



BRECCIA

Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society

Volume 69 Number 3, March 2021

Calendar of Coming Events

March 23, 7:30 General Meeting on Zoom - Brad Smith presentation will be on Bench Tips for Jewelry Making. Please note that our meeting begins at 7:30PM instead of the 7:45PM.

March 25, 7:30 Board Meeting on Zoom.

Send your photos to Michele Smith, michelesmith801@comcast.net for things you would like to share with us during **Member Display Time!**

Send your photos to Alan Achor, kayakb@sbcglobal.net for items you would like to enter in **Bragging Rights** contest. **The topic is Petrified Wood.**

All of the events, including Smithies and DRC Sales, will resume when it is safe to do so.



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General Information

President's Message February, 2021

Our February 23rd meeting marked the anniversary of the last time we had a meeting in person. We did not have a meeting in March 2020 because we have just started 'Shelter in Place' and didn't even know how to spell ZOOM. Instead of limiting us, ZOOM has opened up our world, from a fluorescent presentation from New York to an Opal presentation from Florida. We have members who are in other states and can now attend our meetings.

If you haven't tried ZOOM, are worried about how to make it work, or don't think you have the right equipment, give me a call. So far, we have been able to get everyone who wants it hooked up to ZOOM. It is not difficult! Even I can do it, and we all work to make this work! We just got a new person on ZOOM for the opal presentation. ZOOM only meetings won't last much longer but they will go on for a few more months. Then we want to figure out how to have the in person meetings AND use ZOOM for our members who need to stay at home and/or are out of state.

We will be able to get together again, in person, this year. Yes! We are thinking about a picnic, a Silent Auction, a Rock Sale, an Ice Cream Social and the December Installation Dinner. We will see, but keep your hopes up. Maybe it will be the last meeting of the year and we will have an Ice Cream Social Silent Auction December Installation dinner outside as a picnic and throw in a Rock Sale the weekend before!

It will make it easier if everyone can get their vaccinations because that will affect what the county allows as far as 'large' group gatherings. The vaccines are more available now and more people are able to get them. Check this Santa Clara County web site if you are not sure:

<https://www.sccgov.org/sites/covid19/pages/covid19-vaccine-information-for-public.aspx>

I hate to bring up COVID all the time when I send you a message, but it is a part of our world, no matter how you stand on it. I want you all well, I want field trips, I want hugs, I want to bring treats that don't have to be individual wrapped, etc., etc., etc. Love You All!

Madam President,
Michele Smith

Geology Viewpoints

Geologists are gneiss, tuff, and a bit wacke.

Don't expect perfection from a geologist. They all have their faults.

You: I hate geology puns.

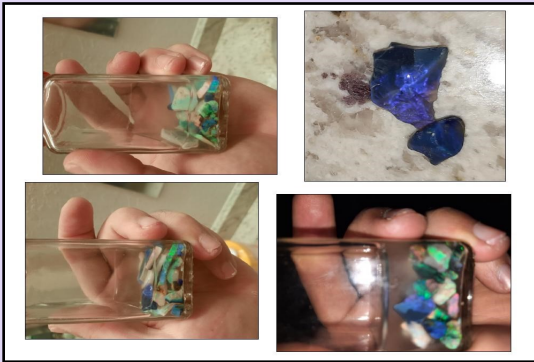
Me: My sediments exactly.

It's not gneiss to hate.

Members' Displays (Show and Tell)

All members are asked to display at least one time per year, but you may display as many times as you like. There are no displays in meetings when Silent Auctions are scheduled. Usually, there are no displays in December because there is the installation dinner in lieu of our regular meeting. Email a photo of your display item to **Michele Smith** by the Sunday before the general meeting, so that she can display it on line for you during these times when our meetings are on Zoom. She will send out an email with details before the meeting.

The displays for the February meeting included **Kyle Van Woerkom's** assortment of beautiful opals from Australia and **Jo Borucki's** banded opals from Montana.



Australian Opals
Kyle Van Woerkom



Banded Opal
Jo Borucki

Don't know what to display? Any type of rock, mineral, or fossil (identified or not), your latest project, information on a field trip, ideas for a display case, anything to do with rocks is appreciated. Sharing items helps to educate all who attend the meeting. Show off what you love, so that we can enjoy it with you.

Rick Kennedy– Chairperson

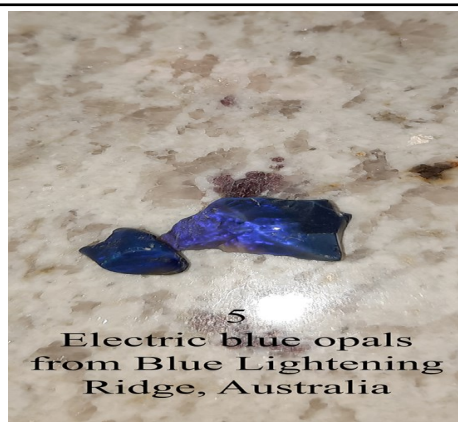
Field Trips

There are no current field trips, but some are being considered for late spring or early summer, depending on Covid-19 restrictions.

