



# the NUGGET

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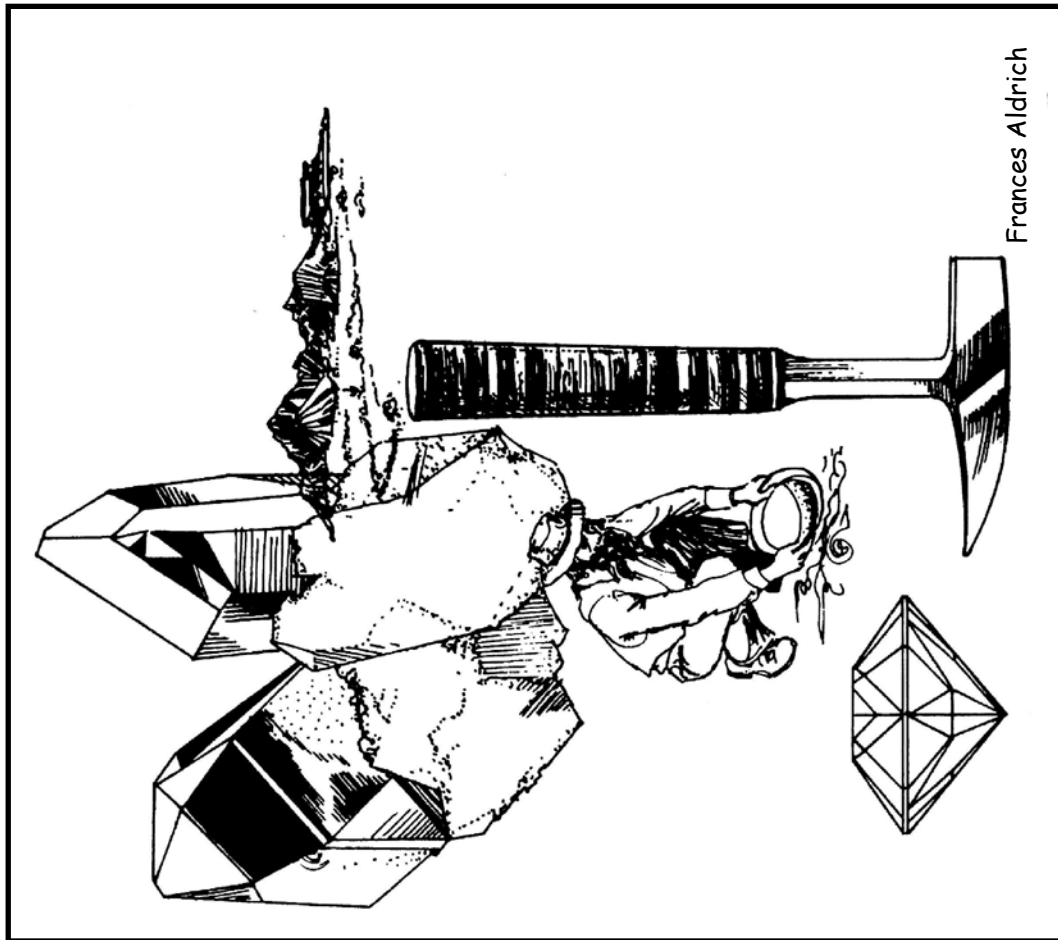
CULVER CITY ROCK & MINERAL  
CLUB, INC.  
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA, USA

## FIRST CLASS



CULVER CITY ROCK & MINERAL CLUB

the Nugget  
Lyne Lukert, editor  
513 1/2 N. Norton Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90004



Frances Aldrich



**CULVER CITY ROCK AND MINERAL CLUB**  
**P.O. BOX 3324 Culver City, Ca 90231**



**August 2010**

Monday, August 9, 2010 6:30 pm Executive Meeting 7:30 pm Members General Meeting

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

It's time to take a pause and catch our collective breath with the Show coming to a successful completion again. All of our thanks should be given to Robert Thirlaway and his team, who made all of this possible.

