

OCT 2012

Columbus Day

Observed the second
Monday of October



Monday, OCT 8, 6:30 pm Exec Committee
Monday, OCT 8, 7:30 pm General Meeting
Program: "VISIONS OF NATURAL ART"
Speaker: Bruce Mensinger

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fall is here at last, the days are getting a little cooler, and we all made it through another summer. As the seasons progress, so does our work shop. We have our roof on (after 4 or 5 years), plus with our partners, the Friends Of the Culver City Scout House, both structures are painted. There's still a lot to do before we're all done, but we're getting there. As of the middle of September, we resumed our normal days and hours. So for all of you who work at the shop, now's the time to re-start all those projects and get back to work!

I find it sad that as we get the shop back up and running, the club hits another bump in the road. When volunteers were called to be part of a nominating committee, no one came forward. We need members who are not holding chairmanships to be on the nominating committee. There are going to be openings in the executive committee next year (as I've been acting president so far this year). Soooo, if we don't get members to volunteer to hold chairmanships/be on the executive committee, the club will be forced to shut down. The club cannot act as a non-profit corporation without these positions filled. SO BE IT! To keep this from happening, CALL ME at 310-391-8429 RIGHT NOW!

It was a special joy to have our Vice President, Steve Dover, give our August presentation about the Death Valley area. Thanks for the good work Steve. I've only been there once, and it was great to see all the areas I missed.

There was a plan put forward at the last executive meeting to up-date the membership application form. A group headed up by Felice Ganz hopes to have a new form by the October meeting. One of the items that will be changed is that ALL MEMBERS will need to volunteer in some way in the club's operation when signing up for or renewing membership.

Rick Shaffer
President

OCT PROGRAM

Bruce Mensinger

presents
"VISIONS OF NATURAL ART"

Almost everyone appreciates the beauty of the colors and patterns in natural stone. It takes a special eye and talent to take close up photographs which capture the beauty. Bruce Mensinger will share just some of his collection of close-up photographs: agates, jaspers, tiger eye, rhodonite and some mystery stones which Bruce has found over his many years in our club shop. And, knowing Bruce, he will add some additional treats such as photographs he has taken of member's jewelry creations to help us all better appreciate how the natural beauty of the almost abstract art in close-ups can then be used to create unique jewelry.

Ellen Moe,
Program Chair

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE MEETING SEPT 10, 2012

• Those present: Sue Acosta, Steven Dover, Felice Ganz, Lynne Lukert, Bruce Mensinger, Ellen and Minda Moe, Ken Rogers, Darrel Robb, Mary Ellen and Rick Shaffer, and Jette Sorensen

• Absent: any of the Co-Recording Secretaries. There was a discussion of who the third volunteer is. Both Sylvia Binkley and Charlene Aspray had served as Recording Secretaries but no one present could remember the name of the third person. These minutes are being submitted by Ellen Moe.

• The meeting was called to order at 6:40 pm by President Rick Shaffer.

• Shop Renovation Update: The roof is done, with the final cost slightly over the estimate. The Hazmat remediation and report are completed. The final coat of paint is scheduled to be done by Friday. The bathroom remodel to meet ADA requirements is still to be done

• Shop Hours: Once the painting is completed, the Shop may return to the full regularly scheduled hours. Members should check the website for this notice.

• Nominating Committee: There is no volunteer yet to chair the Nominating Committee. Three officers are required to meet the State of California requirements for a non-profit club. Usually the slate of proposed officers is listed in the October Nugget, the membership vote is taken at the November meeting and the officers are installed at the December meeting/holiday party.

• Treasurer Darrel Robb reported the Club was solvent.

• WebMaster Jette Sorensen reported that she was updating the Nugget pages on the web site.

• Steven Dover reported that there would be a Trading Post tonight.

• Publicity: There was discussion about advertising the

annual membership drive in local newspapers in December and January. Co-Chair Ken Rogers agreed to do this.

• Shop Repairs: Bruce Mensinger reported that the 18" saw was being repaired and that both blades for the 24" saw had needed straightening. There was extensive discussion about how best to recycle and dispose of the used oil and sludge from the saws. It was suggested that we pay to dispose the sludge. Bruce Mensinger felt he could allow the excess oil to evaporate allowing the remaining sludge to be placed in the trash. Ken Rogers volunteered to help research a solution.