Chairman-Stephen May's Email: Stephenmay0990@gmail.com

Bragging Rights

The theme for the entries for our February meeting were items that were blue in color. Five people submitted excellent entries, but **Kyle Van Woerkom** won with his vivid blue Opals from Australia. His opals were a fitting introduction to the evening's presentation on Australian opals by Gene McDevitt. Congratulations, Kyle on your timely and beautiful entry. Thanks to all who entered the contest. Everyone wins because we all get the chance to see some interesting mineral specimens.



5
Electric blue opals
from Blue Lightning
Ridge, Australia

The other four entries included:



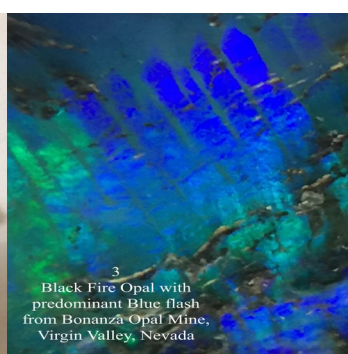
1
Azurite: Morenci Mine, Morenci, Greenlee Co., Arizona

Azurite from the
Morenci Mine,
Morenci, Greenlee
County, Arizona
Ana Papadopoulos



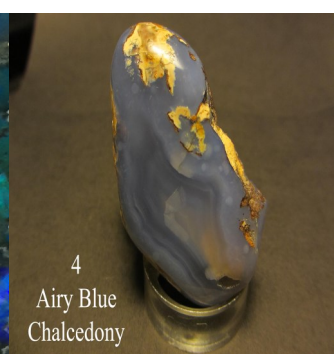
2
Calcite on
Rosasite

Calcite on Rosasite,
Mexico
Jo Borucki



3
Black Fire Opal with
predominant Blue flash
from Bonanza Opal Mine,
Virgin Valley, Nevada

Black Fire Opal,
Bonanza Mine, Virgin
Valley, Nevada
Lynn Toschi



4
Airy Blue
Chalcedony

Airy Blue Chalcedony
Jim Fox

The category for the next general meeting on **March 23** is **Petrified Wood**. Please submit a photo of your entry to **Alan Achor** at kayakb@sbcglobal.net by **Sunday, March 21**.

Alan Achor-Bragging Rights Chairperson

Membership Dues are Due

SCVGMS membership dues are due for the year 2021. They are \$5.00 for Junior, \$20.00 for an individual, and \$30.00 for the household. Please contact our treasurer, Jim Sugiyama: sugi@charter.net or send your check to Santa Clara Gem and Mineral Society, P.O. Box 54, San Jose, CA 95103-0054. Thank you.

February Speaker, Gene McDevitt

By Jo Borucki

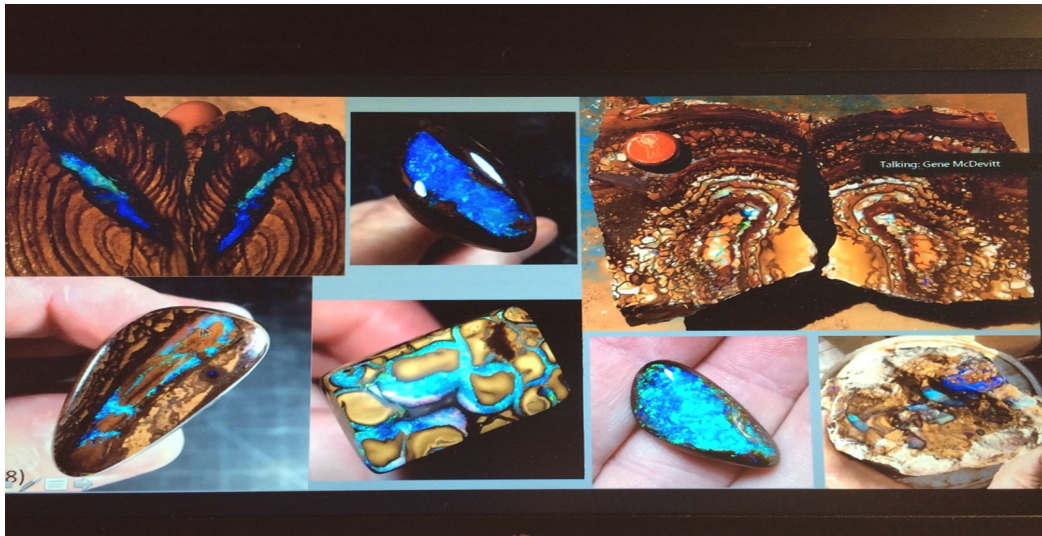
Our speaker for the February 23 meeting was Gene McDevitt, and his topic was mining Boulder Opal at his Comet Opal Mine in Queensland, Australia. His presentation was so interesting that people stayed online at our Zoom meeting until at least 10:00 PM asking him questions. He has mined Koroit Boulder Opal since 2001, wholesaled it since 1993, and cut it since 1995. Upon seeing his pictures of the opal and its startling and colorful beauty, I understand his love of the gem.

