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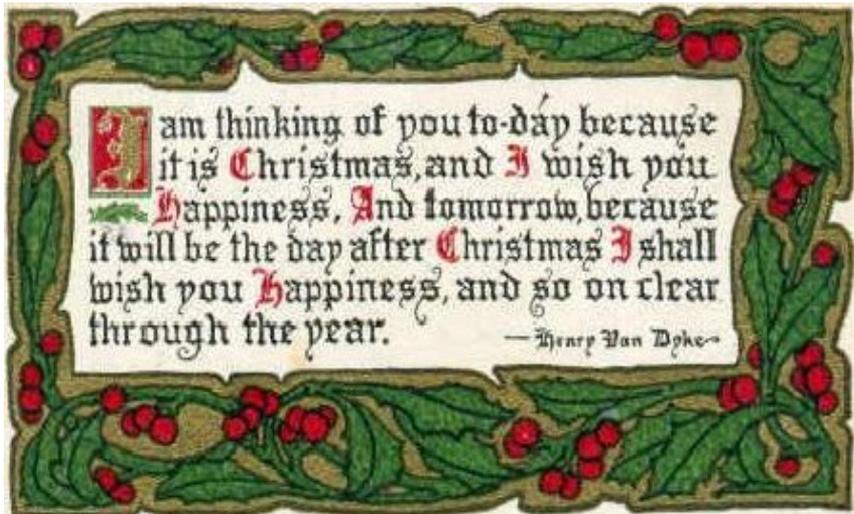
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WHITTIER



ROCKHOUNDER
GEM & MINERAL
SOCIETY

December 16th Program:
Note: 6:30 PM
Potluck, Ugly Rock Contest
Installation of New officers



ROCKHOUNDER

THE PREZ SEZ:

Hello Everyone,

As I write this we are winding down the year. Its hard to believe 2004 is almost over but that is the case. I've enjoyed my time with the club this year and hope everyone else has to.

On top of wrapping up the year we are all in the midst of wrapping up all of our holiday plans. I hope everyone has a safe and happy holiday season.

As we wrap up the year, I will keep this brief. But please if there is anything you would like to see next year in the club please feel free to address it with a board member.

James



Crossing the Mighty Mojave at Afton Canyon



WGMS General Meeting

Thursday, December 16

at 6:30 PM

WGMS HOLIDAY POTLUCK!

The time has come, once again, for our **annual Holiday Potluck at 6:30 PM at the Whittier Community Center**. Please bring a side dish, main dish or dessert to share with your friends from the WGMS. Some sort of entertainment will also happen (come and see!) Remember to bring your own plates, silverware and drinks. Coffee will be provided.

A gift exchange is also planned. If you wish to participate, bring a wrapped gift worth \$10.00 or less per person. Mark it as man's gift, woman's gift or either.

The meeting will conclude with the Installation of the 2005 Officers.

Come on out and enjoy a night of "fine" dining in the company of friends.

Isabella

**Fieldtrip Planning Meeting
1:00 PM on January 16, 2005
at Joe & Marcia Goetz' House**

There are no official field trips planned for December, and the Quartzsite outing is happening the last weekend of January (see Page 14 for a list of Quartzsite Shows and events).

A meeting of the WGMS Field Trip Committee, headed by Joe Goetz, our WGMS Field Trip Chairman, has been planned for the 16th of January and you are cordially invited come and help us devise our field trip schedule for 2005. If you have been waiting for a special trip to a special location, this is a good time to let us know so we can plan to take you there.

The meeting will be in Glendora at the Goetz' home at 1:00 PM. You can contact them at (626) 914-5030 for directions or answers to questions.

WGMS 2004 Rockhound of the Year

Sylvia Cliffe

The Whittier Gem & Mineral Society has voted to honor **Sylvia Cliffe** as the 2004 choice for **Rockhound of the Year**.