• Hospitality: Sue Acosta thanked Mary Ellen for her help at the show and volunteered to continue as Social Chair with Mary Ellen Shaffer.

• Minerals: Minda Moe reported that she would continue submitting mineral reports for the Nugget.

• Membership: Felice Ganz questioned whether name badges should be made immediately for every new member since there were many badges which had not yet been claimed. It was suggested that she e-mail new members to remind them to pick up their badges at the next meeting. It was also suggested that the unclaimed badges be mailed to the new members.

• Meeting Attendance: There was extensive discussion about the minimum number of members who routinely attend the monthly meeting. Some felt that members who join the club primarily to use the shop should be encouraged to also attend meetings. It was pointed out that this might be a hardship for several members. A committee of Rick Shaffer, Felice Ganz, Jette Sorensen and Lynne Lukert was formed to look into rewriting the membership form to address this issue.

• Nugget: It was discussed whether there should be an e-mail option to send the Nugget to reduce printing and mailing costs.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Ellen Moe

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING SEPT 10, 2012

- The meeting was called to order at 7:44 pm by President Rick Shaffer who led the Pledge of Allegiance
- A quorum was confirmed with 27 members present.
- Nine guests were introduced and welcomed.
- President Rick Shaffer reported that the Hazardous Materials remediation of the Shop had been completed. The final cost exceeded the previously approved allocation . Jette Sorensen made the motion that the members approve payment of the new final cost, which was seconded and passed.
- Members were advised to check the Club web site for the announcement of when the shop would return to the full schedule of hours. They were warned to wear sturdy shoes since some nails and construction scraps might still be on the grass.
- Ken Rogers announced that Walt Lombardo who had been our previous speaker, successfully came through surgery. He also announced the rescheduled Delver's Club would be on September 15 & 16 and that he would be selling there on Saturday.
- Rocky Coles announced the field trip to Rainbow Ridge during the Indian Wells club show on November 4th at 9 am. The contact name is John DeRosa. It was added that there are numerous early American native petroglyph around the other side of the mountain, south of Sheep Springs
- A visitor announced an upcoming field trip to the Royston Turquoise Mine in Tonopah, Nevada, on October 12 to 14. To make reservations and place a deposit, anyone interested should go to the Yahoo Group All Turquoise. The group was being given a discounted rate of \$75 for 6 hours of digging in the tailings.
- A motion was made by Bruce Mensinger to accept

the September Nugget Minutes as written, which was seconded and passed.

- The meeting was adjourned for refreshments and the monthly raffles.

Ellen Moe

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM REPORT

Our guest speaker was our own Vice-president, Steve Dover. Steve and Bruce Mensinger had put in hours getting just 100 of Steve's many pictures of Death Valley and surrounding sites into a comprehensive presentation.

Steve began exploring Death Valley in his CJ7 JEEP back in 1976. Luckily for us, he recorded many of his trips in amazing photos. He took us on a tour from the south entrance of Death Valley National Park to the north, presenting much of the history of the park along with little known facts. The roads to some of the sites (and sights) he showed us are no longer opened to traffic. The list of his favorite places and geological formations he visited during his 25 years roaming the park is too long to include all the names - old mining ghost towns, ranches and cabins, numerous springs and even waterfalls. He also brought display items made from Death Valley Onyx, Wingate/Death Valley agate, and Ballarat marble.

For those of us who do not have 25 years to explore Death Valley, this presentation gave a first hand glimpse into its wonders and many spectacular sunrises and sunsets that Steve has captured during his travels there.

Ellen Moe

NEW MEMBERS

WELCOME !

Dave Baker

SHOP REPORT

Paint

Last month I reported that paint removal, repair of surface defects in the wood siding and some initial undercoating are complete, but that inspection and approval certifying compliance to current safety requirements for paint toxins have not yet occurred.

Since then, the inspection occurred (failed), minor additional work was done and, after re-inspection (passed), the City has accepted the paint remediation.

