



ROCKHOUND RAMBLINGS

DECEMBER 2015 THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PASADENA LAPIDARY SOCIETY - PASADENA, CALIFORNIA



The Colors Of Gold!

White gold, Rose, Red, and Pink gold, Spangold, Green gold, Gray gold, Purple gold, Blue gold, Black gold. What should I know about the colors of gold?

24 karat, 18 karat, 14 karat, 9 karat. What is a karat and why should I care about it?

The answers might surprise you!

Continued on page 4

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

<i>President's Message</i>	2
<i>Reports, Contact & Club Information</i>	2
<i>Ed's Corner Workshop</i>	3
<i>Current Club News</i>	
<i>Current Club Events</i>	
<i>Feature Articles</i>	4
<i>The Colors Of Gold!</i>	
<i>Society Events</i>	5
<i>Articles, Information and Photos</i>	
<i>Field Trip</i>	6
<i>Editor's Quiz</i>	
<i>Federation Reports</i>	
<i>Tips, Safety</i>	7
<i>Rock & Gem Shows</i>	
<i>Member-to-Member</i>	
<i>Calendar</i>	8



President's Message



Dear Members,

The end of December 2015 brings to a close my serving you as President of the Pasadena Lapidary Society. It has been a delight to see our accomplishments during these years and I have enjoyed all our fun.

Our new President, Ellen Ferrell, has been a fine member of our society, has participated in multiple activities and understands the needs of the club. We are lucky to have such a competent and capable person for our next leader.

We have a Workshop once again! I want to thank those members who have put so much effort and work to moving things, organizing the area, stripping and washing walls, painting, plumbing, cleaning, replacing glass, and much more. Their hard work will get the workshop up and running for December. Also, much gratitude to Valerie for offering us space to hold a workshop.

December 10 will be our Installation and Holiday Potluck Dinner at 33 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. We have access to be building at 5pm. We will have a blind gift exchange (unlimited value, at an average cost of \$5).

The January meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 6, 2016. This is due to some refurbishment at the Pasadena Library during the rest of the month.

Thank you for letting me serve you for the past four years!

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

Meeting and General Society Information

Officers

Marcia Goetz, President
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 Joenmar1 at verizon.net

Martha Wilson, Vice President
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Newsletter Articles, ads or corrections should be sent to the editor: **Mark Nelson**, P.O. Box 5025, Pasadena CA 91117-0025 or by email to pasadenalapidary at aol.com

November Board Meeting by Linda Nelson, Secretary

The board covered routine matters and expressed the concern of people who join the Society but who we never see again. A committee will meet on December 15th to develop an operating rule to allow prospective members to understand what the Society is about before accepting their membership application.

All members are welcome to attend the board meetings. Let the President know you are coming in case the meeting location is changed or if it is cancelled.

Membership per calendar year is only \$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:

www.pasadenalapidarysociety.org
 Email: pasadenalapidary@aol.com

Board Meetings: 7:00 PM on the first Thursday of the month at the Castellano Building at 401 W. Colorado Blvd Monrovia, CA. A map and directions are on the website. All members are welcome to attend!

November Program Meeting

Forty-four members and three guests watched as Jacqueline Cooper introduced us to metal etching for copper, brass, and nickel silver, to add texture and interest to your jewelry designs.

Her presentation and actual examples caused a number of members to request that she offer a class on this technique at an upcoming workshop!

Tom Traeger's skill in making the difficult seem easy was evidenced in his examples of the rock formation cycle and how igneous rocks are formed by volcanic activity.

Tom had samples for us to identify and everyone had a chance to learn how to identify igneous rocks.

December Installation Dinner

This month is our Holiday Party! We will install our new officers and enjoy a blind gift exchange. The event is a potluck. Call or email Trudy Krose with what you can bring or wish to bring. If you need guidance, see the alphabetical list on the web site. Doors open at 5pm, activities start at 6pm.

Trudy's contact info is: 323-664-9598 or email to mikekrose at roadrunner.com.

Membership Information and Meeting Locations

Program Meetings: 6:45 - 8:45 PM on the third Tuesday of each month at the Pasadena Central Library at 285 E. Walnut Street. Doors open at 6pm. **Guests are 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 97 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 are for adult members and junior members 8 and older with adult supervision.



