

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

JUNE 2015



Monday, June 8, 2015
6:30 pm Executive Meeting
7:30 pm General Meeting and Program:
Work Party

Show Time
Fiesta of Gems
June 27 & 28

JUNE 8 PROGRAM

We are keeping up the tradition of having a special work party at our June 8th meeting instead of having a formal program. Many members feel this is the best meeting during the year because it gives us more time to catch up with each other while we fill grab bags and put labels and stamps on postcards for the Fiesta of Gems on June 27 and 28.



If you have any small pots for plants, please bring them to the meeting. Lorraine Murphy will love that - and if you have a bag of soil to spare, she'll love that too.

FIESTA OF GEMS

Our greatest pride as a club is putting on our yearly gem and mineral show. We hear it all the time "Your Fiesta of Gems show is the best" and this year will be no different. We have over 30 vendors, we have demonstrators and workshops, hourly raffles and a Grand Prize raffle, free entrance and free parking.

I know, that's a mouthful, so let's break it down - Of vendors, you will see many of your favorites from past years - as well as some very exciting new ones. You will find rough, slabs, cabochons, beads, finished jewelry, findings, wire, tools and much more.

There will be five demonstrators who will show you new techniques or let you brush up on old ones.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings fellow rock hounds and gem enthusiasts. We are at the fun time of year just before the June 27th and 28th Fiesta of Gems show in the Veterans Memorial Auditorium. The meeting this coming June 8th will be largely a fun work party. Everyone who has attended this final meeting prior to the show in years past, knows it as a productive couple of hours and fun opportunity to get to know other members as we break into small work groups and get the post card mailings prepared and the Grab Bags sorted and filled with treasures.

I hope anyone unable to attend this final work meeting will take it upon themselves to volunteer for short periods during the actual show to help greet attendees, sell the always popular raffle tickets, and even be a walk around security presence to help preserve our vendor's peace of mind. There is always some simple task to perform and if they are all evenly spread out amongst the membership, everyone will also get a chance to visit the show and feel good helping out as well.

Please give an appreciative cheer to the many organizers and we look forward to seeing the many hands making short work at the upcoming June 8th meeting. Beyond the end of June Fiesta of Gems Show, we are in the early stages of planning a field trip for Saturday July 18th. The venue will be somewhere relatively close by and MC'd by Justin Zzyzx with his encyclopedic knowledge of local geology and his love of sharing it with everyone interested. He has hinted at a

dig for rubies... stay tuned!

Here's wishing everyone a fun summer with much opportunity to spend time with family and friends outdoors in our incomparable Southern California and desert southwest. See you all on Monday June 8th and at the Fiesta of Gems the last weekend in June.

Darrell Robb
President

MINERAL REPORT

Quartz is the most abundant single mineral in the continental crust, though it is less common than feldspar when feldspar is considered as one mineral, rather than as a group. It is an essential component of granite and other felsic igneous rocks, and is very common in sedimentary rocks. It is very resistant to weathering, so it is common in stream sediments and soils. Quartz that chemically precipitates from hot hydrothermal veins may contain ore minerals such as gold, silver, and copper.

Its name most likely originates from the Middle High German "twarc," which roughly means "hard." It is the defining mineral at 7 on the Mohs scale of hardness.

Quartz exhibits conchoidal fracture, and a specific gravity of 2.65. Quartz's overall formula is SiO_2 , as it is made up of a continuous framework of SiO_4 tetrahedra, where each oxygen is shared by two neighboring tetrahedra.

Pure quartz, colorless and transparent, was traditionally called rock crystal. Impurities allow for many colored varieties, which are grouped into macrocrystalline and microcrystalline varieties. In general,

microcrystalline varieties are translucent or opaque, while the macrocrystalline varieties are often transparent.

