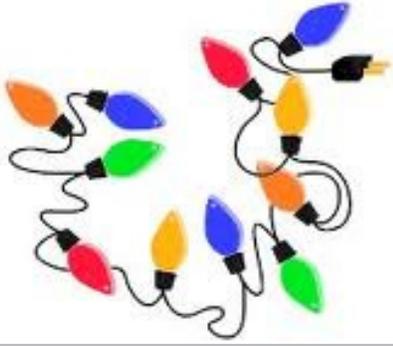


CULVER CITY ROCK AND MINERAL CLUB
P.O. BOX 3324 Culver City, CA 90231



DEC 2011

Monday, DEC 12, 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm
Annual Holiday Party and Installation of Officers
Rotary Plaza, 5400 Overland Ave, Culver City

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's that time of year again. I'm hopeful every one of our members and their families had a wonderful Thanksgiving this year. I'm also looking forward to the club's Holiday party, which we've been talking about in the Nugget the past couple of months. Hope to see many of you at this Holiday celebration as it's a good time to get to really know each other.

If you're anything like I am, then at this time of the year I start to look back and review what we've accomplished this year. Our number one item was the club had a most successful 50th Anniversary show. I'm so proud of everyone who pitched in to make this show a huge success. And, as it brings our members together, it's our club's social highlight of each year. My hat's off to all those who gave of their time and energy.

Our second 'success' of the year is the ability to say that we finally have the beginnings of a 20-year lease with the city for our shop. Nothing is final, but the club has been working on this for many years, and now it looks like it will happen.

Lastly, through all of our efforts, the club has been able to stay financially stable throughout the year, while still keeping up its philanthropic programs within the community.

For next year I would like to see every club member in some way involved with an office of the club. With more members helping each other it will reduce the

amount of time and effort for each chairperson in keeping up with the growing demands to run our club.

In addition, with a new lease with the city, the club will now be in a position to get a new roof on our shop, as well as taking care of painting and other improvements. Hopefully by year's end 2012, we'll be done with the shop for many years to come.

Happy Holidays to all of our members and their families, and Happy New Year! Here's to a great 2012!

Rick Shaffer,
President

DECEMBER PROGRAM

**Annual Holiday Party
&
Installation of Officers**

December 12, 2011 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm

**Rotary Plaza
5400 Overland Ave., Culver City**

- The club will provide the turkey, ham, and dressing
- Members are asked to bring a
 - side dish or dessert
 - gift for the White Elephant gift exchange
- Since time is a little shorter this year, please arrive as close to 6:30 pm as possible

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE MEETING NOV 14, 2011

Those present: Rick and Mary Ellen Shaffer, Bruce Mensinger, Steve Dover, Leda Rogers, Charlene Aspray, Minda and Ellen Moe, Robert Thirlaway, Jette Sorensen, and Sue Acosta.

- The meeting was called to order at 6:33pm by president Rick Shaffer.
- There was a motion to donate the usual \$200 to the Culver City Senior group for the holidays. It was moved, seconded and passed.
- The minutes were approved as published in the Nugget.
- Copies of the lease agreement and MOU were passed out. There was discussion about various parts of the agreement. We will have to build a ramp to the bathroom (ADA rules). We will also have to hire an environmental engineer.
- Nominations: Leda will continue as Corresponding Secretary. The shop committee as a group will handle the Shop.
- Treasurer Mary Ellen Shaffer announced the Club was solvent.
- There will be a Trading Post tonight.
- The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Acosta,
Recording Secretary

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING NOV 14, 2011

- The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm by president Rick Shaffer who led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- The donation of \$200 to the Culver City Senior Citizens Association for the holidays was announced.
- Guest Jennie Kim was introduced.
- Social Chair Sue Acosta announced the Installation officers and the holiday party will be on Dec. 12 from 6:30 to 9:00 pm at the Rotary Plaza (thanks to

Lili Gelberg).

