

WHITTIER

ROCKHOUNDER
GEM & MINERAL
SOCIETY

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**General Meeting:
“Fakes and Forgeries in the Mineral World”
September 24 at 7:30 PM**



Seen on a field trip near Temecula
(Rocks aren't the only thing you may find)

ROCKHOUNDER

THE PREZ SEZ:

Summer is coming to a Close!

Well, by the time you are reading this school has started and we'll get back to getting ready for the show. The time has flown by and we are on the crest of getting the show setup. I know we still have until the 3rd Friday of October, but it will be here before you know it. Everyone will be happy and glad when the show is put to bed.

There is a fieldtrip to the Greenhorn Mountains for rose quartz and other things. Info is further in the bulletin.

It's always tough when summer ends, however on the good side it'll start cooling off and the days will be shorter. But the holidays will be the near future, but before that we'll have an election for new officers for the next 2 years.

This year after summer ends there is still a lot to do before the year ends. And so it goes.

*Welcome Back
Joe*

**WGMS General Meeting
Thursday, May 28, 2015 at 7:30 PM**

“Fakes and Forgeries in the Mineral World”

Justin Zzyzx has been identifying fake or modified minerals for people who have concerns over their new (and very expensive) mineral acquisitions for some time now. He is pretty good at it. He will be presenting a program for your education and entertainment on the subject of mineralogical fakes.

Marcia

2015 Show

Are you excited yet? In just a few short weeks we will be holding our annual Gem & Mineral Show which we have appropriately named "Rocks Rock!!!". Yeah, we really like our rocks, the chatoyant agates, the colorful tourmalines, the richness of jasper, those pesky insects and bugs that got immortalized as a fossil, and all the other delights that would fill the page. We may see many of these in the club cases at the show or the dealers may have them for us to add to our collection.

Our show will be **October 17 and 18** with set up on Friday the 16 starting at 3 pm. We will again have our raffle with prizes (which we need) which Art Ragazzi is collecting; our kitchen will serve yummy hot dogs and fixings; our silent auction will try to be silent but people don't always whisper over there - oh, I thought it was that kind of silent!; the club sales table will have some new material for all to purchase; the kids games and grab bags will again be aweing the young and young-at-heart; our cases will be exciting for both us and the public to look at; and the dealers will have many products for us to buy.

At the September general meeting I will have case sign ups sheets with me for you to add your name to and raffle tickets to purchase

and take to sale. We will also be asking you to help at the different locations to make the show a grand success.

See you there.

Marcia

**Greenhorn Mountains, CA.
September 10th-13th 2015 Fri/Sun. 9am
(see information on pages 8 & 9)**

Ladies and Gentlemen, I contacted CFMS Public Lands expert, John Martin regarding the Forest Service permit issue. He said that, because of recent policy decisions, the USFS does not require permits for recreational rock collecting. Permits for non-recreational activity (mining) are not being issued at this time. Hence, our casual collecting will not require a permit.

Rob Sankovich is leading the Conejo-Ventura-Oxnard clubs on a field trip to the area in September. He has contacted the owner of the rose quartz mine and has obtained permission for his group to access the mine for rock collecting. Be sure to fill any new holes.

Rob has also extended an invitation for our club members to join him and his group that weekend.

The Pasadena club is opting to join the Conejo-Ventura-Oxnard trip on September 10th - 13th. Our field trip leader, Joe Goetz, has named Philip Lahr to coordinate the questions from club members who have not been there and want to know what to expect. His contact info is:

Philip Lahr, plkslahr@att.net, 818-926-3163

Let's have a great field trip!
Mark Nelson, PLS

Geology | Leaf analyses help determine ancient climates

By Dale Gnidovec in the Columbus Dispatch, May 4th 2014

During the last half-million years before their extinction, dinosaurs living in northern North America enjoyed a subtropical climate with a mean annual temperature of around 55 degrees.

How do we know that? After all, there were no thermometers (or people to read them, for that matter) 66 million years ago.

Two recent articles in the journal *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology* show how.

Researchers first looked at fossils found at two sites in a rock unit called the Frenchman Formation in southern Saskatchewan, just north of Montana. It was deposited by rivers and streams along the western shore of the Western Interior Seaway, the sea that covered the central part of North America during the Cretaceous Period.

Among the fossils were those of plants, fish, turtles, crocodiles, lizards, birds, mammals and a dozen species of dinosaurs, including *Tyrannosaurus* and *Triceratops*.

The temperature estimate was obtained by a method called leaf margin analysis, which makes use of the observation that leaves in particular climates share features that are different from leaves growing in different climates.

