



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.

I Scream, You Scream, We All Scream for Ice Cream

Join us on October 14 when the Club hosts an Ice Cream Social for the October General Meeting. This will be a fun get together of members and guests to give us an opportunity to get to know each other. You'll be able to make ice cream cones, scoops, sundaes, banana splits, root beer floats, etc. Members are welcome to bring small specimens that they have collected and/or an item that they have made and share with the group.

The Club will supply ice cream (various flavors, including a non-lactose option) and everything needed to create your own ice cream masterpiece.

Members may also bring desserts, cakes, cookies, etc., to share although not required.



Photo from Longstreet Collection

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November 11 Program



Our very own Ken Rogers will be leading our November program with an illustrated talk, "Paintings and Photographs Hidden in Stones."

Have you ever cut open a mundane stone, and found what looks like an original Ansel Adams photograph or a Claude Monet painting?

Ken Rogers
Program Chair

General Meetings

General meetings are held the second Monday of every month at 7:30 pm in the Multi-Purpose Room at the Culver City Veterans Memorial Complex, 4117 Overland Avenue, Culver City, CA 90231. [Guests are always welcome!](#)

Upcoming Meetings

- October 14 – Ice Cream Social
- November 11 – Paintings & Photographs Hidden in Stones presented by Ken Rogers
- December 9 – Members' Annual Holiday Party



October 13 Field Trip – Oceanview Mine



Yelp / Oceanview Mines

Join us on Sunday, October 13 at the Oceanview Mine for a chance to dig for your own gems: tourmalines, kunzites, morganites, and more!

The standard dig fee allows you to screen the dump piles of material that is mined

(you get to keep everything that you find) and take home one 5-gallon bucket of rocks that you've screened and washed. All equipment for the dig and tour will be provided. Our group admission also includes a surface jeep tour where you can see all of the currently active mines and prospects as well as the views of the famous Pala Chief, Tourmaline Queen, and other historic mines.

10:00 am - Meet at Pala Casino Gas Station, 11154 CA-76, Pala, CA

10:20 am - Depart for Oceanview Mine, 37304 Magee Rd, Pala, San Diego

10:50 am - Dig orientation

11:00 am - Dig starts

3:00 pm - Dig ends

\$65 Adults and children 12 and over
\$60 Children 3-11

For an additional \$10, adults 18+ can add an underground mine tour.

Bring: food, water, a hat, sunscreen, gloves, and something to put your minerals in. You will not be able to take their 5-gallon bucket home.

Please **RSVP by 9/30** to Devon for the standard dig and let him know if you would like to add the underground tour.

DevonLloydExotics@gmail.com

Or text 626-447-2919

For additional photos and information, visit:

<https://www.facebook.com/OceanviewMine/>

<http://digforgems.com/oceanview-mine-book/>

<http://www.oceanviewmine.com>

Devon Lloyd
Field Trips Chair

President's Message

I'm really pleased to see how strong and healthy our Club is these days. We have a large and active membership that allows us to bring in some great speakers each month, field enough volunteers to run one of the best club shows in the southland, and staff a full range of member services and outreach activities. Our members commit to run our shop sessions, organize our annual picnic, maintain Club equipment, offer tutorial workshops, work with local school children, arrange our Gem & Junk yard sales, and help arrange our holiday party.

The Club is also proud of its support to the Culver City community over the past 60 years. We are happy to be able to make cash donations each year to the public school system and to local non-profits such as the scouts and organizations like L.A. GOAL for working with the disabled. Our annual Fiesta of Gems show draws about 1,600 people and has always been free of charge to the public. The show offers education and entertainment for the entire family – a place for parents to bring the kids to enjoy displays and games that feature a glimpse of earth science.

Thanks to all for making our Club what it is.

Brad Smith, President

Workshop Series is Here!

We are excited to announce our new Workshop Series will be commencing on Saturday, October 26. Workshops will be lead by one of our expert members and held at the Culver City Scout House, 10866 Culver Blvd, Culver City, CA 90230.

If you would like to lead a workshop, please reach out to Workshops Chair, Janice Metz at jenft4@gmail.com for more details.

