

ROCK CHIPPINGS

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



Volume 48 Number 2

February 2008

This Month's Calendar

Classes:

10:00am: Understanding Torches

February 16th starting at 10am at Thalia's home in Chatsworth.
Class fee of \$2.00

At the Center

6:30pm: Pot Luck

Theme: Comfort Foods

Guests always welcome.

7:00pm: Business Meeting

7:30pm: Program

Video from the CFMS Library

"Amber Hunters"

FRA: Future Programs

include, In March we will be going to the club shop for a session on shop equipment and safety. Another time we will be cutting and polishing cabs. We will learn about marking, trimming and dopping slabs.

Meetings:

February 9th and March 8th at Thalia's house to complete additional parts of their Lapidary Arts badge.

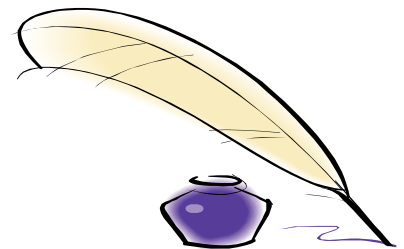
Prez Sez:

"Hi Fellow Rockhounds! Just a reminder that our yard sale is coming up in May, so if you have a yard and would like to donate it to the club for a day, it would be greatly appreciated. Or perhaps you know someone who has a yard and would like to help us out and, as further incentive, they could sell their own items at the same time! Also, don't forget to go through your garage (closet, etc.) and set aside items for the sale, instead of throwing them out (and creating more non-recyclable waste). The earth will appreciate it - and hopefully stop raining so we can all get out there and start digging for rocks again!

P.S.: I'm working on a list of topics for our monthly programs, such as, stained glass, petrified wood, dichroic glass, among others. If there's anything in particular you would like to see a presentation on, or if you would like to do a presentation yourself, please let me know.

DON'T BE SHY!"

Gina



February Program: a video from CFMS called "**Amber Hunters**" "Paleontologists are using fossilized tree resin, amber, because it is a superb record of life on earth millions of years ago. It is also the only substance which preserves DNA from the time of the dinosaurs. In the Dominican Republic, Roy Larimer and Manuel Itturalde Vincent travel to hazardous amber mines deep in the mountains, on a mission to find new life forms embedded in amber millions of years old."

Membership Information

For any questions regarding membership in the Woodland Hills Rock Chippers, please email Steve Dover at membership@rockchippers.org

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>

Membership Dues**Steven Dover, Membership**

Membership Dues are Now Due. I will be updating the club roster for 2008 shortly so please renew your membership to remain on the club roster. Dues for 2008 will be unchanged from 2007. Membership dues are \$25 for one adult, \$15 for a second adult at the same address, juniors and pebble pups \$5 each.

Please bring your dues to me at the February meeting or mail them to my address.



Also please let me know if you wish to receive your club bulletin over the Internet or as a hard copy thru the mail.

Future Rockhounds of America**Thalia Goldsworthy, FRA Advisor**

Our Little Chippers are working on their Lapidary Arts badge. Last month we completed making rings using copper wire. Also part of that meeting was a research project discovering the best use of a list of different minerals and rocks - whether to tumble, cab, facet, flat lap or leave as a mineral specimen. We had a good time working together finding hardness, texture, and other qualities of the listed items.

We will be meeting on February 9th and March 8th to complete additional parts of this badge work. Meeting is at 1pm at my home in Chatsworth. In March we will be going to the club shop for a session on shop equipment and safety. Another time we will be cutting and polishing cabs. We will learn about marking, trimming and dopping slabs.

All youth whose parents are club members and who are at least Elementary School age are eligible for the FRA program. Check our web site for more details on the FRA program.

Classes Report – Soldering Classes – Understanding Torches:

I will be presenting the series of 3-minute Videos on "Understanding Torches" that are on loan from Robyn Hawk. These require a computer interface for viewing so the best option is using Robyn's laptop and my TV. The program has three parts and will take several hours. This is an excellent introduction to all the various types of torches and their best uses. At it's conclusion you will have a good understanding of what you need in the way of equipment and work area to accomplish many types of soldering projects. Bring a snack. I will provide tea and coffee. Call me if you have any questions.

