

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



DECEMBER 2015

Monday, December 14, 2015
6:00pm to 9:00pm **HOLIDAY PARTY**
and installation of 2016 Officers



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Darrell Robb is out of town and asked me fill in for him. He added he would like to start a new tradition; to have the Vice President write the year-end wrap-up (we'll have to wait and see how that one works out :)

2015 has been a great year for the club. The Fiesta of Gems was absolutely terrific, we had extremely informative and memorable presentations. The silent auctions at the February meeting and the Picnic in August were fun and the Holiday Party was a blast, something we totally expect for the one coming up Dec. 14.

There will be a few changes for the Board and committees for 2016. We want to thank Charlene Aspray for getting terrific speakers and demonstrators for the monthly meetings. Ken Rogers who has connections in both the rock and mineral community and the jewelry world will be taking over together with Steve Dover. Thanks to Felice Ganz for her tireless work with membership and for getting club badges to all the new members, that responsibility will now be in the hands of Brad Smith and Leda Rogers. Hellena Jones-Elbling has taken on the responsibilities of Show Chairman, and she needs all of us to give a helping hand in this, the "flagship event" for our club. Hellena was co-chair with Brad Smith last year. We are excited to have Manon Tree as our new Education chair person. That position has been vacant for a while, and we look forward to continue the club's interaction with kids, something that is a great part of our 56-year history. I am returning the VP responsibilities to Steve Dover.

We are adding a new committee, co-chaired by Joyce Watanabe and me, the Workshop Committee. Look forward to a bunch of small and some larger



Culver City Rock and Mineral Club Member's Annual Holiday Party

Monday, Dec. 14, 6 pm

Culver City Rotary Plaza
5400 Overland Avenue
Culver City

Park on the street, not in the CCRP lot.
Volunteers are needed to set up at 5 pm



*Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.
Ham, turkey and utensils provided.*

*The evening will include installation of officers
for 2016 followed by the infamous*

*** WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT EXCHANGE ***
***Bring a wrapped gift to participate**
The evening will wrap up by 9 pm

workshops. The biggest change is that the workshops will be for CCRMC members only. Some will be totally free of charge, some will be "materials fee" only and others will have a reasonable fee plus materials, if any. Some workshops will be at the shop, others in the Friends Of Culver City Scout House (FOCCSH) next door to the shop and some might be outdoors. If torches are used in the demonstrations, they will be held outdoors as FOCCSH does not allow any fire in their building.

Let's make 2016 yet another terrific year!

Jette Sorensen
Vice President

SHOP NEWS

Shop Schedule

Check our website, www.culvercityrocks.org, for scheduled open time or call the shop (310-836-4611) after the scheduled opening time to confirm that an instructor has arrived.

Equipment Availability

As of November 17 (when I was last at the shop before writing this report) all shop equipment was in good working order and ready for use except for the right-hand side 10-inch trim saw which needs a new oil pump. The months-long problem with the plumbing is resolved; no more bailing the floor drain.

Slab Saw Practice

Last month I described the steps for using the three enclosed slab-saws. This month I'll begin to explain why all these steps are important.

Securely clamping your rock in the vise is obvious to everyone, but achieving secure clamping eludes many users, sometimes even for experienced rock-cutters and results in bent saw blades and damaged rocks.

Basic force to cut: The saw blade has small diamonds imbedded in the metal around the edge of the circular blade. To cut stone, the blade edge must move while the rock is pressed against the moving blade edge. The diamonds are much harder than any rock but they are not particularly sharp or oriented in any particular direction. Cutting takes place by the diamonds smashing the rock, not by slicing.

Direction of force: The feed mechanism forces the rock against the blade edge. It moves relentlessly in the two smaller saws and by hydraulic pressure in the 24-inch saw. In any case, the resulting force against the rock is initially in a combined downward and toward you (into the rock) direction. As the cut progresses the overall force grows larger as the kerf gets longer, then smaller again as the tallest (longest kerf) is passed. Near the end of the cut, the piece will usually break off just before the cut is finished, leaving a burr on the cut-off piece.

Changing direction of force: As the cut progresses the direction of the force moves. The up component against the stone will increase considerably if the rock is large (tall) because the blade must cut above the horizontal center-line of the blade.