Leaves with jagged margins are called *toothed*; leaves with smooth margins are called *entire*. In modern forests, the percentage of toothed versus entire margins is a good proxy for the mean annual temperature — the cooler the climate, the more toothed leaves there are.

Leaf margin analysis has been used extensively to estimate climates as far back as the middle of the Cretaceous, when modern vegetation became widespread. But how much confidence can we have in it?

That is where the second article comes in.

The analysis was first proposed in 1915, and most of the calibration for it has been done in North America and Europe. The new research looked at a large data set from China.

Not only did the new data strongly support the process, but the support was compelling for two important reasons.

First, China is huge, nearly 4 million square miles, with climates ranging from tropical to nearly arctic. Second, it has some of the highest diversity of plants in the world, with 31,142 species of vascular plants.

In August 2002, I wrote about one of the most spectacular paleontological sites in North America — Ashfall Fossil Beds in northeastern Nebraska.

Gathered in and around a watering hole 12 million years ago were horses, camels and rhinos (all of which went through most of their evolutionary history here in North America) along with fish, mice, squirrels, beavers, birds and turtles.

At some point, a volcano in Idaho exploded, and its ash blew eastward toward the watering hole, killing the small animals almost instantly. The larger animals died slowly, over a period of weeks to months as the sharp ash they inhaled slowly punctured their lungs.

The site was discovered in 1971 and opened to the public in 1991. A building that went up over one of the quarries shows the fossil skeletons in place as they were found.

A new publication, “Guidebook 36 of the Geological Society of America,” gives a wonderful summary of the research that has focused on the site during the past 43 years. I highly recommend it.

Dale Gnidovec is curator of the Orton Geological Museum at Ohio State University.

Via Flint Flashes 5/14

**CGMC-OGMS-VGMS Co-op Field Trip
Greenhorn Mountains, CA.
September 10th-13th 2015 Fri/Sun. 9am**

By Robert Sankovich, 805-494-7734 rmsorca@roadrunner.com
Co-op-clubs, Conejo, Oxnard, Ventura.

This Trip is to be a weekend field trip, but I know that many can only do a Day Trip. Thursday-Friday will be the "Drive to the Campsite and Set Up" day. Friday morning, we will head out to the Rose Quartz at about 9am to 10am. Friday late afternoon, we will head out for the, Epidote and Garnet source. There will be some hiking up hill on this Trip, but mostly on dirt forest roads. As it gets dark we will collect Scheelite/Tungsten. If you have a short wave ultraviolet light bring it. I have one, but it would be great if others brought theirs. Saturday morning, we will head out to the Rose Quartz at about 9am to 10am. This is to accommodate those driving up that morning. It should take about 3.5 to 4 hours to drive to the Campsite from Ventura, so get up early and drive safe. Friday, Saturday those who have been there before will leave earlier for the Rose Quartz. Sunday morning, we will Packing up and going home, some will still go to the Rose Quartz again and will start early, about 9am, as we need to pack up and head for home that afternoon. There will be a potluck Sat evening.

Information: The campsite is a Dry Site. No Water, No Hook-ups. If you are camping over, you will need to bring water for drinking and cleaning. I recommend filling a five-gallon water cooler jug with your tap water and bottled water for the Hiking and stuff. This is a Pack In / Pack Out trip. We are responsible for our own trash and we need to set an example as Rock Hounds. Fire permits will be required I have one. You can get them free at:
<http://www.preventwildfireca.org/Campfire-Permit/>

In Bakersfield on the way up to the campsite. Campfire Permit BLM office in Bakersfield at: 3801 Pegasus Drive. They will be open from 7:30 am - 4:15 pm on Friday. Telephone: 661-391-6000 and Kernville Office at 105 Whitney Road Kernville, Telephone: 760-376-3781. **You can only use propane stove, grills, no wood fire rings.** Online: http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/sequoia/passes-permits/recreation/?cid=fsbdev3_059516

Directions: Frog Meadow Camp, 13 miles north of Greenhorn Mountain County Park off Highway 155 in the Sequoia National Forest. N35 52.23.10'

W118 34.44.12' Look for my CGMC posts.

What to Bring: bug spray, warm clothes for the cool nights, light clothes for the sunny afternoons, hiking shoes, sunscreen, large brim hat, shovel, rock hammer or pick, gad or chisel, sledges, collecting bags, buckets, day pack, eye protection, sturdy shoes, drinking water, trash bags and the usual stuff you bring when you camp. Food for the potluck. Flash Lights.

