



# Rockonteur

The Monthly Newsletter of the Santa Lucia Rockhounds

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## President's Message

Greetings Fellow Rockhounds,

The premier rock show of the central coast, our own "Treasures of the Earth" rock show is a now a wrap. By all measures, the show was a smashing success. There is a reason for this: over 54 club members gave up some of their free time to help make the show a success.

The club membership roll is at approximately 108 people so that means 50% of the club members participated. That is a remarkable statistic. Virtually every member of your club's Board of Directors and the Show Committee put in three solid days of effort. Many other members did just the same.

I would like to give out a special "shout out" to three junior members

who all went above and beyond the call of duty: Addy Adams, Stella Adams, and Emmerly Walls.

At present, I am away in Bakersfield hunting sharks teeth and other Miocene fossils so I am going to make this brief. At our next general meeting, we'll share all of the details of the show.

**Rock on!**

**Ted Gray**

**El Presidente, Santa Lucia Rockhounds**



P.O. Box 1672  
Paso Robles, CA 93447



Photos by Ted Gray

# 2026 Board Members & Committee Chairs

## Board Members

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and  
Heidi Adams  
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mrs.cpt.adams@gmail.com

## Upcoming Events

### May Board Meeting

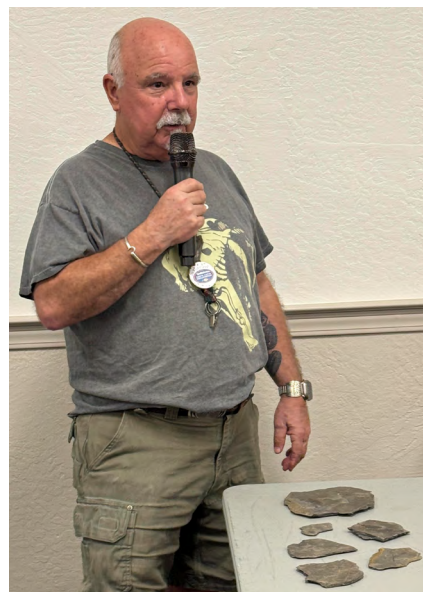
Monday, May 11th, Templeton Community Center, 7 p.m.

### May Junior Rockhound Meeting

The May Junior Rockhounds Meeting will be held Monday, May 18th at 6 p.m. at the Templeton Community Center. They will be working on the Collections badge.

### May General Meeting

The May General Meeting will be held Monday, May 18th at the Templeton Community Center at 7 p.m.



Photos by Beth Walls

# April General Meeting Highlights

**Beth Walls, SLR**

Our April general meeting featured a lively Show & Tell that brought curiosity and conversation to the forefront.

Members shared their favorite finds, each with its own story.

As each item made its way around the room, so did the knowledge, with presenters explaining where their rocks came from, how they formed, and what made them special.

It was a great reminder that rockhounding is as much about community as it is about discovery.

The Show & Tell sparked questions, connections, and a deeper appreciation for the stories hidden in every stone.

*Photos by Beth Walls*



# General Meeting Highlights (continued)

Black Hills S. Dakota  
Specimens from a Pegmatite Mine 6 mi. E. of Custer, S.D.  
"SIMPLE" Pegmatites usually feature only Quartz, Feldspar, Mica & Black-Tourmaline, and lack the rare gems of Lithia Pegmatites. Mined for the Feldspars, these attractive specimens were found on the mine dumps. Thousands of small to medium pegmatites are found in the Precambrian rocks of the S. Dak. Black Hills



**Below:** Our two rock show door prizes given out to a lucky winner each day of the rock show. Saturday's on the left, Sunday's on the right.



Photos by Beth Walls

# General Meeting Highlights (continued)



# April Junior Rockhound Highlights

**Beth Walls, SLR**

During their April meeting, the Junior Rockhounds explored a side of geology that felt almost like magic—the special effects hidden inside rocks.

The Juniors investigated fascinating properties like fluorescence, watching certain minerals glow under ultraviolet light, and magnetism, discovering which rocks respond to a magnetic pull. There were even moments of surprise as some specimens revealed unexpected colors, textures, or reactions when handled or tested.

Through hands-on exploration, the young rockhounds learned that rocks are far more than what they appear to be on the surface.

Each activity sparked curiosity and excitement, turning simple observations into memorable discoveries.

By the end of the meeting, the Juniors walked away with a deeper understanding of how unique and dynamic rocks can be—and a renewed sense of wonder for the natural world beneath their feet.