The upward force on the rock can cause slippage

upward or twisting of the rock relative to the vise. But, the rock is straddling the blade so it must move upward in the vise or rotate clockwise or break. In practice what happens is typically some of each. That's bad for your slab-to-be, and the saw blade which usually gets bent.

Vise-to-rock gripping and Vise binding: The vise can easily hold your rock if used correctly. It has wood or plastic facing that your rock can imbed into and a toothed bar to balance and increase gripping power and leverage. For these to work the movable vise jaw must be close to parallel to the opposing jaw. If the jaws are too far from parallel the movable jaw can bind and no amount of tightening will grip your rock firmly.

(To be continued in future Shop News reports)

Limited parking in back of the shop is open for use. Park on the asphalt, off the alley concrete to avoid a parking citation. Please respect the space reserved for the shop instructor next to the paddle-tennis court.

**On behalf of the Shop Committee,
Bruce Mensinger**

BENCH TIPS

Foredom Stand

A quick and easy way to suspend a flex shaft over your jewelry bench is to use some steel pipe components from your local hardware store. It attaches with a couple of screws and only costs about \$10.

I use 1/2 inch galvanized pipe and fittings. To build a stand that attaches to the top of your bench, all you'll need is a flange and a thirty inch length of the pipe. If you prefer a stand that attaches to the side of your bench, you'll need a little longer pipe, three foot, a flange, and a 90 degree "street elle".

Finally, make a hook that goes into the top of the pipe on which to hang the motor. You can use heavy coat hanger wire or 1/8 steel rod from the hardware store.



*Excerpted from Bench Tips for Jewelry Making:
101 Useful Tips.*

MINERAL REPORT

Graphite is one of the allotropes of carbon, and is the most stable under standard conditions. It is a polymorph of diamond, meaning that they have the same chemical composition but different structures – this is due to the extreme difference in their locations of formation. It is highly stable and conducts electricity, so it is widely used in electrodes and refractory processes. It is known to facilitate the



corrosion of stainless steel, so its use is somewhat limited.

It is a native element mineral, as its formula is just C. It is also a semimetal. Graphite is in the hexagonal crystal system, with the Hermann–Mauguin symbol $6/m2/m2/m$.

It exhibits basal cleavage, meaning it cleaves very easily in one direction, as the bonding between layers is just van der Waals forces. It can have a tabular crystal habit, or appear as foliated or granular masses.

It is iron-black to steel-gray in color, with a Mohs scale hardness of 1-2. It has a metallic to earthy luster, and a black streak. Graphite occurs in metamorphic rocks, igneous rocks, and meteorites. It is often associated with quartz, calcite, micas, and tourmaline.

The major exporters of graphite are China, India, Brazil, North Korea, and Canada. During the Neolithic Age, 4000-3500 BC, a Danubian culture used graphite in their pottery's ceramic paint. During the reign of Elizabeth I, the English monarchy controlled a graphite mine in England because they could use it in cannonball molds for the English navy. Today, it is used in blast furnaces, batteries, pencils and brake linings.

Graphite is considered the highest grade of coal, meaning that you can give a child coal in their stocking this winter, if you spend some money on pencils. It's very hard to ignite, though, so it is not a common fuel source.

Minda Moe
Mineral Chair

PS: Happy Holidays!

2016 ELECTION RESULTS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Current President plus

2016	Steve Dover	Leda Rogers
2017	Bruce Mensinger	Ana Maria Guimaraes
2018	Rick Shaffer	Jette Sorensen

* Nominees for the Board of Directors shall have served as elected officers for at least one year.

ELECTED OFFICERS:

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

COMMITTEES:

Education	Manon Tree
Federation Director	Rick Shaffer
Field Trip Chair	OPEN
Librarian	Bruce Mensinger
Membership	Brad Smith
Co-Chair	Leda Rogers
Mineral Chair	Minda Moe
Photography	Bruce Mensinger
Programs	Ken Rogers
Co-Chair	Steve Dover
Publications Co-Editors	Barbara Fier, Jan Ferguson and Jette Sorensen
Publicity	Janice Metz
Show Chair	Hellena Jones-Elbling
Shop Committee	President, Vice President and Shop Instructors
Social Chair	Grace Sato
Co-Chair	Joyce Watanabe
Sunshine	Felice Ganz
Trading Post	Gary Mitchell
Web Master	Jette Sorensen
Workshops	Jette Sorensen
Co-Chair	Joyce Watanabe

EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES November 9, 2015

- Those present: Charlene Aspray; Steve Dover, Franne Einberg, Felice Ganz, Ana Maria Guimaraes, Hellena Jones-Elbling, Bruce Mensinger, Darrell Robb, Grace Sato, Rick Shaffer, Jette Sorensen and Joyce Watanabe.
 - The meeting was called to order at 6:41 pm by President Darrell Robb.
 - The October Executive Meeting minutes published in the November Nugget were approved with the following corrections: “Joyce Watanabe brought an example of a welcome letter from another club. Joyce will give a copy to the new 2016 Membership Chair.” Should read: “Grace Sato brought an example of a welcome letter from another club. Grace will give a copy to the new 2016 Membership Chair.” Also, in the 2016 Slate of Candidates section, the Education Committee Chair and the Show Co-Chair should read ‘Open.’
 - Jette Sorensen proposed that Rick Prehoda receive a member recognition for his longtime support to the Club.
 - Jette Sorensen was appointed Chair of the Workshop Committee.
 - Darrell Robb announced that the Friends of the Culver City Scout House (FOCCSH) had sent a letter thanking the Club for the donation of the show’s raffle proceeds. Discussion followed about how raffle proceeds could be used. Franne Einberg clarified that the State of California requires 90 percent of the proceeds to be donated to a non-profit organization.
 - Federation Report: Rick Shaffer informed the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CFMS) asked the member clubs to poll their members for someone who is willing to serve as the CFMS Bulletin Editors Advisory Chair and bring the name to the CFMS Directors meeting in November. Mr. Shaffer also informed the CFMS had opened enrollment to their Camp Zzyzx Earth Science Seminar, to take place March 27 to April 3, 2016 at the Desert Studies Center, Soda Springs CA.
 - Librarian Report: Bruce Mensinger informed he bought books for the Club’s library.
 - Photography Chair Report: Bruce Mensinger requested specimens or photos of petrified wood for the 2016 Fiesta of Gems postcard. He will bring a selection of photos for the officers to vote. The photo must be selected by end of December.
 - Program Report: Charlene Aspray reported that programs have been secured for January and February.
 - Publication Report: Jette Sorensen reported that the Club needed to purchase a publication software license for Jan Ferguson; Ms. Sorensen was going to try to obtain it with a student discount.
 - Show Chair Report: Hellena Jones-Elbling committed to ensuring the 2016 show is announced on the CFMS website.
 - Shop Committee Report: Steve Dover reported that the intermittent sewer drain back-up had been repaired. He also informed the Shop Committee was reviewing its finances to determine whether fees could be lowered; results would be reported by January.
 - Social Chair Report: Grace Sato informed that Mary Ellen Shaffer had reserved the Rotary Plaza for the Club’s Holiday Party.
 - Trading Post: Steve Dover informed that Gary Mitchell would take over the Trading Post beginning January 2016.
 - Webmaster Report: Jette Sorensen reported that there had been no problems with returned Nugget emails this month.
 - A motion was approved for the Board of Directors to call for the audit of the books.
- The meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm

**Submitted by Ana Maria Guimaraes
Recording Secretary**

PROGRAM REPORT November 9, 2015

Charlene Aspray introduced Dr. Steve Hardinger, a Senior Lecturer in Organic Chemistry at UCLA, a mineral dealer and a mineral collector. Dr. Hardinger covered basic chemistry topics relevant to the mineral collector. He explained how atoms form familiar elements such as carbon, gold and silver; why certain elements are highly reactive, such as sodium, and others are stable, such as gold; and how to look for similarities in properties based on formula and classification. Dr. Hardinger also discussed how chemistry explains mineral properties such as color, radioactivity, fluorescence, shape, hardness and solubility in water. The presentation was engaging and informative.

