

ROCKHOUND RAMBLINGS

MAY, 2012

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PASADENA LAPIDARY SOCIETY - PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

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RUTILATED QUARTZ is proof that one need not spend a great deal of money to have a great piece of jewelry! This fascinating stone is found throughout the United states and is becoming recognized as one of the most important va-

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President's Message



"April showers bring May flowers"...and... the rain also washes the rocks off so you can better see their beauty. Just take a look at your favorites in your yard and see. They can be strikingly beautiful. After

Robert Housley's talk in micromounts at the last meeting, maybe you could look in the crevices and see if there are any tiny crystals!

The California Federation's Statewide Show is coming up July 13th to 15th in nearby Riverside! Put this date on your calendar and plan to attend! You are also able to put in a case to display or compete. If you would like more information or an application let Joe Goetz know. If you have attended previous CFMS Shows you know it is a great time to find the unusual or to pick up supplies. Watch the July Bulletin for more details or see the CFMS Website at www.cfmsinc.org.

I encourage all members to attend the

workshop this month. Members can elect to participate in Carolyn Duncan's project class (see details on page 3). Another opportunity is to help to sort through the "Free Rocks" pile to separate jaspers and other premium rocks. I think you will find this interesting - bring gloves and help out! Of course, members can elect to work on their own projects as well.

We will be having a safety and workshop practices refresher for all members at the start of the workshop, and this will be an annual requirement for all who plan to use our workshop.

Meeting and General Club Information

Officers

Marcia Goetz, President
(626) 914-5030
joenmar1@verizon.net

Carolyn Duncan, Vice President
(909) 593-2781
gem.quest@verizon.net

Linda Nelson, Secretary/Treasurer
(909) 592-1322
(909) 394-1276 Fax
lnelson@verizon.net

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Newsletter Articles, ads or corrections should be sent to the editor: **Mark Nelson**, 1475 Paseo Maravilla, San Dimas, CA, 91773. (909) 996-1784 or by email to mnelsonair@aol.com

April Board Meeting

by Linda Nelson, Secretary

Officers present: Marcia Goetz, Carolyn Duncan & Linda Nelson
Chairs/Members present: Vern Cliffe, Sylvia Cliffe, Drew Wilson, Chris Kyte, Joe Goetz, Dave Kely and Ed Imlay.

Marcia, Joe, Chris, Carolyn, Linda & Mark Nelson will form a budget committee. Joe Goetz will chair a 2011 Audit. Four new member applications were approved. A suggestion to have two joint meetings with the Mon-

rovia club was discussed and tabled pending input from a Monrovia representative.

April Meeting

Our own Dr. Robert Housley of Cal Tech presented the intricate beauty of micro minerals to a spell-bound audience of 25 members! It was thought to be one of the best programs we have ever seen.

May Meeting

Copies of the approved budget will be available for review. Our program is "Those Fabulous Thunder Eggs", an AFMS award

winning 30-minute video presentation. Thunder eggs are agate nodules formed in rhyolite - the name derived from a legend told by the Warm Springs Indians in Oregon of how the mountain thunder spirits would hurl thunder eggs at each other which the Indians would find strewn about. The video shows beautiful and extraordinary specimens, info about how and they form, their unique structure, how to cut them, etc. A great program!

Membership Information and Meeting Locations

Membership per calendar year is \$20, \$15 for a second adult member in the same house. Junior members and the third or more members at the same house are \$10. Initiation fee is \$2.50 per person and membership badges are \$7.50. Renewals are due by the October General Meeting and delinquent after December 31st. Mail checks for membership to P.O. Box 5025, Pasadena CA 91117-0025.

Board Meetings: 7:00pm on the first Wednesday of the month at the One West Bank, 1 E. Foothill in Arcadia. All PLS members are welcome to attend.

General Meetings: 7:00 PM on the third Wednesday of each month at the Pasadena Central Library at 285 E. Walnut Street.
Guests are welcome!

Field Trips are scheduled each month. Refer to the bulletin for date, location and information.