- There finally being a quorum, the minutes were approved as published in the Nugget.
- Nomination Chair presented the slate for 2012:
 - Interim President - Rick Shaffer
 - Vice- president - Steve Dover
 - Treasurer - Anna Marie and Darrell Robb
 - Recording Secretary - Sylvia Binkley, Charlene Aspray, et.al.
 - Corresponding Secretary - Leda Rogers
 - Education - Co-chairs Anna Yori and Anthony Ferrari
 - Federation Director - Ellen Moe
 - Field trips - Co-chairs Rocky and Cole Rhodes
 - Historian - Bruce Mensinger
 - Librarian - Bruce Mensinger
 - Membership - Felice Ganz
 - Minerals - Minda Moe
 - Parliamentarian - Jette Sorensen
 - Photography - Sylvia Binkley
 - Programs - Ellen Moe
 - Publications - Co-chairs - Lynne Lukert, Barbara Fier, and Jan Ferguson
 - Publicity -Co-chairs Charlene Aspray, Ken Rogers
 - Shop - Shop Committee (President, Vice President, committee members)
 - Show - Robert Thirlaway
 - Social - Sue Acosta
 - Sunshine - Lili Gelberg
 - Trading Post - Steve Dover
 - Web Master - Jette Sorensen

- The slate was elected unanimously.
- Ellen Moe reported on the Pala field trip and showed specimens she collected there. Quartzite was mentioned and described. The program tonight will be presented by Brian Swoboda.
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully presented,
Sue Acosta,
Recording Secretary

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

I hope everyone had a very Happy, Happy Thanksgiving!

Christmas is almost here - just around the corner. It's also time for the club's Holiday Party to be held this year on Dec. 12th at the Rotary Plaza at 6:30. It would be wonderful to get as many of the members to come, some to get reacquainted with old friends, some to introduce yourselves. Our club membership has become so large that I'm afraid that not everyone knows each other unless they see one another at the shop or on field trips or the monthly meetings. Now is the time to gather with like-minded people, who have rocks on their minds (or/ and in their pockets) and PARTY!!!

There are quite a few badges that have not been picked up. So please, come to the party to share in the festivities and also to receive your badge. Also, bring a white elephant gift and a pot luck dish to share. PARTY - PARTY - PARTY See ya there!

Grace Sato,
Membership Chair

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- Dec. 5 Max Hippensteel
- 6 Les Holland, Virginia Hollis
- 7 Laurel Grosse
- 9 Yvette Marie Trinh
- 10 Barbara Hippensteel, Ellen Moe
- 11 Carlos Ramsey
- 12 John Grosse
- 14 Rosemarie Ihde
- 19 Kristina Yori
- 31 Merrill Barr, Allan Fawcett, Brian Lallement,
Lucia Pasquinelli

Happy Birthday All!

PROGRAM REPORT

The program was presented by Brian Swoboda of Blue Cap Productions. He showed slides of the Tourmaline Queen Mine's blue capped pink tourmaline which is the company's logo. He grew up in the San Diego and Pala areas of California and played in the mine, which his father owned.

He spoke about Tucson, which holds the biggest mineral show in the world. Only the Munich show is a little better. In 2007, he went to Tucson and made a video, "What's Hot in Tucson". Dave Wilber, a big collector, helped and hosted the video. He covered the Inn Suite Show, Westward Look, and the TGMS (main show). Westward Look is the best - free admission and top specimens. Bryan Lees of Golden, CO, collection also. He repeated in 2008, adding Fine Minerals International with Daniel Trinchillo as their top guy; also Marshall Sussman Collection. In 2009, the specimens were labeled. In 2010, Bob Jones became co-host. Pueblo Gem and Mineral Show, the AGTA Show (gem and jewelry) were added. In 2011 he repeated with Wayne Sorenson.

In 2004, Brian made his first video, "Golden Age of Minerals". In 2008, he made "Women Collectors"; in 2009, "Capturing the Minerals"; In 2010, "Artists - paintings of specimens". In 2012, the first award to those who were outstanding in their field will include his father, E. Swoboda.