**Submitted by Ana Maria Guimaraes
Recording Secretary**

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES November 9, 2015

- The meeting was called to order at 7:49 pm, the Pledge of Allegiance was made and a quorum was established.
- The October General Meeting minutes published in the November Nugget were approved as read.
- Four guests were introduced.
- Darrell Robb reported that the Friends of the Culver City Scout House (FOCCSH) had sent a letter thanking the Club for the donation of the show's raffle proceeds.
- Hellena Jones-Elbling announced that the 2016 Fiesta of Gems would take place June 24 through June 26. She asked for donations of books, magazines, plant pots and soil. She also asked for volunteers for the various jobs at the show (raffle tickets, geode cutters, balloon and décor, hospitality, security, plant sale, etc.); those interested should contact her via email at: creationsbyhellena@gmail.com.
- Grace Sato reported that the Club's holiday party will take place at the Rotary Plaza on December 14 and asked for volunteers to help set up the place beginning at 5 pm. She informed that the Club would provide ham and turkey and asked members to bring side dishes and dessert. Bruce Mensinger reminded not to park in the Plaza's parking lot, as it is private.
- Ken Rogers informed that the Club had been featured on the television show Storage Wars on November 3;

the segment was available on YouTube and the link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e9yX4cV3q4o> on the clubs website.

- Mr. Rogers announced that reporter Sandra Endo made a donation to the Club.
- Mr. Rogers gave an update on his October meeting presentation. He informed that China was pushing for its precious materials to stay in the country, so prices are expected to rise in the US.
- On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Steve Dover presented the 2016 officers slate. The following directors and officers were elected:

Board of Directors: Rick Shaffer and Jette Sorensen
President: Darrell Robb
Vice-President: Steve Dover
Treasurer: Franne Einberg
Recording Secretary: Ana Maria Guimaraes
Correspondence Secretary: Jan Ferguson
Parliamentarian: Woody Shaffer
Historian: Bruce Mensinger

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm; a break was held for refreshments and a Trading Post, followed by the November Program.

Submitted by Ana Maria Guimaraes
Recording Secretary

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Joshua F. Corey	Dec 1
Edmondo A. Coronel	Dec 1
Julia McCarty	Dec 1
Theo Kyriakos	Dec 2
Robert Willett	Dec 3
Max Hippensteel	Dec 5
Virginia Hollis	Dec 6
Betty Haile	Dec 7
Brian Lallement	Dec 7
Damon Pressman	Dec 8
Marilyn M Matthews	Dec 9
Yvette Marie Trinh	Dec 9
Ellen Moe	Dec 10
Barbara Shaffer	Dec 10
Rosemarie Ihde	Dec 14
Kyle Deise	Dec 23



UPCOMING SHOWS

December 5 - 6: BARSTOW, CA

Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society

Cora Harper Community Center

841 S. Barstow Road 10 - 5 daily

Danny Watts, (760) 373-1309 www.mdgms.net

December 5 - 6: LAKESIDE, CA

El Cajon Valley Gem & Mineral Society

Lakeside Rodeo Grounds

12584 Mapleview Street Sat 9 - 5; Sun 9 - 4

Mary Ness, (619) 449-0759 www.ecvgms.com

December 12 - 13: RIALTO, CA

Orange Belt Mineralogical Society

105 South Palm Avenue 9 am - Dusk daily

Contact: Jessica Pierson, (909) 381-0089

<http://OBMSrocks.yolasite.com>

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.....www.culvercityrocks.com.

Elected Officers for 2015

- President - Darrell Robb
- Vice President - Jette Sorensen
- Treasurer - Franne Einberg
- Recording Secretary - Ana Maria Guimaraes
- Corresponding Secretary - Jan Ferguson
- Education - Manon Tree
- Historian - Bruce Mensinger
- Parliamentarian - Ellen Moe

Committee Chairs:

- Federation Director - Rick Shaffer
- Field Trips - Open
- Librarian - Bruce Mensinger
- Membership - Felice Ganz
- Minerals - Minda Moe
- Photography - Bruce Mensinger
- Programs - Charlene Aspray
- Publications - Co-Chairs Barbara Fier, Jan Ferguson, Jette Sorensen
- Publicity - Janice Metz
- Show - Brad Smith
- Co-Chair - Hellena Jones-Elbling
- Shop Committee - President, Vice President, Instructors
- Social - Grace Sato
- Co-Chair - Joyce Watanabe
- Sunshine - Leda Rogers
- Trading Post - Steve Dover
- Web Master - Jette Sorensen

Board of Directors:

- (2015) Rick Shaffer - Jette Sorensen
- (2016) Steve Dover - Leda Rogers
- (2017) Bruce Mensinger - Ana Maria Guimaraes

