

WHITTIER

ROCKHOUNDER

GEM & MINERAL
SOCIETY

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Happy Halloween ...
IT'S SHOW TIME!!!



ROCKHOUNDER

THE PREZ SEZ:

Hello everyone,

It is that time of year again! The Show is finally here. I look forward to seeing all the faces that we don't see at the monthly meetings. We can always use more help so if you are able to help in any way, be it donations for the donation awards, help with set up and tear down or whatever else you may be able to help with, please come on down and lend a hand.

Remember, the show is a great opportunity to share your hobby with friends and co-workers. Don't be afraid to invite them out to see what it is all about. We'll have plenty for them to see and they just may decide that rocks on the brain isn't such a bad thing.

The club also has some exciting things in the works for the future. We would love to hear ideas anyone has for improving the club.

James

Daffy Definitions

- Avoidable..... What a bullfighter tries to do.
- Control..... A short, really ugly inmate.
- Counterfeiters..... Workers who put together kitchen cabinets.
- Eclipse What a Cockney barber does for a living.
- Left Bank What the robber did when his bag was full of loot.
- Misty..... How golfers create divots.
- Primate..... Removing the TV controller from your spouse's grip.
- Subdued Like, a guy, like, who works on one of those, like, submarines, man.

The Petrified Log 05 / 04

WGMS General Meeting

Thursday, October 27, 2005

at 7:30 PM

Francis Lau Presents

"Chinese Carving"

Francis Lau has been a featured speaker at WGMS meetings several times in the past and his lapidary/jewelry knowledge on many diverse subjects is astonishing. We have enjoyed several of his fine programs including a couple about pearls and one about evaluating and buying diamonds.

On Thursday, October 27, Mr. Lau will present a program on Chinese Carving, its history and the carving industry as it exists today.

So come on out and prepare to learn from this fine speaker.

Izzie

**Whittier Gem & Mineral Society
2006 Nominations for Elected Officers**

Larry and Vivian Rice led the Nomination Committee in their quest for Club Officers for the year of 2006. Presented here is the list which they have prepared. This is only a proposed list until the WGMS members vote them in at the November Regular Meeting. In the meantime, you will have a chance to add your own nominations at the October meeting following the Show.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| President: | Joe Goetz |
| 1 st Vice President | Isabella Burns |
| 2 nd Vice President: | Art Ragazzi |
| Treasurer: | James LaBorde |
| Secretary: | Annmarie Nastasi |
| Federation Director: | Bill Burns |
| Directors: | Les Roy |
| | Jerry Turner |
| | Jack Zywoციenski |

IT'S SHOWTIME!!!

Yes!!! It is finally here and we are ready to present another great WGMS Gem Show. It should be a fine weekend, weather-wise and I want to thank the City of Whittier for organizing a "Senior Fest" event in the park and Senior Center located outside the Whittier Community Center to coincide with our Show. This should bring additional people to our event on both Saturday and, our usual slow day, Sunday.

The Show schedule is as follows:

Fri, October 14.....3 - 8 PM..... Setup - need lots of help.

Sat, October 159 -10 AM Final setup

Sat, October 1510 AM - 5 PM 1st day of Show

Sun, October 1610 AM - 5 PM Last day of Show

Sun, October 165 - 8 PM..... Tear down - need lots more help

If you can possibly help during any part of the Show please come out and give us a hand. Helpers are always needed in the kitchen, greeters table and sales table, to name a few. There is always something to do from start to finish.

As always, we ask that everyone donate 2 pies and 2 6-packs of sodas. Fruit pies are preferred and please bring name brand sodas as the off-brands don't sell. If you want to bring more than the minimum, we would be grateful for that too. Water also sells well.

Izzy still has a few display cases left that could be just waiting for you to fill with your prized lapidary treasures.

Kathy Valle has received several fine prizes for the Donation Award table already, including the spectacular chrysocholla and 14-karat ring donated by George Cyrog. The GPS this year is being graciously donated by Joe and Marcia Goetz (well done, guys!). Remember, this is our primary source of income for the coming year so please donate something if you can.

