

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

FEBRUARY 2013

Monday, FEB 11, 6:30 pm Exec Committee
Monday, FEB 11, 7:30 pm General Meeting
Program: "Silent Auction"



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Two priorities for this time of year are the early planning for our summer show and the annual membership drive. The most important show tasks at this early stage are to put together a good list of dealers and then to start generating early publicity for the event. Ken Rogers has enlisted Janelle Williams and Dower Jai Gervais to line up dealers for the show this year, and Janice Metz has volunteered to help with publicity. With these two in hand, we're off and rolling, but Ken will need more help in the coming months.

All club members are being reminded that their annual dues can be given to Felice Ganz at a meeting or can be mailed to the club's post office address. But in addition to retaining our existing members, I've been working with Felice on an idea to expand our membership. With a few new members, hopefully we will not have as much trouble filling some of the important leadership positions. We will be inviting 8-10 guests to each of the next few meetings. These are folks who told us at last summer's show that they would be interested in attending a club meeting sometime.

When these guests do show up this month, I need your help. First impressions are so important. It's critical when they walk in that someone goes up to them and says "Hi." I can't emphasize this enough. They're our guests, and we need to greet them warmly and chat a bit. Please go up and break the ice. Let them know a little about the club, our activities, and what you like about what we do.

Brad Smith,
President

PROGRAM

**2nd ANNUAL FEBRUARY SILENT AUCTION
EXTRAVAGANZA**

By popular request, our February Silent Auction will be held in place of a program. Those who can, go to Quartzite and Tuscon this time of year to get some new rocks and jewelry. For the rest of us, our giant Silent Auction is the next best thing.

This year's Silent Auction will include many nice items from the collection of former member Carol Cowan who is moving and has left most of her collection to the club. Items may include an amethyst crystal plate, septarian nodules, petrified wood, obsidian and lots of books.

We have already received some great donations from members Paul Madison, Karen Taylor, Dave & Mary Lyon and Benda Sisson. These include geode halves, earrings, a phrenite specimen and more books.

It is not too late to donate! We request that each member donate a few - three to six - items. It will help us set-up the Silent Auction if you can get the donations to me, Steve Dover, Bruce Mensinger or to the shop before the meeting. Email me at hmcx2@aol.com and I can arrange to pick up your donations. If this is not possible, please bring them early on the night of the meeting to give us time to start the bidding sheet and to arrange the items on the tables. It helps if you bring a short note (3 x 5 card or sticky note) with any details you have about the donated item - type of stone or mineral, location if known, etc.

Note: the Silent Auction Committee reserves the right to hold back some donations for the August picnic silent auction.

Ellen Moe,
Program Chair

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE MEETING JANUARY 14, 2013

• Those present: Steve Dover, Felice Ganz, Lynne Lukert, Paul Madison, Bruce Mensinger, Ellen Moe, Ken Rogers, Leda Rogers, Mary Ellen Shaffer and Rick Shaffer.

• The meeting was called to order at about 6:37 PM by Vice-President Steve Dover.

• There were no minutes from December to approve since the meeting was replaced by the holiday party.

. Whether the Executive Committee meetings should continue to be held prior to the General Meeting or at another time was discussed. President Brad Smith can not attend Monday night meetings but Steve Dover reported that he is agreeable to the meetings being held as usual. Any other time would require the meetings to be held at the shop, a member's home or possibly the Boy Scout Shack when renovations are completed. It was generally agreed that the extra driving time a different night would require would be a burden. A motion was made, approved and unanimously passed that the Executive Committee meetings remain at 6:30 PM prior to the General Meeting.

• Steve Dover reported that the Shop Committee had proposed new rates for shop use for 2013. It was moved, seconded and unanimously passed that the club accept these rates.

• Show Chairman Ken Rogers presented a list of possible themes for the 2013 Fiesta of Gems. There was extensive discussion about additional ideas and then to reduce the list to allow a vote. It was agreed that the theme should not be a repeat of a recent theme, that it should be something which members might have to use in their display cases, it should be something that vendors might have and that it should have broad appeal to attract the public to attend. In the final vote, Beryl (aquamarine, emerald and more) won by one vote over Copper Minerals (native copper, turquoise and more).

• The question of raising the annual dues to be a member since the insurance costs were increasing was tabled for the next meeting

• Steve Dover announced that the duties for running the Executive Meeting would be shared by all the members. Volunteers were requested. The duties for the next few months will be: Paul Madison in February, Lynne Lukert in March, Ken Rogers in April and Ellen Moe in May.

