



# ROCKHOUND RAMBLINGS

AUGUST, 2014

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PASADENA LAPIDARY SOCIETY - PASADENA, CALIFORNIA



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Jade Cove, north of Big Sur, California, is the site of our club's first field trip out of Southern California. Well known to collectors of California Nephritic Jade, this site is a favorite of several of our members. In this month's feature article Jennifer Nishimura presents California's jade to be found along our coast and the adventure of the collecting trip!

Continued on page 4



**President's Message**



Dear Members,

I hope everyone's is enjoying the summer so far! Those of us who went to the July Workshop had a good time learning to make a wire wrap pendent. My thanks to Becky Fregoso for her instructions.

We have changed the program meeting time to begin at 6:45 pm and start breaking down the tables and cleaning up at 8:30 pm

to be out of the building by 8:45 pm. These hours are being changed to comply with new rules at the library.

At the American Federation (AFMS) show and convention in Tulsa, Oklahoma, the Pasadena Lapidary Society won several awards. (We all know about the Federation shows now.) Thanks to Mark Nelson's perseverance, we won 1st place for our "Rockhounds Ramblings" bulletin and I want to tell Mark we are proud of him and his achievement!

Mark also submitted the New Member

Handbook (available on the Member Tools page of the web site) and we received an award for that also. I would agree with the AFMS, our handbook is a great publication which is full of information.

IN ADDITION we want to congratulate Paolo Sanchez for taking 5<sup>th</sup> place in North America for his article in the December 2013 Rockhound Ramblings bulletin titled *Collecting Septarian Nodules*. A BIG Hip Hip Hooray for both of you!

See you at the next meeting!

..... **Marcia**  
Marcia Goetz, President

**Meeting and General Club Information**  
By Linda Nelson, Secretary

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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: [pasadenalapidary@aol.com](mailto:pasadenalapidary@aol.com)

**July Board Meeting**

Officers present: Marcia & Joe Goetz, Martha Wilson and Linda Nelson.

Chairs & Members present: Carolyn Duncan, Ed Imlay, Chris Kyte, Mark Nelson and Elizabeth Weston.

Officers/Directors Absent: Dave Kelty.

The board approved: a budget for the second half 2014; the appointment of Elizabeth Weston to be our Historian and for our Society to enter the AFMS All American Club contest. A discussion of our annual

Holiday Party was settled with the approval for Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, at the Masonic Hall. Souvenir pins for the CFMS show volunteers was revisited and Mark was asked to provide a design.

**July Program Meeting**

At the Rock Of The Month talk Jennifer Nishimura provided insight into collecting at Jade Cove.

Keith Krzywiec, the founder of West Covina Fossil Paleontology, presented a display and review of the fossils found throughout the Los Angeles area.

**August Program Meeting**

**Those Splendid Stones**

Sparkling Diamonds - Exquisite Emeralds - Brilliant Rubies - Shimmering Pearls. For centuries, these precious gems have captured humankind, leading men and women to give up fortunes - even their lives - to possess them.

Join us at August's Program Meeting as National Geographic takes us on a journey around the globe to discover the origins of these most coveted gems!

**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 \$2.00 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.

**Website:** [pasadenalapidarysociety.org](http://pasadenalapidarysociety.org)

**Email:** [pasadenalapidary@aol.com](mailto:pasadenalapidary@aol.com)

**Board Meetings:** 7:15 PM on the second Tuesday of the month at the Plymouth Campus of the Monrovia Adult School. Map and directions are on the website. All members are welcome to attend!

**General Meetings:** Monthly at 6:45 PM - 8:30 PM on the third Tuesday at the Pasadena Central Library at 285 E. Walnut Street.

**Guests are always welcome!**

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

**Workshop:** The use of the club's equipment is available to members from 9am to 5pm on the 2nd Sunday of each month in our shop at 123 E. Montecito Ave., Sierra Madre. There are two sessions - from 9am to 1pm and 1pm to 5pm. Equipment proficiency is required and instruction is free. Fees are \$3 per session or \$5 for a full day. Bring lunch!

