

# SEPTEMBER 2013

**Monday, September 9 6:30 pm Executive Meeting**  
**7:30 pm General Meeting**  
**Program: "Precious Metals 101 and More"**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This summer's picnic went beautifully. Kudos go to Mary Ellen Shaffer for organizing all the food (a wonderful spread of food and desserts that kept everyone happy) and to Bruce Mensinger for organizing the silent auction that filled three full tables of specimens and tools to bid on.

It was fun time but bidding at the auction did get a little fierce on several of the items! Thanks to all who helped make the event so successful.

Rick Shaffer has started the groundwork for elections of new officers for next year. A slate of prospective officers should be ready for balloting in November. If you have an interest in helping the club on any of our standing committees next year, please shoot me an email <BradSmithJewelry@yahoo.com>

Finally, with fall in the air I'm hoping to get back out on a few field trips. Rocky has started to plan one to the Fresno area and is asking for other ideas that members have heard about. Please let us know if you have any "ins" with a land owner or with another rockhound who might share a good spot.

**Brad Smith**  
President



*The Club Picnic held lots of Silent Auction bargains!*

*Photos by Bruce Mensinger*

## AUGUST PROGRAM: Precious Metals 101 and More

We are fortunate to have an expert in precious metals presenting our next program.

Daniel Ballard will take us from the basic concepts of understanding precious metals:

- What is karated gold?
  - How are alloys made?
  - How does gold refining actually work?
- And on to more advanced concepts:
- Why is 950 Palladium far better than white gold?
  - What are the implications that modern casting has for the growing custom jewelry market?

He may also share about his documentary topic - The Pursuit of Purple Gold (which would, of course, be awesome for the next Lakers' championship rings).

Daniel's long list of accomplishments include 25 years with Precious Metals West, writing for the trade, photography for the MJSA Journal refining issue, expert witness for Lloyds of London and much more.

Join us on Monday, September 9 at 7:30 pm for Daniel's informative presentation and learn more about this fascinating topic.

**Ellen Moe**  
Program Chair



## SHOP REPORT

### Equipment Availability

As of August 18 (as I write this report) all shop equipment is working and ready for use.

### Silent Auction at August Picnic

The Silent Auction at the club picnic was a big success. Thanks to all of you who participated by donating items and volunteering your time and effort to help set-up and run the event.

As usual, shop supervisors brought from the shop the necessary items for the auction, such as bid sheets, pencils and tape, along with many items (mainly rocks and minerals this year) to bid for. This year we had a non-member donate to the club most of her collection of rock, mineral specimens, bone, fossils and tools; thank you Arline Currie. Many more club members than usual also donated items. Thank you one and all!

Once again, thank you to all of you who helped.

### Temporary Instructors on Thursdays

Woody will be out of town for several weeks. Steve Dover and Ken Rogers have volunteered to open the shop in his absence. Nevertheless, it's always a good idea to check for shop

closures and other interruptions by checking for posted notes on our website: [www.culvercityrocks.org](http://www.culvercityrocks.org).



### Continuing Construction: Paving

At the August general meeting, the Executive Board and the general members both voted to approve funding to allow asphalt paving behind the shop. Please note that optional construction work such as this may require temporary shop closures. Anticipated interruptions will be posted on our web site, [www.culvercityrocks.org](http://www.culvercityrocks.org).

### Parking and Access

When you visit the shop, continue to park in the parking lot parallel to Culver Blvd in front of the Scout House. The limited parking in the alley behind the shop remains 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. You now have a concrete and asphalt walkway from car to shop.

**Bruce Mensinger**

On behalf of the Shop Committee,

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Don Dohy	Sept 4
Mat Wilson	Sept 8
Vera Indenbaum	Sept 25
Liz Leshin	Sept 28
Harriet Earle	Sept 30

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

### Welcome to our new members:

Annette Landreau	Alexander Shaham
Peter Baram	Jody Baram
Tanya Lane	Cody Lyman
Misty Lord	Martin McDonald
Pearl Hsiung	John Peluso

**Felice Ganz**  
Membership Chair



*Picnic photos by Bruce Mensinger*



## WEB MASTER REPORT



The Nugget is now available via email. If you have not already asked to have it sent via email instead of snail mail, please send an email to [membership@culvercityrocks.org](mailto:membership@culvercityrocks.org)

(if you are reading this online, just click the link.)

