



The **CULVER CITY ROCK & MINERAL CLUB**, located in Culver City, California, brings together persons interested in the earth sciences to engage in research and study, to assist members in the collection and preservation of rocks and minerals and in the study of lapidary and related arts.



SEPTEMBER 9 PROGRAM:

LAKE SUPERIOR COPPER AGATES

Join us for Jack Hobart's presentation of Lake Superior Copper Agates.

Fifteen years ago, the agate community became aware of spectacular agates from a few 100-year-old mine tailings. They are unique in the world of agates, full of exotic minerals including crystals, geodes and even chlorastrolite, Michigan's state gem. However, the feature that makes them so special is the occurrence of pure copper in the form of particles, masses, and most important: banding which can fill the entire agate nodule. Some even have agate bands etched within solid masses of copper. Others have pure silver areas within them. Eye agates abound, often with patterns



and inclusions not seen in any other agates. Mineral nodules coexist with these agates, featuring complex crystal growths, some even growing into regions that are now pure copper.

The talk will feature closeup images from the largest collection of these agates. It now numbers about 10,000 images, mostly comprised of cut pairs.

Jack Hobart is a physicist who spent a career in Aerospace systems engineering, including nuclear weapon effects, advanced weapon systems, space and missile system defense, and concealment technology.

For 40 years, he has also photographed geysers and exploding mudpots in Yellowstone, the Salton Sea, and throughout the world. About 20 years ago, he starting collecting and compiling closeup images of Mexican fire opals, Lake Superior agates, and the rare copper agates from the Keeweenaw in Northern Michigan. Each of these three compilations now numbers about

10,000 high resolution images. He has published seven photo-filled books about these subjects, including one introducing copper agates and another about copper eye agates. Four more books about copper agates have been compiled, but not yet published. These are the only books about this fascinating subject. Jack's biography and excerpts from his collection are also included in the book, Agates III.



LAKE SUPERIOR COPPER AGATES

Monday, September 9 @ 7:30 pm

Veterans Memorial Multipurpose Room

4117 Overland Ave., Culver City

The Multipurpose Room is in the rear SW corner of the building, next to the park.

FREE admission
FREE parking

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Ken Rogers
Programs Chair

Geologist Walt Lombardo gave a lecture about pegmatite gem mines in Southern California.

As a result of two tectonic plates colliding in the region, igneous materials rose and pegmatites formed at the top from the lightest materials that don't mix well with others. Pegmatites had a lot of time to cool off, allowing larger crystals to form. The following can be found in the SoCal mines: Quartz (clear, smoky, citrine), Tourmalines, Beryl, Garnet, Spodumene, Mica, and Topaz.

The SoCal gem deposits had been known to Native Americans for centuries, before they were discovered by settlers in the 1880's. The mines achieved significance in the 1900's, with China being one of their largest buyers. The Chinese of tourmalines from the mines George Kunz, Tiffany's mineralogist, was instrumental in introducing public to American-mined Kunzite was named after him.



The Pala District mines have an incredible variety of gem stones. The Pala pink tourmaline is unique to the area, including the hot pink tourmaline, which is a combination of lepidolite with elbaite. Among the most notable mines in the Pala District is the Stewart mine. Discovered in the early 1880's, it was the world's largest source of lithium in 1900. The mine, still operating today, is known for its exquisite pink tourmalines, kunzite, and lepidolite.

Other important mines in the Pala District include the Queen Mine, the King Mine, the Pala Chief Mine, the Elizabeth R Mine and the Ocean Mine. The Queen Mine was the largest producer of tourmalines in the early 20th century and produced the finest specimens in the world in the 1970's, including the Candelabra Tourmaline, found in 1972, worth about \$10 million, on display at the Smithsonian, as well as the Six Pack Tourmaline, with crystals as big as beer cans. The King Mine was mined in the early 1900's then reopened in the 1970's, producing green cap tourmalines as well as large tourmalines, such as the Steam Boat Tourmaline, on display at the Smithsonian. The Pala Chief Mine produced fine tourmalines and kunzite; the Chinese were main buyers of large tourmalines produced there. The Elizabeth R Mine was discovered in 1902 and was known for its morganite and kunzite. The Ocean Mine started in the late 1990's, producing quartz crystals as large as 18 inches, as tourmaline, aquamarine, kunzite, morganite, elbaite, and lepidolite.

