

The Carmel Valley
PROSPECTOR!

January 2012 Volume 52, Number 1

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year all!

Let's make 2012 the best year yet for our club! And the folks that can make that happen are YOU! The Board is in the process of planning the programs and field trips and have some in mind, but I would like to take a few minutes during the January "program" time to get some feedback from you. Think about topics of interest for programs (even any repeats of past favorites), lapidary skills, field trip locations, slideshows of your rock related vacations, field collecting, mine or museum visits, or possibly put together a presentation on your favorite rock related interest with slides and/or artifacts (maybe even a pebble pup presentation). You get the idea....you are the lifeblood of our club so hopefully you can come up with some suggestions and if we don't get to them all, they will be at the top of the 2013 list!

And I would like to thank Rich for keeping us all connected and informed through the "Prospector" publication....I especially love pictures of you all and your adventures! As they say, a picture is worth a thousand words...besides, they are just plain fun and it helps us to know each other better!

I would also like to thank Karin, our Federation Director, for passing on information about field trips and events in our general area. Many, probably most, of them involve more than a day-trip but for those looking for activities and adventures, it is great information to have! And hopefully, some of our club members will come up with some day-trip ideas!

Our January program will be a "First timer's" experience at the 2011 Tucson Gem and Mineral Show and a few treasures purchased by club members who went. Hopefully, we may entice some of you to experience the 2012 Tucson show in February.

See you all at our next meeting Friday, Jan 13, 2012....7 pm at the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History.
Susie Harlow, CVGMS President

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CVGMS BOARD MEETING There was no December Board meeting. The next (regular) meeting will be on Friday, January 13, 2012.

Janis Rovetti, Recording Secretary

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FROM TALMA:

Hi Pebble Pups! I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at our next meeting on January 13. Find your folder and bring it with you, along with the last activity sheet, so you can get your free drawing table ticket. ---Talma
HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

FROM JAY HOUSE- MEMBERSHIP NOTES:

We gained three new members at the annual Christmas dinner; they are Jim & Deirdre Hamilton, and Roslyn, our newest pebble pup! Welcome to the club! They live in Carmel. Members may contact Jay House for their phone number, mailing, & email address, to update the 2012 membership directory.

We had a total of 53 attend the Christmas Dinner; 41 members and 12 guests.

AND... 2012 DUES ARE DUE. Annual dues are \$15 an individual and \$20 for a couple. Junior members (high schoolers) are \$1; pebble pups are free. For those of you that have joined *after* June 1st, your dues are paid for 2012.

-Jay

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UPCOMING STUFF...

From Karin:

*Hi All,
Registration at MPC - Early Spring classes would be 11/21-22. Go to MPC.edu for more information.*

This is a great chance to learn from a master - Peter Partch. You can take this class in January and come up with some beautiful cabs.

ART 86A LAPIDARY I May be taken four times for credit. (LG-P/NP) Transfer: CSU. 5019 MTWTh 6:00pm-9:30pm; PARTCH, PETER AD107 1.5 (01/03-01/26). A \$25.00 materials fee will be collected at the time of registration.

FIELD TRIPS

On Sunday, Jan. 1, Karin S. emailed a notice about a rock hunt in San Benito County to take place the next day, Monday the 2nd, which I in turn emailed to all CVGMS members on my email list. Participants were to gather at 10 am in San Juan Bautista at the Vertigo Café; the leader was Phil, who runs the “Geozeum”.

However, not everyone in the club has email capabilities, or else has neglected to give me their email address, so some members could not be notified. *Should anyone wish to be added to the email list in order to receive such notices in the future, please send me your contact info!*

I asked Karin for a follow-up report on the event, and here it is:

There were about 12 attending, mostly from the Santa Clara club. I didn't take any photos. The leader Phil is very knowledgeable and ready to identify finds. The Tres Pinos Creek has a good variety of rock, mostly of the blue schist, some jaspers. We didn't find any Benitoite, but anything is possible. Phil conducts an informal meeting on the 3rd Thursday at the GeoZeum in San Juan Bautista. -Karin

A FEW BRIEF NOTES FROM THE EDITOR...

Starting with this issue, there'll be a new regular column, TECH TIPS...many other newsletters have such a column and no reason we can't, either! Of course I've been posting such stuff over the past few years but not really as a regular feature of The Prospector! So...all contributions are MOST welcome! Whatever your interest...just rockhounding, or lapidary, collecting/displaying, metalworking, or just plain bargain hunting (very important!), all “tips” are most welcome! And of course I'll have approximately zero reservations about passing along tips published elsewhere I can easily filch (providing permission is given; proper credit will be given, of course)!

