



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.



Our Program This Month – 1/9/2023

Our program topic this month is “FLUORITE - THE WORLD'S MOST COLORFUL MINERAL”

This month Dick Weber will introduce us to the colorful world of Fluorite.

Due to a spectacular range of colors and well developed crystals, this mineral is highly sought after by collectors. Clear and colorless when pure, fluorite can exhibit every color of the spectrum from the deepest purple to bright oranges and reds. In addition to its aesthetic and scientific value, fluorite is a critical industrial mineral used in the production of thousands of commercial products.



Dick Weber was first introduced to the fluorite deposits of the Mississippi Valley while working on his geology degree. Actively collecting specimens for the last 20 years, he will showcase pieces from famous locales that are in his collection.

Dick is a retired exploration geologist and mineral collector. Since retiring, he and his wife, Mary Pat, have traveled the world and have produced many wonderful programs.

Dick received his education in Minnesota and has a Masters Degree in Geology from the University of Minnesota, Duluth. Along with his wife, Mary Pat, they have produced and presented numerous programs aimed at Rockhounds, Earth Sciences enthusiasts, geologists, and the curious.



The Webers 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

January 9 Executive Meeting 7:00 pm
 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%20rockhounds)

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 a few of the tasks needed to run our club.

We're looking for someone who knows how to put together small booklets like a Membership Roster or the Club ByLaws. It should be an easy project for someone who knows word processing.

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

A Message from The Prez

Dear CCRMC members:

I am excited to be taking on the role of club president this year and am looking forward to guiding us toward a productive and positive 2023. I know many of you from working in the shop over the past 10 years, from our monthly meetings and from various club social gatherings in person and through zoom. I served as the chair of the education committee for 4 years and have some notion of how the club works, having observed our outgoing president, the brilliant Brad Smith at many meetings. However, I do not have anywhere near the experience nor depth of knowledge as Brad, so will need members to step up their involvement to make certain the year goes well!

My professional work background is in education. I have taught high school English for much of the last 23 years. I've also been active in the performing arts and still dabble in the rock and roll, making me a double rock hound. I joined the club back in 2013, when I first moved back to LA from a 2-year stint living in Tucson, AZ, where I began studying metalsmithing. I was very lucky to stumble into the CCRMC gem show that summer and find a new and wonderful teacher, Brad Smith, as well as the terrific CCRMC community.

Speaking of Tucson, the annual gem show in Tucson begins in about 3 weeks. If you have never been, it is well worth the trip to explore the international scope of minerals as well as the other artisan work on display. If Tucson seems too far, take a shorter trip to Quartzite. My best advice would be to give yourself a budget and dress warmly, as winter can get chilly in those parts.

Meanwhile we have the 2023 CCRMC show to plan for this July and will need all members to make themselves available. It is a great deal of work to make the show happen but well worth it and we need everyone's help to pull it off. A meeting will be scheduled in January for the planning committee so please read your Nugget and sign up to get the show rolling.

Because I am a new to this role of club president, I will be calling on all members for extra support this year to get involved. Covid is purportedly on the wane, though we of course still need to be super cautious, and I would like the club to get back to some in-person social activities, including field trips and our annual silent auction/gathering this winter. Please get involved so we can make 2023 memorable, fun and productive. Hope to see you all soon at our monthly meetings and happy new year to all!

Alexa Hunter



to our newest members:

Welcome Melissa Smith!

Happy Birthday!

Donna Shostak	1/1
Joyce Watanabe	1/10
Lili Divita	1/10
Callie Herf	1/12
Rosemarie Ihde	1/15
Bob (Robert) Alexander	1/20
Ben P Utigard	1/29
Caitlin Scott	1/29
Legier Biederman	1/31