All the numbers are not yet in, but we'll have them in time for the August meeting. To all the members who shed a little (or a lot of) sweat, my hat is off to you. To those members who came only to see if their numbers would get them a prize, well that's another story. Speaking of prizes, one of our most hard working members won the grand prize of \$100: Sue Acosta. Your Club thanks all of those members who donated or sold their tickets as the total came to around \$900 from members alone, with one member donating \$90 to the cause. With the added amount donated from public sales, the net amount to be donated to the Culver City Schools will be about \$1000. We're giving the schools 90 percent of the proceeds (we're only allowed to use 10 percent for buying prizes by law) so it's not like its going into our pockets. We all know times are tough for our schools, and this will go a long way in supporting them. Thanks to all who helped in this enterprise! The percentage of members who supported our ticket donation was 63.3 percent. Maybe next year we can get this closer to 100 percent. Membership does imply supporting the raffle with your donation.

There also are periods, due to all the hard work, where we lose sight of the larger picture and just fly off the handle. It happens to all of us, some more often than others, but by some of the e-mails I see, we have to get beyond the petty grievances and get on with our lives. I confess to not looking at every e-mail that comes my way, and that may say something of my generation, or it might be a flaw in my upbringing, but come on. I usually put my phone number at the end of these dissertations so that if you have something on your chest you'd call directly. I know my phone works because

some have called, so if you feel left out, **CALL ME!**



Please remember our Club is going half and half with the Friends of the Culver City Scout House at **Fiesta La Ballona** on **August 28 and 29**. We'll have half of a 10' x 10' booth space with cover and power. I will expect members to work 1 - 2 hours helping to recruit new members, helping with children's game(s) and explaining to the community about our Club and how it works. I've been asked a dozen times what we're doing to get more members, so this it - pony up and help out! We represent this city and this hobby so let's see if we can make a difference. There'll be rides, food and attractions all around us, so it's more of a fair than anything else, so you can bring your whole family while you volunteer.

That same weekend, on **Saturday, August 28** our **Club BBQ is at Carlson Park** at the picnic shelter. The BBQ runs from **10 a.m. - 4 p.m.**, serving lunch around noon. Come early with any luck we'll be able to shuttle members back and forth between our BBQ and Fiesta La Ballona on Saturday. Carlson Park is at the corner of Braddock Dr. and Motor Ave. in Culver City just a few blocks from our monthly meeting room at Veterans Complex.



Bring a friend who might want to become a member, and we'll give them something to eat and try to mind our manners. It's a potluck for salads, desserts, side dishes with the club getting the hot dogs and hamburgers. It may not be gourmet, but it's fun. Remember the **Silent Auction** we're having after lunch, here's your chance to donate items to Bruce Mensinger who is setting that up. Be healthy and have fun.

**Rick Shaffer**  
**(310) 391-8429**

## FIESTA OF GEMS SHOW REPORT

364 days in the making, multiple movers and shakers then three days of nonstop fun and excitement in Culver City. My heartfelt thank you and appreciation to everyone involved in this year's Fiesta of Gems 49th Annual show "The Infinite Forms of Jasper" First let me say thank you to the officers and members who put their trust in my ability to run the show as chairman without the following individuals I would not have been successful.

Rick and Mary Ellen Shaffer, the motivators and detail oriented commanders of success. They worked tirelessly during the year and at the show helping all areas of the show to be successful. Without their support and dedication the Fiesta of Gems would have been a total nightmare job for me. Fortunately I only had night terrors a couple of times. Mary Ellen headed up the cookie baking duties. Mary Ellen's crew created a fantastic cookie tray for each vendor. I think the vendors come just for the cookies, they have no problem asking me where their cookie tray is if they were missed in the first round of the cookie distribution..

