



From the President's Pen

This month's input for the bulletin I find myself with really nothing to report. Aside from trying to find stuff to do, I find that I have a bunch of ideas for some of my less desirable rocks which you all may find interesting. I have come up with a design so that I can slice up some of my less desirable rocks to create a large compass rose for my entryway to my house. Now this is not going to be a quick single day task just because there is going to be the slicing of the rocks, cutting out the jigsaw pieces, setting into place and finally polishing. But, I think this is going to look pretty cool and try and even ensure to have it point to the correct Northern direction.

Continuing the desire to pass along cool information each month, I have attached a few website links for Earth science finds.

A shark fossil found in Germany (cool part is sharks are primarily cartilage, so this is a wondrous find): <https://www.foxnews.com/science/150m-year-oldshark-discovered-germany>

Wait till you see the depiction of this shark, it is just downright funny: <https://www.foxnews.com/science/bizarre-370m-year-old-shark-had-teeth-unlike-any-other-creature-earth>

This is very cool for physics geeks and those that have a love for all things diamonds: <https://phys.org/news/2021-01-carbon-pressures-earth-core-crystal.html>

Hope we can all get together this month.

— Glenn Fiala

Vice President's Corner

Here we are about to start the second month this year.

In our attempt to jump start the RRR club back into "normalcy", we will be honored to see and hear a fascinating presentation of **The Formation of the La Brea Tar Pits**, by Frank Van Hecke.

I grew up in Santa Maria, California. Later in life I joined the Orcutt Mineral Society after the Santa Maria club had closed. The Orcutt Mineral Society, named after William Orcutt, was founded in August 1958 (the same month and year I was born). William Orcutt became a famed geologist and civil engineer who worked in the Santa Maria Valley as district manager for Union Oil Company.

It was through Orcutt that the historic "Old Maud," the gusher that brought in the biggest producer of oil that the world had ever seen up to that time, was discovered. In 1906, Orcutt discovered the La Brea Tar Pits in the Los Angeles basin, on property owned by Capt. Allan Hancock. To this day Santa Maria honors Capt. Allan Hancock with a Community College in his name.

Of the three known locations of tar pits in California (Carpinteria, La Brea, and McKittrick), the La Brea pits are most widely known, and have produced an abundance of incredible remains from life long ago. So, it is with great personal interest and anticipation that I encourage your attendance on Feb. 9, 2021, in person or by Zoom, for Frank Van Hecke's presentation on **The Formation of the La Brea Tar Pits**.

See you there. — Vernon Deck

Educational Program February 9, 2021

(In the Roebelen Center)



Frank Van Hecke's
presentation on

The Formation of the La Brea Tar Pits

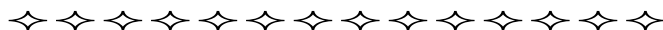
(Enter into the Fairgrounds by the normal route, park and walk up through the ticket booths entry, walk and go down into the Lobby/Atrium of the building.)

Inside this issue:

ZOOM the February RRR Meeting, Welcome New Member, Announcements, Rookie News, Thank You for Donations	2
In Memoriam: Bernadine Barton, In Memoriam: Ray Bunn, Pillikin Mine Field Trip	3
Lapidary Shop & Class News, Calendar	4
Ancient Uses of Minerals, Words to Dig By	5

MINUTES FOR ROSEVILLE ROCK ROLLERS EDUCATIONAL MEETING JANUARY 12, 2020

(Meeting was scheduled, but had to be cancelled because of COVID restrictions).



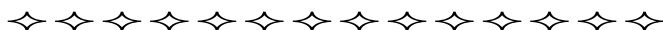
ZOOM the February RRR Meeting!

Glenn Fiala is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Rock Roller Educational Meeting
Time: Feb 9, 2021 07:00 PM Pacific Time

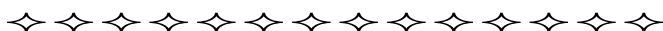
Join Zoom Meeting
[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81427056125?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81427056125?pwd=MGNtUU1BT0R3bnVTRTRRWf5dGJSdz09)
pwd=MGNtUU1BT0R3bnVTRTRRWf5dGJSdz09

Meeting ID: 814 2705 6125
Passcode: 280849



February Board Meeting

The meeting HAS BEEN SCHEDULED for Tuesday, February 23 at 7:00 PM in the club Lapidary Shop @the Grounds. It may be cancelled, so check your e-mails.

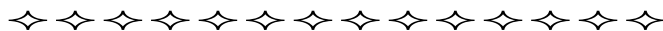


Sunshine

Sympathy cards were sent to Jim Barton for the passing of his mother Bernadette, and to Debbie Bunn for the passing of her husband Ray.

Both Bernadette Barton and Ray Bunn were long time RRR members. See their obituaries on the next page.

