

# ROCKHOUND RAMBLINGS

JANUARY, 2014

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PASADENA LAPIDARY SOCIETY · PASADENA, CALIFORNIA



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What to do with those interesting rocks you are saving until the opportunity comes to slab, cab and polish them? As this photo by Pasadena Lapidary Society member Bob Brice shows they have another use: to showcase them in hardscape features in his back yard! Space limitations need not be a problem, Bob says, because by thoughtful placement of the stones the beauty he sees in these works of nature add color and intrigue to areas of his yard all year long.

(Continued on page 4)



**President's Message**



Dear Members.

We enter a new year, leaving the old one behind and leaving it without two of our members – Vern Cliffe and Alice Davis. They both had many years of experience and skills

and freely shared them with us. We will miss them!

Our Christmas party was enjoyed by all who attended this year and we had a great time with the all-day agenda! Martha Wilson demonstrated how to make a Tree of Life

pendant, Carolyn Duncan held classes on basic rock tumbling and Briana Casay showed us how to make miniature people with beads and place them on a chain. Some of us made gem trees, others worked on stuffing baggies with things for the shows, and still others took the time to catch up with each other. Linda Nelson and others brought items to place in theme baskets for the raffle and Ralph and Becky brought a live Christmas tree! Thanks to all who donated items.

Chris Kyte did his magic in the kitchen - all day long - and none of us were hungry! Among other culinary

specialties, he made his famous carrot soup and it was delicious. As a way to express our thanks for our bounty we collected a nice supply of food for the food pantry in Pasadena. I know people were having fun because when dinner was ready we had a hard time getting people to leave the craft tables to go to the tables to eat! Thanks to all who brought delicious food for the potluck and to the evening's hostess - Trudy Krose.

After dinner we inducted the new board and announced our Rockhounds of the Year – Adult: Mark and Linda Nelson. Junior: Paolo Sanchez. See you in the New Year!

..... **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 [mnelsonair@aol.com](mailto:mnelsonair@aol.com)

**December Board Meeting**

In consideration of the holidays there was no board meeting in December. The next board meeting is Tuesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>.

**December Program Meeting**

The December meeting was held at the San Marino Masonic Hall (see Marcia's report, above). Joe Goetz and Mark Nelson set up 1000w flood lights to make sure the parking lot was well-lit for safety as members left that night.

**January Meeting**

Our January field trip is to Quartzsite, Arizona to attend the shows. In talking about the Q'Site shows we have learned that many of our members have not been to the annual shows. At the January meeting we will tap the experience of members who have attended the shows. They will cover the various shows, items to purchase, how to get the best bargains and places to stay in motels or to camp.

Don't miss this opportunity!

**Upcoming OWB Meetings**

One West Bank is expected to remodel their meeting room after February, and we are seeking another room in which to hold meetings in March. The scheduled meetings at OWB in January and February are:

- January 8 CFMS Show 6:30 pm**
- January 14 - Board 7 - 9:30pm**
- February 11 - Board 7 - 9:30pm**
- February 12 - CFMS Show 6:30 pm**

If you know of a place we can meet in March, please let Marcia or Linda Nelson know.

**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.

**Board Meetings:** 7:00 PM on the second Tuesday of the month at One West Bank, 1 E. Foothill in Arcadia. All PLS members are welcome to attend.

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

**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.

**Workshop** and instructions are available to members from 9am to 5pm on the 2nd Sunday of each month in our well-equipped shop at 123 E. Montecito, Sierra Madre. Refer to pages 3 and 8 for classes and date confirmation.

**Safety:** Liability waivers, eye protection, closed-toe, flat-heel shoes and machinery safe-practices are

mandatory for all participants.

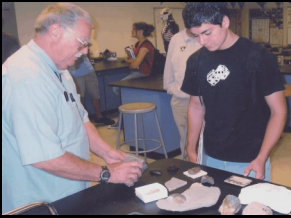
Workshops and field trips are for adult members and juniors with direct adult supervision.

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

Our club is proud to host the 2014 California Federation Show May 30<sup>th</sup> - June 1<sup>st</sup> at the L.A. County Fairplex in Pomona!

**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**



Ed Imlay at a local school

**EDUCATIONAL OUTEACH**

**By Ed Imlay**  
Chair, Education Committee

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 January 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: Garnet.