• The Treasurer Darrell Robb was absent but had reported to Steve Dover that the club was solvent.

• There was no formal Education Report but Rick Shaffer reported on the most recent classes provided to the schools.

• There was no Federation report.

• There was no Field Trip report, but was noted that there were field trips available in Quartzite.

• Ellen Moe requested Rick Shaffer and Steve Dover look for small geodes - 2 to 2-1/2 inches - to use for the free rock given to each child under 16-years-old who attends the Fiesta of Gems. Bruce Mensinger agreed to again bring his saw and help to cut the whole geodes for the children at the show. The discussion of whether to buy these from online vendors was tabled for the next meeting.

• Rick Shaffer reported that the bids to bring the shop bathroom up to ADA standards were \$5000 for the bathroom renovation and \$1500 for the concrete pad to allow level access to the doors. It was moved, seconded and approved unanimously to recommend to the members that these expenditures be approved.

• The meeting was adjourned at about 7:35 PM.

Submitted by,
Ellen Moe

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING JANUARY 14, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Steve Dover at 7:39 PM. The pledge of Allegiance was given and a quorum was confirmed.

• A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to accept the minutes as published in the December Nugget. Seven visitors were introduced and welcomed.

• Members were reminded that it was time to renew their memberships and pay their dues for 2013.

• Show Chairman Ken Rogers announced that the theme for the 2013 Fiesta of Gems would be Beryl. He discussed the need for several more volunteers for the show committees, which he listed.

• The bids for the shop bathroom renovations were presented - \$5000 for the bathroom and \$1500 for the concrete pad. It was moved, seconded and the members unanimously voted to approve these expenses.

• The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 PM for a 15 minute break for refreshments and the monthly raffles.

Submitted by
Ellen Moe

JANUARY PROGRAM REPORT

METEORITES - FALLS AND FINDS

Meteorites are a family passion for the Utas family. Peter and Barbara and their son, Jason, have been collecting and hunting meteors ever since Jason received a meteorite specimen for his 8th birthday. Jason is now a senior at the University of California at Berkeley, majoring in geology. They also maintain a web site - www.fallsandfinds.com - about meteorites with pictures of many of their collection and some specimens for sale.

The Utas family brought a wide variety of specimens from their collection for display along with pictures and educational boards. Peter and Jason provided a very informative program, with Barbara adding comments. The program provided a comprehensive introduction to Meteorites with definitions of the three classes of meteorites: irons, stony irons and stones (much of this information is also available on their web site).

To truly understand meteorites, you need to know the sources of the meteorites: the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter, Mars and our Moon. Peter did a great job of going back in time and explaining the formation of the asteroid belt and describing the history of how science arrived at the current understanding of meteorites.

To understand meteorites you also need to understand craters. Peter and Jason presented examples of craters from the well known (and miss-named) Meteor Crater in Arizona to the most recent discoveries, some of which

have been found using Google Earth.

Many photographs of meteorites were present to illustrate the processes which shape the specimens as they enter the atmosphere. Fusion crusts, ablation, fragmentation and weathering were all discussed.

The final portion of the presentation included slides from their actual hunts on dry lake beds, from the April 2012 fireball near Sutters Mill and from the most recent October 17, 2012 hunt in Novato. It amazed me to see their two finds while just walking the streets in the town of Novato following the fireball witnessed by most of the north Bay area.

There were numerous questions throughout the presentation since this topic is so popular. The enthusiasm of the whole Utas family and their statistics which seem to indicate that there are many, many meteorites yet to be found were an inspiration to all those in attendance.

Program Chair,
Ellen Moe

MEMBERSHIP

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Eileen Karrigan
Jonathan Shaham

It's that time of the year and our Membership dues are now wanted. Please use the application form on page 8 or from our website <http://culvercityrocks.org> Also check the box stating whether or not you want your information published.

You can either mail the application with your dues to: Culver City Rock and Mineral Club
P.O. Box 3324, Culver City, CA 90231

OR

bring your application and dues to the monthly meeting.

SHOP REPORT

EQUIPMENT AVAILABILITY

As of February 17 (as I write this report), all shop equipment is working and ready for use except for the 18" slab saw and the 6" trim saw. The 18" saw needs repair of the half-nut clutch pieces and replacement of the worm portion of the worm and worm-gear feed drive train. The 6" trim saw needs only V-belt replacement.