Steve Dover for taking on the display case duties this year, coordinating and managing the transportation



▲ Sylvia Binkley's creative display case

setup and security of the display cases. We had 20 cases full this year with some amazing displays of what our members create. The Ocean Jasper Display was amazing, thank you for making the arrangements to display the collection.

Lucia Pasquinelli, vendor chairperson, without Lucia there is no show. Lucia did an outstanding job of coordinating with vendors starting in Nov/Dec through the last day of the show in July (Actually she is still working on the after show reports as I type this). Difficult choices were made to ensure the vendors satisfied our contract requirements and that we made their participation enjoyable, fair, and fun. She has a great relationship with both the regulars and new vendors. Her expertise, finesse and dedication are greatly respected and appreciated.

Bruce Mensinger, Shop chair, Bruce ensures that all the



▲ Last minute preparations on Saturday morning prior to the Show opening. Looking good!

items we need to produce the show are maintained and stored in the Club workshop. He is the quintessential expert in packing and unpacking the shop storage units for maximum efficiencies. He can take the proverbial 10 pounds of show stuff and pack it in a 5-pound bag with room to spare. Bruce also took on the Fluorescent Mineral Display and Slide Show Projector setup and running duties this year. He also managed the money end of the Book and Magazine Sales, which kept him busy emptying the money cans – a testament to their success.

Ellen and Minda Moe, Children's games and Education Chair, the theme this year "A Rock in Every Child's Pocket" who visited and participated in the games and education area of the show. Ellen and Minda start preparing early in the year buying specimens, creating displays and working on mineral identification for the show.

Ken Rogers, Show Publicity Chair, Ken was recruited in the last six weeks to provide publicity for the show. He created and executed a mass publicity campaign, covering many areas of the rockhounding community. He tailored the campaign with multiple individual targeted areas about the show and the onsite classes that were provided this year. This is the first year of having classes at the show, as such, Ken had to pry most of the information from the instructors so he could develop and present the advertising to the masses in a timely manner. A lot of lessons learned were noted by Ken and will be incorporated for next year's show.

Brad Smith, Volunteer Support Chair, Brad had the thankless job of calling, and or emailing all of the Club

Continued on page 3



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members requesting two hours of volunteer time to support the show. He developed and produced a Duty roster so we could track when the volunteers would be available and where they were going to support the show. Without Brad's help, attention to detail and tenacity to persuade members to volunteer, fewer people would have done much more work.

Lorraine Murphy, Plant Sales Chair, Lorraine is the ultimate manager of plant production and sales. She was relentless in getting the word out, "We Need Plants, Containers and Help" throughout the year. Her daughter and husband worked tirelessly transporting, Setting up and Running the Plant Sales booth this year. Sales were up, Plant sale visibility was great, yet Lorraine wanted more advertising, and announcements, at the show, which she got, imagine that.



▲ The plant sale table is a Show favorite.

Gary Mitchell, Security Chairman, Gary was responsible for ensuring the Veterans Memorial Auditorium and vendor contents were secure during setup, show hours and after hours. The amount of valuable merchandise requiring security during the 3-day show is staggering. This is the 49th year and again everything remained secured for the event. During the show hours Gary and a staff of volunteers walked the show floor to deter shoplifting. Before opening 7 – 10 a.m. and after closing 5 – 7 p.m. Gary was onsite making sure the VMA was secure and letting vendors in/out to work. At 7 p.m. He briefed the security guard and helped secure the doors before leaving. At 7 a.m. he would relieve the security guard and take over security duties. After the show ended on Sunday, Gary and his crew provided additional security in the parking lot so the vendors could pack up and move items to their vehicles knowing their inventory was safe.

Sue Acosta, Hospitality and Grab Bag Chair, Sue did an outstanding job putting the Vendor Hospitality room together (twice). The vendors appreciate being able to get away, relax and have a beverage and snack. The Grab bags were a great success, in fact we sold them all and



▲ Fiesta of Gems attendees enjoy a variety of shopping options.



could have used more. Sue's grab bag making crew did a great job. We just had an exceptional amount of sales this year.