Workshops and instructions are offered in our well-equipped shop in Pasadena to all club members - normally on the 2nd Sunday of each month. Refer to the bulletin for hours and the calendar for date changes. Eye protection, closed-toe shoes and machinery safe practices

are mandatory for all participants. Call a board member for the workshop address.

Workshops and field trips are for adult members and children with direct parental supervision. .

The Annual Club Show is held the second weekend of March at the Masonic Hall, 3130 Huntington Drive, San Marino.

Advertising - a business card size ad is available for \$99 per year or \$10 per edition. Submit text, logos, business card or other copy to the editor at the address or email listed on this page.

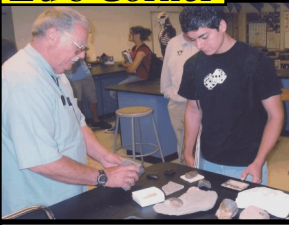


Ed's Corner

EDUCATIONAL OUTEACH

By Ed Imlay

Chair, Education Committee



Ed Imlay at a local school

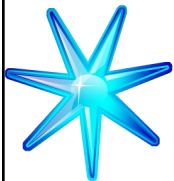
School visits to Walt Disney Elementary in Burbank are scheduled into May. As we approach the end of the school year this is a perfect time to schedule me for my interactive presentation to school students. Contact me at (626) 286-8215 or by email at edimlay@hotmail.com for details.

Please bring items to display at the May meeting. Bring Thunder Eggs (the program topic) to display! Members can display any items of general interest or for identification, workshop projects, material from locations of recent or upcoming field trips, and the birthstone of the month: **Emerald**



LIBRARY

Our club has a great collection of lapidary research books in our lending library. If you are interested in a list of the titles or in checking out the books, contact our Librarian, Dave Kelty, at 909-337-2047 or by email at davidakelty@hotmail.com.



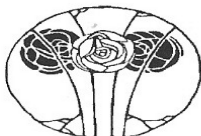
There will be a Show Wrap-Up Meeting in the near future! Please prepare written comments, observations and suggestions for improving our 2013 Show. If you cannot attend, please mail, fax or email your suggestions to our Secretary, Linda Nelson.

WORKSHOP

VP Carolyn Duncan will instruct on making a 2x2 chain and Rosary Wrap bracelet.. Bring 8 beads of your choice, 8mm (pea size), round nose, flat nose and chain nose pliers and flush cutters. Copper jump rings and some tools will be provided. If you want a different metal, bring your own jump rings - 20ga, 1/8" I.D. Jump rings and tools can be obtained at The San Gabriel Bead Company (See ad below).

Workshop hours are from 1:30 until 5PM. Parking is on the west side of street - please park compactly along the curb so that others will have room to park behind you. Alternate parking is available next door to the workshop in a paved lot behind the buildings on Foothill Boulevard. Call 909-996-1784 for directions.

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**Welcome
New Members !!**



Please welcome our new members!

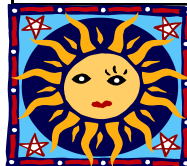
Tunde Baskin of Valley Glen is looking forward to finishing and faceting stones. Valerie Bates of Cerritos enjoys beading and jewelry making. Gloria Biesterfeld of Southgate specializes in finishing stones and making jewelry. Eric Charlton & Pauline Roberts of Sierra Madre enjoy cutting and finishing stones, faceting, writing for our newsletter and mapping sites. Joan Harrison of Los Angeles is looking forward to field trips, making jewelry, the workshop, helping with photography and teaching our hobby to children. Christi Hedden of Long Beach likes field trips, jewelry making, beading, the workshop and helping with public relations. Yvonne Mack of San Gabriel enjoys polishing stones, beading, making jewelry and visiting schools. Martha Wilson of Altadena is anticipating field trips, polishing stones and turning them into jewelry, the workshop and mapping sites. She will also help with door prizes, meeting host, finding programs and with refreshments!

Share the lapidary and jewelry hobby. Invite your friends and neighbors to become members of the Pasadena Lapidary Society!



Meeting Refreshments: Our appreciation and thanks to Dave Kelty and Trudy Krose for April's meeting refreshments! Those who have volunteered for May are Linda & Mark Nelson. To help with the June meeting, please contact Linda Nelson.