His mine is in the southwest outback area of Queensland. It is an underground mine with tunnels throughout the sandstone layer around fifty feet underground. In addition to this, he also does open-cut mining, digging down through the surface to where the opal is found often by carefully cutting open boulders called nuts to reveal the beautiful gems.

His photos showed that the opal can often be shades of turquoise with flashes of other colors or it can span a great array of colors such as intense blues, pinks and reds, browns, yellows and soft pastels. I fell in love with this opal from seeing his photos.

He mines it under challenging conditions of a desert-like climate and a great variety of dangerous spiders and snakes including the Brown Snake whose venom is much more toxic than that of the Western Rattlesnake. He also had photos of the kangaroos who are smart enough to be friendly so they get a handout, or are charming as in the beauty of the cockatoos.

Gene McDevitt's talk was memorable, educational, and entertaining. Thank you, Gene.



Boulder Opal

Rockhound of the Month

The award was not given this month, because we trimmed the normal club business in order to lengthen the speaker's time.

Website Links

Your Window to the World of Important Websites
Click on the blue area of whatever site you want to visit!

Link to Our SCVGMS Website: <http://www.scvgms.org/>

Note: After you click on the above link, if you want to see the Breccia and other news items, scroll down and click on "Download", shown under the Newsletter option.

Link to CFMS Shows and Festivals: [CFMS Society/Club Shows](#)

The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies: <http://www.amfed.org>

CFMS Bulletin: <http://www.cfmsinc.org/>

To access the news from the **American Lands Access Association:** www.amlands.org

Sunshine

To report someone needing sunshine, email **Margo Mosher-margomosher@yahoo.com**



Carats, Carets, Karats, Carrots... Oh, My! By Pat Speece

Confusing!
This might help.

Fill in the blanks.

- 1- The five _____ (carat, caret, karat) stone produced a tender blister on his foot where he hid the valuable carbon stone in his shoe.
- 2- It takes a long time for a king size 14 (carat, caret, karat) gold ring to become dull.
- 3- What is this called ^? Some of us use it a lot.
- 4- EXTRA CREDIT: Bugs Bunny would rather munch on _____ (carrats, karets, carrots, turnips).

ANSWERS

1- **CARAT (ct)** is a unit of weight of precious stones and pearls. It is 200 milligrams (1oz=28,349.523 mg). Carat weight is important when buying or selling gemstones; color, clarity and cut also help to determine monetary value. *HINT: carat/carbon*

2- **KARAT (KT or kt)** is a measure of fineness of gold. A gold karat is 1/24th part, or 4.1667 percent of the whole. The purity of a gold alloy is expressed as the number of the parts of gold it contains. An object that contains 16 parts gold and 8 parts alloying metal is 16 karat gold. Pure gold is 24 karat gold.

HINT: king/karat

(Outside the United States, it is spelled *carat*.)

3- **CARET** is a proof-reading symbol. It looks like an upside-down V. Some cultures use the V version. English uses the point up version ^. The ^ symbol is on the 6 on the keyboard. If you left something out, you could always insert a ^, and add the missing idea above it, or below it if you use the V version.

HINT: Writers care about forgotten words. Hurrah for carets!

4- **CARROT** This root vegetable is a Bugs Bunny favorite.

As a rockhound or jeweler, you need *carat* and *karat*.

As a writer, you use *caret*. ^

As Bugs Bunny, you need *carrot*.

That's all, folks!



Fossil Hunting in the Bakersfield Area

Jo Borucki

I received the idea for this article from a member of the Memoir group where I am also a member. She read her memoir about her grandson and his fossil collection from the Bakersfield area. He enjoys going to Sharktooth Hill and looking for fossils, mainly shark teeth fossils from sharks who lived fifteen to sixteen million years ago during the Langhian Age of the Miocene Epoch, when Central California was covered with the waters of the Tumbler Sea. Members of several classes of sharks swam in this sea at that time, mainly species of Mako, Hammerhead, and Megalodon. Most of the fossils are shark's teeth, but there are also turtle, sea bird, mammal, Cetacean (whale), and Pinniped (walrus) fossils as well.

The fossil collecting areas are located on property owned by the Ernst family and administered by the Buena Vista Museum of Natural History in downtown Bakersfield at 2018 Chester Avenue. One of the articles that I read, said that the fee charged for a day's digging also includes a year's membership for the museum. The website, <https://southwestrockhounding.com/2019/04/06/the-ernst-quarries-near-shark-tooth-hill-bakersfield-california/> is an excellent source for information. The website, <https://sharktoothhillproperty.com> can be used to reserve a time for a trip to the Ernst Quarries.