So, without further ado, here goes:

TECH TIPS:

Vinegar, Not Just for Salads, and other tips...

One way to remove carbonates such as calcite from quartz and amethyst is to cover the specimen with fresh vinegar and allow to stand overnight. Repeat if necessary. Wash and then place crystals in washing type ammonia for 8-12 hours. Remove, rinse thoroughly, wipe and air -dry. *-from Rock pile, via del Air Bulletin 9/07 via the Rock Chip Reporter, 8/2011.*

When using chrome oxide for polishing jade, mix it with a solution of 1/2 water and 1/2 vinegar. *-from crystal gaze, via Del Air Bulletin 9/07.*

For the gloss finish on tiger eye, polish once, dry the stone, then put a drop of vinegar on it. Let it stand for a few

minutes, then give it a second polish. *-from Rock Lore, via Del Air Bulletin 9/07.*

If you have sore hands from hard rock mining, soak your hands in warm vinegar water and the swelling and soreness will disappear. *-from Chips and Facets, Del Air Bulletin 9/07.*

Dark Household vinegar will dissolve epoxy glue by soaking overnight. *-from golden spike, via Del Air Bulletin 9/07.*

Beware: Carbonate minerals, such as dolomite or calcite are attacked by acids, leaving only a pile of mud where your stone was. Malachite is copper carbonate and is therefore subject to a corrosive effect, caused by even a weak acid. If unsure, test with a less valuable piece before using any acid, even vinegar on a stone. *-Del Air Bulletin, 9/07.*

Polishing Tips: Using material of equal hardness, and high quality stones will give you the best result. After first coarse run, remove any stones with pits or those not completely shaped. Run these again with coarse grit run. Hard material 80.100.220.400; Medium hard material 100.220.400; or soft 220.400.600. Wash everything thoroughly between each change of grit. *-MLMS Ghost Sheet 5/2010, via Rock Chip Reporter, 8/2011.*

Our thanks to all, for these great tips! And...I hope I got all the many credits straight...-Ed.

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CELEBRATIONS & ANNIVERSARIES...

Birthdays in January include Karin Salomon, Barb Biewer, Cynthia Franco, Margi Perotti, Alyce Thompson, Ewell & Rose Cole! *Prepare to be "sung to" by Pres Susie...*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Happy Holidays, Rich!

We are having a great time here in Kentucky. We have a five acre lot that needs a hug and everyday we get out there and work on it. So satisfying!

In January we will go up to Lexington to check out the gem club there. We hope to join a field trip to find Kentucky agate.

Best regards to all,
Carol and Mike Green

Ed.: As I do not publish member's addresses in The Prospector, members who wish to write the Greens may get in touch with me for their mailing address (no phone number was provided).

And on the NEXT page...

Well, lacking any real club photos, here's something new: my first attempt at making a reasonable crossword puzzle! I tried to find a program that would create a nice, neat one for me- grid, numbers, clue list, blacked-out squares & all, using my own wordlist, but it seems the algorithms used in these programs don't really make a compact puzzle... although this one is 24 x 24 squares, using the crossword programs available online made them *much* larger, with *lots* of black squares! So I did a simple puzzle to start with then made my own grid & filled it in myself! A but crude (meaning I had to blacken the unused squares by hand) but anyway it's readable. I hope those who like crossword puzzles will find this one neither too easy nor overly challenging. As for the younger set (pebble pups!) They may have to ask mom & dad for a bit of help a few times. Also a good atlas will be most useful for the somewhat geographically challenged... There is a theme to this month's crossword (meaning it's in the title, "From Egypt to Monterey"). Some of the easy, short words are in the puzzle to confirm or help out with some longer words. Anyway, hope you have fun with it! And...should anyone be ambitious enough to create one themselves that's on topic (meaning lots of rock/fossil/mineral stuff) feel free to submit it!

