

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



MAY 2015

Monday, May 11, 2015
6:30 pm Executive Meeting
7:30 pm General Meeting and Program:
"Serpentine" by Justin Zzyzx



MAY 11 PROGRAM

Found throughout California Serpentine, or Serpentinite, is a rock that ranges in color from black to intense green. California was one of the first states to designate a state rock in 1965. Serpentine made headlines when an anti-asbestos group started a movement to remove it from official state rock status. Why was asbestos involved with this honorable rock?

Join us for an informative and entertaining evening with Justin Zzyzx. Justin will tell us the history of our state rock and how a call to arms was made to help an army of geologists, botanists, and lawyers to educate a few about asbestos and Serpentine.

Justin Zzyzx is prominent in the gem and mineral community for his notable work exposing fakes and forgeries in the mineral industry. He recently spoke at the NY/NJ Mineral Show and many know him for the Zzyzx Gallery of Natural Science that was open in Downtown Los Angeles a few years ago. Justin's latest endeavors can be found at www.FortySevenPress.com or www.justinzzyzx.com.

General Meetings are held the second Monday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at 4117 Overland Ave. in the Multi-Purpose Room. The Multi-Purpose Room is located in back of the Veteran's Memorial Auditorium Building. Enter the parking lot from Culver Blvd, closest to Overland and walk to the right when facing the building. Around the corner, you will a sign leading to the Multi-Purpose room. Our meeting is in the room with the glass windows and doors. See you there! Guests are always welcome.

Charlene Aspray
Program Chair

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings, CCRMC members, rock hounds and fellow gem enthusiasts. Summer fast approaches and I hope everyone at the very well attended April 13 meeting had a chance to pick up a few of the new Fiesta of Gems post cards and forward to friends and family. Thank you Bruce Mensinger for the great photography and layout! Everyone in the Club looks forward to another great show in the Veterans Memorial Coliseum, June 27 and 28.

After the show, it would be fun to get back on track with a few scheduled field trips to some of the close by specimen areas for collecting. All site visit suggestions are welcome by phone, email or at the next meeting. We have been blessed with several good speakers this past year on the fossil record in the San Antonio Hills, as well as the geology of the Pala District and vast Mojave areas.

It has been some time since any organized trips have been planned by the club and I am sure there is strong interest among the membership to get some hard dates on the calendar. I would like to propose a few dates in the mid-summer and early autumn. We can decide on destinations over the coming weeks, but having a few set dates a few months out will help everyone's planning. Look for that at our next Club meeting May 11, and for postings on the CulverCityRocks.org website.

Thank you again Walt Lombardo for the outstanding presentation on colored diamonds last month. I for one would love to visit the Arkansas state park where you can prospect for your own diamonds!

Stay safe everyone, see you at the next meeting.

Darrell Robb
President

SHOP NEWS

Shop schedule

The shop will be open as scheduled this month except on some Wednesdays.

Continue to check our website for closures and time changes at www.culvercityrocks.org or call the shop (310-836-4611) after the scheduled opening time to confirm that an instructor has arrived.

Equipment Availability

As of April 18 (when I was last at the shop before writing this report) all shop equipment is in good working order and ready for you to use.

The 24-inch saw continues to be in and out of service. The sheet of plastic added to the underside of the sliding jaw of the vise, to alleviate binding, continues to work well. The current problems are mainly with the hydraulic system and recurring repairable bent blade. The 24-inch slab saw is back in service and the feed pressure regulator modified for lower maximum pressure. Some leaks are still present. Please keep the 24-inch saw feed pressure at 15 psi or less.

The number two Foredom flex shaft tool (on the same workbench as the dop-pot) had a problem with the carbon motor brushes, making it work intermittently. When this happens the rotation speed is variable and the motor makes a sound similar to sticking your tongue out and lightly blowing air. If you hear this sound and/or notice that the speed is erratic, stop!

