

Rich Saylor, Editor
29 Linda Vista Drive
Monterey, CA 93940
[*saylor@redshift.com*](mailto:saylor@redshift.com)

The Carmel Valley **PROSPECTOR!**

November 2015 Vol. 55 No. 11

Inside this issue:

Page 3 - President's Message
Page 4- October Board Meeting Minutes, CMFS report
Page 5- More September Show Scenes
Page 6- Workshop notice, Oregon Petrified Wood
Page 7- Equipment For Sale, Membership report
Page 8- Losing the East Mojave?, Brad Smith Bench Tips
Page 9, 10- Upcoming Events Calendar

inside cover- Club Information & Monthly Calendar



***The next meeting will be Friday, November 13th, 7 PM;
the program will be our **Annual Auction!** Bring stuff...
and some cash! Or checks, anyway... Please!***

THE CARMEL VALLEY PROSPECTOR * NEWSLETTER OF THE CARMEL VALLEY GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.

P.O. Box 22756, Carmel, CA 93922-0756 CLUB WEBSITE: CVGMS.ROCKS NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS: saylor@redshift.com

Elected Officers & Board of Directors- 2015

PRESIDENT Margaret Chan 883-2045
VICE-PRESIDENT Susie Harlow 637-0735
TREASURER Pearl Chan 375-8194

RECORDING SECRETARY Janis Rovetti 372-1311
CORRESPONDING SEC. Matt Biewer 659-4156
FEDERATION DIRECTOR Karin Salomon 375-5233
BULLETIN EDITOR Rich Saylor 372-9215

DIRECTOR 2015 Adrienne Pimentel 375-6360
DIRECTOR 2016 Barb Biewer 659-4156
DIRECTOR 2017 Mike Cole 484-7808

Committee Chairpersons- 2015

SHOW Board of Directors
PROGRAM Board of Directors
FIELD TRIPS Jay House 372-1011
PUBLICITY Janis Rovetti 372-1311
DRAWING TABLE Matt & Barbara Biewer 659-4156
SUNSHINE Janis Rovetti 372-1311
REFRESHMENTS Jim Hamilton 238-7555
SCHOLARSHIP Talma Taormina 375-1477
MEMBERSHIP Jay House 372-1011
CUSTODIAN Matt Biewer 659-4156
LIBRARIAN Richard Franco 402-2106
WEBMASTERS Richard & Cynthia Franco 402-2106

CLUB INFORMATION:

ANNUAL DUES: Adults (21 & over) \$15, Couples \$20, Juniors (high school) \$1, and Pebble Pups (grade school or younger)- Free

INITIATION FEE: \$10 plus \$5 each additional family member (includes "stinkin' name badges!")

MEMBER OF: California Federation of Mineralogical Societies, American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CFMS & AFMS)

CLUB MINERAL: Gold CLUB COLORS: Green & Gold CLUB GEMSTONE: Botryoidal Jade

SOCIETY PURPOSE: The Carmel Valley Gem and Mineral Society is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the study of mineralogy and geology, to encourage the collecting of specimens and the practice of the lapidary arts, to promote responsible field excursions to mineral locations, and to further the education of all. **And remember, please...Tread Lightly!**

CLUB NEWSLETTER: Permission is given to *quote* any item in The Prospector *provided* proper credit is given. Please contact the editor for permission to reprint original articles in their entirety, which are to be considered as being copyrighted.

Rich Saylor, editor & publisher. Contributions, which are ALWAYS welcome, & (nice!) comments may be sent to

saylor@redshift.com

Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society general meetings: **2nd** Friday, 7:00 PM; guests & visitors are welcome. Board meetings are held at 6:00 PM, before the General Meeting. Members are welcome to attend.

SUPPORT OUR LOCAL CLUBS:

The Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, at 7:00pm, Live Oak Grange Hall, 1900 17th Ave., Santa Cruz. Their website is www.SCGMS.org for club info & their newsletter, The Lapidarian.

The Salinas Valley Rock & Gem Club meets on the 3rd Monday of each month, 7 PM, at the North Minster Presbyterian

Church, 315 East Alvin Drive, Salinas. Guests & visitors welcome. For club information & their newsletter, the club website is

www.salinasrockandgem.com. Also contact Karin Salomon, 375-5233. Guests and visitors are welcome. **Annual SVR&G**

Show: March 12 & 13, 2015, Veterans Hall, Spreckels. (2nd weekend in March). Modest admission charge, lots of FREE parking.

