



CFMS NEWSLETTER

Vol LXI #3

March 2024



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Marcia Goetz

Greetings Rock Friends,

The gemstone for March is aquamarine. California is blessed to have several locations where aquamarine can be found, but the largest specimen I have seen was one displayed many years ago at the San Bernardino Museum that had been found in the San Bernardino mountains up by Big Bear.

Aquamarine is a lovely blue that when deeply saturated is the color of lakes or the ocean...like the ocean just west of the Ventura CFMS/AFMS Gem and Mineral Show. Information for the Ventura Gem and Mineral Show can be found at www.2024cfms-afms.com. The forms for competition (along with the AFMS Uniform Rules) and non-completion cases are available. You can find a list of Places to Stay in the area also. If you are staying at an inn or motel, I heard it might be wise to book early because the show is on a holiday weekend and rates might be higher closer to the show date. Reservation for banquet can be found at the same website.

A note to the Committee Chairs to remember to get your reports to Pat by May 10 to get into the packet. Those that miss the date will give their report in person at the Director's Meeting.

A reminder to societies that non-profit tax forms are due May 15 if you use the calendar year as your tax year. If not, the deadline is 4 ½ months following the end of the club's fiscal year.

I hope everyone is enjoying the year so far. If you find yourself listless and wondering what to do, a show could be a great idea. In just the month of March there are 10 shows - found all over the state of course, maybe one close enough for a visit.

Marcia Goetz



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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Mar 5..... Deadline for Apr Newsletter
Apr 5. Dealine for May Newsletter
May 24-26. ... CFMS/AFMS Convention & Show
Aug 16-31. Camp Paradise

CFMS INSURANCE CONTACTS

McDaniel Insurance Services
PO Box 1294, Ojai, CA 93024
Tel (805) 646-9948 or (800) 400-7288
Fax (805) 646-9976; email: pmcdaniel@mcd-ins.com
Web Site: www.mcdanielinsuranceservices.com

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CFMS NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS

CFMS Newsletter is published 11 times a year by the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc., PO Box 1657, Rialto, CA 92377-1657. Subscription: \$6.00 per year, January through December. Newsletters are also available for download on the CFMS website. No password required.

CFMS WEBSITE

The CFMS website is accessible at www.cfmsinc.org
Editors are invited to download articles for their bulletins from this website. Be sure to cite the source.

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

The deadline for the newsletter is the 5th day of the month prior to the month of publication. Articles should be sent to the editor at bplarue@earthlink.net. "Snail mail"? Please send to the CFMS PO Box 1657, Rialto, CA 92377-1657. Articles without a byline are written by the editor.

DONATIONS

Donations to any of the funds administered by CFMS and/or AFMS are tax deductible under the rules governing tax exempt organizations which are 501(c)(3). Your cancelled check or receipt is considered to be proof of your donation for purposes of filing your federal tax return. If a personal donation is \$250 or more, a letter attesting to that amount is also required. Member clubs and individuals are encouraged to donate to any of the following:

CFMS Scholarship Fund
CFMS Endowment Fund
CFMS General Fund
Diedrick Memorial Scholarship Fund
AFMS Scholarship Foundation
AFMS Endowment Fund
Burns Memorial Camp Fund (benefits Earth Science Studies)
Facilities Development Fund

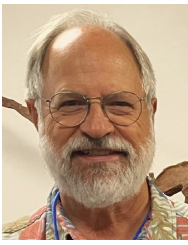
Your donations should be sent to:
Pat LaRue, Exec. Sec/Treas
PO Box 1657
Rialto, CA 92377-1657

Receipts and any supporting documents will be forwarded on to the committee member responsible for acknowledgment. Please make all checks payable to CFMS or AFMS as appropriate and note the fund in the memo section.

The CO-OP "Field Trip Chairman's Association" Celebrating 50 years in 2022!

