



# ROCKONTEUR

VOLUME 27, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2017

## Words from the President:

April is famous for the being the month of transition, it is the time when the battle scars of winter fade and the fury of spring flowers come into bloom. April doesn't just bring San Luis Obispo County blossoms though, it brings us all sorts of things from *Out-of-this-World!* Rocks, gems, minerals, fossils, and meteorites from near and far, will grace the Paso Robles Event Center on April 22 & April 23. Our club's 26th Rock & Gem Show is gearing up to be one of the best ones yet, thanks to the hard work and dedication of so many of our club members.

There are still lots of things to be done -

- **Spread the word!** From Facebook, blogs, and forums to chats with your friends, neighbors, and coworkers - the possibilities are endless. "Are you going to the Rock & Gem Show this year?" is a great conversation starter.
- **Help set up!** Dave Bender has once again offered his transportation services for set up on April 21. Meet up at the shed at 8 a.m. to help load and move stuff, or at the fairgrounds to set up tables, chairs, etc. Refreshments will be provided - get in any special requests now!
- **Sign up to work some shifts at the show!** We really need help at admissions, the drawing, and the club information booth. Don't wait for me to call - email me your preferred location and hours - I'll get back to confirm! One hour is all it takes. May Day isn't for a few more weeks, but this is my call for help. (This is your ticket to both free parking and free admission!)
- **Clean out your growing piles of rock & other beauties!** We need rough rock for the gravel pit, rock/lapidary related prizes for the spin & win, and tumbled rock for the "free gift" to every child. Thank you in advance for your help!

Let's rock it!! Tina Clark

### 2017 CLUB OFFICERS

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## Santa Lucia RockHounds monthly public meetings:

General Meeting: 7pm Templeton Community Center  
April 17, 2017 601 Main Street, Templeton

Board Meeting: 7pm Rabobank Meeting Room  
May 9, 2017 1025 Las Tablas Road, Templeton

## Upcoming Program Speakers:

17 APR: **John Hollenbeck**, Program "The Geology, Fossils and Pumps of the Diamond Valley Lake Project"

15 MAY: Open - Possible "Show & Tell"

19 JUN: **Wayne Mills**, Program "Treasure Hunting via Metal Detecting"

17 JUL: **Kathy Clarke**, Program "Rock Balancing All Over America"

21 AUG: **Galen Moyer** and **Barbara Bilyeu**, Program "Thundereggs"

September: No public meeting

16 OCT: Open

20 NOV: Open

December: No public meeting

## SHOW PARKING: Please Read

How is this for a headache? The Fairgrounds **may or may not be** charging event attendees \$5 to park. They can decide to do this at any time during our event. The club will be issuing free parking permits to all dealers, exhibitors and club volunteers - whether it be for setup, breakdown, booth staffing, etc. If the fairgrounds charges money, you will need this permit before you arrive at the fairgrounds - so make sure you are on my list.

If you haven't signed up for something e-mail Tina Clark at [slockhounds@gmail.com](mailto:slockhounds@gmail.com) with your preference, or call her at (805)305-0246.

### 2017 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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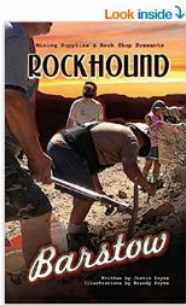
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## New Field Trip Guide:



**Rockhound Barstow California** Staple Bound – 2017

by Justin Zzyzx (Author), Brandy Zzyzx (Illustrator)

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Kindle

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Note: This item is only available from third-party sellers (see all offers).

Rockhound Barstow is your guide to collecting rocks and minerals in the Mojave Desert, halfway between Los Angeles and Las Vegas. Find out places where you can collect fine agates, onyx, and other precious lapidary material, as well as places to find crystals of celestite, coemanite, azurite, calcite and diopase! Filled with maps and an interactive map for your smartphone or PC, you will be treated to many wonderful places to search for mineral treasures near Barstow California

