-8" trim saw that belongs to Jean Buetow.

A last reminder: SIGN IN WHENEVER YOU USE THE SHOP.

Bob Meyer/Virginia Rotramel
Workshop

Show News

We have had several responses from our dealers; Lapidary Originals, Jim Grothuesmann's Minerals, Jewelry by George, Larry and Leslies' Opals, and Amargosa. I have verbal confirmations from Crystal Monster, Lasco, Keene Engineering and Sylvester. I will be contacting them all this month to send more coupons for our show and verify their attendance.

The Kitchen Committee had a meeting last month and advised the membership at the last meeting of some of their suggestions. They are planning an extended menu of hot dogs, chili and nachos. There will be a combo plate of an entree', chips and a drink for a little less than if all were purchased individually. Subway sandwiches will still be on the menu, as well as, water, soft drinks, coffee, tea or cocoa. The Kitchen Committee strongly reminds all members to bring desserts, such as, cookies, cakes or pies. Cookies amounts in snack baggies, cakes and pies sliced into serving pieces and on 6" plates.

Prizes for the Raffle should be of at least a \$10.00 value. Get them to Myrna Barton or Joan Helm as soon as you can. Bring them to the meeting is even better as we want to take a photograph of them and put the items on the website. This may be a great selling point for attendance and sales. Be sure to get your Raffle Tickets from Gene Berwager. Remember to bring the sales money to him and any packets you have not sold by the September meeting bring in so that we will have them for the door sales.

In September the General Meeting will be predominately about the Show. There will be placards available to put in the back of your car/van windows advertising our show.

Jean Buetow will ask Ione Kennedy if there are some items of his artwork to put in a memorial showcase. If you want to put in a display case be sure to see Jean. Thalia Goldsworthy and Virginia Rotramel are redoing some of the liners as they have signs of wear or stains.

Barbara Bradbury announced that instead of a Boutique we will be having a Country Store Sale. We have many items from Dolly Mott and leftovers from the Yard Sale that we will not have room for consignments this year. Look into your closets and bring that item you love but just don't seem to get out and display or use it. We want items others will want to buy and take home and love.

The Silent Auction is going to have several new additions. One auction will run for most of the show. These items are the better and or rarer pieces. Another new take will be each items will have their minimum bid and another line that will read "Buy It Now" with the selling amount. So be sure to get into your rock pile and bring in that really nice piece and get it to Gene Berwager and/or Bob Meyer.

I hope all of you are as excited about our upcoming show as I am. With all the volunteering and cooperation and donations it has all the components of being a really great show. So let's get all our friends, co-workers, neighbors and anyone who will listen to get enthused about coming to our show. Let's sell all the Raffle Tickets printed up and have to go out and have more printed.

Virginia Rotramel
Show Chairman

REMINDER: The Silent Auction committee would like your donations brought to the club meeting this month.

Show Displays

Time to start planning your display cases for our October show. We are looking for a mixed variety of subject matter and creative ways of displaying. We are looking for the "WOW" factor. It is always great to see people linger at a great case. We want the best from your collections whether you found it or purchased it. I usually set out my rocks/minerals in an out of the way corner, and every couple of days or so move something over, take something out, put something else in, etc. I have even completely changed my theme. My biggest fault is always trying to put too much material in one case. So email me or call me and let me know what type of material or theme you are planning on displaying.

Jean Buetow/Display Chairman—findrock@aol.com—(818) 772-6567

Future Rockhounds of America Youth Poster Contest 2007

David Rich contacted me recently with a very neat idea! His club, the Summit Lapidary Club from the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical & Geological Societies, is sponsoring a poster contest, which they're opening up to any and all kids who belong to the Future Rockhounds of America program nationwide, regardless of which regional federation they're in. In addition, they welcome entries from any school teachers who would like to do this as a class project. So if you're utilizing the FRA program within your club, I encourage you to work with your kids to design posters and send them to David. Here are the details:

THEME: "Gemstones of the World."

Prepare a poster illustrating one or more gemstones or minerals that interest you, from anywhere in the world.

ELIGIBILITY: 1st through 12th grade. Each grade will have a winner. Ribbons awarded for 1st through 4th place, with the 1st place winner also receiving a prize.

CONTEST RULES:

- All entries must be presented on paper 12 inches by 18 inches.
- Include name, address, age and school grade of participant on back of Entry.
- Artwork can be in pen, ink, crayons, magic marker, paint or any other artists' medium.
- No three-dimensional posters accepted.
- The title may be on the front or the back.
- List names of the gems and/or minerals and why you chose them.
- All entries become the property of the Summit Lapidary Club.