We are looking forward to hosting our Seminar Meeting at the Sacramento County Extension Building 4145 Branch Center Rd. Sacramento CA. at 9 AM SUNDAY March 3rd, the day will be different than our usual Saturday as no Saturday was available. The location is free, and the room is much larger. Open to all CO-OP member society members. We hope to have more society members and guests attend our meeting. We will be holding our annual "Live Auction" for our fund raiser. We had a record-breaking auction last year! Thank you to our Donors and Bidders! Our host society will be Calaveras Gem & Mineral Society. Lunch and Speaker information to follow. For more information, please contact Misty at mistywatsonc21@hotmail.com

Submitted by Jim Barton



JUNIOR ACTIVITIES

By Jim Brace-Thompson, CFMS
Junior Activities Chair

2024 Junior Achievement Awards Deadline Approaches

By the time you receive this, the deadline may be past—or maybe not! We still seek applications from pebble pup and junior members for the 2024 CFMS Junior Achievement Awards. These awards acknowledge and reward outstanding kids under 12 (Age Group 1) and ages 12-18 (Age Group 2). Kids submit applications, and winners earn a Certificate-of-Achievement and \$100.

An application form was distributed at the Fall Directors' Meeting and may also be found at the back of the December and February CFMS newsletters. It's also posted to the CFMS website (<https://cfmsinc.org/juniors-achievement-award/>). Please share this info with parents in your club and encourage their kids to enter. The **deadline for receipt of applications is March 1, 2024; send to jbraceth@roadrunner.com**. Applicants must be enrolled in a CFMS-affiliated society. The child's age as of December 31, 2023 determines the age group. If a child won last year, he or she will need to wait out a full year to enter again UNLESS s/he has moved up from Age Group 1 to Age Group 2. Kids who submitted applications last year but didn't win can enter again this year.

Finally, to determine our winners, we need judges! We have one (*Thank you, Yvonne Mack!*), and I continue to seek at least two more volunteers. If that's you, please contact me at jbraceth@roadrunner.com.

THIRD (DESPERATE) CALL FOR GOLDEN BEAR AWARD NOMINEES!

For Outstanding Service to CFMS

By Jim Brace-Thompson, Golden Bear Committee
Chair

As noted the last 2 months, the Golden Bear Committee seeks your help offering a special award. The Golden Bear Award acknowledges outstanding service to the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Nominations may come from the CFMS Executive Committee, Federation Directors of member societies, and/or a CFMS Committee Chair. Within the ranks of

CFMS, who has captured your attention and respect over the years? Please note that nominees should not be informed of their nomination. It should come as a surprise honor during the Awards Banquet at our Annual Show & Convention. Simple documentation must accompany the nomination outlining the nominee's service.

Surely someone comes to mind—someone you always respect, trust, and rely upon within the federation. **The deadline for nominations is April 30**, but don't delay!

Email me right away as you read this article (jbraceth@roadrunner.com). The Golden Bear Award committee looks forward to honoring an outstanding member of our CFMS community at the Annual Show & Convention taking place May 24-26 in Ventura, California, but to do so, we need **your** help. Many thanks!



Photo: Sharon Rogow received the 2023 Golden Bear Award in Lodi.

DUES ARE DUE

By Pat LaRue, Exec. Secretary/Treasurer

It's that time of year again! A few of our member societies/clubs have already mailed their checks for the year but we need all of you to take care of this matter as soon as possible. The insurance policy bill was paid in October and we depend on our members to pay their share of the cost. The cost to you is \$9 per member (yes, that includes juniors who participate in club activities) based on your membership at the end of the year. Of that amount, \$2 is for dues; the remaining \$7 is for your club's share of the cost for the general liability insurance. Deadline to pay is March 1. A late fee of \$50 will apply to any payments not postmarked by April 1.



CLUB ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR

By Chris Ward, Chair
chris_ward678@yahoo.com

Hello Fellow Rockhounds! We have another 2023 Rockhound of the Year recipient and a 2024 recipient and both are from the same society. Please take advantage of this wonderful and free program offered to you by the CFMS. Each club/society can name one individual plus one junior member or one couple plus one junior member to receive this prestigious recognition each year. And, you'll be able to present them with certificates from both the CFMS & AFMS along with a ROTY Lapel Pin. And, an article will appear in both the CFMS & AFMS newsletters acknowledging your honorees. Email your submissions to me and include a write up highlighting your honorees achievements (500 words or less). Please also include a return address where I can mail the certificate(s) and pin(s) to. Any board member can make the submission. You do not have to wait until the end of the year to send in your honorees. Here's looking forward to receiving more ROTY submissions throughout the coming year.