Continuing to use it will quickly destroy the motor. This time the problem was discovered before irreparable damage occurred. The brushes are fixed. However, in addition, the foot operated speed control is at the end of its useful life. Internally it has a stack of carbon buttons that a spring compresses when the pedal is depressed. This varies the electrical resistance resulting in the motor running faster as more pressure is applied. Over time these buttons deteriorate and the range of pedal travel is reduced for low to high speed. The foot control has been replaced with a new unit that was part of a recent donation of a non-Foredom brand tool.

An item of completely different news: we had an attempted break-in. As I was leaving the shop late on Tuesday night I noticed that the padlock was missing on the new shed. Inspection revealed that it had been



Photo: Danny Jones

Lawsonite specimen photo by Danny Jones.

MINERAL REPORT

Under Pressure

Lawsonite was first described in 1895, and is named after a University of California professor of the time, Andrew Lawson. Its type locality is in Northern California, in Marin County, which has been developed, so collecting is no longer possible. While it is more commonly found in Northern California, there are localities for lawsonite in Palos Verdes and San Pedro, along with Catalina Island.

Lawsonite has prismatic, tabular crystals, which are commonly twinned. It displays perfect cleavage in two directions, with a Mohs hardness of 8 and a specific gravity of 3.09. It is generally colorless, white, or pale to grayish blue.

Lawsonite is metamorphic, forming in the blueschist facies, under pressures equivalent to burial below 18 km, and at temperatures between 200 and 500 °C. It can also be a secondary mineral in gabbro and diorite. It is associated with epidote, garnet, and quartz. It is a common marker of moderate pressure and low temperature formation conditions, which mainly occur along continental margins.

Minda Moe
Mineral Chair

Continued next page

SHOP REPORT continued from page 2

removed and the hasp bent and torn loose. The vandal or would-be-thief did not gain entry. The lock and hasp have been replaced. Members who require direct access to the shed need to replace their old key.

Occasionally the dop pot or the pickle pot are overlooked when the shop closes, resulting in ruined dopping wax or the pickle solution boiled dry. New shut-off timers have been installed.

Limited parking in back of the shop is open for use. 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



Brad Smith demonstrated jewelry making techniques at the Bead Society Show on April 26, 2015, while promoting his latest book.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Paige Darlington
Betty Haile
Bruce Jagger

MAY BIRTHDAYS

ENJOY YOUR CAKE AT THE MAY 11 MEETING

Laurie Lizer	May 8
Yolanda "Lulu" Lumel	May 9
Karyn Smith	May 13
Emilio Guillen	May 17



FIESTA OF GEMS NEWS

Display Cases

We still have a few display cases available for members to display their creations and or collections at our upcoming Fiesta of Gems Show on June 27 and 28. We provide the display case, liners, lights, locks and security during the show. All you have to do is set up your display Friday evening or Saturday morning and pick it up Sunday after the show closes. If you need help setting up your display it will be available at the show.

Please email the Display Chairman, Steve Dover, directly at skdover@yahoo.com to reserve a case. Steve will need help setting up and cleaning the cases on Friday so please step up and volunteer!

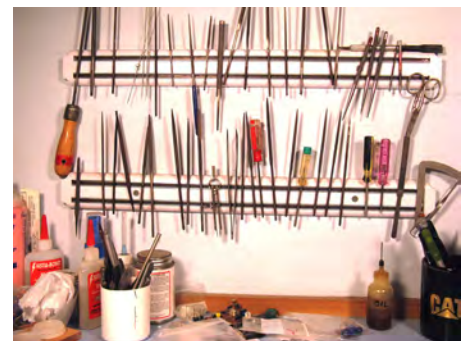
BENCH TIPS

Magnetic Tool Bar

An easy way to keep all your files organized at the bench is to use a magnetic tool strip. They're inexpensive and help keep a lot of small tools from cluttering the bench top. I got a couple of them from Harbor Freight for about \$5 each.

See www.harborfreight.com and search on "magnetic-holder."

My only regret was putting some of my small drills on the magnets. The drills got magnetized and now stick together when I carry them in my tool box.