According to the U.S. Geological Survey, Garnet, the January birthstone, derived its name from the Latin word granatus, meaning like a grain, which refers to the mode of occurrence wherein crystals resemble grains or seeds embedded in the matrix.



**Welcome New Members !!**



Welcome Jim Cabernoch to our Society! Jim's an engineer who is looking to integrate lapidary creations with his artistic wood creations. 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**

Briana Casay will talk about the remarkable gem - Tanzanite. To be scheduled to talk about an interesting rock or mineral please sign up at the monthly meeting or contact Carolyn Duncan.

**Meeting Refreshments:**



Thanks to all who contributed to the great December party! Trudy Krose and Linda Nelson are scheduled for the January meeting refreshments! Your favorite light snack or goodie helps to make the program meeting even more entertaining and interesting! Contact me at (323) 664-9598 or at mikekrose@roadrunner.com to sign up to bring something to a future meeting! ..... Trudy Krose

**WORKSHOP**



The workshop is on the second Sunday of the month at 123 E. Montecito Street in Sierra Madre. There are two sessions - from 9am to 1pm and 1pm to 5pm. Fees are \$3 per session or \$5 for a full day. Bring your lunch! We will continue with individual projects as well as jewel trees and elastic cord bracelets. We need to have a substantial number of trees and bracelets for both shows. — Carolyn

**The Pasadena Lapidary Society now has a web site! Your comments and input are welcome.**

[www.pasadenalapidarysociety.org](http://www.pasadenalapidarysociety.org)



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**We'll Miss You !**

If your dues were not renewed by December 31, this is your last issue of Rockhound Ramblings!

Member participation is the most important reason for a club's success - but so are dues! Please consider helping our club's costs by adding your husband, wife, child or close friend to your PLS



**THANK YOU** to Margo Farrin and Bill O'Connor of Farrin O'Connor Design who donated a sturdy wood table to hold our trim saws at the Workshop.



**Sunshine:** Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of **Vern Cliffe** and **Alice Davis** who passed away last month.

**The Shows Are Coming !**

The most important events of the year will be here before you know it! The Pasadena Lapidary Society show is first - on March 8th & 9th. Then the big state-wide show: the CFMS show, sponsored by our society on May 30th-June 1st. All members are asked to help!



**Fred Elsna** thanks everyone for their prayers and has been declared cancer-free following surgery.

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 Pasadena Lapidary Society has a Sunshine Committee to send cards and words of comfort, 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)

# What To Do With Those Interesting Rocks?

By Armando Pedroza  
Pasadena Lapidary Society

Rockhounds are in an enviable position. We trek to remote places in search of special rocks and minerals. We will use this inventory of material some day to craft jewelry or other artistic pieces. Right now we can use this inventory to beautify our homes and gardens! Think of it this way: if we find these rocks and minerals attractive - so will guests to our home! This is called *Stonescaping* and to illustrate what I'm talking about I'll refer you to a landscaping project I designed for North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society members Don & Loretta Ogden.

In their landscape design we incorporated their petrified wood, desert rocks, agates and fossil corals which they collected on their rock collecting trips. To make the design one that uses very little water we used drought-tolerant plants such as Sago Palms, Fire Sticks, Agave's and Feather grass. We planted a beautiful Palo Verde tree, of the *Cercidium* family. Its name means "green stick" in Spanish, referring to the green trunk and branches, that perform photosynthesis.

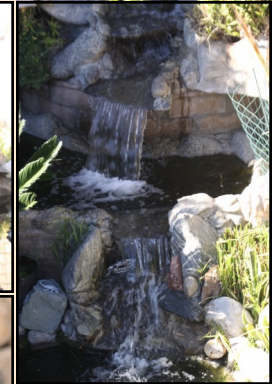


The design showcases a large Serpentine rock which they collected in Northern California on one of their rockhound expeditions.

As the owner of *Forest & Sun Arborist* I enjoy working with other rockhounds in designing unique landscapes - utilizing interesting and "found" materials. For example - pairing petrified wood with Cycads such as Sago Palms, known as "living fossils" because they have remained unchanged for millions of years. Also, *Stonescaping*

is natural, simple and enduring. It is easy to integrate plants and works harmoniously with water. So if you've ever wondered how to incorporate and display your rockhound finds into your garden please give me a call!

