

ROCKHOUND RAMBLINGS

SEPTEMBER, 2012 THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PASADENA LAPIDARY SOCIETY - PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

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Considering a driving trip? Consider the Petrified Forest National Park! As this photo by Philip Greenspun shows, this can be a very rewarding adventure! Only an eight hour drive from Southern California this wonderful area can offer beautiful vistas and hands-on visits to hundreds

(Continued on page 4)



President's Message



Dear Members,

Here we are sliding into September leaving August behind, and it is (as I comment about the heat) that I hear Joe saying "What else is new?" Well, soon enough we will be thinking of our next year's show in detail, planning our Christmas party, and making things and learning at the workshop.

We need your help in selecting a ROTY (Rockhound of the Year) and a location for our

December meeting. See page three for details!

The planning has started for next year's show. We still need a show name so put on your thinking cap and give us your idea! We have a list we created several years ago and have used some of them, the names that we haven't used are: Rocks Unearthed; Rockhounds Abound; Lapidary, The Lost Art; "Rock'ites" – Catch It; Lapidary, The Multi-faceted Hobby; Gems, Jewels & Rocks; Crystamania; Lapidary, It's Art and Science; Rockhounding is Not Just For Fossils (I think the name was to dispel the idea was that only older people are rockhounds – thus the reference to

fossils); Rockhounding For The Next Generation; Gems For You And Me; Rockhounds Get Around; and, Rockhound – Rock Your World! Even though we have a list to work from sometimes the best names are spontaneous. Please get your idea to me or to our Secretary.

Also this month is the start of the fieldtrip season as hopefully temperatures become cooler as fall progresses. This month we didn't plan our own field trip but can take advantage of the CFMS field trip if desired. There is more information further in the bulletin.

Hope You're Staying Cool!

..... **Marcia**

Marcia Goetz, President

Meeting and General Club Information

Officers

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Carolyn Duncan, Vice President
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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

August Board Meeting

by Linda Nelson, Secretary

Officers present: Marcia Goetz, Carolyn Duncan, Joe Goetz & Linda Nelson.

Chairs & Members present: Vern & Sylvia Cliffe, Joe Goetz, Ed Imlay, Nadine Ishizu, Dave Kelty, Chris Kyte, Mark Nelson, and Drew Wilson.

Weather-permitting, an ice cream social will be held at the workshop. The December meeting and ROTY were discussed. The club will vote on ROTY at the September meeting.

August Meeting

27 members and 3 guests learned that Juniors Paolo Sanchez and Tanner Soohoo are making names for themselves in the hobby. Paolo has an article published in the September 2012 Rock & Gem Magazine, and Tanner has an account on ETSY.com to sell his jewelry! Congratulations!

Badge Fines of \$1.25 and a raffle table with crystals, jewelry, tools and books, topped by Jim Gersbach's attractive stone necklace earned the club \$63!

September Meeting

The first half of the Ghost Towns video featured Calico, Bodie and also Goldfield and Gold Point where we will be going on our November Field Trip. The second half will be shown at the September meeting. Starting this month we will feature a 5-minute talk by a member about a rock or mineral of his or her choice. To be scheduled to speak about a rock or mineral, please contact our Vice President, Carolyn Duncan.

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: 7:00 PM 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 Tuesday 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.

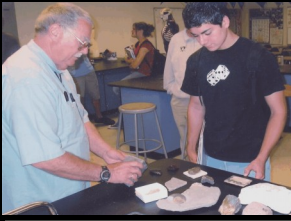


Ed's Corner

EDUCATIONAL OUTEACH

By Ed Imlay

Chair, Education Committee



Ed Imlay at a local school

To schedule my interactive presentation to school students, contact me at (626) 286-8215 or at edimlay@hotmail.com for details.

For the September meeting, members can display any items of general interest or for identification - including workshop projects, material from locations of recent or upcoming field trips, and the birthstone of the month: **Sapphire**.

