

Chips 'N Splinters

Santa Ana Rock and Mineral Club, 3rd Wednesday @ 7:00 PM



ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

Featured Speaker: Steve Lund

Peridot, Spinel, and Sanonxy

Member's Benefits

Events You Don't Want to Miss

President's Message

Hello SARM members! hope everyone is having a great summer.

Our last meeting in June was our silent auction. This was the best one yet! We were blessed to receive a wonderful collection from a member who moved away.

We conducted the silent auction and then Ray took over and we sold almost everything - with a box of leftover stuff going to the Goodwill. We made \$962.00 for the club!

Club Officers

Dania Boucher - *President*
Ray Walls - *Vice President*
Charlotte Spalding - *Treasurer*
Jim DeMarco - *Parliamentarian,*
Librarian, & Membership Officer
Elaine Forester - *Federation Officer*

Vacancies: Recording Secretary,
Historian Officer, Hospitality Officer

Committee Chairs

Pam & Don Greene - *Workshop*
Ning Su - *Webmaster*
Shawnie Leaf - *Newsletter*
Dania Boucher - *Newsletter Editor*
Ray Walls - *Field Trip Advisor*
Burt Vogler - *Field Trip Advisor*

Our Mission

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONT.

Thanks to all who contributed and thanks to Jim and Elaine for the refreshments.

Our next meeting will be August 17 and our speaker will be my good friend Steve Lund. If you recall, he did a great presentation on the ancient copper trade at a previous meeting. This month's topic will be Noah's ark - stuff you've never heard before! It really is an interesting presentation and I hope everyone can attend. Steve will answer any questions you have.

PS - questions about military, theological & civilizational history or any other nerdy engineer type queries are welcome.

See you on the 17th,

Dania Boucher
President - SARM

NEW MEMBERS

Ryan Lamas, Shawnie Leaf, Joseph Lloyd, Anthony Zaguirre and Jenny Corredean.

The purpose of the Club is to offer an opportunity for those who are interested in rocks, minerals, fossils, and gems, to gather at regular meetings, display and examine items of interest in the hobby, to promote and also encourage the art and practice of lapidary, to exchange experiences and ideas, to organize field trips for members and guests, and to promote the general interest in and knowledge of the hobby.

Meetings: 7 pm, every 3rd Wednesday of the month
(except for July and December).

Where: Green Valley Clubhouse
0739 Los Jardines West
Fountain Valley, CA 92708



AUGUST'S FEATURED SPEAKER

Noah's Ark: The Best Evidence to Date

STEVE LUND

We're all familiar with the story of Noah's ark. You know, that man with a large wooden boat who was somehow able to repopulate the entire earth's biodiverse species by trotting 2 animals each on board. But is it true?

Can science support the parabel of Noah's ark as more of a historical fact than fiction? Join Steve Lund as he discusses the earth's geological records, advanced civilizations, naval architecture and more on August 17th.



Why Three? August's Plethora of Birthstones.

Looking for clever ways to increase "mother's rings" (rings that featured their children's birthstones), the National Association of Jewelers decided that consumers needed not one but two birthstones to choose from in 1912: the "traditional" birthstone, featuring semi-precious rocks like Sanonxy, Pearl, and Turquoise, and the more "modern" set, which featured transparent, elusive, and more expensive gems like Peridot.

Over the years, the official list has been modified on several occasions. But the latest addition happened in 2016 as a part of a more extensive marketing campaign to micro-target 20-26-year-old consumers. August, it seems, got the upgrade. And their marketing campaign "Spectacular Spinel" did deep well after widespread coverage of the new birthstone hit newsstands everywhere.

According to JA CEO and President David Bonaparte, "when there is a strong call from gem enthusiasts to expand the list of official birthstones, Jewelers of America believes in recognizing the importance of historically significant gemstones and giving gemstone lovers a choice."

He means that the jewelry market hit an all-time low back in 2015, so a new birthstone was their sales solution. Call me bitter, but adding birthstones merely for sales feels like a far cry from its historical practices of gemstone wearing for protection. And with December already having three birthstones, alongside June, how long will it take before the other nine months get their third "historically significant" gemstone as well?

SARDONYX

The original birthstone of August, this onyx variety is formed when silica rich water with iron-oxide (known as Shad), seeps into the cracks, fissures and pockets of basaltic lava flows and deposits layers of microcrystalline quartz. This semi-precious gemstone has a rich history of use due to its suitability for carving into cameos, intaglios, and brooches.



SiO_2

Hardness: 6.5 - 7

Color: Red and white; black and white (dye enhanced)



$(\text{Mg, Fe})_2\text{SiO}_4$

Hardness: 6.5-7

Color: Yellow/Green, Olive- Green, Brownish



MgAl_2O_4

Hardness: 7.5 - 8

Color: Red, pink, blue, lavender/violet, dark green, brown, black, colorless

PERIDOT

Considered an isochromatic gemstone, meaning that the coloring comes not from impurities but rather from its chemical composition, Peridot is the gem-quality version of the mineral Olivine and is formed in the molten rocks of earth's upper mantle.

SPINEL

Frequently found near—and mistaken for—Ruby, this gemstone forms in metamorphized limestone and silica-poor mudstones. If you are looking for Spinel crystals, search for dolomite and marble that have been changed through the metamorphic process.

We want your feedback! Let us know what you want to see in upcoming newsletters and share pictures of your own specimens, collections or things you've made. Send your stuff to sarmclub@gmail.com.



Workshop bits and tips

LAPIDARY TOOLS AND KNOWLEDGE AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

The shop is open this summer. Call if you want to come over and work on something on the spur of the moment, or learn how to use the equipment. You don't need to make a reservation in advance, just call when you want to come and If we're home (and we usually are) you'll be welcome. You must be a SARM member to use the equipment. The use fee for the wear and tear on the equipment is \$5 per visit.

Pam & Don Greene (949) 548-0752



Upcoming events

COSTA MESA, AUGUST 26-28

Gem Faire at the Orange County Fairgrounds

88 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa CA 92626

Stones, crystals, beads, findings, tools, gold and silver and much more.

Admission \$7

Friday 12 pm - 6 pm

Saturday 10 am - 6 pm

Sunday 10 am - 5 pm

Wholesale preview Friday 10 am - 12 pm

See site for details.

<https://gemfaire.com/event/costa-mesa-ca-31/>

Upcoming events cont.

TEHACHAPI, CA - AUGUST 20&21

Tehachapi Valley Gem and Mineral Show

500 East "F" Street, Tehachapi, CA

Hours: 9 AM – 5 PM

Rocks, Minerals, Fossils, Beads, Gifts, Collectables, Gemstones and Jewelry. Dealer inquiries accepted.

For information contact Ron Myrick,

E-Mail: travis462@outlook.com (661) 972-1117 or

Robert Papac: getback@csurfers.net (661) 342-5589

<http://tvgms.org>

ARCADIA, CA - AUGUST 20&21

Pasadena Lapidary Society

"Inspiration Unearthed", 62nd Annual Tournament of Gems

Arcadia Masonic Center, 50 W. Duarte Rd., Arcadia

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

Contact: Ellen Ferrell 1-727-512-0381

Email: ellenbf2007@aol.com

<https://www.pasadenalapidary.org>



Santa Ana Rock and Mineral Club is a member of the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CFMS). For more information on shows and events check out their website www.cfmsinc.org



SANTA ANA ROCK AND MINERAL CLUB
SARMCLUB@GMAIL.COM