Find us on
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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.

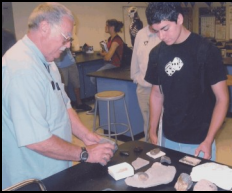


Ed's Corner

EDUCATIONAL OUTEACH

By Ed Imlay

Chair, Education Committee



Ed Imlay at a local school

In October I gave a presentation to a large group of Cub Scouts in La Crescenta, and in November with Jennifer Nishimura, our Rockhound Of The Year, to STEAM night at the Washington Magnet Academy school in Pasadena. This month our presentation is to two fourth-grade classes at Pasadena Polytechnic.

Schools are back from vacation, so it is a great time to be first in line to have my popular rocks and minerals presentation scheduled for your favorite school, church, community and youth group.

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

Identification: Would you like to know the name of a rock you have acquired? If you can polish or knock a small window off of a corner without damaging the rest of the specimen, please do so to expose the inside. Set it on the table at the rear of the meeting room in January with a note asking "What is this?"

Display Table: At the January Program meeting you may display items of general interest, especially: workshop projects and items you collected at the field trip, or the month's birthstone, which is Garnet!



Our 2015 memberships expire December 31st. Send your renewal to: Pasadena Lapidary Society, P.O. Box 5025, Pasadena CA 91117-0025. The dues amounts are at the bottom of page 2.

December Food Drive!

Buy one extra item when you next shop for your household. Clean out your pantry! Bring them to a Society event this month. Non-Perishable Foods such as peanut butter, tuna, chicken, chili, beef stew, dry beans, pasta, oats, rice, cereal, milk (shelf stable or powder), jelly, tomato sauces, soups, cooking oil and other baking items, travel soaps and shampoo items. **Bring Perishable Foods** to the December Installation Dinner such as fresh fruits and vegetables from your garden, milk, yogurt, cheese, eggs, cold cuts and frozen chicken.

WORKSHOP

This Month's Workshop Program: Introduction To The New Shop



The Workshop reopens this month! This month's program will focus on a workshop orientation for new and returning members. Most of the machines will be available for projects. Park on the street or in the parking lot on the east side of the building and enter through the walkway on the west side. New members who have not been to one of our workshops are asked to please contact me at: 909-593-2781 or at gem.quest@verizon.net.

Carolyn Duncan, Workshop Chair

**Welcome
New Members !!**



Welcome to Louise Hussey of Alhambra, an architect and designer. Welcome also to Garret Sakura, a software engineer formerly with the Maplewood Gem & Mineral Society and with the NHM Mineral Society, and his wife Mary Lou of Valley Village!

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!

Upcoming Field Trips

December 12: Jewel Tunnel (RSVP Required)
January 20 - 24: Quartzsite Pow Wow



ROCK OF THE MONTH PRESENTATION

We need folks to be scheduled to talk about an interesting rock or mineral in January, February, October and November please sign up at the monthly meeting or email pasadenalapidary@aol.com.



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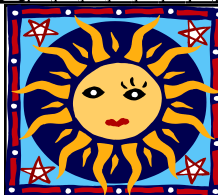
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Meeting Refreshments:



Program Meeting Refreshments — Thanks to Denise & William Davis for refreshments at the **November** meeting! I am taking sign-ups for next year - January, February, May, June, July, August, September, October and November! **To volunteer to bring light refreshments** ∞ Contact me at (323) 664-9598 or by email at mikekrose@roadrunner.com. Trudy Krose.



Sunshine:

Kathleen Griffy underwent surgery following a fall and is recovering at the Rehabilitation Center of Alhambra Hospital Medical Center. ∞ Mark and Linda Nelson's aunt passed away after surgery following a fall at her home near Phoenix.

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.



Gold — Colors And Karats

By Mark Nelson, Pasadena Lapidary Society

Pure gold is slightly reddish yellow in color. At a Mohs Scale rating of just 2.5, the same as a fingernail, it is impractical to use pure gold in any way that involves handling.



