

Rockonteur

Volume 29, Issue 12

December 2019



NAME THAT ROCK

The banner photo (above) changes each month - can you identify what type of rock it is? Answer is on last page but don't peek until you've tried to guess!

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*Photos from 2018 Dinner
by Amy Phillips*

Please join our annual
Holiday Dinner/Board Member Induction
Monday, December 16th at 6:30pm
Culinary Arts Academy in Paso Robles

Tri-tip & salmon buffet

RSVP before December 13th to reserve a plate.

For those interested in the a gift exchange, please bring something rock-related (\$10 limit).

POC: Mary Caparone



Santa Lucia Rockhounds (SLR)

is a non-profit public benefit corporation with the specific purpose to promote the study of mineralogy, including (but not limited to) the fields of lapidary, metal working, jewelry design and fabrication, geology and conducts field trips for collecting and education. We encourage learning and good citizenship in a congenial atmosphere. We respect both private and public property, and we strive to protect natural resources. Meetings are held during the third Monday of each month, except December, at the Templeton Community Center.

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

Annual dues are \$20 for the first adult and \$8 each for every additional member of the same household. Annual dues are payable between August 1 and the third Monday of December, in person at Club meetings or by mail to P.O. Box 1672, Paso Robles, CA 93447.

The Rockonteur

This is the official monthly newsletter of the SLR and an independent publication containing news and information consistent with the mission of SLR and of interests to its members. Circulation is approximately 100 copies per issue.

Member submissions are encouraged and may be sent to the editor. We reserve the right to accept or refuse submissions inconsistent with the objectives and purpose of the SLR. Submissions may be edited as needed without consent. Deadline are due by midnight of the last day of the month but early submissions are highly appreciated and strongly encouraged.

Newsletter Editor/Publisher:

Amy Phillips | amyphillips18@hotmail.com

Website: www.slrockhounds.org

Birthstones



ZIRCON, TANZANITE AND TURQUOISE

These gemstones range from the oldest on Earth, to one of the first mined and used in jewelry, to one of the most recently discovered. All three are relatively inexpensive, but their beauty rivals even precious gemstones. Colorless zircon is a convincing replacement for diamond, tanzanite often substitutes sapphire, and turquoise is unmatched in its hue of robin's egg blue.

Tanzanite is the exquisite blue-purple variety of the mineral zoisite that is only found in one part of the world. Named for its limited geographic origin in Tanzania, tanzanite has quickly risen to popularity since its relatively recent discovery.

Zircon is an underrated gemstone that's often confused with synthetic cubic zirconia due to similar names and shared use as diamond simulants. Few people realize that zircon is a spectacular natural gemstone available in a variety of colors.

Admired since ancient times, turquoise is known for its distinct color, which ranges from powdery blue to greenish robin's egg blue. It's one of few minerals to lend its name to anything that resembles its striking color.

Learn more: <https://www.americangemsociety.org/page/decemberbirthstones>

FINAL Words from President Mary Caparone

Rain, is here and when it rains, new rocks will appear and more gifts for rockhounds to discover!

This past year has been a busy, fun-filled and exciting time for me. We reached our goals - a successful 28th Annual Rock Show, awarded three Scholarships to grateful students, continued the Junior Rockhound activities attracting a growing membership, made many memorable field trips, and had interesting monthly guest speakers.

Thanks to all who have volunteered throughout the year. The incoming Board Officers and Committee Chairs will need everyone's support.

Our annual Holiday Dinner/Board Member Induction will be on Monday, December 16th @ 6:30pm dinner @ 7pm. The dinner is a tri-tip & salmon buffet and will be held at the Culinary Arts Academy in Paso Robles. RSVP before December 13th to reserve a plate. We'll also have a gift exchange - for those interested, please bring something rock-related (\$10 limit) if you want to play the gift exchange. Call me at 805-610-5281 if you have any questions about the dinner.

The Brewen's tailgate party was well attended. It was a good day to spend time with members and to purchase gifts for giving. If you missed our last meeting, Lisa King presented a slide show presentation of her first trip to Quartzsite. Contact her if you would like to go in January.

Please welcome our 2020 Board Officers; President Kim Noyes; VP/ Senior Director Lisa King; VP Communications Amy Phillips assisted by Don Barton; Treasurer Tina Russell; Secretary Jacque Hughes; VP Education John McCabe; VP Membership Kathy Clarke, assisted by Karen Hilchey; Junior Director Caleb Willis; Past President Tina Clark.