Brett Allen Johnson & Brett Bednorz- Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society - 2023 Honorees

Over the past 3 years, OGMS has not named a Rockhound of the Year. For 2023 and 2024, I would like to name two couples who have exhibited outstanding characteristics of leadership and service to the organization. The first couple has demonstrated over the past two decades that they are not only interested in rocks and minerals but are also dedicated to sharing their knowledge with members and students. When the Junior Program was left without a leader at the end of 2022, this couple stepped up and took on the challenge of not only coming up with interesting topics for the young rockhounds, but providing a venue for the Pups to meet in. The program has grown back up and the Pups have gone on field trips with their parents, as well as learning unusual lessons about geology. One spouse has consistently appeared and assisted at the shows and events, supporting his partner in the physical work of assembling, and breaking down cases and putting in exhibits. The other half of this powerful duo is a geologist and has led OGMS in Field Trips over several years. He makes the effort to track down new and interesting places to visit, sharing the trips with other clubs in the area. He has also served as Show Chair, and chaired the exhibits at several shows, as well as carrying and setting up the club cases to other shows.

For their outstanding efforts on behalf of Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society, I hereby name Brett Allen Johnson and Brett Bednorz as 2023's Rockhound Couple of the Year.

Submitted by: Laura Driskell - Federation Director
Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society

Kathy & Thomas Scharf - Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society - 2024 Honorees

The couple I am naming as 2024 Rockhound Couple of the Year is unusual, in that neither person is a "rockhound" per se, but have demonstrated extraordinary leadership and service to the club in their capacities over the past several years. One half of this couple has taken classes with OGMS at Durley Park and became interested in the lapidary arts and wire wrap through the classes. She and a friend joined the club and became active in bringing refreshments, working as librarian, and then recording secretary, and as Treasurer (even though she did not want to be the Treasurer!) Over the past several years, her spouse became active in assisting at the OGMS meetings and shows, using his expertise in sound and lighting to upgrade and improve the meetings and shows for the members and guests. In 2023, he took on the Membership Secretary position, improving on the spreadsheets and applying to the company that makes our badges to improve pricing and quality of the badges. Despite health challenges, work, and family obligations, both these members do their best to keep up with club events, shows, and activities, as well as the jobs they have taken on. For their outstanding efforts on behalf of Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society, I hereby name Kathy and Thomas Scharf as 2024's Rockhound Couple of the Year.

Submitted by: Laura Driskell - Federation Director
Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society



2024 CFMS-AFMS SHOW & CONVENTION

By Jim Brace-Thompson, 2024 AFMS Show Publicity Chair

Follow the Mermaids to Ventura! Part 5

In our continuing effort to tempt you to attend the 2024 CFMS-AFMS Show & Convention on May 24-26, here's another mermaid photo shot in the host city of Ventura. Can you name where she's located? As with the mermaid pictured in Part 3, this mermaid is hanging around a local store front, so check the Ventura yellow pages. She's not all that far away from the fairgrounds where we'll be hosting the show, and within the shop, you'll find all sorts of mermaid knickknacks to take home as souvenirs.



We'll soon post a full collection of Ventura mermaids on the show website as an entry form for this little contest. The person attending the convention who can correctly identify the specific locations of the most mermaids will receive a rocky reward at the show banquet. (One reward for locals; another for out-of-towners.) If we have tied scores, the winners will be drawn from a fish bowl—perhaps by a real live bearded mermaid!

Keep tabs on resources and new show developments at the official show website, www.2024cfms-afms.com, where we'll soon post a pre-registration form and an updated show schedule, among other new and revised resources. We invite and welcome you to San Buenaventura!

AFMS ENDOWMENT FUND

By Jim Brace-Thompson, CFMS Rep to AFMS

Join the Fund-Raising Raffle!

As noted last month, the AFMS Endowment Fund holds a fund-raising raffle at the annual CFMS-AFMS Show & Convention taking place May 24-26 this year in Ventura. We invite your help and participation in supporting AFMS. How so?

Make a purchase! Endowment Fund tickets are available for donations of either \$5.00 for one or \$20.00 for five. Please spread the word to your fellow club members by reprinting this article in your local newsletter and by making announcements at your monthly club meetings. Winning tickets will be drawn at the show, and you don't need to be present to win. You just need to buy a ticket!