The sites are not open during rain or in the summer. Late April and May and the fall are probably the best times to visit with less chance of rain or extreme heat. If you are unfortunate, and it rains or is excessively hot, the Buena Vista Museum of Natural History mentioned with its address in the previous paragraph or the Living Museum, 10500 Alfred Harrell Hwy, Bakersfield are good alternate destinations.

I was curious. What other mineral and fossil destinations might be found in the Bakersfield area? Alabaster, gypsum, and selenite are found in this same area. As long as you are driving down to Bakersfield, what can you find along the way? About eighty miles north of Bakersfield is Kettleman Hill. The area is owned by Chevron so apply to Chevron Company, 4900 California Avenue, PO Box 1392, Bakersfield, California 93302 for a permit. Kettleman Hills is one of the best fossil sites in all of California. After this visit, continue just off of Interstate 5, about 65 miles north of Bakersfield and four miles south of State Highway 41, where to the right is 25th Avenue. Drive an additional 3.2 miles to an area called Devils Den and stop along the roadside where you may find fossil shells. There is yet another fossil area very near Sharktooth Hill. It's called Ant Hill. It is near Hart Park.



Shark Tooth from
Sharktooth Hill

You have four areas where you can search for fossils including Kettleman Hill, Devils Den, Sharktooth Hill, and Ant Hill. These may be good side trips when you are on your way to Tucson or camp ZZYZX. Happy fossil hunting. If you find anything, bring it to our next General Meeting on the fourth Tuesday of every month, whether the meeting is via Zoom or we are able to meet at the Cabana Club, we can all make a mental trip fifteen million years into the past and enjoy the fossils together.

Much of the information and photo are from <https://southwestrockhounding.com/2019/04/06/the-ernst-quarries-near-shark-tooth-hill-bakersfield-california/>. Additional information is from [Gem Trails of Southern California](#) by Otie Braden.



Fossil Cleaning Tips

In most cases, when a fossil is cleaned, the surface is usually left with a dull or chalky look, even if you're careful. This is caused by the abrasion of the tool against the fossil's surface.

In an effort to make the fossil look better, some collectors use the quick method, and cover their specimens with clear plastic sprays to bring out the details and lessen the scratchy appearance. These collections are easy to recognize because every specimen looks as if it is wet or dipped in plastic. The trouble with this method is that it puts an unnatural, glossy appearance on the fossil, as well as the matrix, giving your specimen poor contrast.

In their natural state, fossils are not usually glossy, and professional museum preparatory will tell you that making a fossil something it never was, is poor practice. Clear sprays have a tendency to become cloudy over time, and the temptation to spruce up the collection by re-spraying specimens becomes a habit, which only puts more cloudy layers on the specimen. These coatings make photographing fossils difficult, they are very hard to remove and will sometimes render specimens useless for scientific study.

A simple and common sense way to get around these problems is to use an alcohol soluble, clear shellac. Just mix two part shellac to eight parts alcohol, the ratio can vary slightly to suit personal tastes. This mixture will leave a pleasing, natural matte finish.

When using this method, make sure the fossil is clean of dust. With a small artist's brush, carefully coat only the fossil with the diluted shellac. This will reveal the specimen's actual color and allow the fossil to stand out against the natural matrix, giving excellent contrast. The more attention you give to coating delicate structures, the more beautiful the specimen will be. If you accidentally use too much, or if it is on the matrix, just dip the brush in alcohol and whisk the coating away. It dries in seconds.

Make no doubt about it, fossil collecting has become very sophisticated in recent years, and collections quickly prepared by obsolete or improper methods are now readily noticed by other collectors. For a good book on fossil preparation, I recommend *The Practical Paleontologist* by Steve Parker and Raymond L. Berner, Printed by Simon and Schuster.

From Maps Digest 7/9/95 author unknown

Things to Think About

If a tree beats a rock in the middle of the forest, does anyone look for a pair of broken scissors?

Did you hear the song about the tortilla? Actually, it was more of a wrap.

What happened to the rockhound who went to Las Vegas? He lost his Chert.

And.....

Never lend a geologist money. They consider a million years recent!!!

Agates

A process which took nature hundreds, thousands, or perhaps millions of years to complete cannot be covered in a few words, but let's take a simplified look at their creation.

First came the raw materials—silica (silicon dioxide (SiO₂)). This compound is a combination of silicon and oxygen and is a major rock builder in the earth's crust, being second only to the compound water in abundance. With silica so common, gems should be everywhere, but their formation depended upon conditions and this is where our story begins.

