

CULVER CITY ROCK AND MINERAL CLUB
P.O. BOX 3324 Culver City, CA 90231



NOV 2011

Monday, NOV 14, 6:30 pm. Exec Committee
Monday, NOV 14, 7:30 pm. General Meeting
Program Speaker: Bryan Swoboda, Blue Cap Productions

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Let me thank everyone for their kind words following my surgery. Right now things are going just fine. By now, I hope all the ghosts and goblins have gotten their fill of candy and other Halloween treats, and have gone back into hiding for another year.

Let me start off by saying this has been my hardest report ever to finish! I must have started 3 or 4 times and it never sounds right. I'll only rant for a moment on the topic of volunteerism within our club. As in the past I've tried to get volunteers for all sorts of projects, from Officer Positions, Shows, Parties, Special events and a host of other things over the years. I do have to say that usually everything gets done, but it's still a struggle. Here's hoping things improve in the future. Please remember that the club votes for their 2012 officers at the November meeting.

Next, let's talk about field trips. I only had one response! Maybe none of our members has a desire to go out in the field and do any collecting (well, except one).

I need to take the time to say that we've recently had several members contact the Shop Committee concerning helping out at the shop, so more to follow in that area.

Let's all try to make it to our club's annual holiday party Monday, December 12th at the Rotary Plaza Senior Center, 5100 Overland Ave., Culver City, 90230. The times this year are to be from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm. The ending time will be more regulated per the Senior Center's staff express request.

Here's hoping all of our members have a great Thanksgiving holiday. And if you don't have a big family holiday planned, you could look into the Thanksgiving field trip the Federation takes each year out to Wiley's Well. This site is about 10 mi. southwest of Blythe, CA and takes place from Nov. 24th to the 27th. If you plan to go on this field trip, please e-mail the Federation. You'll find the address at the Federation's web site www.cfmsinc.org under Field Trips. You'll be looking for fire agate, geodes, petrified wood, etc., etc.

Bye everyone!
Rick Shaffer

NOVEMBER PROGRAM

Bryan Swoboda, president of Blue Cap Productions, will be our speaker. Bryan literally grew up with mining in California and remembers "running in the pitch-black tunnels of the Queen Mine" which belonged to his father, Edward Swoboda.

Bryan produces mineral-related films like "What's Hot in Tuscon 2011" and is currently in Munich filming. His new series of films "The New Crystal Hunters" shows kids how exciting and rewarding mineral collecting can be. The series currently has three episodes: Pala, CA; Arkansas for Crater of Diamonds and quartz; and Smoky Hawk, Colorado for smoky quartz and amazonite.

The exact direction for his talk is still open, so if you are interested in any specific area mentioned, please e-mail me at hmcx2@aol.com so I can request Bryan to include that in his presentation.

Ellen Moe
Program Chair

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE MEETING OCT 10, 2011

- Those present: Rick and Mary Ellen Shaffer, Bruce Mensinger, JetteSorensen, Minda and Ellen Moe, Steve Dover, Grace Sato, Leda Rogers, Sue Acosta, and Charlene Aspray
- The meeting was called to order at 6:40 pm by president Rick Shaffer. The minutes were approved as published.
- The Installation of new officers and the annual holiday party will be held on December 12, 2011, at the Rotary Plaza, thanks to Lili Gelberg. Because we have to be out by 9 pm we decided to not have any entertainment besides the White Elephant exchange. The event will start at 6:30 pm and we hope to start eating at 7 pm.
- We received a thank you note from Delver's Gem and Mineral Society. Also received was a thank you note from Culver City's All Nite Grad Party group for our donation of \$200.
- Treasurer Mary Ellen Shaffer reported the Club was solvent.
- Nominations were discussed.
- Web Master Jette Sorensen said the web site was doing OK.
- The November program will probably include a silent auction.
- There will be a Trading Post tonight.
- The Club needs to vote on the distribution of the raffle proceeds from the Show. The division will be \$1,000 to Culver City Schools and the rest to the non-profit Boy Scout building fund.
- Publicity Chair Charlene Aspray wants to improve the Show flyer. It was suggested that Kisa Sato (Grace's daughter) can do it.
- The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Acosta,
Recording Secretary

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OCT 10, 2011

- The meeting was called to order at 7:40 pm by president Rick Shaffer who led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- There being a quorum, the minutes were approved as published in the Nugget.
- Seven guests were introduced.
- We need another Shop supervisor.
- Sue Acosta spoke about nominations for 2012.
- Show Chair Robert Thirlaway said next year's Show will be June 29, 30 and July 1. We really need more volunteers.
- A motion to divide the Show raffle proceeds with \$1,000 to the Culver City Schools and the rest (about \$400) to the Friends of the Culver City Boy Scout House non-profit group. It was seconded and passed.
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Acosta,
Recording Secretary

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Justin Zyzyxx and Brandy Naugle have renewed their memberships.