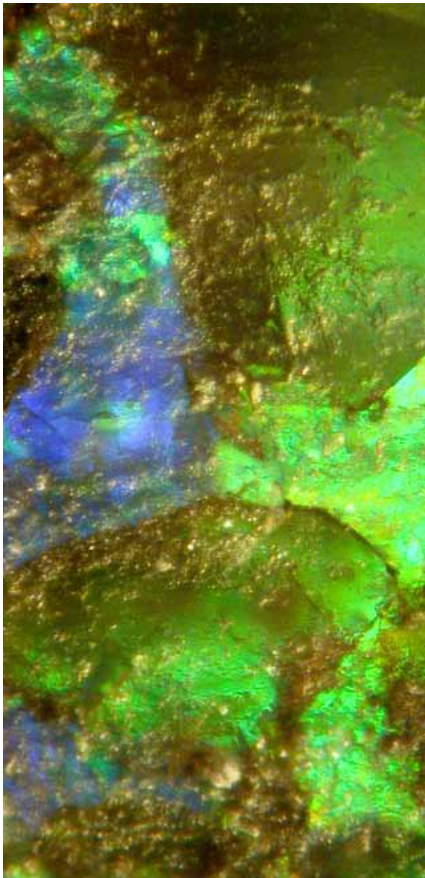
Dolores Dace, Education Chair, Dolores had a great display of educational materials and hands on touchable items for the kids and adults too. She provided information to teachers on how to contact her and get rock and mineral specimens donated to their classrooms from our Club. She is also our club liaison to the Culver City Schools and makes the arrangements for the club to donate all the proceeds of the Raffle Sale for Earth Sciences books. Yes, all the raffle ticket proceeds are donated to the Culver City Schools. Good information to have when buying those raffle tickets that we send you each year.

Members and Volunteers, Members and Nonmembers volunteered for this year's show. I want to thank every one of you for your support, patience, and tremendous work ethic. Setup this year on Friday was easier and faster than previous years. Starting at 8 a.m. and finishing the bulk of the setup by 11 a.m. and finishing the details so vendors could move in at 1 p.m. was amazing. My biggest problem was volunteers asking, "what can I do now?" so they could keep busy. Support during the show was great, all areas were covered and relief was available when needed. Sunday tear down, transport and storage of the show items at the club went very well. Tear down started at 5 p.m. and we were finished at the club storing everything about 9 p.m. Thank You.

*Robert Thirlaway*  
CCR&MC Show Chairman  
310-462-2269  
[Fiestaofgems@gmail.com](mailto:Fiestaofgems@gmail.com)

**NEXT PROGRAM: MYSTERY SLIDE SHOW August 9, 2010**

One of our own members, Bruce Mensinger, has agreed to provide another of his popular slide shows for our August program. It will be an all new show, yet untitled – hence the “mystery.” Those not familiar with Bruce’s stunning photographic rock art can go to the club website at <http://www.culvercityrocks.org/Photography2/PhotoList.html> for a preview.



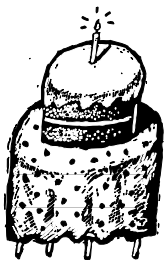
This program will definitely include some artistic close-ups of slabs and may include some new photos of opals and some archive photos of Club shows. Join us to see the mystery revealed.



A sampling of Bruce Mensinger’s images.