Sylvia joined the Whittier Club in 1951 and has been an outstanding example to old and new members in her devotion in supporting the activities and goals of the Society ever since. The list of offices, chairmanships and committees she has participated in during her fifty-plus years of service include, but are not limited to, President, Vice-President, Treasurer (for ten years), By-Laws Chairperson, Show Chairman several times and Show Case Display Chairperson. In addition, Sylvia tumbles and polishes many pounds of gem stones for the show and grab bags which she fills in the weeks prior to the show. As an avid gem carver, she demonstrates carving at the Club Show and other shows including the annual CFMS Show where she puts in a display case and has judged competition cases many times. Sylvia has been responsible for arranging the Gem Carvers Guild of America CFMS sponsored seminars held in conjunction with the Whittier Show on several occasions. Activities outside the society include setting up display cases and demonstrating at other local or state-wide shows, including the Los Angeles County Fair.

Sylvia took responsibility for the Society's boutique which she organized and set up at the City of Whittier's Walnut Tree event, and at the society's annual show prior to the club having show dealers. She is an enthusiastic field-tripper, having been field trip leader and assistant over the years including leading field trips out of state during Easter weeks in the '60's and 70's.

Sylvia taught cabochon making to young people at the Whittier Boys and Girls Club twice a month for two years until her knees started acting up. She is the "Keeper" of the club's gem stone club crown which is exhibited annually at the club show in October. Her home has been the location of many summer swim and potluck events.

Sylvia's total involvement in the society's activities for over fifty years has been exemplary and a fine example for members to follow.

**Thanksgiving Field Trip Report
November 25 – 28, 2004
Wiley's Well Area**

Joe & Marcia Goetz, Field Trip leaders for PLS and WGMS had been invited to the wedding of Joe's sister over the Thanksgiving weekend and were not available to head the trip. Sylvia and I, long-time assistants, stepped in and made the announcements at both club meetings. As no members from either club signed up, we decided to camp with the CFMS Field Trip South event that was also scheduled for Wiley's Well.

Arriving on Wednesday afternoon, we found about twenty assorted RV's set up. We signed in and soon met the CFMS Field Trip Leader South, Bob Fitzpatrick, who had his field trips planned for the weekend. While the CFMS bulletin stated the group would break up into smaller groups each day, Bob planned field trips to one location each day with everyone going to the same place. Individuals had the choice of going to a different site on their own if they wanted. Sylvia and I weren't the only club members to show up, Jason Badgley arrived with a new young, eager-to-learn male adult, J.C. who he had met recently.

Thursday's field trip was to Pebble Terrace, an area about two miles east of the well-known Fire Agate Mine (claimed as Fire Opal) where we collected small pieces of petrified wood, fossils and agate, some materials showing faint signs of sagenite. Friday's field trip was to the Straw Beds where collectors had varying degrees of success. Saturday's field trip was over to the town of Palo Verde where the group visited the area's well-known Kinney's rock shop, which had TONS of petrified iron wood. From there the group headed over to, none-other-than, the petrified iron wood collecting area on the east side of the Colorado River. (The stop at the rock shop was only to get visions of the BIG pieces of iron wood just waiting to be picked at the collecting site! HA!). Most of the pieces found were small with the exception of three "bragging" pieces, one three inches thick and about three feet long, one about twenty-two inches long and about eight inches thick, discovered by J.C. (beginner's luck) and one about twelve inches long and six inches thick, found along the road side (!) by Vern. As it was getting late

(we were the last ones to leave), and being in Arizona we drove north to highway 10 and west to Blythe, stopping at Denny's for dinner. That evening Sylvia and I invited Jason & J.C. into our trailer for desert and in the course of two hours found out how much the interests and lives of young adults have changed since our young adult years. Wow!!

Sunday's field trip was to the Hauser Beds where most of the group went. Sylvia & I, along with Jason & J.C. ventured over to the sagenite-chalcedony area on Graham Pass. The materials are in a wilderness area, so the cars were left on the road while the hunting was done. The pieces collected were small and delicate and worth the trip. J.C. headed home from there, Jason continued to collect while we made our way back to camp.

We had speculated about going to the black agate area, nodules and geodes, but it was getting late and a year ago, the area had previously been purposely disguised in an attempt to discourage rockhounds. Two huge berms had been created, the road to the site had been tractor "obliterated", and the digging area had been thoroughly bulldozed and leveled. May have been the BLM or the neighbor just a few hundred yards to the east.

