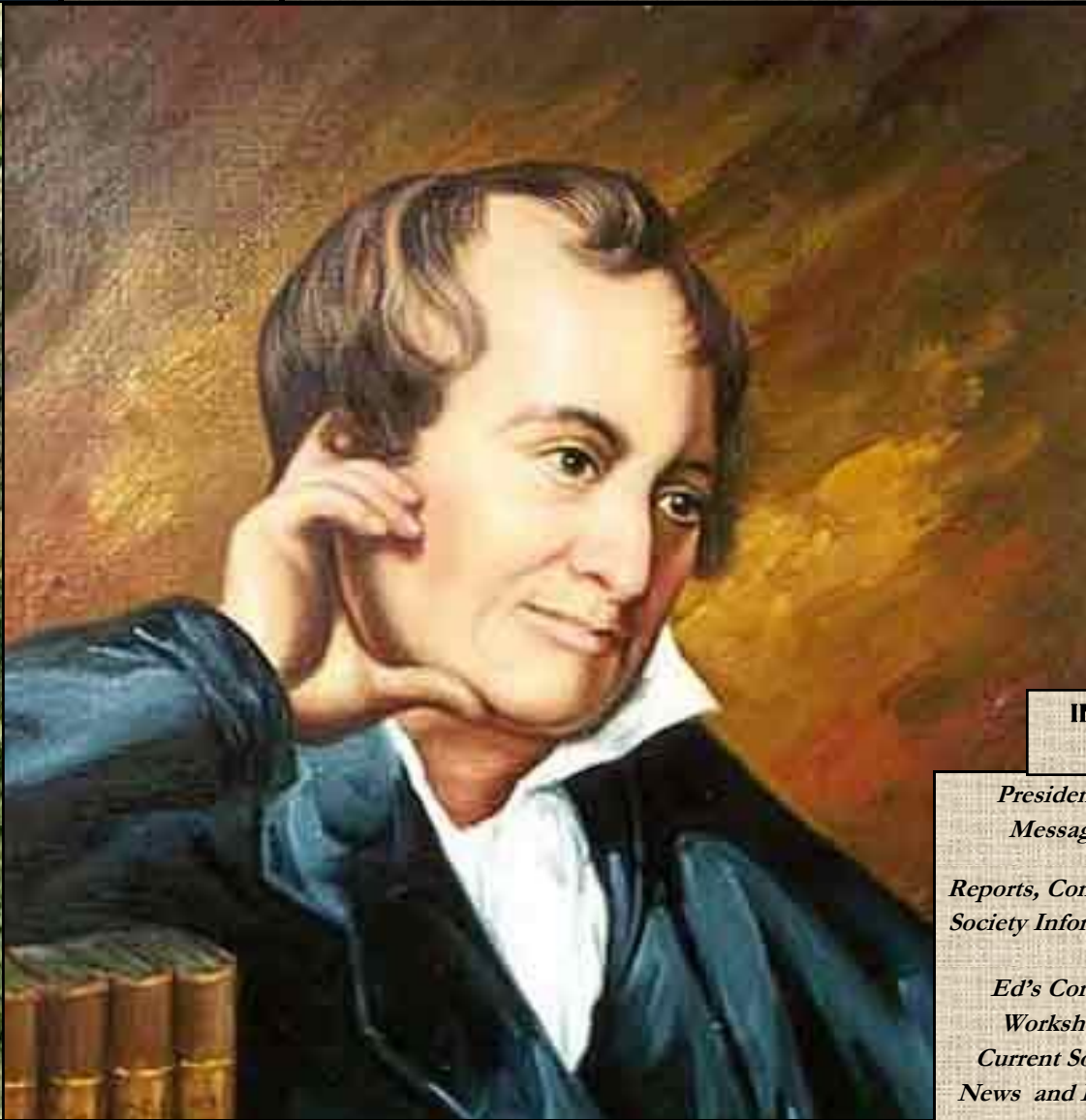


# ROCKHOUND RAMBLINGS

MAY, 2016

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PASADENA LAPIDARY SOCIETY - PASADENA, CALIFORNIA



## Father Of American Geology

William Maclure (27 October 1763 – 23 March 1840) was born in Scotland. Following a brief visit to New York in 1782, he began work with the merchants Miller, Hart & Co, who traded and shipped goods to and from America.