In addition, the undercoating has been painted using paint of the same color that the City graffiti removal crew uses to cover non-removable or extensive graffiti.

Roof

Now I am delighted to report that work on the original reason for all these goings-on, needed replacement of the deteriorated and leaking roof has been completed.



Using the Shop During the Construction Period:

Some remaining tasks will occasionally require closing the shop, sometimes on short notice. To the extent possible, closures and anticipated interruptions will be posted on our web site, www.culvercityrocks.org.

When you visit the shop, park in the parking lot parallel to Culver Blvd. in front of the Scout House. The limited

parking in the alley behind the shop is closed. Do not park in the alley except for brief loading or unloading.

Enter through the gate in the fence in front of the Scout House. Use caution and be especially watchful for construction related hazards.

On behalf of the Shop Committee,
Bruce Mensinger

MINERAL REPORT

GRAPHITE

It was named in 1789, by Abraham Gottlob Werner, from the Greek word graph, which meant "to draw/write". It is commonly called "lead" for its use in pencils, but is not actually the metallic element lead.

Graphite is a form of carbon, called an allotrope, where the carbon atoms bond in sheets of hexagonal lattice. Other allotropes of carbon are diamond (where carbon



atoms are bonded in a tetrahedral lattice arrangement), graphene (which are single sheets of graphite), and fullerene (where carbon atoms bond in spherical, tubular, or ellipsoidal formations).

Graphite is iron-black to steel-gray in color, but can appear deep blue in transmitted light. It has a hexagonal crystal system, with flaky fracture on its cleavage. It is a low 1-2 on the Mohs scale of hardness, with a specific gravity of 2.25 gm/cc. It has a black streak.

It has three principle natural forms, which each occur in different types of deposit. Crystalline flake graphite occurs in isolated, flat, plate-like particles. Amorphous graphite is the result of thermal metamorphism of coal, occurring as fine particles. Lump graphite, or vein graphite, which occurs in fissure veins. It is probably hydrothermal in origin and appears as massive plater growths of fibrous or acicular crystals.

Graphite occurs in metamorphic rocks, as a result of the reduction of sedimentary carbon compounds during metamorphism. It also occurs in igneous rocks, and has been found in meteorites. It is commonly associated with

quartz, calcite, mica, and tourmaline. It is associate with troilite and silicate minerals in meteorites.

Graphite is an electrical conductor, useful for arc lamp electrodes. Under standard conditions, it is the most stable form of carbon, and is used in thermochemistry for defining the heat of formation for carbon compounds. It is not normally used for fuel, as it is difficult to ignite.

In 2008, the main exporters of graphite were China, India, Brazil, North Korea, and Canada. It is not mined in the United States, but the United States produces synthetic graphite and consumes 42 thousand tonnes of natural graphite

Minda Moe,
Mineral Chair

BENCH TIPS

TEMPLATES

Whenever I have to make more than 2-3 exact copies of anything, I think of making a template. A template lets me easily draw the shape of an item. Art stores sell templates for common shapes like circles, ovals, hearts, etc, but if you need other shapes, it's easy to make your own. Simply cut the shape out of sheet plastic, copper or brass.

The brass template lets me quickly trace the design of these ginkgo leaf earrings onto silver sheet, and the nickel template makes it easy to drill the pin inlay pattern into the ironwood.

After finding a poor selection of stock templates for ovals at my local art store, I was pleased with the wide selection on Cool Tools at <http://www.cooltools.us/> If you order, be sure to look for the 10% off code each month on their Home page.

Kingsley North also has some nice templates at <http://www.kingsleynorth.com/>



DENTAL TOOLS

A ready source of free tools is your local dentist. Dental picks can be reworked into wax tools or straightened and sharpened to make a stylus for marking and layout. The steel in these tools is high quality, and the handles are designed for comfort. A special note however - don't try to bend one of the tips to a different shape - the steel will snap. To change the shape, heat the tip to red hot and bend it with pliers while it's hot.

And don't forget to ask your dentist for some of the cutting burs they throw out. These are useful for a variety of things. It's best to call a week or two before your visit and ask the dentist to put some of these tools aside for you. It's good practice also to ask that they run them through the sterilizer for you.

In addition, here's an interesting web site that might be of interest to your readers.