What to find:

Rose Quartz, a semi-translucent quartz colored pink to lavender by small amounts of Titanium atoms. This variety of rose is reported to have an asterism or six-ray star when polished properly. The quartz is in the cliff face that you will be walking down. You will need to bring heavy sledges and chisels to break away large pieces of quartz although there is lots of small stuff. The quartz is somewhat fractured but well healed. There are lots of small gemmy pieces down the hillside. GPS=35d 51m 22s North, 118d 31m 46s West, Elevation 7244'. (http://www.caltelephone.com/lamps/rose_quartz.htm)

Epidote, a Yellowish green to Brownish green to Black crystal that is long and transparent to translucent The crystals are shaped like Slender Prisms (e.g. tourmaline)

Garnet, of the Grossular variety. These well-formed crystals, are Brown to Orange in color and transparent to sub- translucent.

Tungsten Ore, of the Scheelite variety. A fluorescence mineral has been found in many of the mountains and road-cuts. We will venture out for this collecting after dark, as the use of a Black light is vital.

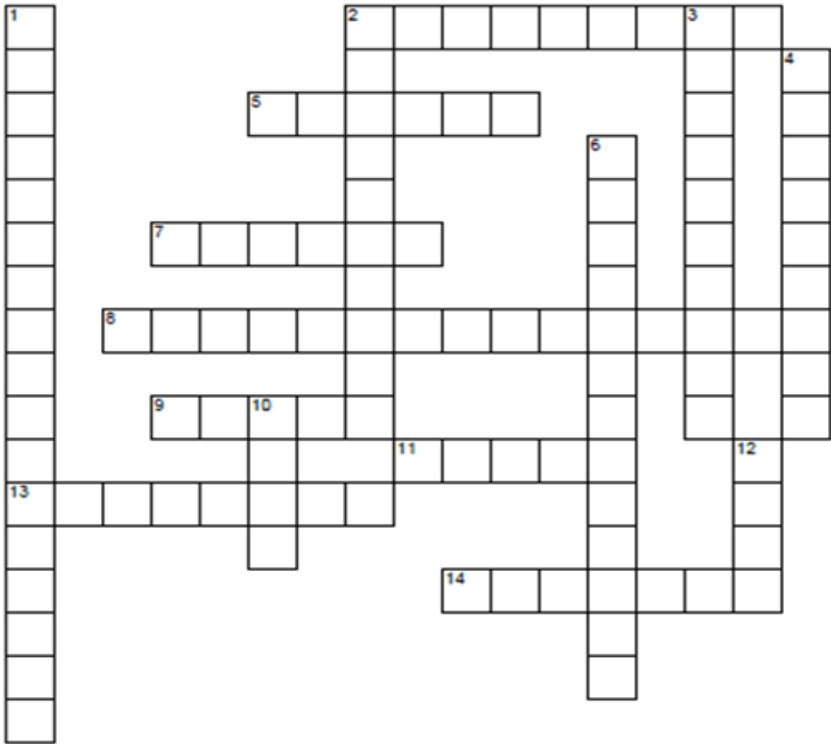
E-mail me for maps:

Robert Sankovich rmsorca@roadrunner.com (805) 494-7734

Chuck Borchart, borcharteme@gmail.com (805) 551-9946

Please let us know if you are going to go on the field trip, weather changes. If we don't know you're going on the field trip, we won't be able to contact you if the field trip is canceled. Even if you might not go, still contact us for the information and maps. Don't wait until the day before, sometimes we leave days before the field trip and we won't be able to reply to you.

The Quartz Family



ACROSS

- 2 A clear red chalcedony
- 5. One of the most common of minerals in the continental crust
- 7. an opaque red variety of cryptocrystalline quartz
- 8. the chemical formula for quartz
- 9. _____ quartz is a brown type of quartz
- 11. the name of a group of silicates made of chalcedony.
- 13. a purple variety of quartz
- 14. a yellow variety of quartz

DOWN

- 1. crystals are only visible with magnification
- 2. one of the cryptocrystalline varieties of quartz, the mineral in agates

3. a green variety of cryptocrystalline quartz
4. a chatoyant gemstone containing asbestos
6. mechanical pressure generates electrical charge
10. a black and white banded variety of cryptocrystalline

Via FGMS Chips 5/14

The Extraordinary Qualities of Ordinary Stones

As compiled by the Roman writer, Pliny the Elder (23 AD-79 AD)