In the Mesa Grande District, the Himalaya Mine is the most notable, being the first producer of tourmaline in Southern California, including multicolor tourmaline. Tiffany is its major buyer.

Help Wanted!

Newsletter Layout Editor

Culver City Rock & Mineral Club needs help with our newsletter, the Nugget. If you have some time to volunteer and are knowledgeable in Adobe InDesign, PhotoShop and have writing or editing skills; we need you!

Please send an email to: nuygget@culvercity-rocks.org and find out how you can have fun volunteering your creative energy.

Shop Assistance

Are you mechanically gifted? Do you enjoy workshop tinkering and figuring out how things work – or why they don't! Join our Shop committee and use your curiosity to help maintain a variety of machines and motors. Please send an email to: ccrnc-shopcommittee@culvercity-rocks.org and let us know you'd like to help.

Wanted: Workshop Leaders

I am looking for Club members with a special jewelry making skill who would like to share with other members in our Club for our new workshop series.

Each leader must be prepared to teach approximately a 3-hour workshop on your specific skill, i.e., lapidary, soldering, chain maille, wire-wrapping, crystal healing, etc. Please contact Janice Metz at jenft4@gmail.com if you are interested in becoming a Workshop Leader.

Janice Metz
Workshops Chair

In the Ramona District, the Little Three (3) Mine is unique because it produces gems not found in other mines, such as garnets, black tourmaline, and the only mine in Southern California that produces topaz, including blue topaz.

In the Coahuila District, the Fano Mine produces aquamarine and it is famous for its black tourmaline or schorl.

Submitted by Ana Maria Strambi Guimaraes,
Recording Secretary

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This summer's picnic went beautifully with some great food and a lively silent auction. Many thanks to all who helped make the event so successful, and I want to give special thanks to Steve Dover, John Reardon, and one of our new members, Eric Scott.

The spread of food was wonderful. Steve coordinated the food and picked up all the food and supplies. John Riordan donated his fabulous BBQ ribs, baked beans, and fruit salad. And one of our new members, Eric Scott, surprised us with his grilled to order home-made carnitas tacos.

Meanwhile, Ken Rogers coordinated a huge silent auction of minerals, jewelry, tools, and equipment. Much of it was thanks to the donation from Bruce Mensinger. We had every table and bench covered with neat stuff for folks to bid on. The atmosphere was fun and friendly, but I have

to mention that bidding did get a little fierce on several of the items I was interested in (only won a single item).

With fall just around the corner, we've started the groundwork for elections of new officers for next year. Alexa Hunter and Sabrina Keep will be acting as our nominating committee to put together a slate of prospective officers for balloting at the November meeting. Please give me a call if you have an interest in helping the Club on any of our standing committees next year.

And I'm pleased to announce that we've named Adrienne Louie as Show Chair for next year's Fiesta of Gems. She's getting started now on the long-range items like dates, theme, advertising, and staffing the various committees.

Brad Smith
President

SHOP REPORT

Lynne Lukert cleaned up a bunch of forgotten stones that had been placed on and under the shelf by the desk in front. They are now all waiting in a box, hoping to be taken home by their rightful owner. If you forgot your stone, please drop by the Shop during regular Shop hours to be reunited. Stones that have not been picked by October 15 will be moved to the backyard for anyone to take.

Please remember to clean the equipment you have used before leaving the shop, and if you are there at the end of the day, help the instructor with whatever is needed to be done.

LIFE MEMBERS

During the many years Rick & Mary Ellen Shaffer have been part of the Club, they have held just about every executive board position at one time or another, been chairs of just about every committee and, on top of that, lent a hand whenever needed.



President Brad Smith and Mary Ellen & Rick Shaffer

The Executive Board voted unanimously to make them Life Members of the Club and a plaque, memorializing this, was presented to them at the annual members' picnic on August 17

With the more time consuming Club positions behind them, they enjoy trips in their motor home.

Rick is still the Club's Federation Director and a Shop Instructor.