About 400 million years ago the Pacific Northwest began to rise from the sea. In a succession of volcanic upheavals, a landmass rich in silica was created. Occasionally these lavas cooled so rapidly they formed a volcanic glass—obsidian. Generally however, volcanic masses cooled slowly, tended to crystallize and were porous, eventually breaking down to release minute particles of silica. This free silica in turn, was dissolved by acids in percolating ground water, then transported and finally deposited as concentrated liquids in subsurface cavities. Experts differ on how the liquids eventually became solids, however the following basic silica forms were the result.

Crystalline—Silica deposited in obvious crystal forms and known as quartz or rock crystal.

Opaline—Silica form similar to chalcedony, but totally noncrystalline, more porous and containing small added amounts of free water (3 to 14 percent) held within its structure rather than its chemistry. Gem opals are of this form.

Cryptocrystalline—Silica deposits of microscopically fine-grained, almost non-crystalline masses known as chalcedony. Chalcedony characterizes agate and jasper.

Each of the silica forms occurred within cavities of previously formed rock and are termed secondary deposits. How each formed however, depended largely on where it formed. Individual gemstones, when found in gravel bars or loose soil, are usually a long way from their birthplace, having rolled and tumbled with the eroding forces. Generally the surface landmass of their origin has long since crumbled and vanished. Some gems, however, are still embedded where they developed and show that each basic type resulted from its own characteristic surroundings.

Agate: The result of chalcedony which filled empty gas pockets or cracks in otherwise solid rock, forming as nodules or seams. Since only limited amounts of foreign materials were included, the stone is fairly pure and ranges from clear to translucent when held to the light. Not all agates formed this way, with the two exceptions being thunder eggs and fossils.

Recognizing and Testing Agate: The mineral world has many look-alikes, but not all have gemstone quality. To avoid filling your pockets with excess rock, three simple test can be made.

Luster: Look for even textured, non-granular material ranging from clear (glasslike) through translucent (semi-clear) to opaque (blocking out light). Rough specimens may have a glassy, waxy, pearly, or even dull appearance and can be better judged when wet. Agate: Waxy, clear to near opaque. Jasper: Waxy to dull and opaque. Opal: Pear-like, clear to opaque.

Agates Continued from previous page

Fracture: Broken edges are usually conchoidal (cupped, shell-like fractures as on a chunk of glass). Water-worn pebbles often show curved crescent-like surface markings. An exception to this is opal, which tends to be brittle and more angular in fracture.

Hardness: Part of the reason these are termed gemstones is in their ability to polish well and withstand abrasion. They rank between 7 to 7.5 on the Mohs hardness scale.

Probably no gemstone is known in a greater variety of colors and patterns than agates. And like fingerprints, no two of these are ever exactly the same. Recurring agate characteristics however, have been given appropriate names such as: White or Milk, Turtle-back, Coated, Snakeskin, Blue, Amethystine, Carnelian, Sard, Polka Dot, Sunset, Enhydro or Water Agate, Fortification, Iris or Rainbow Agate, Banded, Sardonyx, Grape, Eye or Orbicular Agate, Tube or Pipe, Angel Wing, Dendritic, Moss, Plume, Flower, Sagenite, and El-lensberg Blue.

Author Unknown



Learn Zoom and Join Us

By Michele Smith

One of my very favorite SCVGMS people just let me know that they wanted to learn how to Zoom. No wonder we are missing people! Our oldest members are using Zoom. If I can do it, anyone can do it!

If you are having difficulty with Zoom or need to add the Zoom link to their computer, below is the link to download Zoom. If you are just having trouble, call me and I can help or even set up a practice meeting. If you have Zoom and need extra tips, you can call me or write me an e-mail.

< <https://zoom.us/download> >

Some of the nice things about Zoom are that you can fix your own snack, you can serve alcohol, you can go on field trips without the dirt and sweat, and you can show up late and leave early. If you have difficulty hearing, you will now be in the front row.

Here's a toast to you as I sip my Margarita (on the rocks, with salt) and get ready for our next meeting. See you there!