We are seeking Committee Chairs for Programs, Hospitality and Field trips. If you can help fill in these categories, please contact the incoming president Kim Noyes.

Enjoy your holidays with family and friends. Stay healthy and safe. Thanks for the memories.

Rock on, Mary

<https://wallpaperaccess.com/rainy-day>

CLUB MEETINGS & EVENTS

Dec. 2 @ 7pm **Board Meeting**

Mechanics Bank Meeting Room, Templeton

Dec. 16 @ 7pm **Annual Holiday Dinner- Board Induction Meeting**

Culinary Arts Academy, Paso Robles
Arrive by 6:30pm for seats and
number for gift exchange

GIFT EXCHANGE RULES

- Optional game
 - \$10 limit
- Only TWO steals
- 30 seconds to pick or steal a gift
(this will be timed so we are not at the
event past bed time!)



OTHER EVENTS & INFO

Jan. 18-19

Tule Gem & Mineral Society Show
Exeter Veteran's Memorial Building
324 N. Kaweah Ave., Exeter, CA
www.tulegem.com

Rock shows listing:

<https://www.cfmsinc.org/>

Rockhounding Sites

<http://www.rockhoundtimes.com/collecting-site-guides.html>

Rockhounding and other info:

https://www.pinterest.com/firehotrod789/bucket-list/?utm_campaign=rdboards&utm_term=4e30a985c471499d9f6ab1ef52134057&utm_content=234116949318303302&utm_source=31&utm_term=3&utm_medium=2004

NOTES FROM DIRECTORS MEETING at Visalia, 11/9/2019

Submitted by Wayne Mills, SLR

43 of ~100 societies were represented.

Society members who had passed in 2019 were recognized.

The June **2020 CFMS Show** is in Lodi. The **2021 CFMS Show** will be in Antelope Valley probably one of the last two weeks in April.

Slate of Officers for 2020 was elected: Juanita Pardun (President), Jim Barton (2nd Vice President), Kimberly Fiala (Secretary), Bob Rush (Treasurer).

All-American Club - The 2018 Entry from Santa Lucia Rockhounds will be automatically re-submitted per Tony Fender.

OMS is in the Central Region for **Club Cases**. Contact is Bob Papac to get a CFMS Case at our show. Cases North has a working volcano exhibit!

Junior Activities - Jim Brace Thompson announced that he had awarded 15,040 badges in this program including 20 Jr. Rockhounds who have 10 or more badges.

There is a **Judges Seminar** in Houston, Texas in April CFMS wants 15 folks from California to attend - anyone interested?

Membership—recommended to have a show table manned through-out the show. A small club got 30 new members this way. Also recommended the Bulletin Editor forward the CFMS newsletter (electronically) to all members.

The Paradise Club is back up and running after a horrible fire. They thanked CFMS for their generous assistance in their recovery.

Collecting - CFMS has a MOU with BLM Barstow (?) to keep Wiley Wells Clean in exchange for keeping the area open to Rockhounds. Jason Barniske has reopened Opal Hill and is charging \$10/person/day to mine Fire Agate there. jbarniske@yahoo.com.

2019 OFFICERS

President
Mary Caparone
805-610-5281
mary@caparone.com

Senior Director
Mary Beatty
805-466-4917
runrungranny@gmail.com

VPs Membership
Kathy Clarke
ladykatephotos@sbcglobal.net
Karen Hilchey
805-296-4183

VP Education
John McCabe
805-464-0528
mccabewest@aol.com

VP Communications
Amy Phillips
805-269-4194
amyphillips18@hotmail.com

Secretary
Rachael Denny
805-472-9036
stormdragon71@netscape.net

Treasurer
Laurie Wylie
805-466-7864
drtom@fix.net

Junior Director
Lisa King
805-467-0062
anoldcow-hand@gmail.com

Past President
Tina Clark
805-305-0246
Tdkclark@sbcglobal.net

2020 INCOMING OFFICERS

President
Kim Noyes
805-610-0603
kimnoyes@gmail.com

Senior Director
Lisa King
805-467-0062
anoldcow-hand@gmail.com

VPs Membership
Kathy Clarke
ladykatephotos@sbcglobal.net
Assisted by
Karen Hilchey
805-296-4183

