



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.



August Virtual Program – Lake Superior Agates

This month geologist Dick Weber will take us on a journey to the upper Midwest to look at Lake Superior agates. He will show us how they formed, where they are found, and the traditions relating to their care and display.

Dick has been an avid “Lakers” fan as far back as he can remember. He began collecting these beautiful agates during his youth, long before he became interested in Geology as a profession.

Lake Superior Agates are the second oldest and one of the most abundant types of agates found in the world. Collectors around the world instantly recognize them because of their distinct fortification banding and rich iron oxide colors.



Dick is a retired exploration geologist and mineral collector. He received his education in Minnesota and has a Masters Degree in Geology from the University of Minnesota, Duluth. Along with his wife, Mary Pat, the two have given numerous programs to our club over the past 10 years and displayed some of their mineral collection at our shows. Dick is a past President and long time member of the Conejo Gem and Mineral Club in Thousand Oaks.



Upcoming Activities

August 8 - Executive Meeting 7:00pm
General Meeting 7:30pm

August 10 - Show Wrap-up and 6:30pm
Evaluation meeting

See local field trips posted by LA-Rocks
facebook.com/groups/411978609512229

More local field trips posted by SoCal Rocks
[facebook.com/search/top?q=socal rockhounds](https://facebook.com/search/top?q=socal+rockhounds)

Club Meetings on Zoom

CCRMC meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month as follows:

- 7:00 PM – Executive Meeting
- 7:30 PM – General Meeting
- 8:00 PM – Monthly Program

Club meetings are being held online. Please join us in our Zoom Room to enjoy our monthly program and speaker.

Join us virtually in our Zoom Room .
Meeting ID: 310 836 4611
Password: rocks

Guests are always welcome to join our meetings.



A Message from



*The
Prez*

What a wonderful Fiesta of Gems show this year! The Committee did an impressive job at pulling it off, and I wanted to thank all the club members for pitching in a few hours to help staff the many jobs it takes to keep the show running for two days. I've heard some really nice comments from our vendors and attendees.

For our newer members (and those who just joined at the show), I'd like to point out some of the club benefits that are available at our shop. First, we have a well-stocked library of books and videotapes on lapidary, sculpture, jewelry, minerals and gemstones for free loan to members. So stop by, find a couple books and check them out with the shop custodian. See times and procedures under the Shop Tab on the club website.

And while you're in the shop, get a tour to see what other members are doing. We're glad to help you learn to use the machines and material too, whether it be making a pair of bookends, a cab for your ring, or drilling a hole in a crystal to wear as a pendant.

Finally, we have a pile of mineral samples in back of the shop which are free for practice or your projects. The shop on is open a couple times a week. See the website.

Happy hammering,
- Brad

July Program Report - 7/11/22

Rudy Lopez with the Mineralogical Society of Southern California, presented Micromount - Tiny Minerals with Big Surprises.

Micromounts are natural mineral specimens with distinct single crystals or groups of crystals that require some degree of magnification in order to be viewed, which are permanently mounted for protection, labeled with name and origin and set up for observation. Micro minerals are generally measured in millimeters and grams.

There are many reasons for collecting micromounts. Crystals viewed under the microscope offer surprises and can be very beautiful, in many seemingly ordinary specimens. Also, micromounting is a relatively inexpensive hobby. Collectors are often willing to trade or give away micro crystals to augment their collections. In addition, there is no need for high power telescopes. Low power telescopes with two eye pieces and adjustable knobs and magnifying lenses can be used to observe the specimens. It is also important to be able to photograph the magnified specimen. In addition, micro crystals are often in better condition than larger specimens, perfectly formed and undamaged. It is also difficult to fake a micro mineral because clues would be visible under the microscope. Micromounting also offers opportunity to observe rare minerals. However, micromounting is not for everyone. Skill and a lot of patience are needed to make the micromounts.



Minerals for micromounting can be found in mines, beaches, your backyard and among specimens you have at home that can be broken up. Micromounters are finding new minerals every day. While searching for minerals for micromounting in the field, you will need a magnifier or optivisor, chisels, egg crates, paper towel and pen and paper to label the specimen with its name and place of origin.

Tools to prepare the specimens include side cutters, chisels, hammers, a Dremel tool and a Meister trimmer. The Dremel tool is used for notching the piece before trimming it. Tweezers, clamps and even clothespins can be used while trimming and edging. Magnifying lenses or a microscope with a camera as well as proper lighting should be used while preparing the specimen. Wearing a mask while preparing a specimen is required, as some minerals are poisonous.

Specimens can be mounted on cork or a pedestal made of toothpick (or fishing line), using hot glue or putty. It is important to place the micromount in a box with cover, to keep the dust out. Specimens should be labeled and catalogued; photographs are a great method for cataloguing. Micromount collections can be stored in fishing boxes, card files and various other readily available storage means.

Submitted by
Ana Maria Strambi Guimaraes,
Recording Secretary,
based on lecture recording

Executive Meeting Minutes - 7/11/22

Those present: Darren Cokin, Stephanie Dangott, Steve Dover, Jon Gowling, Lorna Herf, Alexa Hunter, Gary Mitchell, Joanie Rippner, Darrell Robb, Ken Rogers, Brad Smith, Jette Sorensen, Christine Thompson

Meeting called to order by President Brad Smith at 7PM PT.

The following matters related to the show were discussed:

-Joanie Rippner indicated additional volunteers were needed to man the front desk, especially on Sunday. Brad mentioned he would suggest at the general meeting that members check in at the Club's desk and sign up. Darren Cokin offered to help at times when there is a pause at geode cutting.

-Jette Sorensen suggested charging for the geodes, but Brad indicated it might be a bit too late to change plans. The plan is, as usual, to give the geodes away and accept donations.

