

WHITTIER

**ROCKHOUNDER**  
GEM & MINERAL  
SOCIETY

O  
C  
T  
O  
B  
E  
R  
  
2  
0  
1  
0

**The Amazing World of Phenomenal Stones:  
The Stone, the Light and You**



A very small portion of a banded agate - seen and photographed at the September Meeting by Marcia Goetz during her presentation

# ROCKHOUNDER

## THE PREZ SEZ:

**E**s Caliente! Fa Caldo! Жарко! Ito Ay Hot! Det är varmt! Det er Hot! No matter how you say it IT'S HOT! How hot is it, you ask? Well, at the risk of sounding like a Johnny Carson rerun, yesterday set a twenty year record in LA. It was so hot that two blue jays spent a half hour deep frying worms in my slab saw. Now you've got to admit, that's hot! And while we're on the subject of hot, it's time to be thinking of **HOT ROCKS AND COOL BEADS.**

We have a show coming up really soon. I've been working on case ornaments and I hope that all of you have been getting your cases ready for the show. Otherwise, we will have to run a special on really weird knick knacks at our next Rockhound Yard Sale. Nancy Kowalski is in charge of cases for the show. If you haven't been contacted yet, touch bases with Nancy. We don't want to end up with too few cases or have to scramble to throw together filler cases. Larry and Vivian Rice can use some help in the kitchen. If you would like to volunteer, contact Larry or Vivian before the show. They have a lot on their plates (no pun intended) and it would be a kindness to have their workforce in place before the last minute. There are lots of jobs to be done, and it will take support from all of the members to put on a first class show as we have always done in the past. Don't wait to be asked! Volunteer and we will continue to put on a "Show that can't be missed"

*Jerry*

**WGMS General Meeting**

**Thursday, October 28, 2010**

**at 7:30 PM**

**The Amazing World of Phenomenal Stones:  
The Stone, the Light and You**

**H**ave you ever wondered why a star ruby has that star or what causes the fire in fire opal? Join us as Graduate Gemologist and Jeweler **David Svenson** shares the amazing world of phenomenal stones in a presentation at the Whittier Gem & Mineral Society's October 28<sup>th</sup> meeting at 7:30 p.m., to be held at the Whittier Community Center, 7630 Washington Ave., Whittier. Phenomenal stones take you into a world of astonishing beauty. Stones considered phenomenal are those with adularescence, asterisms, chatoyancy and more.

*Marcia Goetz*

**Show Schedule**

**O**ur **2010 Gem Show** is here on **October 16 & 17**. As always we are planning a quality experience for our members and guests.

**Show Schedule:**

- |                     |          |   |
|---------------------|----------|---|
| <b>Fri, Oct 15:</b> | 8:00 AM  | Meet at Joe & Marcia's                              |
|                     | 9:00 AM  | Go to Art & Ginger's to load cases & show equipment |
|                     | 3:00 PM  | Take to Community Center by 3:00 P.M. for setup     |
|                     | 8:00 PM  | Community Center access closed for the evening      |
| <b>Sat, Oct 16:</b> | 8:00 AM  | Doors open for venders and members                  |
|                     | 10:00 AM | Show opens to the public                            |
|                     | 5:00 PM  | Show closes for the day.                            |

<b>Sun, Oct 17:</b>	9:00 AM	Doors open for vendors and members
	10:00 AM	Show opens to the public
	5:00 PM	Show ends. After all public gone from hall, teardown begins
	8:00 PM	All done
<b>Mon, Oct 18:</b>	8:00 AM	Meet at Joe & Marcia's
	9:00 AM	Drop equipment off at Art & Ginger's warehouse

**Show Cases:** Display cases are still available. Our theme this year is "Hot Rocks & Cool Beads". Contact Nancy Kowalski to reserve your case or cases today.

**Donation Awards:** Raffle tickets sales are our big money maker at the show, and the show provides the lion's share of the income needed to continue the club each year. Please sell tickets and buy tickets. Kathy Valle has more if you need them. And it is certainly NOT too early to give Kathy your prize donations for the show raffle.