We mailed the August Nugget to 42 members, but only 14 opened it. If you have requested to get the newsletter by email, please add [Webmaster@culvercityrocks.org](mailto:Webmaster@culvercityrocks.org) to your email address book so it doesn't end up in your spam folder. I will resend those that were not opened.

The CCRMC FaceBook page now has 270 "Likes." Janice Metz recently uploaded 41 photos to an album named "2013 Fiesta of Gems Show," take a look at them. By the time you read this, there will also be pictures from the Annual Picnic.

If you haven't already "Liked" <http://www.facebook.com/ccrmc>, feel free to do so. We invite you to ask questions and leave comments, upload pictures of your creations, field trips and finds.

Information on meetings and shop availability is regularly updated on the FaceBook page. If you don't use Facebook, we also post updates on our Yahoo group, <http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/ccrmc/> and our website, <http://www.culvercityrocks.org>. The website updates are on little Post-it notes. If they get in the way, click them and they go away. We have changed it to one click so Smart Phones understand the command.

**Jette Sorensen**  
Web Master



*Making new friends at the Club Picnic in Culver City.  
Photo by Bruce Mensinger*



## MINERAL REPORT

### Carnelian

Carnelian has been found in Bronze Age ruins on the island of Crete. During Roman times, it was often carved for use in signet rings, as hot wax will not stick to carnelian. This enabled the wearer to use their ring to imprint seals on important documents.

It is a variety of chalcedony, colored by iron oxide impurities. Carnelian is usually brownish-red, but runs from pale orange to almost black. It is a 6 to 7 on the Mohs hardness scale, with a specific gravity of 2.61.

It is found through Australia, Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Russia, and much of Europe and North America. It has been reported in twenty-seven states, including Arizona, Maine, Michigan, and Washington. Within California, it can be found in Marin County and San Luis Obispo, at Sausalito and Nipomo.

It can be cut into cabochons, used as beads, or carved into cameos. It is occasionally carved into animal carvings or other ornamental objects.

Sard is often grouped with carnelian, as its color overlaps. It is widely accepted that carnelian is more red, while sard is usually more brown. Carnelian should not be confused with jasper, as jasper is always opaque and carnelian is translucent.

**Minda Moe**  
Mineral Chair

## MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE MEETING · August 12, 2013

- Present: Sue Acosta, Steve Dover, Felice Ganz, Ana Maria Guimaraes, Lynne Lukert, Paul Madison, Bruce Mensinger, Ellen Moe, Minda Moe, Darrell Robb, Ken Rogers, Mary Ellen Shaffer, Rick Shaffer, Brad Smith and Jette Sorensen.
- The meeting was called to order by President Brad Smith at 6:44 pm.
- The July meeting minutes published in The Nugget issue of August were approved as corrected to read "(...) Sue Acosta and Woody Shaffer become lifetime honorary members".
- Treasurer Report: Darrell Robb reported the Club was solvent. He informed he would have the figures from the show at the general meeting.
- Show Report: Ken Rogers indicated the show was a great success; he shared some of the very positive commentary and email messages he received. He acknowledged the help received from everyone, but did mention that more volunteers were needed. Ellen Moe said the geodes were a huge success, largely due to Bruce Mensinger's dedication at the saw throughout the show. Next year, more grab bags would be needed. Also, a tools dealer should be added. A discussion followed about next year show's dates and that they will not conflict with the California Federation's show, which will take place in June. Lynne Lukert said that not all members had paid for their raffle tickets; a reminder to the membership would be made at the general meeting.
- Membership Report: Felice Ganz reported that the Club had 143 members. She mailed out 21 badges that had not been picked up. She also mentioned that about 80 people at the show had expressed interest in attending meetings; the Club would invite 15-20 every month until November.
- Program Report: Ellen Moe reported that Steve Hardinger, from Dragon Minerals would return. She indicated she would turn the Programs Chair over to someone else next year as she was running out of contacts. Brad Smith offered to do a jewelry bench tips program.
- Publications Report: Lynne Lukert informed that Barbara Fier would publish the Nugget in

September and reminded that content is to be submitted by the 18th of the month. Brad Smith said he would call Ms. Fier to see if she could help obtain publishing software at a discount, as he was not able to obtain the student discount.