Byzantine Chainmaille Bracelet Workshop

Workshop Description:

Whether you call this design the Byzantine, Inca puña or the Idiot's Delight, it is one of the most versatile chains around. In this workshop, we will discuss the option of making your own links, different tools used in making a chain, and the proper way to close the links. We will be using pre-made anodized aluminum links for this project.

When: Saturday, October 26 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Where: Culver City Scout House, 10866 Culver Blvd, Culver City, CA 90230

CCRMC Members: \$50
Non-Members: \$60
Materials Kit: \$15

Please bring two pair of flat-nose pliers. Plier tips should be no larger than 1/4" wide smooth-jawed, so the ridges will not mark up the rings. Bring OptiVISOR or magnifying glasses, if needed, and battery-powered light(s) if needed. We will break for a short lunch, so please feel free to bring your own lunch.

To make your reservation, please RSVP to Janice Metz at jenft4@gmail.com



Slate of Officer and Chair Nominees

If you are interested in filling one of the vacant positions, please contact Sabrina Keep at hotcococoffee@gmail.com.

2020 Elected Officer Candidates

President – Brad Smith
Vice President – Steve Dover
Treasurer – Darrell Robb
Recording Secretary – Ana Maria Strambi Guimaraes
Corresponding Secretary – **VACANT**
Parliamentarian – **VACANT**

2020 Committee Chairs

Education – **VACANT**
Federation Director – Rick Shaffer
Field Trips Chair – Devon Lloyd
Historian – Virginia Hollis
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 / Laura Seffer
Sunshine – Felice Ganz
Trading Post – Gary Mitchell
Web Master – Jette Sorenson
Workshops – Janice Metz

2020 Board of Directors

Anna Maria Strambi Guimaraes
Bruce Mensinger

2021 Board of Directors

Fran Einberg
Gary Mitchell

Submitted by
Sabrina Keep
Corresponding Secretary

September Program Report

Jack Hobart made a presentation about Lake Superior copper agates. These copper banded agates are very unique. They have a high degree of mineralization, with 0% to 99% copper by weight. Silver also occurs in about 1.5% of the stones. Copper replacements form fine, complex swirling patterns. The specimens are small; the largest measures about 2.5 inches.

Eyes are especially common, occurring in about two thirds of the agates. The "maze eye" pattern starts with fine agate banding, then copper replacement forms the eye, followed by flow through the gaps before solidification is complete.



Facebook/Jack Hobart Book

Copper agates are only found in three mines on the north shore of Lake Superior: C&H-21 mine, Wolverine 2 mine and St. Louis mine. The agates are found in 100 year-old rock dumps from the mines. The specimens vary greatly across sites and are found in limited locations.

Jack has created a database with ten thousand photographs of copper agate specimens. He cuts each specimens in half and polishes it, photographs it, scan the nodules, then enters the photograph and scanned images side-by-side into each database. The scanned images show the copper reflected. For a copy of Jack's presentation, visit: <https://mudpot.com>.



Submitted by
Ana Maria Strambi Guimaraes
Recording Secretary

General Meeting Minutes September 9, 2019

The Pledge of Allegiance was made. Guests were introduced and a quorum was established.

President Brad Smith made the following announcements:

- The Long Beach Club would be having a show on September 21, at the Expo Center in Long Beach; their first show in many years.
- The American Opal Society would be having an opal show on November 2 and 3.
- New member badges were available for pick-up.

Ken Rogers advised that beads, cabochons, and machinery made in China would be subject to the new tariffs; prices would start increasing soon.

Devon Lloyd announced the Club was organizing a field trip to visit a tourmaline mine in San Diego with geologist Walt Lombardo on October 13. Twelve spots were available; those interested should contact him. Details would be posted on the Nugget.

Janice Metz announced that a new workshop series would start on October 26. She asked those interested in leading workshops to contact her and encouraged members to let her know about workshops of interest.

Stephanie Dangott informed the Club had acquired a label maker to make temporary badges for new members.

General Meeting Minutes Con't

Ken Rogers announced that the October program would be an ice cream social. He encouraged members to bring a specimen from their collection or their craft as a conversation starter. The November program would be a presentation by Ken himself about painting and photographs found inside rocks when they are cut open. The December program would be the Holiday party.