Thalia Goldsworthy, Classes Coordinator**Courtesy****Lillian Berwager, Courtesy**

Happy Birthday:

Kevin Tellier and to Carol Plummer, both on February 27.



Happy Anniversary to Lillian and Gene Berwager on February 18.

Programs of Interest:

(this is a new feature that will, through partnering with other Groups in our area, will list the programs being offered by clubs round us.)

American Opal Society

Time: 7:00 pm - 9:00 PM

Date: Feb. 14th

Location: Garden Grove Civic Women's Club,
9501 Chapman Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92841

This month, David Kramer, a professional opal cutter and jewelry designer, will demonstrate his unique style of cutting opal.

South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society

Time: 7:00 PM

Date: February 5, 2008

Location: Torrance Library Community Room

Speaker: Quartzsite Attendees

Program: "The spoils of Quartzsite." Everyone who goes to Quartzsite, Tucson, or Laughlin is asked to bring at least two or three favorite buys to the meeting. You will get about 5 minutes to share with us the tricks of the trade in finding good deals. New members are encouraged to join in.

North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society

Time: 7:00pm

Date: Tuesday, Feb. 12th

Location: La Habra Community Center

Will show two 15 min. videos from the Federation that tie together. First is the great Northwestern flood and after break we will show the Gingko Petrified Forest in Oregon which came about as a result of the flood.

Save the Date - 2nd Tuesday in March:

NOC will have Simon King from the Himalaya Mine in No. San Diego Co. with slides of the newest pocket along with examples and some faceting rough for sale.

Minerals of the Salton Trough

Date: Friday, February 22, 2008 at 7:30 p.m.

Location: Geology Department
Pasadena City College (Room E220)

Dr. Michael McKibben will speak on Hydrothermal Minerals and Metals in the Salton Trough. The Salton Trough contains a variety of hydrothermal mineral deposits, including Mesozoic gold related to arc plutonism, Oligocene and younger epithermal gold related to rift fault systems, and active base metal mineralization produced by the modern geothermal brines in host sediments and wellbores. Examples of these mineral deposits will be highlighted along with their implications for the origins of certain types of ancient ore deposits found throughout the world. Samples of recent Cu-Pb-Zn-As-Au-U mineral precipitates from the Salton Sea sediments, wellbores and power plants will be available for examination.

Prof. Michael A. McKibben (<http://mckibben.ucr.edu>) specializes in geochemistry and economic geology at UCR and has published extensively on the Salton Sea and other hydrothermal systems. His current research focuses on the kinetics of dissolution of minerals containing As, base metals and W and their relevance to environmental contamination of natural waters. He is a Life Fellow of the Society of Economic Geologists.

**Meet The New Officers...**

I've asked the new Officers to introduce themselves, next up is...

Mary Beth Pio, Secretary: Originally I am from the great state of New Jersey (New York's parking lot) Where you can find me always wearing five pocket jeans (more pockets more rocks). I was the one in the family photos that was holding onto the belt loops of my jeans to hold them up because the weight of the rocks was pulling them down.

I left home at the tender age of 21 to sail the high seas. I joined the Navy and was home based out of San Diego. I loved California and have been here ever since. Where else can you go to find rocks, the smallest grains of sand on the beaches to huge boulders in the mountains, not to mention there's gold in them there hills. I have loved the bounty of mother earth and the gifts she gives ever since I was a child.

I currently work for Galpin Motors in Van Nuys in the parts department.

I am looking forward to serving as secretary of the rock chippers and getting

Local Club Fieldtrips

Wiley's Well Field Trip Feb 23-24 2008

Trip Location: 10 miles southwest of Blythe

The YVGMS would like to extend an invitation to anyone who agrees to abide by the AFMS Code of Ethics, and the directions of the field trip leader(s). A Consent and Assumption of Risk Waiver of Liability form must be signed upon arriving at the campsite.

Material to collect: Colored agate & jasper nodules, crystal filled geodes, botryoidal psilomelane, fire agate, chalcedony nodules & roses, zeolite, crystal filled amygdules, calcite rhombs, marine fossils, petrified wood and much more.