NOMINATIONS FOR 2012

President -
Vice-President - Steve Dover
Treasurer -
Recording Secretary -
Corresponding Secretary -
Education - Co-chair Anna Yori, Co-chair Anthony Ferrari
Federation Director - Ellen Moe
Field Trips - Co-chairs Rocky and Cole Rhodes
Historian - Bruce Mensinger
Librarian - Bruce Mensinger
Membership -
Minerals - Minda Moe
Parliamentarian - Jette Soresen
Photography - Sylvia Binkley
Programs - Ellen Moe
Publications - Co-chairs: Lynne Lukert, Barbara Fier, Jan Ferguson
Publicity - Co-chair Charlene Aspray, Co-chair Ken Rogers
Shop - Co-chair Open, Co-Chair Bruce Mensinger
Show - Robert Thirlaway
Social - Sue Acosta
Sunshine - Lili Gelberg
Trading Post - Steve Dover
Web Master - Jette Sorenson
The blank spaces are open offices. We will have to call for nominations from the floor.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Acosta,
Nominating Committee

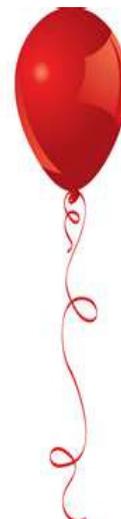
PROGRAM REPORT

The program was presented by Mark Mauthner: "The Oceanview Mine: Pala's Newest Gem". He gave some history on the mine which was first started in 1903. In the 1970's Roland Reed patented the claim. He has bought up 3 mines as a conglomerate. The Pala district is composed of 3 mountains. Unfortunately at this point, due to technical difficulties, Mr. Mauthner was unable to show the accompanying slides. He did talk a little about the various minerals and gems found at the mine: smoky quartz, feldspar, beryl, aquamarine, morganite, schirl, and finally tourmaline - green with purple and blue caps, and pink tourmaline. The "Big Kahuna" was found with many pockets of minerals and gems and large pieces of kunzite. It was very interesting even without the slides.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Acosta,
Recording Secretary

NOV BIRTHDAYS

4 LEO LU
7 KATHY MAINZER
8 ANGELE RYAN M.D.
14 GARY MITCHELL
15 RANDAL RHODES
17 BRETT PERKINS
21 RUTH SHAPIRO
24 CHARLENE ASPRAY
28 LEAH ROSS



SHOP REPORT

History

The Culver City Rock and Mineral Club was started in the late 1950s and incorporated in 1961. The lapidary shop came a little later, in 1964. At first it was given a home through the good will of Syd Kronenthal, the man in charge of Parks and Recreation in Culver City. Syd helped CCR&MC in numerous ways over the years and is still a club member.

In 1970 a major expansion and improvement was made through the cooperation and effort of both the City and members of the club. The Boy Scout hut was joined to the building behind forming one building which we share with the Scouts. As you can see from the photographs this was a major project and has allowed us to continue to grow and prosper as a club. The shop and the two storage sheds are the only permanent facilities we have.

Bruce Mensinger
Shop Chairman



MINERAL REPORT

No longer Hidden(ite)

Spodumene was first described in Sweden, in 1800. The name is derived from the Greek word spodumenos, or "burnt to ashes", which describes the opaque nature of the specimens. In South Dakota, there have been crystals found that were as large as 47 feet long.

Spodumene ranks as a 6.5-7 on the Mohs hardness scale, and has a white streak. It has a vitreous luster in general, and can be pearly on its cleavage. Its color varies greatly, and it might be bicolored. It has been known to occur in white, colorless, gray, pink, lilac, violet, yellow and green.



The emerald green variety from North Carolina is called hiddenite, and the lilac variety is known as kunzite. There is also a less popular variety called Triphane, which is a colorless to yellow variety of spodumene.