Editor's note: Sapphire is named after the Greek word σάπφειρος (*sappheiros*) meaning "blue stone". Sapphires are mined from alluvial deposits or from primary underground workings. The mining locations include Burma, Madagascar, Sri Lanka, Australia, Thailand, India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Tanzania, Kenya, and China.



Editor's Quiz: The winner of this month's adult quiz was Ed Imlay, who correctly identified the second moon of August as a **BLUE MOON**. There were no correct responses to our Juniors Quiz as to the number of dinosaur bones found at La Brea Tar Pits. See page 6 for this month's quiz.

WORKSHOP

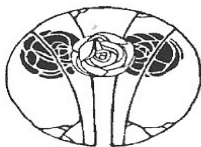


September - Will be our Ice Cream Social. Bring your favorite ice cream, cookies, treats and a folding chair. The club will provide soft drinks and water. Start new projects, finish old ones, or to make something for our next year's show! The Workshop Host for September's is Joe Goetz. To offer to be a workshop host, contact our president, Marcia Goetz.

The workshop date is on the calendar. 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. Contact a member or call 909-996-1784 for workshop address and directions.

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**Welcome
New Members !!**



Welcome Valerie Stathatos and Basem Jibrin! Valerie lives in Pasadena and enjoys field trips, working with stones and jewelry making. Basem, of Hacienda Heights, is the father of member Zak Jibrin and enjoys field trips, working with stones, beading and all other aspects of our hobby.

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



At this month's meeting we will be deciding on a location for the Tuesday, December 18th Holidays Meeting. We are asking members to help with ideas and locations. It should be indoors (or otherwise well lighted and heated), have close-in parking and offer tables, chairs and electricity for our group. At this meeting we will have a meal (pot luck), recognize member contributions, install officers and directors, and have a blind gift exchange. The club has a budget to cover some expenses associated with this meeting. Send your ideas, locations and details to our Secretary (contact on page 2).

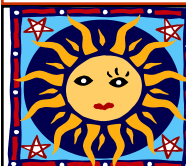
An idea example: Marcia Goetz learned that the San Marino Masonic Center (where we have our annual show) is available and that we could have it all day if we wanted to incorporate a class such as beading, chain making or wire wrapping.



Meeting Refreshments: Thank you to those who brought refreshments to the August meeting! Lisa Griffy, Corrine and Ed Imlay have volunteered to bring refreshments in September. Contact Trudy Krose at (323) 664-9598 to offer your help!



This month we will vote for our **ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR**. Rockhound of the Year is an honor given to current or former club members by their peers in recognition of their contributions and/or sacrifices involved with our club and hobby. This honor was presented last in 2010 to members Joe and Marcia Goetz. Please email your nomination, along with a brief description of the person's activity in our hobby and contribution to our club, to our Secretary (contact info on page 2).



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 by email at mikekrose@roadrunner.com.



(Continued from page 1)

of acres of petrified trees! Petrified wood found in the park and the surrounding region is made up of almost solid quartz. Each piece is like a giant crystal, often in the sunlight as if covered by glitter. The rainbow of colors is produced by impurities in the quartz, such as iron, carbon, and Over 200 million years ago, the logs washed into an ancient river system and were buried quick enough and deep enough massive amounts of sediment and debris also carried in the water, that oxygen was cut off and decay slowed to a process that would now take centuries.



Minerals, including silica dissolved from volcanic ash, into the porous wood over hundreds and thousands of years crystallized within the cellular structure, replacing the organic material as it broke down over time. Sometimes crushing or decay left cracks in the logs. Here large jewel-like crystals of clear quartz, purple amethyst, yellow citrine, and smoky quartz formed.

Most of the trees have been given the name *Araucarioxylon arizonicum*, *Woodworthia Schilderia* and two other species in small quantities in the park. Though only seven species of tree have been identified through petrified wood, over 200 species of plants have currently been identified from other Triassic fossils, such as leaves, pollen, and spores.