Support our bulletin by supporting our advertisers! Make a point of shopping at and visiting the shops of the companies who have ads in this newsletter and mention that you saw their ad in Rockhound Ramblings!



Our Historian, Jim Gersbach, is back from his recent trip to Europe. He always has rock specimens from his adventures to share at the workshop and meetings and found some interesting specimens on Voula beach in Greece!

Marcia's mother, who has been ailing in northern California will relocate to Azusa to be near her family.

If you know anyone who is not feeling up to par, has been sick or lost a loved one? On the silver lining side of things, do you know who has achieved a goal, won a personal victory, or done something that deserves recognition? The Pasadena Lapidary Society has a Sunshine Committee to send cards and words of comfort and support and congratulations to those members who are in need or are deserving of it. Notify Trudy Krose at 323-664-9598 or at mikekrose@roadrunner.com.



(Continued from page 1)

rieties of included quartz for gem use. The name quartz comes from the Saxon word *querklufferz* which means 'cross vein ore'. The name rutilite comes from the Latin word *rutilus* meaning red. Rutilite is a major ore of titanium, which is a metal used for high tech alloys. Rutilated quartz forms in quartz veins, usually with milky quartz bordering the vein with needle-like crystal inclusions growing in toward the center of quartz crystals. Quartz is a 7 on the Mohs scale of hardness. Rutilite is a 6 on the Mohs scale. Because of the difference in hardness between the two materials and because of the way rutilite forms inside, this can be a difficult stone to attain a polished surface without pits.

Rutilated quartz sometimes looks like it has small bars of imbedded gold. The photo at the right shows the gold hairs in a "star" pattern with hematite in the center.

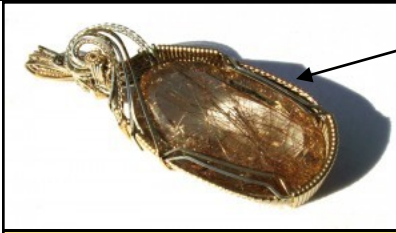


Dale "Cougar" Armstrong says that wire jewelry designers LOVE using included quartz! She considers Rutilite Quartz to be in the family of *macrocrystalline quartz*, and advises us that the list of minerals that can be trapped in quartz is extensive. Rockhounds and lapidaries often use the term "sagenite" or sagenitic quartz, to describe all types of included macrocrystalline quartz, especially those specimens that include rutilite crystals.



Rutilite Quartz wire-wrapped into a ring by Dale Armstrong.

Rutilated quartz is easiest to identify when a clear or semi-clear quartz crystal contains slender needles of embedded titanium dioxide crystals. The rutilite needles can appear to be in the shape of an open fan or radiating mass, known as *acicular*, or they can look like individual floating pieces of hair frozen forever in space and can be silver, red, reddish-brown, gold or yellow. Faceted stones or cabochons that visibly show rutilite crystals in a star-like formation are rare and most desirable. Some of the other names for rutilated quartz include Venus Hair Stone and either Hair or Needle stone.



This 402ct example of a faceted rutilated quartz stone was made into a wire wrapped pendant by Dale Armstrong.

There are even more minerals that can be included in what you may think is "just" rutilated quartz! Along with gold and silver, mercury and pyrite are Brookite, Anatase, titanium dioxide, chlorite, Goethite and Hematite.



chlorite included quartz



This article contains information provided by Dale "Cougar" Armstrong (www.cougarscreations.com) and is used with her permission and that of WireSculpture.com. The vivid cover photo is used with the permission of Paul Levin of Tairona Jewelry. Their creations can be viewed at www.tairona.com, J&L Jewelry in Long Beach, JSR Jewelry in Yorba Linda and at All Phases Jewelry in Fullerton, CA.

Visit these web sites for more information on Rutilated Quartz and other jewelry creations.— Editor

Club T-Shirts will be ordered the first of June. \$15 each. Small logo on front, large on back. Sizes youth to adult 4XL run about one size smaller than standard. Samples will be available to try on at the May Board Meeting, Workshop and General Meeting. Place orders with Mark Nelson at mnelsonair@aol.com or call (909) 592-1322.