2015 CVGMS Monthly calendar (MONTHLY MEETING DATES): PLEASE NOTE, ALL DATES TO BE CONFIRMED, especially June (auction) and December (Christmas Dinner).

January: Friday the 9th

February: **Friday the 13st**. The Newark show will be on Mar. 6~8. **See page 9**. Carpooling is suggested.

March: Friday the 13th.

April: Friday the 10th

May: Friday the 8th

June: **Sunday the 7th: Annual picnic & White Elephant Sale- Whispering Pines Park, Monterey**

July: Friday the 10th

August: Friday the 14th

Sept.: Friday the 11th (General Meeting) **55th ANNUAL CVGMS GEM SHOW, SAT& SUN, the 26th & 27th**

October: Friday the 9th

November: Friday the 13th - **THE ANNUAL AUCTION!**

December: Sunday, Dec.6th: **ANNUAL XMAS DINNER & INSTALLATION OF 2016 OFFICERS**

The Carmel Valley **PROSPECTOR!**

November 2015 Volume 55, Number 11

Message from the President- November

Dear CVGMS Members,

It's getting close to Holiday time. We will be having our annual Auction at our November meeting on Fri Nov. 13, 2015. We will be auctioning off rocks and rock-related items. If you have some excess material in your collection, please donate some of it for the auction. The auction is always a fun fund-raising event for the club. Bring cash or check book to pay for your winnings.

We also will be electing our officers for 2016 at the November meeting. Our current Treasurer Pearl Chan has some vision problems, and can no longer serve as Treasurer next year. The Treasurer needs to attend the Board meetings on a regular basis to make sure expenses are paid in a timely manner. Some accounting experience is helpful. Pearl can assist and advise, but is having difficulty seeing well enough to physically do the work. Please contact me at poygee@hotmail.com if you are interested in the position. You can also speak to me at the November meeting.

The following slate of officers will be voted on at the November meeting.

President	Margaret Chan
Vice-President	Susie Harlow
Treasurer	<i><u>To be determined</u></i>
Recording Sec.	Janis Rovetti
Corresponding Sec.	Matt Biewer
Director 2016	Barb Biewer
Director 2017	Mike Cole
Director 2018	Adrienne Pimental
Federation Director	Karin Salomon
Bulletin Editor	Rich Saylor

Annual Dues are now due. Please pay our Membership Chair Jay House soon.

Our annual Holiday Dinner will be on Sun Dec. 6, 2015 at the Pacific Grove Masonic Hall. Doors will open at 4:30 pm with dinner served at 5:00 pm. The club provides turkey, ham, beverages and rolls. Members bring their own plates and utensils, and a salad, side dish or desert to share. Please also bring canned or dry goods to donate to the local Food Bank. The club's Christmas fairy also provides gifts for everyone. Please join us for this Holiday event.

The Pacific Grove Natural History Museum will be having its Science Saturday on Sat Nov 28, 2015 on Monarch Butterflies. Yes, it's that time of year again.

Please remember our Veterans on Veterans Day and have a Happy Thanksgiving. See you at the Auction on Fri Nov 13.

Margaret Chan
President

CVGMS BOARD MEETING: October 9, 2015

Call to Order: Meeting called to order by President, Margaret Chan.

Present: Margaret Chan, Pearl Chan, Matt Biewer, Barb Biewer, Talma Taormina, Jay House, Karin Salomon, Adrienne Pimentel, Mike Cole, and Janis Rovetti.

Correspondence: Last month we received 2 upcoming gem show flyers, Livermore Gem & Mineral Show Nov. 21/22, and Nevada County Gem & Mineral Show Oct. 10/11.

Membership: Jay reports that Julie and Claudio Montero have become members again. Welcome back Julie and Claudio!

Treasurer's Report: Pearl gave the treasurer's report. It was M/S/P to pay the current bills. Pearl has some preliminary accounting for our 2015 Gem Show and will have the final accounting when all the bills are paid.

Federation: The annual CFMS Fall Business meeting in Visalia is 11/14/15. She said that Rock & Gem magazine is looking for articles for the "Lapidary of the Month" feature. Jim B-T is looking for rockhound kids that he can write an article about for Rock & Gem. Contact Jim at jbraceth@roadrunner.com. In addition, next year's Federation Show will be in Placerville on September 16 to 18, 2016.