*Photos by Beth Walls*

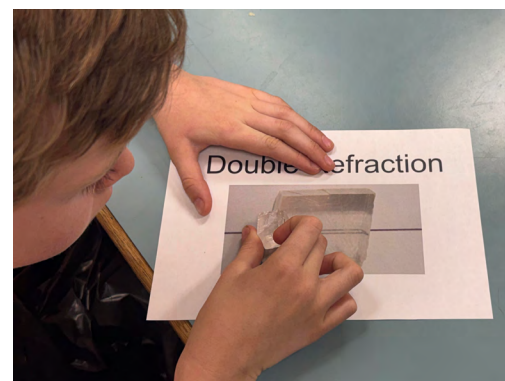


# Junior Rockhound Highlights (continued)



When ordinary stones reveal extraordinary secrets—glowing under UV light, responding to magnets, and surprising us with hidden colors and reactions.

These hands-on discoveries showed our Junior Rockhounds that rocks aren't just something you see... they're something you experience.



Photos by Beth Walls

**Below:** The Hourglass selenite crystal is the official state crystal of Oklahoma. They are found only on the salt plains of Oklahoma, a unique 11,000-acre geological area. The salt plains were formed by repeated flooding by sea water millions of years ago. Selenite is a crystallized form of gypsum that can take on a great variety of crystal forms and shapes. Crystals take on the characteristics of their environment - iron oxide in the soil gives the hourglass crystals their chocolate brown color.

Source: <https://statesymbolsusa.org>

## SPECIAL EFFECTS

**Phantoms**

Phantom is a crystal within a crystal. A phantom is created when crystal growth is interrupted and later resumes. It is similar to looking at the rings of a tree trunk, which record periods of active growth and dormancy. When looking at a phantom, you are seeing a smaller younger version of the bigger crystal you're holding.

**Inclusions**

An inclusion may be any material solid, liquid, or gaseous found inside a mineral. Inclusions can include tiny garnets, or tiny pyrite crystals. It can include clusters of needlelike crystals. A variety of gypsum known as "hourglass selenite" from Oklahoma is well known for inclusions of clay and sand in the form of an hourglass figure.

**TV STONE**

Ulexite is composed of long, thin crystals that might grow as fluffy, cotton-like puffs or, more commonly as compact, blocky masses of fibrous veins, with crystals tightly aligned side-by-side.

The individual crystals making up the block of ulexite act like fiberoptic cables. Each transmits light from the bottom surface of the stone to the top surface, this produces the optical property that earned ulexite its nickname of "TV stone."

2.0kg Oklahoma Hourglass Selenite (Photo: Natural...)



# 2026 Rock and Gem Shows

*Mark your calendars!*

**May 1-2, 2026**

**Yucaipa, CA**

**Yucaipa Valley Gem & Mineral Society**

Adams Street and Yucaipa Boulevard,  
Yucaipa, California 92399

Hours: Friday 12 Noon – 9 PM, Saturday  
6 PM – 10 PM

The YVGMS show is held along with the city of Yucaipa's Music and Arts Festival. Our 60+ year old annual show features dozens of vendors from across the country offering a variety of jewelry, gems, minerals, fossils and related arts and crafts. The club offers demonstrations of lapidary techniques, a kids booth with games and prizes, geodes and the opportunity to crack it open, a raffle with chances to win a variety of prizes, and of course, gems and jewelry for sale. Proceeds go towards keeping our non-profit club and workshop up and running as well as towards funding our scholarship offerings.

Contact: [djvintage57@gmail.com](mailto:djvintage57@gmail.com)

Website: [yvgms.org](http://yvgms.org)

**May 1-3, 2026**

**Vista, CA**

**Vista Gem and Mineral Society**

Antique Gas and Steam Engine  
Museum, 2040 North Santa Fe, Vista,  
CA 92083

Hours: Friday & Saturday: 10am-5pm;  
Sunday, 10-4

Spring Gem & Mineral Jewelry Show.  
Show will have finished products, slabs  
and specimens. Vendors can check in  
on Thursday night. Overnight camping  
included with booth rental. Always  
open for more vendors.