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Laser Welding A Bench Tip By Brad Smith



A question came up this week about how to solder some jump rings to hold blue topaz briolettes onto a necklace. We've all heard about ways to do some soldering close to a stone, and some of us have sized a ring without taking the stones out of their mounts. We've used wet paper towels, garnet sand, cooling gels, and my favorite of suspending the stone in a dish of water. All techniques bank on the principal of using a small, hot flame to do the job quickly before the stone gets hot enough to crack or change color.

But each job is somewhat of a gamble! Some stones are hardy and some stones are frail. Jades and jaspers will generally take a lot of heat, but I'd never chance it with the likes of topaz or opal. Trying to shield a stone from the torch is always a betting game, and sometimes you lose.

If you're worried about soldering something close to a stone, perhaps it's time to consider a **no-heat method** like **laser welding**. Most jewelry stores have laser welders these days, and the cost of having it done is quite affordable. They used to have problems doing silver, but now seem to do it routinely. I've used a local shop twice in the last year, once for a piece of jewelry with little emeralds a "friend" asked me to repair and for a second piece where I needed a safety catch and didn't want the torch heat to expose all the solder lines again.

This is Roughing It?

By Juli Dahl of Delta One Lapidary

Sixteen years ago, I smugly informed my future husband that, as far as I was concerned, "roughing it" meant settling for a hotel with no room service. Camping, which I'd been coerced into trying, was not something I'd willingly ever do again. I'm a card-carrying member of the Never Enough Amenities Club. I've enlarged my definition of amenities, since that camping trip, to include indoor plumbing, a solid roof over my head, and chairs that don't sink into either sand or mud. And, while I know that today's (and some of yesterday's) motor homes include all of the above, they wobble when you walk and that's just scary.

Now, I knew when I married him that my man is a rockhound. He's also a faceter and a lapidary and a terrific teacher. If I'd wondered how serious about pretty shiny things he was, the fact that he poured about 100 carats of cut garnets into my hands the night he proposed to me was enough to powerfully convince me. Little did I know how infectious the love of stones could be.

After we moved down here to Waldport, Oregon, we used part

of a small inheritance to start a bona fide lapidary business. Initially, Jerry simply wanted to be able to buy parts for his power tools (the cabber, the faceting machine, the saws, the grinder, etc.) at wholesale prices that resonated happily with his Scottish soul. Being a lapidary, and having a long history of working stones, new toys soon made their way into our crowded house/garage/workshop.

I found myself learning a whole new lexicon just to keep the lines of communication open. Tumblers were no longer only acrobats. Grit was an abrasive powder, and truly had nothing to do with John Wayne. And polishing now covered rocks as well as furniture. (Although sometimes I still wish I could just spray a rock and watch it shine!). Along with the terminology relating to the mechanics of this budding interest of mine, I found myself strangely drawn to the names of all the materials we were handling. Those polysyllabic names of minerals and rocks seemed like a foreign language that my friends in the Rock Club spoke, and that I needed to learn. So I learned it, too.

Now I confidently speak of mariposite, and lepidolite, and moss agate, even of sunstone and Oregon fire opal. Jerry and I teach kids in both middle and high school how to shape and polish these beauties. We watch the kids glow with pride when a piece of rough turns into a finished stone prettier than any of us could have imagined. When I speak of "rough" now, I speak of slabs of jasper, and onyx, and rhodocrosite. When I'm roughing it now, I'm hunting for bargains at a show. And I seldom have to worry about getting sunburned or not finding the amenities I'm so fond of.

.....See *Delta One Lapidary* on page 7



Tips By Richard

By Dick Peterson

Timpanagos Gem & Mineral Society

Do you want your Geodes (and Crystals) to sparkle and glitter like stars? Then follow this tried and true suggestion!!!