Scholarship: Talma and Allison from the PG Museum are getting together to design and offer programs in conjunction with the State Standards in the school system. They are trying to see about having the programs at the PG Museum instead of the schools.

Old Business: Our annual gem show went very well and we will get an accurate accounting soon.

New Business: Pearl is looking for someone to take over as Treasurer this next year because her vision is getting worse due to macular degeneration and it makes bookkeeping difficult. She also cannot sew new club vests if anyone else is interested in that duty. Alyce Thompson wants to donate her rock collection to the club. Thank you to Matt and Barb who will go to pick up the collection. Thank you Alyce!

October Program: Wire wrap workshop for tonight.

November Program: **Our annual auction.**

December Program: Christmas dinner at the Masonic Hall on December 6, 2015.

January Program: Club members Talma & Jay will give a presentation on their recent field trip, with slides.

The meeting was adjourned. The next board and general meeting is November 13, 2015.

Janis Rovetti, Recording Secretary

[CFMS Report](#) (repeated this month) *Karin Salomon, Federation Director*

The Annual CFMS Fall business meeting in Visalia is set for November 14th.

Rock & Gem magazine is requesting articles for the "Lapidary of the Month" feature.

This entails a project you have made with a 500 word description, a photo, name and address, sent to editor@rockngem.com.

Jim B-T is looking for enthusiastic rockhounds' kids that he can write an article about for Rock&Gem Magazine. Contact jbraceth@roadrunner.com.

MORE SEPTEMBER SHOW SCENES...

Setting up the club banner...



Going up... JR



UP... JR



UP!!!! JR



Nice crowd! AW



Karin's necklaces... AW



...Some happy kids! AW

SO MANY FINE DISPLAYS... my thanks to Janis Rovetti (JR), Andrea Wilson (AW) for the many photos above, and to the others whose photos there wasn't room to publish this time! If we can get our website running, though... Cheers, Rich



Susie Harlow's benitoite RS



MaryJane's lapis necklaces... AW

WORKSHOP NOTICE

There will be a lapidary workshop, featuring a full range of lapidary equipment, at the Biewers' home in Carmel Valley (not far from Carmel Valley Village) on Saturday & Sunday, Nov. 14 & 15. The sessions will run from around 10 am till everyone's tired in the PM. Members, guests and pebble pups are welcome! The club "rock pile" is free to all, as well as a large selection of cut slabs to make cabochon or whatever from, or you can bring your own material. Pebble pups who bought geodes at the show will find this a good opportunity to polish their geodes, or cut & polish them if they're still uncut! Be sure to bring a lunch... for directions or more information, call Matt or Barb at 659-4156.

OREGON PETRIFIED WOOD By Sky Paxton



Just outside of Sweet Home, Oregon is a ranch containing more than 65 identified species of petrified wood. The hills around Sweet Home are also known as the source for famous Holly Blue agate. So the ranch is named Hollywood Ranch as a way of linking the two types of stone found in the area. Hollywood ranch is a fee dig ranch with the owners being very responsive to rockhounds. They routinely use tractors to expose new stone although I don't know why they need to, this site is almost nothing except petrified wood. After awhile I tried looking for a rock that was not wood and only found one small piece.

The big deal about this site is the number of different species all located in one place. 65 identified species is just the tip of the tree. Hollywood ranch has been extensively studied by paleobotanists since the 1960's identifying the 65 known species, yet as many as 100 different species still remain

nameless. The generally accepted theory is that this ranch was once a shoreline of an ancient ocean inlet that collected driftwood from all over the world. The few pieces I did decide to bring home an add to my pile do look somewhat like driftwood pieces.

The wood pieces are somewhat whole showing well defined wood grain yet with smooth ends and interesting twists like we see today in driftwood. The difference is they are very agatized and solid making them great lapidary material. The outside and inward around all the cracks is bleached in color like you would expect driftwood to be with the interior still showing color and wood cell replacements. The contrasting colors are white or light tan to coal black. There are pieces with red and orange and even some small green markings. The most predominant colors being the shades of brown/black to white/tan.

The ranch charges a modest \$1.50 a pound for anything you want to call your own. We stopped by while they are in transition to a new building and opening a Petrified Wood museum so I didn't get to see the examples of the 65 known species. I did find out they are having a major sale on the 7-8 Nov 2015. Here is the web site url <http://holleywoodranch.com/dig-it/> the phone number is current and they are listed in many of the popular rockhound books too.