I am expecting another great show and hope that you are looking forward to it as much as I am.

Jay Valle
2005 Show Chairman

A Brief History of the Whittier Gem & Mineral Society

The Whittier Gem & Mineral Society had its beginning in a geology class conducted at the Whittier Union High School under the directorship of Mr. Darrel Henry in the fall semester of 1949. In the first few instructional periods, the idea for organizing such a club was discussed repeatedly, until, a date was set for an organization meeting. The plans were made public in a local newspaper and on November 15, 1949 a small group met to draw up a constitution and elect the officers of organization. Under Mr. Henry's careful guidance a constitution was approved.

The first regular meeting of the Society was held at Whittier High School on December 1, 1949. By the time the meeting had been brought to a close, we had achieved a paid-up membership of 28.

The first and third Tuesday evenings of each month were selected as scheduled meetings and one field trip per month was planned for the cooler months. Interesting programs each meeting helped to build interest and increase memberships.

In March of 1950, the society voted to join the California Federation of Mineral Societies.

In July of 1950, sixty families went to Central Park to enjoy the delicious repast prepared by the Hospitality Committee. The society accepted several invitations from other societies; of special interest were the exhibits arranged at the Los Angeles County Fair in Pomona by Ken Tharp in 1950 and 1951.

In November 1950, the club voted to incorporate. Olin Bell, a San Francisco attorney prepared the papers and the act was completed February 1951.

In the month of July 1951, the members were invited to the home of the Lucys, where a picnic was held in the beautiful patio. The special treat of the evening was the swimming pool, where members, family and friends swam to enjoy the summer evening. The following month the home of Willis & Lily Bell was available for an outdoor picnic. Wieners were the toast of the evening and a fine time was had in the amazing Bell backyard outdoor living room.

One of the most successful field trips of the club was to Vasquez Rocks, where our activities were photographed and recorded by the Whittier Pictorial Magazine, indeed a novel way to introduce our first show.

The Whittier Centennial Celebration Crown

When you are checking out the excellent Mineral Societies 56th Anniversary crown which is proudly displayed for created by a cooperative effort of V

In the spring of 1962 when The City of Whittier was preparing for the 75th Diamond Anniversary Celebration, a member of the Planning Committee contacted then President Marian Hubbard of the Whittier Gem and Mineral Society and asked if it would be possible for the club to create a jeweled crown for this very special celebration.

Kathryn Boehme, the American Junior Faceting Champion of 1961, immediately offered the Club the large Portuguese cut smoky topaz which she had faceted as a demonstration project during the Club's 1961 Gem & Mineral Show. This became the top accent point of the crown. It has 224 facets as compared to the brilliant cut we associate with diamonds of 57 facets.

Other members then joined in faceting the aquamarines and the pink, dark blue and erinite spinels as well as cutting and polishing the jet obsidian cabochons in the head band.

The sterling silver, gold plated framework of the crown was designed by Tom Hubbard. This was also handcrafted and the jewels set by club members under his guidance. The finished product represents over 100 hours of time and skill.

The Whittier Gem & Mineral Society is honored that their work of art has now become the crown of our lovely Miss Whittier Centennial Celebration Queen, Dori Clemence. She will wear this on special occasions in her many appearances on behalf of the City of Whittier.

Note: The last time our crown was worn

**WGMS October Field Trip
Whittier Club Honey Onyx Claim
October 22 & 23, 2005**

The weekend after the WGMS Show is typically an outing to the Whittier Gem & Mineral Society's Honey Onyx Claim, located just east of Barstow. The honey onyx is still there but it is true hard rock mining. If you have any or have seen it, you know that it is well worth the effort involved. Usually we use our Claim as a base of operations for daily field trips to the surrounding collecting areas. The access to the camp area requires unlocking a combination lock and opening a locked gate. **The combination is 1248.** After you pass through the gate, you must lock it behind you. Follow the 'W' or 'PLS' signs to camp (see map on page 9).