Another project is "The New Crystal Hunters" which is about taking 3 kids to find minerals. An all girl team showed the specimens they had found at the Sterling Hill Mine which has a lot of fluorescent minerals. The New Crystal Hunters Donor Program was established. He showed slides of the painting by Eberhart Equit of a bi-color tourmaline from Brazil nitoite has pictures of California's State gem. Jeff Scovill has a show on how to photograph minerals and gems which was hard to tell from a photo.

(continued on page 4)

PROGRAM REPORT

(Continued from page 3)

See Blue Cap Production.com/bepictures of the Minette Collection which has been broken up. He also has made a video of thumb nail specimens collection. A thumb nail specimen must fit into a one inch cube.

In 2013, the new Dallas Museum of Nature will open. It will be cutting edge with interactive displays. In 2010, he made a video of the Munich show which he considers to be the best, while Tucson is the biggest and most comprehensive. He has just finished making "What's Hot in Munich 2011". He very generously provided Club members a free DVD on the opening of Arkenstone Gallery. It very informative and entertaining.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Acosta
Recording Secretary

MINERAL REPORT

Alakazam-labradorite

An Eskimo legend tells of a wandering Eskimo warrior who found the northern lights imprisoned in the stones along the coast of Labrador. He was able to free most of the imprisoned lights, but some of them remained in the stones, trapped forever. The iridescence of the stones may have given birth to this legend, as Labradorite shimmers, much like the lights that would have played across the night sky of what would become northern Canada.

Labradorite was first discovered in 1770, on the Labrador peninsula in Canada. Since then, it has been reported in Norway, Finland, Madagascar, Russia, India, Newfoundland, and other locations around the world. It has been found in some meteorites. Gem-quality Labradorite is called spectrolite, which is also called black moonstone and falcon's-eye. Spectrolite was discovered in Finland during World War II.

It is a feldspar mineral, an intermediate in the plagioclase series. Labradorite has a white streak, and a specific gravity between 2.68 and 2.72. It ranks at a 6 to a 6.5 on the Mohs hardness scale, and exhibits a triclinic crystal system. Twinning is common in this rock, which sometimes results in a nice layered look. It is most commonly found in basalt and gabbro, and is commonly associated with olivine, pyroxenes, amphibolites, and magnetite.



Labradorite can be overlooked as a dull, blackish rock until you see the beautiful shades within the rock. The play of colors in the stone is called labradorescence, or the shiller effect. It is created by light refracting off of errors in the stone. (In technical-speak, it's created as the result of light refracting within lamellar intergrowths resulting from phase exsolution on cooling in the Boggild miscibility gap). The colors of the labradorescence can vary between blues, violets, greens, yellows, and oranges. Rare specimens can display all colors simultaneously.

Minda Moe,
Mineral Chair

SHOP REPORT

Change of Management

Several months ago I decided to resign my position of Shop Chairman. For the past eleven years I have been either Co-chairman or Chairman. This has been a complex and often demanding undertaking. My reasons for resigning are multiple.

Every manager has a style. This sets a tone and atmosphere for the enterprise. But however good or bad, the range of possibilities is limited by habit, bias, and personality. New management brings new perspective and ideas, stirring things up, enlivening the organization. I want to encourage the dynamic nature of the shop that new management can bring.

Many recurring tasks required to keep the Shop running are outside my main strengths and interests, making them burdensome. My time and energy is limited. Many personal projects and responsibilities have been delayed or compromised that I want to pursue or need to address. But enough of this; the list could go on.

Most important, I am not angry or upset with anyone and I have no intention of abandoning helping maintain the Shop or participating in other club activities.

CHANGES IN HOW THE SHOP IS TO BE MANAGED AND OPERATED

To date, no one has agreed to take all the responsibilities for managing the Shop. So, the Shop Committee members will collectively take the duties of the Shop Chairman.

What follows is a work-in-progress, subject to adjustment, experiment and change.

Instead of an elected Shop Chairman who is responsible for all aspects of the management and running of the Shop, responsibilities will be dispersed among the Shop Committee members.