He settled in the United States in 1797, following the end of the American Revolution, became a U.S. Citizen — and began his love affair with geology!

Read more about William Maclure on page four!

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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



## President's Message



Dear Members,

I want to congratulate Sylvia and Vern Cliffe, Fred and Linda Elsnau and Kay Holgate on their election to Life Membership! Life Members are rare in our 70-year history and we were pleased to honor these members for their contribution to our Society!

Our membership meeting held on April 19<sup>th</sup> was well attended, with over 50 members and guests in attendance!

Our club is growing! We now have 122 members, 8 people ready for board approval and another 15 people going through the application process. If you don't have a current membership roster let me know and I'll send you one! With this growth we are planning to relieve the membership responsibilities from Mark Nelson to give him more time to devote to the bulletin and web site. Briana Casay's illness has required her to step down as Vice President and Program Coordinator. If you can help me with either of these, please call or email me!

We have received some great donations of lapidary material and equipment recently.

The four flat-lap machines will enable our members to polish slabs and larger specimens - something we have never been able to do before. To make this happen we need to rebuild the old wooden shed on the northeast corner of the workshop parking lot. We all received the details by email. It should only take one day to complete. Please let me know if you have the ability to direct this work.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the workshop on May 1<sup>st</sup> and program meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup>!

..... Ellen

Ellen Ferrell, President

## Meeting and General Society Information

### Officers

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 Ellenbf2007 at aol.com

Briana Casay, Vice President  
 (626) 793-1328  
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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@aol.com](mailto:pasadenalapidary@aol.com). (909) 996-1784.

### April Board Meeting by Cynthia Murphy, Secretary

There being no pressing business, the April board meeting was cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>.

All members are welcome to attend the board meetings. Let Ellen Ferrell know if you are planning to attend so you can be notified of any change of time or venue.

### March Program Meeting

Jennifer Nishimura presented rock setting options for beginners, including options for drilling, bell caps, bales, findings, and wire wrapping!

### April Program Meeting

Bruce Lamarche and Mark Nelson set up a camp on the stage and illustrated tent camping, sleeping bags, air mattresses, cooking, refrigeration, a toilet and more!

### May Program Meeting

What do you think of when you hear of Petrified Wood?

How large are the fragments? What color is it? How was it made? Petrified what..?

Walt Wright is one of the world's

foremost experts in petrified wood, and he will be our guest speaker at this month's Program Meeting!

Walt's collection of rare and unusual wood specimens is valued at nearly \$10 million and he will have select pieces of this collection to show us at the Program Meeting!

Come early at 6pm and enjoy coffee and light refreshments by Cindy Lamarche's Hospitality Committee. Bring rocks and minerals for identification! The display table is for members to show items they have collected at recent field trips or in their travels.

## Membership Information and Meeting Locations

**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 31<sup>st</sup>. Mail checks for membership to P.O. Box 5025, Pasadena CA 91117-0025.

### Website:

[www.pasadenalapidarysociety.org](http://www.pasadenalapidarysociety.org)  
**Email:** [pasadenalapidary@aol.com](mailto:pasadenalapidary@aol.com)

**Board Meetings:** 7:00 PM on the first Thursday of the month at the Castellano Building at 521 S. Alta Vista Avenue, Monrovia, CA. A map and directions are on the website. All members are welcome to attend!

**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.



**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.

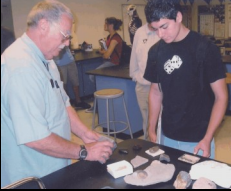


**Ed's Corner**

**EDUCATIONAL OUTEACH**

**By Ed Imlay**

Chair, Education Committee



Ed Imlay at a local school

Jennifer Nishimura has joined the Education Committee to help give the presentation to youth groups. Our presentations are suitable for schools, social and civic groups, senior citizens centers, religious and youth groups - anyone! 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](mailto: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 May Program Meeting you may display items of general interest, workshop projects and items you collected on field trips. Celebrate our gemstones of the month - Emerald, Chrysoprase or Agate (Romans and Hebrews) - by wearing something made from these stones. You can also display something that you have made from them!