Editor's note: Armando is a Certified Horticulturalist and a landscape contractor certified by NCMA (National Cement Masonry Association) and is a SRW (Segmental Retaining Wall) installer. Photos on the preceding panel of the Ogden residence were provided by Armando Pedroza.



Photos shown above are ways that Bob and Vida Brice have used "found rocks" to beautify their home.

On a trip to Quartzsite Linda Nelson found this rock from Morocco, carved to reveal Orthoceras and Ammonite fossils, and grooved to hold a round sheet of glass. It had been ordered by a museum and the order had been cancelled. Now it resides in a wall in Linda's patio.



Photo by the Editor

Consider this month's field trip to Quartzsite as an opportunity to find interesting specimen stones for your own landscaping project, and call *Forest And Sun* for a consultation and quote. They offer special rates to all members on tree care, landscape and stonescape services.

..... Editor



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### New 2014 - 2016 Officers Sworn In



Ralph Fregoso (at left), as the Chairman of the Nominating Committee, reads the oath of office to the newly elected Society Officers.



New Officers Joe Goetz, Federation Director. Marcia Goetz, President. Martha Wilson, Vice President. Linda Nelson Secretary/Treasurer.

Photos by Trudy Krose and the Editor



Carolyn Duncan, last year's Rockhound Of The Year and outgoing Vice President was named to fill the vacant Trustee position.



Quartzsite, Arizona is the destination of our Field Trip this month!

### Goodbye To Good Friends



Verne Cliffe



Alice Davis

### Linda and Mark Nelson 2014 Rockhounds Of The Year



The Pasadena Lapidary Society is pleased to recognize the contributions of two of our members: Linda and Mark Nelson. Linda, a CPA and born in Pasadena, serves as our club's secretary and treasurer for the past two years, maintaining our tax-exempt status and filing our tax returns. She and her husband, Mark, (also a SoCal native) designed our club's logo shirts and hats and introduced the treasure wheel to our annual show. Linda is the proof-reader for our club's bulletin and Mark is our membership chair. Four years ago Mark became the bulletin editor, and has gradually increased its distribution by modifying the format and adding more diverse content. Our bulletin has achieved state and national recognition, and during this time our membership has doubled. Both of these hard-working club members pitch in to lead the work parties wiring and insulating the new workshop and our annual food drive for the local food pantry. They give generously of their time and talents to build membership, participate in meetings and on field trips. The Pasadena Lapidary Society is proud to name Mark and Linda Nelson as our 2014 Rockhounds Of The Year!

### Paolo Sanchez 2014 Junior Rockhound Of The Year



"We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future" Franklin D. Roosevelt once said. The Pasadena Lapidary Society believes that this is true for the future of rockhound societies. One of our Junior Members, Paolo Sanchez, mirrors that hope for our future. Paolo, a native of Galveston Texas, became attracted to our club as a place where he could collect rough specimens in the field and bring them to a workshop where he transforms them into specimens of beauty. Now he instructs other Juniors in the proper use of lapidary machines and techniques! His enthusiasm soon convinced his entire family to become members and to join him in participating. Paolo has authored articles for our club's bulletin and for Rock And Gem Magazine. The Pasadena Lapidary Society is proud to name Paolo Sanchez as our 2014 Junior Rockhound Of The Year!



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Joe Goetz  
Field Trip Chairman

## FIELD TRIPS

By Joe Goetz

In January we will visit the extensive and varied shows in Quartzsite, Arizona. Our timing is to take advantage of the annual "Pow Wow", hosted by the Quartzsite Improvement Association, from January 22<sup>nd</sup> through the 26<sup>th</sup>. If you love shopping or going on fieldtrips - then this is the time you want to go. Where to camp and carpooling to Quartzite is still being finalized. Of course, if you are planning to stay in a motel in Blythe you should make a reservation immediately!

My advice: be sure to take lots of money! Even though prices are considerably less at the shows than you will find here in Southern California it can add up more quickly than you'll realize, because of the terrific bargains you'll find.

The Planning Meeting for the 2014 field trips is going to be centrally located for all the participants - on January 18<sup>th</sup> at 10AM at Jay and Kathy Valle's home. The address is 1421 Latchford Avenue, Hacienda Heights, CA 91745. Their phone number is 626-943-9764. If you have ideas of where you want to go, or are willing to lead a field trip to your favorite place, let me know or email your suggestions to our Secretary. See you there and in Quartzite as well!



