



ROCKHOUND RAMBLINGS

APRIL 2018 • PASADENA LAPIDARY SOCIETY • PASADENA, CA



The brown tables were six feet long; the white tables were eight. All were put together in different combinations so each dealer would have the display space they needed. Fortunately, there was a map – preserved from past shows. David Lacy and Darien Ross strategize as Mary Kirmil, Ellen Limeres, and Trudi Krose await the call to action. Photo: Elizabeth Weston

A Great Show: How It Happened

by Rex Nishimura

The success of our annual show is built upon the combined efforts of many club members. Somehow we always seem to get it ready and put on a great little rock show.

This year, I thought I'd be the first to arrive at the Masonic Lodge for the Friday morning setup, but was pleasantly surprised to see Mona and Darien waiting, ready to go. It was a great start to a great day. By 8 a.m., several others had arrived, and all of us set to work with great resolve and determination. Like a colony of ants, each one of us had a task, and no one stopped working until everything was ready.

Many Hands, Many Jobs

There were different types of work involved in making the show happen. First, the planning crew rented the building, advertised the show, did preliminary work like buying food and stuffing grab bags. On show day, the moving crew put Masonic furniture and microphones safely in the closets. Another group moved all the chairs out of the main hall and stacked them in a utility room. Others moved tables into position in the display-case room and set up dealer tables in the main hall according to Marcia's map. We also had many members helping to assemble cases, repairing broken cases, and cleaning the glass. Others took care of the lighting and wiring for the cases.

It's Show Time

Mona set up the children's area with Phil Lahr and Nadine Ishizu. In the front lobby, some of the more garrulous members greeted visitors and sold raffle tickets. Others manned the demo table while others assisted in security by patrolling the floor or watching the showcases. Armando ran the silent auction, and Cindy directed the kitchen while DeeJay Bruce blasted us with Gary Lewis and the Playboys, "Count Me In"! There was something for everyone, and everyone did something. This was truly a team effort, which paid off handsomely.

Thanks to everyone who participated in planning and implementing the annual show. Unfortunately, I was so busy with setup that I didn't have a chance to meet or thank all the persons who participated. Please forgive me if I overlook someone's name.

– Rex Nishimura. one of many volunteer PLS members

THANK YOU

Jeff Dengrove
Jim Graffius
Armando Pedroza
Rose Pedroza
Chris and Marléné Kyte
Mona, Leonard, and Darien Ross
Bruce and Cindy Lamarche
and grandson J.C.
Karl Stull and Ellen Limeres
Jennifer Jang
Joe and Marcia Goetz
Ellen Ferrell
Mark and Linda Nelson
Christine Tureaud
Gloria Biesterfeld
Cathy Considine
Martha Wilson
Ed and Corrine Imlay
Trudi Krose
Irene Leung
Nadine Ishizu
Dave Kelty
David and Bonnie Lacy
Phil Lahr
Mickey Moriarty
Ben Shutman
Patricia Stubblefield
Gretchen Anderson
Tim Dirks
Mary Kirmil
Ferdie Sanchez
Paolo Sanchez
Danielle Sanchez
Carol Burton
Carol Sumler
Jennifer Nishimura
Alyson Nishimura
Jared Nishimura
Chuié Nishimura
William and Denise Davis
Valerie Stathatos
Diana Kreinbring
Megan McHone
Sylvia Cliffe
Ralph and Becky Fregoso
Lulu Smith
Elizabeth Weston
Janie Duncan
Susan Carter
Tanner SooHoo
Joan Harrison

President's Message



Dear Fellow Members,

Thank you to everyone for participating in our great 60th Annual Show, "Can You Dig It." The show was very successful, with many new membership applications coming in, and we all had lots of fun. And now we are looking forward to the 61st! Pretty amazing when you think about it.

April will be a good month for us. The board meeting is on the 5th, at Matt Denny's restaurant in Arcadia. As always, members are welcome to attend. The Workshop will be on the 8th, with our Genies and other machines available for you to use on lapidary projects, and plenty of friendly club experts on hand to consult with. Carolyn Duncan should be back. We all missed her last month. Thank you to all who stepped up to help out in her absence.