"Who first beholds the light of day  
In spring's sweet, flower month of May  
And wears an Emerald all her life  
Shall be a loved and a loving wife."

Source: Gregorian Calendar 1582



**Help Wanted:** Members to enter addresses from raffle tickets to an Excel spreadsheet on your home computer. Addresses will be added to our data base of people to invite to next year's show. A great public service project for a school student! Expect to receive 300 names to be entered between now and the end of September. If you can help, please email Ellen Ferrell at [pasadenalapidary@aol.com](mailto:pasadenalapidary@aol.com). **Thank you!**

**WORKSHOP**

**This Month's Workshop Program: Working With Jasper**



Last month we had a busy schedule with the visits of prospective members and new member orientation.

Linda Nelson will resume her beading class from 10 am to 1 pm. You will learn two or three beading techniques used to make a bracelet or earrings. All supplies will be furnished. In the afternoon, if you have material collected at Lavic siding, we will cut it and create a cabochon.

Just a reminder - all water and rock sludge is to be put in the buckets below the grinders and not in any other area or sinks.

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 to schedule an orientation at: 909-593-2781 or at [gem.quest@verizon.net](mailto:gem.quest@verizon.net).

*Carolyn Duncan, Workshop Chair*

**Welcome  
New Members !!**



**Welcome back to Cal Matthews, Paul Salcido, Mark Grant and Nancy Hamrick! We have missed you!**

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**

Alyson Nishimura will talk about **THUNDER EGGS** and a field trip to collect them!! To sign up to talk about YOUR favorite stone or related subject, do so at the monthly meeting or by email at [pasadenalapidary@aol.com](mailto:pasadenalapidary@aol.com).



**It is our 70th Year!** Should we have a party? A dinner? Invite former members, VIP's from the City, CFMS, other clubs? President Ellen Ferrell is seeking our ideas for how to celebrate it! Please give her your input at her contact info on page 2.



Follow us on Twitter!

<https://twitter.com/pasalapidary>



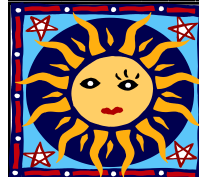
**Meeting Refreshments:**



**Program Meeting Refreshments** — Thanks to **Ferdie & Debbie Sanchez** and **Chris Kyte** for treats at the April meeting! **Cindy Lamarche** and **Valerie Stathatos** have volunteered to bring refreshments at the **May** meeting! Check the schedule of volunteers on the Member's page of the web site.

**To volunteer to bring refreshments** ∞ Contact me at (626) 833-8710 or by email at [grammiecyn@verizon.net](mailto:grammiecyn@verizon.net).

—Cindy Lamarche



**Sunshine:**

Our thoughts and prayers are with Eric Traeger who was hospitalized with a severe bacterial invasion following antibiotics to treat pneumonia. ∞ Briana Casay is on the road to recovery and Martha Wilson is helping with her Program responsibilities ∞ **WOW!** We are so proud of Danielle Sanchez, who represented her school and placed 5th out of 119 schools in the L.A. Archdiocese Junior Academic Decathlon in March!

*The Pasadena Lapidary Society has a Sunshine Committee to send cards and words of comfort and support and congratulations to our members who are in need or are deserving of it. Call or email me! My contact info is on page 2 ∞ Cynthia Murphy.*



**Plasma Agate's Healing Properties: Legend or Real?**

Mary Kirmil, Pasadena Lapidary Society

It has been said that plasma agate has been used in the treatment of disorders of the blood, circulation, veins, and heart. It has also been used in the opening of arterial passageways (as an elixir), helps with cuts and bruises and in the therapeutic removal of skin growths. Plasma agate has also been worn by runners to facilitate speed and stamina!



You can take home petrified wood, interesting rocks and minerals. For petrified wood, there is a 25 pound per day limit, with a maximum of 250 lbs. per calendar year.