Leader: Frank Fitch, 858-229-6870, frank.fitch@sun.com

Proposed Schedule: Each day, we will meet at the campsite at 8am, and head out. You are welcome to day trip it, just be at the campsite before 8am.

Saturday:

1. Hauser Beds. Some say completely picked over. I found geodes. I'd like to find some of the orange and flame agate.

2. time permitting, we can also visit some of the other nearby beds, like the potato patch, or straw beds, geodes & agates

Sunday:

1. Pebble Terrace. This site is known for marine fossils, but there is some mighty fine agates and jaspers to be had as well. You can see the fossils I found at Pebble Terrace here: <http://ffitch.com/frank/hobbies/rockhounding/pebble-terrace-nov-2007/>

2. Chalcedony Hill (Bob F calls this one Gem Hill) Nice Chalcedony, some with fire. Also carnelian can be found. Watch out for scorpions...

3. head on home

Directions to the campsite:

Exit Interstate 10 at Wiley Well Rd., approximately 10 miles west of Blythe and 31 miles east of Desert Center. Follow Wiley Well Rd. south for 12.5 miles to campsite (on the west side of the road) at the Riverside/Imperial County line. Watch for the Club and signs to the camping area. The GPS coords for the campsite are 33.42386 -114.91138

Vehicles: Roads to campgrounds and camping sites are typical desert roads and should be okay for most cars, trailers and motor homes, 4-wheel drive vehicles and pick-ups are recommended for the trips to the collecting sites.

Campgrounds and Facilities:

This is a dry camping area, no water, no services, no hookups, no toilets. There is a dump station at the rest stop at the Wiley Well exit off I-10; however, there is no potable water.

Blythe has a free dump station and good water 2-blocks south of I-10 at the Lovekin Ave. exit. Blythe is also good place to get food, supplies, ice and gasoline. It is approximately 25 miles from Blythe to the campsite. There are numerous good motels in Blythe with a wide range of rates.

The closest town to the campsite is Palo Verde, approximately 16 miles through Coon Hollow and over the Mule Mtns. There is a convenience store (food, etc.), gasoline, a couple of restaurants and rock shop in Palo Verde. The road is okay for 4-wheel drive vehicles but not 2-wheel drive vehicles.

Tools: Collecting bags and boxes, digging tools, rock hammer, eye gear, spray water bottle, etc.

Safety Concerns: Do not lick the rocks, use sun screen when needed, stay away from rattlesnakes, scorpions and other dangerous critters, use bug spray, be aware of flash floods, be extra careful, team up with a buddy and don't get lost. Remember, eye safety is important Clothing: Use your best judgment. I like to dress in layers.

General:

You can join us for the day or the weekend. Early birds are welcome, but there are no organized trips Thursday and Friday.

Bring lots of food, water, wood for the fire, and chairs to sit around it. Walkie-talkies would be helpful (I'll be on channel 2), cell phone less so.

You may find, even with a large bright moon, a flashlight or two may come in handy. Hopefully, no one will need a first aid kit, but it's better to have it and not need it than to need it and not have it.

Don't forget your camera!

More UpComing Fieldtrips

Ant Hill, Shark Tooth Fossils Field Trip

February 24th 2008, Sunday, 10am-3pm.

If you missed the November 2007 field trip to Ant Hill, here's your chance to come out for a fun day of digging for shark teeth fossils, the weather should be nice, cool. The dig site is a walk of 500 yards over semi flat ground, then up a hill 100 yards. Once there most of the time you'll be digging in small area. The clay is soft and the teeth are harder so you have a better chance of them not breaking when you remove them from the matrix.

Directions-5 Freeway North, to the 99 Hwy North, off at 178 Hwy East, near Bakersfield, go 8.3 miles to the Harrell Hwy, turn Left/ North. 3.5 miles on the Harrell Hwy from the 178 Hwy. Site is on the Left/South side of Hwy, by the hills. My black Toyota truck will be there, with a CVGM sign in the window We will be about 2.5 miles East of Hart Park. You should see a asphalt bike path going up the hill. Then you know your at the right spot. The parking area is a little lower then the highway so you might not see our cars. There is only one asphalt path going up the side of the hill, we will be parked near the bottom of it.

