



ROCKHOUND RAMBLINGS

SEPTEMBER, 2014 THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PASADENA LAPIDARY SOCIETY - PASADENA, CALIFORNIA



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David Penney is an explorer, a miner and an artist. He prospected, as did his father, for precious minerals near Beaver, in southern Utah, and kept a watch for unusual formations of lapidary quality material. One day he came upon a volcanic outcropping of mottled marble exposed by erosion. He brought a piece home and cut it open. The stone looked like it would take a polish and he began to sand it to a finer and finer finish. As he did this the colors and veins began to illuminate themselves in a striking manner - like an abstract painting - like a work of art. **And he called it Picasso Stone!**

Continued on page 4



President's Message



Dear Members,

This last month has been slow – during the summer it seems we all lie low and enjoy our families. Some people took vacations and found new rocks and, if you did so, please share your experiences with us with an article and pictures for the bulletin – we all love the pictures of the person who found

the rock holding it for us to see!

Schools will be starting again and some of the members (young and old(er)) will again return to classes to learn stuff and acquire new talents.

At our last workshop people worked on their own projects and some people finished wire wrapping projects they started last month, Becky gave people a few tips on wire wrapping techniques, and I even

had a chance to form a cabochon to work on.

My thanks to the new members who are listed on the next page, to Jennifer Jang who stepped up to fill the position of our Society Librarian and Elizabeth Weston as our Historian!

'See you at the next meeting and come early to chat and exchange news!

..... *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

August Board Meeting

There was no board meeting for August, due to the meeting room being unavailable. The board is considering awarding decorative pins for those who worked at the CFMS show this year.

August Program Meeting

At the **Rock Of The Month** talk Joan Harrison gave us a nice recap of rocks of the Himalayas. We learned about the unique anhydrous crystal stones with air bubbles inside.

Those Splendid Stones

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

September Program Meeting

Plate tectonics are not just something for a high school geology class. From passive rock collecting to the massive earthquakes that struck Napa last month, these plates are a significant part of our

daily lives. This month we will view a spectacular video "Ring Of Fire" - one of the most amazing sights on Earth - showing how the Earth was made and how a ring of active volcanoes almost 25,000 miles long affects us today.

Food Drive

Our Spring Food Drive was greatly appreciated by the food bank! We will be hosting another drive for the Winter months. Food can be contributed at any Society event and will be donated following the December meeting.

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

Email: 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 September 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 also Sri Lanka's national gemstone): Sapphire

"A maiden born when September leaves Are rustling in September's breeze, A sapphire on her brow should bind 'Twill cure diseases of the mind." Source: Gregorian Calendar

For fun, wear something to the Program Meeting containing this month's birthstone!

Welcome New Members !!



Welcome to Thomas Jaeger (a sound editor and illustrator), his wife Leona and daughter Olivia - recruited by Chaya Valuri (Jr), Jay & Kathy Valle (Jay's a field trip leader of great renown) and Sandra Rincon (a 6th grade math and science teacher)!

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 very 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.

WORKSHOP

Wire Wrap Completion



The September 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 is available for your projects!

Carolyn Duncan Workshop Chair (909) 593-2781

Beading Group

The new Beading Group will meet at the September Workshop. Kathleen and Lisa Griffy, Corinne Imlay and Linda Nelson will have a beginner project. Suggested beading accessories you could bring include a magnifier, a small desk lamp and a mat or bowl to hold beads. We will provide beading needles, thread and some beads. Members are welcome to bring their own beads as well. Call Linda Nelson for questions.



Thank You

Librarian: Thank You to Jennifer Jang for volunteering to be the Society's Librarian! She will help compile and organize our club's reference and lending library!

Yearbook Committee: Thank You to Elizabeth Weston, Anne Liu, Trudy Krose, Linda & Mark Nelson and Carolyn Duncan for volunteering to help! All others who would like to take a piece of the book to put together are welcome.

