



CULVER CITY ROCK AND MINERAL CLUB HOLIDAY PARTY

Join us for the yearly Holiday Party on December 9 at the Rotary Plaza, 5100 Overland Avenue, Culver City, 90230. Starting at 3:30 PM (setup), 5:30 PM Dinner, 8:30 PM (cleanup). We must be out by 9 PM). Park on the street. We cannot use the Rotary Plaza parking lot.

The Club supplies the protein (Turkey and Ham) and water. You should bring a side dish, salad, or dessert. If you want another beverage than water, bring it yourself; alcohol is not allowed.

We will have a White Elephant Gift Exchange. If you want to participate, bring a wrapped gift, valued at \$15 - \$20. We have a twist on how it is played, when you deliver your gift, you will receive a ticket. When your number is announced, you select a gift or steal one from someone who already has a gift. That person then selects or steals another gift. Everyone opens their gift when all gifts are taken. In the past, we have had some hilarious presents. Case in point, one year, someone got a golf trophy someone else had won.

The Culver City Rock & Mineral Club 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 and practice of lapidary and related arts.



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear All,

Hope you enjoyed a bountiful Thanksgiving holiday. Speaking of holidays, we very shortly will gather for our annual holiday party in Culver City, on December 9th in the late afternoon at Rotary Plaza, 5100 Overland Ave, Culver City, CA 90230. Please bring a beverage (non-alcoholic) or a side dish! The club will provide the main 'meat' (turkey and ham) but could use help organizing the fixings and decorating. Please email [Jette Sorensen](mailto:jette@rotaryplaza.com) to volunteer extra help for setup and breakdown; it is always much appreciated.

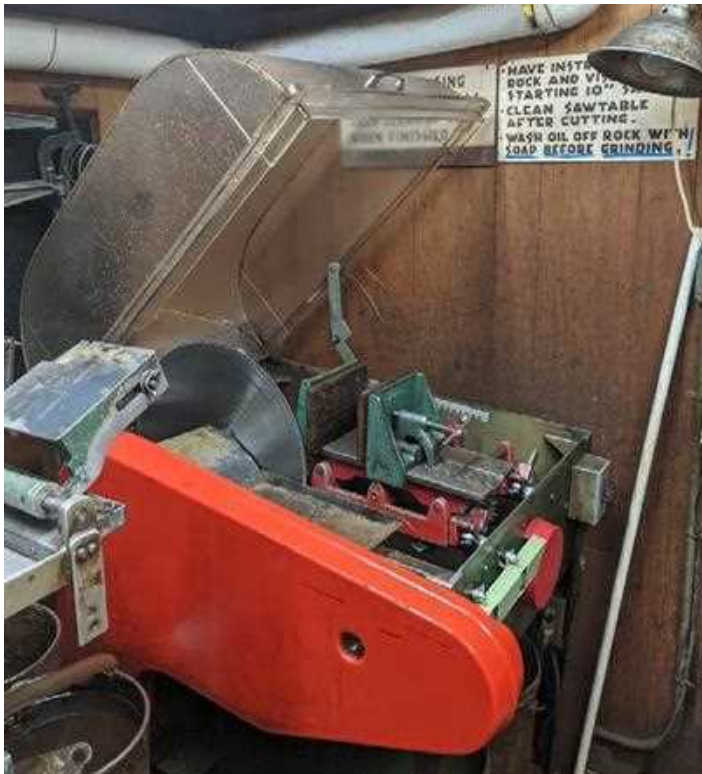
This will be our final meet-up for 2024 and a wonderful time to gather and share our gratitude for our vibrant community. Please plan on bringing your favorite jewelry piece, cabochon, or specimen from 2024. Of course, you could just wear it as part of your party attire - if it's not too heavy. We will have a display table of everyone's work so that we can admire each other's latest discoveries.

I look forward to having a toast to all our club accomplishments during 2024 and a toast to how we can grow and fortify our club in 2025, including ideas for what mineral to honor for our Fiesta of Gems!

See you soon,

Alexa





BENCH TIPS



Below are a couple of my jewelry bench tips to use in your club newsletter next month. All I ask is that you include an attribution below (and the live link if possible) whenever you use the tips.

With the holidays coming up, if you need a nice gift for a friend who does jewelry, please consider one of my books on Bench Tips:

Smart Solutions for Jewelry Making
<http://amazon.com/dp/B0BQ8YVLTJ>

If this is reaching you in error, please let me know who is the best point of contact for your rock club newsletter. And please let me know if you'd like to continue receiving them directly.

Happy holidays to everyone,
- Brad, BradSmithJewelry@gmail.com

LAPIDARY WORKSHOP HOURS

**10866 Culver Boulevard
Culver City, CA 90230
(310) 836-4611**

The shop is located behind the Scout House

The shop is open Saturdays and Sundays from 12 noon to 4 pm. To see if there is room, go to the [Lapidary Shop tab](#) on the [Club's website](#) and send an email, do not just show up.

Saturdays: [Steve Dover](#)
Sundays: [Jette Sorensen](#)

If you have not made a reservation, you can call the shop during open hours to see if there is room, 310-836-4611. Do not wear open-toed shoes. Wear old clothes. Bring eye and ear protection.

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.

DEPTH GAUGE FOR DRILLING

Sometimes you need to drill a number of holes all to the same depth. One quick and easy way to do this is to wind some tape around the drill bit so that the tape just touches the part surface when the hole is deep enough.

