



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 Virtual Program – 9/12/2022

Collecting at the Red Cloud Mines of Lincoln County, New Mexico And Creating Fantastic Specimen Images Using Modern Technology

A Two part presentation by Scott Raley

Join us this month as Scott takes us field collecting in the Gallinas Mountains of Lincoln County, New Mexico and shares his image processing techniques that result in close-up photos with an impressive depth of field.

The area is home to over 80 small mines and prospects, and is currently under investigation for rare earth minerals. The Red Cloud Fluorite mine operated for a short time during and after World War II and is known for interesting micro fluorites and some rare earth minerals. The Red Cloud Copper mine operated intermittently over a period of about 60 years and yields beautiful Vanadinite, Wulfenite, Mimetite, Cerussite, and more.

Scott's presentation includes many wonderful photos he has taken of specimens from these two mines. Scott's photographs were created by him, and many using new technology (available to all) that creates images with all points in sharp focus. In general, many specimen photos have a limited "depth of field" (only one plane of sharp focus), whereas, Scott's photographs have an infinite "depth of field" with all of the planes in focus. Scott will show us his equipment and show us how he produces his wonderful images.



Scott has been collecting minerals since childhood, with a focus on micro-minerals and photography for the last 15 years. After retiring from the Air Force, he completed a Ph.D. and is now a professor at a small college in northern New Mexico. With the recent limitations on travel, he spent much of the last year investigating some less well-known micro-mineral localities in his area of New Mexico.

Upcoming Activities

September 12 - Executive Meeting 7:00pm
General Meeting 7:30pm

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

More field trips are posted on SoCal Rocks at [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 second Monday of each month. Guests are always welcome to join us. Our usual schedule includes:

- 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 the meeting virtually at [CCRMC Online](#).
Meeting ID: 310 836 4611
Password: rocks

Club Needs Your Help

We're looking for a couple members to help out with two of the tasks needed to run the club.

First we need someone who knows Word to help in putting the newsletter out each month.

And we need someone to send out several email blasts each month to the club membership.

Please [contact us](#) to chat about the tasks.

A Message from



*The
Priez*

The picnic this year was a little different but a lot of fun for those who were able to attend. Steve organized the highlight of the day with a great silent auction while Eric and Stephanie were in charge of the food.



As we look forward to Fall, two of the club's important events are arrangements for the holiday party and the election of officers for the next year.

With a little bit of luck, we should be able to have our traditional party at the Rotary in December. And for the election, I'll be appointing a Nominating Committee later this month to start canvassing club members to generate a slate of officers for balloting at our November meeting.

Please give some thought on how we can make our club better and what talents you could provide to help make that happen.

Happy hammering,
- Brad

August Program Report - 8/8/22

Geologist Dick Weber presented a great program on Lake Superior agates, one of the most popular agates in the United States. They are very recognizable, most display yellow, red and white bands. The red is due to iron minerals, mainly Hematite and Magnetite (all bands have Hematite, but white ones have less). The agates are not very large, averaging half an inch to an inch, although a few larger specimens have been found over the years. They are often broken, as they are very old - over a billion years - and have had a 'rough life'.

There is no evidence that Lake Superior agates have been used as decorative or ritual pieces by Native Americans, but there is evidence of large pieces being used in tools and weapons. Farmers collected the agates back in the 1800's; in the 1900's they were used to make marbles. In the 1950's and 1960's collecting became popular. Collectors displayed larger specimens on shells, while small ones were often kept in buckets in garages. In 1969, Minnesota made Lake Superior agates their state stone.

Ten to fifteen thousand years ago, there was glaciation in the area, and fifteen hundred years ago, materials distributed in the area, scattering over seven states. Storms bring fresh material to the shores all the time. Many rocks were brought over by glaciers in Canada.

The north shore of Lake Superior is sparsely populated and it is a rock hunters' paradise. Gravel pits are sometimes accessible and have a multitude of rock hunters looking for agates. Several beaches have been closed to rock collection and are private property, though. However farmer fields are prime locations to look for agates; they can be found in piles on the side of the fields and the side of the road.

It takes a while for the eyes to adjust and spot the agates. The rocks are not dark, have red and yellow bands and may have a shiny waxy look. Broken pieces and cracks are not a detriment to the quality, but large specimens are very rare and expensive. In Minnesota, there is the Five Pound Club, which tracks pieces over five pounds and even names them.

Traditionally, Lake Superior agates are not cut nor used in lapidary work. Slabbing and spheres are also rare as the value of the pieces are in their size.