Spodumene can be found in granite pegmatites and aplites. It is found in association with lepidolite, quartz, albite, beryl, petalite, and eucryptite. Major localities for finding spodumene include Afghanistan, Australia, Brazil, Madagascar, and Pakistan. Within North America, it is found in Québec, North Carolina, and California.

Commerically, it is used as a source of lithium. It is used in ceramics, cellphone and car batteries, medicine and for use as a fluxing agent. You can remove lithium from spodumene by fusing it in acid. The commerical supply primarily comes from Western Australia, China, and Chile. It is difficult to work because of its perfect cleavage and splintery fracture, which makes it more valuable as a display piece than for use in faceting.

Minda Moe
Mineral Chair

P.S. Sorry for not having an article last month. There's been some confusion, but this was supposed to be the October article. If you missed the wonderful talk from the October meeting, here's a quick slice of what you missed!



BENCH TIPS

HOMEMADE WAX TOOLS

Save your used X-Acto or scalpel blades for utility work on the bench. They're wonderful for delicate wax work. Use a cutoff blade or a grinding wheel to shape the blades to what you need. For instance, you can carve away excess metal on the spine to make yourself some narrow carving knives that do a great job of detailing small areas of your waxes



RING SIZE VARIATIONS

The numerical sizes marked on ring gauges and ring mandrels are often not the same across different manufacturers. If you're using a ring gauge to measure a customer, be sure to compare the markings on the gauge with the markings on the mandrel you use to make the ring. They may not be the same.

Also, you may have to adjust a little for the width of the ring shank. If you're making a wide shank ring, the ring generally has to be a little bit larger in diameter than the ring gauge size in order to get a comfortable fit.

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More BenchTips by Brad Smith are at

groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/

or

[facebook.com/BenchTips](https://www.facebook.com/BenchTips)

WEBMASTER'S REPORT

I am still having some minor problems due to change of computers but now that I finished with the heavy-duty daytime project I've been on since June, I will have time to fix them.

Always remember the "post-it" notes will go away when you double-click them.

"Like" us at www.facebook.com/CCRMC and get news at <http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/ccrmc/> - you might have to "join" the Yahoo Group to read messages.

Jette Sorensen

NOV SHOWS

5-6: CONCORD, CA: Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society; Centre Concord, 5294 Clayton Road (near Ygnacio Valley Rd., Hours: 10 – 5 Daily; Website: www.ccmgs.org

5-6: LANCASTER, CA: Palmdale Gem & Mineral Club; Antelope Valley Fairgrounds, 2551 West Ave. H & Hwy 14; Hours: 9 - 5 daily
Website: www.palmdalegemandmineral.com

5-6: RIDGECREST, CA: Indian Wells Gem & Mineral Society; Desert Empire Fairgrounds (Mesquite Hall), 520 West Richmond Road; Hours: 9 - 5 daily
Website: www.indianwells.weebly.com

5-6: SAN DIEGO, CA: San Diego Mineral & Gem Society; Al Bahr Shrine Center, 5440 Kearny Mesa Road; Hours: Sat 9:30 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
Website: www.sdmg.org

11-13: SACRAMENTO, CA: Sacramento Mineral Society; Scottish Rite Temple, 6151 H Street; Hrs: Fri 10 - 6; Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
Website: www.sacramentomineralsociety.org

12-13: YUBA CITY, CA: Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society; Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds (Franklin Hall), 442 Franklin Ave.; Hours: Sat 9 - 5; Sun 9 - 4
Website: www.sutterbuttes.net

19-20: OXNARD, CA: Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society; Oxnard Performing Arts Center, 800 Hobson Way; Hours: Sat 9 – 5; Sun 10 – 4
Website: www.oxnardgem.com

FEDERATION REPORT

Jalama Beach has been the destination for several CCRMC field trips over the years. Unfortunately, it looks like there will be no more formal CFMS field trips to Jalama Beach, as explained in the following article from November's CFMS Newsletter.

Ellen Moe
Federation Director

FIELD TRIPS-SOUTH

No Collecting at Jalama Beach without Permits

By Jim Brace-Thompson

Jalama Beach County Park has long been a popular rockhounding site in Santa Barbara County for travertine onyx, rootbeer agate, and fossil whalebone and fish. In a case of "received wisdom," I've been told by many an old timer, "Oh, sure! We've collected there since the 1940s!" It's even written up in Gail Bulter's book *Rockhounding California*.