**Setup and Teardown:** These two important phases of our show are the most physically demanding, and literally, *the more hands the less work*. If you don't mind a little manual labor and getting dirty (we are rockhounds, after all) then we can use your assistance. Setup starts at about 3 PM on Friday and teardown begins right after the show closes on Sunday.

**Working the Show:** Show time is about the busiest event of the year and we can use all the help you can give. We need helpers at the Sales Table, Donation Awards Table, Greeter's Table, Kitchen, Security and with the Demonstrators. These positions also can use much-appreciated relief during the show.

**2 six packs & Baked Items:** Members are asked to donate 2 six packs of name brand sodas, diet or regular and a baked goods item. Here is a list of bakery items members could donate for the show: Cookies, Brownies, Cup cakes, Muffins, Pie slices, Sliced loaf cake, Pastries. All items should be individually wrapped in clear plastic wrap or clear zip locked bags.

So there you have it. Prepare your cases, tell your friends, sell tickets and come out to help us put on a great show.

*Jay Valle*  
**2010 Show Chairman**

**Last Board Meeting Before Show  
October 7 at 7:30 PM  
Jerry & Kathy Turner's House**

**T**he March Board Meeting has been scheduled at Jerry & Kathy's Whittier house for October 7 at 7:30 PM. All members are welcome and encouraged to join in the discussion of Club business.

Contact the Turner's for questions or directions.

**Calico Mountains Field Trip Report**

**T**here was a hot time in the old Calico Mountains the weekend of September 25 & 26. Yes, the weather was definitely on the warm side out there in the Barstow area (though not as warm as back home). The collecting, camping and potluck were pretty hot too.

Robert Burson and the Searchers had already set up camp near the Paul Bunyan Agate Mine when I arrived on site early Friday afternoon. A small group of us set out to explore a possible back way into a remote collecting site (we found it too). The weather was clear and sunny but not too uncomfortable due to a nice breeze. Dinner that evening was courtesy of Peggy Sue's 50s Diner.

The next morning we set off in search of rockhound treasure in the Calico Mountains. 14 vehicles caravanned to various locations in and around Mule Canyon. It was warmer than the day before and later in the afternoon we had to curtail collecting due to heat related problems. Returning to camp, a spectacular potluck was enjoyed by 30 'hounders around the campfire. Yes, we had a campfire even though it was a little warm. Allow me to pass on to you a bit of rockhound Zen, I believe that a campout is not complete without a campfire. I not saying we were cozying up to the fire or anything. In fact the circle was pretty wide. However, there is just something about a

campfire that really makes the moment, if you know what I mean. The potluck dinner was great (thanks all) and conversations went on into the evening. I also love a full or mostly full moon when I camp. Doesn't always work out that way so this was an additional treat.

Sunday morning: many of our field trippers left early but we took a smaller group of 7 cars back into Mule Canyon to explore some areas not adequately checked out on Saturday. It was much warmer and the nice breeze wasn't there to moderate the sun. About noon, most of the remaining rock heads, I mean hounds, left and returned to camp to either leave for home or camp for one more night. 4 campers stayed over until Monday. We enjoyed a meal at Peggy Sue's (again) and had a small campfire with our remaining firewood.

On Monday, our last day of the field trip, we worked an agate seam at a nearby location and explored more of the area around the Paul Bunyan Agate location, which by the way, someone has placed a claim on. Yes, this collecting location which has provided a rare and beautiful, quality agate to ordinary rockhounds for more than 40 years has been placed under claim. It seems that some greedy person or persons have decided that this material is only for them. How sad. I could express my contempt for these persons as yet unidentified but I want to remain the gentleman in this. You of course are free to vent your anger and rage if you wish.

So, though the weather was a little on the (uncomfortably) warm side, the turnout was great. We had fun collecting at several locations, enjoyed a much, much better than good potluck and clear night camping with a full moon (don't forget the campfire!!!). Who could ask for more.

I want to thank Robert Burson and Steve Duncan of the Searchers for setting this up and being the consummate hosts, rockhound style. I had a great time and believe that our companion hounders did too.

*Jay Valle*

**WGMS October Field Trip  
Whittier Club Honey Onyx Claim  
October 23 - 24, 2010**

**A**fter the WGMS Show, our field trip 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 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 4321.** After you pass through the gate, you must lock it behind you. Follow the 'W' or 'PLS' signs to camp (see map on facing page).