Contact: [info@vistarocks.org](mailto:info@vistarocks.org)

Website: [vistarocks.org](http://vistarocks.org)

**May 9, 2026**

**Roseville, CA**

**Roseville Rock Rollers Gem &  
Mineral Society**

The Grounds, 200 Corporation Yard  
Road, Lot L, Roseville, CA 95678

Hours: 9am-3pm

Annual RRR Tailgater. This is a free,  
family-friendly event. Featuring two  
dozen seasoned vendors selling  
specimens, gems, jewelry, fossils,  
petrified wood, minerals, lapidary  
supplies, and more—all at tailgater  
prices! Vendors must be pre-  
registered, contact chairperson for  
info.

Contact: [irocksac@gmail.com](mailto:irocksac@gmail.com) / 916-  
798-0235

Website: [rockrollers.com](http://rockrollers.com)

**June 27-28, 2026**

**Culver City, CA**

**Culver City Rock & Mineral Club**

Veterans Memorial Auditorium,  
4117 Overland Ave., Culver City, CA  
90230

Hours: Saturday 10 AM – 6 PM,  
Sunday 10 AM – 5 PM

This year's featured gemstone is  
Malachite, which is celebrated for  
its rich green colors and natural  
beauty. Admission and parking  
are free, making it a perfect outing  
for families, hobbyists, and gem  
enthusiasts.

Contact: [culvercityrocks35@gmail.com](mailto:culvercityrocks35@gmail.com)

Website: [https://culvercityrocks.org/  
fiesta/](https://culvercityrocks.org/fiesta/)

**July 31, August 1-2, 2026 -**

**Nipomo, CA**

**Orcutt Mineral Society**

Nipomo High School, 525 North  
Thompson Avenue, Nipomo,  
California 93444

Hours: Friday & Saturday, 10 am to 5  
pm; Sunday, 10 am to 4 pm  
Orcutt Mineral Society's 58th Rock &  
Gem Show

60 outside and 12 inside dealers;  
kids booth and food trucks.

Contact: [nipomocowgirl55@yahoo.com](mailto:nipomocowgirl55@yahoo.com) / 805-929-2783

**August 1-2, 2026**

**Roseville, CA**

**Roseville Rock Rollers Gem &  
Mineral Society**

Roebbelen Event Center within  
@the Grounds, 700 Event Center  
Drive, Roseville, CA 95678

Hours: Saturday 10am-5pm

Sunday 10am-4pm

Annual show; Roseville Rock  
Rollers Gem and Mineral Society.  
\$10, Kids - 12 and under Free  
- Venue Parking fee; It's the  
Rock Rollers 63rd annual big  
show. Over 80 vendors, inside/  
out, featuring: Crystals, Fossils,  
Minerals from around the world,  
Jewelry, Amethyst, Gemstones,  
Opal, Beads, Meteorites, Demo's,  
Mineral ID, Rock Auctions,  
Special area for Kids. NorCal's  
largest show, ccontact Gloria  
P Marie, (916) 216-1114; Email:  
[gloriarosevillerockrollers@gmail.com](mailto:gloriarosevillerockrollers@gmail.com)

Website: [rockrollers.com](http://rockrollers.com)

**August 15-16, 2026**

**Tehachapi, CA**

**Tehachapi Valley Gem & Mineral  
Society**

Tehachapi Senior Center, 500 East  
F Street, Tehachapi, CA

Hours: Saturday 9 AM – 5 PM,  
Sunday 9 AM – 4 PM

Free; Gem, mineral, and jewelry  
show with amazing vendors,  
family activities, opals and fine  
stones. Handmade jewelry. Raffles,  
geodes and so much more;  
contact Ronald Myrick, (661) 972-  
1117; Email: [travis462@outlook.com](mailto:travis462@outlook.com)

Website: [tvgms.net](http://tvgms.net)

**August 22-23, 2026**

**Escondido, CA**

**Palomar Gem & Mineral Club**

California Center for the Arts, The  
Museum, 340 N. Escondido Blvd.,  
Escondido, CA

Hours: Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM,  
Sunday 10 AM – 4 PM

9,000 square feet of faceted  
stones, handmade jewelry, cabs,  
lapidary rough, minerals, slabs

and more. Admission \$5.0, under 12 Free. Free parking;

Contact: PGMshow@gmail.com,  
Vendors Contact: tonifloyd41615@gmail.com

Website: [palomargem.org](http://palomargem.org)

### **September 18-20, 2026**

#### **CFMS Show**

#### **Reno, NV**

#### **Reno Gem and Mineral Society**

Grand Sierra Resort, Silver State Pavilion, 2500 East 2nd Street, Reno, Nevada 89595

Hours: Friday and Saturday 9 AM – 5 PM, Sunday 9 AM – 4 PM

The Jackpot of Gems is one of the premier gem and mineral shows in the western United States, attracting collectors, families, educators, students, and enthusiasts from across the region. The Show features dealers from around the country, competitive exhibits judged under AFMS rules, demonstrations, educational programming, and hands-on activities for children.