The Program Meeting, on the 17th, will include a presentation that you won't want to miss: "50 Things to Find in the Mojave."

The speakers are Tony and Sandie Fender, both long-time pillars of the Pasadena Lapidary Society. Consider bringing a guest to this meeting. After the talk, there's a raffle!

This month's field trip takes us to our favorite hunting grounds around Lavic Siding. This can be a day trip (either Saturday or Sunday, the 21st or 22nd), but it is also a great camping experience. Spend time with your fellow rockhounds, find something special at one of the collecting sites, where the ground is literally covered with jasper, and then sit around the campfire and enjoy a potluck on Saturday night. It can't get any better than that. Call or text our field trip leader, Joe Goetz, to let him know you are coming and get any details you need about what to bring or how to get there.

I am looking forward to enjoying all of the events with fellow members and pending members.

Happy Spring to All.

– Ellen Ferrell, President

Leaders, Meetings, Membership Information

Officers

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David Lacy, Secretary
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Linda Nelson, CPA, Treasurer
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Joe Goetz, Federation Director
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joenmar1@verizon.net

Trustees

Joe Goetz, Marcia Goetz,
Chris Kyte

Committee Chairs

Annual Show Ellen Ferrell
Marcia Goetz (cochair)

Bulletin Karl Stull

Display Table Paolo Sanchez

Education Joan Harrison

Field Trips Joe Goetz

Historian Elizabeth Weston

Hospitality TBD

Librarian Jennifer Jang

Membership Marcia Goetz

Publicity Mona Ross
Elizabeth Weston (annual show)

Sunshine Ellen Ferrell

Ways & Means Phil Lahr

Workshop Carolyn Duncan

Webmaster Ben Shutman

Membership

Membership per calendar year is \$25; for a second adult at the same address, \$15; further adults at the same address, \$10. Junior members are \$10. Initiation fee is \$2 per person, and membership badges are \$7.50. Renewals are due by the October program meeting and delinquent after December 31. Mail checks for membership to PO Box 5025, Pasadena, CA 91117-0025.

Board Meetings

1st Thursday every month.
7 p.m. at Matt Denny's Ale House,
145 E Huntington Dr, Arcadia.
All members are welcome.

Workshop

2nd Sunday every month.
Sessions: 9am–1pm and 1–5pm.
Fees are \$3 per session or \$5 for a
full day. Bring lunch!

Safety: Equipment instruction is free (and mandatory). Liability waivers, eye protection, and closed-toe, flat-heeled shoes are required.

Workshop is open to adult members and junior members 9 and older with adult supervision.

Program Meetings

3rd Tuesday every month.
Doors open at 6 p.m.
Meeting is 6:45–8:45 p.m.
Pasadena Central Library
285 E Walnut St.

Guests are welcome.

Online

www.pasadenalapidary.org

Email: info@pasadenalapidary.org

Instagram: /PasadenaLapidary

Twitter: @pasalapidary

Submit articles, corrections, ads, and your ideas to PO Box 5025, Pasadena, CA 91117-0025 or info@pasadenalapidary.org. Include NEWSLETTER in the subject line.

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Opposite page: *There was lots to look at around the Display Table during the February program meeting. Ellen Limeres brought cabochons made from slabs acquired at Quartzsite 2018. After the presentation about amethysts, geologist Mary Pat Weber offered closeup views under UV light. Ed Imlay shared a big chunk of amethyst with big crystalline teeth.*



On two Fridays in February, Mona Ross and Janie Duncan visited 2nd grade classes at Washington Elementary STEM Academy (Pasadena). Shown here with a favorite onyx carving of a stegosaurus, Janie also delighted young visitors to our Annual Show with rock samples, activities, and amazing rock facts.