**Safety:** Liability waivers, eye protection, closed-toe, flat-heel shoes and machinery safe-practices are mandatory for all participants. Workshops and field trips are for adult members and juniors with adult supervision.



**The Annual Club Show** is held the second weekend of March at the Masonic Center, 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.

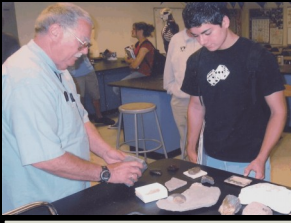


**Ed's Corner**

**EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH**

**By Ed Imlay**

Chair, Education Committee



Ed Imlay at a local school

To schedule my educational presentation to your group or school contact me by phone at (626) 286-8215 or by email at edimlay@hotmail.com.

**Identification:** Would you like to know the name of a rock you have acquired? Set it on the table at the rear of the meeting room with a note asking "What is this?" If the interior of the stone is not evident, chip a small piece off or "window" it to reveal the interior (if it will not damage the appearance of the specimen).

**Display Table:** For the August meeting, please display any items of general interest, especially workshop projects, material from locations of recent or upcoming field trips, and the birthstone of the month (and Egypt's national gemstone): **Peridot**

**"Wear a Peridot or for thee,  
No conjugal fidelity,  
The August born without this stone,  
'Tis said, must live unloved alone."** Gregorian Calendar

**WORKSHOP**

**Wire Wrap Completion**



The August workshop will be a continuation of lapidary projects and help for anyone who didn't finish their wire wrap project. Bring your stones to cut and polish or select from those in our inventory.

Experienced help available for your projects.

— Carolyn Duncan Workshop Chair (909) 593-2781

**Help Needed**

**Historian:** Thank You to Elizabeth Weston for volunteering to be our Historian! She will help compile and organize our club's history.

**Librarian:** A club member is needed to help organize our reference library which is housed in the building where we have our workshop.

**Yearbook Committee:** The Board has approved the compiling of an annual Yearbook. We will be entering the AFMS All American Club competition and need about 10 members to help put the yearbook together as information is gathered throughout the year. Its a type of scrap book in a three-ring binder. Thanks to Elizabeth Weston, Anne Liu, Trudy Krose, Linda & Mark Nelson and Carolyn Duncan for volunteering to help. We need four more members to help!

If you can help with any of these projects or would like to discuss what they involve please let us know at pasadenalapidary@aol.com

**Welcome  
New Members !!**



Welcome to Anne Liu! Anne is a student at California State University of Long Beach, currently studying art history. She enjoys searching for and working with rocks, and is looking forward to helping with publicity, programs and refreshments!

Share the lapidary and jewelry hobby. Invite your friends and neighbors to one of our monthly meetings to learn more about the Pasadena Lapidary Society!



**ROCK OF THE MONTH PRESENTATION**

The name hematite derives its meaning from the Greek word for blood. Because hematite has been used for such a long time, it has a wide variety of healing properties ascribed to it, from relieving leg cramps to alleviating fevers. This month Elizabeth Weston will sift fact from legend about this interesting mineral!

— To be scheduled to tell the members about one of your favorite minerals please call or email Martha Wilson or the Society at pasadenalapidary@aol.com.

**The Program Meeting:** This is your time to get acquainted, identify your rocks and minerals, swap with your friends and share a refreshment with others. Put a cloth under any rocks you bring to the display table for an ID or swapping. Remember - the library prohibits selling and all activity must be completed before the meeting starts at 6:45pm. Doors open at 6pm.



**Meeting Refreshments** — Thanks to Susan Carter SooHoo, Ferdie and Paolo Sanchez for July's refreshments! **Armando Pedroza** and **Elizabeth Weston** are scheduled for the August meeting.