Tools-Rock pick/hammer, gad pry bar, hand sledge, sifter, large pry bar, shovel, pick, eye protection, newspaper to wrap your fossils in, collecting bags, wide brimmed hat, suntan lotion, lots of water, lunch, There is no shade morning, afternoon, and it can be hot, but it will probably be cool, so dress accordingly, layers. After 1pm or so the dig site will be in the shade as the sun moves to the West, the holes are East facing. I would recommend a day pack, to put your tools in. It's a bit of a walk and it will be easier carrying your gear.

Material to Collect-Shark teeth fossils, many types, sizes, from the Miocene Epoch 10-15 millions years ago. There are other fossils, bone fragments, teeth to be found. The fossils are found in a layer about 3', you will see the exposed holes from previous digs. They are in a semi soft clay that you will dig out the biggest pieces you can, then carefully break apart to find the fossils. I usually use a gad pry bar to dig out bigger pieces of the clay, about golf ball to baseball size or so, If I see any sign of a shark tooth or fossil, I'll wrap it into newspaper and later I will use dental tools or dremel motor tool to remove the clay to reveal the tooth. I keep some of the teeth still in the matrix,

Please RSVP to: Robert Sankovich 805-494-7734, rmsorca@adelphia.net

Please let me know if you are going. The weather can be variable, if I have to cancel I won't be able to contact you.

Save These Upcoming Dates

Whittier, Pasadena and North Orange County Field Trip Schedule:

Feb. 16 - 18: Wiley's Well Area - President's Day Weekend - This classic geode location also is known for tube agate, jasper and banded psilomelane and will always produce good rocks if you have good directions. These days we visit here less often, but it is always worth the wait.

For campers, we will be staying on Wiley's Well Road, just across the road from the Coon Hollow BLM Campground.

Mar. 15: Livingston Quarry, Palos Verdes 1 day trip - This old location is near San Pedro and features barite, quartz crystals and fish fossils. Led by Dave Kelty.

Local Gem Show!!!



March 1-2, 2008; Ventura, CA

The Ventura Gem & Mineral Society is holding its 46th annual show!

Ventura County Fairgrounds, 10 W. Harbor Blvd.

The show is free. Kids will enjoy making fossils, grab bags, and a variety of other kids' activities.

There will also be demonstrations of lapidary arts and exhibits from wonderful private collections of rocks, minerals, fossils, and lapidary work.

Raffle prizes will be drawn at the end of the show, and a silent rock auction will be held continuously throughout the show.

15 dealers in fossils, minerals, lapidary equipment, slabs, etc., will be on hand, along with a country store featuring flea market items, used books and magazines, and plants.

For further information contact:

Jim Brace-Thompson (805) 659-3577, jbraceth@roadrunner.com.

See our website at www.vgms.org"