Bryant Washburn's recipe for CLEANING GEODES AND CRYSTALS:

1. Wear rubber gloves and a proper respirator (very important for your safety).
2. Have two empty and clean buckets ready to use.
3. In the first bucket put one quart of luke-warm water, then add 1 cup of muriatic acid (the reason for the Respirator).
4. In the second bucket have clear, clean water.
5. Put Geodes or Crystals in the first bucket with the acid solution for **30 seconds**.
6. Pull them out of the acid solution, let them drip for a minute, then put them into the second bucket with clean water and wash them good.
7. Pull the Geodes out of the water and let them dry.
8. Look at them **SPARKLE!**



FIELD TRIPS

By Joe Goetz



Joe Goetz, Field Trip Chairman

Our members have the opportunity to attend a one-day field trip to Lavic Siding with the famed agate collector Adam Dean and fossil hunter Robert Sankovich at this month's CFMS Field Trip.

WHEN: Saturday, May 26, 2012, starting at 9:00 AM

MATERIAL: We will be collecting the world famous Lavic jasper which can come in a multitude of colors and can be brecciated, layered or solid with veins of white, black or blue agate. The jasper has been found in reds, blacks, yellows, gold's, greens, purples, or any combination and range from tumble sized to football sized. Most is found as float. Other materials at this site may include agates and jaspers with sections of multi-shaded pink opal.

MEET at 9:00 AM for orientation and sign-in on the south side of Interstate 40 at the Hector Road off-ramp. This is 35 miles east of Barstow and 25 miles west of Ludlow on I-40

High clearance 4X4 trucks and SUVs highly recommended as we will be driving in a sandy wash. This site covers a vast area bounded by the Pisgah Crater lava field, the railroad tracks and the dry lake. We will explore various spots here. From the meeting spot we will caravan west to a safe crossing over the tracks then make a number of stops. Treat the desert with respect - tread lightly and pack it in / pack it out.

WHAT TO BRING: Collecting bags/buckets, rock hammer, spray bottles. This is the heart of the Mojave and the weather can be unpredictable, this time of year, so dress accordingly. Bring lunch and a lot of drinking water. This widespread field offers no shade. Gas and food available in Ludlow.

For those interested in a multi-day adventure the southern Cady Mountains offers for a wide variety of material, a nearby obsidian field, Dish Hill for peridot, trilobites and the Hector Hills for chalcedony, opal & agate. Bring your rock collecting guides. Nearby is Pisgah Crater, a young volcano with an extensive lava field. "Stayovers" may camp at a number of undeveloped sites or at hotels in Ludlow or Barstow.

As always, call or email the CFMS South Co-chairs to let them know you are coming in case there is a change of plans or for questions:

Adam Dean theagatehunter@verizon.net (909) 489-4899
Robert Sankovich rmsorca@adelphia.net (805) 494-7734

SAVE THE DATE: June 23rd & 24th field trip to Owens Valley and the fabulous Cerro Gordo Mine.

..... Somewhere in California going the wrong way
zteoG eoJ

FEDERATION NEWS

CFMS - California Federation of Mineralogical Societies



The CFMS has launched its **Half a Million Nickel Drive** to raise money for the Endowment Fund of CFMS. This fund enables the CFMS to operate, to assist member clubs, to organize activities and communication and for the recognition of lapidary club members. We need your nickels! Of course, dimes, quarters, halves and dollar coins, along with paper money and checks made out to PLS and notes as CFMS Endowment Fund are also gratefully accepted. Cash in refundable beverage cans and bottles. Every nickel helps! We want PLS to be among the top fundraisers, so please be generous!

Save The Date: The 2012 CFMS Show and Convention will be held July 13-15, 2012 in Riverside, California.

Read the entire article at: www.cfmsinc.org/newsletters

AFMS - American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

AFMS International Relations Chair Bob Jones is no stranger to the world of travelling and writing. As Senior Consulting Editor for Rock & Gem Magazine, his contributions are always eagerly awaited and often the first thing read by subscribers. Now, he's taken some of his magazine articles, expanded them, added numerous anecdotes and photographs and produced "The Frugal Collector, Volume I", a fabulous new book for rock collectors.

Bob's easy writing style, selection of photographs and comments, make this volume a "must have" for any home library. The volume is available from Rock & Gem, the official magazine of the AFMS.