**We still need volunteers for January and February 2015.** ∞ Contact me at (323) 664-9598 or by email at mikekrose@roadrunner.com. .... Trudy Krose



**Sunshine:** The Nishimura family hopes to welcome a new addition! A newborn baby boy (not to be named Rocky) is in neonatal care before the adoption. ∞ Members Bridget Bergman and Briana Casay continue to recover from surgery. ∞ Linda Nelson's father is in critical condition from cancer and pneumonia

Do 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 Sunshine Committee to send cards and words of comfort, support and congratulations. Notify Trudy Krose at (323) 664-9598 or by email at mikekrose@roadrunner.com.



## Collecting Nephrite Jade at Jade Cove By Jennifer Nishimura, Pasadena Lapidary Society

Jade is a beautiful stone that is used for carvings, beads, and cabochons. Though most jade comes from Burma, collecting Northern California nephrite jade requires little expertise, and even beginners can find it at Jade Cove!

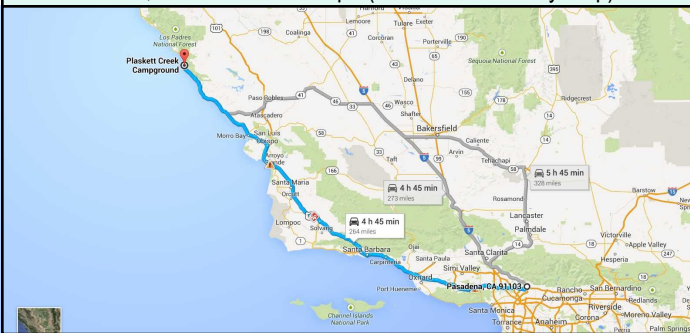
California nephritic jade is chemically dissimilar to jade from south-east Asia, which is known as jadeite. Though both stones are dense and fibritic, nephrite jade is a calcium-magnesium silicate while jadeite is a sodium-aluminum silicate. Jadeite is most commonly found in large deposits in Burma, and is a pyroxene-based stone. Jadeite is slightly harder than nephrite jade and comes in a variety of colors, as shown in the photo at right.



Here is a finished piece of Northern California nephritic jade from Jade Cove. Notice the rough material underneath the stone.



Jade cove is known for its nephrite jade, and is located south of Big Sur, California. To get there our family drives about 6 hours north of Los Angeles (270 miles) on Highway 101 - passing through Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo (route shown on my map).



Beginning collectors use hand tools (rakes and hand gardening cultivators) to sift through the well-worn pebbles that line the shore.

Wear knee pads, hat and bring small rock-collecting bag. You'll appreciate knee pads after a day of foraging and they'll make your pants last longer. This is what mine looked like:



For the most part, you won't need a bucket for your finds. I use a fanny pack on my belt. Most pieces of jade that are found on the shoreline are fairly small, like these in my gloved hand. If you find a big piece, you can probably head back to camp to celebrate, or you can really get serious and look for more.



The path to the cove (see photo on cover page) is fairly obvious and well worn by multitudes of jade hunters, but the final section of the trail is very steep as it descends from the plateau to the waves below. At the bottom, the beach is covered with marbles sized rocks constantly pounded by waves which crash onto the shoreline.

Jade is constantly moving with the tide and regularly washes up onto



the shore. The best time to hunt is at low tide or first light. I often find jade next to large boulders or in small crevices - where it settles due to its high density. Small pieces of jade can be found by sifting through the rocks, as my mother is doing in this photo.

More jade is found closer to the waves and it is easier to spot when wet rather than dry. At Jade Cove jade is a dark green to almost a black color. Its tougher to spot the jade when dry because it looks just like the local serpentine. It seems sometimes that there are a million pieces of serpentine for every piece of jade! A scratch test is used to differentiate serpentine from jade. This is done by gently pressing down on the surface of the stone with a dull steel object. If the rock scratches, it is not nephrite jade, and is probably serpentine.

There are few motels for our family within an hour's drive of Jade Cove. We like to camp at Plaskett Creek campground, near Jade Cove, which is very comfortable.