Also, the agates are usually not polished. The convention is to display them with no labels.

Of the different types of Lake Superior agates, the most abundant are water level agates, and the rarest are eye agates. Geodes are also rare, and can contain amethyst or smoky quartz in the center. Other types include paint agates, prized for their soft pastel colors; Sagenites; moss agates; peeler agates; and copper replacement agates, in which copper replaces some of the banding. Along the north shore of Minnesota, in the Thompson Beach area, Thompsonite can also be found. It's a Zeolite mineral that resembles eye agate.

Several clubs in Minnesota are dedicated to Lake Superior agate collection. There are multiple rock shows throughout the state like Agate Days in Moose Lake. This tiny city also has hosted the Moose Lake Agate Festival for sixty years, which draws four to five thousand people. Moose Lake also has an Agate and Geological Interpretive Center, which offers free admission during the Agate Festival. The town of Two Harbors has a store called Agate City worth checking out. The Beaver Bay Agate Shop has been in operation since the 1940's and has one of the finest collections of agates in the world in its museum.

Submitted by
Ana Maria Strambi Guimaraes,
Recording Secretary

Minutes of Our Executive Committee Meeting - 8/8/22

Those present: Darren Cokin, Stephanie Dangott, Steve Dover, Jon Gowling, Darrell Robb, Ken Rogers, Brad Smith, Jette Sorensen, Ana M Strambi Guimaraes, Christine Thompson, Karen Wallen.

Meeting called to order by President Brad Smith at 7:07PM PT.

-Brad Smith thanked everyone for their efforts on the show. He estimated that over 1,300 people had attended; a decline of only 6% from the last show. He also indicated he would like to have a show debrief meeting.

-Brad indicated the August picnic would have to take place in the area in front of the Scout House, as the Lindberg park was not available.

-Brad indicated the Club needed to start developing the slate of officers for 2023.

-Karen Wallen informed a member had complained that the shop was not open enough days. Brad explained the number of days depended on instructor's availability.

-Jette Sorensen thanked Brad for editing The Nugget this month, as a new editor had not been identified yet. Christine Thompson indicated she was interested in helping with the editing and asked for a meeting to obtain details.

-Ken Rogers suggested that for the next year's show, the stage stairs have steps marked for safety.

-Darrell Robb indicated the floor of the shed needed to be replaced to prevent rodent invasion; however Steve Dover informed that a temporary solution had been found. Brad suggested adding a third shed and that if it were prefabricated a permit would not be needed. He asked to discuss the matter via email or at the next meeting.

The July meeting minutes were approved as read on the August edition of The Nugget.

-Ken informed he had not yet identified a speaker for the September meeting and asked for suggestions.

-Darrell provided preliminary figures from the show and informed that as a whole the same amount had been generated as at previous shows; however, expenses had been higher.

The meeting adjourned at 7:34PM PT.

Submitted by
Ana Maria Strambi Guimaraes,
Recording Secretary

Happy Birthday!

Jon P Gowling	9/3
Maria Johnson	9/15
Kay Hudspeth	9/18
Yvette Trinh	9/18
Franne Einberg	9/24

Sunshine



If you or a member you know of isn't feeling well and could use some warm wishes, [click here](#) to let us know.

Minutes of Our General Meeting - 8/8/22

The meeting was called to order at 7:34PM PT by President Brad Smith.

-Brad estimated that 1,300 people attended the show. and mentioned that 170 of them had indicated an interest in attending a meeting. 40 were invited to attend tonight.

-Brad informed the summer picnic would take place on 8/27 near the Scout House.

-Brad indicated help was needed to manage the Club's activities over the fall. Also, the Club was looking for members interested in serving as a Committee Chair next year. Immediate needs included:

- - shop supervisor
- - editor for the newsletter
- - someone to email the newsletters out and to print a few for those members who need to have printed copies.

-At Brad's invitation, guests introduced themselves.

-Steve Dover informed the shop was open Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 4PM, and that members could call in to find out whether there was an opening or to make reservations.

-Christine Thompson indicated the Club had good presence in several media platforms. She said she had engaged the Club on Eventbrite for Club meetings. Brad suggested Christine to look at the registration forms obtained at the show, which informed how people had heard about the show.

-Jette Sorensen informed the Club presently had a bit over 100 members.

-Darrell Robb informed the show proceeds exceeded expenses, and that the Club remained solvent.

-Ken Rogers informed he was having trouble finding speakers that could present via Zoom. He asked members to contact him via email with suggestions.