FIELD TRIP REPORT

Devon Lloyd is in the midst of arranging two field trips in October: SD Tourmaline mines with Walt Lombardo and Mojave trip with Jason Zzyyzz. Both dates TBD. Meanwhile, if you are interested in a September trip, email Devon at DevonLloydExotics@gmail.com or text him at 626-447-2919 and if there is interest enough, he will set one up.

AUGUST 12 GENERAL MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm by President Brad Smith.

The Pledge of Allegiance was made.

Brad Smith made the following announcements:

- There would be a gem fair show in Costa Mesa in October.

- A new rock and mineral club was forming in Long Beach.

- The Club picnic and silent auction would take place the upcoming weekend. A volunteer was needed to purchase the meat, buns, drinks, and utensils. Kent Goodmn volunteered to take charge.

- A couple of volunteers were needed to form the Nomination Committee. The committee would be in charge of identifying candidates for the 2020 slate.

The following reports were delivered:

- Ken Rogers informed that the September program would be about copper agates from Lake Superior.

The October program would be an ice cream social handled by Adrienne Louie.

The December program would be the Holiday Party.

The November program had not been finalized yet.

- Brad Smith reported that show volunteers held a productive show debrief meeting, where opportunities for improvement were identified.

He added that Adrienne Louie had volunteered to be the Show Chair for the next year show.

A quorum was established. The July General Meeting Minutes were approved as read in the August Nugget.

The following additional announcements and reports were communicated:

- Devon Lloyd announced there would be a field trip in October to the Mojave Desert (date and location to be announced shortly). Another trip was in the works for September.

He informed this year there would not be a trip to Trona, as the site was closed due to the recent earthquakes.

- Darrell Robb informed the Club was solvent, with few bills due for the remainder of the year. He thanked those who had renewed their membership timely.

Darrell also informed that next month Club members would need to determine which charita-

ble institutions would receive the donation of the raffle ticket sales proceeds.

- Ken Rogers informed that Bruce Mensinger had donated items from his collection to the VA Hospital's lapidary shop. Other items would be available at the silent auction being held during the Club picnic.

- Ken Rogers announced that Joe Reed's ashes would be scattered during the next field trip to a place with "nice rocks".

- Brad Smith informed that a volunteer was needed to help lay out the Nugget; those interested should contact him.

- Brad Smith reported that the Board had just approved a set of new procedures governing workshops and that new sessions would start in the fall.

Instructors must be Club members and Brad offered to help those interested in teaching their skills to set up a workshop.

Guests were introduced.

The Trading Post held a raffle.

The meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm.

Submitted by Ana Maria Strambi Guimaraes,
Recording Secretary

TRONA GEM-O-RAMA - URGENT

On August 6, Searles Valley Minerals Inc. notified the Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society that the strong earthquakes on July 4 and 5 damaged their facilities to such an extent that SVM will not be able to host any Gem-O-Rama gem show activities on their properties during this year's gem show. The SVM exclusion includes all access to Searles Lake to collect saline minerals, including



Searles Lake pink halite, and all tours through their manufacturing facilities. Because these activities form the backbone of the Gem-O-Rama, we believe that we must cancel the 2019 Gem-O-Rama in Trona, California.

Please help us by passing this information on to any person or any organization that you think might be interested in attending the Gem-O-Rama in 2019 so that they won't be surprised and disappointed if they try to attend.

For more information and confirmation, visit our website at: www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub/.

AUGUST 12 EXECUTIVE MEETING

Those present: Stephanie Dangott, Steve Dover, Alexa Hunter, Sabrina Keep, Devon Lloyd, Darrell Robb, Ken Rogers, Brad Smith, Jette Sorensen, and Ana Maria Strambi Guimaraes.

The Nugget, a publication of Culver City Rock & Mineral Club

The meeting was called to order by President Brad Smith at 6:42 PM.