The CFMS field trip turned out to be well attended, about 60 to 65 individuals including about 6 youngsters, plus about 6 well behaved dogs (they had their owners well trained). The weather was excellent for the most part, sunny and warm during the days and cool at night. There was some disappointment in that only one potluck was planned for Thanksgiving afternoon. Guess most people were hoping to eat something other than what they had brought for Friday and Saturday dinners! The wind started blowing Friday evening and didn't stop until early Monday morning. The Smith's had brought along a "fireplace", a modified washing machine tub that made containing the fire extremely easy. I believe there was enough wood to last for a full week of camping.

Field trips are excellent places to relax, meet members from other clubs, pick up ideas for club activities, and find out other locations for field trips. Sylvia and I believe gatherings like this only strengthen the ties between all persons and the clubs they represent.

Vern & Sylvia Cliffe

**Jewel Tunnel Imports Open house
invitation for WGMS Rockhounds**

**The Monterey Park Gem Society
invites members of the WGMS to join them as their guests
Saturday, December 18, 2004, 10 AM to 3:00 PM
for Jewel Tunnel Imports' annual Open House**

**Jewel Tunnel Imports
13100 Spring St., Baldwin Park, CA 91706
626-814-2257**

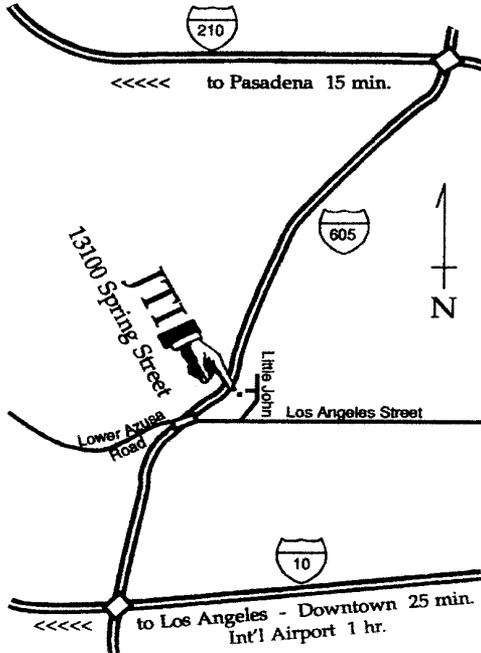
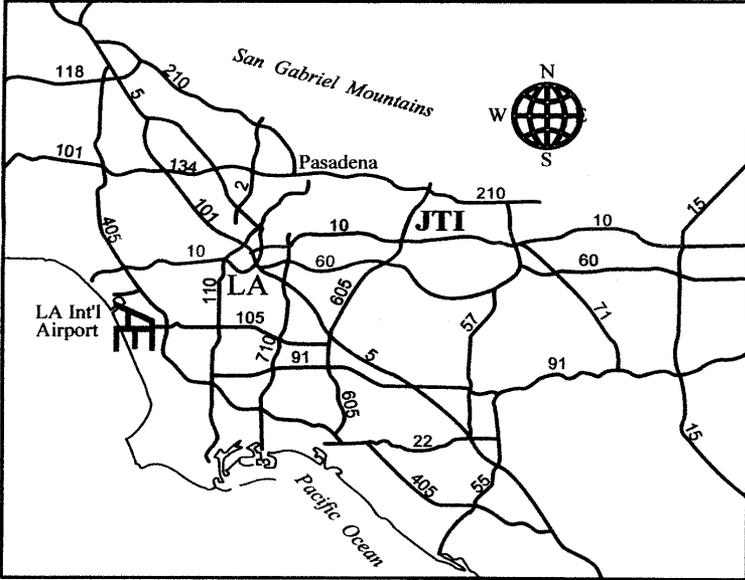
**Check out the web site at jeweltunnel.com
Refreshments will be served.**

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

Historically Jewel Tunnel Imports has had limited open house parties for mineralogically and geologically oriented groups like the Gem & Mineral Council of the Los Angeles County Museum or the geology department of the California State University at Los Angeles. These open houses, never more than three or four a year offer a chance for groups to buy minerals and crystals at wholesale prices and to learn something about the wholesale gem and mineral business. Also at the open house will be members of the Searchers Gem & Mineral Society.