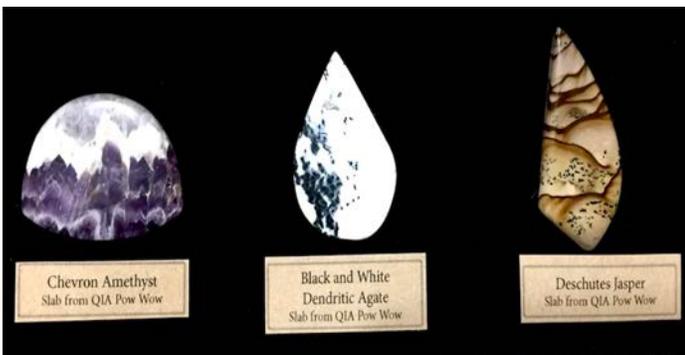
Visit to Washington STEM School

Janie Duncan and I did three presentations for about 70 to 80 kids total. As we started setting up in Mr. Renteria’s classroom, they commented excitedly on our rocks, minerals, and fossils, recognizing some of them. One boy was wearing a stegosaurus sweatshirt.

“Where can you find rocks?” I asked, to get things started. We talked about where to find rocks: in the environment, in products like toothpaste, in our food, in construction materials, and in space. Then we talked about the rock cycle, and showed examples of the three kinds of rocks and how they’re formed. Janie showed specimens of the California state rock (serpentine), state mineral (gold – which drew ooh’s and aah’s every time), state gem (benitoite), and state fossil (saber cat tooth replica). Janie showed a photo of the stegosaurus leg bone unearthed by her father in Wyoming in 1938, and then brought out a dinosaur egg preserved by a sandstorm millions of years ago.

We asked the boy with the sweatshirt to stand, so everyone could see the dinosaur while Janie talked about the stegosaurus bone. It was the boy’s moment to shine.

I showed a few of my favorite rocks, including lapis lazuli, rose quartz, amethyst, fluorite, tigereye, and labradorite. At the end, we gave the teachers flyers for the Annual Show, cards with information about PLS meetings, and polished rocks from Janie’s collection for each child to take home. – Mona Ross



April Program Meeting



50 Things to Find in the Mojave

This month, rockhounds will get to visit a desert in the present and a forest in the past, without leaving the Pasadena library auditorium. Distinguished members Tony and Sandie Fender will present “50 Things to Find in the Mojave Desert.” Tony and Sandie are both teachers (Sandie now retired), and both enjoy spending as much time as possible in the Mojave. Both are past presidents of PLS, and Tony will become president of CFMS in 2019. Tony and Sandie enjoy lapidary work, silversmithing, glass fusing, beading, and attending rock club shows and meetings throughout the state. Somehow, Tony also manages to deliver lectures in Engineering at Caltech.

For Rock of the Month, one of our junior members, Alyson Nishimura, will talk about the Blue Forest Petrified Wood Deposit in Wyoming.

Come join us Tuesday, April 17, and bring any rock specimens, workshop projects, or lapidary-related items you would like to share on the Display Table. As always, Paolo Sanchez will be on hand for rock and mineral identification. Phil Lahr will have beautiful slabs for the raffle. See you there! – Mona Ross



Pasadena Lapidary Society 2018 Annual Show



Rex Nishimura and crew (Chris Kyte, Jeff Dengrove, and Jim Graffius) assemble the Club Case. Next, the Workshop Case. Cases by Carolyn Duncan; Carol Burton and Carol Sumler; and David Lacy, seen at right wrangling ping-pong balls.

Young imaginations peering into display case wonders. Jewelry by Marcia Goetz. Cabochon wrapping strategy by Ed Imlay. Trade-up prizes and Nadine Ishizu at the Treasure Wheel. Ammonite fossil pendant donated by Gloria Biesterfeld as a prize in the raffle.



In the main hall, geologists Dick and Mary Pat Weber are behind David Lacy. Onstage for Demonstrations, Martha Wilson and Valerie. Cindy Lamarche, Diana Kreinbring, and Linda Nelson making the kitchen the fun place to be – at another great Annual Show of the Pasadena Lapidary Society.

Photos by Elizabeth Weston, Bruce Lamarche, Karl Stull

Bonnie Lacy, Gloria Biesterfeld, and Christine Tureaud greeting show visitors. Trudi Krose and Irene Leung at the Grab Bags table. Becky Fregoso at the Silent Auction; then Ben Shutman, Armando Pedroza, and Ralph Fregoso. In the main hall, Valerie Stathatos on a break between Raffle duty and Demonstrations.