**You will find a combination lock on the gate.  
The combination is 4321.**

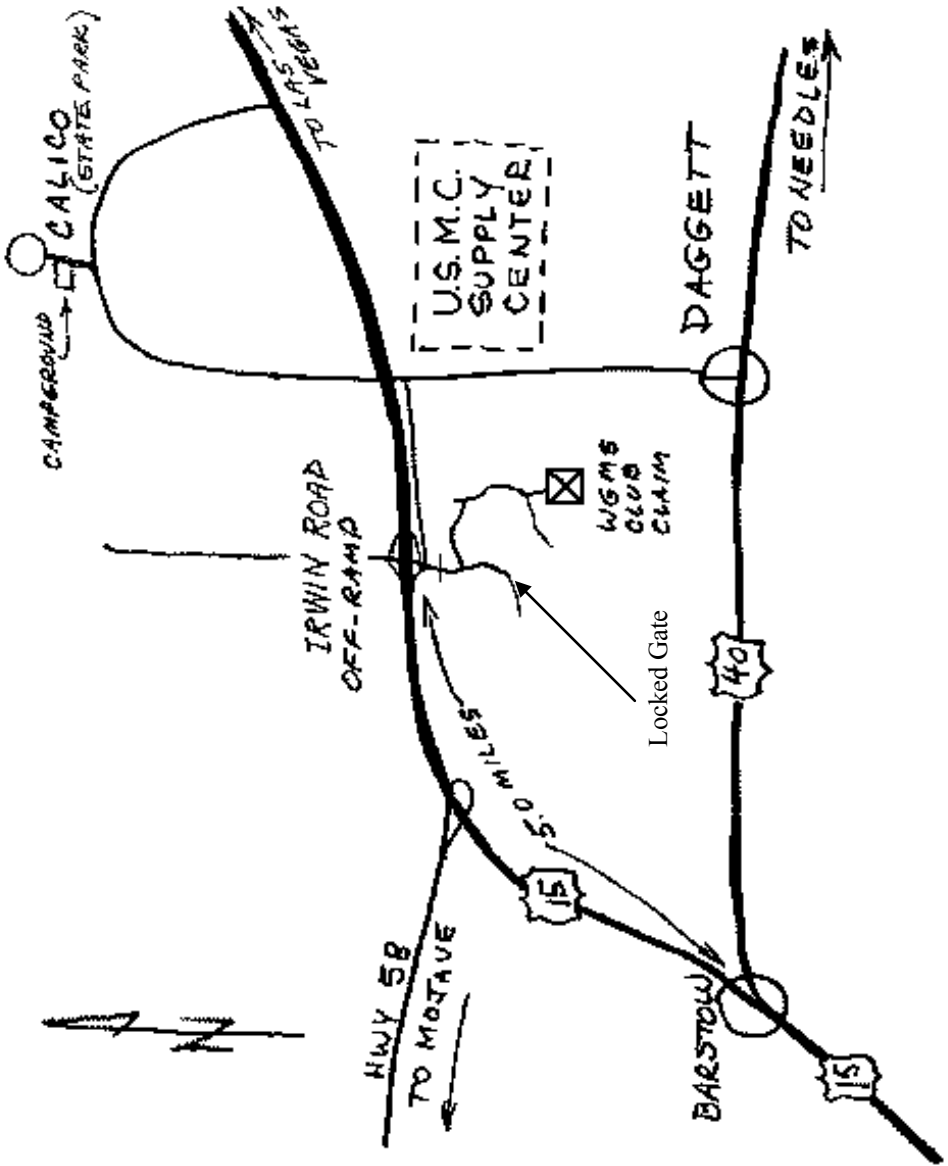
There will be guided field trips on both Saturday and Sunday and we will leave camp each day at 8:00 - 8:30 AM. Saturday evening will feature a traditional potluck dinner, followed by a warm campfire, if the weather permits.

**Materials which may be collected:** Honey onyx, red moss agate, petrified wood & palm root, algae agate, 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 really 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.