HEAD'S UP: At the October workshop we include a BBQ and silent auction in the workshop parking lot. Bring some rocks or anything you think might be of interest to members. Proceeds will go to the workshop fund. The Society will furnish hotdogs, buns, relish, drinks, plates and accessories for the picnic. A sign up sheet will be available at meetings and workshop for anyone that would like bring salads, desserts, chips etc. Hopefully the weather will be temperate. Come and join the fun!

Carolyn Duncan - Workshop Chair



Meeting Refreshments — Thanks to Armando Pedroza and Elizabeth Weston for August's refreshments! Martha Wilson and Sharon Yu are scheduled for the September 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: Newborn Jasper Traeger is growing well. We hope to see him at a meeting soon! Briana Casay has recovered from surgery. Linda Nelson's father was released from hospice to be home with his dog. Jim Cabernoch is going in for dual foot surgery and four long months of rehab!

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.

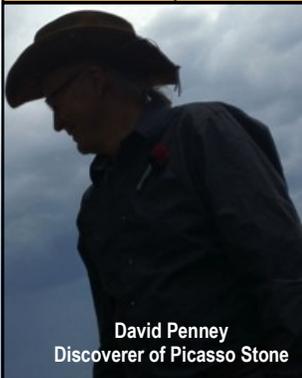


And He Called It Picasso Stone

By Mark Nelson, Pasadena Lapidary Society

Picasso Stone (ranging from 5.5 to 6.5 on the Mohs scale), sometimes called Picasso Jasper or Picasso Marble is a type of limestone that has metamorphosed to a highly silicated stone which in many can be the hardness of a Jasper. David Penney saw - in its angular streaks, patches and markings - the brush strokes of the artist Pablo Picasso. It is unusual that this precious stone is named for an artist's technique rather than what it is or who found it.

Picasso Stone began as did many marble varieties. Millions of years ago the Gulf of Mexico was an enormous inland sea, extending across Utah into Montana and east through Kansas. Millions of tiny creatures living in this sea shed their shells. Eventually these shells become compressed by the pressures of sediment and the calcium in their shells cemented into a solid layer of limestone. The heat of the tectonic plate movement and volcanic activity transformed the limestone into marble - in this case a beautiful and unique marble criss-crossed with a matrix of geometric black and tan lines. This unique geological story only occurred in one place on Earth, the Southeast corner of Utah near the town of Beaver. It is in this singular location that David Penney found this boldly patterned gemstone.

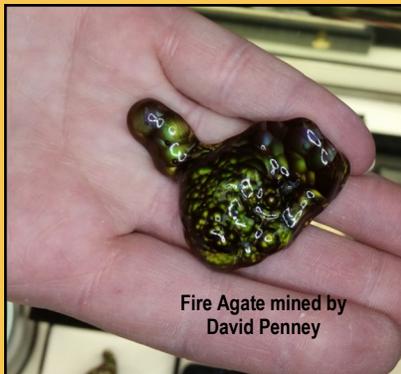


David Penney
Discoverer of Picasso Stone

While David Penney is often pictured as the enigmatic artist behind the production of Picasso Stone, his daughters, Tina Robinson and Desiree Shotwell (pictured on the cover of this bulletin with David's Picasso Stone sculpture "Lady Hawk") are outgoing, knowledgeable and ready to educate visitors on this interesting stone. Both of David Penney's daughters have grown up in the mining and stone art business. From an early age they

learned mining techniques, how to shape stones and market them at rock and gem shows in the U.S. and Europe - which were responsible, Desiree notes, for letting the world know about this fascinating rock.

In addition to Picasso Stone they mine and sell Lucin Varascite, Pink Flamingo Stone, White Tiger Stone, and Snowflake Obsidian - and carvings made from them. They are the largest producers of Deer Creek Fire Agate and have opened a new mine with spectacular Pink Rose Rhodonite.



Fire Agate mined by David Penney

Like a phoenix rising from the ashes, David Penney and his daughters resurrected an abandoned gas station, converting it into **Love The Art Gallery**. It is located at 1361 N. 300 West (near McDonalds) in Beaver Utah - just 3 1/2 hours north of Las Vegas, NV, through the magnificent Verde River Canyon. Call ahead at 435-438-6000 and Tina and Desiree will show finished jewelry and rough stones from the family's mines and give you a complete background on this amazing stone!