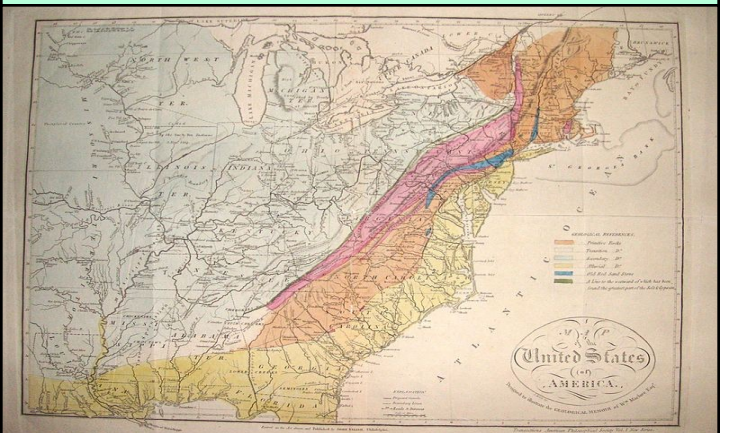
I know that this is a wonderful lapidary material for rock collectors and artists! What are the real healing properties? That is something you will have to determine for yourself!

Photos are from the collection of Mary Kirmil

**William Maclure**

By Mark Nelson, Pasadena Lapidary Society

From 1797 until 1808 Maclure explored the eastern part of North America - from Maine to Georgia, from the Mississippi to the Atlantic - pursuing his scientific, geological and other interests. Almost every state in the Union was traversed and mapped by him, the Allegheny Mountains being crossed and recrossed some 50 times. His travels in 1808 result in the first geological map of the new United States, published in the Transactions of the American Philosophical Society in 1809.



"Here, in broad strokes, he identifies six different geological classes," writes a Princeton historian. "Note that the chain of the Appalachian Mountains is correctly labeled as containing the most primitive, or oldest, rock."

When Benjamin Silliman, a Yale chemist, organized the American Geological Society in 1819, Maclure was elected its first president.

Failing health ultimately required him to move to the more stable climate of San Angel, Mexico in 1827. He died there in 1840 at the age of 77. His will provided for the establishment of 160 libraries and he is considered the Patron Saint of Indiana Libraries.

Upon his death the Academy of Natural Sciences at Philadelphia, of which he was so long the President and benefactor, erected a small marble monument over his grave, and surrounded it with an iron rail. The author, Brantz Mayer, writes of Maclure's grave "A short time before I left Mexico, the rail was torn down, the monument upset, and, on the same night, the newly-buried body of a Scotchman was disinterred, stripped of its clothes, and thrown over the wall of the cemetery!"

Sources include: Wikipedia; Emporia State University; U.S. Geological Survey.

Good quality plasma agate is very hard to find. It is a uniquely beautiful fibrous material - a mixture of many things, making it a conglomerate rock. Specimens include crypto-crystalline chalcedony, agate and jasper swirled together. The best of the material is green - with perhaps a bit of brown or tan. It is noted for its colored streamers and flowing lines running throughout. The material has an assortment of minerals with different structures and hardness, and usually has some surface hairline cracks, and vugs (or small cavities, sometimes with crystals).

Plasma agate is mostly found in the fault-rich zone of California - in the rock-hunter's paradise of Clear Creek area near the New Idria Mercury Mine. The amount and variety of gems and rocks in this area is huge. Access for collectors has been sporadic in recent times. For public safety, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) closed this public land in 2008, and then reopened it in 2014 to limited access - under protective conditions. Reportedly, the EPA raised concerns about an asbestos health risk from chrysotile within a serpentine belt in the area.



PLASMA AGATE  
(Clear Creek - San Benito County, CA)

The Clear Creek mineral area is huge, 75,000 acre area in San Benito and Fresno Counties. It's about 200 miles north of Los Angeles, near Coalinga. Within the boundaries of the lands administered by BLM, rockhounds can gain access with permits and parking fees obtained through [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov).