At the campground there are Monterey pines, cedars and cypress trees. I enjoy the beautiful scenery as much as I do collecting jade.

I think Jade Cove is a great place to collect gem quality jade. Though big pieces are hard to find, I'm able to tumble or trim and polish the smaller pieces into very nice cabochons for jewelry. I would recommend it to any collector!

*Jennifer is a 13 year old Junior Member of the Society — Editor*

## Mineral Stamps By Diamond Dan

There was a time that there were not many mineral stamps printed anywhere in the world. In the history of the United States Post Office, there have been only two sets of stamps depicting minerals, both of which are pictured here.



However, it is now quite easy to find mineral stamps from all over the world. Google "mineral stamps" in the image category, and you will see dozens of mineral stamps from all over the world. Most are very colorful, too!

This month we are reminded of the sacrifices that Americans have made to keep our country free and independent. In August of 1814 British forces burned and looted Washington, D.C. in an effort to return Americans to British subjugation.



## California Represented at the AFMS Show in Tulsa, Oklahoma



**Standing:** Suzy Martin, Don George, Andrea Dougherty, Martin Dougherty, Coleen McGann, Vivien Roberts, Marion Roberts, Pat LaRue, Burl LaRue, Dee Holland, Tom Burchard, Mark Nelson.  
**Seated:** Brenda Burchard, Cheri George, Shirley Leeson.  
**Not Shown:** Linda Nelson, John Martin (photographer).

In July the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) judged *Rockhound Ramblings*, the bulletin of the Pasadena Lapidary Society, to be the BEST Bulletin in North America - of all of the small bulletins submitted by the many hundreds of clubs in the AFMS.

As your Editor, I want to express my sincere thanks to all of our members who offered suggestions, submitted articles and helped define the format of our bulletin.

Our Member Handbook was judged to be among the best special publications this year, as was the article by Paolo Sanchez, in the articles by a junior member category.

We have a lot to be proud of, and it is because of the spirit and combined efforts of each and all of us - members, advertisers and supporters - that we have achieved these honors and recognitions! - Editor

Mark Nelson accepts the first place bulletin award from AFMS President Richard Jaeger.



Photo by John Martin.



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## FIELD TRIPS

There is no field trip this month.  
Below are some picks by the Editor of things to do in August

**Collecting Petrified Wood:** Gordon Dobell has recently begun unearthing a massive deposit of petrified wood on his ranch (open to the public) on U.S. 180, 12 miles south of Holbrook, Arizona - just a 9 hour drive from Pasadena. Pay \$30 to fill your 5 gallon bucket with 50lbs of choice multi-color wood. Other collecting sites in the area are listed in the *Gem Trails of Arizona* and *Rock Collecting Arizona* books.

**Celestial Events:** Full Sturgeon Moon, Perseids Meteor Shower, a rare conjunction of Venus, Jupiter and Cancer. <http://www.seasky.org/astronomy/astronomy-calendar-current.html>

**Paige Fossil Museum at La Brea Tar Pits:** Open daily 9:30-5pm.

**Cool it along the coast:** Visit Jade Cove (this bulletin) or Bowling Ball Beach (July bulletin). Collecting petrified whale bone along the beaches north of Santa Barbara will be good toward the middle of the month. Plan your trip for during low or minus tides.

Google: Tide Calendar 2014 Santa Barbara, California

**Attend a Gem and Mineral Show:** See the show listing on Page 8.

**Whitewater Rock Supply:** Green quartz, petrified wood, olivine peridot, Utah Ice (selenite), acres of decorative rock. 58645 Old Highway 60, White Water, CA. Just east of the Cabazon Outlet Center on I-10. (760) 325-2747 Monday - Friday: 7am - 4:30 pm Saturday: 7am - 3pm [www.whitewater-rock.com](http://www.whitewater-rock.com).



