



Visitors Welcome

'Fire Agate' PROGRAM

October 9 7:30 pm

Fire agate is a rare agate with beautiful, fiery, iridescent rainbow colors, similar to precious opal. Join us for a fire agate presentation and demonstration by Christopher Anthony, who is a miner, cutter, dealer and expert.

Christopher will begin his talk by telling us about the fire agate, its formation and rarity, followed by a display of raw and cut fire agate. He will give a presentation on his process of evaluating fire agate for specimens and cutting, followed by a demonstration of cutting the agate with the Freedom.

Although Christopher had always been interested in rocks and gems, 20 years ago he got the bug and decided to learn lapidary. He got a used Pixie and a few buckets of rocks, spent time in the library to learn all he could, and he was off and running.

At first he was very interested in opals and purchased a few jars of Mexican opals and started cutting cabs. A few years later while visiting Quartzite, he discovered fire agate and that has been his primary interest ever since.

In 2013, Christopher and a friend became partners in the Jeberedhiah Fire Agate Mine in southwest Arizona. For the past six years, he has been a full time lapidarist and a rock and gem dealer. He does several shows in California and Arizona, including Stoddard Wells, Vista, Nipomo, and the Pow Wow in Quartzite, AZ. Christopher and his family live in Bakersfield.

Monday, October 9, 7:30 pm at the Veterans Memorial Auditorium Multi Purpose Room, 4117 Overland Ave., Culver City. Free parking.



Christopher Anthony's fire agates.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello fellow Club Members and rock hounds.

Autumn has arrived in Southern California and along with the changing season comes opportunity for all members to get more involved with the Club and help make our organization more fun, interesting, and of greater value to our community. Please share your ideas at our next meeting!

We are also at that time of year when nominations for the elected positions are now open and should be forwarded to the nominating committee chairman, Brad Smith. The slate of nominated officers and committee chairpersons will be presented and discussed at the upcoming October 9 meeting, with formal voting of officers at the November meeting.

Personally, I haven't belonged to a group that has been more fun than the Culver City Rock and Mineral Club and I hope, if nothing else, that everyone shares my simple precepts: Come to meetings, have fun, learn something and give back to the community that has nurtured us.

If we can all pitch in and help serve the Club in an officer or committee-member capacity (even if only for a year) we can all enjoy the meetings more and keep a diversity of different opinions and knowledge that keeps us strong and together in our common interest.

Please get involved and help our Club stay vibrant. Looking forward to seeing everyone on the second Monday of this month.

Darrell Robb
Club President



Fire agates cut by Christopher Anthony.



OCTOBER WORKSHOPS

Beginning Lapidary

Sunday, Oct. 15: 9 am – Noon

At CCRMC Shop, Limited to 3 students

CCRMC members only

Fee: \$20 includes material

Hands-on individual instruction. Cut, grind and polishing a slab into your own beautiful ready-to-set cabochon! Learn the proper use of the Shop equipment and how to make your own creations in the future.

Email: workshops@culvercityrocks.org to reserve your spot. You will receive instructions on prepaying your reservation. Payment must be received by the Thursday before the workshop to guarantee your spot.



NOTE About Workshops:

Wear old short-sleeved t-shirts, jeans and closed-toed shoes. Long hair must be tied back.

Regular Shop fees apply beginning at Noon for those who want to stay after the workshop.

Soldering 101

Sunday, Oct. 22: 9 am – Noon

At CCRMC Shop, Limited to 5 students

CCRMC members only

Fee: \$30 includes all materials (metals: copper, some silver)

Learn to use a micro torch to solder a pre-made bezel cup to a copper plate. Make silver beads for embellishment and solder these to the copper plate. Then insert a small cabochon in the bezel cup and set it securely. Take home your finished masterpiece!

