

"PLS" BULLETIN

PASADENA LAPIDARY SOCIETY INCORPORATED
P.O. BOX 5025 PASADENA, CALIF. 91117



AUGUST 1992

PRESEDENT: SANDIE GOETZ-----963-4627
V. PRESEDENT: TODD NIEKIRK-----213-256-4992
SECRETARY: CHRISTINE BRATO-----213-660-4867
TREASURE: HANS KOTOWSKI-----332-5425

BULLETIN EDITOR: DEE THOMPSON 230 CHURCHILL GLEN, SIERRA MADRE, CA.

CALENDER

AUGUST 20-23



CFMS SHOW at Hayward California. Setup on 20--Judging--21, Directors--22, Award Banquet--23, Closing Day--24.

AUGUST 26

General meeting: 7:30 Methodist church, corner of Sierra Madre Blvd. and Michillinda. Parking off Michillinda.

SEPTEMBER 2



BOARD MEETING : Glendale Federal, Colorado and Oak Knoll. Parking in rear of bank.

SEPTEMBER 13

WORK SHOP: Dee Thompsons IPM, come to learn, work, visit, and Pot Luck at 4:30.

DON'T FORGET PICNIC AT CROTTY'S ON AUGUST 16- BRING YOUR CHAIR.

PRESIDENT MESSAGE



It's hard to beleive that it is already August. I am very proud of all of the members who agreed to donate something Jade for the exhibit at the Fair. Once again PLS comes through.

Now we are up to the CFMS case. I only have **THREE**, yes you read that right **THREE** items for the case. Now I know that we can do better than that. I "expect" a donation from everyone at the picnic!!

Back to the Fair... don't forget to sign up to demonstrate. Last year we still had over 500 hours of volunteer time. Let's keep that goal for this year.

If you've taken you vacation I hope you had a great time. If you're still going, I hope it's a lot of fun.

See you at the meeting,

Sandie

HOSTESS AND HOSPITALITY

Marietta Schug reported 40 members and 4 guest. We are glad you care to visit and please come again.

HARRIETTE the Ice Cream and cake was really good. I understood that Lucille Long and Sandie Goetz were the ice cream donaters. I don't know about the cakes but I am sure Harriette made one. Thank all of you nice people for giving us a treat.

^p PROGRAM

I would like to thank Alex Sergienko for bring his Faceting Video so we could all enjoy it. Our program for Augst will be a little shorter than they have been. My Program this month is entitled "Wise Buys" Of which I have constructed on my own.

Todd Neikirk V.President

DISPLAY TABLE

For our July meeting we had a very nice turn out for our display table. In Joe's absence I took his place. Vern & Sylvia brought a beautiful poppy jasper sphere and plume agate cabs. Alex Sergienko shared a wonderful ruby in the matrix specimen. Susan Vasquez brought some jewelry some with rubies and the other garnet. We had a silver and carnelian necklace that was shared by Gail Paulson. Etta Lamb brought a beautiful garnet pin. Naoma Crotty shared with us a red crystal necklace. Bob Brower brought various specimens that he shared with us. Last but by no means least president Sandie shared two wonderful necklaces, one jasper and other garnet.

A big thank you to all the above members who took time out from their busy schedules to think of us and were willing to share their wonderful items with us. We appreciate you kindness. Thank You!!!

For our August meeting Joe will return to his regular duty and would like it if would again find the time to bring some peridot and sardonyx or anything else you would care to share with us. Until then Happy rock hunting!

Todd Neikirk V.P. - Display



NEWS OF MEMBERS

First the good news

Hans and Hedi Kotowski celebrated their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary on the 9th of August. Their family came to be with them. HAPPY ANNIVERSARY and many more!

Dick and Naoma Crotty have a new Granddaughter. Congratulation! If you Naoma, I am sure she will show you the picture she has of her two girls together.

Now the bad news.

RAY ROGERS HAS MOVED, his new address is C. Signa Rae Lathry, P.O.Box 457, Clear Lake Oaks, CA. 95423. I am sure he would like to hear from you.

Mildred Kay (past member) has had several strokes and is now in a convalescent home Park Marino Convalescent Center 2585 E. Washington Blvd. Pasadena, Room 34 Phone 447-9994 She also will enjoy cards.

DEE has a house full of loving family, they are painting her house outside and inside. That's what I call loving don't you?

ETTA LAMB is visiting her daughter and the rest of her northern Calif. family. She has to keep seeing her great grandson, they change so fast when they are babies.