Field Trips

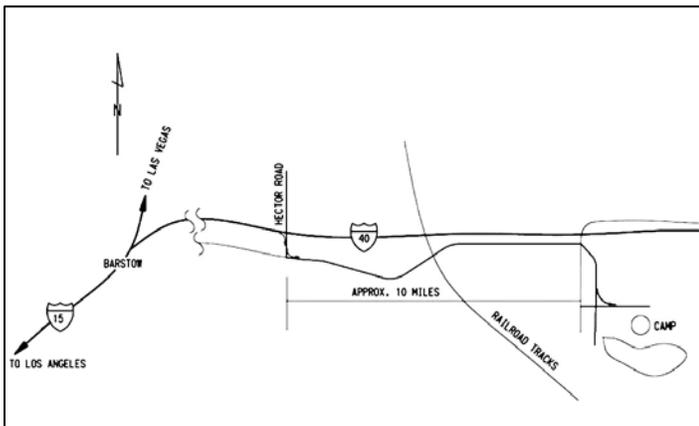


Lavic Siding, April 21–22

We were rained out in March, so we'll try again in April, because Lavic Siding is one of the few destinations where you can drive in, step out of your car, and start collecting immediately. The terrain is literally covered with jasper, including gem-quality specimens if you search carefully.

Take the Hector Road exit from I-40, arriving at the camp site before 8:30 a.m. on Saturday and/or Sunday. Let us know you're coming. Call or text (626) 914-5030.

Somewhere in Calif. – Joe Goetz



Dear Cabby,
I took two of my favorite pendants out recently and noticed they were scratched. Can they be saved? –AGATATED

Dear Agatated,
Fret not, the pendants can be rescued. It's just a matter of using the sanding and polishing wheels in your workshop. I consulted award-winning Cab Master Joe Goetz on this question, and he suggested the following:

To remove scratches from an already polished stone, start with the 600-grit wheel (4th from left on a Genie). Use firm pressure, because too light a touch can cause scratching. After that, if you still see scratches, then you need to sand with the 280-grit wheel (3rd from left) and repeat with the 600-grit wheel.

When the scratches are gone, move on to the fifth and sixth wheels to polish the stone. But first, take a bar of soap and rub it over the stone to fill the bead hole and any pits in the surface. When you're done at the polishing wheels, use warm water and a toothbrush to remove the soap, and your stone once again has a beautiful finish.

Thanks, Joe! – Cabigail Van Boron

Send your Dear Cabby questions to info@pasadenalapidary.org.

Education Corner



Thank you to everyone who volunteered at our March Show's Demonstration tables!

Volunteers modeled expert work and created a relaxed and inviting atmosphere for our visitors. Members demonstrated carving, cabbing, beading bezels, making gem trees, wire wrapping pendants and rings, and a variety of lovely beaded and linked chains.

As always, please contact me at liveoak180@yahoo.com or (323) 640-4394 if you'd like to get involved with school and community education presentations.

Display Table: Paolo Sanchez facilitates the Display table at our club meetings. You may display items of general interest, workshop projects, and items you've collected on field trips. If you'd like to know the name of a rock or mineral you've acquired, please bring it to the next meeting and set it on the table, beneath the "What Is This?" sign.

Polishing a small section, or carefully "knocking off" a small corner of the specimen will provide more clues. You can also send a photo with good resolution to Paolo at: paolosanchez@lhsla.org. – Joan Harrison

Our Annual Show Publicity Heroes

Many thanks to **William Davis** for his outstanding work in getting our 2018 show news to radio and TV media, as well as schools, scouts, and boys/girls clubs. We have Denise Davis to thank as well, who kept us updated as show announcements were aired on morning and early afternoon broadcasts by channels ABC-7 and KTLA-5, leading up to the show opening. *You're a rock star, William!*

I sent out our show news to publications throughout Southern California, and we saw primarily local pickup, both online and printed. Our local hero is PasadenaNow.com, which literally ran our full show announcement and the pictures I provided within two hours after submittal on the landing page of their In Focus section, and kept the article up until end of show.