More photos in a separate email. Every rock seen in these photos is Petrified wood. -Sky

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

Hi Rich,

Here is a quick list of the items I would like to sell. I've given asking prices, but all is negotiable.

(Ed.: these are mostly very large items; the photos are available but would take up a great deal of the limited space in The Prospector. Please contact Janis if you need to see them.)

1. 3 glass display cases \$100 each
2. 12" rock saw that was originally gravity-fed converted to power feed. \$200
3. 14" rock drop saw \$300
4. 14" handmade counterweight saw that has a good blade. \$200
4. 16" rock saw good blade. \$500
5. 20" flat lap that works well. \$500
6. Gem Tech Supreme with 6" wheels (has no shield) \$150
7. Gem Tech Coronet with 4" wheels \$250

All of the equipment works but some will need some work and parts to work efficiently.

Thanks a million,

Janis Rovetti

(831) 372-1311 janis12@sbcglobal.net

MEMBERSHIP REPORT- by Jay House, Membership Chairman

Donna Mueller, Franny Thompson, and Pebble Pup "Jorie" Cruz of Seaside have become active members; as have Steve, Kristen and Kevy Vaden, of Pebble Beach, as well as Wendy Quist of Prunedale. Welcome, everyone!!!

FROM THE SEPTEMBER, 2015 ISSUE OF "ROCKHOUND RAMBLING"

newsletter of the Ventura Gem & Mineral Society

Losing the East Mojave for Collecting?

By Jim Brace-Thompson, 2nd Vice President/Field Trips (VGMS)

If you've been keeping up on potential loss of collecting sites as our California desert lands keep getting turned over to solar power companies, incorporated into existing military bases, and/or turned into national park lands, then you know that U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein has been leading an effort for years to incorporate still more of the East Mohave into national parks and monuments. As reported by The Associated Press in the August 23 issue of The Star, she has been unable to move her proposals through Congress because her plan has run counter to interests of a huge swath of groups, including rockhounds, environmentalists, off-roaders, hunters, and mining and renewable-energy companies. You don't often see environmentalists and off-roaders in the same list, but folks from both groups have voiced opposition to Feinstein's plan. As for rockhounds, the plan would permanently eliminate what have long been prime collecting grounds –huge chunks of Regions II and III in James Mitchell's classic guidebook Gem Trails of Southern California. Do names such as Ludlow, Cady Mountains, or Lavic Siding ring any bells? These and more would be swallowed up. The plan involves more than 1,560 square miles between Palm Springs and the Nevada border divided into three monuments: Mojave Trails, Sand to Snow, and Castle Mountains. Having failed to get her plan approved legislatively, Feinstein has now turned directly to President Obama to bypass Congress and create these national monuments unilaterally by executive order. Feinstein sent a letter to the President in August with her request. Given that Presidents of both parties, when nearing the end of their terms in office, find it easy to tuck feathers in their caps with such designations, we can likely kiss good-bye to a good many of our prime collecting localities in the East Mojave.

Ed.: Note that Jim is also a member of our club, having served as CVGMS President for many years! Nice article, Jim!

BRAD SMITH BENCH TIPS ...reprinted from The Petrograph, newsletter of the Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley, November 2015

HOMEMADE WAX TOOLS

Save your used X-Acto or scalpel blades for utility work on the bench, they're wonderful for delicate wax work. Use a cutoff wheel or other type of grinding wheel to shape the blades to what you need. For instance, you can carve away excess metal on the spine to make yourself some narrow carving knives that do a great job of detailing small pierced areas of your waxes.

REMOVING A STONE FROM A BEZEL SETTING

If you've forgotten to use dental floss and got your stone caught in a bezel, there's a couple of things you can try before starting to pry.

Find some sticky wax or beeswax. Roll it into a pencil-sized cylinder and stick the end onto the top of the stone. Mold it on well and yank. (*Ed.: dopping wax can also be used.*)

But if the stone is really stuck, there are two other tricks - but each with risks and consequences. The first is to pry open the bezel with a sharp knife blade being very careful not to wrinkle or tear the bezel.

If you try this, make sure to pry gently in several passes around the stone.

The last solution (*after opening up the bezel- Ed.*) is to drill a small hole into the bezel setting from the back side so that you can push the stone out. Note that this does leave a hole, but in some cases you can use it to saw out a design under the stone.

Nov 21-22, 2015 Santa Cruz Mineral and Gem Holiday Sale!