Get all 101 of Brad's bench tips in "*Bench Tips for Jewelry Making*" on Amazon www.BradSmithJewelry.com

MINUTES of the EXECUTIVE MEETING APRIL 13, 2015

- Those present: Charlene Aspray, Steve Dover, Franne Einberg, Felice Ganz, D.J. Gervais, Ana Maria Guimaraes, Bruce Mensinger, Ellen Moe, Lorraine Murphy, Darrell Robb, Jette Sorensen, Joyce Watanabe and Janelle Williams.
- The meeting was called to order at 6:44 pm by President Darrell Robb.
- The March Executive Meeting minutes published in the April Nugget were approved as read.
- Darrell Robb requested that suggestions be made by the next month's meeting as to whom the Club should donate the raffle proceeds from the 2014 show; the donation should be made this spring.
- Felice Ganz and Jette Sorensen informed the Club had 86 members. Alternatives to keep track of membership renewals that did not involve members filling out the membership form was discussed.
- Bruce Mensinger informed he purchased books for the Club's library.
- The postcards for the 2015 show were ready and available for distribution.
- Janelle Williams and C.J. Gervais informed that there are 22 vendors confirmed for the 2015 show, 11 unconfirmed vendors and four vendors on the waiting list. Three nights of parking passes will be needed. A discussion followed regarding the tool vendor at the show.
- A motion was made and approved to pay honorarium to Cam Lowder for his participation in the March program.
- Charlene Aspray informed that the May speaker will be Justin Zzyzx and Cameron Lowder in July. June will be the Fiesta of Gems work meeting. The August program will be about opals.
- D.J. Gervais committed to sending a card to Rick Shaffer.
- A motion was made and approved to replace the broken lock for the Club's shed. A discussion followed about installing a motion detection light near the shed.
- The meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm

Submitted by Ana Maria Guimaraes
Recording Secretary

PROGRAM REPORT

Charlene Aspray introduced Walter Lombardo, who has been a speaker to the Club multiple times. Mr. Lombardo is a geologist with over 30 years experience in mining and mineral exploration, as well as selling, collecting and purchasing mineral specimens. He owns the Nevada Mineral & Book Company in Orange County and delivered a very informative presentation about colored diamonds.

He explained that colored diamonds were not popular as gem stones 20 years ago, but now they are very desired and expensive compared to other gems. Colored diamonds are very unique; the color is due to the light that is absorbed by the crystal rather than the presence of materials. They are divided in two basic types – type 1 diamonds are nitrogen rich and type 2 are nitrogen poor diamonds.

Colored diamonds exist in shades of yellow, orange, brown, black, pink, red, purple, blue and gray, depending on the type, while green diamonds owe their color to crystals damaged by natural radiation. The intensity of the colors is measured in a scale that goes from light fancy to fancy, fancy intense and fancy vivid. The Australian Argyle Mine and the Arkansas Crater of Diamonds State Park are two significant sources.

Mr. Lombardo's presentation included numerous photographs and graphics and he answered many questions from the audience.

Submitted by Ana Maria Guimaraes
Recording Secretary



Culver City Rock & Mineral Club Officers Jette Sorensen and Jan Ferguson provided creative demonstrations and recruited new Club members at the Bead Society Biennial Bazaar on April 26, 2015.