Some examples of responsibilities: Buying supplies and equipment; Finances; Bookkeeping; Coordinating Instructors and Substitutes; Setting and enforcing policies on what is acceptable behavior and proper equipment

use; Introducing newcomers to Shop procedures and safety issues; Handling of donations and supplies for youth and education programs; Silent auctions; Support for the Fiesta of Gems show; Equipment maintenance and repair; General maintenance including bathroom, grounds keeping and trash removal; Shop report for the Nugget; Maintenance of Membership list and Shop related forms.

Responsibilities will rotate or will change from time to time as determined by the Shop Committee.

The days and time the Shop is open may change and/or vary more than usual, subject to personnel available.

Shop fees may need adjusting due to necessary changes in bookkeeping procedures, changed management priorities and style, coordination and timely monitoring of equipment problems, and the availability of competent repair and maintenance personnel.

WHAT WON'T CHANGE

The Shop will continue to be located in the same building. Lease negotiations with the city continue and look favorable for our continued use of the facility.

The Shop will remain a core element of the Club.

My efforts to keep the Shop equipment in good working order, ready for you to use, will continue.



Bruce Mensinger,
Shop Chairman

EDITOR'S REQUEST

If you have an article, poem or report pertaining to a field trip, show or other worthy reading material, please

email to: gemlynne@ca.rr.com or
call 323/469/9874

Please remember that articles will have e-mail permission from the author of the article.



PROGRAMS - LOOKING AHEAD TO 2013

If you have ever heard a good program or talk at another club, please e-mail me (hmcx2@aol.com) the speaker's name or even just the club's name and approximate date of the program. I have run through most of the names I know.

For January or February, I would like to try a Silent Auction where each member brings 2 or 3 donations so that there is better quality and more variety to the items. So, please, look through some of your extra slabs or specimens and set aside a few for the silent auction. This is an especially good way to recycle some of the hourly and raffle prizes you have won at rock club shows but have never really used.

Ellen Moe,
Program Chair

BENCH TIPS

DEPTH GAUGE FOR DRILLING

Sometimes you need to drill a number of holes all to the same depth.

One quick and easy way to do this is to wind some tape around the drill bit so that the tape just touches the part surface when the hole is deep enough.

You can do this either by measuring from the tip of the drill to the tape or by drilling one hole correctly, leaving the bit in the hole, and wrapping tape around the bit at the surface level.

CUTTING A BOLT

Whenever you have to cut a threaded bolt shorter, it's always difficult to get the nut to thread back onto it. And the smaller the bolt, the more difficult this is. The problem is easily solved by screwing a nut onto the bolt before cutting it.

So here's how I do it. Screw a nut onto the bolt, grip the bolt by the piece to be sawed off, saw the bolt to the desired length, taper the end with sandpaper or file, and unscrew the nut from the bolt.

Unscrewing the nut over the freshly cut end of the bolt straightens out any damage to the threads. Gripping the bolt by the piece to be sawed off localizes any crushing damage to the piece you're throwing away.

=====

More BenchTips by Brad Smith are at

groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/

or

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

FEDERATION REPORT

CFMS Report

If you are interested in learning more about: lapidary, silver fabrication, beading, soft stone carving and scrimshaw, beginning or advanced wire art, precious metal clay or alternative casting, consider attending the CFMS Earth Sciences Seminar at Zzyzx (Soda Springs) from April 1 to April 7th, 2013. You can go to the CFMS web site at www.cfmsinc.org for more details about the classes, lodging and registration. I will also bring flyers to the December party.

AFMS Report

The AFMS has received some great prizes for their 2012 Endowment Drawing: a Cabking-6V3 Machine (retail value \$1,500), a slant cabber Machine (value \$600), All-U-Need Machine (value \$490) and 6" trim saw (value \$440).

Tickets are \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00. To order, make the check payable to "AFMS Endowment Fund"; include your name, address and phone number; and mail it along with a stamped self-addressed envelope to our regional federation representative:

Colleen McGann

PO Box 224

Santa Clara, CA 95052

Before you submit your tickets, you will need to write #1, 2, 3 or 4 as to which grand prize you want to try to win. There will be additional prizes which will be announced over the coming months.

Interestingly, the article in the November, 2011, AFMS Newsletter does not give the date of the drawing or the final date for purchasing and submitting tickets. I will get this info and provide it in a future newsletter.