Milky quartz is the most common variety. Citrine is a rare pale yellow to brown variety that gains its color from iron impurities. Rose quartz ranges from pale pink to rose red, with its color coming from titanium, iron, or manganese impurities. Crystalline rose quartz is a rare variety first found in Maine, which contains trace amounts of phosphate or aluminum. Amethyst comes in shades of purple, and forms in iron-rich areas. It is the traditional birthstone for February. Smoky quartz ranges from almost completely transparent to almost opaque. In the 12th century, flat planes of smoky quartz were used as an early form of sunglasses. Other major varieties of quartz include chalcedony, agate, jasper, tiger's eye, and carnelian.



Today, quartz is often treated. Heat-treated amethyst closely resembles citrine, though the treated stones can be distinguished by the presence of small lines in the crystal. Carnelian is often heat-treated for deeper color.

Quartz was used regularly in early European tombs, and was utilized for stone tools by in many prehistoric civilizations. The Irish name for quartz is "grian cloch," which means "stone of the sun." In Europe and the Middle East, quartz varieties were the most commonly

used stones for jewelry and carvings.

Synthetic quartz is produced for industrial use. Its production was ramped up during World War II, as exports of natural quartz from Brazil were disrupted. Extremely pure natural quartz crystals are needed by the semiconductor industry for silicon wafer production, so they are expensive and rare. One of the most common modern uses of quartz is as a crystal oscillator, used in such equipment as clocks, computers, and cellphones.

SHOP NEWS

Shop schedule

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.

Retiring

Woody Shaffer announced at the May General meeting that he will retire from regular Shop Instructor duties May 28, 2015. But don't despair. He said he would continue to be a Shop user and substitute Instructor, so we can look forward to continuing to enjoy his knowledge, mechanical savvy and good company.

Equipment Availability

As of May 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.

Clean-up

Who cleans-up what?

Everyone who uses the shop equipment is required to clean-up the equipment they used and the area around it before leaving the Shop.

How thorough is clean enough?

As a rule of thumb: As clean as you would like it to be if you were about to start work at that area or machine. Check with the Instructor for approval before leaving. If you have to leave early, clean-up or make arrangements with someone to do it for you.

Consequences for shirking.

You will be warned that leaving without helping clean-up will result in loss of your Shop use. Repeat, or especially chronic shirking, will result in permanent loss of Shop use.

Loss of Shop privileges

In addition to shirking clean-up, equipment abuse, behavior that endangers equipment or people, or grossly offends others, failure to heed and act on the Instructor's warnings or commands can be cause for loss of Shop privileges.

Damage and breakage reporting

Report equipment that is defective, inoperative, or needing repair or replacement. This is a safety issue. Do not attempt to use damaged tools or equipment. If you damaged the equipment you will get in lots more trouble for not reporting it (temporary or permanent banning) than for breaking it (usually a pep-talk and some instruction on how to prevent a repeat). The only way the Shop equipment can be ready to use is if problems are promptly reported to the Shop instructor.

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

MINUTES of the EXECUTIVE MEETING MAY 11, 2015

- Those present: Charlene Aspray, Steve Dover, Felice Ganz, Ana Maria Guimaraes, Bruce Mensinger, Darrell Robb, Leda Rogers, Grace Sato, Mary Ellen Shaffer, Jette Sorensen, Joyce Watanabe.
- The meeting was called to order at 6:44pm by President Darrell Robb.
- The April Executive Meeting minutes published in the May Nugget were approved as read.
- Show Report: Jette Sorensen confirmed that the labels for the Fiesta of Gems postcards were on track. She also indicated that Woody Shaffer volunteered to prepare and maintain the job sign-in board. Mary Ellen Shaffer informed that Rick Shaffer would have the trailer available to transport equipment to the auditorium for the show. Steve Dover informed that all the display cases had been assigned.