-Rich

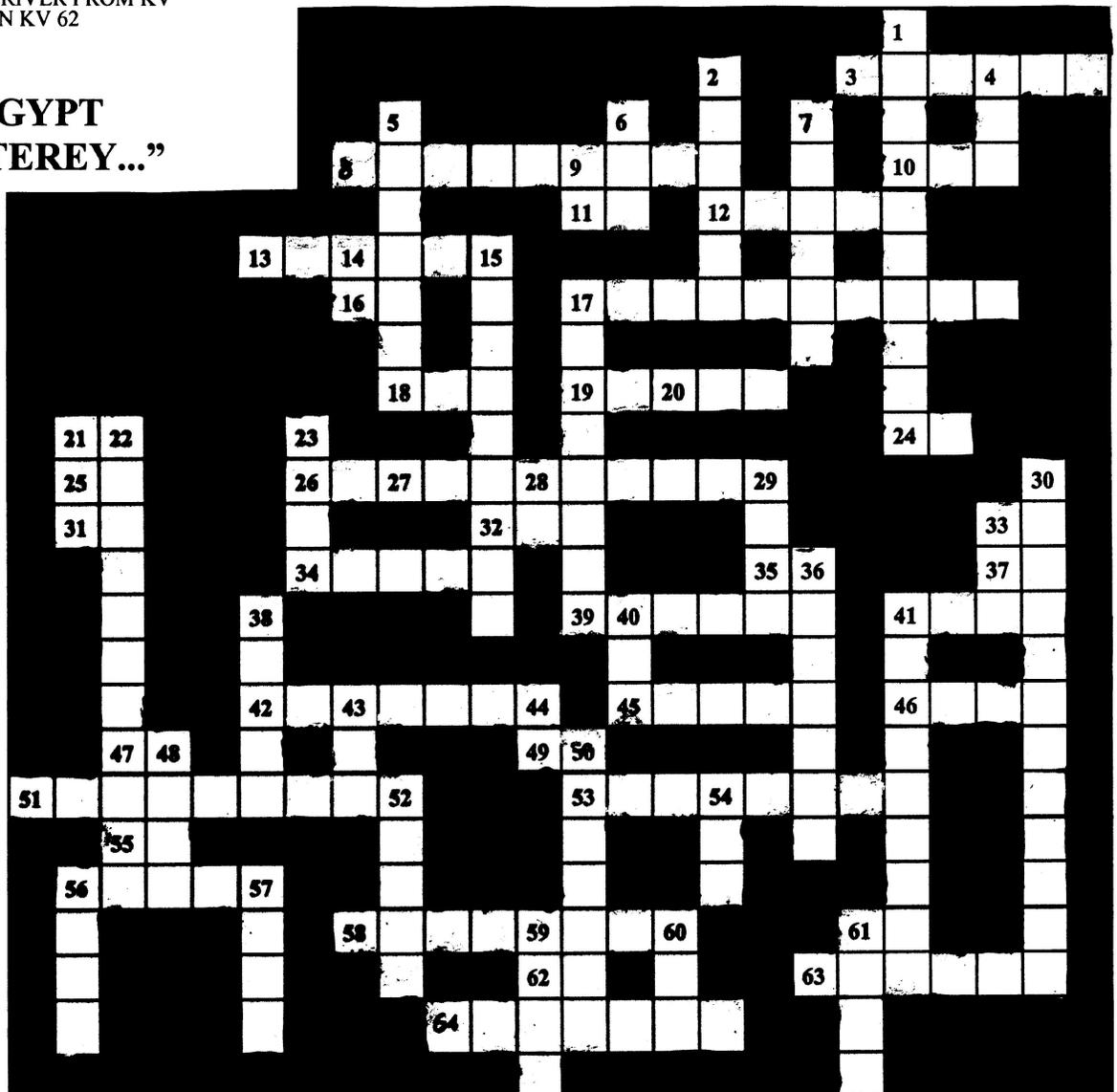
ACROSS

- 3 METAL OF TOOLS USED TO BUILD PYRAMIDS
- 8 ANCIENT CIVILIZATION BUILT ALONG THIS
- 10 A _____ OF RUM
- 11 IRON SYMBOL
- 12 COATED WITH STICKY BLACK STUFF
- 13 POPULAR HAMBURGER
- 16 JOVIAN MOON
- 17 VERY COLORFUL CRYSTAL
- 18 CASUAL TERM FOR PHYSICIAN
- 19 ILLEGAL TO COLLECT
- 21 COMPASS DIRECTION
- 24 SUN GOD
- 25 CANADIANS OFTEN END SENTENCES WITH THIS
- 26 MAKES SOME ROCKS GLOW
- 31 NORTHERN STATE
- 32 ACTOR _____ CHANEY, JR. WAS "THE WOLF MAN"
- 33 EXPRESSION "_____, SO!"
- 34 CITY IN EASTERN SAUDI ARABIA
- 35 LIQUID GAS (ABBR.)
- 37 COMMON TERM FOR SOCIAL CITY
- 39 WAS MINED IN VIRGINIA CITY
- 41 A _____ IN THE ACTION
- 42 PROVINCE WHERE AMMOLITE IS FOUND
- 45 CANADIAN GOLD RUSH LOC.
- 46 WHAT MOANING CAVES DO
- 47 WHERE IT'S
- 49 THIS COMPANY SPILLED OIL
- 51 SCRATCHY ART
- 53 DANGEROUS MINERAL IN CA STATE ROCK
- 55 WHAT EVERY FOOTBALL COACH WANTS
- 56 EDUCATIONAL CAMP IN MOJAVE DESERT
- 58 FOUND AT JADE COVE
- 61 NOT OFF BUT _____
- 62 NOT OUT BUT _____
- 63 ACROSS RIVER FROM KV
- 64 FOUND IN KV 62