**You will find a combination lock on the gate.
The combination is 1248.**

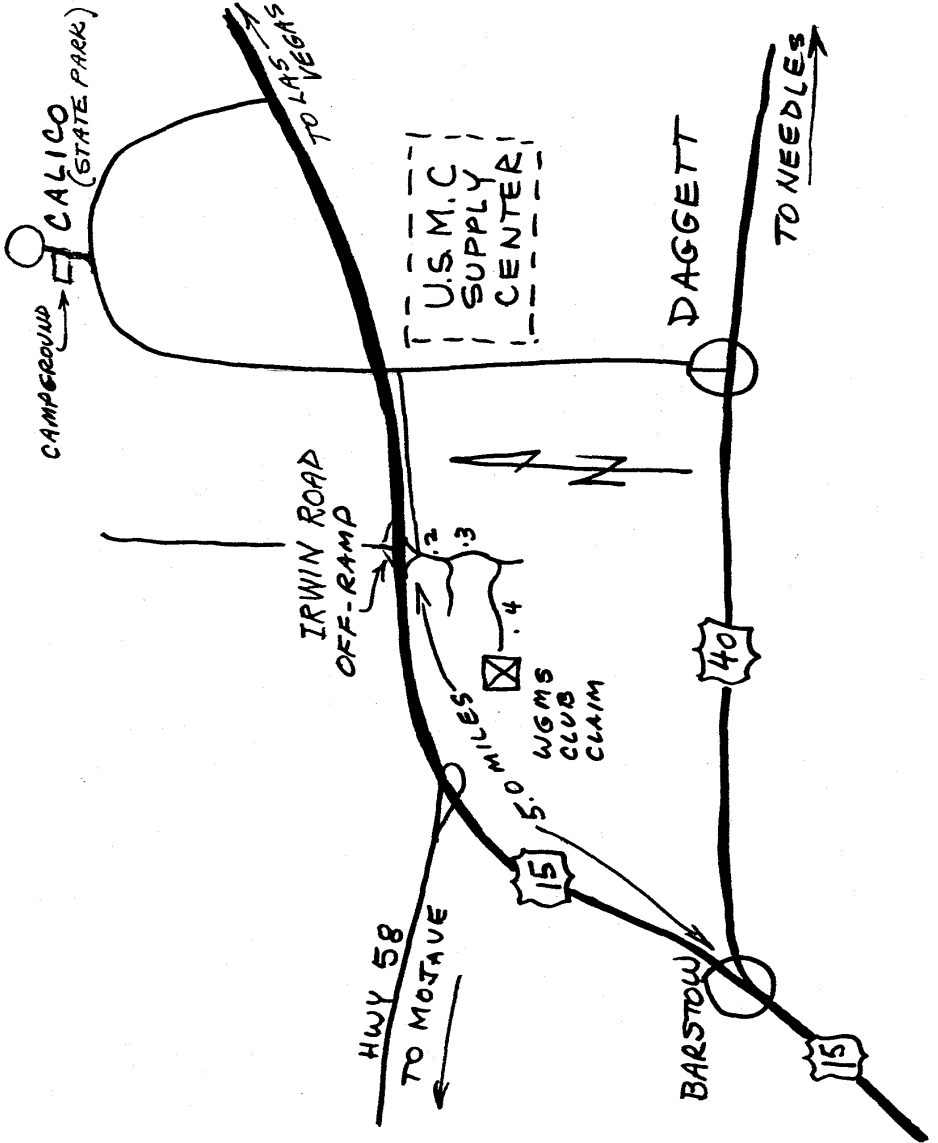
There will be guided field trips on both Saturday and Sunday and we will leave camp each day at 8:00 - 8:30 AM. Saturday evening will feature a traditional potluck dinner, followed by a warm campfire, if the weather permits.

Materials which may be collected: Honey onyx, red moss agate, petrified wood & palm root, algae agate, silver lace onyx (requires a short hike uphill), and other unnamed agates, jasp-agates, jaspers, fossils, etc.

Tools: Rock pick & bag for general collecting; Sledges, wedges, chisels, pry bars, etc. for those rockhounds who want to get serious with the honey onyx.