Petrified trees today lie strewn across clay hills and within cliff faces; each log broken into large segments. The quartz within the petrified wood is hard and brittle, fracturing easily when subjected to stress. During the gradual uplifting of the Colorado Plateau, starting about 60 million years ago, the still buried petrified trees were under so much stress they broke like glass rods. The crystal nature of the quartz created clean fractures, evenly spaced



along the tree trunk, giving the appearance today of logs cut with a chainsaw.

Information and photos provided by the National Park Service <http://www.nps.gov/pefo/index.htm> After visiting the Petrified Forest, stop by the Dobell Ranch and collect great petrified wood specimens. See their ad on this page!

Tar Pits Trip Deepens Mystery



Dr. Davis Coghill holding unidentified specimen in front of reconstructed giant ground sloth bones at the Page Museum.

The August field trip to La Brea Tar Pits was a good one. The cooler morning hours allowed club members an opportunity to view the bubbling tar pools, the on-going excavations at Pit 91 & Project 23 and even to see "Levitated Mass", the 680,000 pound megalithic rock next door at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. At 11am we enjoyed an excellent guided tour of the exhibits of some of the more than 1 million ice age bones at the Page Museum. We were educated by PLS club member Dr. Davis Coghill that one find not currently exhibited is the 10,000 year old remains of La Brea Woman which were found in the excavations in 1914.

Dr. Coghill brought an object for museum experts to help identify. It seems that his father had found an item near Gallup, New Mexico, that closely resembles a fossilized bone. Dr. Coghill theorizes that the object could be a fossilized bone or even petrified wood and wanted to get confirmation from the experts. After microscopic examination of the object, museum expert Christopher Shaw expressed his opinion that the object was probably a fossilized growth from around a prehistoric spring, and gave Dr. Davis Coghill a referral to an expert at the Museum of Natural History in Los Angeles. Stay tuned as the mystery continues!



Right: Davis Coghill and Mark Nelson examine underside of "Levitated Mass".

Dobell Ranch Petrified Wood

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AZ-77 south from the center of Holbrook. At the intersection of US 180, turn left for 12.6 miles. Turn left at a white sign for the historic visitors museum with a drawing of a female deer and a bell (Doe-Bell). Drive the old paved highway lined with petrified wood until it ends at the Dobell Ranch. Ask for Gordon Dobell or Tonya Black! Fill your 5-gallon bucket with petrified wood or select larger pieces for your own museum!



Tonya Black



DoBell Ranch Petrified wood. - Photo by Editor.

Show a copy of this ad for a Special Rock Club Discount!

BROWN WIDOW SPIDER Coming To A Rockhound Near You

By Mark Nelson, EMT



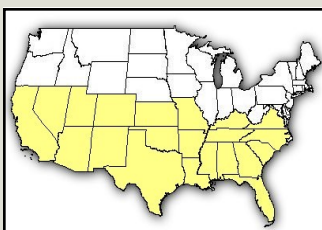
Senior collector Sylvia Cliffe first introduced me to this new insect threat. Then another club member, Dave Kelty, said that he had found their distinctive eggs all over his yard. Within a day another member, Carolyn Duncan, called to say that she had found four eggs under her plastic patio chairs! I thought: "What are they?" and "NIMBY!" (Not in my back yard!).

The species is a relatively recent resident comer to California. The first one identified in our region was in Torrance in 2003. Now a new survey conducted by California entomologists shows that the spider is becoming much more prevalent in Southern California communities. According to Richard Vetter of University of California Riverside, brown widows are being found at a rate 20 times greater than the rate at which they find black widows around people's homes.