White Tiger Stone mined by David Penney



Larry Wimmer poses for size with a massive Picasso Stone boulder.
Photo used with permission of Rick Dalrymple
Rockpick Legend Company - www.rocks4u.com.

Petrified Trove Unearthed At Dobell Ranch

Gordon Dobell and Tonya Black have released the news of a new find of petrified logs buried beneath their ranch in Holbrook, Arizona. Visitors are able to fill their own 5-gallon buckets with baseball sized pieces and tumbling material (about 50lbs) for \$30. Larger material and whole stumps sold reasonably. The ranch and



Linda Nelson on petrified stump.

museum are open daily 8am to 6pm. A nice short weekend or great educational holiday trip! If visiting the Petrified Forest National Park do not enter with petrified wood from outside the Park. — Editor

Dobell Ranch Petrified Wood Holbrook, Arizona

Great selection and prices on petrified wood!
Open every day!



DoBell Ranch Petrified wood.
- Photo by Editor.

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

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



Rockhound Of The Year Wins National Award

Paolo Sanchez, our 2014 Junior Rockhound Of The Year, was proudly recognized at our August meeting. His 2013 article about collecting septarian nodules while on vacation in Utah was judged to be 4th among all similar articles submitted to the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) by lapidary clubs from all over North America! In the photo below Paolo receives his certificate from President Marcia Goetz.

This year we will be submitting articles by Paolo Sanchez, by Jennifer Nishimura and by any other junior or adult member who submits an article for publication in our bulletin! — article and photo by Editor



Last month we marked 200 years since the White House was burned on Aug. 24, 1814 during our fight to protect our freedom from Britain. After burning the White House and Washington, the British attacked Baltimore where they lost the Battle of Baltimore in September 1814.



It was the sight of the flag waving over Baltimore's Fort McHenry, September 14, 1814, after the battle that inspired the writing of our national anthem 200 years ago.

The fort's flag, the original "Star-Spangled Banner," is now on display at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.
— Editor

Applications Now Being Accepted for Rockhound Of The Year

Nominations are now being accepted for 2015 Rockhound (ROTY) and Junior Rockhound Of The Year (JROTY). Any member of the Society who has not previously been selected as a ROTY is eligible. The nominee may be an individual or a couple. Please submit your nominations in writing to Pasadena Lapidary Society, P.O. Box 5025, Pasadena CA 91117-0025. Nominations will be accepted through October 15th, 2014. Nominations should contain the name of the nominee and in what ways you feel he or she has acted to benefit the Society. Nominations may be anonymous and any unsuccessful nominations will be reconsidered next year.



THANK YOU to Margo and Bill O'Connor who donated a large amount of cabochons, beads and tools to the Society from their Farrin O'Connor Studio. What great friends! Members in the wire wrap and beading groups will appreciate these gems in their projects!

Why ite or ine?

By Mark Nelson, Pasadena Lapidary Society

Recently I gave my sister a piece of Serpentine for my nephew's rock collection. I asked her if she knew the name of the mineral, to which she cheekily replied "No, but I know that it's name ends in ITE !".

Why do some minerals end in ITE and other minerals and minerals groups end in INE or ENE? Take for example **-ite**: wüstite, haematite, fayalite, cristobalite, toberlite, chalcopyrite, hydroxyapatite, magnesite, wollastonite, zeolite - and **-ine/-ene**: cuspidine, olivine, nepheline, sapphirine, serpentine, pyroxene, spodumene.

In searching for an answer, the best explanation that I have found is that the reason is in its etymology. The suffix "ite" is derived from the Greek word lithos (from its adjectival form -ites), meaning rock or stone. "ine" is a suffix of adjectives of Greek or Latin origin, meaning "of or pertaining to", "of the nature of" or "made of". In this explanation for "ine" Olivine would be a mineral that pertains to olive, and so possibly has an olive color. Serpentine, with its mottled green, yellow and black color would have been compared to a snake.