## **9 Online Booklets on Agates and Jaspers are Free!**

**T**he American Agate -Jasper Index is a proposed multivolume database that will become a reference source for the quartz gemstone materials from across the United States. The idea is to have several images showing what typical specimens from each locality look like so we can compare our unknown specimens with examples of famous and not-so-well known locations.

These images would be divided up by specimen type (nodular, moss, fossil, etc) and not by site (except as to originating state) to allow a quicker access to the data. The goal of this project is not to create an online museum, so you won't see multiple pictures of similar stones unless it is to show variations of the material, nor is it a field guide with directions to where these specimens can be found. Its sole intention is to provide the collector a method of identifying material.

Here's how this project works: Our database will be produced from images provided by the rockhounds who want this project to succeed. Images will be sent to the editors (Mel Hixson and myself - lowellfos@yahoo.com) or posted on websites with the intention of being placed in the ongoing document. Because every image used will be in the public domain, it costs no money to produce and thus, it should be open to sharing freely to anyone who wants it. Because it's rockhounds putting it together, it will be strong in the local collecting sites not often mentioned in national publications. The Index will also be updatable as new locations come in and better images are offered.

The project is currently ongoing on the Rock Tumbling Hobby site. We are moving slowly state by state to avoid costly mistakes and have been receiving submissions from across the United States. Mel and Lowell are members of the Ventura Gem and Mineral Society.

*(This article was taken from the February 2010 - Ventura Gem & Mineral Society - Rockhound Ramblings)*

More info can be found at the Rock Tumbling WEB site:

[HTTP://www.rocktumblinghobby.com/](http://www.rocktumblinghobby.com/)

Here are the download links to the current 9 volumes.

**Volume 1: Utah and Colorado (16 MB) -**

[http://www.4shared.com/document/mNXTQALM/Agate\\_Index\\_Vol\\_1\\_\\_2nd\\_ed\\_.html](http://www.4shared.com/document/mNXTQALM/Agate_Index_Vol_1__2nd_ed_.html)

**Volume 2: Wyoming and Montana -**

[http://www.4shared.com/file/224404408/51585e57/Agate\\_Index\\_Vol\\_2.html](http://www.4shared.com/file/224404408/51585e57/Agate_Index_Vol_2.html).

**Volume 3: Idaho and Washington -**

[http://www.4shared.com/file/229956030/cc07189f/Agate\\_Index\\_Vol\\_3.html](http://www.4shared.com/file/229956030/cc07189f/Agate_Index_Vol_3.html).

**Volume 4: South Dakota, Nebraska, and Oklahoma -**

[http://www.4shared.com/file/242786005/91b2476f/Agate\\_Index\\_Vol\\_4.html](http://www.4shared.com/file/242786005/91b2476f/Agate_Index_Vol_4.html).

**Volume 5: Texas -**

[http://www.4shared.com/document/oCLei3tU/Agate\\_Index\\_Vol\\_5.html](http://www.4shared.com/document/oCLei3tU/Agate_Index_Vol_5.html).

**Volume 6: The South-Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Arkansas, Missouri -**

[http://www.4shared.com/document/nXCjumab/Agate\\_Index\\_Vol\\_6.html](http://www.4shared.com/document/nXCjumab/Agate_Index_Vol_6.html).

**Volume 7: Arizona (warning-16 MB) -**

[http://www.4shared.com/document/XplaNpW1/Agate\\_Index\\_Vol\\_7.html](http://www.4shared.com/document/XplaNpW1/Agate_Index_Vol_7.html)