VP Education
John McCabe
805-464-0528
mccabewest@aol.com

VP Communications
Don Barton
805-434-1557
dsbarton@charter.net

Secretary
Jacque Hughes
559-359-5016
Jacque93257@yahoo.com

Treasurer
Tina Russell
831-254-2115
stuartina@att.net

Junior Director
Caleb Willis
541-274-9071
Calebwillis11@gmail.com

Past President
Tina Clark
805-305-0246
Tdkclark@sbcglobal.net

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Auctioneer
Pete Duckworth
805-467-3413
Jasperjunkie1@yahoo.com

CFMS Director
Wayne Mills
805-481-3495
wwmills50@hotmail.com

Drawings
Deb Mecham

Field Trips
Richard Smitten
(805) 440-1496

Historian
Mark Nelson
mnelsonair@aol.com

Hospitality
VACANT

Library/Museum
Barbara Bilyeu
805-434-2708
bbilyeu2001@yahoo.com

Merchandise
VACANT

Newsletter Editor/
Publisher
Amy Phillips

Program
Coordinator
VACANT

Rock & Gem Show
Chair
Kim Noyes
805-610-0603



*General Meeting Minutes
Continued from page 7*

The brag table featured some arrowheads made by Ralph Lawless, a piece of petrified whale bone from Mike Doherty's estate, and a thunder egg found by Kim Noyes. These last two items are free to a good home.

Wayne Mills presented the A.F.M.S. Rockhound of the Year award for 2018 to Galen Moyer, and the 2019 award to John McCabe.

At 8:22 P.M., the meeting adjourned for refreshments, the drawing, and the silent auction.

Wishing you a very pleasant holiday season,

I am respectfully yours,
Rachael Denny,
Secretary

NOVEMBER 4, 2019

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The meeting opened at 7 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Mary Caparone, Tina Clark, John McCabe, Rachael Denny, Lisa King, Mary Beatty, Barbara and Gene Bilyeu, Kim Noyes, Wayne Mills, Don Barton and Tina Russell.

Correspondence: the Club received the A.F.M.S. and C.F.M.S. newsletters, a note of verification from McDaniel Insurance that the insurance has been paid, and a bill for the Post Office box.

Tina Clark made a motion to approve the minutes of last month's Board and general meetings with a minor correction. John McCabe seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved by the Board.

Treasurer. Laurie Wylie was unable to attend the meeting, but she has done the Club's taxes.

Juniors. John McCabe reported that a number of the Junior members have earned badges, and that the scholarship applications will be sent out in January.

Incoming board. After some discussion, Kim Noyes agreed to serve as President next year, so the slate of officers that will be presented to the membership at the general meeting is as follows: President-Kim Noyes, Vice-President and Senior Director-Lisa King, Vice-President of Communications Amy Phillips with the assistance of Don Barton, Vice-President of Education John McCabe, Treasurer Tina Russell, Vice-President of Membership Kathy Clarke with the assistance of Karen Hilchey, Junior Director Caleb Willis, Secretary Jacque Hughes, and Past President Tina Clark.

Griselle donations. Kim Noyes reported that at the Griselle's property, all the rocks are off the hill. There are still some fossils on the property, and Alice may decide to keep some of them, with the Club taking the rest. There is a lot of material, much of which still needs cleaning, and all of which will need to get into storage before it rains. We need to look at whether we

have sufficient storage space, and if not, consider what might be done to make more space available.

At this time, donations of flat boxes to hold rocks will be most welcome. There was some discussion of sending a thank you letter to the Griselle's for their generous donation, and it was generally agreed that they should be invited to the Club's holiday party. Thanks are also due to Kim Noyes, Gene and Barbara Bilyeu, Lisa King, Caleb Willis, Kathy Clarke, John McCabe and Ernie Perlich for working to bring the rocks in off the hill.

Program. The featured speaker at this month's general meeting will be Lisa King, who is planning to give a presentation on her first trip to Quartzsite.

Cliff Brewen will hold his annual tailgate sale on Saturday, November 23rd; and the Club's holiday party is scheduled for Monday, December 16th, at the Culinary Arts Academy. Julie Cannon will collect funds for dinner reservations plus we could use some assistance with the decorations, and the gift exchange.