Reference: www.thecanadianencyclopedia.com/en/article/mineral-naming and www.english.stackexchange.com/questions/34002/meaning-and-etymology-of-the-ite-and-ine-ene-endings-of-mineral-names



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Joe Goetz
Field Trip Chairman

FIELD TRIPS

By Joe Goetz

Jalama Beach — September 20th & 21st



I have collected excellent material along the Santa Barbara County coast around Gaviota State Park. Jalama County Park is reported to have better material and is more isolated than the state beaches!

There is a lot to collect in the area, such as agate, jasper, chert, petrified whale bone, travertine, onyx, marcasite, jade and fossils. The agate comes in colors in shades of brown, honey, gold and clear, often displaying beautiful lace-like patterns. These can be found along the shoreline for as far as you care to walk, either north or south. There is a huge outcropping of travertine onyx about 1.5 miles north of the parking area. The best onyx is from the deposit itself, so you'll need to take the necessary tools with you.

The jade can probably be found on the shoreline nearer Jalama Creek. Fossils of fish and plant imprints can be found in the cliffs behind the campground, but be wary as the cliffs are not very stable, loosening the sandstone to retrieve the fossils could cause a larger slide of material.

DETAILS: For trip details, fees, motels, map and directions refer to the calendar page of the website: www.pasadenalapidarysociety.org

Come for the day or for the weekend!

As usual, please confirm with me if you are planning to attend so that I can keep you updated on the trip or notify you if it changes in any way. (626) 914-5030.

GOING somewhere in California*Joe Goetz*



Editor's Quiz

Juniors: California became a state without being first a U.S. Territory. What did California call itself before our statehood?

Adults: How many stars and stripes were on the "Star Spangled Banner" that flew over Ft. McHenry on September 14, 1814?

This month the answers can be found in this bulletin and on the web! 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 Mona Ross for knowing that Nephritic jade is a calcium-magnesium silicate, and jadeite is a sodium-aluminum silicate.



Congratulations also to Jennifer Nishimura for knowing that the British burned our nation's capitol on August 24, 1814.



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FEDERATION NEWS

by Joe Goetz, Federation Director

CFMS - California Federation of Mineralogical Societies

Marion Roberts - Earth Science Studies Chairman & Margaret Kolaczyk - Camp Paradise Registrar, report that as of August 2nd the Camp Paradise 2014 session was completely booked for both weeks. For those of you who are attending the camp, they are really looking forward to seeing you! The dates for Camp Zzyzx for next year will be announced as soon as they are determined.

The CFMS is already preparing for the June 12th - 14th 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 would love to have our societies donate grab bags filled with rocks and minerals for the kid's booth.

Jennifer Haley - 2014 CFMS President, wants everyone to know that she and her family are safe and uninjured following last month's 6.0 earthquake in her home town of Napa, California.

AFMS - American Federation of Mineralogical Societies



Linda Jaeger, the AFMS B.E.A.C. (Bulletin Editors Assistance Chair), announced her retirement at this year's AFMS Show and Convention. AFMS President Marion Roberts has appointed Mark Nelson of the Pasadena Lapidary Society to chair this AFMS committee beginning in November.



AFMS President - Marion Roberts

HEADS UP!

Set your calendars now.

- At the November 9th Workshop Ed Imlay will teach a special class on making a wire and glass bead bracelet. Details and material list will be in the October bulletin.
- The annual Holiday Meeting and design workshop will be held on Tuesday, December 16th, at the San Marino Masonic Hall. Start collecting food for the food pantry now. Details will be in the December bulletin.