New Shop Fees Starting March 1, 2013

The new Shop Fees: All are per Hour or Partial Hour as follows:

General Shop Use (Includes use of Grinders, Polishers, Dopping equipment, etc.).....	\$1.50
Torch.....	\$ 1.00
Burn-out Oven	\$1.00
Investment (per flask)	\$1.00
Flat lap (8-inch)	\$1.00
Flat lap (large w/grit)	\$1.00
Small saws (trim, 16", 18") each	\$1.00
Large saw 24"	\$2.00
Angle Grinder (w/o pads of disks)	\$1.00

After reviewing financial records of past years, the shop committee met to discuss shop fees. Our club by-laws specify that the shop must be self supporting. This, in effect, means that the shop user fees must cover all shop expenses. The shop normally receives no budget from the general membership. We attempt to set the user fees based on the actual cost of the material and replacement expenses of the items used. Where the cost is low or can not be determined individually a general user fee is charged. Thus we have a 'General Shop Use' fee and several equipment use fees.

Note that the General Use fee applies to all users for the time they are at the shop, while the specific machine or material fees are charged in addition to the General Use fee.

At both the Executive Committee and the General Membership meetings in January the new fee schedule

was submitted for a vote of approval. Both votes passed unanimously. The new fees will take effect starting March 1, 2013.

Note that these fees apply to users of the shop for lapidary related purposes where equipment and material is used or worked on. Library users and those who are at the shop for club business meetings or club events such as helping move Fiesta of Gem materials to and from the Auditorium do not pay shop fees. However, all present at the shop must be recorded: sign in and sign out in the log book. This is an insurance and liability related requirement. No exceptions, no excuses.

Normal Hours

The shop schedule has returned to the normal pre-construction schedule: open five days each week. Random short term construction related closures may still occur; check the yellow notices on our website home page (see link below) for the most up-to-date information.

What remains to be done is the renovation of the bathroom (to conform to access for disabled users standards) and building ramps to enable wheel-chair access to the Scout House, our shop and the bathroom.

Using the Shop During the Construction Period

The remaining construction work has not yet been scheduled. Concrete ramp work may require closing the shop for a few days, possibly on short notice. During the remaining construction we can expect to have a variety of inconveniences, such as no bathroom, but the shop will be open during the regularly scheduled times as much as is safe and otherwise feasible. To the extent possible, closures and anticipated interruptions will be posted on our web site, www.culvercityrocks.org.

When you visit the shop, park in the parking lot parallel to Culver Blvd in front of the Scout House. The limited parking in the alley behind the shop is closed. Do not park in the alley except for brief loading or unloading. Enter through the gate in the fence in front of the Scout House. Use caution and be especially watchful for construction related hazards, including overlooked nails in the lawn.

On behalf of the Shop Committee,
Bruce Mensinger

MINERAL REPORT

"A Yellow Stone"

Rhyolite is an igneous, extrusive rock. It bears a close resemblance to granite because it is an extrusive equivalent of plutonic granite, or granite that has crystallized from magma below the surface of the earth. It was named by Ferdinand von Richthofen, a German geologist who traveled through the Rocky Mountains in the 1860s and noted occurrences.

It is normally buff to pinkish, though it can vary due to its composition. It has a Mohs hardness of 6, and a specific gravity of 2.4-2.6.



When it is ejected from the ground or volcano, rhyolite flows form highly viscous lava, due to its high silica content and relatively low iron and magnesium content. When this lava cools too quickly, it forms obsidian. Most eruptions that contain rhyolite are highly explosive, like the 1980 eruption of Mount St. Helens. During explosive eruptions, rhyolite lava produces pumice.

In prehistoric North America, rhyolite was quarried in eastern Pennsylvania. It also occurs in northern Italy, Iceland, Germany, the Rocky and Andes Mountains, Nevada, China, and New Zealand. During a gold rush

in Nevada, prospectors founded a town called Rhyolite, which is now a ghost town that flourishes off of tourism to Death Valley.

In the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone, downstream from Yellowstone Falls, the iron in the native rhyolite give the walls a distinctive yellow color. Most people mistakenly believe that sulfur influences the color of the canyon, but it is actually caused by the oxidation of various iron compounds.