The U.S. \$20 gold piece, so widely circulated, was made from 90% gold (0.900 fine = 21.6 karat) and 10% copper alloy to slow down the wearing process.

Pure 100% gold is 24 karat (abbreviated as kt or as K) by definition, so all colored golds are less than this, with the common being 18K (75%), 14K (58%), and 9K (38%). Colored gold is made in three ways. The oldest is by adding another metal to pure gold to form an alloy. The alloys used for colored gold are:



White gold - usually nickel, manganese or palladium. Like yellow gold, the purity of white gold is given in karats

Gold is made to form a shade of red by adding copper and sometimes silver. Here are the most common mixtures used to make Rose, Red, and Pink gold - 18K Red gold: 75% gold, 25% copper, 18K Rose gold: 75% gold, 22.25% copper, 2.75% silver, 18K Pink gold: 75% gold, 20% copper, 5% silver, 12K Red gold: 50% gold and 50% copper.



Tension Bangle of Spangold

Spangold - an alloy of 76% gold, 19% copper, and 5% aluminum. The result is a sparkly surface covered with tiny facets.

Green gold was known to the Lydians, near present-day Turkey, in 860 BC under the name electrum, a naturally-occurring alloy of silver and gold. Today we add cadmium to produce the green color by an alloy of 75% gold, 23% copper, and 2% cadmium yields light-green 18-karat gold. The alloy of 75% gold, 15% silver, 6% copper, and 4% cadmium yields a dark-green alloy.



Peridot set in Green Gold

Gray gold - made from gold and palladium, or from gold, silver, manganese and copper in various ratios.



Purple gold is an alloy of gold and aluminum rich in gold-aluminum intermetallic (AuAl₂). It is called an intermetallic compound instead of a malleable alloy, as the compound structure becomes somewhat brittle and can be shattered with a sharp blow.

Blue gold is an intermetallic alloy of gold and indium, containing 46% gold (about 12 karat) and 54% indium. Blue gold is also formed through an exterior layer of controlled oxidation of an alloy of 75% gold, 24.4% iron, and 0.6% nickel which is then heated. A rich sapphire blue colored gold of 20–23K can also be obtained by alloying with ruthenium, rhodium and three other elements and heat-treating at 1800 °C, to form the 3 - 6 micrometers thick colored surface oxide layer.

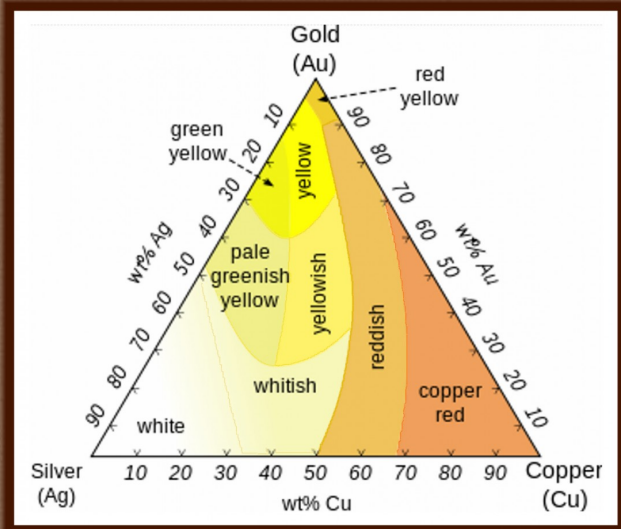


Renaissance Classic 14K Blue Gold 1.23 CT Princess Blue Sapphire Diamond Engagement Ring

Black gold is formed by an application of a surface treatment to gold. Black-colored gold can be produced by **Electroplating**, using black rhodium or ruthenium; **Patination** by applying sulfur and oxygen-containing compounds; **Plasma-assisted** chemical vapor deposition process involving amorphous carbon and through the process of **Controlled Oxidation** of gold containing chromium or cobalt (e.g. 75% gold, 25% cobalt).