### Editor's Quiz

**Juniors:** On what date did British troops burn the United States Capitol, White House and government buildings?

**Adults:** What is the difference in composition between Nephrite Jade and Jadeite?

This month the answers can be found in this bulletin! The first Adult and Junior Member to correctly answer these questions will win a special prize at the Meeting. See the Editor's contact info on page 2.



**Congratulations to Chuie Nishimura** - for being the first person to respond with the information that the primary minerals found in Iron Sand are magnetite, hematite and the element titanium.



**Congratulations also to Danielle Sanchez** - for being the first Junior to respond that the Gorda, Pacific and North American plates are the closest tectonic plates to Bowling Ball Beach.



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## Dobell Ranch Petrified Wood Holbrook, Arizona

Great selection and prices on 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 a 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!**

## FEDERATION NEWS

by Joe Goetz, Federation Director

### CFMS - California Federation of Mineralogical Societies

The CFMS is already preparing for the June 12<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> 2015 Annual Show & Convention in Lodi. Margaret Kolaczyk is the Show Chair. As with every show we are asking for your help to make it a special one. We are expecting large herds of kids, wide eyed and full of curiosity at the show. Part of the fun is showing them what we are good at, and grab bags are always at the top of the list. We would love to have our societies donate grab bags filled with rocks and minerals for the kid's booth.

It was very apparent that all of you loved the live auction at the Cracker Barrel in Pomona, so we are bringing it back for the 2015 show. We are calling on all Federation Directors, CFMS Officers and CFMS Chairmen to bring 5-10 slabs from your club. All proceeds will go to the CFMS Endowment Fund. From all of us at CFMS, thank you so much for your help! **Jennifer Haley - 2014 CFMS President**

### AFMS - American Federation of Mineralogical Societies



Marion Roberts, of California's Calaveras Gem & Mineral Society was elected President of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies at the 2014 AFMS Convention and Show, hosted by the Rocky Mountain Federation, in Tulsa, Oklahoma.



Incoming AFMS President - Marion Roberts



### HINTS, TIPS AND SAFETY

#### Treating Cuts at the Workshops and Field Trips by Mark Nelson, EMT

Guess what? We don't live in a bubble! In our lapidary shops we have sharp edges and tools that can slip and cut or puncture. On field trips we slip and slide on our hands, elbows and knees. Our hands and fingers seek out rocks with sharp edges that once made cutting tools for primitive cultures. The results can be lacerations and abrasions (cuts and scrapes) and punctures. The danger in these injuries is **INFECTION**. The way we treat these injuries to prevent infection can make the difference between a minor mishap and a major event.

#### YOU SHOULD:

— For minor cuts, punctures and scrapes, where the bleeding is minimal, wash the wound with soap and water. Use tweezers, if necessary, to remove all particles of dirt or vegetation. Keep it clean and dry. Apply a band aid to an open cut to keep the edges of the wound closed. This is all that is required to care for most wounds.

— For more serious wounds the first step is to stop the bleeding. Most wounds respond to direct pressure with a clean cloth or bandage. Hold the pressure continuously for approximately 10 to 20 minutes (the affected person can help). If the bandage gets saturated with blood, put an additional bandage on top of the first. Do not remove the initial bandage. If this fails to stop the bleeding seek medical assistance. After about two hours, soak the bandage in clean water and gently remove it. Clean the wound gently with soap and water and apply a band aid or bandage to close the wound and to keep it clean.

#### DO NOT:

— Clean the wound with hydrogen peroxide or iodine. While this is acceptable initially it can delay healing and should be avoided long-term.

— Apply antibiotic ointment or any other topical treatment, except to prevent further immediate contamination.

— Attempt to apply any stitches or sutures unless you are a medical professional so trained.

For more information on treatment of cuts and wounds read the August CFMS Newsletter at <http://www.cfmsinc.org>



#### Melting a U.S. Nickel to make nickel jewelry Brad Smith, Culver City Gem and Mineral Society

"I often get questions from students about using a coin in their jewelry or for something at the soldering station. But in the USA coins can be deceiving - nickels don't have much nickel in them and pennies have almost no copper in them. To find answers about what is in a coin, just Google "metal content of coins". There are many sites, but one good one is [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coins\\_of\\_the\\_United\\_States\\_dollar](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coins_of_the_United_States_dollar)". In this example a U.S. Nickel is 75% copper and 25% nickel.