Ellen Moe,
Federation Director

DECEMBER SHOWS

3-4: BARSTOW, CA: Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society;
Barstow Community Center, 841 S. Barstow Road

Hours: 10 – 5 daily

Website: www.mdgms.org



Image of Santa in a Coprolite slice as seen on the Club's web page "Do U See What I See?" - Upon closer inspection, Santa's face can be interpreted as a duck's face. The Coprolite photo is courtesy of Steve Dover.

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 - Chairs- Jan Ferguson, Barbara Fier
 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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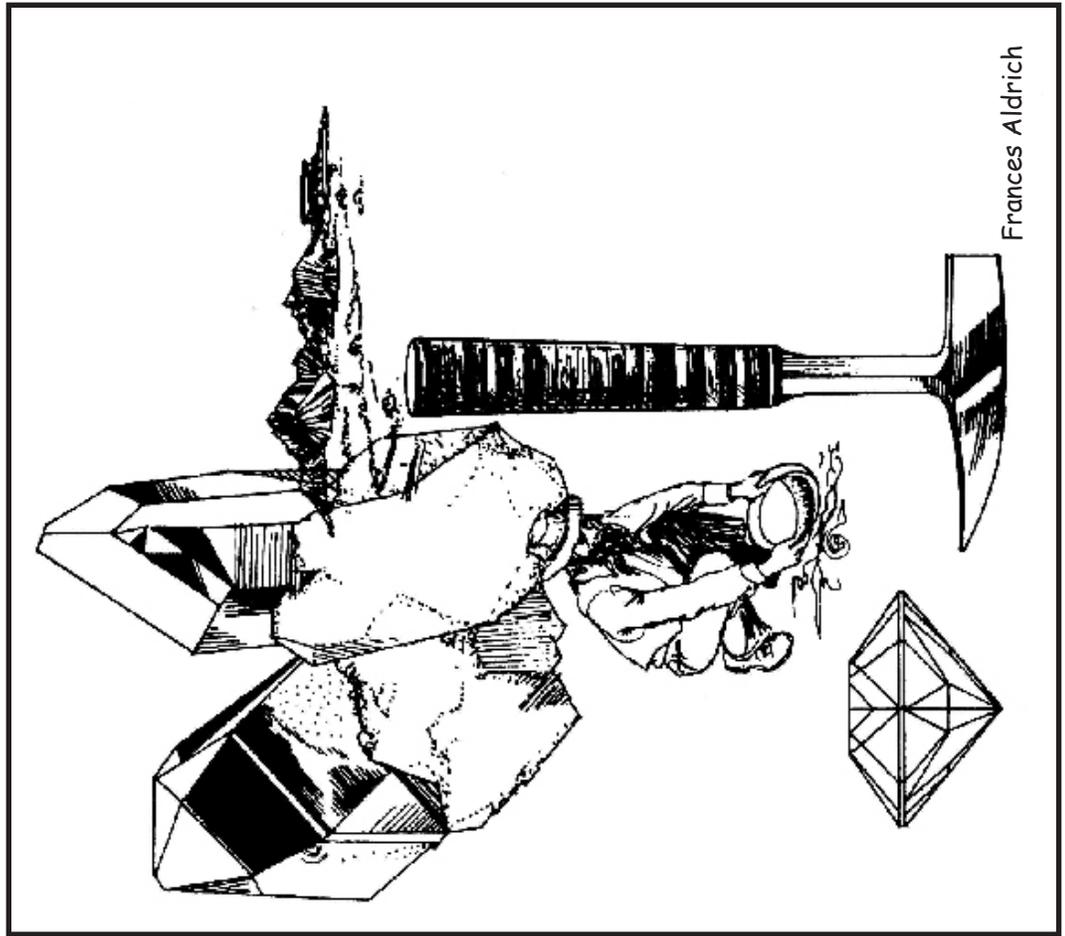
CULVER CITY ROCK & MINERAL
CR&MC CLUB, INC.
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA, USA

FIRST CLASS



CULVER CITY ROCK & MINERAL CLUB

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Frances Aldrich