1.72ct Blue Round Diamond Pave Engagement Ring — 14K Black Gold Rhodium Plating Over White Gold With A .65ct Center Diamond and 1.07ct of Surrounding Diamonds



Sources for this article include: Wikipedia; the National Numismatic Collection, National Museum of American History; Mohs Scale - www.amfed.org/t_mohs.htm, Amazon.com, Classic Engagement Ring.com, Cover Photo courtesy of The Niessing Company <http://en.niessing.com/>

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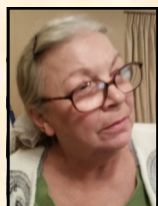


Meet Our 2016 Elected Officers



Ellen Ferrell, President

Ellen's career in managing volunteer boards of directors will be of value to the Society as our president. Ellen comes to us from the Tampa Gem and Mineral Society in Florida. In addition to her rock and mineral collecting Ellen is learning silver smithing from another of our members.



Briana Casay, Vice President

A former Cordon Bleu Chef, Briana has been active with the Society for 5 years. She has made a specialty of creating stone trees and miniature scenes from the rocks and minerals she acquires.



Cynthia Murphy, Secretary

Cynthia's enthusiasm is contagious. She enjoys our field trips and quickly acquires the skills of seeking out the best lapidary material. She is always available to assist the Society needs.



Linda Nelson, Treasurer

Linda applies her CPA knowledge to the Society's financial and corporate reporting requirements. She serves on the CFMS Financial Advisory Committee, and enjoys making stone boxes from the material she finds.



Joe Goetz, Federation Director

In addition to substantial lapidary skills, Joe has considerable knowledge of lapidary societies, having served as the president of ours and of another local club. He is our Society's field trip chairman and one of our three Trustees. Joe will represent our Society and its needs to the CFMS.



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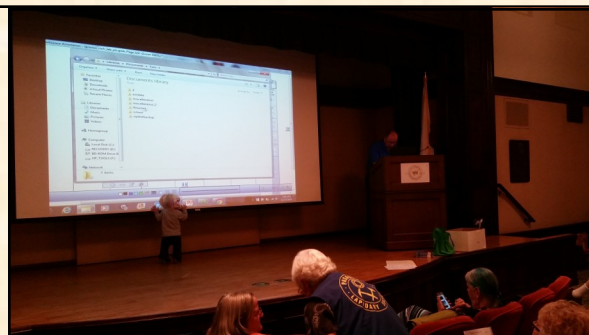
2016 Rockhound and Junior Rockhound Of The Year!



The Pasadena Lapidary Society is proud to recognize Philip Lahr as our 2016 Rockhound Of The Year! Philip has been a backbone of the club - working tirelessly every year. He has shared his talents, time and service enhancing the club. Philip runs the Kids Area at our annual shows and often leads field trips. He instructs on the use of workshop saws and maintains them. Philip serves as the chairman of the Society's Internet Blog Site, helps attract new members to the Society and promotes the Pasadena Lapidary Society with his words and deeds. Wherever you look, Philip Lahr is there - doing whatever is needed!



The Pasadena Lapidary Society is proud to recognize Jared Nishimura as our 2015 Junior Rockhound Of The Year! Jared is a very active member of PLS, proving his dedication to the betterment of the Society by his willingness to assist wherever needed. He regularly attends the general meetings and field trips. At workshops he is mastering his polishing techniques and he teaches the use of the Genie machine to new junior members. He has presented at the monthly program meeting. Jared is a valuable part of the Kids Activities part of our annual show. At the 2015 CFMS Show his cabochon case received special recognition! Jared reads the bulletin every month and frequently wins the bulletin's Junior Quiz Question contest.



Tom Traeger's son, and PLS member, Jasper (bottom center of screen), helps his Dad explain how Igneous rocks fit into the Rock Cycle at our November Program Meeting.

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FIELD TRIPS

By Joe Goetz



Joe Goetz
Field Trip Chairman

Jewel Tunnel

Saturday Dec 12, 2015 - 10 AM to 4PM
13100 Spring St., Baldwin Park, CA



Jewel Tunnel Imports is a leading wholesale distributor of mineral specimens, crystals, fossils, tumbled stones and many different kinds of lapidary items like balls, eggs and jewelry made from different minerals. They have a 10,000 sq. foot warehouse full of mineral related natural history items - perhaps the largest of its kind in the United States!