Sunshine

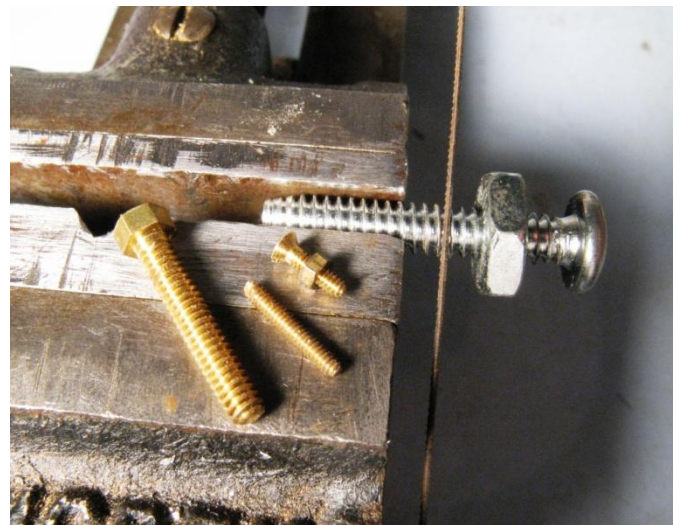
If you or a member you know of isn't feeling well and might like some warm wishes from the club, please [click here](#) to let us know

Brad's Bench Tips

[Click Here to See More Tips](#)

CUTTING A BOLT

Whenever you have to cut a threaded bolt shorter, it's often difficult to get the nut to thread back onto it. And the smaller the bolt, the more difficult it is to restore any distorted threads. The problem is easily solved with the use of a nut. Here's how I do it.



First, screw a nut onto the bolt before cutting it. Grip the bolt by the threaded section that is to be sawed off. Then saw the bolt to the desired length, taper the end with sandpaper or file, and unscrew the nut from the bolt.

Unscrewing the nut over the freshly cut end of the bolt will straighten out any damage that sawing and filing did to the threads. Gripping the bolt by the piece to be sawed off localizes any crushing damage to the piece that will be thrown away.

From The Club Shop

Want the good or the bad news first? Ok, here's the bad: the price for oil for the saws and gas for the torches has gone through the roof. The lapidary shop is "self-sustaining," meaning that shop income must pay for all its expenses. So, effective January 1, 2023, the fee for using one of the trim saws, water saw, 16" or 18" saws is \$1.00 per half hour and the 24" is \$2 per half hour! The fee for using one of the acetylene or butane torches is \$1.00 per half hour.

Do not let a trim or water saw run more than an hour at the time before giving the motor time to cool down. The oil we use is food-grade mineral oil

And now the good: All the equipment at the shop is working. Steve Dover spent hours cleaning the trim saws which had been pretty "mucked up." somewhat due to inappropriate use. The correct way to use a trim saw is to "let the blade do the work" by barely putting any pressure on the piece you are sawing.

When using the saws, grinding, and polishing wheels, wear an apron, safety glasses and earmuffs

To make an appointment for Saturdays, send an email to Lynne Lukert and for Sundays to Jette Sorensen and Darren Cokin

Lynne Lukert gemlynne@ca.rr.com
 Jette Sorensen jetsorensen@gmail.com
 Darren Cokin wackyneighbor@yahoo.com

Submitted by Jette Sorensen for the Shop Committee

Upcoming Rock Club Shows & Local Rock Sales



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

March 4-5, 2023 – Ventura, CA

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society
 Ventura County Fairgrounds, 10 W. Harbor Blvd.
 Hours: Saturday 10-5, Sunday 10 – 4
 50 exhibits of gems, minerals, fossils and lapidary arts; ongoing demos of lapidary and jewelry making; raffle prizes & silent auctions; a Second-Hand Treasures Store & plant sale; 15 dealers; children's activities and free resources for teachers.
 Contact: (805) 312-8467, info@vgms.org
 Website: <http://www.vgms.org>

March 10-12, 2023 – Stoddard Wells

Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club
 47th Annual Stoddard Wells Rockhound Tailgate
 Time: Friday, Saturday & Sunday – 9 AM – 5 PM
 Come visit us and our vendors for Handcrafted and Faceted Jewelry, Slabs and Cabs, Findings, and Equipment, Minerals and Fossils. TONS of Rough
 Contact: (909) 657-7200, marklantz53@gmail.com
 Phone: (760) 243-2330 and leave a message.
 Email: president@vvgmc.org
 Website: <http://vvgmc.org>
[Tailgate-2023-Info.jpg](#)

CFMS rock club shows for 2023 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

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://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