Having an adventure somewhere in California.....

*Joe Goetz*



### Editor's Quiz

**Juniors:** Where was our Junior Rockhound Of The Year born?

**Adults:** What prehistoric cycad does the Forest And Sun company like to pair with found rocks and fossils?

The first Adult and Junior Members to correctly answer these questions will win a special prize at the Meeting. See Editor's contact info on page 2.



Congratulations to Chris Kyte for being the first to correctly identify the minerals that make up Septarian Nodules - Calcite, Aragonite, and Limestone. A prize for this answer will be awarded at the January meeting!



Unfortunately, there were no correct responses to the Junior Member quiz! Better luck this month!



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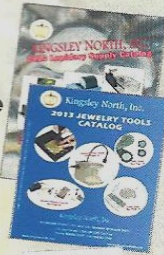
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## FEDERATION NEWS

by Joe Goetz, Federation Director

### CFMS - California Federation of Mineralogical Societies



In November I represented our club at the California Federation's Annual Meeting where new officers were elected 2014.

Master of Ceremony, Jim Brace-Thompson (left) swears in the 2014 Officers: Jennifer Haley, President, Tom Burchard, 1st VP; Robert Sankovich, 2nd VP; Margaret Kolaczyk, Treasurer; Kim Campbell Erb, Secretary.

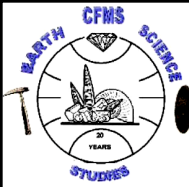
SCRIBE, the organization representing lapidary society bulletin editors will have its annual meeting at 9am on Saturday, January 25<sup>th</sup> in the Quartzsite, Arizona, Seniors Center. Interested members and guests are welcome.

(Photo courtesy of the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies)

### AFMS - American Federation of Mineralogical Societies



The next AFMS Show will be hosted by the Rocky Mountain Federation in Tulsa, Oklahoma on July 9<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup>. These shows are well worth the effort to attend! Mark your calendar and make plans to be part of the fun!



## CAMP ZZYZX 2014

Reservations are now being accepted for the ZZYZX Earth Sciences week March 30 - April 6, 2014. Zzyzx is in the Mojave Desert near Baker, California. Classes 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, Intarsia and Inlay. Not all classes are offered at every session.

The fee for the week is \$375 and includes your room or RV space, three meals per day and classes. Zzyzx has a meal hall, lapidary classrooms, a shower building and dormitory rooms. Bring any creature comforts you may desire (lamp, throw rug, ice chest, etc). Rooms are limited and couple's rooms fill early - so if you are planning to attend now is the time to send in your reservation. Contact: Camp Zzyzx Registrar, Audrey Harvey, 3363 Tuxford Place, Thousand Oaks CA 91360-4626, 805-492-2253. Reservation forms are available at the ES Camps tab at <http://www.cfmsinc.org>.



### HINTS, TIPS AND SAFETY



#### Natural Gas For Soldering By Brad Smith

Some jewelers in the USA are tapping into their home's natural gas system to power their torch. Two students have asked me if this was safe. Because I'm not an expert in torch gas systems I called the engineering department of Smith Equipment Company and tech support at Rio Grande. Both told me it was not safe to use natural gas available in U.S. homes.

The problem concerns a thing called a flashback arrester that isolates your torch from the sources of oxygen and fuel gas. The people at both Smith (605 882-3200) and Rio (800 545-6566) explained that home natural gas comes in at too low a pressure for the flashback arrester to function correctly. This means that a problem at the torch could propagate a fire back through the fuel hose and into your home's gas pipe system. **And that won't be good.** Natural gas pressure in a U.S. home is typically about one-quarter of one pound per square inch (very low). Flashback arresters require at least two pounds per square inch to work properly. Special equipment is available to solve the problem, but it is extremely expensive. So it's best to use bottled fuel gas through a regulator and flashback arrester. My jewelry bench is inside my home, not in a garage or separate shop building, so I'm obviously concerned that the operation is safe. My choice of fuel gas is to use propane in 14 ounce disposable cylinders. Unlike acetylene, it's clean-burning and there's not a lot of gas in the tank in case of a leak.