Jewel Tunnel Imports has invited the Pasadena Lapidary Society to their open house party on Saturday, December 12. This open house offers a chance for our members to buy minerals and crystals at wholesale prices and to learn something about a wholesale gem and mineral business.

This is an Invitation Only event for the members and friends of the Pasadena Lapidary Society. We must have the names of our members who will be attending and the number of guests in their party.

As soon as possible give your name and number of guests to our president, Marcia Goetz by phone at (626) 914-5030 or by email at — joenmar1@verizon.net.



Congratulations to Cynthia Murphy for knowing that the Cronese Basin was buried under silt and mud as the result of earthquake activity which breached the Afton Ridge allowing extreme water-flow downstream into the basin. This theory is presented by Dr. Norman Meek.

Congratulations, also, to Alyson Nishimura for knowing that Laika was the first dog in space - launched in 1957 by the Soviet Union. Prizes were awarded at the November Program Meeting!



Editor's Quiz

Juniors: There will not be a quiz this month, due to the meeting being the Installation Dinner.

Adults: There will not be a quiz this month, due to the meeting being the Installation Dinner.

The answers to this month's quiz can be found in this bulletin. The first Adult and Junior Members to correctly answer these questions will win a special prize at the next Program Meeting. Email your answer to the Society's email address: pasadenalapidary@aol.com.



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FEDERATION NEWS

By Joe Goetz

CFMS - California Federation of Mineralogical Societies

CFMS Annual Directors Meeting

They came for The Gathering. They came from all walks of life, it didn't matter if they were blue collar or white, they came with a common interest and have the title of **Rockhound!** They gathered because every organization has some business to be taken care of and this is one of two times that we gather to do just that. We voted to elect a new President, John Martin, and the board in which the chairs move up toward being president (except Treasurer which is a two year stint before moving to another chair) and say *good job and thanks* to the past President Tom Burchard. We voted for the new budget and on other things needing attention.

There was a "cracker barrel" discussion session Friday night. The installation of officers took place at the banquet and our own Mark Nelson did the installation (he didn't have to refer to his notes even once). On Sunday the gathering dissolved and directors headed for home, to gather again at the Federation show next year in Placerville.



R - L: Mark Nelson, (Pasadena) introducing the new officers Louisa Carey, Secretary - Ventura Gem and Mineral Society Tony Fender, Treasurer - Whittier and Pasadena Societies Kim Campbell-Erb, 2nd Vice President - Searchers Gem & Mineral Society Margaret Kolaczyk, 1st V.P. - Amador County Gem & Mineral Society John Martin, President - Palmdale Gem and Mineral Club

AFMS - American Federation of Mineralogical Societies



AFMS Convention In Austin, Texas

Matt Charsky, of the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical Societies, was elected AFMS President and California representatives were there to wish him success!



L-R: Pat LaRue (Valley Prospectors), Mark and Linda Nelson (Pasadena), Jennifer Hailey (Contra Costa), Marion & Vivian Roberts (Calaveras), Susy Martin (Palmdale), Merryann O'Neill (El Dorado), John Martin (Palmdale). Present but not shown: CFMS President Tom & Brenda Burchard (Peninsula).



TIPS, HINTS AND SAFETY

Cleaning Chalcedony Roses

First, put about 5 pounds of roses in a pan, cover with water, place in the oven and bring to a boil. Set this aside and let soak for a week.

Second, wash the roses with clean water and a stiff bristle brush.

Third, if you haven't already - move outdoors! Using an acid-resistant pan, put one quart muriatic acid in the pan. Place the roses in the acid and then remove as soon as the acid stops bubbling. Put the remaining acid in a container for storage.

Fourth, wash the roses in baking soda water, then with clear water.

Fifth, add one pound oxalic acid to two gallons of water, and soak the roses for a week. If left too long, the roses will take on a pink cast.

Sixth, neutralize with baking soda, water, rinse, and then brush the roses again.

Safety tips include wearing protective rubber aprons, rubber gloves and eye protection when working with acid. Always add acid to water - never the reverse, and be careful not to breathe any of the obnoxious fumes given off when acid is mixed with water. Work in a well-ventilated place. Also, use wooden tongs.