If you are interested in taking field trips in the Mojave Desert, there is a new field trip guide put out by Justin Zzyzx of Mining Supplies and Rock Shop in Hesperia, California. It's titled "Rockhound Barstow" and can probably be ordered by calling 760-244-9642. Since the booklet is more like a pamphlet, I won't be ordering it for the club library, but I encourage you to purchase your own copy for under \$10. The booklet includes directions to collecting

sites such as Opal Mountain, Mule Canyon, Lead Mountain, Alvord Mountain, the Cady Mountains, Newberry Nodules, and more. In addition, it contains a website you can access via cell phone to give you more information and pin-point locations when you are in the field. Good collecting tips are also included, in addition to where to eat in Barstow! Remember, though, that the Mojave Desert is not especially someplace you want to go during the summer, so keep this in mind for field trips during other seasons of the year. Gene and I recently bought a copy and took it with us on a tour of Mule Canyon with some family members from Placerville. We didn't have much time to collect on this trip, but do hope to go back to the desert in the future for some serious rockhounding, and we'll take this new field guide with us!

Barbara Bilyeu



Photos from our Mule Canyon trip

## METEORITES ON DISPLAY!

Club member Vince Pellerin will be sending a couple of his amazing (and large!) meteorites to be on exhibit at our show. Since they are both so big and will not fit into a case, they will be exhibited on a special platform. Vince is a serious meteorite collector and has done some fine displays at our show in the past. You won't want to miss seeing these great meteorites, so be sure to stop by the exhibit area during the show -- and tell your friends!! They are truly out of this world!





## Our 2017 Rock & Gem Show:

Countdown: 5 days



**Date:** [April 22 & 23](#)

**Show Theme:** "Out of This World"

**Dealer Chair:** [Dianne Brooke & Kim Noyes](#)

**Club Exhibit Chair:** [Barbara Bilyeu](#)

**Drawing/Raffle Chair:** [Mary Caparone](#)

**Site Chair:** [Tina Clark & Will Persall](#)

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## Upcoming California Rock and Gem Shows:

### APRIL

**April 22 - 23: PASO ROBLES, CA**  
Santa Lucia Rockhounds

**April 22 - 23: THOUSAND OAKS**  
Conejo Gem & Mineral Club

**April 29 - 30: LANCASTER, CA**  
Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral Society

### MAY

**May 5 - 7: YUCAIPA, CA**  
Yucaipa Valley Gem & Mineral Society

**May 6 - 7: JACKSON, CA**  
Amador County Gem & Mineral Society

**May 6 - 7, 2017: RENO, NV**  
Reno Gem & Mineral Society

**May 6 - 7: ANAHEIM, CA**  
Searchers Gem & Mineral Society

### JUNE

**June 2 - 4: LA HABRA, CA**  
North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society

**June 3 - 4: ESCONDIDO, CA**  
Palomar Gem & Mineral Club

**June 3 - 4, 2017: GLENDORA**  
Glendora Gems

**June 9-11, 2017: VENTURA, CA**  
CFMS-AFMS Show/Convention  
Hosted by Ventura County Gem & Mineral Society

**June 17 - 18: CAMBRIA, CA**  
San Luis Obispo Gem & Mineral Club

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## OUR PASO ROBLES LIBRARY EXHIBIT:

Be sure to stop by the Paso Robles Library across from City Park in Paso Robles to see our club display promoting our show! Doren Strane has graciously loaned us meteorites from his collection to enhance the "Out of This World" theme for this year's show, and they are on display. The rest of the exhibit features information on local and Central Coast mines, to reflect an accompanying theme of "Out of This Earth". Included are the Cuesta Ridge chromite mines (thank you, Don Pierce, for the great photos!), the cinnabar mines of the Central Coast, the Stone Canyon Coal Mine east of San Miguel, and the gold mines and placers of Los Burros and La Panza. Sorry, no gold specimens on display, but there will be real coal, chromite and cinnabar! The exhibit will be at the library for the month of April.

# Board Meeting Minutes:

March 7, 2017

Meeting commenced at 7:00 PM at the RaboBank Community Meeting Room in Templeton.

Roll Call: Board Members Present - Tina Clark, President; John Hollenbeck VP Programs; John McCabe, VP Education; Dianne Brooke, VP Communications; Cathy McIntosh, Secretary; Doren Strane, Senior Director; Galen Moyer, Junior Director

Board Members Absent: Will Persall, Treasurer

Committee Members - Cindy Chambers, Membership; David Nelson, Merchandise; Barbara Bilyeu, Museum Exhibits & Library; Mike Doherty, Historian

Guests - Gene Bilyeu

Meeting Minutes: February Board and General meetings were approved.