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**We support lapidary clubs!**

**Activities**



Above: Bruce Lamarche, Susan Carter, Mark Nelson and Philip Lahr push a 24" lapidary saw into a trailer. This saw and other equipment and lapidary material were donated to the Society by Jo Ann Daugherty in Van Nuys and received by 20 Society members last month. Photo by Linda Nelson.



Above: Jennifer Nishimura's Rock Of The Month talk illustrated what can be

What did you find on a field trip, vacation or show? Send a photo and description of your find to the Editor before the 15th of the month! We'd all like to see it!



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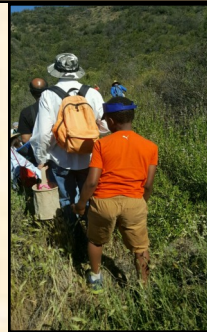
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**Activities**



LEFT: Prospective junior member George Bryant (orange shirt) heads up the hill in Topanga Canyon in search of ocean fossils at the April field trip!



RIGHT: We are proud of junior member Danielle Sanchez who represented her school and placed 5th out of 119 schools in the L.A. Archdiocese Junior Academic Decathlon in March!



**Camping In Comfort**

ABOVE: At the April Program Meeting Mark Nelson (left) shows a light-weight and warm down-filled sleeping bag and Bruce Lamarche (right) demonstrated the ease of setting up a new generation of pop-up three-season tents and other camping equipment!



**Behind The Scenes**

What a great brother-sister team! While Jennifer Nishimura (on stage) was presenting her Rock Of The Month talk her brother, Jared (lower left), had connected a laptop computer to the Library's projection system and used it to project Jennifer's creations onto the video screen!



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**FIELD TRIPS**

By Joe Goetz



Joe Goetz  
Field Trip Chairman

In 1845 Benjamin Wilson, a future Los Angeles mayor, tramped up the mountain in pursuit of a band of cattle-stealing Paiute Indians. At the crest of the mountain, Wilson and his 22 men found a deep, lush valley around a shallow, swampy lake. There, they lassoed 11 grizzlies and called the place --- not Mt. Wilson, which bears his name, but – Bear Valley!



This month we'll enjoy two one-day field trip adventures! On Saturday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, we will search for lapidary specimens in the Big Bear area. We'll meet at 9 A.M. at the Discovery Center - 40971 North Shore Drive, Fawnskin CA 92333. [www.sbnfa.org/bigbeardiscoverycenter.php](http://www.sbnfa.org/bigbeardiscoverycenter.php).

We'll hunt druzu coated stones and quartz crystals near Baldwin Lake, visit a copper mine and various other interesting places. And, of course, there is the opportunity for optional off-roading to old gold mines to check out. Be sure to bring a lunch, as we might not be able to get into town. Bring your camera, walking stick and all of the other things you would bring on a day trip. You know - hat, bug repellent, sun screen, water, first aid and so forth - check our member handbook on-line. Directions are on the web site.

As usual - please call or email me to let me know you are coming. Give me a cell phone number in case you need to be contacted at the last minute!  
(626) 260-7239 [joenmar1@verizon.net](mailto:joenmar1@verizon.net)

*..Somewhere in California... Joe Goetz....*



**Congratulations to Tom Traeger**, who was the first adult to respond that Peridot transformed into Ringwoodite due to the high pressure in the subduction zone.

**Congratulations, also to Jared Nishimura** who was the first Junior to respond that the HELP WANTED from our Society is that members are needed to enter the raffle ticket addresses into an Excel spreadsheet so they can be added to the PLS database!

Prizes were awarded at the April Program Meeting!



**Editor's Quiz**

**Juniors:** How old was William Maclure when he started his career in geology?

**Adults:** William Maclure claimed that the Appalachian mountains as the oldest mountains in America. Is this true or false - and why?

The answers to this month's quiz can be found in this bulletin or by other research.. 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](mailto:pasadenalapidary@aol.com).

**FEDERATION NEWS**

By Joe Goetz

**CFMS - California Federation of Mineralogical Societies**



Did you know that the 2016 CFMS Convention and Show is rapidly approaching and is being held in conjunction with the World Gold Panning Championship?