WORK SHOP

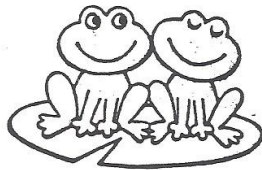
Todd Neikirk arrived at 10:30 and set up all the tables, chairs, and benches. I ask him to put them under the Elm tree, that way we had shade all afternoon. The umbrellas covered the shuffleboard court.

At one o'clock Sandie arrived, she got the coffee going, set up the snacks. Kay Holgatew, Aletta Purcell and Virginia Yslava took over when they got here. All Dee had to do was enjoy and tell them where things were. The weather was livable a nice little breeze all day. Hank Debick had a running question and answer session. There was a beading group that did a beautiful Indian necklace. She had the material for several years, but didn't get around to making it.

There was slabbing, cabbing, polishing and various other things. The pot luck was plentiful and delicious, as usual.

The men put everything away and cleared up everything. THANK YOU I couldn't have the work shop without all of you.

Dee Thompson, Asst. Chairman



JEWELRY MAKING CLASSES

ADULT SCHOOLS - NO CREDIT

LOCATION	PHONE NUMBER
Alhambra Adult Education Alhambra High School 101 S. 2nd, Alhambra	(818)308-2309 Night Classes
Baldwin Park Adult Education Baldwin Park High School 13307 Francisquito, Baldwin Park	(818)338-5115 Day/night Classes
Monrovia Adult Education Monrovia High School 845 W. Colorado, Monrovia	(818)359-2507 Tues. Night Class
Montebello Adult Education Montebello High School 149 N. 21st, Montebello	(213)887-7844 Night Classes
Whittier Adult School Sorensen Park Broadway & Rosehedge, Whittier	(310)698-8121 A.M. & P.M. Classes

COLLEGE CREDIT COURSES

Pasadena City College 1570 E. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena	(818)585-7608 Jewelry and Gemstone Classes
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CALIFORNIA STATE COLLEGES AT:

FULLERTON -- LONG BEACH -- LOS ANGELES.

COMPLIMENTS OF:

GRIEGER'S INC ----- OFFERING: LAPIDARY EQUIPMENT, JEWELRY
900 S. ARROYO PARKWAY MATERIALS, GEMSTONES, MINERALS
PASADENA (818)795-9775 AND RELATED ITEMS.
(From L.A. 681-3523)

(This list will be updated about current open or closed classes
as additional information is received.)

July 1992



(Recent excerpts from Dr. Peter Gott's medical column - Tribune)

- "Father died in his 90's of female trouble in his prostrate and kidneys."
- "Both the patient and nurse herself reported passing flatus."
- "The pelvic examination will be done later on the floor."
- "The left leg became numb at times and she walked it off."
- "On the second day the knee was better and on the third day it had completely disappeared."
- "A week after the operation she spiked a fever."
- "At the time of the onset of pregnancy the mother was undergoing bronchoscopy."
- "Patient left his white blood cells at another hospital."
- "Patient was becoming more demented with urinary frequency."
- "She had a miscarriage at the age of four months."
- "Physician has been following the patient's breast for six years."
- "The patient reports that she had considerable pain last night on intercourse in the abdomen."
- "She left the hospital nursing the baby and draining clear urine."
- "The patient's head was in neutral."
- "Husband also relates severe menstrual bleeding the past two periods."
- "By the time she was admitted to the hospital, her rapid heart beat stopped and she was feeling much better."
- "Discharge status: alive but without permission."
- "Coming from Detroit, this man has no children."
- "Patient stated that if she would lie down, within two or three minutes something would come across her abdomen and knock her up."
- "This fourteen year old boy argued with a lawnmower, which then attacked him."
- "Patient's abdomen is at war."
- "The patient's past medical history has been remarkably insignificant with only a 40-pound weight gain in the past three days."
- "This 90-year-old lady was admitted to the hospital as an emergency because of the sudden onset of the entire left leg."
- "Patient is a real gas factory."
- "The nursing home where the patient lives was noted to sputter, cough and run a fever."
- "The patient is a 71-year-old female who fractured her little finger while beating up a cake."
- "Healthy appearing, decrepit 69-year-old white female, mentally alert but forgetful."
- "The patient was sent home in plaster."
- "Patient states she was bitten by both legs of a dog."
- "Patient was a great white male."
- "She was apparently quite active while she was sitting."
- "The patient was seen about four weeks ago by a physician with a urethral drip."
- "According to witnesses, the patient was weaving down the street when he suddenly turned into an automobile."
- "She slipped on the ice and apparently her legs went in separate directions in early December."
- "The patient was admitted to the hospital on the day of admission."
- "Patient states table hit her."
- "Patient had acute onset of severe Sunday evening."