Alexa Hunter and Sabrina Keep informed they were collecting nominations for the 2020 slate of officers and asked those interested in taking office to contact them. The slate would be published in the Nugget and voting would take place at the November meeting.

A motion was approved to renew officer insurance and property insurance.

A motion was made to distribute the Show raffle proceeds to FOCCSH, Farragut Elementary and L.A. GOAL. The motion was approved after a discussion about the Club's finances.

The August General Meeting Minutes were approved as read in the September Nugget, with the following correction: "In addition, workshop fee limits would not be established in the Club policy."

Gary Mitchell announced there would be a trading post that evening.

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm.

Submitted by
Ana Maria Strambi Guimaraes
Recording Secretary

Executive Meeting Minutes September 9, 2019

Those present: Stephanie Dangott, Steve Dover, Felice Ganz, Alexa Hunter, Sabrina Keep, Janice Metz, Darrell Robb, Ken Rogers, Mary Ellen Shaffer, Rick Shaffer, Brad Smith, Jette Sorensen, and Ana Strambi Guimaraes.

The meeting was called to order by President Brad Smith at 6:41 pm. The August Executive Meeting Minutes were approved as read in the September Nugget. The following was discussed:

-Brad Smith announced that the Long Beach Club was having their show in September, after a hiatus of several years.

-Treasurer Report: Darrell Robb reported that the Adobe license was renewed. A discussion followed on pursuing less expensive alternatives in the future. Also, the insurance rate increased slightly due to the purchase of additional coverage for the new saw.

-A motion was made and approved to distribute the Show raffle proceeds to FOCCSH, Farragut Elementary, and L.A. GOAL and would be brought to vote at the General Meeting.

-Darrell Robb reported that the City informed the Club that the multipurpose room would be a polling location for the 2020 elections; therefore availability might be impacted in the days preceding the election. Also, the auditorium availability for the Club show had not been confirmed yet.

-Membership Committee: Stephanie Dangott reported she purchased a label maker to make temporary badges for new members by recycling old, unclaimed badges.

-Programs Report: Ken Rogers reported that Show Chair, Adrienne Louie would run the ice cream social in October and he needed help crafting the advertising for the Nugget. A discussion followed about incentivizing members to bring an item from their collection or craft as a conversation starter. The November program would be a lecture by Ken about images found inside rocks when they are cut open.

-Workshop Report: Janice Metz announced workshops would be reinstated beginning October 26 and the schedule would be published soon in the Nugget.

The meeting adjourned at 7:19 pm.

Submitted by
Ana Maria Strambi Guimaraes
Recording Secretary

Lapidary Shop

Our fully equipped lapidary shop hours and instructors are:

Tuesday 7pm - 9pm Rick Shaffer

Wednesday 10am - 2pm Vern Lowe or Jette Sorensen. By appointment only, email: shop-avail-appoint@culvercityrocks.org

Thursday 10am - 2pm Brad Smith

Saturday 12pm - 4pm Lynne Lukert or Steve Dover

Sunday 12pm - 4pm Jette Sorensen

Call 310-836-4611 if you are arriving 30 minutes after the posted start time. At the discretion of our instructors, they may close the shop if no one arrives within the first 30 minutes.

Members must be current with membership dues, sign an annual insurance waiver and receive instruction before starting in the shop.

Practice rough and slabs are included in the basic shop fee.

The Club is for use by adults 18+ only; junior members 13+ must sign a special release and a parent/guardian must be present to use any equipment.

10866 Culver Boulevard
Culver City, CA 90231
The shop is located behind the Scout House.

For more information, visit:
<http://www.culvercityrocks.org/lapshop.htm>



Happy Birthday!!!

Brandon Fleschner	October 2
Robby Shearon	October 10
Ralph Ramirez	October 19
Nickie Jessup	October 25
Steven Dover	October 27
Claudene Anderson	October 29
Sabrina Keep	October 30

Welcome to Our New Members



Help Wanted @ The Shop

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 us email and let us know you'd like to help: ccrhc-shopcommittee@culvercityrocks.org

Pipe Drilling Service Offered to CCRMC Members

If you've been a regular at the Club Shop on Tuesdays or Sundays over the last couple years, you've probably crossed paths with the Club's resident pipe maker, Darren Cokin, who was most often camped out on the flat lap, grinding pipes to shape. You may have noticed he hasn't been around the Shop in recent months. Since making various upgrades to his home workshop in an effort to streamline his work flow, Cokin no longer needs to utilize the flat lap or polishers at the Club. (He will still be there from time to time to make use of the saws.)



