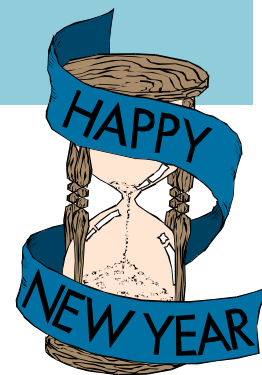




JANUARY 2014

Monday, January 13, 6:30 pm Executive Meeting
7:30 pm General Meeting
Program: Gypsum by Dr. Steve Hardinger



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

2013 was quite a year for our club thanks to all those who volunteer their time. Steve Dover did a great job in running the organization in my absence. Rick Shafer was instrumental in negotiating a long term lease for our shop building. Rick also worked with Bruce Mensinger to shepherd us through the construction of a new roof, ADA compliance and upgrade of the walkways and driveway. Lynne Lukert and Barbara Fier continue to put out an informative and colorful Nugget. Ken Rogers planned and coordinated a very successful Fiesta of Gems with great work on advertising by Janice Metz and dealers by Janelle Williams and Dower Jai Gervais.

Felice Gantz worked to increase our membership by a whopping 35%. Anthony Ferrari organized a very successful educational program with the El Rincon school. The shop committee put in untold hours maintaining equipment and keeping the shop open for members 240 days a year. And now thanks to Paul Madison we have the lending library totally reorganized and operational.

Undoubtably, I've missed the contributions of many others, but the point is that our club is blessed with the generous support and active participation of our members. That keeps the organization active and healthy.

Happy holidays to all as we pop the bubbly and look forward to an even better new year.

Brad Smith

JANUARY PROGRAM **Gypsum: Not Just Drywall Ore** **presented by: Dr. Steve Hardinger**

Among collectors, gypsum is a neglected mineral and often thought of as nothing more than drywall ore. In this talk classic gypsum localities, typical and atypical associations, pseudo morphs, fluorescence, current pricing, and more will be discussed. This enlightenment (we hope) will convince collectors that gypsum really is a collectable mineral.

Dr. Steve Hardinger is a senior lecturer in organic chemistry at UCLA. He has been a mineral dealer for ten years (owner of Dragon Minerals), and a collector for thirty. His collecting passions are quite eclectic and include gypsum, naturally etched crystals, pegmatite oddities, French Creek (Pennsylvania) and A. E. Foote material.

Ellen Moe
Program Chair

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Happy 2014 to all of you. A friendly reminder that January is the time to renew your club membership. Renewal forms can be downloaded from the website under "Membership." We ended 2013 with 171 members. Thanks to each and every one of you for joining our rock club family. I also want to acknowledge all of our officers & volunteers who keep us up and running. Welcome to our new member: Gina Roger.

Felice Ganz
Membership Chair

SHOP NEWS

Shop Schedule

Due to vacations and attendance of Quartsite and Tuscon events there will be a lot of shuffling of instructors in January and February. While no shop closures are anticipated, the reduction in the number of available instructors makes it more likely that the shop may occasionally be closed. Check our website for closures and time changes (culvercityrocks.org) or call the shop (310-837-4611) after the scheduled opening time to confirm that an instructor has arrived.

Equipment Availability

As of December 18 (as I write this report) the 16-inch and 18-inch slab saws are out of service. I expect to have them repaired by the time you receive this report. All other shop equipment is in good working order at this time.

Projects Update

- 1) Trim saws oil mist: No change from last month. Current thinking favors replacing the present exhaust fan with two range exhaust hoods to be located over the trim saws.
- 2) New oil test in one slab saw and one trim saw. The new-candidate-oil allergy tests and the odor and misting testing continue to be satisfactory. Further testing of blade life will begin soon (see 4 below).
- 3) Entry step was further improved with the addition of a semi-circular mat.
- 4) The oil leak in 24-inch saw hydraulic pump will be repaired as part of the new oil test.

Call for Volunteers

Jette Sorensen is leading a shop beautification and clean-up initiative. Its main goals are repair and replacement of water damaged ceiling panels, painting, and evaluation of what equipment to keep. We have several volunteers but more are needed. Please contact Jette for more details via email: jetsorensen@gmail.com

Construction

No change from last month. The main remaining construction is installation of rain gutters, installing irrigation and sod in front of the Scout House (please, stay on the walkways), additional asphalt sealer and optionally a lockable gate to block entry to the aisle between the City Gardens and our storage sheds.

Limited parking in back of the shop is open for use again. Park on the asphalt, off the alley concrete to avoid a parking citation. Please respect the space reserved for the shop instructor next to the paddle-tennis court.

On behalf of the Shop Committee,
Bruce Mensinger

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



Pete Stern	Jan 4
Allison Prehoda	Jan 5
Emily Prehoda	Jan 5
Shiranda Zee	Jan 12
Jonathan Shaham	Jan 16
Shirley Hanf	Jan 20
Misty Lord	Jan 28
Patrick Karrigan	Jan 31
Patrick Karrigan	Jan 31
Steve Willing	Jan 31



Member Annual Holiday Party & White Elephant Gift Exchange

Photos by Bruce Mensinger

Club Members congregated at the Rotary Plaza for a delicious dinner. John Riordan generously donated the \$100 raffle prize as always and this year Sue Acosta was the lucky winner. The 2014 Club Officers were installed and pictures were taken. The traditional White Elephant gift exchange rendered much fun for everyone. We extend our appreciation to the Rotary Club staff for hosting our Holiday party.