SPIRIT OF EARLY MAN IN EVIDENCE AT
ANCIENT LAKE SITE NEAR CALICO

Bob Smith - Copley News Service

CALICO - Driving past Barstow, on Interstate 15, the hot desert landscape providing vistas of sand and sagebrush, it's hard to envision a 200-mile freshwater lake. But a lake there was, some 200,000 years ago, give or take 20,000 years.

Evidence is there, according to archaeologists, that early man existed in this area, and the United States Bureau of Land Management has designated a site 15 miles northeast of Barstow as the Calico Early Man Site.

While no skeletal remains were discovered at the site, enough tools believed used by early man were found to make the site the only one in America to be worked by famed anthropologist Dr. Louis S. B. Leakey.

In 1958, artifacts from the site were taken to Leakey in London by Ruth DeEtte Simpson. He visited the site in 1963 and was impressed by what he saw as human alteration of rock to fashion stone tools.

He obtained funding from the National Geographic Society, and excavation began in November 1964. The history of the site dates back to 1942, when an unidentified amateur archaeologist first recognized prehistoric stone tools above what would have been the shoreline of the then lake.

Instead of desert views one sees now, there was the lake surrounded by pine, juniper and oak trees. Animals such as camels, horses, wolves, short-faced bears, saber-toothed cats and mammoths roamed the shore.

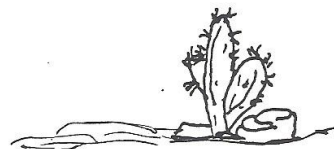
Waterfowl of all kinds were attracted to the lake, fed by the Mojave River, which now runs underground, surfacing 50 miles away at Victorville.

All this and more is explained in brochures and during guided tours of the archaeological site. There are guided tours Wednesdays at 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. and at 3:30 p.m. Thursdays through Sundays. The free tours take visitors to the two main excavation pits.

A half-mile trail used for both guided and independent tours is steep in places and can be rough, with some uneven spots. All children must remain under adult supervision for their own safety.

Several displays have been set up at the visitor center. The building that houses the displays is a refurbished miner's shack. It served as field headquarters for the operation at the beginning of the project and was called "Camp Leakey."

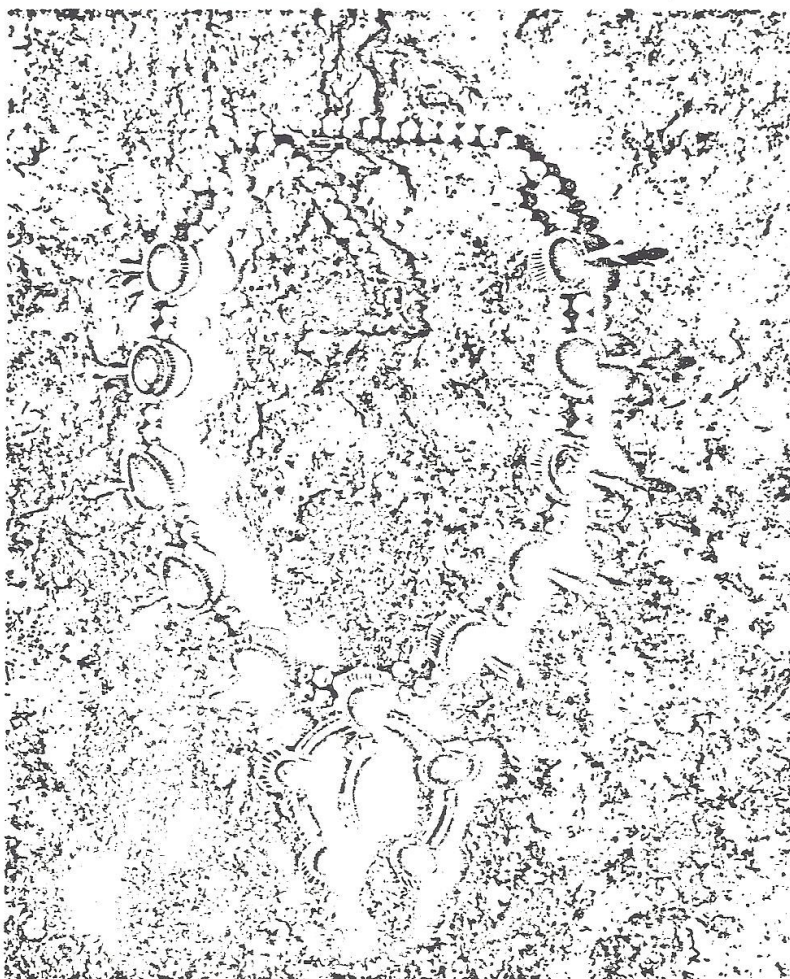
The area is open for tours Wednesday through Sunday.