Come to the Santa Cruz Live Oak Grange for a terrific holiday gift sale featuring treasures from the earth and holiday gift items offered by members of the Santa Cruz Mineral and Gem Society: rocks, minerals, gems, jewelry, fossils, and more. Doors are open 10am to 5pm. Admission is FREE. SCMGS proceeds benefit earth sciences scholarship and education.

The Society is an all-volunteer non-profit incorporated in 1949. SCMGS has hosted a yearly gem and mineral show since 1952. The mission of SCMGS is to unite and associate those persons who are interested in the study and collecting of minerals and gemstones; for the mutual improvement in the art of cutting and polishing gem or semi-gem material; and, for increasing the knowledge of its members about the various earth sciences.

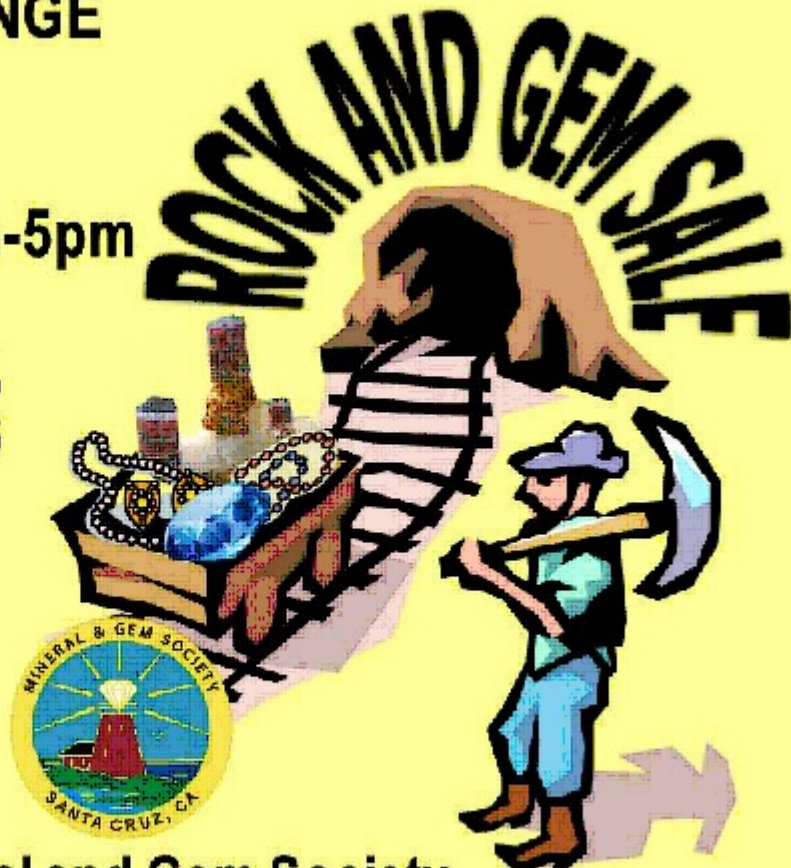
For more information, visit the society web page at URL: <http://scmgs.org> <http://scmgs.org/>, Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/santacruz.mineralandgemsociety> <https://www.facebook.com/santacruz.mineralandgemsociety>, or email scruzmgsg@gmail.com <mailto:scruzmgsg@gmail.com>.

LIVE OAK GRANGE
1900 17th Ave.
Santa Cruz, CA
Nov 21-22 10am-5pm

GEMS, JEWELRY,
ROCKS, FOSSILS
MINERALS, AND
MORE.
FAMILY FUN!

Free Admission
www.scmgs.org

Santa Cruz Mineral and Gem Society



UPCOMING LOCAL/REGIONAL EVENTS

This month, **only California events are listed**, due to space limitations. However there are many, many shows throughout the US and Canada, both club/Federation and commercial. For more information & other out-of-state listings, please go to: rockngem.com or cfmsinc.org **PLEASE NOTE THAT COMMERCIAL (non-club) SHOWS aren't listed**, but can be found at the above websites. Please **confirm** all show dates, if you plan on attending - Ed

November 2015

14-15—SACRAMENTO 78th Annual show; Sacramento Mineral Society, The Scottish Rite Temple; 6151 H Street; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; Admission \$6, under 12 free; minerals, fossils, beads, gemstones, meteorites, jade, and more. Hourly prize drawings, kids activities, auctions, demos, snack bar, and much more.; contact Alyssa Meiszingler, P.O. Box 279291, Sacramento, CA 95826, 916-662-5819; e-mail: webadmin@sacramentomineralsociety.org; Web site: <http://sacgemshow.com>