The AFMS Convention will be held in Minnetonka, MN the weekend of July 26-29. Read the latest AFMS newsletter at: <http://www.amfed.org/news>



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2012 - 2013 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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President	Marcia Goetz	(626) 914-5030	joenmar1@verizon.net
Vice President	Carolyn Duncan	(909) 593-2781	gem.quest@verizon.net
Secretary	Linda Nelson	(909) 851-4407	lnelsn@verizon.net
Treasurer	Linda Nelson	(909) 851-4407	lnelsn@verizon.net
Federation Director	Joe Goetz	(626) 914-5030	joenmar1@verizon.net
1 st Trustee	Chris Kyte	(626) 794-0519	ckyte60@att.net
2 nd Trustee	Joe Goetz	(323) 371-4701	joenmar1@verizon.net
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Meeting Display	Ed Imlay	(626) 286-8215	edimlay@hotmail.com
Membership	Drew Wilson	(626) 449-4910	todrew@sbcglobal.net
Publicity	Mark Nelson	(909) 996-1784	mnelsonair@aol.com

LOCAL ROCK AND GEM SHOWS:

May 4—PASADENA. Farrin O'Connor Design. CABOCHON PRONG SETTINGS Margo Farrin teaches her favorite method of creating a secure prong setting in this jewelry design class. Intermediate skill level. \$86 12:30 - 5:30pm. Contact info on page 6 and at www.farrinconnordesign.com/classes_spring_2012.pdf

Look for the gems in the calendar on page 8.



5—SAN GABRIEL Bead Company. Staff Boutique Sale. Info on page 3.

5-6—ANAHEIM: Searchers Gem & Mineral Society; Brookhurst Community Center; 2271 W. Crescent Ave.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4:30; free admission; jewelry, hobby supplies, books, demonstrations, exhibits, silent auction, door prizes, kids' jewelry making and gold panning.

Please plan to attend one of the shows listed on this page, and wear your club badge when you do! - Editor

11-13—SANTA ANA: Spring West Coast Gem & Mineral Show; Holiday Inn - Orange County Airport; 2726 S. Grand Ave.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; free admission; 80 retail and wholesale dealers.

19-20—YUCAIPA: Yucaipa Valley Gem & Mineral Society; Yucaipa Community Center; 34900 Oak Glen Rd.; Sat. 9-5; free admission; hands-on youth activities, 17 dealers, specimens, rough and finished material, jewelry, tools, beads, silent auction, Yucaipa Iris Festival.

June 1-3—WOODLAND HILLS: RockAtomics Gem & Mineral Society; Pierce College Farm; 20800 Victory Blvd.; Fri. 10-5, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; free admission; tailgating, dealers, gems, minerals, rocks, jewelry, beads.

Member - To - Member

I would like to thank the Sunshine Committee for the flowers I was given at the April general meeting for being chairman of the Show Committee. I am pleased that so many of our members participated with their time and efforts! - Marcia Goetz

Jim Gersbach is looking for a used faceting machine. Contact him at (626) 577-6773 or at tenomo@netscape.net.

Members are welcome to submit an ad for items wanted, for sale or free to other members. Submit a non-commercial ad of three lines to the editor by email at mnelsonair@aol.com or to the address on page 8.



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May
2012

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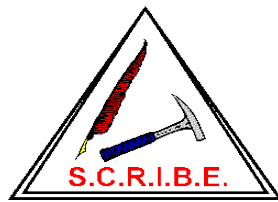
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Vice President - CFMS South

The Pasadena Lapidary Society is affiliated with the California and American Federations of Mineralogical Societies. Our editor is a member of the Special Congress Representing Involved Bulletin Editors.

May 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Don't forget to order your club T-shirt. See article on page 4.	1	2  Board Meeting	3	4	5  Super Full Moon
6  Space Day	7	8  Victory in Europe 1945	9	10  Transcontinental Railroad - 1869	11	12 
13  Workshop	14	15	16  General Meeting	17	18  Eruption of Mt. St. Helens 1980	19 
20 	21  Red Cross Founded 1881	22	23	24	25	26  CFMS Field Trip to Lavic Siding area
27	28  Memorial Day	29  President John Kennedy born 1917	30	31	 May, originally the third month of the Roman calendar, comes from Maia, the Roman goddess of honor, reverence and spring.	