Make a specimen donation! We invite hobby-related items such as gem, mineral or fossil specimens, metal work projects, jewelry, bead projects, etc. For instance, I'm donating a pure silver sand dollar pendant for the 2024 raffle, and other donations are coming in: a beautiful gemstone sphere, a wire-wrapped moss agate pendant, a collection of So-Cal field guides, and more. A list and photos of items donated to date will soon appear on the AFMS website. In making a donation, items should have a minimum value of \$75, and we request a maximum weight of not more than five pounds to keep postage at a minimum if necessary to ship the item to the winning ticket holder.

How to make arrangements to purchase tickets or to donate items? It's easy! Just call (805-659-3577) or email me (jbraceh@roadrunner.com) and I'm happy to help. My sincere thanks to those who answered the call from last month's newsletter and who have already donated items and/or purchased raffle tickets. May we count on you, too?



CFMS SCHOLARSHIP

By Diane Cook, 2nd Vice President

Greetings, Rockhounds! Did you know that the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CFMS) offers an outstanding scholarship opportunity every year? Better yet, one of your club members has the chance to play a pivotal role in nominating and awarding this scholarship to a deserving student in your community!

This is a fantastic opportunity for us, as a community of rock and mineral enthusiasts, to reach out and make a difference in a student's life. If there's a standout member in your club who has gone above and beyond, whether through volunteer work, board service, or representing CFMS as a federation director, why not honor them with the opportunity to give back?

The process is simple. All you need to do is submit a letter outlining the remarkable contributions of your chosen member (the Honoree) to the club and CFMS. Send the letter to me, Diane Cook, and the CFMS Scholarship Committee will carefully review the submissions. The committee will then select the Honoree who will have the unique privilege of choosing a college student to receive the \$2,000 scholarship.

This scholarship is not just about financial support; it's a way to acknowledge and reward the efforts of individuals who have made a significant impact on our community. It's about fostering a connection between our passionate rockhounding community and the promising minds studying Earth Science.

For those interested, there are guidelines for scholarship recipients, including a focus on Earth Science, Lapidary/Jewelry studies, a minimum GPA of 3.0, and entering their Junior or Senior year. If you have any questions or need more details, feel free to reach out to me at Dianecook.cfms@gmail.com.

Let's come together to celebrate and support the future of Earth Science! Your nominations and participation make a real difference. I'm looking forward to seeing some nominations from the clubs!

ALL AMERICAN CLUB

By Diane Cook, All American Chair

I am thrilled to announce that this year, we have received entries from various clubs for the All American Contest. A big thank you to the participating clubs for sharing their incredible stories and endeavors. Your entries not only contribute to the success of the program but also serve as an inspiration for others within our community.

The top winners from this pool of entries will move forward to the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) for judging. We invite all of you to mark your calendars and plan on attending the CFMS-AFMS Show in Ventura, where the winners will be proudly announced. It's a fantastic opportunity to witness the diversity of projects and initiatives undertaken by mineral and gem clubs across the nation.

The All American entries are not just about competition; they are a treasure trove of ideas and accomplishments. These books showcase the outstanding work done by clubs throughout the year, offering a unique glimpse into their outreach programs, exciting field trips, and memorable get-togethers.

I encourage all clubs to consider entering the All American program in 2025 for this year, 2024! Gather a few members, start documenting your activities, and share your journey through the All American.

All the necessary guidelines and forms can be found on the AFMS website under the All American section. Let's make the 2025 All American entries a true celebration of our community's vibrancy and creativity.

NOTES FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY/TREASURER

One of the tasks I will begin in the next few weeks will be the Society Roster. For that I need your assistance in the form of the officer change form. If you have not already sent it in, please do so as soon as possible. The roster will be distributed at the Convention meeting in May to all Directors and Committee Chairs in attendance. A digital copy will be made available to those unable to attend the meeting upon request. Like the meeting packets, these will no longer be mailed.

RULES COMMITTEE

By Jim Brace-Thompson, Rules Committee

CFMS-AFMS Show & Convention Seeks Exhibitors!

Adults! If you've exhibited at a CFMS Show in the past and earned a CFMS trophy, or if you've never exhibited in the past, this is the year to enter competition again or for the very first time. That's because this year is a combined CFMS-AFMS Show & Convention. Thus, you stand to earn not only regional honors, but a national trophy, to boot! Here's issuing a challenge to one and all: gather your best stuff, be it minerals, fossils, thumbnails, meteorites, beading, jewelry, lapidary work, or more, then pull together a fine display and enter competition.

