



ROCKHOUND RAMBLINGS

AUGUST 2023 • PASADENA LAPIDARY SOCIETY® EDITOR: GINA MILLIGAN



The Pasadena Lapidary Society presents

63rd Annual Gem & Mineral Show

August 26 & 27, 2023

10 am – 5 pm (Sat), 10 am – 4 pm (Sun)

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



Chrysocolla in quartz (gem silica) from
the Inspiration Mine, Gila County, Arizona.
Specimen from the collection of Walt Lombardo.
Jeff Scovil, photographer.



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Officers

David Lacy, President dececelink@earthlink.net
 Sue Dekany, Secretary PLS_secretary@protonmail.com
 Philip Lahr, Treasurer plkslahr@att.net
 Sue Pang, Federation Dir. sp2019pi@gmail.com

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Membership: Sue Pang	Hospitality: Mona Ross
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Ways & Means: Michelle Schurer	Annual Show: Marcia Goetz

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Editor: Gina Milligan rockhoundramblings@gmail.com Send articles by the 15th of the previous month for publication in next month's issue. Note: no article is guaranteed to be published.

Welcome New Members!

We are delighted to have new rock hound(s) join our society in July 2023. A warm welcome to:



Leger Biederman, Judy Link, Kelly Melle, Toni Tutor, Rosemarie Unite, and Nina Smith.

Invite a friend to join PLS! There is a \$10.00 initiation fee. Please pay in person or send in via US postal service to our PO Box.

\$25.00+\$10.00 for adult member.
 \$15.00+\$10.00 for 2nd adult member.
 \$10.00+\$10.00 for additional adult or Junior member.

~Sue Pang, Membership Chairman

Meetings

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

General Meetings – Every 3rd Tuesday of the month.

Pasadena Lapidary Society®

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Brad's Bench Tips: Coloring Epoxy



There are two ways to add color when you are using epoxies. The first is to add a powdered material like colored chalk, charcoal, or powdered colors from an art supply store. One which I particularly like is a set of pastel glitter powders. A second way is to add a liquid pigment like nail polish, model airplane painting, or tinting pigments from a marine supplies store.

In preparing for use, the important things are to use exactly equal parts of the two components and to thoroughly mix them together. Coloring material can be added at any time. If I'm making just a small amount, I squeeze out equal sized droplets onto a piece of scrap paper or aluminum foil and mix thoroughly with a toothpick.

To mix larger amounts of epoxy, I use a gram scale to weigh the first component. Then I zero the scale and weigh out the same amount of the second component, add coloring if needed, and mix.



If you are using 5-minute epoxy, the mixing needs to move quickly. But I like to work carefully when adding color, so I squeeze out equal sized droplets side-by-side on the scrap paper. Then I work with just one of the droplets to add the colors. The 5-minute clock only starts when you mix in the second droplet.

More smart solutions for your jewelry making problems can be found in my metal arts books on Amazon at: amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith.

- Brad Smith

Member-to-Member

A member has a Rascal electric mobility scooter available to someone who needs it. This unit is in good condition and the batteries are less than a year old. A carrier which attaches to a trailer hitch is included to make the scooter easy to take on outings. It is capable of going for miles at a pretty quick pace and can help someone get around the shopping center or Quartzite shows comfortably. Contact Phil (818-926-3163) for more information.

We have a two-head sphere machine and a crate of cups in a variety of sizes available from the club. I am not yet listing a price because I still need to verify that the motors work and bearings are good. There will be a little bit of rust removal needed and you will probably want to remount the machine on a new baseboard, but there is a good chance it will otherwise be ready to go. This is something that doesn't show up often, so contact Phil and find out if you might want this machine.

If you have something to sell or are looking for something, email Phil (plkslahr@att.net) by the 15th of the month to have it included in the next bulletin.