– Elizabeth Weston

Follow Us on Instagram

We're on Instagram now, which feeds our Twitter and Facebook pages, extending social media reach tremendously:

<https://www.instagram.com/PasadenaLapidary/>

Workshop



Sunday, April 8

Saws and polishing machines are available to members (come early in case of high demand for the large saws). Browse our Library for project ideas and how-to's. Catch up on PLS events and people in the break area. New members and applicants, please call to arrange a tour or required training.

Workshop hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Half day is \$3, all day \$5. Park on the street or in the lot on the east side of the building.

Entrance is on the west side of the building, down the walkway between buildings. Do not use the ramp in the parking lot.

For directions, please call me at (909) 593-2781 or email gem.quest@verizon.net. – Carolyn Duncan

Welcome, New Members

Four applicants became new members of the club last month, participating in three activities and receiving board approval. Say hello to:

George and Karen Lewis

Matt Pedroza

Rose Pedroza

Share the lapidary hobby by inviting friends and neighbors to one of our monthly meetings. Give us the name and address of someone who might be interested, and we'll send them a newsletter. – Marcia Goetz

New member

*Matthew Pedroza
with proud father
Armando Pedroza
at the March
Workshop.*



FASANAROCK

John & Christina Fasana

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Rock and Gem Shows

April 6–8 VISTA: Vista Gem & Mineral Society, Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum, 2040 N Santa Fe Ave. Hours: 9–5. www.vistarocks.org

April 7–8 MARIPOSA: Mariposa Gem & Mineral Society, Mariposa County Fairgrounds, 5007 Fairgrounds Rd. Hours: Sat 10–5, Sun 10–4. www.mariposagemclub.org

April 21–22 THOUSAND OAKS: Conejo Gem & Mineral Club, Borchard Park Community Center, 190 Reino Rd. Hours: Sat 10–5, Sun 10–4. www.cgamc.org

April 21–22 PASO ROBLES: Santa Lucia Rock Hounds, Paso Robles Event Center, 2198 Riverside Ave. Hours: Sat 10–5, Sun 10–4. www.srockhounds.org

April 28–29 LANCASTER: Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral Society, Lancaster High School, 44701 - 32nd St West. Hours: 10–5. www.avgem.weebly.com

April 28–29 RENO, NV: Reno Gem & Mineral Society, Reno/Sparks Livestock Event Center, 1350 North Wells Ave. Hrs: Sat 10–5, Sun 10–4. www.renorockhounds.com

PLS Member Poll

Do You Want the Calendar Back?

Several members have said the calendar page that used to appear on the last page of the newsletter was useful for them. What do you say? Would you rather have a calendar on page 8 instead of color photos? What if we put a monthly calendar on a non-color page, such as page 7? Send your feedback to info@pasadenalapidary.org.

You Can Go Paperless

In addition to the printed newsletter that comes to you in the regular mail, we also send an electronic version to all members with an email address. If you have not received the electronic version, it means we don't have your email address. To update your information, send us an email that says, "Add my email, please."

If you prefer to receive only the email version of the newsletter (save a tree), send an email that says "Paperless, please" to:

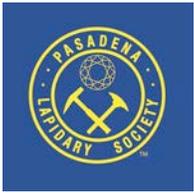
info@pasadenalapidary.org

Volunteer for Rock of the Month

The June program meeting needs you.

- Five to eight minutes of fame
- Talk about your favorite mineral or fossil
- We can suggest a topic and sources of information
- Technical support available, or create your own visual aids

Contact Mona: mlr.gotrocks@gmail.com or (626) 437-0150.



Pasadena Lapidary Society, Inc.
PO Box 5025
Pasadena, CA 91117-0025



Key dates

Board meeting 4/5

Workshop 4/8

Program meeting 4/17

"50 Things to Find in the Mojave,"
Tony and Sandie Fender

Field trip 4/21-4/22
Lavic Siding – rescheduled after rainout in March



www.pasadenalapidary.org

From the field trip to Kramer Junction...



Above: As rockhounds gather around an exciting find on the flank of Opal Mountain, Matthew Bell exclaims: "That's not a seam. That's a vein!"

Right: The nearby formation of chocolate brown basalt reminds many of an eagle landing on a pine branch. To field trip leader Jay Valle, it's an upside-down pterodactyl.