DOWN

- 1 CALIFORNIA GOLD RUSH MINER
- 2 SAID "THINGS.... WONDERFUL THINGS!" IN 1922
- 4 ROCK FAD, YEARS AGO
- 5 VERY HARD FORM OF CARBON
- 6 LATIN FOR "HAIL"
- 7 TRUE OCEANIC "UNICORN"
- 9 POSSIBLY VERY SAD WORD
- 14 U.S. SOLDIER
- 15 1000 M DEEP, 180 KM ACROSS
- 17 MINE LEFTOVERS
- 20 AN _____ CHILD
- 21 NOT OLD BUT
- 22 SOMETIMES, AUFFOUND IN THIS
- 23 COLOR OF DOROTHY'S SLIPPERS
- 27 2000 #
- 28 GRADE OF BRANDY
- 29 USED FOR PAVING
- 30 WHERE #51 ACROSS WAS USUALLY DONE
- 33 EVERYTHING
- 36 HARD ROCK UNDER MONTEREY
- 38 CARMEL VALLEY FOSSIL
- 40 INT'L GEOPHYSICAL YEAR (ABBR.)
- 41 WHAT PYRAMIDS ARE MADE OF
- 43 SNAKE, LADIES' APPAREL ITEM
- 44 ABSOLUTE (ABBR.)
- 50 LOOKING FOR GOLD IN STREAM
- 52 MUST HAVE PLENTY OF THIS IN DESERT
- 54 GEOLOGIC AGE
- 56 ABOUT WHAT YOU WEIGH IN ORBIT
- 57 CAN SEE INSIDE YOU
- 59 GOLD ON FINGER
- 60 EUROPEAN ECONOMIC UNION (ABBR.)
- 61 THIS STATE'S GEMSTONE IS FLINT

**"FROM EGYPT
TO MONTEREY..."**





THIS MONTH'S QUIZ:

What ARE these gizmos? What do they DO? What makes them *DIFFERENT*?

....All will be explained, in good time...

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SPECIAL EVENTS:

From: "WDeanWelder" <WDeanWelder@yahoo.com> Dec.30, 2011 RE: Rockhound Estates Sale Announcement (forwarded by Karin S.)

Hi All,

This is a preliminary announcement for a major rockhound estate sale/auction. This is a combination from at least two different very large rockhound estates. The date is scheduled for **Sat., Feb 25th**. Location to be in Los Gatos, California. There will be literally tons of material: agates, jaspers, obsidian, petrified wood, minerals, individual specimens, etc. The format will be silent auction. We are working on photos of some of the materials. To get further information (link to photos, directions, etc.) please contact Dean Welder via email at 'wdeanwelder@yahoo.com' and make sure to put a useful subject line in your message!

For those of you who attended the sale/auction hosted by Dean & Karen Welder in 2010, expect a similar format with A LOT MORE material.

And, from Karin S.,

FREE ROCK AND GEM SHOW MARCH 16th - 18th, 2012 Kern County Shriners, 700 South P. Street, Bakersfield, CA, Friday, Saturday & Sunday. All days, 9:00 ~ 5:00. Come join us for a fun filled 3 day weekend here in Bakersfield! **FREE PARKING, FREE ADMISSION!** Vendors from all over the world will be selling unique gifts made from Mother Earth. Many demonstrations and things for young and old to do throughout the show. **FREE** hourly drawing . There's also an end of show drawing with Grand Prize of a \$100.00 GAS CARD, and many more gifts donated by our gracious vendors; tickets are \$1.00 each. There is still room for vendors with all different size spaces available for reasonable prices. For more information or becoming a vendor please e-mail us at lewsrocks@bak.rr.com or lewsrocks@netzero.net or call (661) 323-2663. *Ed.: This notice is also in the "Events" section.*

NEWS ABOUT THE ERNST QUARRIES (AKA "SHARKTOOTH HILL")...

New Site Available Starting in 2012!

In January, The Ernst Quarries will open up the east side of West Quarry for public digging. This side has been largely left untouched for nearly five years, since the passing of Bob Ernst in 2007. The area

is fossil rich, with discoveries under every rock, and around every corner. Please come and join us as we delve into this uncharted territory. Please contact the Buena Vista Museum of Natural History for more information, or visit our website at www.sharktoothhillproperty.com

New Digging Dates Added for 2012!