-Brad informed that the Veterans Center had failed to provide sufficient tables, but a rental company had been identified to supply tables.

-Joanie asked what time volunteers could show up in the afternoon to help set up. Stephanie Dangott said that even though most of the work would be done by mid day, help would be needed to organize food and plants and to secure doors while vendors set up.

-Brad indicated he would like to celebrate the show, perhaps by sprucing up the summer picnic in August.

-Alexa Hunter said she would pick up the moving truck and Darrell Robb would pick up the stairs and they would meet up at the shed on Friday morning.

-Alexa indicated volunteers were needed to pick up plants from three different locations. She would send the addresses to Brad for him to identify potential volunteers among the members based on their zip code. Christine Thompson offered to be the back-up volunteer for one of the locations.

-Gary Mitchell confirmed security had been obtained for Friday night and Saturday night. He asked Brad to announce at the general meeting that security volunteers were needed.

Other businesses discussed:

-Jette asked if Brad had identified anyone to help her out with the website and the newsletter. Christine indicated she may be able to help beginning September.

-Jette said she was looking for more affordable alternatives to Adobe to produce the newsletter. Christine suggested Canva. Brad said most editors he knew used Microsoft Publisher and some used Word. He said he would try to obtain a template for the Club to use. Christine asked to be included in Brad and Jette's discussion as she had experience with publishing softwares.

-Ken Rogers informed the Webers had a new program in lakers, which were agates from Lake Superior.

-Christine informed that a friend of hers was writing a book about rock hounding, and was collecting stories about it. Christine said she would share questions from her friend at the general meeting, for members willing to provide stories to answer.

-The June Executive Meeting minutes published in the July edition of The Nugget was approved as amended to read "Darren Cokin" and "Lorna Herf" where ever these names were otherwise misspelled.

Meeting adjourned at 7:31PM PT.

Submitted by
Ana Maria Strambi Guimaraes,
Recording Secretary,
based on lecture recording

General Meeting Minutes - 7/11/22

Our July meeting called to order at 7:31pm by President Brad Smith. He and others covered the following topics related to the upcoming show:

- Members should wear their Club badge.
- Members should check at the Club desk up on the stage.
- The Club will provide members with a security vest, if needed, for them to wear while browsing the floor. Ken Rogers asked if the vests had the word “security” written on them; Brad confirmed they did.
- Brad clarified that most of the setup would be done earlier in the day on Friday, and later vendors would be setting up their displays.
- Joanie Rippner said there was need for people at the front desk on Sunday afternoon. A couple of members volunteered during the meeting. Joanie said she would send the schedule out to members.
- Steve Dover said all display cases had been reserved.

The following was also discussed:

- Ken Rogers informed the next month program would be a lecture by Dick and Mary Pat Weber on Lake Superior agates.
- Christine Thompson informed a friend of hers was writing a book about rock hounding, and is collecting stories about it. Christine posted questions on the Zoom chat during the meeting for members willing to share stories to answer. Brad and Ken offered stories.
- The May and June general meeting minutes were approved as published in the July edition of The Nugget.

The meeting ended at 7:48pm and the program started.

Submitted by
Ana Maria Strambi Guimaraes,
Recording Secretary,
based on lecture recording

Happy Birthday!

Barbara Fier	8/1
Joanie Rippner	8/6
Maria Hansen	8/8
Chris Golden	8/10
Laurence Chuck	8/10
Minda Moe	8/10
Donald Van Deventer	8/13
Bradford Smith	8/19
Steve Seleska	8/21
Lorraine Murphy	8/26
Eric Cohen	8/28



to our newest members:

Bob (Robert) Alexander
Samantha Baker
Jodi Bye
Lili Divita
MaryAnn Groark
Murat Kaptan
Holly Kaufmann
Mia Quiles
Juan P Servin
Lillian Thibodeau
Andy Zembal

the Nugget - Submissions

Submissions deadline is on the 15th of every month. Articles or notes without a byline are written by the Editor. Photographs without credits are shot by a CCRMC member.

Email submissions to the Editor: nugget@culvercityrocks.org

the Nugget - Advertisements

The Nugget accepts paid advertisements. The cost for an eighth of a page is \$7 per insertion, payable in advance. Size is about 2" high x 3.5" wide. 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: nugget@culvercityrocks.org

Club General Meetings

Culver City Veterans Memorial Complex
Multipurpose Room
4117 Overland Avenue
Culver City, CA 90230

Lapidary Shop

10866 Culver Boulevard
Culver City, CA 90230
The Shop is located behind the Scout House

Mailing Address

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Culver City, CA 90231
310-836-4611

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2022 Elected Officers

President
Brad Smith

Vice President
Vacant

Treasurer
Darrell Robb

Recording Secretary
Ana Maria Strambi Guimaraes

Corresponding Secretary
Véronique Gautherot

Parliamentarian
Jon P. Gowling

2022 Committee Chairs

Education – Alexa Hunter & Karen Wallen

Federation Director – Lorna Herf

Field Trips – Devon Lloyd

Historian – Virginia Hollis

Librarian – VACANT

Membership Co-Chairs – Stephanie

Dangott & Jette Sorensen

Minerals – Devon Lloyd

Photography – Pam Leitner

Programs – Ken Rogers

Publications – Janet Gampe

Publicity – Janice Metz &

Christine Thompson

Shop Committee – President,

Vice President & Shop Instructors

Show – Adrienne Louie

Social – VACANT

Sunshine – VACANT

Trading Post – Gary Mitchell

Webmaster – Bart Gampe

Workshops – Janice Metz

Zoom Host – Darren Cokin

Board of Directors

2022
Virginia Hollis
Janet Louie

2023
Adrienne Louie
Jette Sorensen

2024
Gary Mitchell
Karen Wallen