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- Shop Report: Bruce Mensinger reported that a club member had not been using the shop equipment properly and not cleaning up afterwards. A discussion followed about effective ways of enforcing the shop rules, which include banning from the shop those who do not abide. Regarding the shop schedule, it was determined that Jette Sorensen, Bruce Mensinger and Steve Dover would take turns opening the shop if and when Lynne Lukert would be out of town.
 - Program Report: Charlene Aspray informed that the July program had changed. Jason Badgley would replace Cam Lowder.
 - Sunshine Report: Leda Rogers indicated she had sent a card to Rick Shaffer. She also requested to be informed when a card is to be sent. Additionally, Ms. Rogers reiterated that she was not the corresponding secretary.
 - Membership Report: Felice Ganz informed that the Club had over 100 members.
 - Field Trips: Darrell Robb indicated he would like to schedule field trips over the summer. The weekend of July 18th was proposed.
 - Other Business: Darrell Robb requested suggestions as to whom the Club should donate the raffle proceeds from the 2014 show. Charlene Aspray suggested donating to El Rincon Elementary to fund a field trip to the science museum.
 - New Business: It was agreed that Mary Ellen Shaffer would give the mail box key to Fran Einberg for her to pick up the mail going forward.
- The meeting adjourned at 7:26pm

Submitted by Ana Maria Guimaraes
Recording Secretary

MINUTES of the GENERAL MEETING

- The meeting was called to order at 7:40pm, the Pledge of Allegiance was made and a quorum was established.
- Four guests and one new member were introduced.
- The April General Meeting minutes were approved as read in the May Nugget.
- Darrell Robb announced that the Club was planning on a one-day field trip the weekend of July 18th; des-

tinuation to be determined.

- Darrell Robb requested that suggestions be made as to whom the Club should donate the raffle proceeds from the 2014 show; the recipients would be designated by the next meeting.
- Jette Sorensen reminded members to donate plants for the show, as well as pots and soil and deliver them to the shop.
- Jette Sorensen indicated that she had not been able to secure food trucks for the show and asked members to help finding a caterer. She explained the difficulty was that food trucks wanted to have a minimum revenue guaranteed. Ken Rogers informed that the trucks need to pass the City's specifications and pay a fee, unless they are already registered with the City.
- Jette Sorensen reminded members that volunteers were needed for several jobs at the show, and informed that a sign-up board was available.
- Felice Ganz informed that the Club had over 100 members.
- Charlene Aspray thanked Bruce Mensinger for setting up the projector for the monthly programs. She asked for volunteers to either take over from her or co-chair with her the Program Chair next year.
- Woody Shaffer announced he was retiring from the shop on 5/28/15, after 22 years of service.
- Jette Sorensen proposed the Club sets up a series of workshops for beginners.
- Woody Shaffer indicated he believed workshops were not legal under the non-profit status for the club. Jette Sorensen said she would look into it.
- A break was held at 8:01pm for refreshments and a raffle, followed by the May Program.

Submitted by Ana Maria Guimaraes
Recording Secretary

PROGRAM REPORT MAY 11, 2015

Charlene Aspray introduced Justin Zzyzx, who has been a speaker to the Club multiple times. Mr. Zzyzx discussed serpentine, California's state stone (gold is California's state mineral and benitotite is California's state gem stone.) He indicated that 12% of California's unique wild flowers grow only in serpentine soil, which is rich in chrome. Also, serpentine has

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been found to buffer earthquake waves. Mr. Zzyzx discussed how, in 2009, serpentine was accused of containing asbestos by certain anti-asbestos health organizations and a landfill bill was proposed to swap the state stone for another stone and, in 2010, the bill changed to leave the state stone unspecified. The bill did not pass due to lack of scientific support for its claim that serpentine caused cancer.

Mr. Zzyzx explained that asbestos are from the amphibole family, which crystals break in diminutive molecules that can cause cancer if breathed. Serpentine, on the other hand, is from the chrysotile family, and its crystals bend rather than break like the amphiboles. Although sometimes chrysotiles have minute quantities of amphiboles, serpentine has never been found to cause cancer.

Mr. Zzyzx illustrated his presentation with several photographs and answered many questions from the audience.