It was something of a surprise, then, that earlier this year several of us within the CFMS received an anonymous email via LA Rocks stating that rangers were issuing fines and even arresting people engaged in casual, amateur collecting at Jalama. The anonymous emailer further stated that authority over the park was transferring from county to state control.

To investigate this, I emailed the Santa Barbara County Parks department and received the following response from Sherman Hansen, SBCP Mid County Operations Manager. He stated categorically that the park is by no means passing from county to state authority and that there never has been such a proposal. However, collecting is definitely not allowed without special permission, and he referred me to Santa Barbara County Code Chapter 26-28: *"No person shall dig up or remove any dirt, stones, sand, rocks, or other materials or substance whatever, or make any excavation, quarry any*

stone or lay or set off any blast or explosion or cause or assist in doing any such activity within any county recreation area without the prior written permission or license of the director of parks or deputy."

If people do violate this county ordinance, they could be warned, cited, and/or evicted from the park. Thus, if you wish to collect at Jalama Beach, be sure that you first contact the county parks department and seek advance permission in writing. Should you wish further details, contact Mr. Hansen at jrauch@sbparks.org or (805) 686-5076.

Just as further background, this apparently is not some new regulation. Mr. Hansen noted he served as a ranger at the park going back to the early 1990s, and those regulations had already been in place for quite awhile when he came on board.

Wherever you choose to collect, I encourage all CFMS members to move beyond received wisdom and rumors — and even published rockhounding guidebooks—and to get in direct contact with the agencies charged with overseeing the locality you'll be visiting so that we're all on a firm, informed footing before setting out on any collecting trip. Our AFMS Code of Ethics states we will strive to keep informed of all laws and policies governing collecting and will abide by them. Always check before you collect!



The purpose of the CULVER CITY ROCK & MINERAL CLUB is to bring together persons interested in the earth sciences, to engage in research and study in this realm, and to assist members in the collection and preservation of rocks and minerals and in the study of lapidary and related arts.....<http://www.culvercityrocks.org>

Officers for 2011

2011 Slate of Officers
 President - Rick Shaffer
 Vice-President - Steve Dover
 Treasurer - Mary Ellen Shaffer
 Recording Secretary - Sue Acosta
 Corresponding Secretary - Leda Rogers
 Education - open
 Federation Director - Ellen Moe
 Field Trips - open
 Historian - Bruce Mensinger
 Librarian - Bruce Mensinger
 Co- chair - open
 Membership - Grace Sato
 Minerals - Minda Moe
 Parliamentarian - Leda Rogers
 Photography - Sylvia Binkley
 Programs - Ellen Moe
 Publications - Lynne Lukert
 Co - Chair - Jan Ferguson
 Publicity - Charlene Aspray
 Shop - Bruce Mensinger
 Show - Robert Thirlaway
 Social - Sue Acosta
 Sunshine - Lili Gelberg
 Trading Post - Steve Dover
 Web Master - Jette Sorensen

Board of Directors:

Anthony Ferrari (2011)
 Leda Rogers (2011)

Lynne Lukert (2012)
 Woody Shaffer (2012)

Mary Ellen Shaffer (2013)
 Robert Thirlaway (2013)

MEETING SCHEDULES

General Meetings are held the second Monday of every month* at 7:30 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room in the Veterans Bldg., 4117 Overland Ave. Enter from the rear door. Guests are always welcome.

Executive Committee Meetings are held the second Monday of every month*in the Multi-Purpose Room in the Veterans Bldg Auditorium. All club members are welcome.

*Meeting days occasionally change due to Monday holidays or, in July, because of the Fiesta Of Gems show (July 2007).

DUES & FEES

One time Initiation Fees:

Individuals	\$20.00
2 Persons/Same Address	\$25.00
Juniors	\$15.00

Yearly Membership Dues:

Individuals	\$25.00
2 Persons/Same Address	\$35.00
Juniors	\$10.00

(After July 1, dues are \$15.00, \$25.00 and \$5.00 respectively.)

SHOP INFORMATION

The shop is open to all members in good standing over the age of 18 who sign an indemnification form. Instruction is available at all sessions. Practice slabs are available.