The 2026 Show is especially significant as it is being held in conjunction with the CFMS, expanding both our reach and our impact.

Contact: [showdirector@renogemandmineralsociety.org](mailto:showdirector@renogemandmineralsociety.org)

Website: [renogms.org](http://renogms.org)

### **September 19-20, 2026**

#### **Chico, CA**

#### **Feather River Lapidary & Mineral Society**

Silver Dollar Fairground, 2357 Fair St., Chico CA 95928

Hours: Saturday 9 AM – 5 PM, Sunday 9 AM – 4 PM

Feather River Rock, Gem & Jewelry Show. Admission is \$6 for adults, free for 16 and under. Free Parking courtesy of the Feather Lapidary & Mineral Society

Contact: [shows@featherriverrocks.org](mailto:shows@featherriverrocks.org)

Website: <https://www.featherriverrocks.org/show-2/>

### **September 19-20, 2026**

#### **Monterey, CA**

#### **Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society**

Monterey Fairgrounds, 2004 Fairgrounds Road, Monterey, CA 93940

Hours: Saturday and Sunday 10 AM – 5 PM

Website: <http://cvgms.rocks>

### **September 26-27, 2026**

#### **San Luis Obispo, CA**

#### **San Luis Obispo Gem and Mineral Club**

Alex Madonna Expo Center, 120 Madonna Rd, San Luis Obispo, CA 93405

Hours: 10AM - 5PM

Gems By The Sea will feature dealers selling a fantastic array of gems, minerals, fossils, carvings, jewelry, beads, jade, crystals, meteorites, lapidary and metaphysical items. Also unique handcrafted items by local artisans. There will kids' activities and demonstrations of jewelry-making and lapidary crafts. \$5 Admission (Children, 12 and under free). Free parking

Contact: [2026show@slogem.org](mailto:2026show@slogem.org)

Website: [slogem.org/gems-by-the-sea/](http://slogem.org/gems-by-the-sea/)

### **October 10-11, 2026**

#### **Redwood City, CA**

#### **Peninsula Gem and Geology Society & Sequoia Gem and Mineral Society**

Community Activities Building, 1400 Roosevelt Ave., Redwood City, CA 94061

Hours: 10am - 5pm

Contact: [impresciacconstruction@gmail.com](mailto:impresciacconstruction@gmail.com) / 650-575-3144

Website: [pggs.org / sequoiagemandmineralsociety.org](http://pggs.org/sequoiagemandmineralsociety.org)

### **October 17-18, 2026**

#### **Santa Rosa, CA**

#### **Santa Rosa Mineral and Gem Society**

Santa Rosa Veteran's Memorial Building, 1351 Maple Ave., Santa Rosa, CA

Hours: Saturday 10am - 6pm

Sunday 10am - 5pm

Adults \$8, Kids under 12 Free, Free Parking; 49th annual show. There are over 35 vendors selling gems, minerals, jewelry, lapidary rough, meteorites and other rock-related items. Educational displays, raffle, mineral exhibits, silent auctions, and lapidary demonstrations. Kid's Corner with Parent & Me activities and treasure hunt.

Food truck vendors are on-site; contact Victoria Commons; Email: [agatejasper221@gmail.com](mailto:agatejasper221@gmail.com)

Website: <http://www.srmgs.org>

### **November 14-15, 2026**

#### **Concord, CA**

#### **Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society**

Centre Concord, 5298 Clayton Road, Concord, CA

Hours: Saturday 10am - 5pm

Sunday 10am - 4pm

Admission \$10 Kids under 12 free, Senior discount; Tickets can be purchased online. Over 30 vendors - Rocks, minerals, fossils, gemstones, silent auction, rocks by the bucket, professional demonstrators, rock ID with experts, display cases, Spin the Wheel, rock painting, treasure box dig, rock monster, door prizes & raffle ; contact Mike Hopkins, (925) 570-4719; Email: [show@ccmgsclub.com](mailto:show@ccmgsclub.com)

Website: [www.ccmgsclub.com](http://www.ccmgsclub.com)