What do you know about that Torbermite and other radioactive rocks in your collection? We pay for the Federation's insurance policy, but - what is it? Did we enter the All American Club Contest this year? How does our club participate in Juniors Activities? CFMS Field Trips?

What is Jennifer Haley, a past CFMS President and the AFMS 5<sup>th</sup> Regional V.P. talking about? Did PLS enter the CFMS Web Site Contest?

How do we nominate one of our members to be the CFMS Treasurer? What is a CFMS Scholarship Fund? Who is standing on the Rockhound Soapbox? What is the CFMS Public Lands Advisory Committee? Are there any upcoming shows in my area?

The answers to these questions can be found on-line at the CFMS web site: [www.cfmsinc.org/newsletter/news2016/003newsMar16.pdf](http://www.cfmsinc.org/newsletter/news2016/003newsMar16.pdf)

**AFMS - American Federation of Mineralogical Societies**



**AFMS SHOW COMING SOON**



The 2016 AFMS Show is being hosted by the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies in Albany, Oregon from July 29-31, 2016. This is also the NFMS' 78<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Show and is being hosted by the Willamette Agate and Mineral Society.

Following the show there will be a field trip to the area around Pineville, Oregon, which is known for its Ochoco and blue agate, thunder eggs and petrified wood.

More details will be available as we have them, but this is a good link:

<http://www.amfed.org/nfms/FederationShow.asp>



**SECOND FIELD TRIP THIS MONTH**

By Joe Goetz

Our second field trip this month is on Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, to the Raymond M. Alf Museum of Paleontology at 1175 West Baseline Road, Claremont, California 91711. This world-class museum and teaching facility contains 170,000 specimens. Fossils from the Mojave Desert document the origin of today's horses, as well as their response to environmental change. A skeleton from southern Utah provided a first look at how the iconic plant-eating dinosaur Parasaurolophus grew up. Every fossil tells a story,

We will meet at 9am at the museum, which is on the campus of The Webb Schools. At the gate let the guard know that you are with the Pasadena Lapidary Society. Admission is \$6, children 4 and under are free. No food or drink is permitted in the museum and picnicking is not allowed on the campus.

Contact me if you have any questions!



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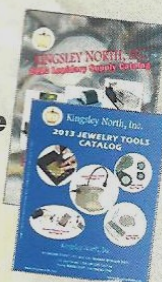
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TIPS, HINTS AND SAFETY



DRILLING A STONE — Part 1 — The Drill Bench Tips By Brad Smith

One of the things my students often ask to do is drill a hole through a piece of gemstone. The usual thought is to get a diamond drill, but I've been disappointed with them. I think the reason is that the tip of the drill is just pivoting in the hole and fails to cut well. When it looks like the drill isn't cutting, the tendency is to push with more force. The drill gets hot, and the diamond grit falls off.

A much better approach is to use a core drill. This is a small hollow tube with a coating of diamond grit at the business end. The diamonds easily carve out a circular arc without undue pressure or heat buildup.

Core drills are readily available from lapidary and jewelry supply companies, and Lasco Diamond has a great selection. They come in sizes as small as 1mm and are very reasonable in price. For instance, a 2mm diameter drill is about \$6.



Chuck up the core drill in a drill press, Dremel or Foredom and be sure to keep the drilling zone wet to cool the tool and to flush out debris. Also, if you're drilling a through hole, go very easy on the pressure as the drill is about to cut through. Otherwise you will usually chip off some of the stone surface around the hole. The trick is to not let the debris build up too much inside the core drill, otherwise it can clog up the hole like concrete.

Tips for Jewelry Making" and "Broom Casting for Creative Jewelry" are available at Amazon.com

LOCAL ROCK AND GEM SHOWS

May 6th - 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; \$7 Admission, Children under 11 free; Fine jewelry, precious & semi-precious gemstones, millions of beads, crystals, gold & silver, minerals & much more at manufacturer's prices. Exhibitors from around the world will be on site. Free passes will be available at the PLS May Workshop!