HINTS, TIPS AND SAFETY



Do You Know What Argentium Sterling Silver Is? *by Vicki Hathaway*

Traditional sterling silver is 925 parts (out of 1000) fine silver and 75 parts copper. Argentium sterling silver is similar, except that some of the copper in the alloy has been replaced with germanium. Germanium prevents oxygen from penetrating the surface of the metal, which allows argentium to resist both tarnish and fire scale, making it a joy to work with - less fire scale means less pickling, less polishing, and less labor. However, there are a few key differences to remember:

- Argentium sterling silver can be fused with less distortion than fine silver.
- Argentium sterling silver melts around 1410 degrees Fahrenheit (lower than traditional or fine silver).
- Fine silver does not change color when heated, and traditional sterling turns dark grey with fire scale. Argentium will stay white or get a light-grey scale. This can be removed easily with an oxidizing flame, pickling, and/or a light sanding.
- Use separate solder boards, bricks, files, pickle, and polishing tools for Argentium sterling silver. Shared tools can contaminate clean Argentium sterling silver with base metal, which can cause it to tarnish, develop fire scale during heating, or to not polish as beautifully.

from Houston Gem & Mineral Society Back Bender's Gazette 8/2014 - via Alberta Geological Survey Rock Chips 12/2013 - via The Clackamette Gem 12/2013 - via Rocky Mountain Federation News 1/2014

LOCAL ROCK AND GEM SHOWS

September 27 - 28: **MONTEREY, CA.** Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society, Monterey County Fairgrounds, 2004 Fairgrounds Road. Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5 www.cvgms.org

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



October 1 - 5: **JOSHUA TREE:** Hi-Desert Rockhounds at the Sportsman's Club of Joshua Tree; 6225 Sunburst St.; Daily 9-6; rocks, gems, minerals, jewelry, gold panning. www.jtsportsmansclub.com/gem.html

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

October 11 - 12: **TRONA:** Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society at the Gem & Mineral Building, 13337 Main Street, Sat 7:30 - 5pm; Sun 7:30 - 4pm. See website for their great collecting field trips to Searles Lake. www.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub

October 18: **WEST HILLS:** Woodland Hills Rock Chippers at the First United Methodist Church, 22700 Sherman Way. 10am - 5pm www.rockchippers.org

October 18 - 19: **WHITTIER:** Whittier Gem & Mineral Society at the Whittier Community Center, 7630 Washington Avenue. 10am - 5pm daily.

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.



The Sanding Brush Brad Smith, Culver City Gem and Mineral Society

Sometimes you have a little discoloration or debris to clean from the bottom of a pocket, from an area of coarse textured surface, or from a small space between two soldered objects.

Finding something to get into those close areas is always an effort in creativity.

One tool I have for these special occasions is a glass fiber spot sanding brush. It's great for cleaning a small area and doesn't leave deep scratches, only a faint satin finish. There are probably several manufacturers of these pens, but one is the PrepPen Adjustable Sanding Pen selling for US\$ 9.50 from Amazon. You can see it at

<http://www.amazon.com/Prep-Pen-PrepPen-Adjustable-Sanding/dp/B000J18RT6/>



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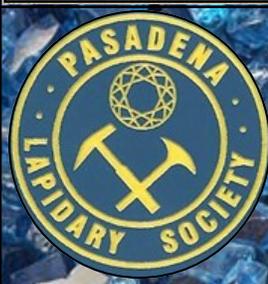
ROCKHOUND RAMBLINGS

First Class Mail

SEPTEMBER
2014

The Pasadena Lapidary Society, Inc.
Bulletin Editor:
1475 Paseo Maravilla
San Dimas, CA 91773-3908

RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED



Founded 1946

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.



Star Of India
Sapphire



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 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
★ Statehood September 9, 1850 CALIFORNIA REPUBLIC	1 Labor Day Holiday 	2 Board Meet- 	3	4	5	6 Nativity Of Mary
7 GRANDPARENTS DAY 	8 	9 	10	Patriot Day 	12	13
Workshop 	15		17	18	19 POW/MIA FORGOTTEN 	20
21	President Lincoln Orders Emancipation, ending slavery in the U.S. - 1862 	23	24 New Moon 	25 Rosh Hashanah	26	27
28 	29 Navaratri - Hindu	30	The largest battle flag ever flown at that time was sewn by local flag-maker Mary Young Pickersgill for the defense of Baltimore during our second war for independence from Britain. George Armistead, the commander of Fort McHenry, specified "a flag so large that the British would have no difficulty seeing it from a distance". 			