The owner of Jewel Tunnel (Rock Currier) is also interested in learning about new sources of mineral specimens and has been known to buy and trade such items. He is a micromounter and always interesting in trading for good micromount material not represented in his collection. You will be sharing an open house with the Searchers Gem and Mineral club and the geology department of California State University at Los Angeles.

Directions to Jewel Tunnel Import's warehouse



A First Aid Memory Lesson - LEW AM WACI

If you will learn the following outline you will have the facts at your finger tips for giving first aid immediately if necessary.

- L....Lie Down** To prevent shock
- E....Examine for:**
- 1. BLEEDING** - Apply direct pressure to control. NEVER apply a tourniquet except for amputation. If you do use one, mark the time on victim's forehead with pen, blood, etc. DO NOT LOOSEN IT, let the Doctor do that.
 - 2. BREATHING** - Start breathing ASAP by mouth-to-mouth method. Use arm-lift back-pressure if head is badly injured.
 - 3. POISONING** - Look for signs of burns around mouth, odors, fumes. If container is near by take it along for identification and antidote. Follow directions on container to neutralize.
- W...Warm** If coat or blanket is available place under the victim if possible. It is only necessary to maintain body temperature. Covering is only to shield victim from public gaze.
- A....Away** Keep people from crowding too close. Give them something to do - call the ambulance, direct traffic, people, etc.
- M...Move** DON'T move - keep victim quiet as possible to prevent shock until help comes.
- W...Water** VERY little or none. Moisten lips but do not give victim any to drink. Internal injuries may be worsened by this, and NEVER try to give water to anyone who is unconscious.
- A....Ambulance** Call the operator and have her dial ZENITH 12000. This is the Emergency Highway Patrol number and they can get help more quickly than anyone else. Otherwise an individual can be held responsible for an

ambulance charge. Locate the spot by reflector numbers, bridges, telephone pole serial numbers, road signs, etc. **DO NOT HANG-UP THE PHONE UNTIL AFTER THEY GET ALL YOUR INFORMATION.**

- C ...Calm** YOU keep calm and your patient will feel better. So will the people around you.

- I.....Eyes** Keep the victim from seeing his injuries if possible. This would only increase his shock.

Via CFMS Webpage

Old Wives Tales - Right or Wrong

Tetanus comes only from stepping on a rusty nail. Tetanus germs are everywhere - street dirt, garden soil, even on our bodies and clothing - and can enter the body through any skin break. Not just deep puncture wounds, but cuts, insect bites, a scratch from a rose thorn - all can provide entry for tetanus. Tetanus has even resulted from the peck of a hen. The danger of tetanus increases during the outdoor season. If you're not immunized against tetanus, now is the time to do it.

A snake won't cross a rope. This is just an old wives tale, or maybe an old camper's wives tale. A snake that wants to get to your tent or sleeping bag won't be turned aside by such defenses.

A snake is one of nature's fastest creatures. Because of their small size and waving motion, snakes appear to travel faster than they actually do. The small rattler called the sidewinder is said. to be our fastest snake, can cover only 4.4 feet per second. That's 3 miles an hour. There's no way he can chase you and catch up even if he wanted to, which he doesn't. Snakes try to get away unless they are startled or cornered.

Bee Stings aren't serious. Bee stings kill more people than snake bites. Those who are extremely allergic to the venom of bees, wasps, hornets and yellow jackets can die within five minutes after being stung. Many victims are not aware of their allergy. The first sting may cause little reaction; a second sting can be fatal.

Submitted By Bob Judd, Safety Chairman , Verdugo Hills Gems & Mineral Society, Via CFMS Webpage

THOU SHALT NOT SKIM FLAVOR FROM THE HOLIDAYS

I hate this time of year because it's the season when the food police come out. You can't pick up a magazine without finding a list of holiday eating do's and don'ts: Eliminate second helpings, high-calorie sauces, and cookies made with butter. Fill up on vegetable sticks. Good grief! Is your favorite childhood memory of Christmas a carrot stick? I didn't think so.

