



ROCKHOUND RAMBLINGS

AUGUST 2022 • PASADENA LAPIDARY SOCIETY® EDITOR: ALYSON NISHIMURA



~PLS Knapps Back to the Past~

Clink, clink. The unmistakable music coming from flint knappers making paleo tools and arrowheads. Since the beginning of time, man has made tools by using reasoning and logic to solve complex problems. Making arrowheads is far more advanced than a chimpanzee fashioning a twig to pull ants out of a nest. The shaping of rocks, known as lithic reduction, involves complex issues of geometry and geology. Lithic reduction is the process of using blows or pressure to shape stones or rocks from their natural state into tools or weapons. Archaeologists can frequently identify tribes by the precise style of their tools and the reduction techniques they used.

We've all seen flint knappers at the shows; sometimes they charge the public for rudimentary instruction. Not so this weekend. Members from the Pasadena Lapidary Society and the Anaheim Searchers attended a field trip to Chilao School, about 50 minutes from La Canada.

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Pasadena Lapidary Presents "Inspiration Unearthed"

Our annual show this year is August 20 -21. Set-up will be on Friday August 19. The show hours for the public are Saturday 10 AM - 6 PM and Sunday 10 AM - 5 PM. Show volunteers can arrive anytime after 7:30 PM on all three days.

The show location this year is at the Arcadia Masonic Center, 50 W. Duarte Rd., Arcadia, CA. A map of the show location can be found at pasadenalapidary.org and click Menu and then on the PLS 2022 Show tab.

Meetings

Board Meetings – 1st Thursday of the month. Members welcome to join.

Program Meetings – 3rd Tuesday of the month

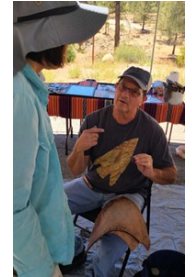
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Pasadena Lapidary Society®

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PLS Knapps Back to the Past

Here, at the nonprofit Redbird Visions Foundation, we attended the Chilao Knap-in. The Knap-in was an informal gathering of volunteer paleo tool specialists who instructed us on how to fashion our obsidian finds in usable arrowheads, scrapers, and spear tips.



PLS member Betty Stradford even helped instructor Gary Pickett to make this beautiful flint spear tip.



Searchers Steve K and Virgil also attended this trip and both fashioned arrowheads out of striped translucent-gray obsidian.

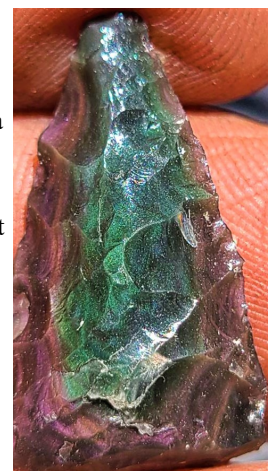
Though most of the rockhounds used obsidian, junior PLS member Danny gleaned some flint shards and made workable arrowheads. He was so excited to do things with the men that he forgot about the small cuts on his hands. It was definitely a growing up activity for him and I'm proud to be a witness to it.



As the afternoon heated up, many members beat a hasty retreat to the air conditioned visitor's center, where docent Nel Graham amazed us with her knowledge of local geology and extensive mineral display.



The knapping ended around 6:30 PM, but that was just the start of the festivities. We had a fabulous pot luck dinner followed by an evening hike to a nearby rock quarry. We didn't find the quarry, but the bats and mosquitoes found us and we knew it was time to hit the road. As dusk turned to darkness, we reminisced on the day's events and the tools that we made. Who knows, maybe someday, archaeologists may classify rockhounds based on the techniques used to make our own private collection of paleo tools.





General Meeting-August 16, 2022

The August general meeting at The Santa Anita Church, Colorado Street, Arcadia, CA, will feature a talk entitled "Geology from 30,000 feet above." The presentation will focus on large-scale landscape geology. Although I have never presented on this before, it is very interesting and helpful for understanding Earth science, and to an extent, minerals. This presentation will focus on looking at geologic landscapes from the window seat of a plane, featuring many pictures I took when flying across the state and the country. I will talk about prominent geologic features such as the San Andreas Fault, Cascade Volcanoes, and the Colorado Plateau. Hope to see you there!

~Paolo Sanchez

Workshop-August 13, 2022

The August workshop will be an opportunity for new members to get oriented and start on their first cabachons while more experienced members enjoy time on the saws, grinders, and other equipment. The tables will be available to work on other projects as well. We will also be putting a few things together to get ready for our annual show.

First timers need to RSVP a few days in advance to Marcia at (626) 260-7239 to get directions to the workshop and reserve a space in the orientation and Cabbings 101 classes. Please arrive at 9:00 am because orientation starts shortly afterward.

The August workshop will be held on Saturday, August 13, from 9 am to 3 pm. It may close early if it is too hot or participation is low. Cost is \$5 for the full day or \$3 for a half day. Access the workshop by walking up the alley on the west side of the building and use the sliding door there. Please do not use the door at the loading dock.