**AUGUST BIRTHDAYS**



- 1 Barbara Fier
- 2 Betty Knoblock
- 4 Alexa Powers
- 7 Richard Prehoda
- 10 Leda Rogers
- 10 Joyce Golden
- 10 Minda Moe
- 17 Barbara Daniels
- 17 Manon Tree
- 19 Brad Smith
- 26 Lorraine Murphy



*Annual Club BBQ and Potluck*

Saturday, August 28, 2010 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

*Carlson Park Picnic Shelter  
Braddock Dr. & Motor Ave.  
Culver City*

*Bring salads, sides, desserts and we’ll provide hamburgers, hot dogs, buns and tableware.*



**MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

I would like to congratulate everyone on another fantastic Show! Thank you to all who volunteered their valuable time and muscle power to make this event a success. For all who came early on Friday to help transport everything from the sheds to the auditorium, to set up the display cases, to skirting all the tables, to setting up the books and magazines, to helping Lorraine M. with the plants, to helping Sue A. set up the vendor’s hospitality room and for all the other numerous jobs and activities that I have failed to mention. And thanks to all who volunteered their time to help staff all the various booths and tables on Saturday and Sunday. And my final thanks to all who stayed until all was cleaned and packed – ready for next year’s 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Show. I hope next year our Club will see all members volunteer at least two hours to help make our Golden Anniversary Show an outstanding success.

During our show we had two new members: Jan Ferguson and Zahava Dembowich join. We also had one renewal Marilyn Matthews.

Our annual picnic will be held on August 28. Hope to see everyone there. Bring a dish that can be shared with others, we’ll also have a silent auction too, which was a blast last year! The more the merrier!! COME ONE, COME ALL.

*Grace Sato*  
Membership Chair



### Saws

Repairs to the 16-inch slab saw are well begun as I write this (July 17). Most of the machine shop work is complete, the correct replacement for the worn-out worm and worm gear set have been received, and fitting and assembly have begun. If all goes as expected, the saw will be back in service by the time this issue of the *Nugget* is published.

As soon as the 16-inch saw is back in service the 18-inch saw is next on the schedule for repair and renovation.

The 16- and 18-inch saws both need the same work. This is no surprise; they are both Highland Park saws of nearly the same age and design. I anticipate a much quicker repair because the Fiesta of Gems show is done and the Venice High machine shop is available, so I will have more time and resources to bring to the work.

### After the Show

Wow! We did it again! The Fiesta of Gems, 2010. Thank you to the volunteers that helped at the Show and at the shop. Our show wouldn't happen without you.

### Picnic Silent Auction

**Saturday, August 28** is our Club picnic.

In addition to food and socializing, we have a Silent Auction. Once again, the shop will bring items, setup and run the auction. Members are encouraged to bring donations (rocks, jewelery, equipment, tools, artwork, etc) to add to the auction. All proceeds from the Auction go to the club.

For those of you who are new to silent auctions here are some of the details of how we proceed:

- Silent auctions are not silent. The 'silent' is in contrast to the more familiar 'call-out' auction. Bidding takes place by writing your bid and name on a bid sheet below any previous bid.
- All the items at auction are arranged on tables, one or several in a group, along with a bid sheet for each item or group.
- Bid sheets briefly describe the item or items. The first line for bidding may have a minimum bid listed, otherwise the minimum bid is 25 cents.
- The auction begins when the auctioneer announces that the auction has begun. Bidders go from item



▲ Club members at last year's Silent Auction. Bargains were plentiful for those who were prepared to bid!

to item bidding on as many items as they choose. When someone else has placed a bid on an item you want, make a higher bid (at least 25 cents higher) by writing your higher bid and name on the next line of the bid sheet. As bidding continues, popular items accumulate many lines of successively higher bids, until the auctioneer announces that the auction has closed. Do not add a bid after closing!

- Go to each item and collect all that you have won and the bid sheet for each. Take them to the cashier, add-up the total, pay and enjoy your winnings.

*Bruce Mensinger*  
Shop Chairman

### Thanks Plant Volunteers

A very big thank you to all the plant helpers during the Fiesta of Gems show. We did very well because of your contributions.