Supplies: Barstow is very close. For beginning rockhounds (without campers, trailers, etc.) you may wish to stay in a motel in town and drive to the Club Claim each morning. This is also a easy way to get to know the "workings" of a rock club field trip.

Contact: Joe Goetz at (626) 914-5030 for questions or further information.



Chinese Culture Jade Carving

(Based on material offered by Mr. Du Feibao)

<http://asiarecipe.com/chijade.html>

Jade is loosely understood in China as the collective name for most precious stones, and jade carving in this sense constitutes an important part of Chinese arts and crafts. The love of jade ware, according to Dr. Joseph Needham, the noted British naturalist, has been one of the cultural features of China. Crude jade tools have been found among the archaeological finds dating back to the New Stone Age. There is, however, no evidence to indicate that neolithic people attached a great value to jade ware; they chose jade only because it was hard and good for making tools and fighting weapons. As time went on, people came gradually to appreciate the beauty of the stone, which after carving and polishing might be turned into things not only useful but also nice to look at.

In the historical epoch during which the slave society was replaced by the feudal society, jade ware became established as objects of pure decoration. Among the funerary objects unearthed from tombs of that long period are many jade articles used as personal ornaments or ceremonial vessels. The jade exhibits one sees today in museums of the country normally comprise vases, incense-burners, tripods, cups and wine vessels of various descriptions.

Large-sized jade articles began to appear in the middle of Chinese feudalism. There is today in the Round City of the Beihai Park a large jade jar the size of a small bathtub. It was used as a wine container by the Yuan Emperor Kublai Khan when he feted his followers. The 3.5-ton jar may hold as much as 3,000 litres of wine. It has a circumference of 493cm and measures 70cm high and 55cm deep in the middle. The elliptic jar is wellshaped and engraved all round with clouds, waves, dragons and sea horses. It is the oldest jade object of a large size kept intact in the country.

Another large piece worth mentioning is a jade sculpture dating from the reign of Qianlong in the 18th century. Entitled "Jade Mountain Showing the Great Yu Taming the Flood", it was sculpted after a Song Dynasty painting of a similar title. The masterpiece, standing 2.4 metres high and about 1 metre wide, depicts in vivid detail how the Great Yu, a heroic representative of the ancient working people, fought the Great Flood. According to historical records, the uncut jade stone, weighing more than 5 tons, was discovered in Hotan area, Xinjiang, took three years to be transported over the distance of 4,000 kilometres to Beijing, and some more

years to be carved and polished into the national treasure that it is.

"There is a price for gold but no price for jade", says a Chinese proverb. Jade ware is often described as "worth a string of towns". An ancient story tells how King Zhao of Qin once offered 15 towns in exchange for the famous Ho's round jade. How is it that jade is so valuable?

First, its value lies in its scarcity. Precious stones are formed over long geological epochs and are hard to get, especially green jade, white jade and agate. Ancient people on a treasure hunt had to trek on the back of yaks in mountainous regions to get at the unhewn rocks containing the gems, exposed or half exposed, by the stamping of the animal's hoofs. Sometimes, precious stones were washed down by mountain torrents and were got hold of midway by men with the eye and luck. In any event, exposed stones grew scarce and people began to bore through the mountains to mine for precious stones, making them even more difficult to get.

Secondly, the value of jade lies in its hardness. Precious stones are divided by their hardness into two major groups: jadeites and nephrites. Jadeites are the ones with a solid texture and a hardness of degree 6 or above (on the basis of 10 for diamond). The more valuable varieties, such as green jade, may be as hard as degree 8 or 9. Jadeites are invulnerable to steel cutting tools made of carborundum or diamond power. Objects made of this hard jade are smooth, lustrous, glittering and translucent, and their grains are no longer visible to the naked eye.

Nephrites, on the other hand, being below degree 6 in hardness, can generally be incised and carved by burins. Their commercial values are much lower than jadeites. Thirdly, the value of precious stones lies in their natural colour and hue. Some are as white as snow, others are brightly red, and still others alluringly green. Diamond, emerald, sapphire and other gemstones can be processed into personal ornaments like rings and earrings whose colour will remain brilliant all the time. Some stones carry an array of colours which a master artisan can use to good effect. Even flaws in the stone can be turned into "beauty spots", for instance, an insect on a flower or a small squirrel on a tree, adding life and attraction to the entire piece of work.