I have my own list of tips for holiday eating. I assure you, if you follow them, you'll be fat and happy. So what if you don't make it to New Year's? Your pants won't fit anymore, anyway.

1. About those carrot sticks. Avoid them. Anyone who puts carrots on a holiday buffet table knows nothing of the Christmas spirit. In fact, if you see carrots, leave immediately and go next door, where they're serving rum balls.
2. Drink as much eggnog as you can. You can't find it any other time of year. Who cares that it has 10,000 calories in every glass? It's not as if you're going to turn into an egg-nogaholic. Enjoy it. It's Christmas!
3. If something comes with gravy, eat it. That's the whole point of gravy. Pour it on. Make a volcano out of your mashed potatoes. Fill it with gravy. Eat the volcano. Repeat.
4. As for mashed potatoes, always ask if they're made with skim milk or whole milk. If its skim, pass. Why bother? Its like buying a sports car with an automatic transmission.
5. Do not have a snack before going to a party in an effort to control your eating. The whole point of going to a Christmas party is to eat other people's food for free. Lots of it. Hello? Remember college?
6. Under no circumstances should you exercise between now and New Year's. You can do that in January when you have nothing else to do. This is the time for long naps, which you'll need after circling the buffet table while carrying a 10-pound plate of food and that vat of eggnog.
7. If you come across something really good at a buffet table, like frosted Christmas cookies in the shape and size of Santa, position yourself near them and don't budge. Have as many as you can before becoming the center of attention.

8. Same for pies. Apple. Pumpkin. Mincemeat. Have a slice of each. Or, if you don't like mincemeat, have two apples and one pumpkin. Always have three. When else do you get to have more than one dessert, Labor Day?

9. Did someone mention fruitcake? Granted, its loaded with the mandatory celebratory calories, but avoid it at all cost. I mean, have some standards.

10. And one final tip: If you don't feel terrible when you leave the party or get up from the table, you haven't been paying attention. Reread tips.

Start over. But hurry! Cookieless January is just around the corner.

Edited from Craig Wilson in USA Today
From The Agatizer 12/03 via The Petrified Log 12/04

Nine Nights a Gnawing **By F.B. Jacobs**

On the first day of Christmas, I served my love a meal Whose turkey and accessories had total eye appeal.

On the second day of Christmas, the same food heated up Seemed rather less attractive as we settled down to sup.

On the third day of Christmas, strong brew and fancy ices Helped take the curse from sandwiches of breast and drumstick slices.

On the fourth day of Christmas, we dined by candlelight,
Pretending that the entree wasn't fowl again that night.

On the fifth day of Christmas, I simmered up the bones Into a reminiscent soup with turkey undertones.

On the sixth day of Christmas, in cream sauce laced with sherry, The scraps made appetizing toast, although perhaps not very.

On the seventh day of Christmas, my true love wished to know, How long, O lord, and shuddered when I figured five to go.

On the eight day of Christmas, an oozing casserole
Of stew beneath its biscuit crust was greeted with 'My soul!'

On the ninth day of Christmas, he eyed the pots abubble And whisked me to a restaurant for T-steak on the double!

From Napa Gems via Breccia 12/98 via The Petrified Log 12/04

Quartzsite 2005 Show Schedule

The Main Event

January 1 - January 31, 2005

General Swapmeeting/Rocks/Gems/Arts/Crafts/Hot Air Balloons/
Ultra Light/Parachute/Bi-plane & Glider Flights/Mexicali Dancers/
Fireworks/Horseshoe Tournament/Hit & Miss Car Show