The following was discussed:

- Darrell Robb provided an update on the Club's investments, checking account balance, and upcoming bills. The Club was solvent.
- Devon Lloyd informed he was finalizing the location for a field trip in September and that there would be a field trip in October to the Mojave Desert led by Justin Zyzzyx.
- Steve Dover informed the shop phone goes straight to voice mail; it was determined that a new antenna was needed.
- A motion was approved to make Rick and Mary Ellen Shaffer life members of the Club.
- Brad Smith mentioned he would announce at the general meeting that a coordinator for the summer picnic and a volunteer to do the Nugget layout were needed.
- Brad Smith informed that the Executive Committee needed to appoint a board member to replace Bruce Mensinger. Jette Sorensen noted two people needed to be appointed for 2021.
- Ken Rogers informed that the September program would be about copper agates from Lake Superior. The October program would be an ice cream social handled by Adrienne Louie.
- Jette Sorensen reported that she had set up an online directory to house Club documents. Membership form, new bylaws, and forms for field trips, among other documents had been uploaded.
- Stephanie Dangott reported she had researched label making machines priced at about \$40 and committed to purchasing one.
- Brad Smith discussed updates made to the proposed procedures for running workshops. The minimum age to participate would be updated from 13 to 15 years, if accompanied by a guardian. In addition, workshop fee limits would not be established in the

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Jon Gowling	9/3
Michael Land	9/5
Laura Seffer	9/11
Jewel Melendez	9/15
Mary Hudspeth	9/18
Annetta Luevano	9/22
Linda Jean Laird	9/24
Pauline Tso	9/26

Errors and Omissions:

Leda Rogers' birthday on August 10 was omitted from the August Nugget. Wishing her a belated birthday.

bylaws. After discussion, a motion was carried to approve the proposal as written.

- Alexa Hunter reported she was researching a couple of schools to receive education programs. Ken Rogers informed three boxes of samples obtained from Bruce Mensinger's sale had been reserved to be used in education programs.

- Brad Smith noted it was time to appoint a Nomination Committee chair. Alexa Hunter said she would volunteer if no one else volunteers.

- Jette Sorensen reminded the Club had an email address for the Executive Committee. Brad Smith recommended testing it.

- The July Executive Meeting Minutes were approved as read in the August Nugget.

The meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm.

Submitted by Ana Maria Strambi Guimaraes
Recording Secretary

UPCOMING SHOWS

for more Shows go to:

<http://www.cfmsinc.org/>

September 7 - 8: ARROYO GRANDE, CA
San Luis Obispo Gem & Mineral Club
South County Regional Center
800 West Branch Street
Hours: 10 - 5 daily
Email: info@slogem.org
Website: slogem.org

September 21: LONG BEACH, CA
Long Beach Mineral & Gem Society
Expo Arts Center
4321 Atlantic Avenue
Hours: 10:00 - 5:00
Contact: Carol Kron and Karin Alvarez, (562) 577-9044
Email: lbmineralgemsociety@gmail.com
Website: [Facebook Page](#)

September 21 - 22: CHICO, CA
Feather River Lapidary & Mineral Society
Silver Dollar Fairgrounds
2357 Fair Street
Hours: Sat 9:30 - 5; Sun 9:30 - 4
Lori Millard, (530) 533-2968
Email: lorimillard58@yahoo.com
Website: "<http://www.featherriverrocks.org>

September 21 - 22: MONTEREY, CA
Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Monterey Fairgrounds
2004 Fairgrounds Road
Hours: 10 - 5 daily
Contact: Janis Rovetti, (831) 372-1311
Email: janis12@sbcglobal.net
Website: cvgms.rocks

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September 28 - 29: LODI, CA
Stockton Lapidary & Mineral Club
Lodi Grape Festival Grounds
413 East Lockford Street
Hours: 10 - 5 daily
Contact: Mike Mathis, (510) 301-3612
Email: mmathis@nwp.org
Website: stocktonlapidary.org

October 4, 5 & 6 VISTA, CA
Vista Gem & Mineral Society
Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum
2040 North Santa Fe Avenue
Hours: 10 - 4 daily
Contact: Kurt Kluey, (760) 917-5781
Email: klueysgems@yahoo.com
Website: vistarocks.org

October 5 - 6: GRASS VALLEY, CA
Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society
Nevada County Fairgrounds
11228 McCourtney Road
Hours: Sat 10 - 5, Sun 10 - 4
Contact: Mitchell Frank Van Hecke, (530) 575-4252
Email: 4vanclan5@att.net
Website: ncgms.org

October 12 -13: LOS ALTOS, CA
Peninsula Gem & Geology Society
Los Altos Youth Center
One North San Antonio Road
Hours: 10 - 5 daily
Contact: Steve Jobe, 707 328-5778
Email: bamorlock@gmail.com
Website: pggs.org

October 12-13: TRONA, CA **CANCELED**

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Nicole Alarid

Claudene Anderson

Simone Erskine

Zoe Erskine

Jewel Melendez

Steve Seleska

Andrew Shearon

Momo Yang

SHOP INFORMATION

The Shop is open to 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., Culver City (Behind the Boy Scout Club House, next to the paddle tennis courts.)