An overview of Cokin's "3 square foot workshop." The grinding station is stored out of the way on the right, and may be swung around in front of the drilling station on the left, to be coupled with the drill motor.

If any Club members are interested in trying to make a pipe for themselves, Cokin has graciously offered to perform the drilling on their behalf, which is the only step that requires specialized equipment not available at the shop. Note: this offer applies only to stones soft enough to be



A block of pipestone (catlinite / mudstone) drilled with a 3/4" bowl.

drilled with carbide masonry bits. (Marble is easy; labradorite just barely possible. Agate, jasper, petrified wood, etc., require diamond core bits to drill, which is much more labor intensive, and expensive due to the bits being quickly consumed.) Rough material should be provided in blocks 1" thick and approximately 4" long x 1.5" wide, and be marked with desired bowl location. Bowls can be drilled in a variety of sizes; 3/4" (large), 11/16" (medium), 5/8" (small), or 9/16" (extra small). Contact Cokin at wackyneighbor@yahoo.com to make arrangements.

To watch the time lapse of Cokin's pipe making using the multi-purpose "three square foot workshop" he has constructed, visit: www.YouTube.com/TheWackyNeighbor.

Darren Cokin



A close up of the scratch built drilling clamp fixture, with the splash back removed to provide fuller view. Note that the stone block is uncovered on the top and left. The fixture, allowing holes to be drilled in two directions, that will intersect at a desired point within the stone.

Benitoite: The Rarest Gemstone Found Only in California

Benitoite is a rare blue barium titanium silicate mineral, found in hydrothermally altered serpentinite. Beniotite [sic] is a very rare mineral that was discovered in 1907 in San Benito County in California.

It was originally mistaken for sapphire. Benitoite fluoresces under short wave ultraviolet light, appearing bright blue to bluish white in color. The more rarely seen clear to white benitoite crystals fluoresce red under long-wave UV light.

Benitoite occurs in a number of sites, but gemstone quality material has only been found in California. In 1985 benitoite was named as the official state gem of California.

Benitoite has the rarest form of crystal structure in the world. It belongs to the Hexagonal System, it's [sic] Class is Ditrigonal -Dipyramidal. It's [sic] light dispersion or internal fire is greater than that of diamond. Dispersion is the splitting up of white light into its individual wavelengths, what we see as colors. A benitoite that has good clarity, color and cut will show greater fire than a diamond.

The blue Benitoite on a white Natrolite matrix and usual association with black Neptunite makes a very aesthetic mineral specimen. Benitoite has a rare 5 pointed crystal form, and an even rarer 6 pointed form, "star of David", with about 24 samples known.

Benitoite is associated with other rare minerals such as black-red neptunite, snow white natrolite and brown-yellow joaquinite. Since the only source of this rare combination occurs at San Benito County, California.

With the color of the most valuable tanzanite, it is easy to see why it is so valued. Gem quality Benitoite can be worth more than Diamonds, Sapphire, Ruby, Emerald or Tanzanite. A clean, rare 1 carat cut benitoite sells between \$6500 and \$8000, depending on color, cut and clarity.

The cost increases greatly as the size of the cut stone increases due to the rarity of large facet grade crystals. Current market pricing of clean, good color, and well cut faceted benitoite over 2 carats, is \$10,000 per carat. Even uncut, rough stones and good mineral samples in matrix can run in the thousands.



Left Photo By: The Mineral Gallery, Inc. Right photo by: SpiriferMinerals

Read more at <http://www.geologyin.com/2018/03/benitoite-rarest-gemstone-found-only-in.html#1fO2euslDxeQQfYx.99>

It is one of the only gemstones that is naturally deep blue in color, not needing heat or any other treatment to achieve it's [sic] color. It can be found in differing shades of blue, violet, white, clear, and on very rare occasions very pale pink, but the Deep Blue color is the most desirable. Science still cannot identify exactly what gives benitoite it's [sic] amazing color, and scientists have been unable to duplicate or replicate benitoite's crystal growth or fluorescent nature.