Submitted by Ana Maria Guimaraes
Recording Secretary

NEW MEMBERS

WELCOME

Elizabeth Markovitch
Victor Rachootin

JUNE BIRTHDAYS



- Stanley Genser 6/1*
- Woody Shaffer 6/3*
- Janelle Williams 6/3*
- Ana Maria Guimaraes 6/4*
- Jan Ferguson 6/5*
- Adrienne Louie 6/5*
- Grace Bruno, 6/6*
- Shana McGrath, 6/8*
- Felice Ganz, 6/13*
- Christina M Grande, 6/13*
- Mary Ellen Shaffer, 6/21*
- Jyenny Babcock, 6/23*
- Susan C Acosta, 6/24*
- Darrell Robb, 6/24*
- Vern Lowe, 6/27*
- Joe M Porrizzo, 6/30*

Of workshops, we have beading, kiln enameling, beginning silversmithing and etching (and more classes may be added).

Everyone gets a raffle ticket when they arrive at the show, and a drawing is held once an hour for the tickets given out the past hour. The Grand Prize drawing is held Sunday afternoon. The vendors at the show each contribute a prize and the Grand Prize is a \$100 bill. Tickets for this drawing have been sent to all members and we expect you to purchase at least one book of ten \$1.00 tickets – you can sell them to your friends and colleagues and turn the ticket stubs and money over to the club. The proceeds from sale of the Grand Prize lottery tickets are donated to a worthy cause. We have in the past made donations to many different entities, including Culver City schools and the Boy Scouts.

We are still refining the [Vendors](#) page on our website, so check back often.

You can check out the [Workshops](#) online and since the number of students in each class is limited, make sure you make a reservation early.

We hope to see you both at the Work Party on the 8th and at the show at Veterans Memorial the last weekend in June (27th and 28th) at the Culver City Veterans Memorial

BENCH TIPS

SMALL PARTS CONTAINERS

I'm always on the lookout for small containers to use for holding all those little parts and tools we deal with in making jewelry, especially since I'm always traveling to classes and workshops.

My latest find is some plastic vials about 15 mm in diameter and 75 mm long. Best part is they are free. The vials are used in the doctor's office to draw blood samples. They cannot be used after their expiration date, and are thrown out. On my last doctor's visit, I asked the nurse if they had any expired vials. She

Continued next page

BENCH TIPS continued from page 5

replied “How many do you want?” and tried to give me 400 of them. (We settled on 200).

The ones I have are called “Vacutainers”, but there are



probably many other names. They are clear plastic with a rubber stopper and a paper label all ready to write on. I find them really handy for small parts like jump rings, prong settings, small drills, nuts & bolts, faceted stones, and precious metal filings.

TRY A TOOTHPICK

The round, stronger toothpicks have a multitude of uses on the jewelry bench. I use them for mixing epoxy resin, for applying paste solder, and with Zam for polishing in tight spots. Toothpicks are also handy for holding the stone while stone setting. Just break off the sharp tip, mold a little beeswax over it, and press it onto the table of your stone.

Brad Smith

Brad is a jewelry teacher in Santa Monica, and has been a member of CCRMC for many years. He has held many different positions, including president and is our current Show Chair. He has written several books including “Bench Tips for Jewelry Making: 101 Useful Tips.”

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for someone with great Excel skills to help out with the membership database. Send an email to info@culvercityrocks.org

UPCOMING SHOWS

June 6 - 7: GLENDORA, CA
Glendora Gems & Mineral Society
Goddard Middle School
857 East Sierra Madre
Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
Contact: Bonnie Bidwell, (626) 963-4638

June 12, - 14: LODI, CA

**CALIFORNIA'S
GOLDEN BEAR**

CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES
2015
JEWELRY, MINERAL & GEM FESTIVAL

June 12, 13 & 14, 2015
10am - 5pm Friday & Saturday
10am - 4pm Sunday
Lodi Grape Festival & Harvest Fair
413 East Lockeford Street, Lodi, Ca
www.cfmsinc.org
\$6 Adults, Children under 12 Free

June 27 - 28: CULVER CITY, CA
*Culver City Rock & Mineral Club
Veterans Memorial Auditorium
4117 Overland Blvd at Culver Blvd,
Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5
Contact: Janice Metz
Email: janicemtz@yahoo.com
Website: www.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>

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
Co-Chair - Hellena Jones-Elbling
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/CCRMCMC
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 - Various instructors
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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CULVER CITY ROCK & MINERAL

CLUB, INC.

CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA, USA

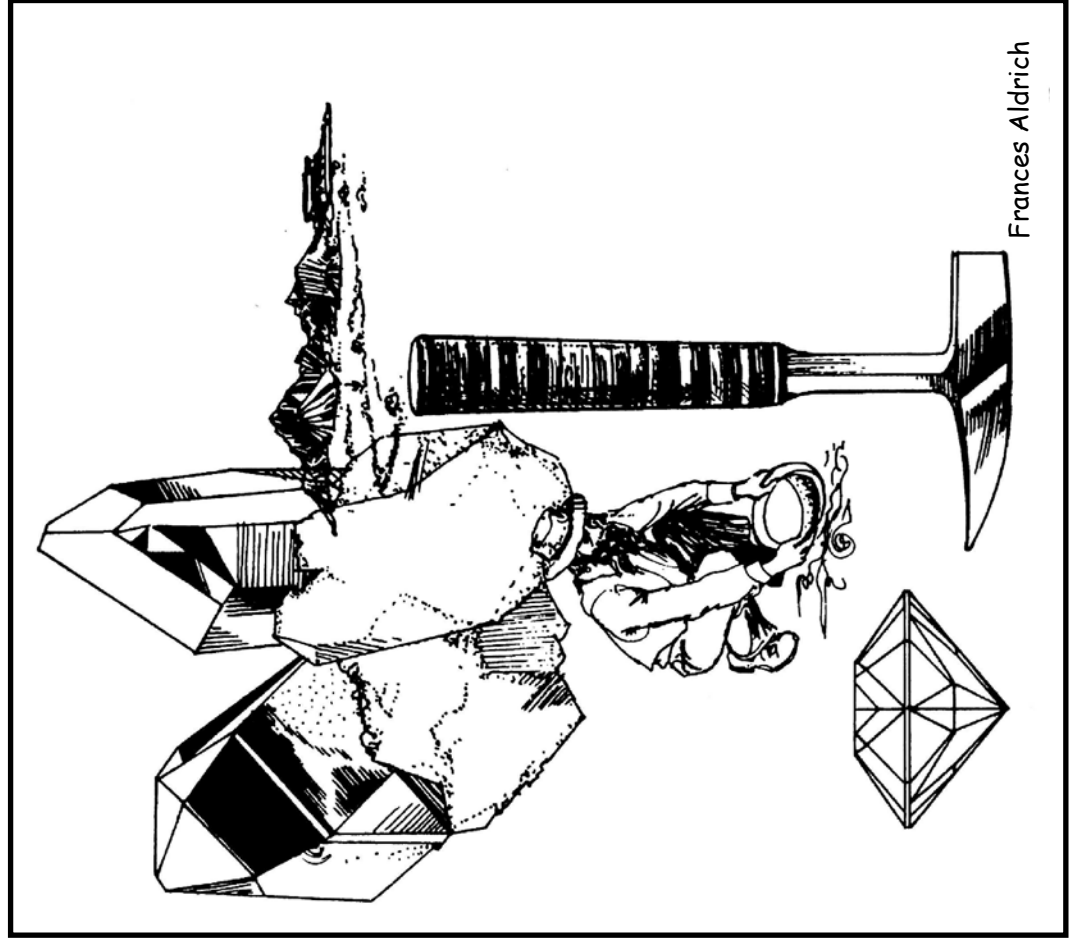


FIRST CLASS

CULVER CITY ROCK & MINERAL CLUB

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

Address Change Requested



Frances Aldrich