Kids! You, too, are encouraged to enter a competitive display. Not only do you stand to earn a regional and national trophy, there are special awards for kids-only, like the AFMS Lillian Turner Award for the kid's display earning the most points in competition and the CFMS Show Chair's Award for the exhibit (competitive or noncompetitive) appealing most to the Chair of this year's show.

To enter, whether competitive or noncompetitive, the deadline is May 1. Exhibitor application forms may be accessed at <https://www.2024cfms-afms.com/files.php>. Please share this info with the members of your local society and encourage your fellow club members to jump on in!

By the way, if you're just not all that confident yet about your showmanship abilities, not to worry! We're also seeking noncompetitive displays to fill the aisles at the Ventura County Fairgrounds May 24-26. We'd love to see your exhibit—competitive or noncompetitive. Bring it to the Really Big Show!

A "CO-OP MEMBER"/ALL CFMS SOCIETIES FIELD TRIP TO HAUSER GEODE BEDS

By Jim Barton, Field Trips North
(date of publication 2/3/2024)

- This trip is open to all rockhounds who agree to abide by the AFMS Code of Ethics, the directions of the field trip leader and practice safe rockhounding.
- Call the field trip leader (see Contact) beforehand to sign up and for further information.
- Remember to wear your name badge and sign in and sign out with the field trip leader.
- CO-OP website has information: <https://www.co-opfieldtrips.com>
- Also see CFMS Website: <https://www.cfmsinc.org> (no password needed)
- A Consent and Assumption of Risk Waiver of Liability Form must be signed upon arrival at meeting site.
- All non-CFMS members are required to contact the Field Trip Leader before a field trip for any insurance requirements.

TRIP LOCATION – Hauser Geode Beds, Palo Verde, CA TRIP DIFFICULTY RATING SCALE

Vehicle Access & Parking - 5-7 dirt roads, hills, some steep sections and ravines

Collection Site - 5-7 dirt parking at lower collecting area, can hike up hills

WHEN – APRIL 19-20-21 2024

SPONSOR CLUB – COOP (Field Trip Leaders Association, a CFMS Society)

LEADERS– GINA MALCOLM COOP President and JIM BARTON COOP Permanent Director

CONTACT JIM BARTON IF ATTENDING (916) 847-7321 geologist1@surewest.net

MEMBER'S GUESTS - X Allowed Not Allowed

COLLECTION MATERIAL – Geodes, Porcelain Jasper

PROPOSED SCHEDULE - Meet up and conduct safety meeting each day before convoying to collection sites.

MEET (where/when) – Near intersection of Wiley's Well Rd and Hauser Geode Beds Road 0900 hours daily

DIRECTIONS TO SITE/CAMP - Take I-10 Wiley Well exit before Blythe, travel south on blacktop to CA State Prison then south on rough gravel road past Wiley Well and Coon Hollow BLM campgrounds to Hauser Geode Bed Road, where vehicles will congregate at 9 am each morning. Camping at BLM Coon Hollow Campground

VEHICLE REQ'S – recommend 4x4 or carpooling with a 4x4

CAMP/FACILITIES – Coon Hollow is a BLM fee required, gravel pads dry camp with pit toilets, shaded picnic tables and no hookups. There are several motels in Blythe (consult Google or Apple Maps for names)

TOOLS – Shovel, bucket, hoe or cultivator rake, rock hammer, safety glasses, work gloves

SAFETY CONCERNS – potential for heat or cold (layers), dehydration, sunscreen and full coverage hats, rattlesnakes and scorpions, slips-trips-falls (bring first aid kit), rough roads

CLIMATE/WEATHER – variable this time of year in the Mojave Desert, bring lots of water and sunscreen

CLOTHING - long pants and shirts - dress in layers, hiking boots recommended, sun protection (full cover) hats

OTHER REMARKS – The BLM and CFMS have a Memorandum of Agreement (MOU) to allow recreational (not commercial) collection of geodes at the Hauser Geode Beds.

The Bureau of Land Management Geologist and Scientist staff will give a presentation at the dig site on the geology, wildlife and historical significance of the region on April 19th. CFMS requests that you, if able, clean up after yourself (fill holes, etc.) and help pick up any loose trash left by others at the sites. Recommend using BLM trash bags to clean up areas as needed. After their talk. BLM staff will haul collected trash out. Field trips will end daily at 4 pm. Bring your own water and lunches. Remember to donate some of your finds to your society when you return.