Shows and Events

February 22-23, 2008, Northridge, CA

Delair Rockhounds

United Methodist Church

9650 Reseda Blvd. (at Superior St.)

Hours: Fri. 3 pm - 9:30 pm, Sat. 10 am - 5 pm

Julia Marin (818) 886-7190

Email: jomarin@disextreme.com

March 1-2, 2008 Arcadia, CA

Monrovia Rockhounds

Los Angeles Arboretum

301 N. Baldwin Ave.

Hours: 9 - 4:30 both days

Jo Anna Ritchey (626) 359-1624

Website: www.moraks.com

March 8-9, 2008 San Marino, CA

Pasadena Lapidary Society

San Marino Masonic Temple

3130 Huntington Drive

Hours: Sat. 10 - 6, Sun. 10 - 5

Drew Wilson (626) 449-4910

Email: TODREW@sbcglobal.net

March 14 - 16, 2008 San Bernardino, CA

Orange Belt Mineralogical Society

Western Regional Little League Park

6707 Little League Drive

Hours: 10 - 5 both days

Emma Couveau (951) 288-6182

Quartzite, AZ

2007 - 2008 Quartzsite Show Schedule

1/1 - 2/28 Desert Gardens Gem & Mineral Show

1/11 - 2/3 The Main Event

1/23 - 1/27 41st QIA Pow Wow Rocks & Minerals

1/30 - 2/3 Hobby, Gem, & Craft Show Big Tent Event

1/4 - 1/13 Tyson Wells Rock & Gem Show

For more: <http://www.quartzitechamber.org>

Pow Wow Field Trips - 2008

Hosted by Roadrunners Gem & Mineral Club

<http://www.qiaaz.org/schedule.htm>

Two fieldtrips scheduled daily, depart at 9 a.m. sharp

Wednesday January 23rd:

12 Mile-Agate & Fossils Stone Cabin-Desert Roses

Thursday January 24th:

Brenda - Red Jasper Bouse -Green Banded Rhyolite

Friday January 25th:

Salome - Marble

Quartzsite - Alunite

Saturday January 26th:

Plomosa Rd - Jasper, Hematite Aguila- Apache Tears

Sunday January 27th:

Plomosa Rd - Bacon Rock

Palo Verde - Pastilite

Tucson Gem Show!

As you all know I am at the Tucson Gem Show - so I just wanted to give you the opportunity to "Be My Guest" at the show. I have been writing a blog that takes you everywhere I go! So if you have always wanted to check out the Tucson Gem Show check out my blog at:

www.tucsongemshow.blogspot.com

General Meeting Minutes

Recorded by, Mary Beth Pio, Secretary

Along with reporting the minutes for the January Meeting we have made an addendum to them. The addition is a motion that was passed at the brief General Meeting at the December Holiday Party.

WHRC General Meeting Minutes**Date: December 15th, 2007**

WHRC Holiday Party.

A motion of adding the non-discrimination policy to the membership application was brought up for the member vote by Thalia Goldsworthy, WHRC President.

Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Beth Pio, Secretary

WHRC General Meeting Minutes**Date: January 19th, 2008**

Called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Gina Marquardt, President.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Gina Marquardt.

A quorum was established.

Welcomed two new members, Mark and Lisa.

Treasurers Report was given by Barbara Bradbury
All accounts are current and balanced.

Announcements were made:

Pot Luck will be Comfort Foods.

Old Business:

We still need a permanent home for the club trailer.

We are still looking for a place to have our annual Yard sale in May.

Minutes continued on the following page...

Minutes, January General Meeting...cont.

New Business

Motion on the floor to have the membership vote on the fees for use of the club shop.

Motion made by Thalia Goldsworthy
Seconded by Virginia Rotramel

Proposed Fees are as follows:

General Shop Fee of \$1.00 per hour.
Use of the 24inch saw is a Fee of \$2.00 per hour.
The motion was moved and seconded.
Motion passed by membership.

Example: Went to the shop at 12:00 p.m. and signed out at 2:00 p.m.
Used the 24inch saw for One hour.
Fees: General Shop \$1.00 X 2 hours = \$2.00
Fees: 24 inch Saw \$2.00 X 1 hour = \$2.00
Total for saw and shop use is \$4.00.

Example: Went to shop from 12:00 p.m. and signed out at 2:00 p.m. to use any other equipment other than the 24 inch saw is the General Shop Fee of \$1.00 per hour.
Fees: General Shop \$1.00 X 2 hours = \$2.00
Total for use of Pixie, Trim saw, Drill Press, Etc. and shop use is = \$2.00.

Motion passed

CFMS Report

Our CFMS Representative Virginia Rotramel announced that the CFMS Annual Show Will be held in June at the Ventura Fairgrounds.

Special CFMS Award Announcement

Virginia Rotramel presented Thalia Goldsworthy with an award for her hard work and dedication to WHRC Education through Education.

Congratulations Thalia, nice pen.

Respectfully Submitted by Mary Beth Pio, Secretary



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	Gina Marquardt	Director At Large	Gene Berwager
Treasurer	Barbara Bradbury	Director At Large	Open
Secretary	Mary Beth Pio	Director At Large	Steve Dover
		Director At Large	Myrna Barton

Chairpersons and Appointed Positions

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

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