Unlike black widows, who like to crawl into cracks and under debris for shelter, brown widows like to hide out in areas frequented by humans (ie: Rockhounds), such as garden racks, patio chairs, flower pots and into those downward-facing recessed handles on plastic garbage cans - "They like a solid top" according to Vetter. They did not find brown widows in houses, and only rarely found them in garages, sheds, wilderness or agricultural areas. I found several in a plastic garden hose box and in the cracks of the reinforcing bands of my plastic rock sorting buckets - right where I would grip to empty the rocks out of the bucket! They are most likely to bite when disturbed when we grab the item they are hiding in.

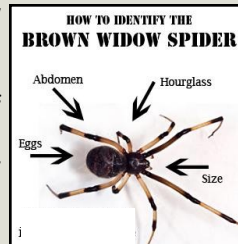
Distribution

The Brown Widow is an introduced species in the United States, and was once only found in central and southern Florida. It has since rapidly expanded it's territory and is now found in every southern state in the United States. Outside of the United States, it is believed to live in tropical areas.



Identification

Brown Widow spiders are fairly small - only about 1/2" diameter. They are tan to medium brown in color, but can also appear lighter or a much darker brown, almost black. The top of Brown Widow's abdomen can vary greatly in the way it is marked. Typically it has red or white spots running down the middle of its back - with black and white markings patterned down the sides of the abdomen. The hourglass marking on the underside of their abdomen generally appear as orange or yellow. The legs of the Brown Widow are typically banded with yellow/brown and black, as can be seen in the photo - although this banding is very hard to see unless the spider is in bright lighting. When not in bright lighting, the legs appear dark brown or black.



The best way to know if you have these poisonous creatures is by their egg sac, which is very unique - being covered with "Velcro-like" protruding hooks.



Brown Widow Spider Egg Sac

When you spot the egg sac you know they are there. Ask your hardware store for a good-quality spider spray and spray the spider, eggs, nests and adjacent areas to discourage re-infestation.

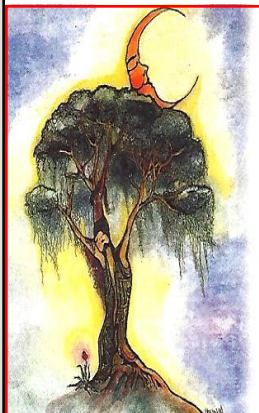
Symptoms

Brown widow spiders are of the same family as the black widow spider. The brown widow's venomous bite is generally not as serious as the black widow. As such, the symptoms are often much more tolerable. Still, they can include pain and rigidity in the muscles of the abdomen and legs. Anaphylactic reactions including swelling, nausea, vomiting and a sharp rise in blood pressure are also present in severe cases. Fortunately, in most bites, the symptoms of the brown widow tend to stay localized to the bite site, whereas the black widow's symptoms are more widespread.



Member Tip from Bob Brice: "I did not know that some Hematite changes color with small amounts of heat. Watch this interesting U-Tube Video on your computer ~

Color Changing Iridescent Hematite From Georgia"



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Wendy Ansel

A Pasadena Lapidary Society Member



FIELD TRIPS

By Joe Goetz



Joe Goetz, Field Trip Chairman

This month our members will have an opportunity to escape the summer heat with a trip up the California coast to Jade Cove, where we will join the California Federation's September Field Trip.

September 7th, 8th and 9th.

Location: JADE COVE, CA. Jade Cove is 3 miles north of Gorda - a scenic 5 hour drive from Pasadena.

MEETING: Friday & Saturday at 9am (Sunday TBD). We will meet at Robert Sankovich's campsite #030 at the Plasket Creek Campground. There will be a short briefing of the sites. We will be going to Jade Cove, Sand Dollar Beach and Willow Creek. Please remember that all participants must sign a release form to participate in the field trip.

MATERIAL: Nephrite Jade, Serpentine, Actinolite, Soapstone and even Abalone shells.