FEES - There are nominal fees for camping at Coon Hollow Campground. None for the dig sites.

PUBLICIZING YOUR YOUTH PROGRAM - PR TIPS FROM SUCCESSFUL CLUBS

By Jim Brace-Thompson, AFMS Public Relations Chair

NOTE: Following is a modified excerpt from my article appearing in the March 2024 issue of *Rock & Gem* magazine on forming and maintaining a vibrant kids' program in a rock club.

Acting as the CFMS Juniors Activities Chair, a couple years ago I surveyed the nearly 100 clubs affiliated with the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies to get a gauge on the state of their youth programs, particularly as we were coming out of the COVID pandemic. One common lament among clubs that lacked a youth program was "we simply have no kids." A big benefit of that survey was learning how clubs with the most successful programs went about publicizing their efforts and bringing kids into the fold. It's hard to have a youth program if your club parents and your general community don't know about it. Here are PR tips emerging from the survey to boost visibility.

Engage families at your club show. If you host a club show, have a Kids' Booth with fun activities, and when you spot parents and kids having an especially good time, don't let them wander off to the displays or dealers. Engage them in conversation, let them know about club field trips for adults and kids, and have a sign-up sheet to capture phone numbers and email addresses. Then follow up within a week to invite them to your next meeting or event. Be proactive! Don't just give them a club flyer and expect them to show up. Engage and follow up.

Visually display what your youth program is all about. At your show, have a kids' exhibit put together with the help of your club kids. Include photos and results of activities to visually illustrate what your program does and what it offers with photos and materials from monthly activities. Have contact info and/or a QR code attached to the display case. Participate in community events. If you don't have a show but your community sponsors Art Walks, sidewalk craft fairs, etc., arrange for a club booth and stock it with handouts briefly summarizing what you offer kids. If your county fair has a hobbies division, see if you can have club members demonstrating different lapidary arts (softstone carving, wire-wrapping, cabbing, etc.). Seeing lapidary arts in progress always captures attention and can lead to "a-ha" moments when kids

and parents realize this is something they can do and enjoy. Go to where the kids are! Does your club engage in educational outreach, for instance with classroom visits, a station at school Science Nights, presentations for youth groups (4H, YMCA, Scouts), etc.? When doing educational outreach, include fun hands-on activities and hand out Goodie Bags with specimens and a leaflet about your club and youth program.

Go to where the kids are—again! A couple clubs have had success with yard signs (with a web address, email address, and/or QR Code) at youth soccer and baseball games and similar venues to publicize their club and youth program to parents and kids.

Embrace social media. Finally, if you really want to reach young adults with young children, embrace social media. If your club lacks a Facebook page, establish one today. And begin posting fun photos (with parental approval) showing fun events any time your club does something kid-friendly while also celebrating achievements of your club's kids.

In short, don't sit back and lament that you can't have a youth program because you have no kids in your club. Publicize, promote. Explore all avenues. Be proactive. Be persistent. Follow up.

From *AFMS Newsletter*, March 2024

THIS SPACE IS FOR YOU!!

2024 CFMS SHOW DATES

Shows and Events

*Sponsored by
CFMS Clubs & Societies!*

*Please submit your
Show or Event as soon as possible
to receive maximum advertising value!*

*Email to:
SHOW DATES*

*Use the Online Show Form
at www.cfmsinc.org
(click on Shows)*

*You should receive a confirmation
within 5 days after submitting your
Show Date information!*

CLUB/SOCIETY SHOWS ARE LISTED HERE

2024

February 17-18, 2024 – Antioch, CA

Antioch Lapidary Club
Contra Costa County Fairgrounds,
1201 W. 10th St., Antioch CA
Hours: Sat 10-5, Sun 10-5
Contact: (510) 693-9075,
kellyplumb900@yahoo.com
Website: <http://antiochlapidaryclub.com>

February 24-25, 2024 – Vallejo, CA

Vallejo Gem and Mineral Society
Solano County Fairgrounds, McCormack Hall,
900 Fairgrounds Dr., Vallejo, CA 04590
Hours: 10-5 both days
Contact: (415) 254-1506,
dduhonvgms@gmail.com
Website: <https://vvjgms.com>