14-15—YUBA CITY Annual show; Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society, Yuba Sutter Fairgrounds, Franklin Hall; 442 Franklin Avenue; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; Free Admission; contact Katie Slightam, (530)-673-9649; e-mail: mktalternatives@comcast.net; Web site: www.sutterbuttes.net

21-22—APPLE VALLEY Annual show; "ROCKS OF THE WEST", Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club, Victor Valley Museum; 11873 Apple Valley Road; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4, Free Parking & Admission, free admission to the museum. Ugly rock contest. grab bags, display cases, vendors. contact Cyndy Mandell (760) 508-1080; e-mail: cynmandell@me.com,_or Ed Skidmore (760) 243-2330; e-mail: vp-shws@vvgmc.org; Web site: <http://www.vvgmc.org>

28-30—MONTEREY Wholesale and retail show; Gem Faire Inc, Monterey County Fairgrounds; 2004 Fairground Rd; Sat. 10 am-5 pm, Sun. 10-5, Mon. 10-4; Admission is Free!; Fine jewelry, precious & semi-precious gemstones, millions of beads, crystals, gold & silver, minerals & much more at manufacturer's prices. Exhibitors from around the world. Jewelry repair & cleaning while you shop. Free hourly door prizes. contact Yooy Nelson, (503) 252-8300; e-mail: info@gemfaire.com; Web site: <http://www.gemfaire.com> (**Ed. :listed only because it's local!**)

December 2015

5-6—BARSTOW 41st Annual show; High Desert Gem & Mineral Society, Cora Harper Fitness Center; 841 Barstow Rd; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10- 5; Free admission. Lapidary arts & crafts, 40+ Displays with special Petrified Wood exhibit by Walt Wright. Silent Auctions both days & Raffle. Dealers with gem, mineral, lapidary rough, beads, unique jewelry & gifts. Demonstrations, lapidary instruction. Grab bags & Wheel of Fortune for the young. Proceeds go to our local scholarship. Barstow is home to Diamond Pacific. Cora Harper Center is north of I-15 on Barstow Road.; contact Danny Watts, P.O. Box 138, Barstow, CA 92312, (760) 373-1309

5-6—LAKESIDE Annual show; El Cajon Valley Gem & Mineral Society, Lakeside Rodeo Grounds; 12584 Mapleview Rd. & Hwy 67. Sat. 9:00 -5:00, Sun. 9:00-4:00; Free Admission & Parking. Saturday, Sunday, Dec. 5 & 6. Gem, Mineral, Fossil, Jewelry, Lapidary Supplies and Craft Vendors. Free Gem & Mineral Identification. Raffle Prizes, Food Booths, Demonstrations, Activities for the kids and fun for the whole family. A great place to do your holiday shopping.; contact Mary Ness, 10101 Allenwood Way, Santee, CA 92071, (619) 449-0759; e-mail: ecvgms@gmail.com; Web site: www.ecvgms.org

12-13—RIALTO Show and sale; OrangeBelt Mineralogical Society, Across from City Hall; 105 S. Palm Ave.; Sat. 9 am-Dusk, Sun. 9 am-Dusk; Admission is Free; crystals, Minerals, Gems, Jewelry, Fossils, Opals, Petrified Wood, Kids' prizes, and much more. Rockhound fun. Bring your rocks , we will try to identify your rocks! Rockhound Christmas gifts. Dealers- see our website for forms and info email address.; contact Jessica Pierson, 205 W. Benedict #8, San Bernardino , CA 92408, (909) 381-0089; Web site: obmsrocks.yolasite.com

January 2016

16-17—EXETER Annual show; Tule Gem and Mineral Society, Exeter Veterans Memorial Building; 324 N. Kaweah Ave.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; Free Admission; Demonstrations, Door Prizes, Free Parking, Gems, Grab Bags, Snack Bar, Jewelry, Lapidary Supplies, Minerals, Outstanding Displays, Raffle, Rocks, Silent Auction, Ten Dealers, and Wheel of Fortune.; contact Margaret Buchmann, 5215 W. Nicholas Ave, Visalia, CA 93291; e-mail: margaretbu03@gmail.com; Web site: www.tulegem.com

Be sure to verify all dates!