# April Rock Show Awards

## People's Choice Awards

**First Place** - Lisa King

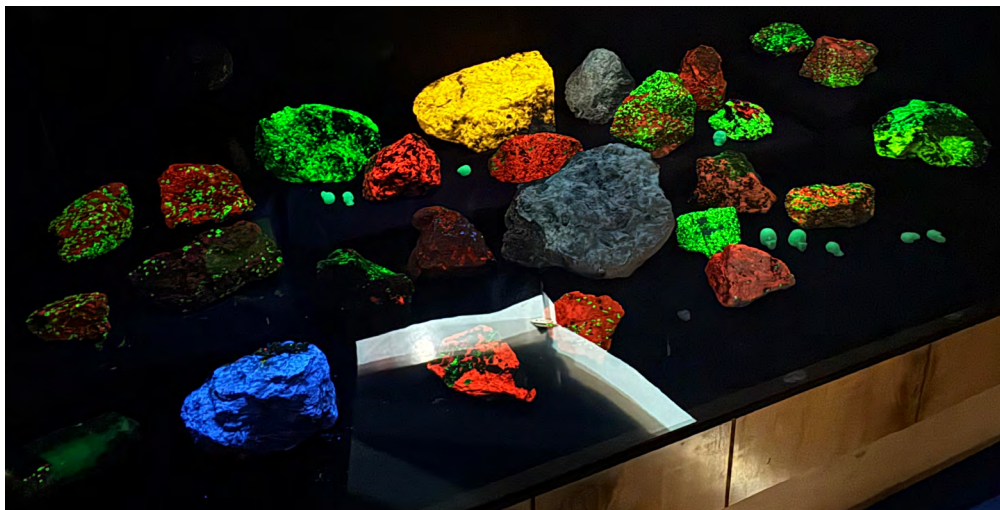
**Second Place** - Bruce Mundt



Photos by Ken Gagner and Beth Walls



# April Rock Show Awards (continued)



**People's Choice Awards**  
*Third Place* - Dave Nelson

**President's Award**  
Ralph Lawless



# April Rock Show Exhibits

**Beth Walls, SLR**

Rockhounds brought their passion and expertise to life at this year's Rock & Gem Show, showcasing a wide range of impressive exhibits.

Each display reflected countless hours of collecting, studying, and preparing. From carefully labeled mineral collections to eye-catching fossils and polished specimens, the exhibits highlighted both the beauty of the natural world and the dedication of the collectors behind them.

Many exhibitors also included educational elements, sharing information about where their pieces were found, how they formed, and what makes them unique.

Visitors were drawn in not only by the stunning displays, but also by the opportunity to connect with knowledgeable rockhounds eager to share their stories.

Conversations sparked curiosity, inspired new collectors, and deepened appreciation for the science and adventure of rockhounding.

The exhibits were a true highlight of the show, celebrating the enthusiasm, knowledge, and craftsmanship within our club community.



**Top Right:** Michelle Gagner  
"Crazy for Quartz"

**Bottom Right:** Barbara Bilyeu  
"Thundereggs of Many Colors"

*Photos by Ken Gagner and Beth Walls*



# April Rock Show Exhibits (continued)



Photos by Ken Gagner and Beth Walls



**Above:** David LaRue and his collection

**Right:** Galen Moyer  
**Below:** "Minerals From the Congo, Africa"



# April Rock Show Exhibits (continued)



**This Page:** Ted Gray  
"Trilobites of the World"



**Trilobites**  
Trilobites are one of the most successful animals to have ever lived on planet Earth. They first appeared in the middle Cambrian about 521 million years ago. They inhabited all sorts of ecosystems worldwide in every sea and on every continent. They adapted to all manners of habitats and lifestyles, evolving into more than 20,000 named species, until they finally went extinct 251 million years ago at the end of the Permian, a run of almost 300 million years.

Based on detailed studies of their physical characteristics, each of the 20,000 described species are assigned to one of 11 different "orders". These assignments are often disputed and many have changed over the years as new studies are published.

**Systematic Relationships and Chronological Extent of the Trilobite Orders**

**Anatomy**  
Trilobites are in the Arthropod phylum along with lobsters, shrimp, krill, spiders, scorpions and all insects. They have a durable exoskeleton with numerous segments and grew by "molting". Their closest living relative today is the Horseshoe Crab.

**Enrollment**  
Most trilobites are able to "enroll" like modern pill bugs. Enrollment a defensive mechanism to provide protection from predators. When enrolled, all of the soft parts were shielded inside but the eyes were still available to determine when the coast was clear!