Where to Find Benitoite in California

Although commercial mining is no longer being conducted at the mine, People [sic] could now dig thru [sic] the old mine dumps, tailings and virgin ground to try and find their own treasured jewels. The Fee dig is presently only open on the weekends and will require a phone reservation. All reservations require a phone call for confirmation.

Reservations must be made via a phone call:
(559)-287-4096

Address: 48242 Los Gatos Creek Rd, Coalinga, CA 93210

<http://www.geologyin.com/2018/03/benitoite-rarest-gemstone-found-only-in.html>

Upcoming Rock & Gem Shows

October 2-6:: **Joshua Tree, CA**
Sportsman's Club Fall Gem, Mineral & Craft Show
Sportsman's Club of Joshua Tree
6225 Sunburst Street
<https://jtsportsmansclub.com/>
Contact: 760-366-2915
Email: jtsportsmans@ymail.com

October 4:: **Vista, CA**
Vista Gem & Mineral Society Show
Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum
2040 N. Santa Fe Avenue
Hours: 10-4
www.vistarocks.org
Contact: Kurt Kluey 760-917-5781
Email: klueysgems@yahoo.com

October 5-6:: **Anderson, CA**
Shasta Gem & Mineral Society
Shasta District Fairgrounds
1890 Briggs Street, off SR 273
Hours: Sat 9-5; Sun 10-4
[Facebook Page](#)

October 5-6:: **Grass Valley, CA**
Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society
Nevada County Fairgrounds
11228 McCourtney Road
Hours: Sat 10-5; Sun 10-4
<http://www.ncgms.org>
Contact: Mitchell Frank Van Hecke 530-575-4252
Email: 4vanclan5@att.net

October 11-13 :: **Big Sur, CA**
Big Sur Jade Festival
Los Padres National Forest
Hours: Fri 12-6; Sat 10-6; Sun 10-5
<https://bigsurjadefestival.com>
Contact: Kirk Brock
Email: vendors@bigsurjadefestival.com

October 11:: **Trona, CA**
Sears Lake Gem and Mineral Society Show
<http://www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub/>
CANCELLED due to earthquake damages.

October 12-13:: **Los Altos, CA**
Peninsula Gem & Geology Society Show
Los Altos Youth Center
1 North San Antonio Road
Hours: 10-5
<https://www.pggs.org>
Contact: Steve Jobe 707-328-5778
Email: bamorlock@gmail.com

October 13:: **Fallbrook, CA**
Fall Festival of Gems
Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society
123 W. Alvarado St.
Hours: 9-4
<https://fallbrookgemandmineralsociety.wildapricot.org>
Contact: 760-728-1130
Email: info@fgms.org

October 19-20:: **Placerville, CA**
El Dorado County Mineral & Gem Society
El Dorado County Fairgrounds
100 Placerville Drive
Hours: 10-5 daily
<http://www.eldoradomineralandgem.org>
Contact: Debbie Winterson
Email: info@rockandgemshow.org

October 19-20:: **Santa Rosa, CA**
Santa Rosa Mineral & Gem Society Show
Santa Rosa Veterans Memorial Hall
1351 Maple Ave.
Hours: Sat 10-6; Sun 10-5
<http://www.srmgs.org/>
Contact: Jolene Coon 707-849-9551
Email: jolene4srmgs@gmail.com

October 19:: **West Hills, CA**
Woodland Hills Rock Chippers Show
Fist Methodist Church
22700 Sherman Way
Hours: 10-5
<http://www.rockchippers.org>
Contact: Virginia Rotramel
Email: whrc@rockchippers.org