Check: culvercityrocks.org for workshop information or email: workshops@culvercityrocks.org.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Robert Brownlee

Lawrence Chuck

(sorry about last month's error)

Sabrina Keep

Joe LaBlasca

Marshall Martin

Marilyn Murata

Richard Overdorf

Mia Quiles

Marjaneh Saifi

Tatiana Woldanski

Yvonne Yao

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Paula Byron	10/2	Holly Westhoff	10/20
Howard Karp	10/5	Edward Sullivan	10/24
Michael Hill	10/5	Gary Willens	10/24
Denise Friese	10/10	Nickie Jessup	10/25
Justin Lescoulie	10/11	Steve Dover	10/27
Mike Watts	10/15	Sabrina Keep	10/30
Simone DeSantis	10/20		



Mining Supplies & Rock Shop

miningsuppliesandrockshop.com

9565 "C" Ave. Ste. K, Hesperia, CA 92345

760-244-9642



Wed – Sat 10 am - 4 pm

Mining Equipment
Lapidary Equipment
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Jewelry Making Supplies

Classes & Field Trips
Metal Detectors
Beading Supplies
Hand-Made Jewelry
Gifts, Books & Magazines

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM REPORT 'All Things Opal'

Ken Rogers introduced Fran Todd, a member of the American Opal Society with extensive experience in collecting and cutting opals.

Fran began her lecture by providing the origins of the word 'opal.' In Sanskrit, 'upal' means 'precious stone'; in Latin 'opalus' and in Greek 'opallios' mean 'to see color change.'



A strand of common opals.

Opals found in Roman ruins dating 4000 BC, were likely from Ethiopia. Queen Victoria favored opals and started the rumor that they brought bad luck unless their bearer was born in October, such as herself.

In 1849, common opals were discovered in Australia. In 1880, the Boulder Opal and Lightning Ridge fields in Queensland opened, and in 1912 the Coober Pedy field opened. Opal is formed by liquid silica and water that wash into openings in the rock. It has no classical crystal and cleavage pattern.

Opal hardness measures 5.5 to 6.5 mohs (Brazilian opals measure about 7 mohs).

Fran described the common opal as having no fire,

contrary to the precious opal. Common opals have irregular patterns of crystal alignment, as shown in electron microscope images. Precious opals are very structured, allowing light to reflect and produce flashes of color. Red is the longest wavelength and produces the most valuable fire.

Fran showed several images of precious and common opals from around the world; she also showed the Picasso stone, which is very similar to the common opal, but it is an agate. She explained that opal brightness has 5 levels (5 being the highest), and that it must be measured using incandescent light or sunlight. Fluorescent light is inadequate for this purpose. Fran also provided tips for buying, cutting and caring for opals and she brought photos and several specimens from her collection to illustrate her lecture.

Submitted by Ana Maria S. Guimaraes
Recording Secretary

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Recording Secretary



This preserved lakebed sandstone was collected from Au Train Island, Lake Superior, MI. Jacobsville Sandstone from this area ranges from 500 to 1,100 million years old. The specimen itself is only about a half inch in thickness, and was found sandwiched between many more layers of wave stones.

From the collection of Tatiana Valentin. Photo: Eyra Allen-Lucas, 2017.

MINERAL REPORT: 'Jacobsville Sandstone'

Au Train Island is an outcrop of the Jacobsville sandstone formation off the shore of Lake Superior. The 106-acre island is home to an old-growth hemlock forest, hosting a blue heron rookery and bald eagle nests.

The outcrop was exposed by glacier activity at the end of the last ice age. This layered sandstone contains lake bed deposited an estimated 1 billion years ago. These layers give us a glimpse back to a period where an inland freshwater sea lay void of life. Not even the smallest eukaryotes were found fossilized in this formation. The sand is predominantly composed of small quartzite particles. These small sand particles originated from a Proterozoic crystalline mountain range formed by the collision of the Superior and North Atlantic cratons.

Over time, sediment deposited in the lake basin as water currents sculpted out the ripples in the sand. Thin layers of sandstone were formed from the change in the direction of water currents. As the currents shifted, new sand was redistributed along the lake bed, covering the older layers over time.

The sandstone was formed after layer upon layer of sediment was deposited without being disturbed. The sand is compacted under the immense pressure of younger formations, as the thin layers become sandstone bedrock.

Eyra Allen Lucas
Minerals Chair

EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES September 11

Those present: Stephanie Dangott, Steve Dover, Franne Einberg, Felice Ganz, Ana Maria S. Guimaraes, Alexa Hunter, Bruce Mensinger, Darrell Robb, Ken Rogers, Grace Sato, Brad Smith, Jette Sorensen, Joyce Watanabe.

The meeting was called to order by President Darrell Robb at 6:44 pm.

The August Executive Meeting minutes were approved as read in the September Nugget.