**Preservation**  
Trilobites are completely fossilized. The hard body parts are completely mineralized. The soft underbody parts would rapidly decay and are very rarely preserved. However, in a few localities, like "Beecher's Bed", conditions were "just right" to allow the legs, gills, antennae and some parts of the internal organs to be preserved.

**Preparation**  
Most trilobites are found at least partially covered in the surrounding rock matrix. The process of removing the matrix to expose the fossil is called "preparing" the specimen. Quality preparation requires specialized tools and a great deal of patience. Of the 80+ specimens in this case, only 8 specimens were purchased "as is". The other 70+ specimens were "prepared" by me and most of those are I found myself in my travels.

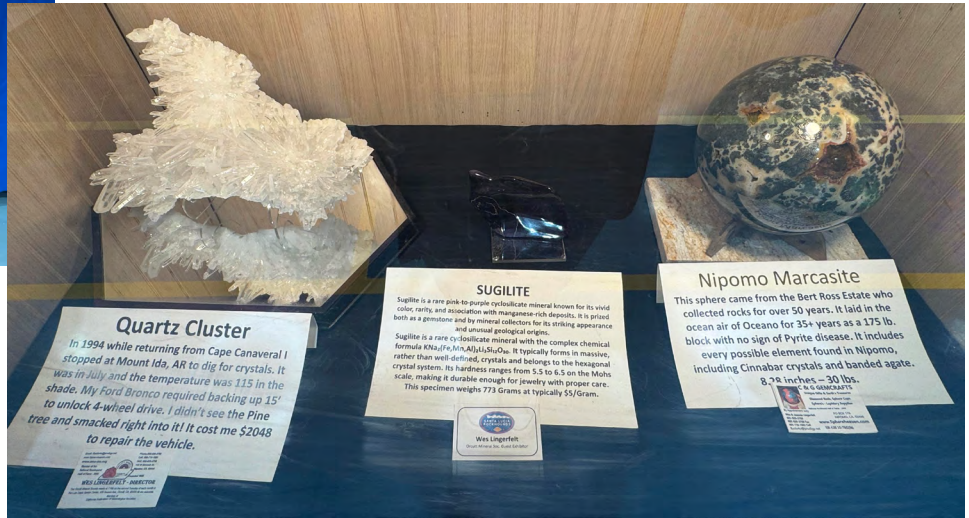
**Tags**  
Each specimen has a tag that provides information on the geographical location and the formation (rock layer) where the specimen(s) was found. The color of the tag correlates to the geological period and hence the age of the specimen. The scientific name (genus and species) of each specimen is also given.

**Eyes**  
Trilobites were among the first animals to develop complex eyes. Most trilobites have eyes that look alot like those of insects with a multitude of tiny lenses. One group has eyes with many fewer but much larger lenses. Both types of eyes provided good vision. Oddly, some trilobites evolved to be blind, having no eyes at all.

# April Rock Show Exhibits (continued)



**Left and Below:** Wes Lingerfelt  
 Quartz Cluster  
 Sugilite  
 Nipomo Marcasite



**Left and Below:** Kim Noyes  
 From the Collection of  
 Kim Patrick Noyes



# April Rock Show Exhibits (continued)



**Top Left:** Barbara Bilyeu  
**Center:** "Mexican Crazy Lace Agate Chihuahua, Mexico"

**Top Right:** Gene Bilyeu  
**Bottom:** "Tonopah Wood Fossilized Yew Wood Encased in Stromatolitic Algae Tonopah, Nevada"

Photos by Ken Gagner and Beth Walls

# April Rock Show Exhibits (continued)



# April Rock Show Exhibits (continued)



**Beth Walls, SLR**

Guests drifted through the Rockhound exhibits and were amazed at the crystals, fossils, and polished finds that looked almost too perfect to be earth-made—yet each one carried the patient work of time and hands that know how to listen to rock.

Visitors pointed out favorites like treasure hunters and voted for their favorite one.

By the end of the weekend, the exhibits weren't just displays. They had become a shared trail through deep time, with every guest leaving with a pocketful of wonder and maybe a new favorite stone to chase.