- † Eyed Agate will ward off the Evil Eye. No Whammy's if you wear one.
- † Carrying an arrow-head will ward off lightning.
- † Moss Agate worn as a gem will prevent spider or scorpion bites.
- † Solid color Agate worn by a wrestler makes him invincible.
- † An Amber Necklace will prevent colds, asthma and whooping cough.
- † Wearing an Amethyst will prevent a drinker from getting stoned.
- † An Amethyst Necklace, if strung on a baboon's hair or a swallow's feather, is positive protection against poison.
- † An Iris Agate gem protects the wearer against wild beasts.
- † Jet worn as a gem protects against all forms of witchcraft - except of course, falling in love.
- † Alabaster & Rock Salt, powdered together and washed down with water, will cure a toothache.
- † A Garnet worn by anyone protects against nightmares.
- † Sharks Teeth, worn as a gem, assures success in courtship.
- † Coral worn as a gem protects the wearer from lightning and storms.
- † Bloodstone worn by a warrior makes him invisible to his enemies.
- † Wearing an Ammonite as a gem assures dreams which foretell the future.
- † Jewels of either Hematite or Red Jasper assures success in either war or law suits.
- † But don't wear Mutilated quartz as a gem - it will make your hair fall out.
- † Moss Agate burned under a tree will assure that the axe used to chop down the tree will not become dull.
- † Jet, if burned, will drive away snakes. Boiled in wine it cures toothaches; mixed with wax and burned cures scrofula(?).
- † Still and all, there is nothing better than a clove of Garlic, installed above your front door, to ward off the Evil Eye and all Witches.

Researched by Floyd Oles in Puget Sounder, via Contact Zone 3/83; via Glacial Drifter 0/1984, via Glacial Drifter, 8/15

On The Lap By John Pesch

Looking for something new? Try “K2 Blue”. At our last rock show a friend of mine purchased a stone from one of the vendors and asked if I could re-shape and set it in a bracelet for her. The stone, marketed as K2 Blue in lapidary circles, is also known as K2 granite, K2 jasper and K2 agate among other things.

Definitely not a jasper or an agate, K2 Blue is a white to gray granite found near the base of (you guessed it) the world’s second highest mountain K2 (aka Mount Godwin Austen). What makes this material unique and desirable to the lapidary are the bright blue orbs (or spherules) of what is believed to be azurite. **Figure 1** below is a slab of some rough that was cut by Bill Oakley from the lapidary club.



Figure 1

I recall first seeing the material around 2011 or 2012 and as you might suspect it has raised a lot of interest as well as questions. There has been much discussion by the “mineral heads” and “chem heads” as to the composition of these little blue spots since the formation of

azurite is inconsistent with the conditions that granite is formed under. Some have even speculated that the material might be dyed or irradiated. I believe the latest is that someone was able to isolate some of the blue material and run Energy Dispersive Spectroscopy (EDS) and X-Ray Diffraction (ERD) analyses which confirmed the material as azurite.

I found the blue dots to be somewhat 3-dimensional and scattered

randomly throughout the rock. This would seem to me to dispel the dyed or irradiated possibility. Regardless, for lapidary work, the material is easy to cut and quite striking when finished. Even with the differences in mineral hardness (quartz, felspar, azurine, biotite?) I found very little undercutting. You do need to be careful not to cut completely through the azurite spots as this could ruin the composition of your piece (no guarantee what is beneath). I found that polishing with diamond compound up to 50,000 did a great job. **Figure 2** is a picture of the finished and set stone.



Figure 2

Via Rock Talk 8/15

Answers to crossword on page10

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Upcoming CFMS Gem Shows

Sept 26-27 DOWNEY, CA. Delvers Gem & Mineral Society
Elks Lodge, 11233 Woodruff Avenue
Hours: Sat 9 - 5; Sun 9 - 4

Sept 30 - YUCCA VALLEY, CA. Hi-Desert Rockhounds
Oct 4 Sportsman's Club of Joshua Tree
Hours: 9 - 6 daily
Website: www.jtsportsmansclub.com/gem.html

Oct 3-4 BORON, CA. Mojave Mineralogical Society
Boron Park, 12000 Boron Avenue
Hours: 9 - 4 daily

Oct 3-4 VISTA, CA. Vista Gem & Mineral Society
Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum
2040 North Santa Fe Avenue
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
Website: www.vistarocks.org

Oct 10-11 TRONA, CA. Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society
SLG&MS Show Building, 13337 Main Street
Hours: Sat 7 - 5; Sun 7 - 4
Website: www.l.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub [Show Pages](#)

Oct 11 FALLBROOK, CA. Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Facility
123 West Alvarado Street
Hours: 9 - 4
Website: www.fgms.org

Oct 17 WEST HILLS, CA. Woodland Hills Rock Chippers
First United Methodist Church, 22700 Sherman Way
Hours: 10 - 5
Website: www.rockchippers.org [Show Page](#)

Oct 17-18 WHITTIER, CA. Whittier Gem & Mineral Society
Whittier Community Center
7630 Washington Avenue
Hours: 10 - 5 daily

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



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

Affiliations



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Meeting Date: September 24, 2015
Location: Whittier Community Center
(See page 4 for information)