Darrell Robb informed the Club needed to determine the beneficiaries of the Fiesta of Gems raffle ticket sales proceeds in order to inform the State. Brad Smith proposed investigating whether Culver City had a charity organization gathering donations for hurricanes Harvey and Irma victims. Franne Einberg reminded the organization must be classified as 501(c)(3). Alexa Hunter committed to finding out whether the Culver City School District was promoting donation collections. A motion was approved to donate fifty percent of the raffle ticket sales proceeds to a Culver City charity benefiting the hurricane victims (to be determined by September 15) and fifty percent to the Friends of the Culver City Scout House.

Darrell Robb informed that the Nugget printing and handling costs had increased and that it was necessary to continue to encourage members to opt for e-mail delivery. A decision was made to eliminate the use of printers beginning January; copies of lower quality would be sent to members who wanted to continue to receive hard copies.

Education chair Alexa Hunter announced that she would not do presentations until late in the fall.

Librarian Bruce Mensinger informed he had been unable to find the password for the library book directory. Jette Sorensen committed to searching for the email of the former assistant librarian.

Membership chair Brad Smith indicated the Club had 130-140 members, mostly joining for the Shop. Ken Rogers recommended pointing out to members that they are supposed to be actively involved with the Club and not just join to use the Shop. Mr. Smith requested that those taking membership applications at the shop indicate whether cash or check was taken.

Photography chair Bruce Mensinger expressed desire to transfer the Photography chair to someone else. Jette Sorensen indicated Pam Leitner had shown interest.

Program chair Ken Rogers informed that the

October program would be about fire agates and the November program would be about meteors; he reminded that the December program would be the Holiday Party. Mr. Rogers also informed that the Bead Society had made postcards in Spanish announcing their Bazaar to be handed out and that they would offer a translator in some of the Bazaar classes.

Publications co-chair Jette Sorensen noted that an ad had been purchased for a year starting in the September Nugget.

Darrell Robb indicated that the Auditorium would not be available for the 2018 Fiesta of Gems the weekend following the Fourth of July holiday, but the previous two weekends were available.

Social Chair Grace Sato requested that a Holiday Party announcement be made in the Nugget.

Sunshine Chair Felice Ganz committed to sending a card to Hellena Jones-Elbling and her husband.

Darrell Robb informed that research continues on the reason for the phone bill increase.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 pm.

Submitted by Ana Maria S. Guimaraes
Recording Secretary

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES September 11

President Darrell Robb called the meeting to order at 7:45 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was made and a quorum was established.

Nine visitors were introduced.

The August General Meeting minutes published in the September Nugget were approved with the following amendment: "Mr. Robb informed that all pending Fiesta of Gems and raffle income and expenses must be submitted by September 1."

Darrell Robb and Club members reflected on hurricanes Harvey and Irma victims, as well as victims of the fires in Montana, Oregon, Nevada and California. A motion was approved to donate fifty percent of the Fiesta of Gems raffle ticket sales proceeds to a Culver City charity benefiting the victims (to be determined by September 15) and fifty percent to the Friends of the Culver City Scout House.

Darrell Robb informed the Club was solvent.

Ken Rogers announced that the October program

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General Meeting Minutes continued

would be about fire agates and the November program would be about meteors.

Jette Sorensen informed that the Beginning Lapidary workshop on September 24 had been cancelled, but there would be a session on September 17. She clarified the workshops were open to Club members only and provided sign-up instructions.

Darrell Robb informed there would not be a Trading Post that evening.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Submitted by Ana Maria S. Guimaraes
Recording Secretary

OCTOBER SHOW GUIDE

October 7 - 8: BORON, CA

Mojave Mineralogical Society
Boron Community Center, 26998 John Street
9 - 4 daily; Contact: Bruce Davies, (760) 338-8829
Email: daviesb@yahoo.com

October 7 - 8: GRASS VALLEY, CA

Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society
Nevada County Fairgrounds, 11228 McCourtney Road
10 - 5 daily; Contact: Anita Wald-Tuttle, (530) 277-6195
Email: anitaw1t3@gmail.com; Website: www.ncgms.org

October 7 - 8: VISTA, CA

Vista Gem & Mineral Society
Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum; 2040 N Santa Fe Ave
Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4; Kelly Hickman, (760) 639-0447
Email: kellyahickman@hotmail.com; www.vistarocks.org

October 8: FALLBROOK, CA

Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Society
Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Building, 123 West Alvarado St
9 am - 4 pm; Contact: Janice Bricker, (760) 728-1130
Email: fgms@sbcglobal.net; Website: www.fgms.org