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



7 - 8: ANAHEIM - Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Brookhurst Community Center, 2271 W. Crescent Avenue. Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4:30. Free Admission; Door prizes, children's activities, magnificent mineral displays, gold panning, demonstrations of cabochon making, gem carving, jewelry making and more, incredible vendors and the best silent auction around!; Website: www.searchersrocks.org

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

13-15—YUCAIPA, CALIFORNIA: Annual show; Yucaipa Valley Gem and Mineral Society, Yucaipa Music and Arts Festival; Yucaipa Boulevard; Fri. 6 -9 , Sat. 11 -10 , Sun. 12-6 ; Free Admission; 20 dealers with awesome deals on unique and rare gems, rough rock, minerals, fossils, jewelry, beads, and more; educational and hands-on activities and demonstrations; kids activities; raffle with wonderful prizes.

Local Bead Shop Now Open! Christina Rizzo, Graduate Gemologist and 18-year employee of the San Gabriel Bead Company has opened her own bead store! A Place To Bead, 2566 Mission Street, San Marino, 626-219-6633.

Mining Supplies and Rock Shop : See Ad on page 4 !

Save used postage stamps for the CFMS!



Why throw these mini works of art away? Former CFMS President Dick Pankey leads the Federation's effort to help fund the cure for cancer through the donation of used postage stamp for international collectors. At last year's CFMS Directors Meeting, Marcia Goetz was able to represent our Society in presenting a large bag of stamps. Was yours among them? Cut about 1/2" around each stamp and put them in a zip-lock baggie. Give them to President Ellen Ferrell at any Society function!

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Member - To - Member

Purple Rain (Glass) is available free to members for tumbling projects. Linda Nelson (909) 851-4407

Bag Lady Custom printed cloth bags by Mary Kirmil - Hawaiian, Holiday, Sports, Patriotic & Seasonal totes - mini to jumbo sizes, bandanas, handkerchiefs, hair scrunchies, Perfect gifts for a Rockhound! Mkirmil at yahoo.com or at www.etsy.com/maliakei bags Gave Up The Grass! Electric Lawn Mower Homelite 3-in-1, with grass-catcher bag, used 3 times, like new. \$75 OBO Ellen Ferrell 727-512-0381.

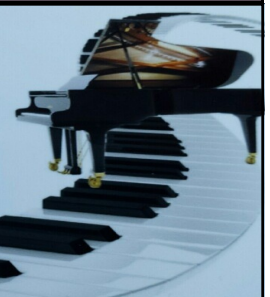
Members are welcome to place a FREE message for items or services wanted, for sale or for trade. Email submissions to: pasadenalapidary at aol.com or by fax to (909) 394-1276.

88 On-Pitch

Bruce J. Lamarche Piano Technician-Tuner

(626) 201-8710

BLamarche@Verizon.net



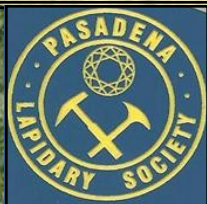
Lapidary Club Special

Tune any piano - in your home or business - for only \$99.

MAY  
2016

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

RETURN SERVICE  
REQUESTED



Pasadena, California  
U.S.A.  
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.



The Pasadena Lapidary Society is a Gold Medal All American Club, affiliated with the California and American Federations of Mineralogical Societies. Our editor is a member of the Special Congress Representing Involved Bulletin Editors.

# May 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Board Meeting 	<b>6</b> Rare Transit of Mercury Across the Sun 	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> Happy Mother's Day		<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>			<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>Blue Moon</b> 
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>		<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>		<b>28</b> <b>Big Bear Field Trip</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> <b>Alf Museum Field Trip</b> Memorial Day	<b>31</b>	<b>REMEMBERING: May 31, 1889 -</b> Over 2,300 persons were killed in the Johnstown flood in Pennsylvania. Heavy rains throughout May caused the Conemaugh River Dam to burst sending a wall of water 75 feet high pouring down upon the city		Since this is the third of four full moons in this season, it is known as a blue moon. This rare calendar event only happens once every few years, giving rise to the term, "once in a blue moon."	