President's Message

Hi, Rockhounds! It has been a busy time since I wrote last. Remember back when I asked if anyone was tired of the rain?? How did the rain get switched for All This Heat? As I said at the Ice Cream Social, the idea of getting out to the desert with 110+ degree heat is a little much, so the August field trip was supposed to be to Rancho Palos Verdes at Bluff Cove. A place which is a whole lot cooler than almost anywhere else we can go these days. Sadly, that trip has been canceled due to excessive bacteria levels, per a statement from the LA Department of Public Health. Stay tuned for future field trip alerts.

As I announced at the General Meeting, Judy Romine's membership was terminated due to disruptive activities and personal attacks on members of Pasadena Lapidary Society. These types of behavior are not permitted in the Society Bylaws and Operating Regulations, so appropriate action was taken by the Board of Directors, resulting in termination of her membership. Sorry to do this, but we were left with no other alternative.

-- COMMERCIAL TIME --

Come one, come all to the August Pasadena Lapidary Society Gem and Mineral Show!! As most of you know, it is taking place on August 26th-27th, but help is needed on August 25th as well. Setup is happening on Friday and people who are not afraid to get down on their hands & knees to string power cables, complete decorating the dealer tables, help getting the kitchen ready to feed the "worker bees" at setup and during the show, and "other duties as assigned" (for all you former military/government workers), will be greatly appreciated. Check the sign-up sheets at the Workshop on August 12th and at the General Meeting on August 15th, pick the time when you'd like to volunteer and for what activity, sign up and come have fun. (Gentle plug—come and be a deputy for the show. Gets you into the show and lets you roam around looking at things and talking with the dealers. Nice way to gather info on rocks of your interest.

Also needed are volunteers for Rock of the Month talks for the rest of the year. Let's keep the flow of interesting presentations coming! If you know something related to Lapidary/Rocks/Minerals/Geology/etc. and can do an interesting presentation, let me, Sue Pang, Marcia Goetz or Sue Dekany know, and we can schedule you. It Doesn't Hurt A Bit!

- David Lacy, President

Rock Quotes of The Month:

"We have forgotten what rocks and plants still know—we have forgotten how to be still—to be ourselves—to be where life is here and now." - Eckhart Tolle

"...gentleness is stronger than severity, water is stronger than rock, love is stronger than force." - Hermann Hesse

General Meeting - August 15, 2023

Did everyone have fun at our annual ice cream social last month? Although this month's meeting won't be as sweet, it'll still be a great time.



Our next meeting will be on August 15th and will be held in the Fellowship Hall at the Santa Anita Church located at 226 West Colorado Boulevard in Arcadia, as usual.

Our junior members are in the spotlight this month as they'll share all of the details of their recent competition, Spoiler alert: they won awards!

And our monthly raffle is back. Be sure to bring a few extra bucks so you can enter the drawing. And if you've got something nifty, interesting or otherwise cool to contribute to the prizes, bring them along and donate them at the raffle table. It's wonderful to have some variety on the table!

If you've got some snacks to share, bring those along too. We always appreciate a variety of nibbles to nosh! And as they say, variety is the spice of life! It's also the spice of food. Just saying.

Workshop – Saturday, August 12

Our next workshop will be held on Saturday, August 12, from 9am - 3pm, but may close early if temperatures are uncomfortably hot.



Martha Wilson will be teaching a class starting about 10:00 where you will learn to make long teardrop earrings from a single piece of wire, as well as several other designs. The technique is easy to master and can be used in a variety of other designs, whether worn plain, or with beads and dangles. All supplies and tools will be provided, but feel free to bring your own beads and any other supplies you wish to use. A list of supplies and tools is available upon request. We plan to have a follow-up class in September.

First-timers and anyone who needs an orientation of help learning how to make cabochons needs to respond a few days in advance to Marcia at (626) 260-7329 to get directions to the workshop and allow us to schedule an instructor. Orientation will start about 9:30 am, but please come a little early.

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; the troll gets grouchy when it's hot.

~Phil Lahr



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



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