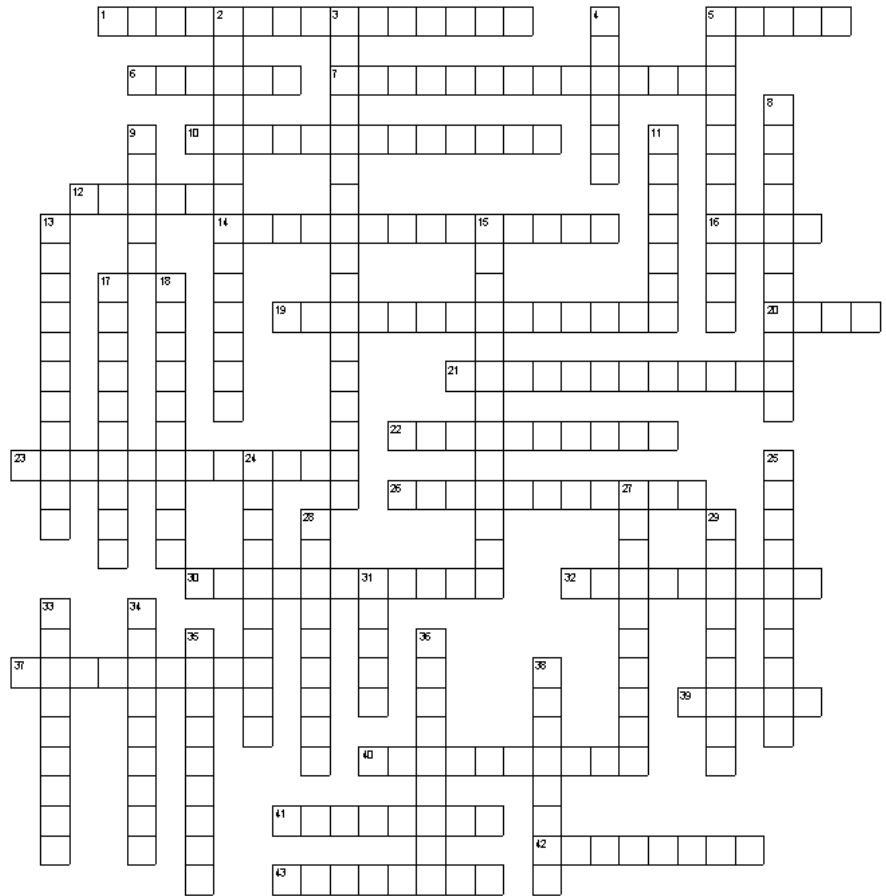
Quartz Crossword Puzzle

International Gem Society (IGS)

Quartz

How well do you know quartz? It has so many varieties. It deserves its own puzzle. If you need help, check the chalcedony reference article. Note that many of the answers have two words. When you put the answer in the puzzle, do not put in the spaces.

www.gemsociety.org puzzles

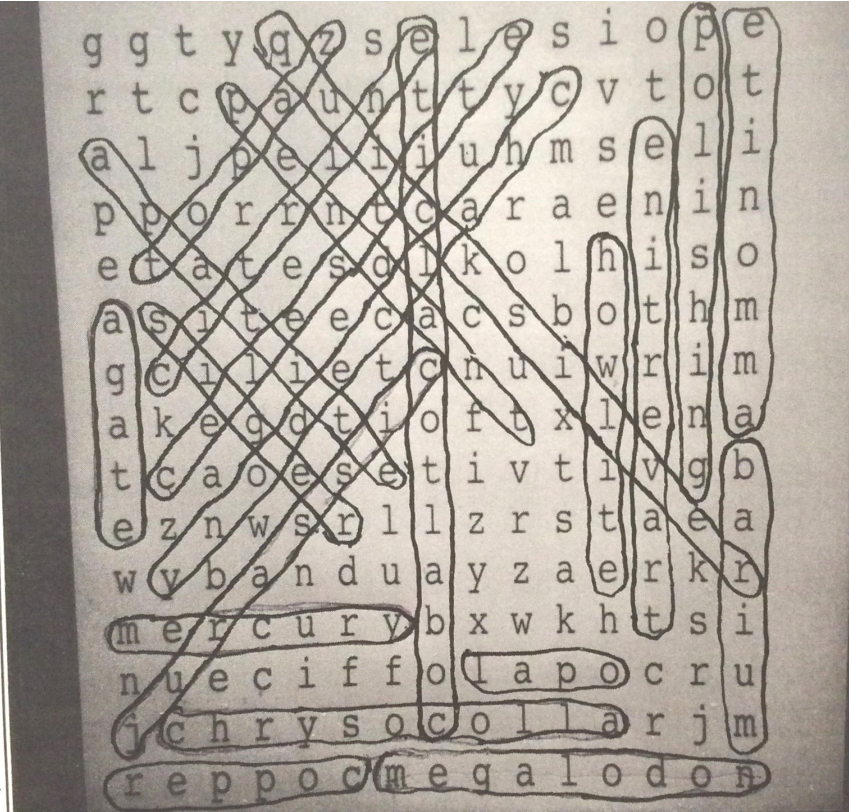


Across	Down
1 Sea Shells (2 words)	2 Royal variety, (2 words)
5 Very hard, non-gem	3 Named for part of a cat, (2 words)
6 Opaque, microcrystalline	4 Species
7 Has circles	5 Not a quartz, but a color
10 Blue skies (2 words)	8 Named for a flower, (2 words)
12 Dark green with yellow spots	9 Common beach stone
14 Outdoors picture, (2 words)	11 Fruit flavored
16 Popular black gem	13 A place name
19 Tree like (2 words)	17 Striped, (2 words)
20 Brownish orange	18 Dark green with iron inclusions
21 Named for a painter, (2 words)	24 Cat anatomy, hyphenated
22 Named for a flower, (2 words)	25 Usually transparent stone
23 Has an image, (2 words)	33 Hot stuff! (2 words)
26 Oregon is the source, (2 words)	34 Insane gem, (2 words)
30 Apple green	35 Orangish/red gem
32 refers to the chemistry, (2 words)	36 African sources
37 Another flower name, (2 words)	38 Not drunk
39 Known for arrowheads, (2 words)	
40 Has red spots	
41 Source is Australia	
42 Has white and red layers	
43 Named for a bird	