TOOLS: Collecting bags, buckets, day pack, digging tools, rock pick, pry bar, eye protection, trowels, hand rake, hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, sturdy shoes, rubber boots or old tennis shoes, layered clothing, towels, change of clothes/shoes in case you get wet. Drinking water, lunch or snacks, camping gear if you plan on spending the night. (The main tools to use are simple garden tools, a hand trowel and hand rake).

Those interested in going should get more information at this link:
http://www.cfmsinc.org/fieldtrp/y2012/tr0912_JadeCove.htm

Please let me and Robert Sankovich know if you are going to go on the field trip. If the weather changes or something else causes the trip to be cancelled you will be notified. Robert can provide maps.

Robert Sankovich: (805) 494-7734

Joe Goetz: (626) 914-5030

..... *Somewhere in California going the wrong way*

zteoG eoJ

Editor's Quiz. This month we celebrate the admission of our republic of California to the United States.

Juniors: a. What is the official California State Mineral?
 b. What is the California State Rock?
 c. Can you describe it or them?

Adults:

a. Who designed and made the first California Republic Flag?
 b. Name a famous relative of this person who lived in the White House.

The first Adult and Junior Members to correctly answer this question will win a special prize at the September Meeting. The Editor's contact info is on page 2.

FEDERATION NEWS

CFMS - California Federation of Mineralogical Societies

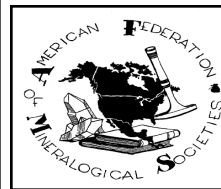
We wish to thank the Valley Prospectors for hosting the 2012 CFMS Show & Convention in Riverside. The hard work of their members made the show a success and very enjoyable to attend.

Applications for the ZZYX Workshop Week (Mar 31-Apr 8, 2013) will be available Sep 1, 2012. Classes are expected to include: Cabochon Making, Faceting, Wire Wrap Art, Soft Stone Carving, Silver Smithing, Chain Making, Lost Wax Metal Casting, Ming Trees, Beading, Glass Bead Making, Dichroic Glass Fusion, Enameling, Precious Metal Clay (PMC), Intarsia and Inlay.

Watch the CFMS website for the application and details:
www.cfmsinc.org.

The club collected an additional \$16.22 toward the CFMS Scholarship Fund at our August meeting!

AFMS - American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

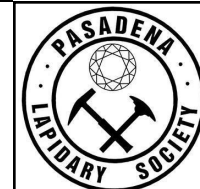


1950 AFMS Logo

Then
And
Now



2012 AFMS Logo



2011 Top Ten in North America

Rockhound Ramblings was awarded 6th Place by the AFMS in competition among all similar newsletters published in North America! Wear your club shirt and badge with pride when visiting other clubs' shows! See a listing of shows on the following page.



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DESIGN**



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This is a true "hidden gem" for those interested in lapidary and jewelry work. A fully-stocked store with books, tools, beads and findings awaits you. Learn how to make jewelry from nothing-to-finished in their one-day classes. See upcoming classes and instructors at
www.farrinoconnordesign.com/classes
 Or call them at (626) 796-5300. Free fenced parking.



(Continued from page 5)

First Aid

The area of a brown widow spider bite should be cleansed thoroughly with soap and water. The University of California Cooperative Extension explains that antiseptic is often placed on the wound. Antibiotic creams are also a popular choice for early first aid. A cold pack of a mix of ice and water or a commercial cold pack may be placed on the site to help reduce swelling. If you can identify the spider at the time of the bite, and can capture it in a zip-lock bag or jar, bring it with you when you seek medical treatment.



Day 2 of a Brown Widow Spider bite.

Medical Treatment

UC San Diego began testing an anti-venom in July, 2012, but it is uncertain how long it will take for it to be generally available. Victims should be concerned when a local reaction continues to get worse for more than 24 hours. Look for redness spreading away from the bite, oozing from the bite, increase in pain, numbness/tingling, or a discoloration around the bite that looks like a halo or bull's-eye. If the victim exhibits these signs get immediate medical help or call 911.