Today there are jade workshops or factories in all major cities. Work which used to be done purely by hand has been partially mechanized. Although some operations have become faster with the use of simple machines, yet jade carving remains basically a handicraft art. And as raw materials are getting more and more scarce, the prices of jade ware will always be on the upward trend.

Education Thru Sharing

Whittier Gem and Mineral Society

Jay Valle

Jay Valle has been chosen as the "Man of the Year" by the WGMS Members. We are proud and happy that Jay chose our club to be a member for this honor. Jay gives our club a quality of leadership by his willingness to serve the club, sharing of his time to serve as an officer, a committee chair to help the club and its members. His concern, dedication, and expertise as a leader, editor, treasurer, and field trip leader has been a great aid to the continuing success of WGMS.. He shares his knowledge of fossils and minerals and where to collect them, but, also, his knowledge of computers and photography.

Jay has loved collecting rocks since he was a junior member of the Castro Valley Gem & Mineral Society. When he finished his education and had his family settled, he found time to join WGMS and has become one of our most valued member.

Presented by Bill Burns, CFMS Director.

A Thought for Today

Author Unknown

I'd like to suggest that sometimes rocks and people have some of the same characteristics and qualities.

Some are like delicate crystals; rough handling or talk does them irreparable damage.

Some are like fossils; they are very opinionated and it is bad news to try to change them.

Some possess hidden qualities and beauty which often takes a little time to recognize.

Some are durable and can take the bumps and the disappointments of life and just keep on hanging in there.

Some are always ready to help when needed.

Some are real gems; quickly recognized, and to work with them is an inspiration. They are like the finest amethyst, topaz, sapphires, and rubies.

All are special because they are who they are.

Via Strata Gems 12/92 and via The Petrified Log 04/05

A Newsletter Story

By Dick Stata, March 10 2005, SCRIBE, April-June, 2005

*I find some of the Mineral clubs
inventive names for their Newsletter
membership list.*

Out west I'm known as **THE ROCKCOLLECTOR**. I was traveling down the **ROCKYROAD**, heading through the canyon, hearing the **ROCKY ECHOES**, the noise chased a **ROADRUNNER** away. I was heading for an old **ROCKMINE** I'd heard about; if I had any luck I would find a **MINERAL VEIN** or maybe some **OUTCROPPINGS**. I had my **COLLECTING BAG**. In it was my old **STONE CHIPPER** and my trusty **ROCK CHIPPER**. I was in luck; I found the **TAILING'S** pile. In seconds I became an **AGATE EXPLORER** and in those **PICKIN'S AND DIGGIN'S** I found to my amazement an **AMMONITE**.

It was around about then that I startled by a **ROCK RATTLER** who scared me so bad I made a **YELLOWSTONE DEPOSIT** on the **ROCKPILE**. I thought for a minute I'd be writing my **MINERAL MEMOS** to the **SCRIBE HISTORIAN**.

I recovered my wits and picked up my **AGATIZER**. I used it to locate **STRATA DATA**. It was in my bag with **THE DOPSTICK** and that water sprayer I used so I wouldn't have to be a **ROCK LICKER**, you know **CHIP AND LICK**. I love to hear the **CHIPPERS CHATTER** and those **GRANITE CHIPS** flew as I hammered with all my **MINERAL MITE** in that **SHAWNEE SLATE**.

I was startled again, this time by a **HOUNDS HOWL**. It was a **ROCKBOUND HEROLD** of sorts, seems it was ahead of a **ROCK- HOUND ROUNDUP** from the **MINGUS ROCKY TIMES**, it was all **SHIN SKINNER NEWS** to me.