- Social Chair: Mary Ellen Shaffer reported that all was in place for the summer picnic.
- Web Master: Jette Sorensen reported that the Club has begun using a service for emailing the Nugget and that this month, of the 42 that were emailed out, only 14 had been opened – it would be necessary to identify the reasons and make sure the emails are being properly delivered. A motion was approved to pay one year on advance for the service with a 10 percent discount.

### **New Business**

- The Club decided not to continue its membership at the Culver City Chamber of Commerce in July; will notify them so that they discontinue reminders to pay for the membership.
- Ken Rogers agreed to be at the shop on 8/22, and Steve Dover on 8/29, 9/5 and 9/12 to cover for Woody Shaffer.
- A motion was approved to pave around the shop and shed with a cap on the cost.
- The Nominating Committee was established. The committee will prepare the 2014 slate of officers for the November elections, under Rick Shaffer's coordination.
- President Brad Smith communicated he would defer to the Shop Committee to handle a member's misconduct; if the committee is not successful, alternative solutions will be sought.
- A motion was approved to purchase a barrel of cutting oil for the shop.
- Friends of the Culver City Scout House will have a meeting in September.
- Bruce Mensinger informed that he had been approached by the Boy Scout Club about bringing the scouts for a tour of the shop.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 pm.

**Ana Maria Guimaraes**  
Recording Secretary

## UPCOMING SHOWS

### September 7 - 8: DOWNEY, CA

Delvers Gem & Mineral Society  
Women's Club of Downey  
9813 Paramount Blvd.  
Sat 9 - 5; Sun 10 - 4  
Nancy Bird (562) 697-0636  
Email: nancyjbird@verizon.net

### September 21 - 22: CHICO, CA

Feather River Lapidary & Mineral Society, Oroville  
Silver Dollar Fairgrounds  
2357 Fair Street  
Sat 9 - 5; Sun 9 - 4  
John Scott, (530) 343-3491  
Email: jweazel@sbcglobal.net  
www.featherriverrocks.com

### September 21 - 22: REDWOOD CITY, CA

Sequoia Gem & Mineral Society  
Community Activities Building  
1400 Roosevelt Avenue  
10 - 5 daily  
Preston Bingham, (650) 368-6351  
Email: preston.bingham@att.net  
http://sgms.drifmine.com

### September 28 - 29: LODI, CA

Stockton Lapidary & Mineral Club  
Lodi Grape Festival Grounds  
413 East Lockford Street  
10 - 5 daily  
Jerold Kyle, (209) 368-9411  
Email: jeroldkyle@yahoo.com  
www.stocktonlapidary.com

### Sept 28 - 29: MONTEREY, CA

Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society  
Monterey Fairgrounds  
2004 Fairgrounds Road  
Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5  
Janis Rovetti, (831) 372-1311  
Email: janis12@sbcglobal.net  
www.cvgms.org

### September 28 - 29: SANTA ROSA, CA

Santa Rosa Mineral & Gem Society  
Wells Fargo Center for the Art  
50 Mark West Springs Road  
Sat. 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5  
Jolene Coon, (707) 849-9551  
www.srmgs.org

## BENCH TIPS

### Layout Tools

Dimensions on some features of a design can be fluid while others must be accurate for the design to work. When precision on a piece is important, good layout techniques are essential.

These are the tools that I rely upon to get holes in the right place, to achieve correct angles, and to cut pieces the correct length.

I like crisp sharp lines to follow, so I often coat surfaces with a dark marker and scribe my layout lines onto the metal. A square makes quick work of checking right angles or marking where to cut, and the thin center punch helps me mark a place to drill holes exactly where I want them.

Finally, a good set of dividers is probably my favorite layout tool. They let me quickly mark a strip for cutting, swing an arc, and divide a line or curve into as many equal segments as I need. I keep at least one set of dividers in every toolbox.

### Inventory Record

In an ideal world each of us has a complete pictorial record of all pieces of jewelry in our inventory. We use it for insurance. We use it as a record of what was sent out on consignment. We use it to remember which items we are taking to a show. And eventually, we use it as a record of what we have sold.

Unfortunately, we don't always have time to take good pictures



for an inventory. In situations like this I've been able to make a quick record with the help of a color copier. Simply place a number of pieces face down on the glass and make a copy. The quality is more than sufficient for an accurate record.