- (from the Santa Ana Rock and Mineral Club newsletter of December 1981 via The Delvers Delvings Oct 2015)

Clean A Copper Cuff Jewelry in 60 Seconds!

In a glass or ceramic bowl, put enough Lemon Juice to cover half of your item, and about a tablespoon of salt. It's not an exact science, I even left the seeds in! I dipped the cuff half-in, half-out at first (to see the before and after), but you can literally sit back and watch the copper clean itself in front of you. Leave it in the mixture of lemon juice & salt for about 30-60 seconds... A beautiful, shiny copper cuff, all done! All you have to do now is rinse & dry with a soft cotton towel or paper towels. Polish it with some beeswax or renaissance wax if you want to protect it for a little longer. - courtesy of Ria at www.elfenhardd.co.uk via www.handmadeology.com/how-to-clean-copper-jewelry-in-60-seconds/

LOCAL ROCK AND GEM SHOWS

5 - 6 BARSTOW: High Desert Gem & Mineral Society, Cora Harper Fitness Center; 841 Barstow Rd; Sat. 10 am-5 pm, Sun. 10 am-5 pm; Free admission. 40+ Displays. Special Petrified Wood exhibit by Walt Wright. Silent auctions, raffle, dealers with gem, mineral, lapidary rough, beads, unique jewelry & gifts. Demonstrations, lapidary instruction. Grab bags & Wheel of Fortune for the young.

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



4 - 6 LONG BEACH: The International Gem & Jewelry Show at the Convention & Entertainment Center, 300 E Ocean Blvd. Come shop the most unique selection of high quality gems and jewelry. Ticket Price: \$8.00, free to members of the military as a "thank you" for their service. Friday 12 to 6PM, Saturday 10 to 6, Sunday 11 to 5. Age 9 & over, no photography.

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

11 - 13 COSTA MESA: Wholesale and retail show; Gem Faire Inc, OC Fair & Event Center; 88 Fair Dr; Fri. Noon-6 pm, Sat. 10 am-6 pm, Sun. 10 am-5 pm; Students, Adults + Seniors \$7, Children ages 0-11 are free!; Fine jewelry, precious & semi-precious gemstones, millions of beads, crystals, gold & silver, minerals & much more at manufacturer's prices. Jewelry repair & cleaning while you shop. Free hourly door prizes. www.gemfaire.com.

12 - 13 RIALTO: Orange Belt Mineralogical Society, Across from City Hall; 105 S. Palm Ave.; Sat. 9 am-Dusk, Sun. 9 am-Dusk; Admission is Free. Crystals, Minerals, Gems, Jewelry, Fossils, Opals, Petrified Wood, Kids prizes. Bring your rocks ,we will try to identify. Rockhound Christmas gifts. www.obmsrocks.yolasite.com



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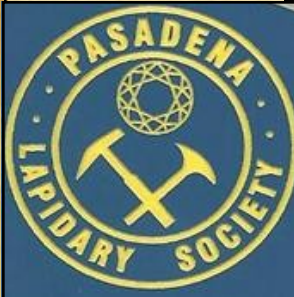
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**DECEMBER
2015**

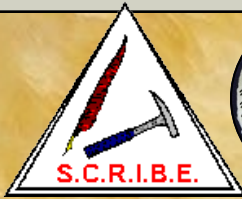
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**RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED**




















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.

December 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Civil Rights Movement 1955 - Rosa Parks 	2	3 Board Meeting 	4	5  High Desert Gem & Mineral Society Show
6  High Desert Gem & Mineral Society Show	7  Hanukkah 164 b.c.	8  Bodhi Day (Rohatsu) - Buddhist	9	HOLIDAY PARTY	11  Orange Belt Mineralogical Society Show	12  Jewel Tunnel
13  Workshop	14	15 Bill of Rights 1791 	16	17 Wright Bros. - 1st Airplane Flight 1903 	18	19
20	21  Winter Solstice	22	23  National Roots Day	24	 Full Moon	HAPPY KWANZAA 
27	28	29  Wounded Knee Massacre 1873	30	31  New Year's Eve	