October 26-27:: **Sacramento, CA**
Annual Sacramento Gem, Jewelry, Mineral & Rock Show
Scottish Rite Temple
6151 H Street
Hours: Sat 10-5; Sun 10-4
<http://sacgemshow.com/>
Contact: Alyssa Meislinger 916-622-5819
Email: gemshow@sacramentomineralsociety.org

the Nugget - Submissions

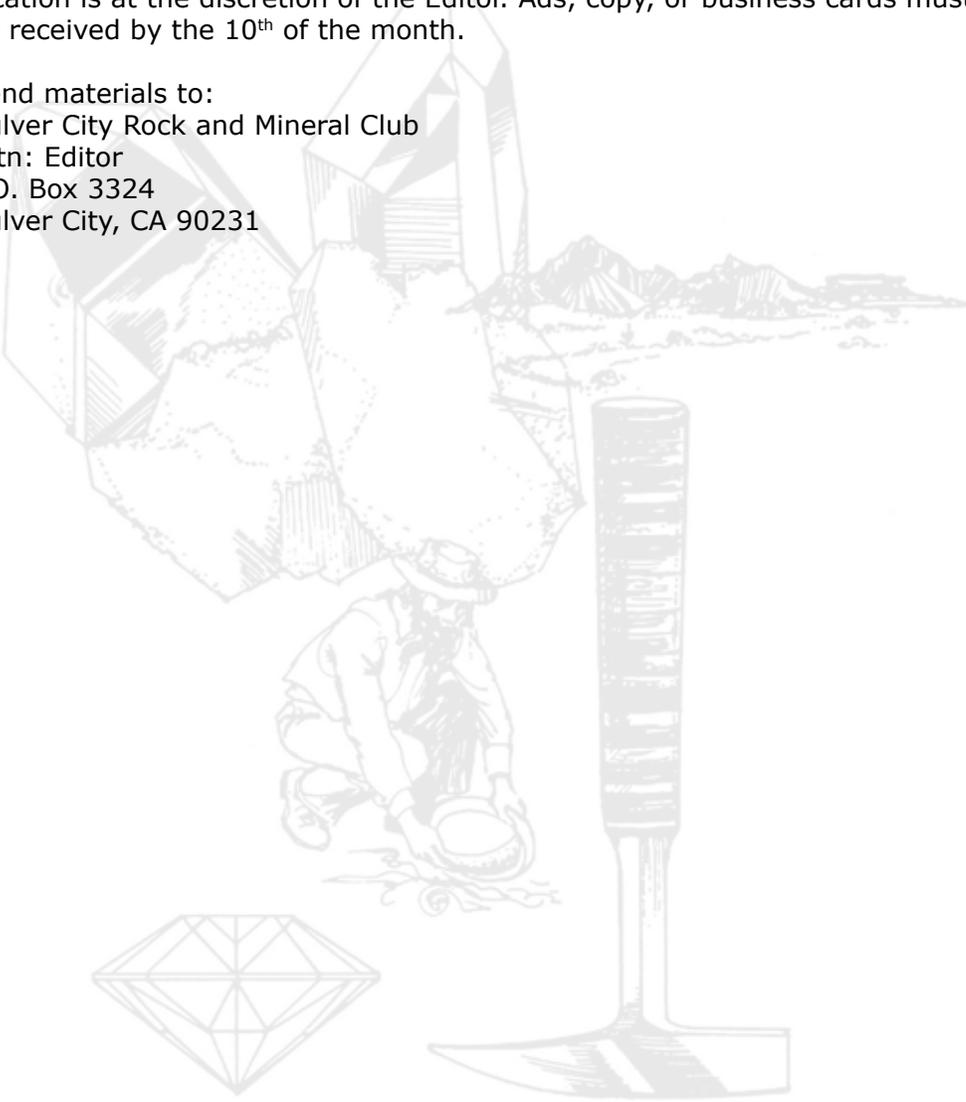
Submissions deadline is on the 15th of every month. Articles or notes without a byline are written by the Editor. Permission to copy is freely given as long as proper credit is noted. Photographs without credits are shot by a CCRMC member. Permission to use photography is freely given as long as proper credit is noted.

Email submissions to: nugget@culvercityrocks.org

the Nugget - Advertisements

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 and Mineral Club
Attn: Editor
P.O. Box 3324
Culver City, CA 90231



2019 Elected Officers

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 / Laura Seffer
- Sunshine – Felice Ganz
- Trading Post – Gary Mitchell
- Web Master – Jette Sorenson
- Workshops – Janice Metz

Board of Directors

2019
Brad Smith
Grace Sato

2020
Anna Maria Strambi Guimaraes
Bruce Mensinger

The CCRMC is a non-profit 501(c)(4) organization.

Stay In Touch



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Culver City, CA 90231
310-836-4611