**Volume 8: New Mexico, Nevada (warning-16 MB) -**

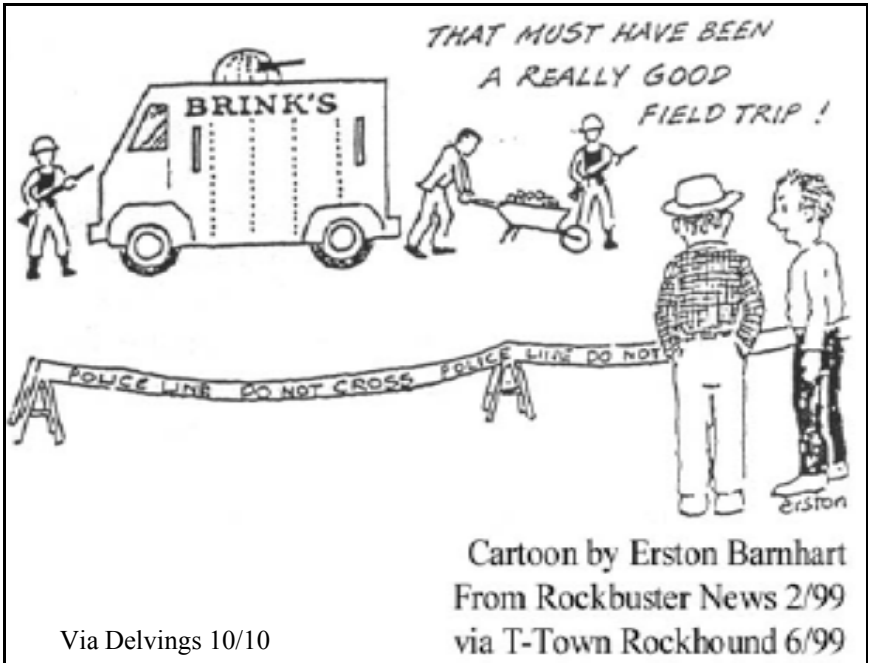
<http://search.4shared.com/q/1/agate%20index%208>

**Volume 9: Oregon (warning-16 MB) -**

[http://www.4shared.com/document/-CARc\\_SR/Agate\\_Index\\_Vol\\_9.html](http://www.4shared.com/document/-CARc_SR/Agate_Index_Vol_9.html)

editor: lowellfos@yahoo.com.

*Via The Charlotte Goldrush Ledger 8/10*



Via Delvings 10/10

**Friday Humor**

- I asked God for a bike, but I know God doesn't work that way; so I stole a bike and asked for forgiveness.
- Do not argue with an idiot; he will drag you down to his level and beat you with experience.
- Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.
- The last thing I want to do is hurt you, but it's still on the list.
- If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.
- We never really grow up, we only learn how to act in public.
- War does not determine who is right - only who is left.
- Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit; wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.
- The early bird might get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.
- Evening news is where they begin with 'Good evening' and then proceed to tell you why it isn't.
- To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism; to steal from many is research.
- A bus station is where a bus stops; a train station is where a train stops; on my desk, I have a work station . . . .
- How is it one careless match can start a forest fire, but it takes a whole box to start a campfire?
- Dolphins are so smart that within a few weeks of captivity, they can train people to stand on the very edge of the pool and throw them fish.
- I thought I wanted a career; turns out, I just wanted pay checks.
- A bank is a place that will lend you money if you can prove that you don't need it.
- Whenever I fill out an application, in the part that says "In an emergency, notify:" I put "DOCTOR".
- I didn't say it was your fault; I said I was blaming you.
- I saw a woman wearing a sweat shirt with "Guess" on it . . . so I said "Implants?"
- Why does someone believe you when you say there are four billion stars but check when you say the paint is wet?
- Women will never be equal to men until they can walk down the street with a bald head and a beer gut and still think they are sexy.