Here they are: Jan 20, 21, 22...Feb 17, 18, 19...Mar 16, 17, 18...Apr 20, 21, 22...May 18, 19, 20

December Dig, BIG!

The EQ would like to thank all those in attendance for the December dig. Some very exciting specimens were found, including an extremely large lower Mako (around 3 1/4"). Please visit our facebook page to see all the pictures.

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Ernst-Quarries/187622694631478>

Sharktooth Hill in the 1960's?

The EQ is soliciting photos, articles, and testimonials from anyone who might have visited the bone-bed from 1945 to 1979. We are preparing a recent history to post on our website, and would like to start cataloging records and data for the future. If you have any pictures, articles, or would like to write down your experiences during this post WW2 era please contact Rob Ernst at (661) 319-7080 or email him at: rob@sharktoothhillproperty.comThank You.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Only club and Federation shows in California (CA), & nearby shows in Oregon (OR), Nevada (NV) Washington State (WA) & Arizona (AZ) are listed, due to space limitations. For more information & other out-of-state listings, please go to: rockngem.com/showdates or cfmsinc.org

Please confirm all show dates- Ed.COMMERCIAL SHOWS- except at Quartzsite & Tucson- will no longer be listed; those wishing to obtain information on non-club or non-Federation shows are advised to check out the following promoters & websites for the latest info & show dates. There are simply too many of these to list in our limited space! ALL "Crystal Fair" events: contact Jerry Tomlinson, P.O. Box 1371, Sausalito, CA 94966, (415) 383-7837 (415) 383-7837; e-mail: jerry@crystalfair.com; Web site: www.crystalfair.com ALL "Gem Fair" events: contact Yooy Nelson, (503) 252-8300 (503) 252-8300; e-mail: info@gemfaire.com; Web site: www.gemfaire.com ALL "Rings & Things BeadTours": contact Dave Robertson, (800) 366-2156; e-mail: drobertson@rings-things.com; Website: www.rings-things.com

JANUARY 2012:

1-31—QUARTZSITE, AZ: Wholesale and retail show; Desert Gardens RV Park; 1055 Kuehn St.; I-10 Exit 17; Sun. 9-6 daily; free admission; crystals, minerals, rough, polished, jewelry, lapidary equipment; contact Sharon or Sandy, 1055 Kuehn St., Quartzsite, AZ 85346, (928) 927-6361; e-mail: dggemshow@ureach.com; Web site: www.desertgardensrvpark.net

6-8—MESA, AZ: 40th annual show; Flagg Mineral Foundation; Mesa Community College; US 60 at Dobson, southwest parking lot; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-5; free admission; Peralta Stone maps exhibit, fluorescent display, free children's activities, free samples for children and teachers, more than 100 dealers, crystals, minerals, fossils, club and museum booths; contact Dr. Ray Grant, PO Box 41834, Mesa, AZ 85274, (480) 892-0779; e-mail: Presmyk@cox.net; Web site: www.AZMinFun.com

JANUARY-FEBRUARY:

21 - 22: EXETER, CA: Tule Gem & Mineral Society, Visalia Exeter Veteran's Memorial Building Highway 65, 324 N Kaweah Avenue Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4 Contact: Steve Hayward, (559) 734-3843, cell (559) 967-1084 email: smhay734@aol.com website: www.tulegem.org

26-12—TUCSON, AZ: Wholesale and retail show; Eons Expos RLLLP; 22nd St.; at I-10; Thu. 9-6 daily; free admission; minerals, fossils, dinosaurs, crystals, gems, jewelry, meteorites; contact Christine Coyle, 38 Fox Ridge Rd., Sparta, NJ 07871, (516) 818-1228; e-mail: lowellcarhart@yahoo.com; Web site: www.22ndstreetshow.com

27- 28/29*: REDLANDS, CA: Mineralogical Society of Southern California/Micro-Mineralogists; Pacific Micromount Conference, San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Drive Hours: Fri. 4 - 10; Sat. 8 -10 *Field Trip on Sunday, January 29. Contact: Dr. Robert Housley, (626) 697-4435 email:

rhousley@its.caltech.edu

website: www.mineralsocal.org/micro/index.html

28-11—TUCSON, AZ: Arizona Mineral & Fossil Show; Martin Zinn Expositions; Ramada Ltd.; 665 N. Freeway; Thu. 10-6 daily; free admission; more than 400 dealers, free shuttle among locations, Artists' Gallery at the Hotel Tucson City Center; contact Martin Zinn Expositions, PO Box 665, Bernalillo, NM 87004-0665; e-mail: mzexpos@gmail.com; Web site: www.mzexpos.com