*Photos by Beth Walls*

# Junior Rockhounds at the Rock Show



Photos by Beth Walls

# Juniors at the Rock Show (continued)



# Featured Speakers at the Rock Show

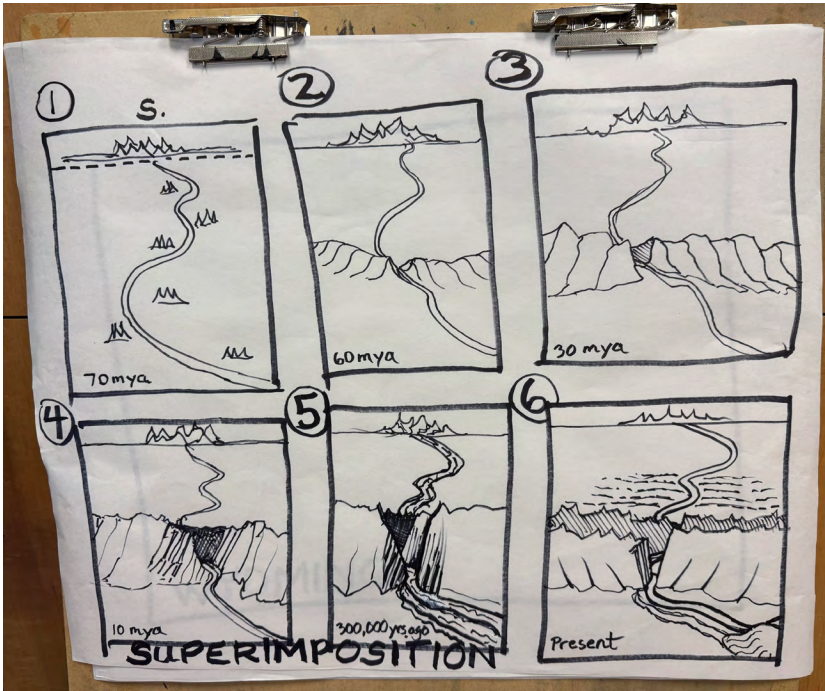


## **Beth Walls, SLR**

The Santa Lucia Rockhounds proudly showcased an engaging lineup of speakers at the 2026 Rock Show, highlighting the passion and knowledge within our community. Visitors had the opportunity to learn directly from these speakers, ask questions, and gain a deeper appreciation for the natural world. Each presenter contributed to an inspiring and educational experience. Thank you to our speakers for their time, dedication, and enthusiasm. It made this year's Rock Show unforgettable.



# Rock Show Featured Speakers (continued)



Photos by Heidi Adams and Beth Walls

# April Show Highlights - Gold Prospectors



Photos by Kim Noyes and Beth Walls

# April Show Highlights - Geodes



Photos by Beth Walls

Rockonteur - May 2026

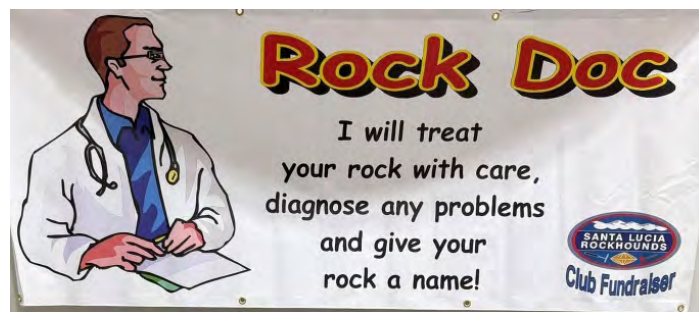
# April Show Highlights - Geodes (continued)



Photos by Beth Walls



# April Rock Show Highlights - Rock Doc



Photos by Kim Noyes and Beth Walls

# April Rock Show Highlights



Photos by Beth Walls



# April Rock Show Highlights (continued)



Photos by Beth Walls



# April Rock Show Highlights (continued)



Photos by Beth Walls



# April Rock Show Highlights (continued)



# April Rock Show Highlights (continued)



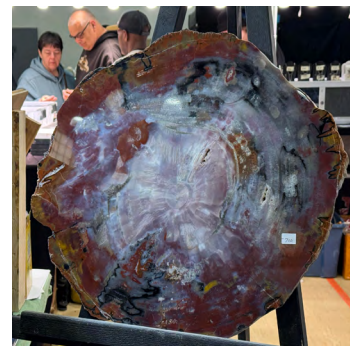
Photos by Beth Walls



# April Rock Show Highlights (continued)



# April Rock Show Highlights (continued)



# April Rock Show Highlights (continued)



**Above:** Ruben and his family, many generations behind one table, turning stones into handmade jewelry, carrying the family craft forward one sparkle at a time.