Minda Moe,
Mineral Chair

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



Paul Gomez	Feb 2
Mar Lyon	Feb 7
Rita Simonson	Feb 7
Deborah Kelfer	Feb 10
Colin Gibson	Feb 13
Dave Lyon	Feb 15
Lynne Lukert	Feb 16
Ken Rogers	Feb 17
Anna Yori	Feb 18
Ronnie Lemmi	Feb 20
Davied Eggers	Feb 26
Frank Hollis	Feb 26



BENCH TIPS

BENCH SHEARS

When cutting sheet metal, it's quicker and easier to use a set of shop shears as compared with using a hand saw. The cut is not as precise, but many times you don't need that. Shears will easily cut up to 24 gauge sheet, and some will cut 22 or even 20 gauge.

Current prices for shears run from \$13 - \$22 in jewelry catalogs, and the Joyce Chen scissors recommended on some jewelry blogs run more than \$20. But we found a cheaper alternative at the 99 Cent Store - some gardening utility scissors that were only \$1.07.



I buy a half dozen of them at a time for use in my jewelry classes. They're great for cutting bezels, trimming around a bezel cup, and cutting a piece off a larger sheet.

BEZEL CLOSER

A bezel closer is a steel punch that makes quick work out of pushing the metal down over a round stone and burnishing it. The working end is a concave cavity that fits over your bezel or prong setting and is pushed and twisted to capture the stone. Sets can be purchased but are expensive and contain many sizes you will probably never use. If all you need is one or two sizes, here's how you can make them yourself.

Find a good quality, round steel rod a little larger in diameter than your bezel cup or prong setting. Cut a 5 inch length. File both ends flat. Locate the center of one end, centerpunch a divot, and drill a small pilot

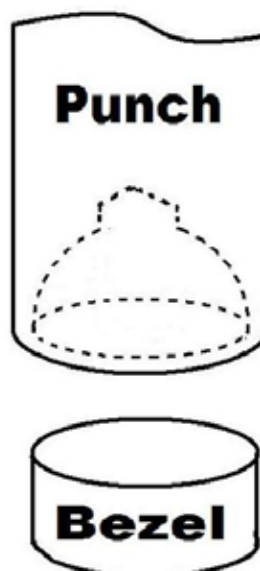
hole about 5 mm deep. Remember to use a little oil as lubricant when cutting steel.

Select a ball bur a bit smaller than the steel rod but slightly larger than the bezel. Enlarge the pilot hole to a full hemispherical cavity. Test for proper fit with your bezel. Bezel should first contact the cavity about a third of the way in. When the size is correct, polish the cavity using Zam on a length of chopstick in your flexshaft. If the tool is not polished, it will leave scratches on your bezel or prongs.

When using the tool, the first step is to capture the stone correctly. I usually work by hand and push the punch straight down over the bezel or prongs. This causes the metal to start bending over the stone. Now inspect with a lens to be sure the stone is staying level. This is repeated until the stone is seated on its bearing and can't move anymore.

Next, you want to force the metal down onto the stone uniformly all the way around. While this can be done by hand, I often gently tap the punch with a hammer. Finally, I burnish the bezel by twisting the punch around.

More Bench Tips by Brad Smith ,
at [facebook.com/BenchTips/](https://www.facebook.com/BenchTips/) or
the book "Bench Tips for Jewelry Making"
available on Amazon



SHOW REPORT

CCRMC FIESTA OF GEMS "AQUAMARINE"

This year's CCRMC Fiesta of Gems will be on Saturday & Sunday, July 13 & 14, 2013. The theme for 2013 is "Aquamarine - & it's colors".

Aquamarine, a Beryl gem, is one of the beautiful California, pegmatite, gemstones. Rick Kennedy's California Blue Mine, near Yucca Valley, in San Bernardino County, is currently producing some magnificent blue crystals. The Pala pegmatites are another source of Aquamarine, and the Ocean View mine has a rare "watermelon" Aquamarine with a peachy-pink (Morganite) center and a pale blue Aquamarine exterior. Also, I have found small Aquamarine crystals in a granitic pegmatite near "Haystack Mountain", just east of Lone Pine, CA.

Our show is only 5 months away and there are many tasks to be done. Our show committee is almost complete, with only 4 positions yet to be filled. Please contact me to volunteer for one of these last open Chair positions. The open Show Chairs are:

- Demonstrators Chair – "With input, book the demonstrators for the show, and act as their host."
- Prize Chair – "Solicits local businesses and show vendors for donations to be used as, door prizes, Raffle prizes, member incentive prizes, etc. Plus, on show days, set up the prize display cases, and oversee all drawings." (Volunteers should help this chair.)
- Ticket Chair – "Distributes Raffle ticket books to members, collects all payments for ticket books, and makes sure all ticket stubs are entered in the drawing drums."
- Grab Bag Chair – "Gathers/purchases all materials for the Grab Bags. This Includes the stones and the materials for the bags. Oversee the assembly of the grab bags by volunteers. Oversee the Grab Bag table in the show." (Most of the stones will already be purchased and/or tumbled.)