You can set the depth either by measuring from the tip of the drill to the tape or by drilling to the correct depth, leaving the bit in the hole, and wrapping tape around the bit at the surface level.

Note that a little extra tape left free on the end will blow away debris from the drilling.

MINUTES - EXECUTIVE MEETING

Board Meeting

In Attendance – Jette Sorensen, Stephanie Dangott, Ana Maria Strambi and Darrell Robb.

No meeting due to no quorum or agenda.

MINUTES - GENERAL MEETING

Called to order by treasurer Darrell at 7:42 PM.

4 guests in attendance.

Our holiday party will be at the Rotary Plaza on December 9th.

Set up in the early afternoon and dinner around 5 to 6pm. The club will provide, turkey, ham and bottled water. Everyone else please bring a potluck dish to share and a non-alcoholic beverage for yourself.

There is a white elephant gift exchange. Please bring a wrapped item around \$10 to \$20 in value. Part of the fun is that none of the gifts are open

until after everyone has a turn and an item.

Treasurer – Darrell stated our club is solvent. He also stated that our club mutual funds has a mutual fund with dividends to be paid at the end of the year.

There was not as quorum of club members, so could not vote to approve the board for next year. We will do it at the holiday party. All board members have agreed to keep the same positions for 2025. However, we have various committee chair openings.

Fiesta of Gems – Darrell stated that we are hoping to have our show on June 28th and 29th of 2025. Jette reminded the club members that everyone is expected to volunteer 4 hours during the show, whether set up on Friday or during the show Saturday or Sunday or tear down on Sunday.

7:54 PM A motion was made by a club member to close the meeting and it was seconded by Stephanie.

We had a fantastic presentation about meteorites by Jason Utas. He even brought in several large specimens from his own collection for club members to view and touch.

DECEMBER MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Rolan Shaide	5-Dec
Frank Hollis	6-Dec
Miles Mokran	7-Dec
Brian Lallement	7-Dec
Yvette Trinh	9-Dec
Ellen Moe	10-Dec
Kyler Plouffe	11-Dec
Alain Pierre-Louis	13-Dec
Rosemarie Ihde	14-Dec
Shimmy Gontijo	14-Dec
Cyndy Mandell	15-Dec
Michael Braff	22-Dec
Bart Gampe	23-Dec

CCRMC CLASSIFIEDS

We are a nonprofit corporation without any paid employees. To run the Club, we rely on volunteers from our membership to take part in club activities. We're currently looking for people to lead the following:

- Education
 - visit schools, mainly in Culver City, to teach students about rocks and Earth science.
- Field Trips
 - plan field trips as often as practicable.
 - make all arrangements, such as providing markers, first-aid kit, and necessary hold harmless forms to be signed, including by the parents of minors and non-members.
 - provide and arrange write-ups about forthcoming field trips.
- Photography
 - take pictures at Club functions, including meetings, shows, holiday parties, and special Club events, and deliver them to the newsletter editor and publicity.
- Program Reports
 - take notes during presentations and write program reports for the Nugget.
- Social
 - arrange meeting refreshments, refreshments for parties, etc.



DECEMBER NEW MEMBERS

Milynn Moon
Glen Perry
Alain Pierre-Louis

If you feel you want to fill any of the above committees, we encourage you to step up and make a difference. Contact [Alexa Hunter](#).

Nugget Correspondent Search

The Nugget folks are looking for a "Nugget Programs Correspondent." to write the monthly article covering the Club meetings. This includes both in-person and Zoom meetings. It also includes Field Trips, the Yearly Picnic, and Holiday Party as well as Special Meetings.

If you are interested or would like to suggest a member, please send an email to nugget@culvercityrocks.org

The Nugget – Submissions

The submission 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 the Nugget 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

Mailing Address

Culver City Rock & Mineral Club
PO Box 3324
Culver City, CA 90231
info@culvercityrocks.org
310-836-4611

See local field trips posted on LA-Rocks at [facebook.com/groups/411978609512229](https://www.facebook.com/groups/411978609512229)

More field trips are posted on SoCal Rocks www.facebook.com/groups/2605376056257691

Zoom Address

<https://zoom.us/j/3108364611?pwd=WnRTclZTS-3RJMEdWdlV2c01mQWxqdz09>
Meeting ID: 310 836 4611
Password: rocks

2024 Elected Officers

President - Alexa Hunter
Vice President - Steven Dover
Treasurer - Darrell Robb
Recording Secretary - Stephanie Dangott
Corresponding Secretary: Karen Wallen
Parliamentarian - Ana Maria Strambi Guimaraes

2024 Committee Chairs

Education - Vacant
Federation Director - Ellen Moe
Field Trips - Vacant
Librarian - Joannie Rippner
Membership Co-Chairs - Bradford Smith,
Regina Lozano
Minerals - Joel Kuennen
Photography - VACANT
Programs - Jette Sorensen, Lorna Herf
Publications Committee - Jette Sorensen, Joel
Kuennen
Publicity - Janice Metz
Sunshine - Karen Wallen
Trading Post - Gary Mitchell
Webmaster - Bart Gampe
Zoom Host - Darren Cokin

Board of Directors

2024
Gary Mitchell
Karen Wallen

2025
Ana Maria Strambi Guimaraes
Bradford Smith

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The CCRMC is a nonprofit 501(c)(4) organization.