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### LOCAL ROCK AND GEM SHOWS

**August 1 - 3 NIPOMO:** Annual show; Orcutt Mineral Society; Nipomo High School; 525 N. Thompson Ave.; Fri & Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4. Free admission; more than 60 indoor dealers, outdoor tailgaters. Web site: [www.omsinc.org](http://www.omsinc.org).

Look for the gem shows symbol on the calendar on page 8.



**16 - 17 TEHACHAPI:** Tehachapi Valley Gem & Mineral Society, St. Malachy's Catholic Church, 407 West E Street. Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5. Website: [www.tvgms.org](http://www.tvgms.org).

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

**22 - 24 COSTA MESA:** Wholesale and retail show; Gem Faire Inc.; OC Fair & Event Center; 88 Fair Dr.; Fri. 12-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$7, children (0-11) free; fine jewelry, gems, beads, crystals, gold and silver, minerals, exhibitors, jewelry repair while you shop, hourly door prizes; Web site: [www.gemfaire.com](http://www.gemfaire.com).

**30 - 1 SILVER CITY, NEW MEXICO:** 31st Annual Gem and Mineral Show; Grant County Rolling Stones Gem & Mineral Society; Grant County Business and Conference Center; 3031 US Hwy. 180 at 32nd St.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-5, Mon. 10-4; free admission; more than 35 dealers, displays, collecting and geology field trips. [www.rollingstonesgms.blogspot.com](http://www.rollingstonesgms.blogspot.com).

### Member - To - Member

**WANTED: Society bulletins, minutes, correspondence, awards, photos, officer and member lists from before October 2009. Any condition. If you have any, bring them to a club function or email the club to arrange a pick up. We are building our Yearbook and need to know more of our history! We'll copy and return them to you.**

**Members are welcome to place a FREE message for items or services wanted, for sale or for trade. Email submissions to [pasadenalapidary@aol.com](mailto:pasadenalapidary@aol.com).**



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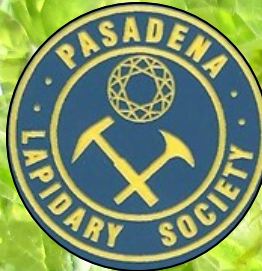
# ROCKHOUND RAMBLINGS

**AUGUST  
2014**

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### OUR MISSION

The Pasadena Lapidary Society serves to educate its members and the community in mineralogy, earth sciences and training in the lapidary and jewelry arts – while promoting sound mineral resource stewardship based on environmental awareness and ethical behavior. The Society fulfills its mission year-round which may include field trips, lapidary workshops, outreach presentations, public mineral displays, an annual show, and monthly informational meetings open to the public.



Classic Peridot Ring by  
Jared Jewelers



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.

# August 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		Note the new start time for the Program Meeting - 6:45 PM		31  End of Ramadan	1	2
3	4	5  Tish'a B'av - Jewish	6  First Atomic Bomb used in war against Japan - 1945. 205,000 die.	7  President Barack Obama born - 1961	8	9  2nd Atomic Bomb used in war against Japan - 1945. 70,000 dead.
10  Full Moon	11	12  Board Meeting	13	14  WW-2 ends with surrender of Japan 1945	15	16
17	18	19  Program Meeting	20	21	22	23  Gold discovered in Alaska 1896
24  1814 Burning of Washington D.C.	25  New Moon	26  Krakatoa Volcano Erupts 1883	27	28	29  Ganesh Chaturthi - Hindu	30
31	August: Did you know that this month received its modern name in 8 BC? It was renamed from <i>Sextili</i> to <i>August</i> to honor Augustus Caesar of Rome.					