Shop Phone: (310) 836-4611

Hours:

Tuesday 7 pm – 9:30 pm - Rick Shaffer

Wednesday 10 am – 2 pm - By appointment,
email: shop-avail-appoint@culvercityrocks.org

Thursday 10 am – 2 pm - Brad Smith

Saturday Noon – 4 pm - Lynne Lukert

Sunday Noon – 4 pm - Jette Sorensen

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.

www.culvercityrocks.org

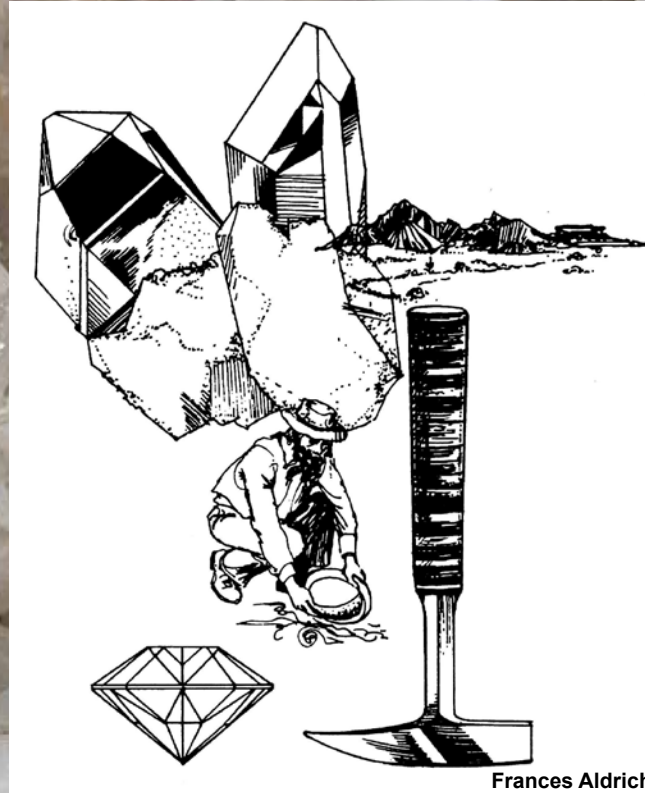
THE NUGGET

Deadline for submissions is the 15th of every month. 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. Ads, copy, or business cards must be received by the 10th of the month.

Send materials to:

Culver City Rock & Mineral Club
Attention: Editor
P.O. Box 3324
Culver City, CA 90231



Contact Us:

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culvercityrocks.org

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[instagram.com/culvercityrocks/](https://www.instagram.com/culvercityrocks/)

twitter.com/culvercityrocks

<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/CCRMCC/info>

Elected Officers for 2019

President - Brad Smith

Vice President - Steve Dover

Treasurer - Darrell Robb

Recording Secretary - Ana Maria Strambi Guimaraes

Corresponding Secretary - Sabrina Keep

Parliamentarian - Vacant

Committee Chairs

Education - Alexa Hunter

Federation Director - Rick Shaffer

Field Trips Chair - Devon Lloyd

Historian - Vacant

Librarian - Andrea Fabian

Membership - Stephanie Dangott

Membership Co-Chair - Jan Ferguson

Minerals Chair - Devon Lloyd

Photography - Pam Leitner

Programs - Ken Rogers

Publications Co-Chairs:

Jan Ferguson / Janet Gampe

Publicity - Janice Metz

Show - Adrienne Louie

Shop Committee - President,

Vice President, Shop Instructors

Social Co-Chairs:

Joyce Watanabe and Laura Seffer

Sunshine - Felice Ganz

Trading Post - Gary Mitchell

Web Master - Jette Sorensen

Workshops - Janice Metz

Board of Directors:

2019

Brad Smith - Grace Sato

2020

Ana M. Strambi Guimaraes

Bruce Mensinger