Correspondence: There was an email shared with the group from one past club member expressing dissatisfaction with the club g-mail nonmember distribution list purge. This is the only negative response the club received to this action. Gene Bilyeu shared a letter from a Rockhound Club in Arkansas that would like to do a pound per pound rock exchange. The letter will be published in the next newsletter.

Reports:

President- We have registered for our domain name. Transfer is in progress. Dianne Brooke agreed to oversee the transition and serve as the primary liaison with our new maintenance contractor. Barbara Bilyeu was appointed to the Board to fulfill position of Past President.

Treasurer - Income for the February meeting was Auction \$25, Drawing \$80, Membership \$308, Badge Fees \$3. (Figures presented by Tina on behalf of Will).

Programs - Our potential meteorite speaker for April declined instead John will talk about fossils discovered during construction of a dam by Hemit. May is open, June, July, and August have speakers.

Education - Barbara Bilyeu along with Frank Imhoff, will be leading the Junior Rockhounds at the March meeting to ready their exhibit for the Show and work toward their showmanship badge. A picture will be included in the display with their favorite rock, gem, mineral, or fossil. An announcement along these lines was asked to be included in the bulletin.

Membership - Two new member applications were approved - Anthony Renteria and his son Gavin and current member Leo Scholtz's child Presleigh.

Business/Rock Show:

Set up for the exhibits, vendor booths, club areas will be done on Friday the 21st from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. There will be a few changes to the layout of the event, with the entrance area, possibly located outside. This will give people the choice to look at the outside vendors first or enter the exhibit building.

Donations of polished rocks or semi polished rocks are needed for the children's free gift. Prizes are needed treasure hunt and spin and win. Galen agreed to look into the purchase of quartz points for the treasure hunt prizes. The gravel pit also needs donations, contact Galen 434-2532.

Volunteers are still needed for the entrance, club information booth and children's activity. A signup sheet with specific shifts will be circulated at the next general meeting.

Drawing - Doren acquired the grand prize gold nugget and will look into the second place meteorite. Vendors and club members will be asked to donate the prizes for the general drawing. The group agreed on pricing of 1 ticket for \$1, 6 tickets for \$5, & 13 tickets for \$10. Mary would like to do ticket presales. The group opted against doing this.

Volunteers needed to pick up exhibit case & other items from the club storage building. There will be no covered parking next to the exhibit building, you will be able to load & unload but must park elsewhere, a banner will be out there directing where to park.

Dealers for the show are still signing up.

Barbara is still looking to train someone to set up and take down the exhibits display. There is still time to contact her if you are interested in learning. Fourteen exhibit spaces have been reserved, David Nelson recently acquired some new fluorescents to be displayed at the show.

Show postcards have arrived for club members to distribute. North County schools have been contacted for approval to send postcards home with students. Show advertising includes CFMS, Paso Robles magazine, press releases, local radio spots, signs/banners, and flyers.

Meeting finished at 9:25pm.

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## **General Meeting Minutes:**

March 20th, 2017

Meeting commenced at 7:05 PM with the flag salute at the Community Center in Templeton.

Badge Check: Don Pierce. Sunshine Greeter: Eva Rodriguez - March birthdays - only her own, March Anniversaries - four. Guests: John Neil (program speaker) and Kevin Primm (heard about us from the recent Atascadero Library rock display presentation).

### Announcements:

Website/Facebook - We now own our club domain name. Thanks to Vince Pellerin for keeping our website updated during the transition. Check out our club's Facebook page and like and share it with your friends.

Field Trips - There is an upcoming San Simeon rock collecting trip planned. Don Pierce is making arrangements. Will be scheduled after the rock & gem show. Date and directions will be published in a future newsletter. Participants will have to sign a property owner required liability release waiver.

Membership - Cindy Chambers reported we have 122 members, 25 which are Junior Rockhounds.

### Rock & Gem Show:

April 22-23, theme is "Out of this World". We will have a presentation on astronomy by Richard Wade, and gold panning, metal detecting, bead making, and rock polishing demos.

Set up - Set up for the exhibits, vendor booths & club areas planned for Friday the 21st, 7am-7pm. Volunteers needed to pick up & put away the exhibit cases & other items at the club storage building (Friday morning & Sunday evening).