I met with a Mr. **BEEHIVE BUZZER** and had a little **STONE CHAT** about me being a **HI GRADER**. They had me in a **COLLECTORS CORNER**. After a little **ROCK CHATTER** and a few **QUARRY QUIPS** he calmed down. I told him I was broke so he gave me a **GRUBSTAKE**. I couldn't stand all those **ROCKBOUND RUMBLINGS**, so I threw my **PINK DOLOMITE SADDLE** on my old horse **ROCK-IT** and rode off. I made like a **SILVER CAMELION** and I disappeared into **MOTHER NATURES BASEMENT**. I had a few bucks in my pocket but I didn't have a single **CRYSTAL**, not even a single **PRAIRY GEM**. It was a bad day for the **T-TOWN ROCKHOUND**.

Upcoming CFMS Gem Shows

Oct 8-9 Lakeside, CA. EL Cajon Valley Gem & Mineral
Lakeside Rodeo Grounds, Hwy. 67 & Mapleview Street
Hours: 10 - 5 both days

Oct 8-9 Trona, CA. Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society
13337 Main Street, Hours: Sat: 7:30 - 5: Sun. 7:30 - 4

Oct 15 West Hills, CA. Woodland Hills Rock Chippers
First United Methodist Church, 22700 Sherman Way
Hours: 10 - 5

Oct 15-16 Long Beach, CA. Mineralogical Society of Southern California
Long Beach Convention & Expo Center
300 East Ocean Blvd.
Hours: 10 - 5 both days

* **Oct 15-16 Whittier, CA. Whittier Gem & Mineral Society** *
* **Whittier Community Center, 7630 Washington Ave.** *
* **Hours: 10 - 5 both days** *

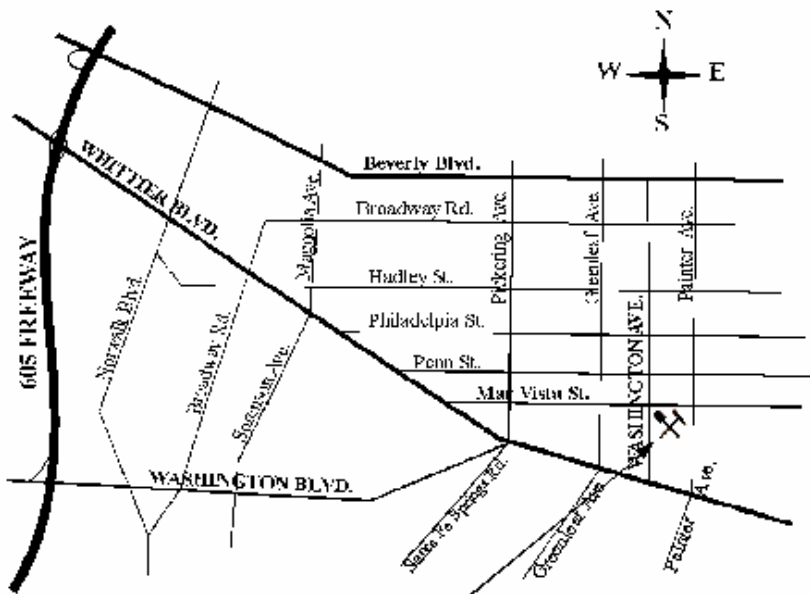
Nov 5-6 San Diego, CA. San Diego Mineral & Gem Society
Al Bahr Shrine Center (Behind Hampton Inn)
5440 Kearny Mesa Road
Hours: Sat. 9:30 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4

Nov 12-13 Lancaster, CA. Palmdale Gem & Mineral Club
Lancaster Fairgrounds at 2551 west Ave. H
Hours: Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 9 - 4

Nov 19-20 Victorville, CA. Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club
San Bernardino County Fairgrounds
14800 Seventh St.
Hours: Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 9 - 4

Nov 26-27 Barstow, CA. Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society
Barstow Community Center
841 South Barstow Road
Hours: 10-5 both days

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



MAR VISTA & WASHINGTON AVE.  WHITTIER COMMUNITY CENTER

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Bulletin exchanges are welcome and should be sent to the editor.

Affiliations



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 American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
 Special Congress Representing Involved Bulletin Editors



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Meeting Date: October 27, 2005 at 7:30 PM
Location: Whittier Community Center
(see page 15 for map)