– Ana Guimaraes



BENCH TIPS

Mobile Stand for Your Flex Shaft

A handy mobile stand for your flexshaft can be made easily and quickly from the base of an old swivel office chair. You can find these chairs being thrown out at office buildings and schools. I just ask the custodian in my building to set one aside for me.



To separate the chair from the wheeled base, simply remove the spring clip from the center bottom. I use a small screwdriver or a pair of pliers.

To make the stand, you'll need two pieces of threaded galvanized steel pipe and a pipe fitting from a hardware store. The first length of pipe is 3/4 inch diameter to fit the hole in most chair bases. The second piece is a length of less expensive 1/2 inch pipe. Total

length of the two pipes should be five feet. I used a two foot length of 3/4 pipe and a three foot length of 1/2 pipe. They are joined together by a pipe fitting called a 3/4 to 1/2 reducing coupler.

Leather at the Bench

Leather has a multitude of uses in the shop. I often use a scrap of it to avoid scratching the back of a piece of jewelry while setting stones. It's also great for times when you need to clamp one of your tools in a vise, for instance a drawplate.

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

UPCOMING SHOWS

January 18 - 19: Exeter, CA

Tule Gem & Mineral Society, Visalia
Exeter Veterans Memorial Building
Highway 65, 324 N Kaweah Avenue
Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4

Contact: Pepper Okada, (559) 733-5842

Email: Pepperok@clearwire.net

Website: www.tulegem.org

February 15 - 24: Indio, CA

San Gorgonio Mineral & Gem Society, Banning
Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival
46350 Arabia Street, 10a - 10p daily

Contact: Bert Grisham, (915) 849-1674

Email: bert67@verizon.net

February 21 - 23: Newark, CA

Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley
Newark Pavilion, 6430 Thornton Avenue
Fri & Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5

Contact: Cathy Miller, Email: info@mgscv.org

Website: www.mgscv.org

March 1 - 2: Arcadia, CA

Monrovia Rockhounds
Los Angeles Arboretum & Botanic Gardens
301 Baldwin Avenue
9:00 - 4:30 daily

Contact: Jo Anna Ritchey, (626) 359-1624

Email: joannaritchey@gmail.com

Website: www.Moroks.com

March 1 - 2: Ventura, CA

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society
Ventura County Fairgrounds, 10 W. Harbor Blvd.
Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4

Contact: Krishna Juarez, (805) 323-6725

Email: abaris2007@gmail.com

Website: www.vgms.org

March 8 - 9: San Marino, CA

Pasadena Lapidary Society
San Marino Masonic Center
3130 Huntington Drive
Sat 10 - 6, Sun 10 - 5

Contact: Marcia Goetz, (626) 260-7239

Email: joenmar1@verizon.net

MINERAL REPORT: ORTHOCLASE

Moonstone, Moon Mineral, It's all the same

Orthoclase is a potassium aluminum silicate mineral that gets its name from the Greek words *orthos*, which translates to “upright”, and *klasis*, which translates to “breaking.” Put together, they translate to “straight fracture,” as the mineral’s cleavage planes are at right angles. One gemstone variety of orthoclase is known as moonstone, for its internal sheen.



Moonstone is a variety of orthoclase, here is a 4.8 carat gem from Burma.

It can be found as white, brown, gray, green, pink, yellowish, or colorless varieties. It has a vitreous luster, and is usually transparent to translucent, but can occasionally be opaque. It has a white streak, and it is the defining mineral on the Mohs scale for the hardness of six.

Orthoclase is an abundant mineral, found in many localities around the world. It is the official state gem of Florida, and an alternate birthstone for June. The largest documented orthoclase crystal

was found in the Ural Mountains of Russia and weighed around one hundred tons. The leading world producers are Italy, Turkey, and China.



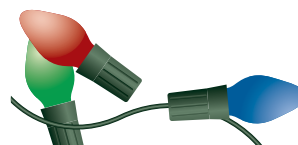
Orthoclase sample from Baveno, Italy measures about 8 x 5 cm.

Orthoclase was originally mined by the Romans to be used in glassmaking. Today, it is used in powdered form to manufacture glass and ceramics. Scouring powders made from feldspars, such as orthoclase, will clean glass surfaces without abrading them.

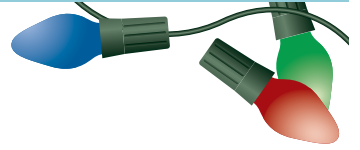
In ancient times, it was believed that moonstone protected women during pregnancy, aided digestion, and prevented obesity. The Hindu tradition considered the sheen of moonstone to be due to a spirit living within the stone, and the stone is still said to encourage beautiful dreams.