October 14 - 15: ANDERSON, CA

Shasta Gem & Mineral Society
Shasta District Fairgrounds; 1890 Briggs Street, SR 273
Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4; Steve Puderbaugh, 530-604-2951
Email: steve@applyaline.com; Website: Facebook Page

October 14 - 15: TRONA, CA

Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society
Gem Show Building; 13337 Main Street
Sat 7:30 - 5; Sun 7:30 - 4; Contact: Jim & Bonnie
Fairchild, (760) 372-5356; Email: slgms@iwvisp.com
www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub

October 21: WEST HILLS, CA

Woodland Hills Rock Chippers
First United Methodist Church, 22700 Sherman Way
10 - 5; Contact: Virginia Rotramel, (951) 403-2634
Email: ginigem1@gmail.com; www.rockchippers.org

October 21 - 22: PLACERVILLE, CA

El Dorado County Mineral & Gem Society
El Dorado County Fairgrounds; 100 Placerville Drive
10 - 5 daily; Contact: (530) 676-2472
Email: info@rockandgemshow.org; www.eldoradorocks.org

October 21 - 22: SANTA ROSA, CA

Santa Rosa Mineral & Gem Society
The Veterans Memorial; 1351 Maple Avenue
Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5; Contact: Jolene Coon
Email: santarosarockshow@hotmail.com; www.srmgs.org

October 21 - 22: WHITTIER, CA

Whittier Gem & Mineral Society
Whittier Community Center, 7630 Washington Avenue
10 - 5 daily; Contact: Yvonne Morton, (562) 895-8667
Email: will.yvonne.morton@verizon.net; www.wgmsca.com

October 28 - 29: LOS ALTOS, CA

Peninsula Gem & Geology Society
Los Altos Youth Center, One North San Antonio Road
10 - 5 daily; Contact: Steve Jobe, (408) 834-5384
Email: steve_jobe@sbcglobal.net; www.pggs.org

October 28 - 29: CAMBRIA, CA

San Luis Obispo Gem & Mineral Club
Cambria Veterans Hall, 1000 Main Street
10 - 5 daily; Contact: Kim Patrick Noyes, (805) 610-0603
Email: kimnoyes@gmail.com; www.slogem.org

October 28 - 29: SACRAMENTO, CA

Sacramento Mineral Society
Scottish Rite Temple; 6151 H Street
10 - 5 daily; Contact: Alyssa Mesiznger, (916) 662-5819
Email: gemshow@sacramentomineralsociety.org
http://sacramentomineralsociety.org

In Memorium

Wilbert Williams

With great sadness we report that Wilbert Williams recently died.

Wilbert had been a member for many years and became our Shop repair person earlier this year. He was always willing to lend a helping hand, be it to identify a member's specimen, explain the best way to cut a geode or to secure a piece of rough in one of the big saws.

Wilbert brought enthusiasm and joy to Shop and he will be dearly missed.

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.....culvercityrocks.org

Elected Officers for 2017

President - Darrell Robb
Vice President - Steve Dover
Treasurer - Franne Einberg
Recording Secretary - Ana Maria Guimaraes
Corresponding Secretary - Jan Ferguson
Historian - Bruce Mensinger
Parliamentarian - Johnny Hjorth

Committee Chairs:

Education - Alexa Hunter
Federation Director - Rick Shaffer
Field Trips - Hans Baumann
Librarian - Bruce Mensinger
Membership - Brad Smith
Co-Chair - Stephanie Dangott
Minerals - Eyra Allen-Lucas
Photography - Bruce Mensinger
Programs - Ken Rogers
Publications - Co-Chairs - Barbara Fier,
Jan Ferguson, Jette Sorensen
Publicity - Janice Metz
Show - Hellena Jones-Elbling
Shop Committee - President,
Vice President, Shop Instructors
Social - Grace Sato
Co-Chair - Joyce Watanabe
Sunshine - Felice Ganz
Trading Post - Gary Mitchell
Web Master - Jette Sorensen
Workshops - Jette Sorensen

Board of Directors:

(2017) Bruce Mensinger - Ana Maria Guimaraes
(2018) Rick Shaffer - Jette Sorensen
(2019) Brad Smith - Grace Sato

Contact Us: (310) 836-4611
P.O. Box 3324, Culver City, CA 90231

culvercityrocks.org
facebook.com/CCRMCM
instagram.com/culvercityrocks/
twitter.com/culvercityrocks
<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/CCRMCM/info>

MEETING SCHEDULE

General Meetings are held the second Monday of every month* at 7:30 pm, usually in the Multi-Purpose Room in the Veterans Bldg., 4117 Overland Ave.* Enter from the rear door.