This year I hope we will have a large number of volunteers to help the Show Committee members with their jobs. Personally, I don't feel it is right for everyone to sit back while a few wonderful volunteer committee members do all of the work. So, please, at meetings, sign up on our show volunteer list and/or contact me to volunteer for the show. Kenrogers4u@juno.com.

Ken Rogers,
2013 CCRMC Fiesta of Gems
Show Chair

FEBRUARY SHOWS

February 15 - 24: INDIO, CA

San Gorgonio Mineral & Gem Society
Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival
46-530 Arabia Street
Hours: 10 - 10 daily
Contact: Bert Grisham, (915) 849-1674
Email: bert67@verizon.net

The Tri-Clubs of Ventura County,
Conejo, Oxnard, & Ventura
Gem & Mineral Societies,

will host the

2013 CFMS SHOW
&
CONVENTION

"California Rocks"

MAY 31 - JUNE 2

Ventura County Fairgrounds
Ventura, CA

Culver City Rock and Mineral Club

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL



Please print legible:

					Dues and Fees		
First Name	Middle Initial	Last Name			Individual	2 Persons, 1 address	Junior
					One time Initiation	\$20	\$15
Address					Yearly Membership	\$25	\$10
					After July 1 st	\$15	\$ 5
Email		Telephone					
Birthdate (Month/day)		Junior (18 or younger)					

To facilitate communications between members, the Membership Chair periodically publishes a roster with information available from your membership application.

Please initial, I authorize publication of my personal information, _____ YES, but not address , Phone , Email , Birthdate .

It is expected that all members participate in one or more of the activities and general functions of the club, and to that extent, I will help out in the following activities and/or committees (please check all that apply):

- | | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative | <input type="checkbox"/> Gem Show | <input type="checkbox"/> Field trips | <input type="checkbox"/> Programs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Workshops | <input type="checkbox"/> Library | <input type="checkbox"/> Lapidary Shop | <input type="checkbox"/> Meet/Greet at meetings |

Help us get to know you better:

Area of expertise	Beginner	Basic	Advanced
Lapidary			
Rockhounding			
Jewelry			
Other			

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please mail this completed application along with your check, payable to CCRMC to:

CULVER CITY ROCK & MINERAL CLUB, P.O. BOX 3324, CULVER CITY, CA 90231 or bring the application and your payment to the club's monthly meeting.

Meetings normally take place on the second Monday of every month; however, Monday Holidays, the club's Gem show in July and the Christmas Party in December may affect the meeting date. More info on the club's web site, www.culvercityrocks.org, and Yahoo Group, tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/ccrnc/. FaceBook page, www.facebook.com/ccrnc

Meetings are held in the Multi-Purpose Room at the Veterans Building at 4117 Overland Avenue. Entrance is in the rear of the building, off the park.

For more information about our club, please visit our web site at www.culvercityrocks.org.

For questions regarding this form or membership, send an email to: membership@culvercityrocks.org

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 2013

- President - Brad Smith
- Vice-president - Steve Dover
- Treasurer - Darrell Robb
- Recording Secretary - Anna Marie Robb
- 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 - Paul Madison,
- Co-chair- Bruce Mensinger
- Membership - Felice Ganz
- Minerals - Minda Moe
- Parliamentarian - Jette Sorensen
- Photography - Bruce Mensinger
- Programs - Ellen Moe
- Publications - Co-chairs - Lynne Lukert, Barbara Fier, and Jan Ferguson
- Show - Ken Rogers
- Publicity - Ken Rogers,
- Co-chair - Open
- Shop Committee (President, Vice President, committee members)
- Social - Mary Ellen Shaffer,
- Co-chair Sue Acosta
- Sunshine - Leda Rogers
- Trading Post - Steve Dover,
- Co-chair Minda Moe
- Web Master - Jette Sorensen

Board of Directors:

- Mary Ellen Shaffer (2013)
- Male (open) (2013)
- Ellen Moe (2014)
- Bruce Mensinger (2014)

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.