March 1-3, 2024 – Newark, CA

Mineral and Gem Society of Castro Valley
Newark Pavilion, 6430 Thornton Ave, Newark
CA
Hours: Fri 11-5, Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5
Website: <http://mgscv.org>

March 2-3, 2024 – Ventura, CA

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society
Ventura Co. Fairgrounds, 10 W. Harbor
Blvd., Ventura CA
Hours: Sat 10–5, Sun 10-4
Contact: (805) 312-8467, info@vgms.org
Website: <http://www.vgms.org>

March 8-10, 2024 – Victorville, CA (Stoddard Wells area)

Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club
Stoddard Wells
Hours: 9–5 daily
Contact: (760) 243-2339, president@vvgc.org
Website: <http://vvgmc.org>

March 9-10, 2024 – Turlock, CA

Mother Lode Mineral Society
Stanislaus County Fairgrounds, 900 N.
Broadway, Turlock, CA
Hours: Sat & Sun 10-5
Contact through website
Website:
<http://www.turlockgemshow.com>

March 17, 2024 – Fallbrook, CA

Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society
123 West Alvarado St., Ste B., Fallbrook
CA
Hours: 12 noon – 3 PM
Contact (760) 728-1130, info@fgms.org
Website: <http://www.fgms.org>

March 16-17, 2024 – San Jose, CA

Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Soc.
Santa Clara County Fairgrounds, 344
Tully Road, San Jose, CA 95111
Hours: Sat and Sun 10-6
Contact: info@scvgms.org,
(408) 265-1422
Website: info@scvgms.org or
facebook.com/santaclaravalleygemandmineralsociety

March 16-17, 2024 – Lemoore, CA

Lemoore Gem & Mineral Society
Trinity Hall, 470 Chamoion St., Lemoore,
CA 93245
Hours: Sat 10-6, Sun 10-4
Contact:
https://www.facebook.com/events/999726084444006/999726087777339/?active_tab=about

March 16-17, 2024 – San Jose, CA

Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral
Society
Santa Clara County Fairgrounds, 344
Tully Rd., San Jose, CA 95111
Hours: 10-5 daily
Contact: (408) 265-1422
Website: <http://www.scvgms.org>

March 22-24, 2024 – Clovis, CA

Fresno Gem and Mineral Society
748 Rodeo Drive, Clovis, CA 93612
Hours: Fri and Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4
Website: <https://fgms.rocks>

March 23-24, 2024 – Angeles Camp, CA

Calaveras Gem and Mineral Society
2465 Gun Club Rd., Angeles Camp CA 95222
Hours: Sat 10–5, Sun 10–4.
Contact: (209) 736-4892, dbrooks49@att.net
Web: <http://CalaverasGemandMineral.net>

April 6-7, 2024 – Vista, CA

Vista Gem and Mineral Society
Antique Gas and Steam Engine Museum,
2040 N. Santa Fe Ave., Vista, CA 92083
Hours: Sat10–5, Sunday 10–4
Contact: info@vistarocks.org
Website: <https://vistarocks.org/>

April 13-14, 2024 – Mariposa, CA

Mariposa Gem and Mineral Club
Mariposa County Fairgrounds, 5007
Fairgrounds Rd., Mariposa, CA 95338
Hours: Sat 10–5, Sun 10–4
Website: <http://mariposagemclub.org>

April 13-14, 2024 – Placerville, CA

El Dorado County Mineral and Gem Society
El Dorado County Fairgrounds, Placerville, CA
Hours: Saturday 10-5, Sun 10–4
Contact: (530) 676-2472, office@edcmgs.org
Website: <http://edcmgs.org>

April 20-21, 2024 – Thousand Oaks, CA

Conejo Gem & Mineral Club
Borchard Park, 190 N. Reino Rd, Thousand
Oaks, CA
Hours: Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4
Contact: (805) 209-3173
conejogemandmineral@gmail.com
Website: <https://cgamc.org>

April 27-28, 2024 – Santa Cruz

Santa Cruz Mineral and Gem Society
307 Church St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060
Hours: Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4
Contact: scruczmgs@gmail.com
Webote: <https://scrockngem.org>

April 27-28, 2024 – Anaheim, CA

Searchers Gem and Mineral Society
Brookhurst Community Center
2271 W. Crescent Ave., Anaheim, CA
Hours: Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4:30
Contact: Nancyjbird68@gmail.com
Website: <https://www.searchersrocks.org>