Tyson Wells Rock/Gem/Mineral Show

January 7 - January 16, 2005

Tyson Wells Sell-A-Rama

January 21 - January 30, 2005

Tyson Wells Art & Craft Fair

February 4 - February 13, 2005

Hobby, Craft & Gem Show

February 2 - February 6, 2005

Pow Wow 39th Annual

January 26 - January 30, 2005

Prospectors Panorama 4 Shows

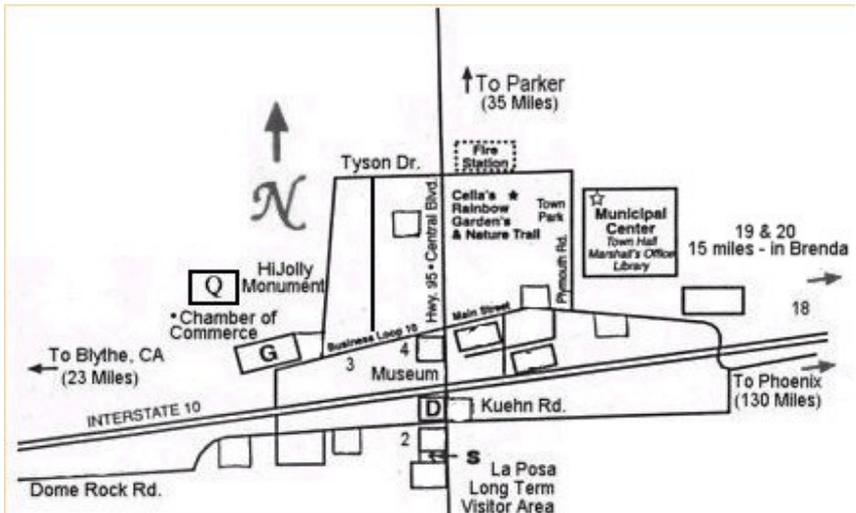
from November 1, 2004 - February 13, 2005

Desert Gardens Gem & Mineral Show

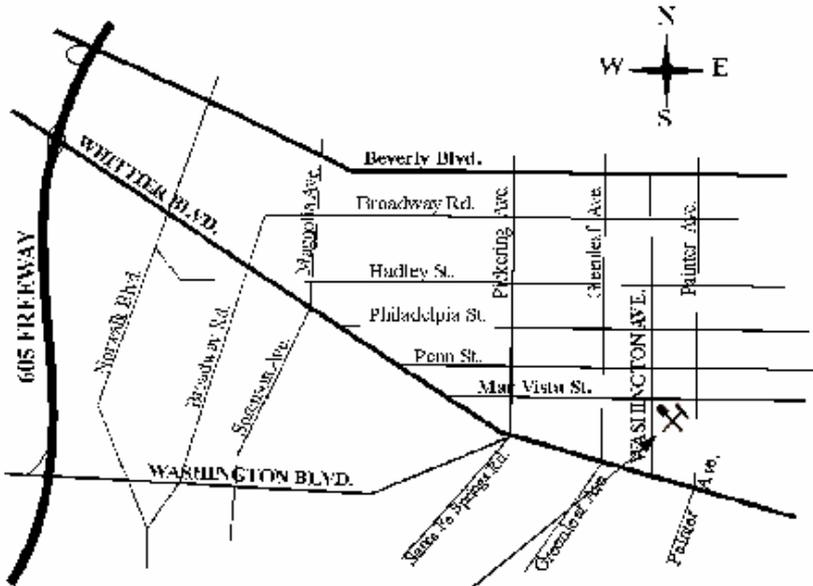
January 1 - February 28, 2005

Show/Swap Meet Sites

D - Tyson Wells, Q - Main Event



WGMS MEETING LOCATION!
Whittier Community Center
7630 Washington Ave. Whittier



MAR VISTA & WASHINGTON AVE.  WHITTIER COMMUNITY CENTER

Editor: Jay Valle, 1421 Latchford Avenue, Hacienda Heights, CA 91745
 Home: (626) 934-9764; E-Mail: jvalle@aqmd.gov
Bulletin exchanges are welcome and should be sent to the editor.

Affiliations



California Federation of Mineralogical Societies
 American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
 Special Congress Representing Involved Bulletin Editors



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Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

Meeting Date: December 16, 2004 at 6:30 PM
Location: Whittier Community Center
(see page 15 for map)