FOR QUALITY FIRE AGATE CONTACT...

KEN'S ROCK SHOP

Phone 1 (714) 461-6491 ♦ 8371 La Mesa Blvd., La Mesa, CA 92041



HOW TO CUT MEXICAN FIRE AGATE

By Ken Scherer

"I have a lot of fire agate but I am afraid to cut it." This statement has been repeated to me over and over by rockhounds as they look at my display of fire agate at various shows.

What a waste! Without their help this material that they have laying on a shelf or in a jar will never unleash the fiery beauty it is capable of showing. I hope this article will stir some of them into action.

First off, the polishing of fire agate is by the same method used on any hard agate. The contour of the surface is probably the reason some people shy away from it.

I have found that the Mexican material

from the Aguascalientes area has multiple layers of limonite mixed in the agate, which gives the cutter more chances to hit the good fire lines he is after. Look at it this way — a layer of agate, then a thin layer of limonite, another layer of agate and another layer of limonite, etc. The layer of limonite may be like a wisp of smoke or it may be laying in a series of bubbles and each bubble may have layers of limonite within.

The limonite iridescence is where the brilliant colors (bronze, copper, green, purple, red, etc.) shine out. At times these colors will be so intermingled that you can

get a multicolored stone beyond comprehension. The challenge of cutting fire agate is to get as close to the thin layer of limonite without grinding into it.

Polished windows are pieces of fire agate where the fire has been exposed so it is visible. If you choose a polished window you can plan the size and shape of your stone relatively easy. All you do is grind or saw off the excess back of the agate, always planning that there may be another layer of fire below the exposed area. Then shape and polish the sides.

Starting from rough is another story. I would suggest wetting the agate and observing in sunlight the areas and direction where the fire shows. Once you have determined the way the fire line runs, you can start grinding. Grind and check, grind and check. This is necessary to avoid going through the fire. As you get down to the fire line and you see the first layer, this is where you make your decision to stop where you are or continue grinding deeper, hoping for more brilliant fire maybe a lavender or blue iridescence. However, it's possible to lose all the fire.

I use an optivisor for magnification to help see how deep the bubbles or fire lay. Again, I must stress checking the stone frequently to make sure you do not grind too deep. The ideal situation is to leave a thin layer of agate over the iridescence. This gives you a protective cover over the bubbles and less chance of a limonite layer chipping off. You cannot always do this. If you are trying for multicolors you will be grinding into a layer of limonite in one area and leaving another area as is.

Working the agate with some of the new carving tools allows you to follow the fire line into crevices and around bubbles. This is time consuming but well worth the effort. You can end up with a botryoidal surface of many colors.

It was predicted many years ago that fire agate would sell by the carat. That time is here now. So, when you start cutting this material you are working on a precious gemstone and not just another agate. Remember, good fire agate is not in abundance like many other gemstones.

For the ones who are lucky enough to have a quantity of agate, I would like to pass on a method I use in working it. I spend a sunny afternoon looking over the rough by wetting and checking for any telltale signs of fire, setting the good pieces aside. The rough that showed no promise is tumbled in 80 grit for 24 hours. Checking the agate again I find more pieces that show fire. You can perform this operation over and over if you like. I embed the remaining pieces in plaster of Paris in a milk carton. You end up with a nice square piece of plaster which fits nicely into the slab saw vise. Saw this and even though you might saw away some hidden fire you will also find some fiery slabs. The pieces that still show no fire are then tumbled to a polish and you have beautiful polished chalcedony with he many swirls and designs as a bonus.

WHAT IS THE RISK OF PESTICIDES IN A TYPICAL DIET?

The risk from consuming all major pesticides in a typical diet is 30 times less than the risk from drinking ordinary tapwater, 100 times less than the risk from natural carcinogens in raw mushrooms, 400 times less than the risk from eating a typical sandwich, and thousands of times less than the risk of natural carcinogens in beer, wine, and cola drinks.