MINUTES of the GENERAL MEETING APRIL 13, 2015

- The meeting was called to order at 7:33 pm, the Pledge of Allegiance was made and a quorum was established.
- 16 guests were introduced.
- The March General Meeting minutes were approved as read in the April Nugget.
- Darrell Robb requested that suggestions be made by next month's meeting as to whom the Club should donate the raffle proceeds from the 2014 show; the donation should be made this spring. Past donations have been made to the Culver City library, schools and the boy scouts.
- Steve Dover informed that the Club had 20 display cases available to vendors and Club members for the show and that a sign-up sheet was available.
- Darrell Robb requested volunteers for the various jobs available at the show and a sign-up sheet will be available at the next monthly meeting.
- Lorraine Murphy explained that plant sales were very successful at the show and requested donations of pots, soil and plants, which could be delivered at the shop. She also requested help to move the plants from her house to the auditorium on the Friday preceding the show.
- D.J. Gervais informed that the show postcards were available and asked Club members to take some to distribute to friends and family. Jette Sorensen informed that the post card, as well as a show flyer, could be printed out from the Club's website.
- Jette Sorensen announced that she and Jan Ferguson would represent the Club at the Bead Society of Los Angeles Bazaar as demonstrators on Sunday, April 26.
- Jette Sorensen asked members to make recommendations about what workshops should be planned; beading and jewelry making workshops had taken place so far and were very successful.
- Jette Sorensen answered questions regarding the shop opening hours and fees.
- A break was held at 8:04 pm for refreshments and a raffle, followed by the April Program.

Submitted by Ana Maria Guimaraes
Recording Secretary

UPCOMING SHOWS

May 1 - 3: LA HABRA, CA

North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society
La Habra Community Center, 101 W. La Habra Blvd.
Fri 4 - 8; Sat & Sun 10 - 5
Contact: Don Warthen, (562) 330-8974
Website: www.nocgms.com

May 2 - 3: ANAHEIM, CA

Searchers Gem & Mineral Society
Brookhurst Community Center
2271 W. Crescent Avenue
Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
Contact: Margaret Hogarth, (909) 815-3045
Website: www.searchersrocks.org

May 2 - 3: JACKSON, CA

Amador County Gem & Mineral Society
Kennedy Mine
12594 Kennedy Mine Rd (off Hwys 49/88)
10 - 4 daily
Contact: Gaylene Lichty, (209) 245-5388
Email: mountaingirl@volcano.net

May 2 - 3: YUCAIPA, CA

Yucaipa Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Adams St. & Yucaipa Blvd. - Tent in street
Sat 11 - 7, Sun. 12 - 4
Contact: Dennis Anderson, (951) 845-9195
Website: www.yvgms.org

May 9 - 10: ESCONDIDO, CA

Palomar Gem & Mineral Club
California Center for the Arts
340 N. Escondido Blvd.
Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
Contact: Gayle Hamilton, (760) 743-0809
Website: www.palomargem.org

May 9 - 10: RENO, NV

Reno Gem & Mineral Society
Reno-Sparks Livestock Event Center
1350 North Wells Avenue
Hours: Sat 10 - 4; Sun 10 - 5
Contact: Steve Norman, (775) 358-7322
Website: www.renorockhounds.com

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>

Elected Officers for 2015

President - Darrell Robb
Vice President - Jette Sorensen
Treasurer - Franne Einberg
Recording Secretary - Ana Maria Guimaraes
Corresponding Secretary - Jan Ferguson
Education - OPEN
Historian - Bruce Mensinger
Parliamentarian - Ellen Moe

Committee Chairs

Federation Director - Rick Shaffer
Field Trips - Open
Librarian - Bruce Mensinger
Membership - Felice Ganz
Minerals - Minda Moe
Photography - Bruce Mensinger
Programs - Charlene Aspray
Publications - Co-Chairs Barbara Fier,
Jan Ferguson, Jette Sorensen
Publicity: Janice Metz
Show - Brad Smith
Shop Committee (President,
Vice President, Instructors)
Social - Grace Sato
Co-Chair - Joyce Watanabe
Sunshine - Leda Rogers
Trading Post - Steve Dover
Web Master - Jette Sorensen

Board of Directors

(2015) Rick Shaffer - Jette Sorensen
(2016) Steve Dover - Leda Rogers
(2017) Bruce Mensinger - Ana Maria Guimaraes

Contact Us

Phone: (310) 836-4611
Address: P.O. Box 3324, Culver City, CA 90231
FaceBook: www.facebook.com/CCRMC
Twitter: www.twitter.com/culvercityrocks
Yahoo: <http://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/ccrmc/info>

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* at 6:30 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room in the Veterans Bldg. Auditorium. All club members are welcome.

*Meeting days occasionally change due to federal holidays or to accommodate the Fiesta Of Gems Show.