FAKES & FRAUDS

Unfortunately, there's a growing amount of deception and outright fraud these days at gem and mineral shows and in some of the online venues that sell these items. Often "genuine turquoise beads" turn out to be dyed magnesite, and I've been told that the majority of colored stones being sold typically have had some "enhancement" done to them.

If you're interested in what kind of fakes and frauds have been uncovered, there's a well-done page at <http://www.the-vug.com/vug/vugfakes.htm>

Brad Smith

More Bench Tips by Brad Smith can be found at
[facebook.com/BenchTips](https://www.facebook.com/BenchTips) or
groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/

BIRTHDAYS



Franzoia Joh	Oct 3
Hilary Bein	Oct 10
Paul Madison	Oct 12
Marilyn White	Oct 17
Steve Dover	Oct 27
Carlos Lemmi	Oct 29
Lonne Hunt	Oct 31

SEPT SHOWS

September 29 - 30: MONTEREY, CA: Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society; Monterey Fairgrounds, 2004 Fairgrounds Road; Hrs: Sat 10 -6; Sun 10 - 5

Contact: Janis Rovetti, (831) 372-1311;
cell (831) 521-8226; Email: janis12@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.cvgms.org

September 29 - 30: SANTA ROSA, CA: Santa Rosa Mineral & Gem Society; Wells Fargo Center for the Art, 50 Mark West Springs Road; Hours: Sat 10 - 6: Sun 10 - 5

Contact: Jolene Coon, (707) 849-9551
Email: coons@sonic.net
Website: www.srmgs.org

September 29 - 30: STOCKTON, CA: Stockton Lapidary & Mineral Club; Scottish Rite Masonic Center, 33 W. Alpine Avenue; Hrs: 10 - 5 daily

Contact: Dorothy Tonnacliff (209) 603-4539 or
Jan Bradley (209) 629-3878
Email: slmcshow@juno.com
Website: www.stocktonlapidary.com

2013 CCRM CLUB CAMPAIGN

As the club has been unable to form a nominating committee, I'm asking all of you to help take up this important task. I believe Sue Acosta has been involved in this committee in the past and has graciously volunteered to help again, so you all can count on her support. In some cases I've tried to contact you over the phone, but have resorted to e-mail as a first line of communication for some. I will call each of you in the next 48 hours to confirm you have received this message.

At last count more than half of the chairpersons will be receptive to being re-nominated for 2013. Jobs needed to be filled are; President, Parliamentarian, Recording Secretary, Vice president (?), Publicity and Sunshine. All current officers should be contacted to be certain of their desire to remain in their current positions.

As acting President, I will be on call for whoever takes this position and willing to lend a hand whenever possible. I also would not be opposed to helping in filling one of the Board of Directors positions for the club.

Rick Shaffer

Acting President, CCRMC

310-391-8429

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 2012

- Interim President - Rick Shaffer
- Vice- president - Steve Dover
- Treasurer - Anna Marie and Darrell Robb
- Recording Secretary - Sylvia Binkley,
Charlene Aspray, et.al.
- Corresponding Secretary - Leda Rogers
- Education - Co-chairs Anna Yori and Anthony Ferrari
- Federation Director - Ellen Moe
- Field trips - Co-chairs Rocky and Cole Rhodes
- Historian - Bruce Mensinger
- Librarian - Bruce Mensinger
- Membership - Felice Ganz
- Minerals - Minda Moe
- Parliamentarian - Jette Sorensen
- Photography - Sylvia Binkley
- Programs - Ellen Moe
- Publications - Co-chairs - Lynne Lukert,
Barbara Fier, and Jan Ferguson
- Publicity -Co-chairs Charlene Aspray, Ken Rogers
- Shop Committee (President, Vice President,
committee members)
- Social - Sue Acosta
- Sunshine - Lili Gelberg
- Trading Post - Steve Dover
- Web Master - Jette Sorensen

Board of Directors:

- Lynne Lukert (2012)
- Woody Shaffer (2012)
- Mary Ellen Shaffer (2013)
- (Male) open (2013) open

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 Bldg., 4117 Overland Ave. Enter from the rear door. Guests are always welcome.