(United Agri Products of California/Arizona, Business News, July 1992)

The following was taken from the AFMS Newsletter, May 1992, and printed in the CFMS Newsletter, July 1992.

SAFETY REPORT - TOXIC MINERALS

Mineral samples can be as dangerous as any chemical found in the chemistry lab. People wrongly assume that they are not dangerous because they are "natural". Further, dangerous levels have not been established for many minerals known to be hazardous. However, some things are sure.

It takes only 0.3 grams of the mineral orpiment to kill a 150 pound man. About the same amount of arsenopyrite will be fatal. Realgar is similarly dangerous. Greenocite is very toxic if ingested, and inhalations can be as dangerous as ingestion.

Poison fumes can be released by heating and by blowpipe lab testing. Minerals of antimony, arsenic, barium, cadmium, copper, lead, mercury, nickel, selenium and zinc are to be treated with care. Cinnabar should never be reduced to metallic mercury since this will produce poisonous mercury fumes. Inhalation of this and similar fumes can produce inflamed gums, excessive salivation, irritability and muscular tremors. Heavier exposure can lead to delirium and, possibly, to fatal lung disease.

Via Rocky Review

PERIDOT - The birthstone of August is Peridot. When transparent and having a distinctive bottle-green shade, olivine is fashioned into gems called peridot. Olivine is a member of a mineral series grading from forsterite to fayalite. St. John's Island in the Red Sea is the most celebrated locality for peridot, and rounded grains may be secured on some of the Indian reservations in the American Southwest. Common olivine is abundant in the many dark and heavy rocks, those formed deep in the earth's crust. The rocks called dunite and peridotite are composed entirely or mostly of olivine. Volcanic bombs are often solid masses of olivine, and crystals of olivine are found in the lava which has flowed from Mount Vesuvius. Olivine is the most typical mineral in non-metallic meteorites.

via GEMS OF THE FOOTHILLS 7/92

Orangewood Stick - One of the most useful and versatile tools on your workbench should be an orangewood stick. This tool is sold for the purpose of working on cuticles and is available in all cosmetic departments. The orangewood stick is soft enough to not mar gold or silver, yet hard enough to use as a pushing tool in setting prongs. It will not scratch gems and reaches into impossible places.

from BRECCIA via AMADOR NUGGET 2/92

Pasadena Lapidary Society
Board Meeting
Aug. 5, 1992

The August board meeting was called to order by President Sandie Goetz with 12 members present.

The treasurer's report was filed for audit by Hans Kotowski.

Display - Joe Goetz stated the items for the August display - Peridot or treasures from the Federation Show.

Grace Cargill stated her refund from the plastic boxes used at the school visits was charged to travel & she feels it should be under advertising. Hans Kotowski will correct the matter.

George Snyder told us about his vacation traveling 99 days - 9000 miles

Dick Crotty asked if we has written confirmation from Bill on our show dates & cost of renting the building. Sandie said no. George Snyder will call Bill. George Snyder made a motion - Form a committee of three appointed by the President to discuss raising the dealer prices or not. The 3 people shall be Sandie Goetz, George Snyder & Dick Crotty, 2nd by Sylvia Cliffe and passed.

Dick Crotty requested that we print new business cards printed with our new location to pass out at the various shows we attend. Vern Cliffe said he'd put in an order where he use to work.

Sandie Goetz stated that everyone had a good time at the last workshop. She thanked Todd Niekirk for coming so early and setting everything up. Both saws need to be cleaned. Todd Niekirk will try & clean them before the next workshop which will be held the 2nd Sunday in September. Sandie read a letter from the Red Carpet Show asking us to display a case. After a discussion it was decided that Vern, Dick & George will help set it up. Sandie gave Todd a free ticket into the show.

Grace Cargill stated that members & guests should wear name tags so that everyone can know who everyone is. The Hospitality By-Laws were read. It states that the hostess should greet the members & guests at the door.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Brato

Christine Brato, Secretary





BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CFMS DIRECTOR:
 ASST: HARRY SCHMIDT.357-7096
 TRUSTEES: VERN CLIFFE (1st).355-6964
 GRACE CARGILL (2nd).798-6883
 SUE HICKMAN (3rd). . . .619-257-3778
 BULLETIN: DEE THOMPSON, EDITOR. . . . 355-7502
 PUBLISHER: MEMBERS
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 SCHOLARSHIP: GRACE WOOD358-2793
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BULLETIN

PASADENA LAPIDARY SOCIETY
 BOX 5025
 PASADENA, CALIF. 91117



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 AWARD**

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