LOCAL ROCK AND GEM SHOWS:

31-2: International Gem & Jewelry Show, 1855 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401, Friday 12:00 pm-6:00 pm, Saturday 10:00 am -6:00 pm, Sunday 11:00 am-5:00 pm. Admission: \$8.00. Parking: \$9.00.

Look for the gem shows in the calendar on



31-2: ARCADIA. California Bead Company. Bead Sale - 20% off all beads in stock. Bring this bulletin!

13: PASADENA. Farrin O'Connor Class. WIRE WRAPPED STONES: \$86. Instructor: Bon Paphatsarang Thursday, 12:30 - 5:30pm. Learn to set stones with the use of silver wire. All levels.

15-16: DOWNEY. Delvers Gem & Mineral Society; Women's Club of Downey; 9813 Paramount Blvd.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5

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

15 - 16: BORON. Mojave Mineralogical Society, Boron Community Park & Building, 27177 20 Mule Team Road, Hours: 8 - 4.

21 - 23: SAN BERNARDINO. Orange Belt Mineralogical Society, Western Regional Little League Ball Park, 6707 Little League Drive. Hours: 9 am to Dusk daily.

Member - To - Member

Looking for a jewelers bench. Would like it to be made of solid wood and have at least one side of drawers. Carolyn Duncan, gem.quest@verizon.net or 909-593-2781.

Our Historian, Jim Gersbach, is asking for photos and news articles about the club. Send them to him at 2270 E. Orange Grove, Pasadena, CA 91104-4911.

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.



CALIFORNIA REPUBLIC

92,597

In September 1850 this was the estimated number of people living in the new state of California.

37,700,000
Is what California's estimated population will be on this 2012 Admissions Day.



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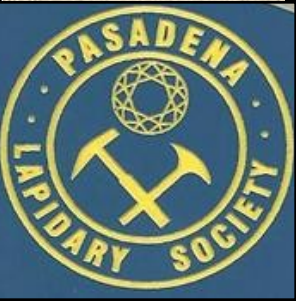
September
2012

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Rockhound Ramblings Awards
2011 - 1st Place, CFMS New Editor
2011 - 2nd Place, AFMS New Editor
2012 - 1st Place Bulletin, CFMS
2012 - 2nd Place Bulletin, CFMS
2012 - 6th Place Bulletin, AFMS

Pasadena, California
U.S.A.























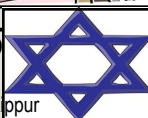


Founded May 19, 1949



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.

September 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p>September - (from Septem "seven" in Latin) was the seventh month from 753 BC until 46 BC, when the start of the year changed from Kalendas Martius (1 March) to Kalendas Januarius (1 January). Thus September is now the ninth month but is named after the seventh. A similar thing occurs with October, November, and December. The 8th, 9th and 10th months, respectively.</p>						<p>1 Arcadia </p> <p> Santa Monica</p>
<p>2 Arcadia </p> <p> Santa Monica</p>	<p>3 </p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 </p> <p>PLS Board Meeting</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 </p> <p>Jade Cove</p>	<p>8 </p> <p>Jade Cove</p>
<p>9 </p> <p>Workshop</p>	<p>10 </p> <p>CALIFORNIA REPUBLIC California Statehood Holiday</p>	<p>11 </p> <p>Sept 11, 2001 Patriot Day</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 </p> <p>Pasadena</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15  </p> <p>DOWNEY Boron</p>
<p>16  </p> <p>DOWNEY Boron</p>	<p>17 </p> <p>Citizenship Day</p>	<p>18 </p> <p>PLS General Meeting</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 </p> <p>POW/MIA YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN</p>	<p>22 </p> <p>SAN BERNARDINO</p>
<p>23 </p> <p>SAN BERNARDINO</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 </p> <p>Yom Kippur</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 </p> <p>California Native American Day</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30 </p>						