DUES & FEES

One time Initiation Fees:

Individuals	\$20.00
2 Persons/Same Address	\$35.00
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 - By appointment, see http://culvercityrocks.org/lapshop.htm
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. at (310) 836-4611

The Nugget

The deadline for submissions is 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. 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 to Culver City Rock and Mineral Club, P.O. Box 3324, Culver City, CA 90231, Attention: Editor.



the NUGGET

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CR&MC
CLUB, INC.

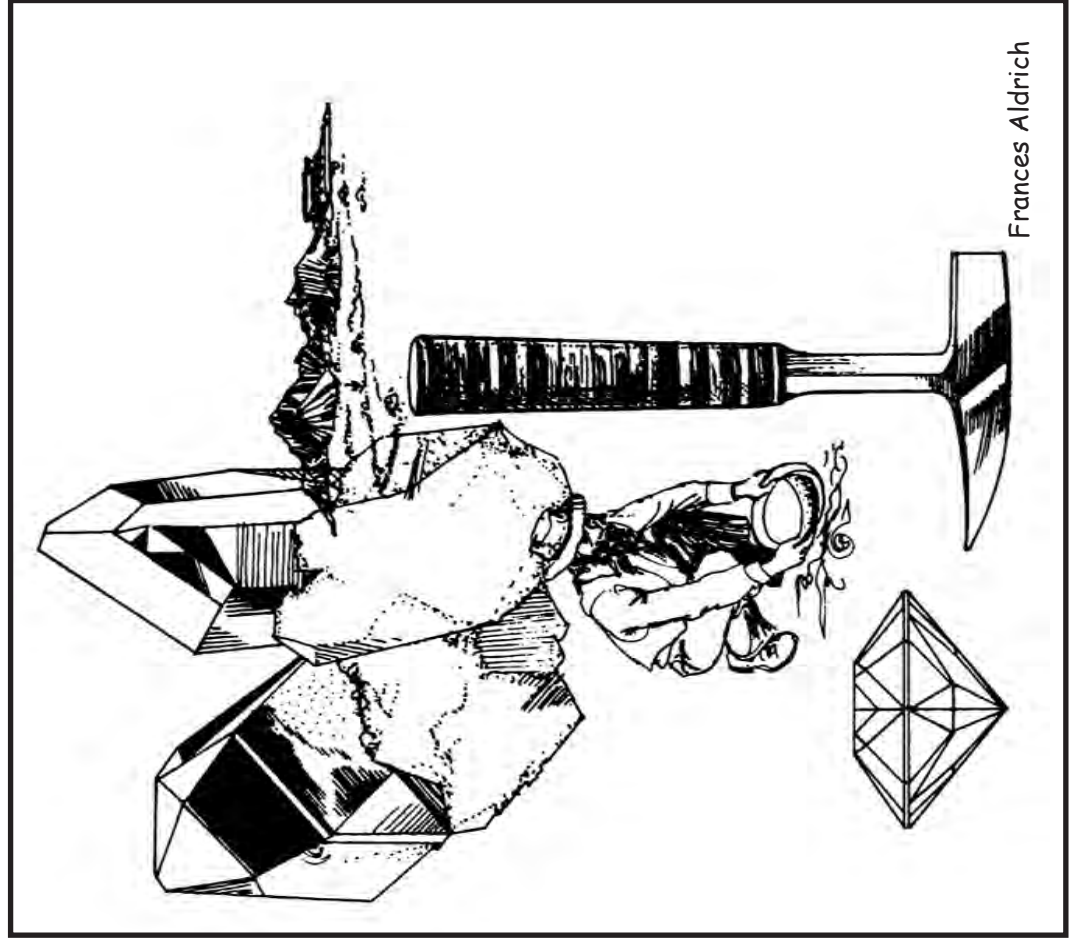
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA, USA

FIRST CLASS

CULVER CITY ROCK & MINERAL CLUB

Address Change Requested

The Nugget
P.O. Box 3324
Culver City, CA 90231



Frances Aldrich