*More Bench Tips by Brad Smith are at:*  
**[facebook.com/BenchTips/](https://www.facebook.com/BenchTips/)**  
or see "Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" on Amazon

## GET INVOLVED!

Help out by volunteering on one of the Culver City Rock & Mineral Club committees for 2014. Begin by sending an email to:  
BradSmithJewelry@yahoo.com  
to indicate your interest. Elections are held in November.



## MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING August 12, 2013

- The meeting was called to order at 7:42 pm by Brad Smith, the Pledge of Allegiance was made; a quorum was established.
- A motion was made and approved to accept the July minutes published in the August Nugget as read.
- Seven guests were introduced and welcomed.
- President Brad Smith congratulated Ken Rogers for the success of the Fiesta of Gems Show. Mr. Rogers acknowledged the help he received from everyone and shared some of the positive commentary he received in person and via email about the quality of the vendors and instructors. He said that dealers seemed to have had a great show as well, based on feedback provided.
- Jette Sorensen, Web Master, informed that of the 42 members who received The Nugget electronically as requested, only 14 opened the email. She was concerned that the messages may have gone to the junk mail folder. Also, some people received the email without the attachment. Ms. Sorensen indicated she would have a list during the break for members to update their email addresses.
- Paul Madison, Library Chair, informed that the Club's library had a couple of hundred books and the catalog system has been installed in the computer donated by Jette Sorensen. The list was available at the meeting for people to browse.
- Rick Shaffer announced that the Nomination Committee had been established. The committee will identify the 2014 slate of officers for publication in the Nugget in October, elections in November and installation in December. Mr. Shaffer asked the membership to recommend nominees to the committee.
- A motion was approved to purchase a barrel of cutting oil for the shop.
- A motion was approved to complete paving around the shop and the shed.
- Felice Ganz, Membership Chair, informed the Club had 143 members and new members were joining at the meeting.
- A field trip to Panoche Hills has been scheduled for September 14 at 9 am. The area, located

about 30 miles west of Fresno, has easy access not requiring four wheel drive. The trip is being organized by Rockhound Field Trip. The web address for sign-up will be published on the Club's website and the Nugget.

- Brad Smith announced that the annual Club picnic would take place on 8/17 at the Lindberg Park from 10 am - 4 pm. The Club provides hot dogs, hamburgers, plates, utensils and condiments. Members should bring soft drinks, a side dish or dessert, as well as items for the silent auction.
- Darrell Robb announced the show net proceeds and the raffle proceeds.
- Brad Smith awarded Sue Acosta and Woody Shaffer lifetime Club membership for their enduring support to the Club.
- A break was held for refreshments and raffle, followed by the August Program.

**Ana Maria Guimaraes**  
Recording Secretary

## AUGUST PROGRAM REPORT

Ken Rogers introduced the August guest speaker, Janie Duncan, president of the Monrovia Rockhounds Club. Ms. Duncan is a third generation rockhound and comes from a family of collectors. She has a private museum at her home and welcomed the audience to visit. The museum includes one of only 50 stegosaurus femur bones found in the world, which was found by her father. Ms. Duncan, who became fascinated with beads about six years ago, delivered an engaging presentation about the history of beads. Her lecture was vividly illustrated by numerous items from her collection, which she generously passed around. The beads in the collection came from virtually all over the world, included items as old as 9400 BC, and were made of a variety of materials such as shell, wood, bone, glass, coral, ceramic, stone, metal, seeds and crystal. Each piece had an interesting story that captured the audience's imagination.

**Ana Maria Guimaraes**  
Recording Secretary

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 2013

President - Brad Smith  
Vice President - Steve Dover  
Treasurer - Darrell Robb  
Recording Secretary - Anna Maria Guimaraes  
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 - Paul Madison,  
Co-Chair- Bruce Mensinger  
Membership - Felice Ganz  
Minerals - Minda Moe  
Parliamentarian - Jette Sorensen  
Photography - Buce Mensinger  
Programs - Ellen Moe  
Publications - Co-Chairs - Lynne Lukert,  
Barbara Fier, and Jan Ferguson  
Show - Ken Rogers  
Publicity - Ken Rogers, Co-Chairs - Janelle and DJ  
Shop Committee (President, Vice President,  
committee members)  
Social - Mary Ellen Shaffer , Co-Chair Sue Acosta  
Sunshine - Leda Rogers  
Trading Post - Steve Dover, Co-Chair Minda Moe  
Web Master - Jette Sorensen

### Board of Directors:

*Mary Ellen Shaffer (2013)*  
*Darrell Robb (2013)*  
*Ellen Moe (2014)*  
*Bruce Mensinger (2014)*  
*Rick Shaffer (2015)*  
*Jette Sorensen (2015)*

### MEETING SCHEDULE

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.