Answers for the February Word Search

By Jo Borucki

- Stone in pendant made by Michael Paone __Agate__
Mineral once mined in park near San Jose __Mercury__
Coast near Lyme Regis, rich in fossils __Jurassic__
What you do with a dead rockhound __Barium__
Bragging Rights entry from Ana __Citrine__
Polish this stone on a felt wheel __Howlite__
Abundant fossil on Jurassic Coast __Ammonite__
What rockhound lost so not hungry __Apatite__
Bragging Rights entry, Noel and Deb __Chalcedony__
Bragging Rights entry, Max and Thunder __Celestite__
Bragging Rights entry, Jim Fox __Chrysocolla__
Wire in necklace made by Noel is __Copper__
Bragging Rights entry: John Gardner Cobaltocalcite
Extinct shark could be 45 feet or more __Megalodon__
Another name for Mercury __QuickSilver__
Office of president of a jewelry company __Opal__
Name of jewelry containing Grape Agate __Pendant__
Schilling's compilation is on this technique
__Polishing__
Lyme __Regis__ is the town near Jurassic Coast
Linde A on cork to polish this mineral __Topaz__
Tin Oxide on cork to polish this mineral __Travertine__
Mineral used to imitate Turquoise __Howlite__



Last, but not least, my puzzle utility decided that I did not know how to spell the name of Lynn Toschi's entry in Bragging Rights, so his Charoite entry was supposedly spelled charioiteer, but I can't find either charioiteer or Charoite. Did anyone find either word in the word search?



AMFMS and RMFMS Conventions

June 17, 18, 19, & 20, 2021

Thursday, 9am – 5pm,

Registration, Exhibit Set-up, Meetings, Vendor Set-up

Friday, 9am-5pm Saturday, 9am – 5pm Sunday, 9am – 4pm

Admission: \$2.00 Children under 12 free with a paid Adult

Show & Convention Location

Sublette County Fairgrounds Event Center & Community Hall

10937 Hwy 189 Big Piney, Wyoming 83113

Hosted by 2021 Sublette County Rock Hounds Annual Gem & Mineral Show

General Meeting Minutes

February 23rd, 2021

The February meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society was called to order at 7:47 pm on the web application Zoom as the club continues to comply with the stay-at-home order.

Announcements: The SVCGMS Board meeting will be held on Zoom at 7:30pm on Thursday, February 25th.

New Members: No new members. If you want to join the club, one must attend at least two club meetings and have two sponsors from the club. It is easy to do!!

Board Meeting: Will be at on Zoom at 7:30.

Member Displays: By Rick Kennedy. Jo Borucki showed a banded opal from Utah. Kyle Van Woerkom showed several opals he collected on his trip to Australia. Rick Kennedy gave a short report on the Tucson event and Michele showed the video of the ill-fated “Race for Benitoite” where our hero bit the dust... gravel... and pavement.

Bragging Rights: This month’s theme was “Blue” and the winner was Kyle Van Woerkom’s blue opal!

Rockhound of the Month: The award was not given this month as we trimmed the normal club business in order to lengthen the speaker’s time!

Field Trips: No report.

Study Groups:

Cabbers: In search of a new leader.

Smithies: The Smithies are not meeting right now in accordance with the stay-at-home order.

Hospitality: 32 members and 1 guest were in attendance.

ALAA: Nothing new

DRC: There will be a sale when the stay-at-home order is lifted and when the club thinks is appropriate and safe.

Federation Report: No report.

Correspondence: No report.

Sunshine No new news.

Program: Gene McDevitt presented “Mining Opals in Koroit, Australia”.

General Meeting Minutes Continued

There was much discussion and the entire club greatly enjoyed the presentation.

March program: To be announced.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:01 PM

Respectfully submitted, Rick Kennedy SCVGMS Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes

February 25th, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 7:42 PM via the Zoom application so that the Board could be in compliance with the governor's stay at home order.

Roll Call: All board members were present.

Reading of the minutes from the January 28th Board Meeting: M/S/P to approve the minutes as read (F. Mullaney, C, Hansen).

New Members: No new members.

Correspondence: The club received Dodge and Cox statements and two bills for State Farm. The club also received the refund from the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds in the amount of \$13,180.00.