-Janelle Williams asked when the Club would resume in-person meetings. Brad responded there were no plans to do so yet, and that possibly meetings would be hybrid in the future.

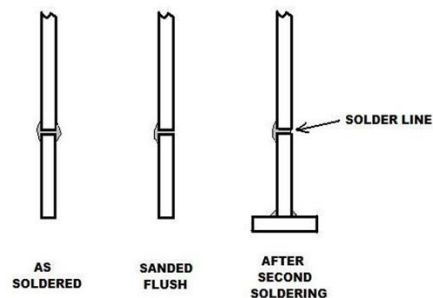
-The meeting adjourned at 8:52PM PT.

Submitted by
Ana Maria Strambi Guimaraes,
Recording Secretary

Brad's Bench Tips

[Click to Read More Tips](#)

AVOIDING SOLDER LINES - After finishing a soldered joint on say a bezel, have you ever seen it reappear after you've soldered the bezel to a base plate?



What's happening is that every time you heat a soldered piece to the temperature that solder flows, the liquid solder seeps a little more into the surrounding metal. This leaves a small furrow where the solder had been sanded off flush at the joint. To get rid of the furrow, you have to re-sand the joint area down to the bottom of the furrow.

To avoid this when I have another soldering operation to follow, I try to leave a little extra solder on my joints. For instance, when trimming off excess base plate from around a bezel, I leave a paper thickness of excess plate material whenever possible until I'm done with all soldering.

From The Lap Shop

"Linde A" polish vs "Lusterite" - what's the difference? - Darren Cokin

There has been a rumor floating around our workshop for many years that "Linde A" and "Lusterite" are synonymous. Recently even, the polishing wheel closest to the door was labeled "Linde A / Aluminum Oxide" while the coffee mug of polish for use with it was labeled "Lusterite". Although it is true that both compounds can be used similarly, and work well on many of the same types of stone, they are different. What we have has always been "Lusterite"; a quick inventory of our polish supply drawer did not turn up anything labeled "Linde A", but there are several large bags of "Lusterite". The label on the polishing wheel has now been updated to reflect this.

The Linde company is long gone, but their name still gets used as a generic term, like kleenex for tissues. Any Aluminum Oxide powder graded to be uniform 0.3 micron size is called "Linde A". (0.05 micron size is "Linde B", and 1.0 micron "Linde C".) It is still manufactured by several sources, and is what I use myself in my home workshop. (I get it from Covington Engineering, the same vendor that produced the green colored grinders and trim saw at the club workshop.)

Similarly, the original company behind Lusterite is gone, but apparently identical formulations are still made by companies like Diamond Pacific. (Much of what we have seems to be old stock of the original.) "A hard, finely pulverized pyrochemically produced compound suitable for polishing gems of various hardness. Use Lusterite as you would cerium or tin oxide. **It's not an oxide. There is much less heat generated making this polish excellent for opals and turquoise.**" Charts of recommended polishes for various types of stone are on the wall near the polishing wheels. We suggest using "Lusterite" whenever the chart suggests "Linde A".

Sources:

<https://www.gemcuts.com.au/lusterite-final-polish-for-tumbling-lapping>

<http://www.diamondpacific.net/polish.html>

<https://covington-engineering.com/supplies/linde-a-polish/>

Upcoming Rock Club Shows & Local Rock Sales



[Click to See All California Federation Shows](#)

September 24-25, 2022 – Long Beach
Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM, Sunday 10 AM – 4 PM
<http://www.facebook.com/LBMGS>
<mailto:lbmineralgemsociety@gmail.com>

October 15, 2022 – Woodland Hills Rock Chippers
10 AM – 5 PM
<http://www.rockchippers.org>

More CFMS rock club shows are posted at
<http://www.cfmsinc.org/shows>

More local shows and sales are posted on the
LA-Rocks Group at
[facebook.com/groups/411978609512229](https://www.facebook.com/groups/411978609512229)

If you're interested in field trips or shows further
south, see the SoCal Rocks Group at
[facebook.com/search/top?q=socal rockhounds](https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=socal%20rockhounds)

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.

Email submissions to the Editor: nugget@culvercityrocks.org

Club General Meetings

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

Mailing Address

Culver City Rock & Mineral Club
PO Box 3324
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 – VACANT

Historian – Virginia Hollis

Librarian – VACANT

Membership Co-Chairs – Stephanie

Dangott & Jette Sorensen

Minerals – VACANT

Photography – Pam Leitner

Programs – Ken Rogers

Publications – VACANT

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