Thanks to those who gave the one gallon and larger containers, those who donated potting material, and those who brought the ceramic containers. Many people gave plumerias, peppers, epidendrums, bilbergia, sansiveria, cuttings and plants whose names I don't know. Thank you to those who helped carry plants and our Prez. who went home to get me another table. Thanks to members who worked the plant table during the show; I know it became quite difficult, especially if you were alone.

Thank you all – I'm not mentioning names, I don't want to leave anyone unmentioned. You know who you are and you are appreciated.

*Lorraine Murphy*, Plants

## SHOWS

**August 7-8, 2010, San Francisco, CA**  
San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society  
San Francisco Co. Fair Bldg. (Hall of Flowers)  
9th Ave. & Lincoln Way, Golden Gate Park  
Hours: Sat 10-6 / Sun 10-5  
Carleen Mont-Eton (415)564-4230  
Email: publicity@show.sfgms.org  
Website: www.sfgms.org

**August 21-22, 2010, Orangevale, CA**  
Treasure Trove of Gems  
Orangevale Community Center  
6826 Hazel Ave., Orangevale  
Hours: Sat 10-6 / Sun 10-5  
Admission: \$4 per day or \$6 for weekend - Children  
under 12 yrs. free admission with adult  
John Moulder (916) 290-3193  
Email: info@treasuretroveofgems.com  
Website: www.treasuretroveofgems.com

**September 3-6 2010, Fort Bragg, CA**  
Mendocino Coast Gem & Mineral Society  
Town Hall, Corner of Main & Laurel  
Hours: Fri-Sun 10-6 -- Mon 10-4  
Don McDonell (707) 964-3116  
Email: ejwebb@mcn.org

**September 11-12 2010, Downey, CA**  
Delvers Gem & Mineral Society  
Woman's Club of Downey  
9813 Paramount Blvd.  
Hours: Sat 10-6; Sun 10-4  
Nancy Bird (562) 697-0636  
Email: nancybird@verizon.net  
Guynell Miller (562) 633-0614  
Email: guynellallen@sbcglobal.net

**September 18-19 2010, Redwood City, CA**  
Sequoia Gem & Mineral Society  
Community Activities Building, 1400 Roosevelt Ave.  
Carol Corden (650) 248-7155, Email: ccorden@com-  
cast.net, Website: http://sgms.driftdmine.com

**September 18-19 2010, Paso Robles, CA**  
Santa Lucia Rockhounds, Pioneer Park  
2010 Riverside Drive Hours: 10-5 Daily  
Kim Patrick Noyes (805) 610-0603, Email: kimnoy-  
es@gmail.com, Website: http://slrockounds.org

## F.O.C.C.S.H

### **Friends Of Culver City Scout House**

The FOCCSH 501 (c) 3 (fully deductible non-profit) has their web-site up and fully functioning. This organization has taken on the responsibility of fully restoring and operating the Culver City Scout House for the benefit of youth groups and other community organizations. Please be generous.

Go to [culvercityscouthouse.org](http://culvercityscouthouse.org) for more information.

**September 18-19 2010, Stockton, CA**  
Stockton Lapidary & Mineral Club  
Scottish Rite Masonic Center  
33 W. Alpine Ave.  
Hours: 10-5 Daily  
(209) 946-0113  
Email: footsey1@yahoo.com  
Website: <http://www.stocktonlapidary.com>

## FEDERATION REPORT

*A few last words from Anthony Ferrari,  
ex-Federation Director ...*

I view God's gift I received to inhabit this planet as a unique opportunity for discovery and adventure. I love the outdoors and in the past I've focused on a particular activity for a few years, then I've moved on to a new one. This journey, as a building block approach to understand and enjoy Nature, has proven to be a good model to follow.

When I came across rockhounding and our mineral club diverse activities, I embraced it with enthusiasm. The rewards have been great, getting to know places, rocks and minerals, interesting people and activities.