Contact Us:

Phone: (310) 836-4611
 Address: P.O. Box 3324, Culver City, CA 90231
 FaceBook: www.facebook.com/CCRMC
 Twitter: www.twitter.com/culvercityrocks
 Yahoo: <http://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/ccrmc/info>

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* 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
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SHOP INFORMATION

The shop is open to all 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 Boy Scout clubhouse and next to the paddle tennis courts)

Shop Phone: (310) 836-4611

Hours:

Tuesday	7 pm – 9:30 pm - Bruce Mensinger
Wednesday	10 am – 2 pm - By appointment, see culvercityrocks.org/lapshop.htm
Thursday	10 am – 2 pm - Vern Lowe
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

VOLUME 56

ISSUE 12

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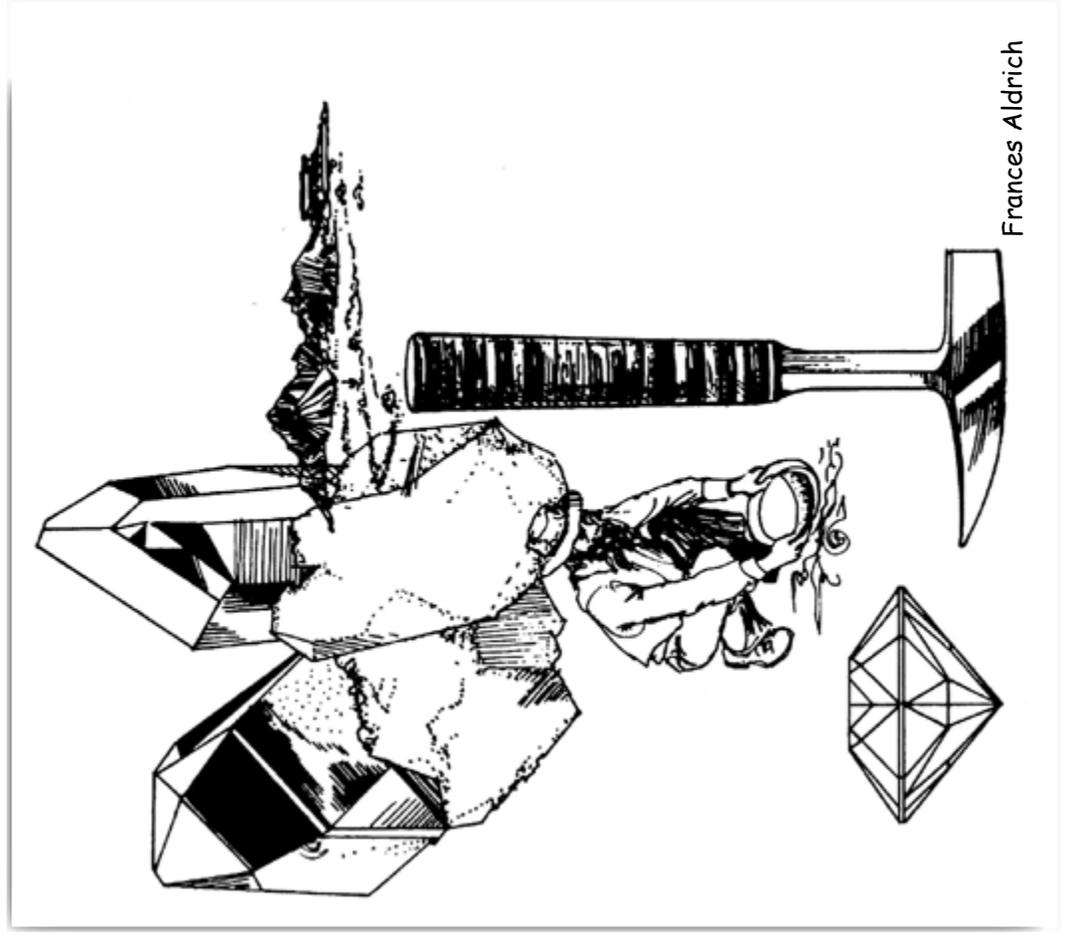
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CR&MC CLUB, INC.
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA, USA

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The Nugget
P.O. Box 3324
Culver City, CA 90231

Address Change Requested



Frances Aldrich