May 3-4, 2024 – Yucaipa, CA

Yucaipa Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Yucaipa Blvd near Adams Street, Yucaipa
CA 02399
Hours: Fri 5-10, Sat noon-9
Contact: grandpasgems@gmail.com
Website: <https://www.yvgms.org/>

May 4-5, 2024, Lancaster, CA

Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral Club
2551 W. Ave. H, Lancaster, CA 93536
Hours: Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4
Contact: marylandoriole@gmail.com

May 24-26, 2024 – Ventura, CA

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society
AFMS/CFMS Gem and Mineral Show and Convention
Ventura County Fairgrounds, 10 W. Harbor Blvd., Ventura, CA 93001
Hours: Fri & Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4
Contact: (805) 312-8467, info@vgms.org
Website: <http://www.vgms.org>,
<http://www.2024cfms-afms.com>

June 8-9, 2024 – Escondido, CA

Palomar Gem and Mineral Club
California Center for the Arts – at the Conference Center, 340 North Escondido Blvd., Escondido, 92025
Hours: Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4
Contact: (425) 281-6218,
tonifloyd41615@gmail.com
Website: <http://palomargem.org>

June 29-30, 2024, Culver City, CA

Culver City Rock & Mineral Club
Veteran's Memorial Auditorium
4117 Overland Ave., Culver City 90230
Contact: darrellrobb@gmail.com
Website: <https://culvercityrocks.org>

October 12-13, 2024 – Redwood City, CA

Peninsula Gem and Geology Society and Sequoia Gem and Mineral Society
Redwood City Community Activities Building,
1400 Roosevelt Ave., Redwood City, CA 94061
Hours: 10-5 daily
Contact: cci@pacbell.net
Website:
<https://www.sequoiagemandmineralsociety.org>

National/Regional Shows:

California Federation/AFMS
May 24-26, 2024
Ventura, CA

Eastern Federation
June 8, 2024
Ogdenburg, NJ

Midwest Federation
August 24-25, 2024
East Peoria, IL

Northwest Federation

May 10-12, 2024
Hermiston, OR

Rocky Mountain Federation

October 25-27, 2024
Oklahoma City, OK

South Central Federation
TBD

Southeast Federation
TBD

DON'T FORGET TO UP-DATE YOUR CLUB WEBSITE WITH YOUR NEW SHOW DATE

Check for show links
at
www.cfmsinc.org/shows

REMINDER

**Advertise your Show in as many
Free locations as possible!**

- **Local newspapers**
- **Current events sections!**
- **Local TV stations,**
- **Community calendars!**
- **Other Local Shows**

**Advertise your shows
in the **Rock & Gem
Magazine!****

**[www.rockngem.com/
showdate-submissions/](http://www.rockngem.com/showdate-submissions/)**
**Send the information in
early so it's published in
the magazine as well as
online.**

MUSEUM FIELD TRIP

On September 17, 2023, nine members of our club had the privilege of being invited to attend a guided tour of the Gem & Mineral Hall at the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History. Our guide Aaron took us through the exhibits, and gave us a special tour of the museum's gem laboratory. It was fascinating and fun, and Aaron was an incredibly hospitable and helpful guide. We all had a wonderful time.

Submitted by Celia Barnett of the Woodland Hills Rock Chippers.



Thank you Celia for sharing.

Want an idea for a great place to visit when you come down for the show in May? If you have never visited the LA County Museum of Natural History, this would be the perfect time to do so.

The museum is home to the Golden Bear Nugget as well as other specimens belonging to CFMS. The collection of precious gems is another must see. While a guided tour like what Celia's club enjoyed would not be available, a "do it yourself" tour would allow you to view the public rooms at your leisure.

2024 CFMS OFFICERS AND CHAIRMEN

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Cab Cases–South	Bob Knox	(818) 701-5711	knoxrobert211 at gmail.com
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	John Martin (Susy)	Photo Restoration	
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	Nancy Bird Sharon Rogow, alternate		
	Glenn Fiala, alternate		
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	Colleen McGann	(831) 212-1951	kmcgann at gmail.com
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Show Consultant–North:	OPEN		
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Trophy Coordinator:	Frank Mullaney	(408) 691-2656	rockyfiv at gmail.com
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Pat LaRue, Editor

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