In the past few months I have had the opportunity to embrace other interesting activities, geology and CA native plant / gardens. I can only dedicate a certain amount of my time to any activity, therefore I am opening the opportunity for the two club Officer positions I currently hold to members that hopefully will have the same vision, dedication and interest I pursued for the last few years.

I will remain an active participating member of this club. Thank you all that have contributed and joined my efforts.

*Anthony Ferrari*

The purpose of the CULVER CITY ROCK & MINERAL CLUB is to bring together persons interested in the earth sciences, to engage in research and study in this realm, and to assist members in the collection and preservation of rocks and minerals and in the study of lapidary and related arts.....<http://www.culvercityrocks.org>

## Officers for 2010

**President** - Rick Shaffer  
**Vice President** - Steve Dover  
**Treasurer** - Mary Ellen Shaffer  
**Recording Secretary** - Sue Acosta  
**Corresponding Secretary** - Leda Rogers  
**Federation Director** - Open  
**Field Trips** - Gary Mitchell  
     Co-chair - Open  
**Historian** - Bruce Mensinger  
**Librarian** - Bruce Mensinger  
**Membership** - Grace Sato  
     Co-chair - Open  
**Minerals** - Nic Panagos  
**Parliamentarian** - Ed Montgomery  
**Photography** - Sylvia Binkley  
     Co-chair - Leda Rogers  
**Programs** - Ellen Moe  
**Publications** - Lynne Lukert  
     Co-chair - Barbara Fier  
**Publicity** - Sylvia Binkley  
**Shop** - Bruce Mensinger  
**Show** - Robert Thirlaway  
**Social** - Sue Acosta  
**Sunshine** - Lili Gelberg  
**Trading Post** - Steve Dover  
**Web Master** - Open  
**Workshops** - Yolanda Lumel

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bruce Mensinger (2010)  
 Ellen Moe (2010)  
 Anthony Ferrari (2011)  
 Leda Rogers (2011)

## MEETING SCHEDULES

**General Meetings** are held the second Monday of every month\* at 7:30 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room in the Veterans Auditorium, 4117 Overland Ave. Enter from the rear door. Guests are always welcome.

**Executive Committee Meetings** are held the second Monday of every month\* in a meeting room behind the Veterans Auditorium. All club members are welcome.

\*Meeting days occasionally change due to Monday holidays or in July due to the Fiesta of Gems Show.

## DUES & FEES

One time Initiation Fees:

Individuals	\$20.00
2 Persons/Same Address	\$25.00
Juniors	\$15.00

Yearly Membership Dues:

Individuals	\$25.00
2 Persons/Same Address	\$35.00
Juniors	\$10.00

(After July 1, dues are \$15.00, \$25.00 and \$5.00 respectively.)

## SHOP INFORMATION

The shop is open to all members in good standing over the age of 13 (13-18 have certain restrictions) who sign an indemnification form. Instruction is available at all sessions. Practice slabs are available.

Location: 10866 Culver Blvd. in Culver City (behind the Boy Scout clubhouse and next to the paddle tennis courts)

Shop Phone: (310) 836-4611

Hours:

Tuesday	7:30 pm - 9:30 pm	Bruce Mensinger
Wednesday	10 am - 2 pm	Vern Lowe - <i>by appointment</i>
Thursday	10 am - 2 pm	Woody Shaffer
Saturday	Noon - 4 pm	Lynne Lukert
Sunday	1 pm - 4 pm	Bruce Mensinger

If no one shows, the shop may close early. If you plan to arrive at the shop more than a half hour after the opening time, phone the instructor.

## The Nugget

The deadline for all submissions is generally the 15th of every month. All articles or notes without a byline are written by the Editor. Permission to copy is freely given as long as proper credit is noted.

The *Nugget* accepts paid advertisements by club members and non-members. 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. Ad layouts, copy or business cards must be received by the 10th of the month. Send materials directly to Lynne Lukert, Editor, 513 1/2 N. Norton Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90004