Location: 10866 Culver Blvd. in Culver City (behind the Boy Scout clubhouse and next to the paddle tennis courts)

Shop Phone: (310)836-4611

Hours:

Tuesday	7:00pm - 9:30pm	Lynne Lukert
Wednesday	10:00am - 2:00pm	Vern Lowe (open by appointment)
Thursday	10:00am - 2:00pm	Woody Shaffer
Saturday	12:00am - 4:00pm	Lynne Lukert
Sunday	1:00pm - 4:00pm	Bruce Mensinger

If no one shows, the shop may close early. If you plan to arrive at the shop more than a half hour after the opening time, phone the instructor

The Nugget

The deadline for all submissions is generally the 15th of every month. All articles or notes without a byline are written by the Editor. Permission to copy is freely given as long as proper credit is noted.

The Nugget accepts paid advertisements by club members and non-members. The cost for an eighth of a page (approx. 2"high x 3.5" wide) is \$7 per insertion, payable in advance. Ad location is at the discretion of the Editor. Ad layouts, copy, or business cards must be received by the 10th of the month. Send materials directly to Lynne Lukert, Editor, 513 1/2 N. Norton Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90004



the NUGGET

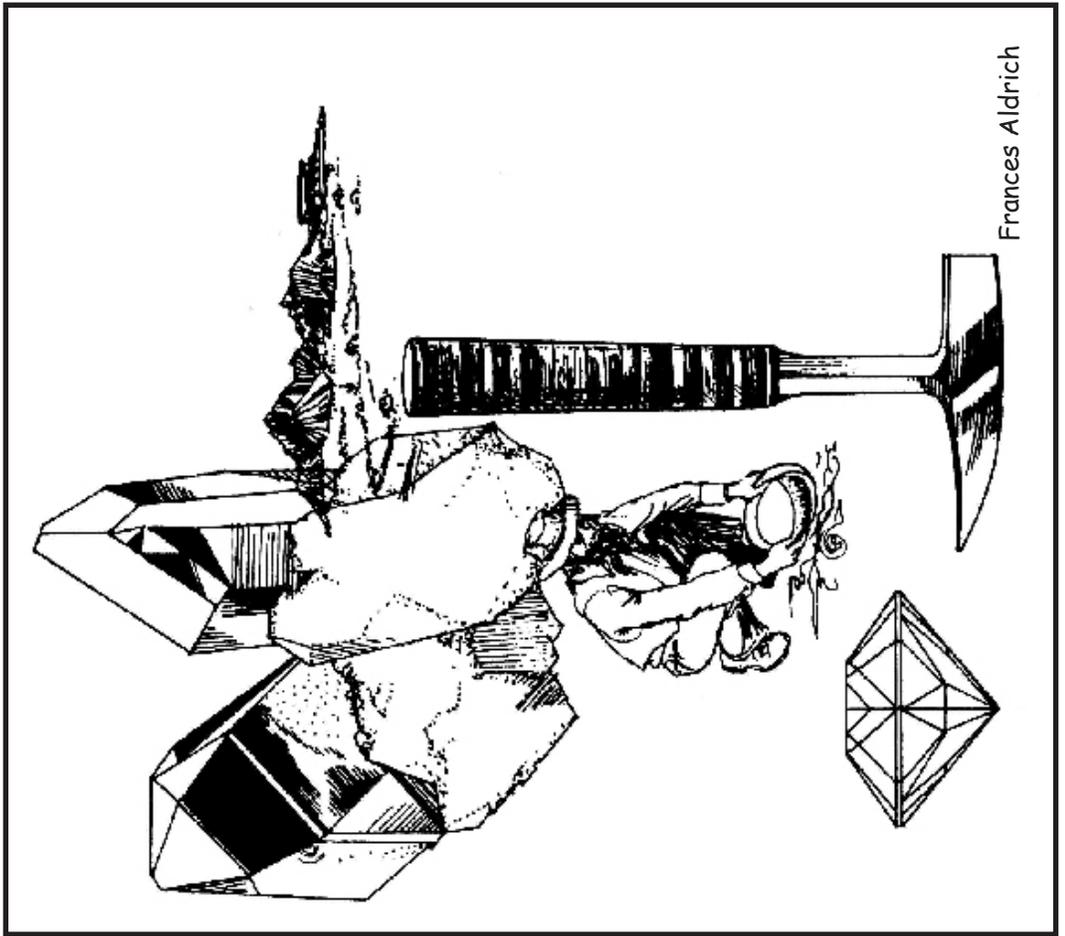
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CULVER CITY ROCK & MINERAL
CR&MC CLUB, INC.
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA, USA

FIRST CLASS

CULVER CITY ROCK & MINERAL CLUB

the Nugget
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Frances Aldrich