SCALE OF POINTS:

Originality & Art Work-30 points; Design-25 points; Title-25 points; Listing of Gems and/or Minerals & Reason Chosen-20 points

DEADLINES & CONTACTS:

- Entries must be postmarked by October 1, 2007.
- Send to: David Rich, 1166 Broadview Road, Tallmadge, Ohio 44278
- Winners will be displayed and prizes and ribbons awarded at the Fall GemBoree on October 27, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.
- If you have any questions, please call the contest chairman, David Rich at (330) 630-9625, or email at DRICH@lapidaryclubofohio.org

I encourage every club with juniors who have been taking part in the AFMS/FRA program to jump in and send in entries from their pebble pups and junior members. It sounds like David and the good folks of the Summit Lapidary Club have come up with a great way for kids to express their interest in their favorite gems and minerals while-as-always-having fun!

Jim Brace-Thompson, CFMS Junior Activities Chair

WHRC General Meeting Minutes for July 21, 2007

Meeting called to order by Pres. Thalia Goldsworthy at 7:45 pm.

Steve Dover led the Pledge of Allegiance

20 members & 7 guests were present.

GUEST SPEAKER for the evening was Prof. Devlahovich spoke on "Mining in the Mojave"

Refreshments were served.

Steve Dover led raffle in Jean Buetow's absence.

Barbara Bradbury filled in as secretary for the evening.

June 2007 minutes were approved as published in the June issue of Rockchippings..

Treasurer's report was given.

Correspondence is on the table & announcements were made:

OLD BUSINESS

Sign up sheet for silversmith classes beginning in January 2008 was on the front table.

Offices and Chairs are still open – we need volunteers.

Standing rules are to be voted on at the August meeting.-copies were available for members to pick up tonight which saves postage.

Book of job descriptions which will become part of standing rules was available for members to view. It will be on our website the before the end of July.

If possible, we will change our library case display to Canoga Park library.

Sign up sheet for field trip to Bowers museum available at a later date.

NEW BUSINESS

WHRC will attend Pioneer Days at Chatsworth Park on Oct. 7th, 2007.

Thalia will be gone for the September meeting.

Maureen Levitt announced that a member from their other club past away & all his lapidary equipment & supplies will be sold –contact her regarding date & time.

New member Ron Rizor was acknowledged and welcomed.

Kelly Hickman had surgery & is doing well

One of our guests Eugene Beley has created a window decal to promote our website that will be available soon.

Show flyers will be available in August for members to distribute and post in their car windows.

Show committee chairmen gave a report for plans of our gem show Oct. 20th

Virginia gave a report on the club's shop activities.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30pm

Respectively submitted,

Barbara Bradbury

Woodland Hills Rock Chippers, Incorporated

Our club, a non-profit corporation, was formed for educational and instructive purposes: to foster collection and study of minerals, to disseminate knowledge about them, to sponsor field trips to find them, to encourage the use of them in lapidary and faceting studies, etc. And to have one whale of a good time doing those things with all of our friends.

Regular meetings are held on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 7:30 PM. Potlucks are at 6:30pm. FRA Orientation at 7:00pm. Field trips are at various times throughout the month. Guests are always welcome to attend.

Membership is open to interested applicants after they have attended at least 2 meetings. Annual dues are due in November for the following year. Membership fees are currently \$25 for one adult, \$15 for a second adult at the same address, juniors (ages 10-18) and pebble pups (ages 4-9) \$5 each. New members pay an additional \$6 initiation fee per person. Late joining new members may have lower dues as they are prorated after mid-year.

We are a member club of the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies and affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies.

Elected Officers

President	Thalia Goldsworthy	Director At Large	Gene Berwager
Treasurer	Virginia Rotramel	Director At Large	Joan Helm
Secretary	Open	Director At Large	Steve Dover

Chairpersons and Appointed Positions

Auditor.....	Thalia Goldsworthy	Library Displays.....	Thalia Goldsworthy
Bulletin.....	Open	Membership.....	Steve Dover
Custodian.....	Brandon Higdon	Parliamentarian.....	Bill Blair
Classes/Workshop.....	Committee	Programs.....	Open
Courtesy/Hospitality.....	Lillian Berwager	Publicity.....	Diana Dixon Davis
Display/Education.....	Carol Plummer	Refreshments.....	Joan Helm and Lillian Berwager
Federation Director.....	Virginia Rotramel	Shop	Jean Buetow, Bob Meyers, and Virginia Rotramel
Alternate Fed Director.....	Open	Club Show.....	Virginia Rotramel Chair.
Field Trips.....	Committee	Ways and Means.....	Jean Buetow
FRA.....	Open	Webmaster.....	Thalia Goldsworthy
Historian.....	Gene Berwager		
Librarian.....	Barbara Bradbury		

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