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	- Bruce Mensinger
Wednesday	10:00am - 2:00pm	- Ken Rogers (open by appt.)
Thursday	10:00am - 2:00pm	- Woody Shaffer
Saturday	12:00pm - 4:00pm	- Lynne Lukert
Sunday	12:00pm - 4:00pm	- Rick Shaffer

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

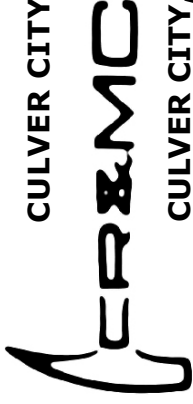
The deadline for all submissions is generally the 15th of every month. All articles or notes without a byline are written by the Editor. Permission to copy is freely given as long as proper credit is noted.

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, 601 N.Bronson Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90004



the NUGGET

VOLUME 53
ISSUE 02
FEB 2013



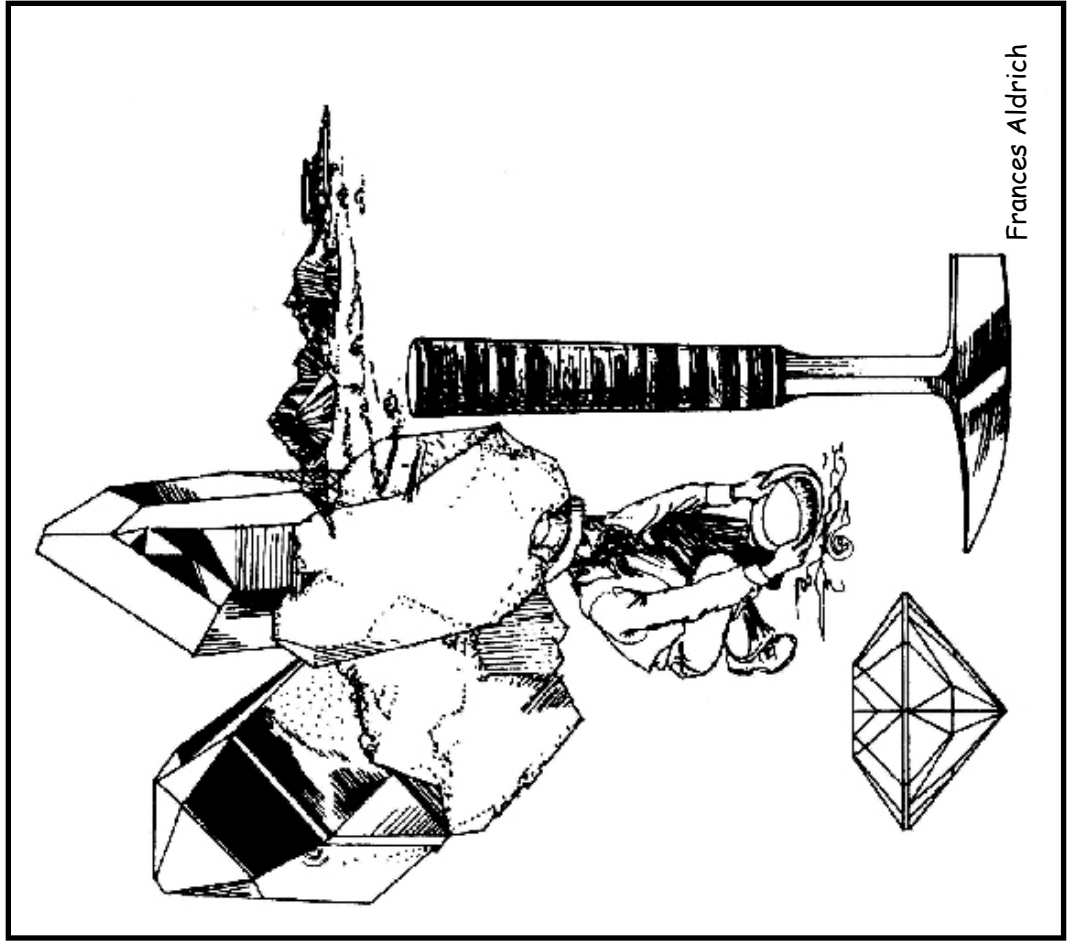
CULVER CITY ROCK & MINERAL CLUB, INC.
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA, USA

FIRST CLASS



CULVER CITY ROCK & MINERAL CLUB

the Nugget
Lynne Lukert, editor
601 N. Bronson Ave
Los Angeles, CA 90004



Frances Aldrich