*Consult the Nugget or the website for occasional location changes

Guests are always welcome.

Executive Committee Meetings are held the second Monday of every month* at 6:30 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room in the Veterans Bldg. Auditorium. All Club members are welcome.

*Meeting days occasionally change due to federal holidays or to accommodate the Fiesta Of Gems Show.

DUES & FEES

One time Initiation Fees:

Individuals	\$20.00
2 Persons/Same Address	\$35.00
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.)

Replacement badge \$15.00

SHOP INFORMATION

The shop is open to members in good standing over the age of 18 who sign an indemnification form. Junior members (13 - 18) must be accompanied by an adult. Instruction is available at all sessions. Practice slabs are available.

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

Shop Phone: (310) 836-4611

Hours:

Tuesday 7 pm – 9:30 pm - Rick Shaffer

Wednesday 10 am – 2 pm - By appointment,
email: shop-avail-appoint@culvercityrocks.org

Thursday 10 am – 2 pm - Brad Smith

Saturday Noon – 4 pm - Lynne Lukert

Sunday Noon – 4 pm - Jette Sorensen

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 at (310) 836-4611

The Nugget

The deadline for submissions is 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. 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 to Culver City Rock and Mineral Club, P.O. Box 3324, Culver City, CA 90231, Attention: Editor.



the NUGGET

CULVER CITY ROCK & MINERAL CLUB

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CR&MC

CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA, USA

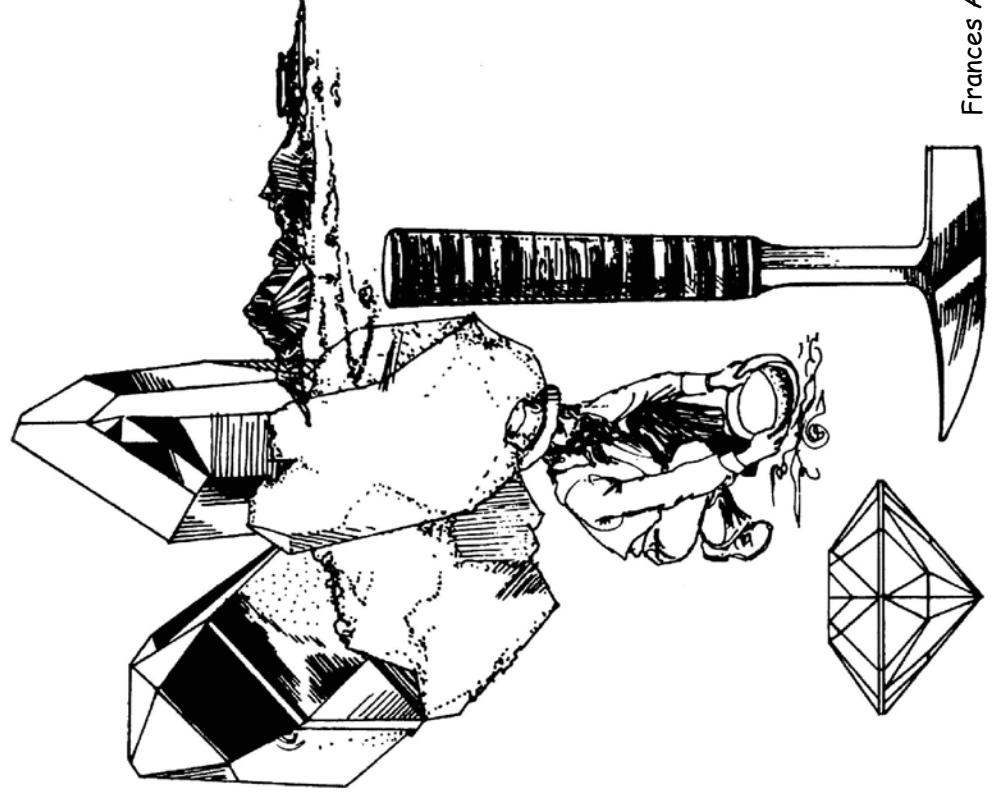
FIRST CLASS



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The Nugget
P.O. Box 3324
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CULVER CITY ROCK & MINERAL CLUB, INC



Frances Aldrich