28-11—TUCSON, AZ: Arizona Mineral & Fossil Show; Martin Zinn Expositions; Quality Inn-Benson Hwy.; 1025 E. Benson Hwy.; Thu. 10-6 daily; free admission; more than 400 dealers, free shuttle among locations, Artists' Gallery at the Hotel Tucson City Center; contact Martin Zinn Expositions, PO Box 665, Bernalillo, NM 87004-0665; e-mail: mzexpos@gmail.com; Web site: www.mzexpos.com

28-11—TUCSON, AZ: Arizona Mineral & Fossil Show; Martin Zinn Expositions; The Hotel Tucson City Center; 475 N. Granada; Sat. 10-6 daily; free admission; more than 400 dealers, free shuttle among locations, Artists' Gallery at the Hotel Tucson City Center; contact Martin Zinn Expositions, PO Box 665, Bernalillo, NM 87004-0665; e-mail: mzexpos@gmail.com; Web site: www.mzexpos.com

28-11—TUCSON, AZ: Arizona Mineral & Fossil Show; Martin Zinn Expositions; The Mineral & Fossil Marketplace; 1333 N. Oracle Rd.; Thu. 10-6 daily; free admission; more than 400 dealers, free shuttle among locations, Artists' Gallery at the Hotel Tucson City Center; contact Martin Zinn Expositions, PO Box 665, Bernalillo, NM 87004-0665; e-mail: mzexpos@gmail.com; Web site: www.mzexpos.com

28-12—TUCSON, AZ: Annual show; The Rock Show; Kino Sports Complex; 2500 E. Ajo Way; Sat. 9:30-5:30 each day; free admission; rocks, jewelry, minerals, fossils, gemstones; contact Trym Gibbons, PO Box 246, Cortaro, AZ 85652, (800) 983-0133; e-mail: rockshowtucson@gmail.com

FEBRUARY:

1-29—QUARTZSITE, AZ: Wholesale and retail show; Desert Gardens RV Park; 1064 Kuehn St.; I-10 Exit 17; Wed. 9-6 daily; free admission; crystals, minerals, rough, polished, jewelry, lapidary equipment; contact Sharon or Sandy, 1064 Kuehn St., Quartzsite, AZ 85346, (928) 927-6361; e-mail: info@desertgardensrvpark.net; Web site: www.desertgardensrvpark.net

9-12—TUCSON, AZ: Annual show; Tucson Gem & Mineral Society; Tucson Convention Center; 260 S. Church Ave.; Thu. 10-6, Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-6; adults \$10, seniors and active military \$8 on Fri., children (14 and under) free with adult; 2-day tickets \$17; contact Show Chairman, PO Box 42588, Tucson, AZ 85733, (520) 322-5773; e-mail: tgms@tgms.org; Web site: www.tgms.org

10- LOS GATOS, CA: Special Auction- see text, January 2012 *Prospector* (Special Events)

10-12—PORTLAND, OR: Annual show; Oregon Agate & Mineral Society; OMSI; 1945 SE Water; Fri. 10-5, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; free admission; contact Craig Prier, 4927 SE Haig St., Portland, OR 97206, (503) 984-7004; e-mail: oamsrockhound@live.com; Web site: www.oregonagate.org

17-26—INDIO, CA: Annual show; San Geronio Mineral & Gem Society; Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival; Gem & Mineral Bldg, Bldg. #1, 46-350 Arabia St.; Fri. 10-10, Sat. 10-10, Sun. 10-10, Mon. 10-10; adults \$8, seniors \$7, students \$6, children (under 5) free; contact Bert Grisham, 1029 N. 8th St., Banning, CA 92220, (951) 849-1674; e-mail: bert67@verizon.net

18-19—ANTIOCH, CA: Annual show; Antioch Lapidary Club; Contra Costa County Fairgrounds; 1201 W. 10th St.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; adults \$4, children (under 12), Scouts in uniform, and active military with ID free; jewelry, gems, findings, supplies, auction, grab bags, exhibits, hands-on projects for kids; contact Brenda Miguel, (925) 301-6957; e-mail: brenda.miguel@yahoo.com; Web site: www.antiochlapidaryclub.com

24-25—NORTHRIDGE, CA: Annual show; Del Air Rockhounds Club; United Methodist Church; 9650 Reseda Blvd.; Fri. 3-9, Sat. 10-5; free admission; contact Julia Marin, (818) 886-7190; Web site: www.delairrockhounds.org

MARCH:

2-4—NEWARK, CA: Annual show; Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley; Newark Pavilion; 6430 Thornton Ave.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$6 (3-day pass), children (under 12) - free with adult; fluorescent rock display and sale, more than 35 dealers, live demonstrations, display cases, jewelry, gemstones, beads, fossils, equipment, supplies, auction, door prizes, kids' Spinning Wheel; contact Cathy Miller, PO Box 2145, Castro Valley, CA 94546, (510) 887-9007; e-mail: info@mgscv.org; Web site: www.mgscv.org

3-4—VENTURA, CA: 50th Anniversary Show; Ventura Gem & Mineral Society; Ventura County Fairgrounds; 10 W. Harbor Blvd.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; free admission; club member and other exhibits, more than 15 dealers, demonstrators, raffles, hourly silent auctions, Country Store, kids' activities; contact Rob Sankovich, 1961 Havenwood Dr., Thousand Oaks, CA 91362, (805) 494-7734; e-mail: rmsorca@adelphia.net; Web site: www.vgms.org

3-4—ARCADIA, CA: Annual show; Monrovia Rockhounds; County Arboretum and Botanic Garden; Ayres Hall, 301 S. Baldwin Ave.; Sat. 9-4:30, Sun. 9-4:30; free admission; more than 15 vendors, gems, jewelry, minerals, fossils, beads, findings, geode cracking, Grab Bags, Treasure Wheel, Dino Dig, Fossil Find, Grand Prize raffle, hourly drawings; contact Jo Anna Ritchey, 224 Oaks Ave., Monrovia, CA 91016, (626) 389-624; e-mail: joannaritchey@gmail.com; Web site: www.moroks.com

3-4—ISSAQUAH, WA: Annual show; East KingCo Rock Club; Pickering Barn; 1730 10th Ave. NW, across from Costco; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; free admission; dealers, gems, jewelry, minerals, silent auctions, raffles, door prizes, hands-on activities, crafts, games, member display cases; contact Norma McDonald, c/o EKCRC, PO Box 2203, Redmond, WA 98073-2203, (206) 612-3113; e-mail: eastkingco@gmail.com; Web site: www.eastkingco.org

3-4—FOUNTAIN HILLS, AZ: 3rd retail show; Rick Obermiller; Fountain Hills Community Center; 13001 N. La Montana Dr.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; adults \$2, children (under 10) free; 15 dealers, gems, minerals, crystals, fossils, beads, metals, kids' gold panning and fossil dig, door prizes, raffles; contact Rick Obermiller, PO Box 64281, Phoenix, AZ 85082-4281, (602) 826-2218; e-mail: obrocks@gmail.com

8-11—VICTORVILLE, CA: 35th annual tailgate; Victorville Gem & Mineral Club; Stoddard Wells ; Stoddard Wells

Rd., 7 miles east of I-15; Thu. 8-dusk, Fri. 8-dusk, Sat. 8-dusk, Sun. 9-4; free admission; more than 60 dealers, crystals, rocks, minerals, fossils, gems, silent auctions; contact Brett Ward, 15056 - B, 7th St., Victorville, CA 92395, (760) 243-2330; e-mail: info@vvgmc.org; Web site: www.vvgnc.org

8-11—DEMING, NM: 47th annual show and sale; Deming Gem & Mineral Society; SWNM Fairgrounds; Raymond Reed Blvd.; Thu. 9-5, Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-5; free admission; more than 100 dealers, displays, geode cutting, gold panning, spinning wheel, silent and live auctions, door prizes, raffle, guided field trip; contact Maurice Crawford, 713 W. Spruce PMB 726, Deming, NM 88031, (575) 546-0056; e-mail: mauryjudy@yahoo.com; Web site: dgms.bravehost.com

10-11—SPRECKELS, CA: Annual show; Salinas Valley Rock & Gem Club; Vet's Memorial Hall; 5th St. and Llano St.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; free admission; beads, minerals, rocks, silent auction, free drawings, member donated raffle prizes, display cases, demonstrators; contact Karin Salomon, (831) 375-5233; e-mail: kcbakes27@yahoo.com; Web site: salinasrockandgem.com

16-18—BAKERSFIELD, CA: 11th annual show; Lynne and Lew Helfrich; Kern County Shriners (Noble) Park; 700 South P St.; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-5; free admission; hourly drawings, jewelry, fossils, meteorites, mining, gold panning, rock collecting, arrowhead making, demonstrations, seminars, displays, glow-in-the-dark rocks, Mount Ida quartz crystals. Special hotel rates for visitors; drycamping available. Vendors welcome! Contact Lynne Helfrich, 3006 N. Baker St., Bakersfield, CA 93305, (661) 323-2663; e-mail: lewsrocks@bak.rr.com