Dealers - Dianne Brooke & Kim Noyes are still receiving vendor applications for the show. There are currently are 21 vendors applications submitted with more on the way.

Hospitality - Doren Strane & Cathy McIntosh will be sharing the hospitality tasks (located next to club merchandise). Coffee & water will be available for club members along with snacks.

Alice Rodriguez will be the POC (point of contact) for the children's activities.

Postcards - Show postcards have arrived. Please take and distribute some. School postcards are in the works. We are waiting for school approvals and final count. There will be a bundling party (postcards are divided by the school, teacher and the number of students in each class). Date, time & location will be announced when the plans are made.

Yard signs, window displays & large banners have been updated, PICK UP a few yard signs & get them posted.

Other advertising - Show advertising to also include a New Times ad, Paso monthly magazine article, Radio spots on KPRL and possibly a few more stations.

Event Layout - might be some changes with the entrance area, possibly located outside in front giving attendees the chance to choose between indoor and outdoor activities first. The parking lot next to Estrella building is no longer available. There will be loading and unloading only.

Donations - polished rocks are needed for children's free entrance gift and items for the Spin 'n Win. Gravel pit needs donations of rough rock, contact Galen Moyer. Raffle prizes are needed, contact Mary

Caparone. Grand prize is a gold nugget, second prize is a meteorite slab display. Vendors will also be asked to donate prizes.

Volunteers - still needed particularly at the entrance, club booth and drawing. Signup sheets with specific shifts were passed around.

Junior Rockhounds: Barbara Bilyeu, Frank Imhoff and Karen Clark called the Jr Rockhounds to work on their show exhibit. This will count for their showmanship badge. JR Rockhounds brought their favorite rock, gem, mineral or fossil to display.

Guest Rocks: David Nelson recently acquired some new florescent rocks & you will be able see them at the show. Also available at the show will be new merchandise (t-shirts, sweatshirts, collecting bags) along with more of our best selling merchandise & some older merchandise at a reduced price.

Program: John Hollenbeck is scheduled for April, the May meeting is tentatively planned as a show and tell. John Neil, General Manager of the Atascadero Mutual Water Company covered the geology and issues surrounding the north county's ground water basins (505,000 acres or 790 square miles) from Santa Margarita to Bradley.

Meeting ended at 8:30 pm.

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## Minutiae:

**The Rockonteur** is the official monthly newsletter of the **Santa Lucia Rockhounds**. It is an independent publication containing news and information consistent with the mission of SLR and of interest to its members.

Circulation is approximately 90 copies per issue.

**Newsletter Editor/Publisher – Laurie Pudwill**

**SLRockhounds@gmail.com**

**Member submissions** are encouraged and may be made by email or snail mail. We reserve the right to accept or refuse submissions and advertising that, in our opinion, do not reflect the standards of this newsletter, or are inconsistent with the objectives and purpose of the Santa Lucia Rockhounds. Submissions may be edited for content, grammar, spelling, punctuation, and length without consent.

**Rockonteur** is not a creative writing outlet. However, all submissions that may be of interest to its readers and reflect the standards of the newsletter, will be considered for publication at the discretion of the editor or publisher.

**Deadline:** All submissions are due by midnight of the last day of the month but early submissions are highly appreciated and strongly encouraged. The publisher reserves the right to accept, reject or hold-over late submissions.

**Santa Lucia Rockhounds Website:** [www.slockhounds.org](http://www.slockhounds.org)

**Webmaster – Atascadero Web Designs**

[webmaster@slockhounds.org](mailto:webmaster@slockhounds.org)

**Santa Lucia Rockhounds, Inc.** is a charitable group organized as a California non-profit public benefit corporation. The specific purpose of the group is to promote the study of mineralogy, including (but not limited to) the fields of lapidary, metal working, jewelry design & fabrication, geology and field trips for collecting and related history. We encourage learning and good citizenship in a congenial atmosphere. We respect both private and public property and we strive to protect natural resources.

**Annual Dues** are \$20 for the first adult and \$8 each for every additional member in the same household. Dues are payable between 1 September and 31 December, in person at the meetings or by mail. Members in good standing receive the Rockonteur by mail or email.

We are a member of the **California Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CFMS)** and affiliated with the **American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS)**. **Santa Lucia Rockhounds, Inc.** is also a member of the **American Lands Access Association (ALAA)**.



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