Minda Moe
Mineral Chair

Images source: Carl R. (Rod) Nave, Department of Physics and Astronomy, Georgia State University



MORE Member Annual Holiday Party



Photos by Bruce Mensinger

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 2014

President - Brad Smith

Vice President - Steve Dover

Treasurer - Darrell Robb

Recording Secretary - Ana Maria Guimaraes

Corresponding Secretary - Leda Rogers

Education - Joe Porrazzo

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 - Bruce Mensinger

Programs - OPEN

Publications - Lynne Lukert

Co-Chairs Barbara Fier and Jan Ferguson

Publicity - Ken Rogers

Show - Ken Rogers

Shop Committee (President, Vice President,
committee members)

Social - Mary Ellen Shaffer

Sunshine - Leda Rogers

Trading Post - Steve Dover, Co-Chair Minda Moe

Web Master - Jette Sorensen

Board of Directors:

Ellen Moe (2014)

Bruce Mensinger (2014)

Rick Shaffer (2015)

Jette Sorensen (2015)

MEETING SCHEDULE

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. Junior members (13 - 18) must be accompanied by an adult. 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 - 9:30 pm	- Bruce Mensinger
Wednesday	10 am - 2 pm	- Ken Rogers or Vern Lowe (open by appointment)
Thursday	10 am - 2 pm	- Woody Shaffer
Saturday	Noon - 4 pm	- Lynne Lukert
Sunday	Noon - 4 pm	- Rick Shaffer

If no one shows, the shop may close early. If you plan to arrive 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

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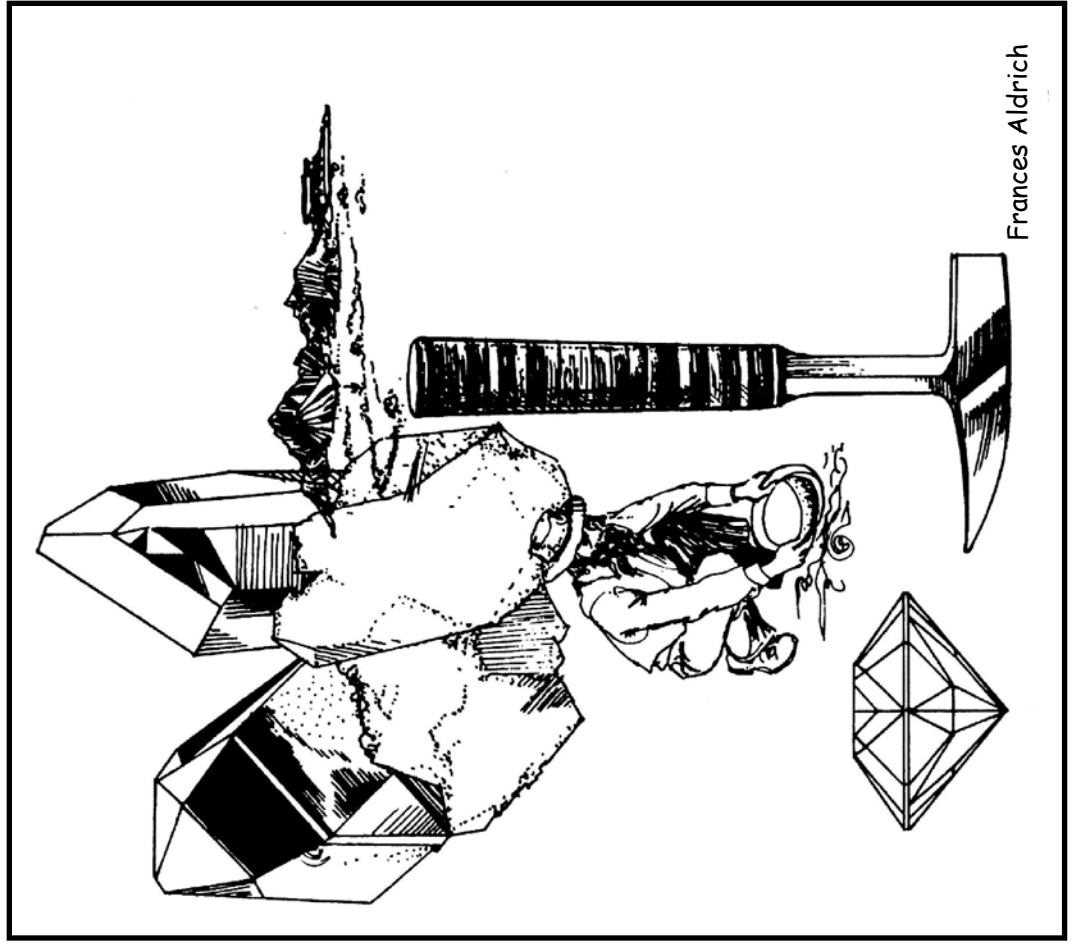
CULVER CITY ROCK & MINERAL CLUB, INC.
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA, USA

FIRST CLASS

CULVER CITY ROCK & MINERAL CLUB

Address Change Requested

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



Frances Aldrich