16-18—ALBUQUERQUE, NM: Annual show; Albuquerque Gem & Mineral Club; New Mexico State Fairgrounds; CAC Bldg., San Pedro Ave. entrance; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$3; more than 40 dealers, crystals, jewelry, fossils, rocks, minerals, decorator items, jewelry, books, supplies, beads, mineral ID booth, visits by a well-behaved and socialized wolf, NM Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources educational booth, kids' grab bags, silent auctions, about 20 displays; contact Paul Hlava, PO Box 13718, Albuquerque, NM 87192, (505) 255-5478; e-mail: paulhlava@q.com; Web site: www.agmc.info

17-18—VALLEJO, CA: Annual show, "Spring Bling"; Vallejo Gem & Mineral Society; Solano County Fairgrounds, Mc Cormack Hall; 900 Fairgrounds Dr.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5, children (12 and under) free with adult; gems, jade, turquoise, fire agates, fossils, beads, hourly door prizes, raffle, wheel of fortune, metal detecting, meteorites, rock slabs, silent auction, new dealers; contact Dan Wolke, 900 Fairgrounds Dr., Vallejo, CA 94510, (707) 745-1816; e-mail: dnewolke@sbcglobal.net; Web site: vallejogemandmineral@gmail.com

17-18—SEATTLE, WA: Annual show; North Seattle Lapidary & Mineral Club; Lake City Community Center; 12531 28th Ave. NE; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; free admission; junior activities, demonstrations, club member displays, grab bags, Rockosaurus rides, Rockhound Dinner, dealers, door prizes; contact Susan Gardner, (425) 483-2295; Web site: www.NorthSeattleRockClub.org

24-25—ANGELS CAMP, CA: Show and sale; Calaveras Gem & Mineral Society; Calaveras County Fairground; 101 Frogtown Rd.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; adults \$4, children (12 and under) free with adult; exhibits, demonstrations, kids' activities, silent auction, sales, raffle, door prizes, dealers, fossils, jewelry, meteorites, books, lapidary supplies, slabs, gems, beads; contact Tak Iwata, 18310 Coyote Meadow Rd., Sonora, CA 95370, (209) 928-5579; e-mail: tak2me@msn.com; Web site: www.calaverasgemandmineral.org

24-25—YUMA, AZ: Annual show; Sharon Szymanski, Val Latham; Yuma Civic Center; 1440 Desert Hills Dr.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; adults \$3, children (under 12) free with adult; dealers, fine and costume jewelry, gems, beads, slabs, cabachons, fossils, lapidary supplies and machinery, wire wrapping on the premises; contact Sharon Szymanski, 1792 E. Laddos Ave., San Tan Valley, AZ 85140, (480) 671-6191; e-mail: goldcanyon2@yahoo.com

24-25—PORT ANGELES, WA: Annual show; City of Port Angeles; Vern Burton Community Center; 308 E. 4th St.; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; free admission; rough and polished rocks, giant thunder eggs, slabs, carvings, lapidary tools, beads, fused glass, faceted gemstones, facet rough, crystals, fossils, minerals, beach glass, shells, jewelry, wire wrapping, woodworking, cabochons, equipment, raffle drawings, free rocks for kids while supplies last; contact Cindy Kochanek, PO Box 1150, Port Angeles, WA 98362, (360) 417-4550; e-mail: ckochane@cityofpa.us; Web site: cityofpa.us

MARCH-APRIL:

31-1—LEMOORE, CA: Annual show; Lemoore Gem & Mineral Club; Trinity Hall; 470 Champion St.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-6; free admission; featuring California jade; contact John Pereira, 335 W. D St., Lemoore, CA 93245, (559) 924-4052

31-1—TORRANCE, CA: 63rd annual show, "Nature's Treasures"; South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society; Ken Miller Recreational Center; 3341 Torrance Blvd.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; free admission; exhibits, demonstrations, children's activities, prize drawings, door prizes, fluorescent mineral exhibit, slabs, rough rock, used equipment; contact Leslie Neff or Larry Hoskinson

31-1—SWEET HOME, OR: Show; Sweet Home Rock & Mineral Society; Sweet Home High School Activity Gym; 1641 Long St.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults 50 cents, children (12 and under) free with adult; contact Joe Cota, PO Box 2279, Lebanon, OR 97355, (541) 451-2740

31-1—BELLINGHAM, WA: Annual show; Mount Baker Rock & Gem Club; Bloedel-Donovan Park; 2214 Electric Ave.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; free admission; rocks, fossils, gems, jewelry, dealers, door prizes, club sales, ongoing silent auction, scholarship raffle, demonstrations (lapidary, gold panning), kids' activities; contact Daniel Hayes, (360) 312-8380; e-mail: hayes0406@gmail.com; Web site: www.mtbakerrockclub.org