Wayne Mills will be attending the C.F.M.S. meeting in Visalia on Friday, November 8th. He will probably need a hotel room and will send the bill to Laurie Wylie. The A.F.M.S.' submission deadline for the All-American Club award is March 3rd, 2020, and the C.F.M.S. deadline is January 15th. The Oxnard show is scheduled for December 21-22, and next year's C.F.M.S. show will take place in Lodi in June.

The next board meeting will take place on December 2nd, and incoming and outgoing Board members are encouraged to attend. Tina Clark reminded everyone to use blind carbon copies when sending e-mails to the whole Club. The e-mail addresses of non-renewing members should be removed from the list.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 P.M.
Submitted by Rachael Denny, Secretary

NOVEMBER 18, 2019

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

The meeting opened at 7 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance. The badge check was carried out, guests were introduced, and Charlie Beaman led the singing of "Happy Birthday" and "Happy Anniversary" to the Rockhounds who celebrate these events in November and December.

The next Board meeting will take place on Monday, December 2nd, at Mechanic's Bank (formerly Robobank) in Templeton, at 7 P.M., and all current and incoming Board members are encouraged to attend.

The following slate of officers for 2020 was presented to the membership for approval: President-Kim Noyes, Vice-President/Senior Director Lisa King; Vice-President of Communications Don Barton, Vice-President of Education John McCabe; Vice-President of Membership Kathy Clarke, assisted by Karen Hilchey; Treasurer Tina Russell; Secretary-Jacqui Hughes; Junior Director Caleb Willis, and Past President Tina Clark. Wayne Mills made a motion to acclaim the slate of officers, and the motion was approved by the members present. Mary Caparone thanked Lisa King and Tina Clark for their efforts in putting together the slate of officers.

Cliff Brewen's tailgate party is scheduled for Saturday, November 23rd at Cliff's house from 8 A.M. to 2 P.M., and the Club's annual holiday dinner will take place at the Culinary Arts Academy in Paso Robles on Monday, December 16th, starting at 6:30 P.M. The deadline to RSVP for the holiday dinner is December 13th, and anyone who still needs to RSVP should contact Mary Caparone. Anyone wishing to participate in the gift exchange should bring a rock-related gift worth approximately \$10.00, no wine, please. Amy Phillips will assist with the gift exchange, and Roberta Hall and Patti Anderson will help with the decorations.

Kathy Clarke reported that there were 46 members in attendance, and urged everyone who has not yet renewed their membership to do so as soon as possible.

John McCabe presented Rocks and Minerals badges to Sarah and Charlie Beaman, who are now qualified for their Official Rockhound certificates, which they received, along with a rock identification set, a hammer, and some spheres. Lexie, Sam, Savannah and Dawn also received Rocks and Minerals badges, and Dawn and Kaedin received their Field Trip badges.

Deb Mecham reported that she needs someone to fill in for her and run the drawing when she is unable to be there, and Ralph Lawless volunteered to help her.

Wayne Mills attended the recent Federation Director's meeting in Visalia, and these are some of the highlights that he shared: Next year's C.F.M.S. show will take place in Lodi in June, and the 2021 show will take place in Antelope Valley in April. The A.F.M.S. Judge's Seminar will take place in Houston, and they would like to have some people there from California. The Paradise club is back in business, thanks to C.F.M.S. There is an agreement with the BLM that Wiley Wells will be kept as a rockhounding area in exchange for keeping it clean, and Jason Barnisky has re-opened Opal Hill.

The featured speaker for the evening was Lisa King, who gave a very nice presentation "What's Quartzsite?" The presentation was to answer the question asked by many new members. Her first visit to Quartzsite, taking in some of the rock shows and sales for which the community is famous, with side trips to other places of interest in the area, including Wiley's Well, and the Hi Jolly monument. Lisa also brought along a nice display of thunder eggs.

Kim Noyes reported that the Club is processing two tons of rock donated by the Griselle family. Alice and Glen have been invited to attend the holiday dinner, in appreciation of their gift.

Continued on page 5



P.O. Box 1672

Paso Robles, CA 93447

TURQUOISE

Unlike many other gems, turquoise is opaque rather than translucent. Its blue-green color can vary from sky blue or greenish blue to pale green or greenish gray. Bluer stones are considered more valuable and contain more copper. Turquoise is sometimes crisscrossed by “matrix”—a pattern of mineral lines formed by the surrounding stone—which can reduce its value. Source: <https://www.almanac.com/content/december-birthstone-color-and-meaning>