*More Bench Tips by Brad Smith are at facebook.com/BenchTips or see the book "Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" at Amazon.com.*

**Quartzsite Tips:** The following shows are active: Hi Ali Swapmeet, Prospectors Panorama, Desert Gardens -Gem & Mineral Show, Tyson Wells Rock & Gem Show and Sell-A-Rama, The Main Event, Big Tent Sports, Vacation & RV Show, Pow Wow Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show, Rice Ranch "Yawl Come" Show, Greasewood Swap.

**Motel space** is available 20 minutes away in Blythe, CA.  
Motel 6 - \$76 - 500 W Donlon St Blythe (760) 904-6990  
Super 8 - \$76 550 W Donlon St, Blythe (760) 922-8881  
Willow Inn - \$49 - 900 West Rice Street, Blythe  
Dutt Relax Inn - \$45 - 1843 E Hobsonway Blythe (760) 922-0273  
Ask for Senior Rates if you qualify - usually 10% less.

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### LOCAL ROCK AND GEM SHOWS

**JANUARY - QUARTZSITE, ARIZONA:** Annual shows all over town - all month long. See event dates at <http://www.desertusa.com/cities/az/quartzsite.html>. Wear your club shirt when you attend the shows!

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



**1-31 Pasadena:** Farrin O'Connor Design begins 2014 with a series of great one-day classes by outstanding instructors. Contact the instructors to learn about their classes and to register: Jill Morrison - [anjmorrison@gmail.com](mailto:anjmorrison@gmail.com) - [www.sterlingdesigns.com](http://www.sterlingdesigns.com), Sue Matz - [suematzjewelry@gmail.com](mailto:suematzjewelry@gmail.com), [www.suematzjewelry.com](http://www.suematzjewelry.com), Margo Farrin - [farrinoconnor@att.net](mailto:farrinoconnor@att.net) - [www.farrinoconnordesign.com](http://www.farrinoconnordesign.com), Bon Paphatsarang - [bonsarang@yahoo.com](mailto:bonsarang@yahoo.com) - [www.bonsilverdragon.com](http://www.bonsilverdragon.com). See ad on page 4.

**1-31 Burbank:** Rocks And Runes showcases their new selection of mineral candle holders, cut and polished gemstone specimens, metaphysical jewelry & tools, stone carvings and tumbled stones. See their ad on page 5.

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

**16-19 Pasadena:** Pasadena Bead & Design Show, Hilton Pasadena 168 S. Los Robles Avenue. 300 Artisan Booths, Merchant Displays, Galleries, Workshops. 10am to 6pm daily. Admission \$10, good all four days. Valet or self parking \$6. [www.pasadenabeadanddesignshow.com](http://www.pasadenabeadanddesignshow.com).

### Member - To - Member

Does your retired family or church member want a little extra income by renting a guest apartment or casita? Ask them to call Dr. Davis Coghill - (626) 394-9706, or our Secretary, for more information.

**Members are welcome to place a FREE message for items or services wanted, for sale or for trade. Email submissions to the Editor.**



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January  
2014

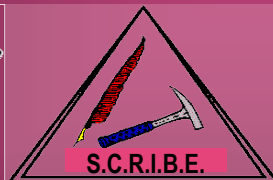
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Bulletin Editor:  
1475 Paseo Maravilla  
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RETURN SERVICE  
REQUESTED



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.



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.



# January 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		31  New Year's Eve	 New Years	2	3  Alice Davis' Service 11AM	4
5	6	7 National Old Rock Day 	8 Show Meeting 6:30pm One West Bank Arcadia	9 1st U.S. Balloon Flight (1793) 	10	11 Milk delivered in bottles for the first time, 1878. 
12 Workshop 	13 Revolutionary War ends Jan. 14, 1784 	14 Board Meeting 	15	16 Full Moon 	17 	18 
19 	20 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday 	21 Program Meeting 	22  Quartzsite Field Trip	23  Quartzsite Field Trip	24 Gold Found at Sutter's Mill -1848  	25  Quartzsite Field Trip
26  Quartzsite Field Trip	27 Auschwitz Liberated 1945 	28	29 Liliuokalani Queen of Hawaii 1891 	30	31 Confederates appoint Robert E. Lee their Commander in Chief. 	