Executive Committee Meetings are held the second Monday of every month*in the Multi-Purpose Room in the Veterans Bldg Auditorium. All club members are welcome.

*Meeting days occasionally change due to Monday holidays or, in July, because of the Fiesta Of Gems show (July 2007).

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 18 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	7:00pm - 9:30pm	Bruce Mensinger
Wednesday	10:00am - 2:00pm	Vern Lowe (open by appointment)
Thursday	10:00am - 2:00pm	Woody Shaffer
Saturday	12:00pm - 4:00pm	Lynne Lukert
Sunday	12:00pm - 4:00pm	Rick Shaffer

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, 601 N. Bronson Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90004



the NUGGET

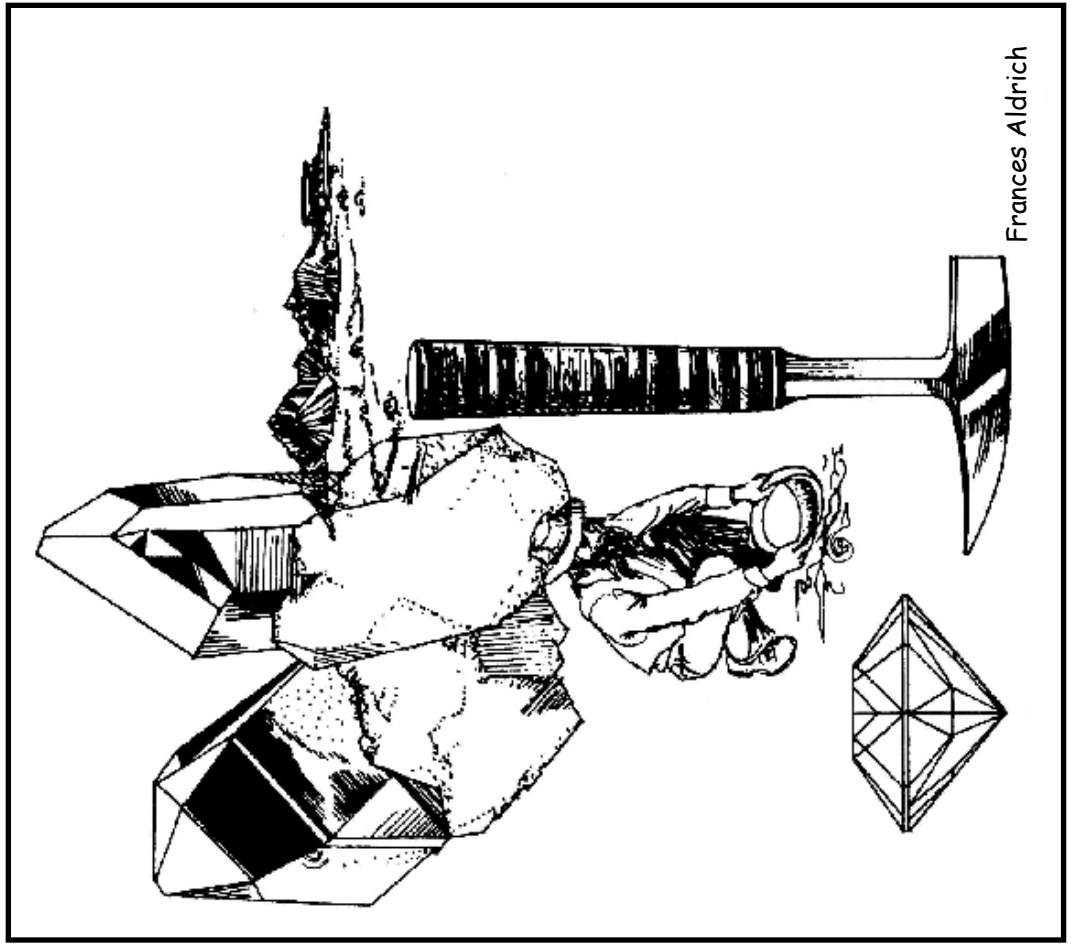
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FIRST CLASS

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Los Angeles, CA 90004

CULVER CITY ROCK & MINERAL CLUB



Frances Aldrich