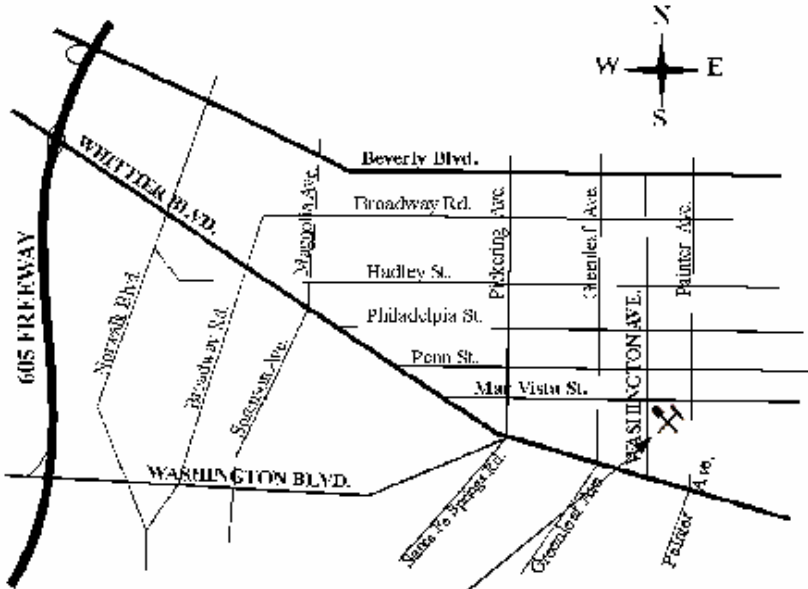
- Why do Americans choose from just two people to run for president and 50 for Miss America?
- Behind every successful man is his woman; behind the fall of a successful man is usually another woman.
- A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.
- You do not need a parachute to skydive; you only need a parachute to skydive twice.
- The voices in my head may not be real, but they have some good ideas!
- Always borrow money from a pessimist; he won't expect it back.
- A diplomat is someone who can tell you to go to hell in such a way that you will look forward to the trip.
- Hospitality is making your guests feel like they're at home, even if you wish they were.
- Money can't buy happiness, but it sure makes misery easier to live with.
- I discovered I scream the same way whether I'm about to be devoured by a great white shark or a piece of seaweed touches my foot.
- Some cause happiness wherever they go, others whenever they go.
- There's a fine line between cuddling and holding someone down so they can't get away.
- I used to be indecisive; now I'm not so sure.
- I always take life with a grain of salt -- plus a slice of lemon and a shot of tequila.
- When tempted to fight fire with fire, remember that the Fire Department usually uses water.
- You're never too old to learn something stupid.
- To be sure of hitting the target, shoot first and call whatever you hit the target.
- Nostalgia isn't what it used to be.
- Some people hear voices, some see invisible people; others have no imagination whatsoever.
- A bus is a vehicle that runs twice as fast when you are after it as when you are in it.
- If you are supposed to learn from your mistakes, why do some people have more than one child?
- Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.

The Internet via Kathy Valle

**Upcoming CFMS Gem Shows**

- Oct 9-10**     **Trona, CA.** Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society  
Searles Gem & Mineral Show Building, 13337 Main Street  
Hours: Sat; 7:30-5; Sun. 7:30-4  
Website: [www.l.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub](http://www.l.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub)
- Oct 9-10**     **Vista, CA.** Vista Gem & Mineral Society  
Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum, 2040 N. Sante Fe Ave.  
Hours: Sat; 20-5; Sun. 10-4
- Oct 16**        **West Hills, CA.** Woodland Hills Rock Chippers  
First United Methodist Church, 22700 Sherman Way  
Hours: 10-5
- Oct 16-17** **Whittier, CA. Whittier Gem & Mineral Society**  
**Whittier Community Center**  
**7630 Washington Avenue**  
**Hours: 10-5 both days**
- Nov 6-7**     **Landcaster, CA.** Palmdale Gem & Mineral Club  
Antelope Valley Fairgrounds, 2551 West Ave. H & Hwy 14  
Hours: 9-5 both days
- Nov 6-7**     **Ridgecrest, CA.** Indian Wells Gem & Mineral Society  
Desert Empire Fairgrounds, 520 south Richmond Road  
Hours: 9-5 both days
- Nov 13-14**   **Victorville, CA.** Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club  
San Bernardino Co. Fairgrounds, 14800 – 7th Street  
Hours: Sat. 9-5 Sun. 9-4
- Nov 20-21**   **Oxnard, CA.** Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society  
Oxnard Performing Arts Center, 800 Hobson Way  
Hours: Sat. 9-5 Sun. 10-5

**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: [res19pnb@verizon.net](mailto:res19pnb@verizon.net)  
**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



**Whittier Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.**  
Post Office Box 865, Whittier, California 90608-0865  
**Editor: Jay Valle, 1421 Latchford Ave.**  
**Hacienda Heights, CA 91745**

**Date: October 28, 2010 at 7:30 PM**  
**Location: Whittier Community Center**  
**(See page 4 & 15 for info & map)**