*Photos by Beth Walls*



**Above:** Fun with the giant tape ball



# May Birthstone: Emerald

**Beth Walls, SLR**

The emerald, with its rich green hue and timeless allure, is the official birthstone for the month of May. Symbolizing rebirth, prosperity, and love, this gemstone perfectly embodies the vibrant energy and natural beauty of spring.



Left and Center: Rough Emerald, Right: Polished Emerald  
<https://www.gia.edu/birthstones/may-birthstones>

## Origins and History

Emeralds have captivated civilizations for thousands of years. The ancient Egyptians mined emeralds as early as 330 BC, and Cleopatra herself was known for her obsession with the gem, adorning her palace and wardrobe with it. In South America, the Incas and Aztecs prized emeralds as sacred stones.

One of the most famous sources of emeralds is Colombia, known for producing some of the finest stones in the world. Other sources include Brazil, Zambia, and Afghanistan.

## Color and Characteristics

Emeralds belong to the beryl family of minerals, with their green color derived from traces of chromium and vanadium. The finest emeralds exhibit a deep, vibrant green with a slight bluish undertone.

Due to natural inclusions (often called the "jardin," French for garden), flawless emeralds are extremely rare. These inclusions are considered part of the gem's character and do not significantly detract from its value unless they affect clarity or durability.

## Symbolism and Meaning

Emeralds are steeped in symbolism and spiritual meaning:

**Rebirth and Growth:** As a gemstone of spring, emeralds represent fertility, renewal, and new beginnings.

**Love and Loyalty:** The stone has long been associated with Venus, the goddess of love, and is believed to promote fidelity and strong emotional connections.

**Wisdom and Insight:** Emeralds are thought to bring mental clarity, enhance intuition, and promote truth and understanding.

## Uses in Jewelry

Emeralds have been used in royal and high-end jewelry for centuries. Today, they are popular in:

**Engagement rings:** for those seeking a unique alternative to diamonds.

**Pendants, earrings, and bracelets,** often paired with diamonds or other precious gems to enhance their brilliance.

**Vintage and antique settings,** where their romantic history adds meaning.

## Care and Maintenance

Though emeralds rank 7.5–8 on the Mohs scale of hardness, they are not as tough as diamonds or sapphires due to their inclusions. Most emeralds are **\*\*oiled\*\*** to improve clarity, which means they should be treated with care:

- \* Avoid ultrasonic cleaners or steam.
- \* Clean with lukewarm water, mild soap, and a soft brush.
- \* Store separately to prevent scratching.

## Modern Appeal

Today, emerald remains one of the most sought-after gemstones, not just for those born in May but for anyone who appreciates its timeless beauty and rich symbolism. Celebrities like Angelina Jolie and Elizabeth Taylor have famously worn emeralds, helping to sustain the stone's glamorous reputation.

Emerald is much more than a beautiful green stone — it's a symbol of life's continual renewal, of deep emotional connection, and of timeless elegance. As May's birthstone, it offers a meaningful and luxurious way to celebrate life, growth, and love.

# Rock Show Winners

## Beth Walls, SLR

Excitement carried through this year's Santa Lucia Rockhounds Rock Show as our drawing and door prize winners were announced!

Throughout the event, guests entered for a chance to take home a variety of rock-themed prizes. For each drawing, a crowd gathered with anticipation as names were drawn and lucky winners stepped forward to claim their treasures. The drawings added an extra layer of fun to an already memorable weekend, and it was a joy to see so many smiling faces heading home with a special piece of the show. The photos show a few of the amazing prizes along with their winners. Thank you to everyone who participated and helped make the event such a success—and congratulations again to all of our winners!



Photos by Karin Gray



## The 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.

The Junior Rockhound meeting is held on the third Monday of each month at 6 p.m. with the general club meeting starting at 7p.m. All meetings are 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 \$30 for the first adult plus \$10 per 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 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 of the Rockonteur is approximately 120 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. The deadline is the 20th of the month to be included in the next month's publication. Early submissions are highly appreciated and strongly encouraged.

Newsletter Editor/Publisher: Beth Walls, bethwalls31@gmail.com Please submit articles for the Rockonteur via email before the 15th of the month to be featured the following month.

Website: [www.slrockhounds.org](http://www.slrockhounds.org)  
Club Email: [slrockhounds@gmail.com](mailto:slrockhounds@gmail.com)