Member-to-Member

First, we have a six-inch trim saw body. This is a "handyman special." I was able to run it at speed and the bearings are quiet. Includes saw body and pulleys. You add everything else including the blade. The good news is that it is only \$20. Secondly, we have a wonderful muscle multiplier for those who want more/bigger rocks than they can carry to the car. This is a travois with a big pneumatic tire, two sturdy handles and a strong net. Should work on moderately rough ground or better. It is home made, but well made. Asking just \$40, probably less than the cost of parts to make your own.

If you are interested in either item, are looking for something, or have something to sell, e-mail Phil at plkslahr@att.net.



PLS Show Location

Our PLS Show will be held on August 20-21, 2022 at the **Arcadia Masonic Center**
50 W. Duarte Rd.
Arcadia CA.

Calling All Members to 'Show' Your Club Spirit!

NOW is the time for PLS members to step up and volunteer to help at our Show coming in just a few short weeks. Your contribution of time can be as much as all-day Saturday and Sunday, August 20 and 21, or as little as just a couple of hours either day. **YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU!**

How can you help? Here's how:

- **David Lacy** seeks help with *security* in keeping eyes open for disruptions, trouble, theft; 6-8 volunteers each of the two days, two volunteers per each two-hour shift. Call **David**
- **Nancy Robb** needs help in the *Kid's area*. The most important key to our club's longevity is instilling an appreciation for rocks, minerals and fossils in young impressionable minds, with the hope that appreciation will evolve into active participation as an adult in the future activities our club holds dear.
- Do you attend the workshop every month honing your creative talents? *Share your skills as a demonstrator* at the show! Let **Joan Harrison** know you're on board to show off your lapidary abilities at the show.
- Is your extroverted side trying to shine? Be a *Greeter*! Show your enthusiasm for lapidary and rocks with visitors as they approach the entrance; sign up with **Ferdie Sanchez**.
- *Grab Bags* are super popular with show attendees and **Mona Ross** is going to need help with them so anxious attendees don't get too 'grabby'!
- Want to see our membership ranks grow? Have a seat at the membership booth and tell curious show attendees what we're all about. Don't be shy... everything you like about our club is plenty to tell prospective members about. Many folks just want to sign up in order to attend workshop but let them know how much fun we have on fieldtrips, and how valuable the knowledge that we gain is, from attending the monthly programs. To help onboard new members at the show, contact **Sue Pang**.
- Want to help but you're bashful? Aw, c'mon... you can pitch in at the *snack bar/kitchen*, handing out food and drink to hungry and/or thirsty attendees. Let **Marcia Goetz** know you're there for her!
- Are you the athletic kind but lack a fitness membership? Then sign up for *Set Up* (Friday, August 19) OR *Tear Down* (end of day, Sunday, August 21) – or **BOTH**. As the saying goes, 'more hands make light work' and we need bodies to prepare the venue for the show on the 19th, as well as energetic individuals at end of day Sunday/21st to put everything away in its proper place in a timely manner. Our Show Committee members put herculean efforts into preparing the show and when the clock hits 5 p.m. on Sunday, they'll be exhausted. Volunteering members are sorely needed to help ensure committee chairs' responsibilities are wrapped up by dark so everyone can go home, kick their heels up and relax for the remainder of Sunday night. Tell **Joe Goetz** you can help. He'll really appreciate it!

While we primarily need volunteers in person, there are other ways you can pitch in:

- *Donate raffle prizes valued in the range of \$20-25*. They can be your own lapidary-related creations or items relevant to our hobby that potential raffle winners would love to win.
- *Put what you're proud of on display*. There are 18 display cases available for members who want to show off their prize specimens or finished lapidary projects. Contact the individuals listed above to offer your help or if you're not sure where you can be of assistance, call **Marcia** and she'll find something that will work for you and help toward this show's success. Sign-up sheets will be at the Aug. 13th workshop and Aug. 16th program meeting.

After a two-year, involuntary hiatus from having our annual show, **WE ARE BACK!!** Let's show the public what a great, involved club we are. Every member can help in some way, big or small. **YOU CAN DO IT!!**

~Elizabeth Weston



Pasadena Lapidary Society, Inc.
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Dear Members,

This monthly meeting was an ice cream social and silent auction. How can you go wrong with ice cream and the toppings AND silent auction? I hope everybody had a good time and got a great bowl of ice cream. The silent auction had a nice assortment of items and there was something for everyone.

Our show is coming up and the committee members have been working hard to make it a big success. If you're new and haven't been to one of our shows then you will have a great time! I am eagerly waiting to see several dealers as it's been 2 and 1/2 years since I've been able to visit with them and purchase their products.

We will have a kitchen with chili, hot dogs and nachos for sale on the menu. While this is not the gourmet menu that Chris Kyte liked to serve us in the past, it will be great food and give you the strength to get through a day's volunteering (a moment of silence here to savor the memory of Chris' carrot soup). This is a fun show to invite your friends and family to. There are games for kids (of all ages). We have had many very senior people stop by and play the sand scoop game, win a prize and be just as excited as our young members. There will be a silent auction at the show with an assortment of items. We are asking for donations of prizes for the raffle - the item needs to have at least a \$25 value, be new, and have a rock or lapidary theme. You can bring it on Friday during set up or call Marcia at 626 260-7239.

Sincerely, Marcia Goetz, *President*

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

PASADENALAPIDARY.ORG