Treasurer's Report: Jim Sugiyama presented the club with a treasurer's report and a profit and loss detail. M/S/P to pay the two State Farm bills in the amounts of \$42.28 and \$48.29 (F. Mullaney, R. Kennedy).

Committee Reports:

Federation: Stephen May will make a list of any Federation club shows that will be happening. The 2021 CFMS Show in Lodi has been canceled.

Field Trips: Stephen May is working on a summer trip, but it is not confirmed yet.

Old Business:

2020 Audit: The committee is Michele Smith, Paul Kidman and Deb Runyan. They will coordinate with Jim Sugiyama and meet via Zoom.

Directory: Rick Kennedy reported that although he had sent Vasona Press a .pdf of our directory, he has not heard back from them. Rick will follow up. In the meantime, M/S/P to send the .pdf of the directory by email to members only, and to be clear that the information in the directory is not to be shared with people who are not members of the SCVGMS (R. Kennedy, F. Mullaney).

New Business:

Member Dues: We will be charging dues this year. The membership will be asked to send their dues to our PO Box.

In Person Meetings: Rick Kennedy started a dialog about what things will need to happen before the club can meet in person again. We will monitor the Santa Clara County Health Department and follow their instructions/guidelines.

General Meetings: M/S/P to change the starting time of our Zoom General Meetings to 7:30 (F. Mullaney, S. Dyer).

Program Schedule:

March: Brad Smith Bench Tips for Jewelry Making

April: Stan Bogosian: Eight California Collecting Localities.

Meeting adjourned at 8:33 PM

Respectfully submitted, Rick Kennedy, SCVGMS Secretary

Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society

P.O. Box 54, San Jose, CA 95103-0054

Website: www.scvgms.org

Email: info@scvgms.org

Phone Number (408) 265-1422

Like us on Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/santaclaravalleygemandmineralsociety>

SCVGMS ELECTED OFFICERS

President: Michele Smith	(408)374-1897
Vice President: Frank Mullaney	(408)691-2656
Secretary: Rick Kennedy	(408)529-9690
Treasurer: Missy Fox	(408)356-7711
Editor: Jo Borucki	(408)245-2881
Federation Director: Stephen May	(669)248-3993
Alternate Fed. Director: Paul Kidman	(408)356-4995
Board Members at Large Jim Fox	(408)356-7711
Missy Fox	(408)356-7711
Sonia Dyer	(408)629-5735
Alan Achor	(408)749-0771
Cal Hansen	(408)394-4642
Parliamentarian: Dean Welder	(408)353-2675

SCVGMS COMMITTEE HEADS

Bragging Rights Chair: Alan Achor
Donation Receiving Committee Chairs:
Michele Smith and Jim Sugiyama
Festival Chairpersons 2021: Jim and Missy Fox
Field Trip Coordinator: Stephen May
Founder's Day Picnic Chairman: Stephen May
Founder's Day Raffle: TBD
Founder's Day Bingo: TBD
Hospitality: Pat and Louis Schuesler
Installation Dinner: Rick Kennedy, Jim and Missy Fox
Member Displays: Rick Kennedy
Refreshments: Michele Smith
Silent Auction: TBD
Sunshine: Margo Mosher
Trophies: Frank Mullaney
Librarian: Deb Runyan
Webmaster: TBD

Note: Some of these committee heads may change. Michele Smith and Stephen May are working to fill all positions.

An Invitation

This society is pleased to invite guests to attend general meetings, study groups, and field trips. General meetings are normally held the fourth Tuesday of every month with meet and greet time beginning at 7:15 followed by the meeting at 7:45 PM at 100 Belwood Gateway (the Cabana Club), Los Gatos, CA 95032. Belwood Gateway is just south of Blossom Hill Road between Leigh Avenue and Harwood Road.

The next **General Meeting is scheduled for March 23 at 7:30**, and the **Board Meeting is scheduled for March 25 at 7:30**. Both will be held using Zoom.

Our Society's Purpose: The inculcation of a love of rocks and minerals by the furtherance of members' interests in the earth sciences and by education in all facets of related educational activities with the promotion of good fellowship, proper ethics, and conduct.

Our Membership Requirements: Attendance at two general meetings within twelve months. This society is a member of the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CFMS) and is affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS). **Our Newsletter**, the Breccia, is published ten times annually. **The deadline for all articles is the Sunday after the general meeting.** The Breccia editor is Jo Borucki who may be contacted by email at jborucki@yahoo.com or by phone at (408)245-2881. The Breccia is proofread by Pat Speece. Exchange bulletins may be sent to Jo Borucki, 1196 Sesame Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 94087. Permission to copy is freely granted to American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) affiliated clubs when proper credit is given.

Study Group Leaders

For information, please contact the leader listed below.

Smithies: Pat Speece 408- 266-4327 pat.speece@comcast.net

Cabbers: We need a leader. Can it be you?

Rock Tumbling Study Group: David Mosher