### 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 – 9:30 pm	- Bruce Mensinger
Wednesday	10 am – 2 pm	- Ken Rogers ( <i>open by appointment</i> )
Thursday	10 am – 2 pm	- Woody Shaffer
Saturday	Noon – 4 pm	- Lynne Lukert
Sunday	Noon – 4 pm	- Rick Shaffer

If no one shows, the shop may close early. If you plan to arrive 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

VOLUME 53  
ISSUE 9  
SEPT 2013



CULVER CITY ROCK & MINERAL

CLUB, INC.

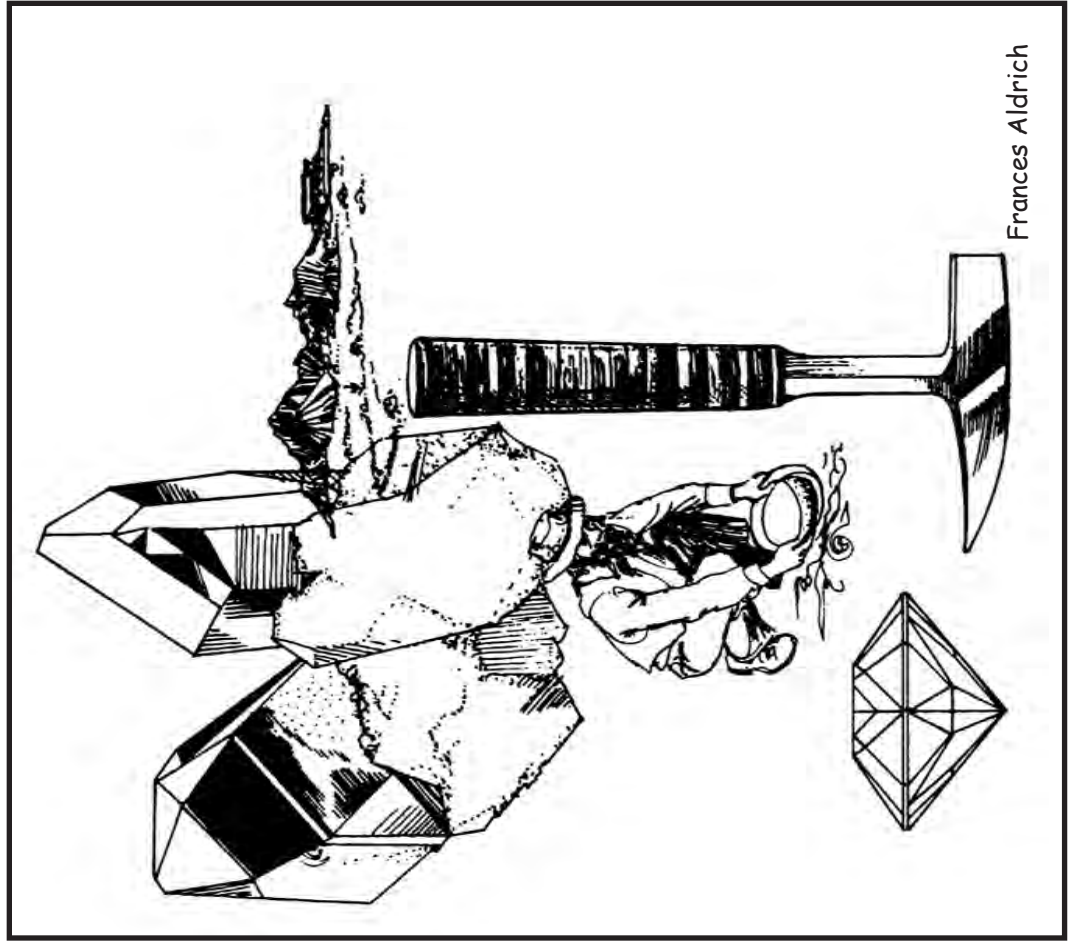
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA, USA

FIRST CLASS



CULVER CITY ROCK & MINERAL CLUB

*the Nugget*  
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Frances Aldrich