When you know of any member who is ill or has been hospitalized, please contact our Sunshine Chair, Heather Crane, at (818) 903-4433 or hmcrane7@gmail.com



Thank You for These Recent Donations

Margaret Oleachea donated for our library, magazines and pamphlets on various topics including several *Rock & Gem* magazines which have articles on the Museum Idar-Oberstein in Germany.

A book on the museum and its articles is written in German, but the photos are beautiful!

Included is a USGS booklet on Fossils, Rocks and Time. These will be placed in our RRR library at a later date.



Welcome New Member:

Juanita Pardun

Rookie Rock Roller News



The Rookies will meet Tuesday, February 9th 2021 at 5:30 p.m. at the Fairgrounds in the Roebelen Center (the big building).

Enter into the Fairgrounds by the normal route, park and walk up through the ticket booths entry walk and go down into the Lobby/Atrium of the building.

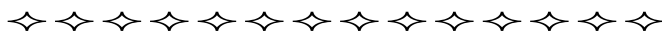
During this meeting, we would like to discuss the different types of fossils. After the discussion, we will have a fun activity.

There will be an email sent if the meeting is cancelled.

Let me know if you want to talk about badges earned. Just text or email me to get things started.

I hope to see you all there.

Carole Kowalik, Junior Advisor
(916) 871-0573 home3004@gmail.com



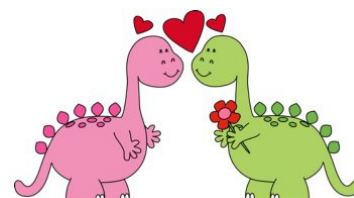
February Refreshments



We have **NO** refreshment sign-ups for the February Education meeting! If you will be attending, please bring something! There are lots of Valentine treats being sold everywhere.

We will be accepting refreshment signups for the upcoming spring meetings.

The refreshment sign-up sheet is at the entrance, on the Greeter's table.



In Memoriam

Bernadine (Berdee) L. Barton 1923-2021

Berdee joined the Roseville Rock Rollers (RRR) in 2004, enjoyed Education Meetings, collecting jewelry and minerals, and volunteering at our annual shows.

She was raised on a dairy farm in Minnesota during the Great Depression and moved to the Twin Cities during WWII. She met and married Lyle L. Barton in 1946. They moved to Omaha NE in 1957 and Mesa AZ in 1990. After Lyle passed, she moved to Tucson AZ, Honolulu Hawaii, and Citrus Heights in 1995.

She passed away quietly in Auburn on January 21, 2021. She is survived by son Jim (RRR member), a granddaughter, three great-grandsons, and one great-great-grandson who will all miss her smile and quick wit. Husband Lyle, a daughter and a son preceded her in death.

— Jim Barton

In Memoriam

Ray Bunn

Ray Bunn, husband of Debbie Bunn, passed away January 18 from COVID-19.

Ray was a long time member of the Roseville Rock Rollers. Before ill health began to claim him, he was an active exhibitor at the local gem shows. He was especially fond of amethyst and was a featured exhibitor at several shows. He will be sorely missed by his friends and family.

— Debbie Bunn

A RRR FIELD TRIP TO PILLIKIN MINE, PILOT HILL, CA, February 14

TRIP LOCATION – Pillikin Mine in Pilot Hill, east side of Folsom Lake.

TRIP DIFFICULTY RATING SCALE:

Vehicle Access & Parking - # 6 2 wheel, vehicle access or parking on road, dirt or gravel, limited parking area, carpooling maybe recommended.

Collection or View Site - #5 to 6 – Moderate difficulty. Most of the trail to the sites has a very gradually increasing incline. The incline at the last part of the walk is steep but is not difficult if you pace yourself. The total walk is maybe 1 ½ to 2 miles each way.

WHEN – Sunday, February 14, 2021

SPONSOR CLUB – Roseville Rock Rollers

LEADER & CONTACT INFO – RRR Field Trip Leader, Gene Doyle, (408) 605-9457, contact before the date.

MEMBER'S GUESTS – Only RRR Club Members

COLLECTION MATERIAL – Collecting materials at the main mine sites will be uvarovite garnet, chromium minerals, common opal, dendritic opal, high quality serpentine, and more.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE – We will be hiking into the main workings area of the Pillikin chrome mines following the old haul road. With walking time and a couple of hours at the mine we should have about 4 hours of time devoted to this trip.

MEET - Meet at Rattlesnake Bar Rd. just past where the old haul road meets the pavement at 9am. I will park alongside the road with a “Roseville Rockrollers” sign on the side of my car at 9:00am where we are to start. We will leave the meeting area at 9:30am. Careful parking if the ground is wet, so as to not get stuck in the mud.

DIRECTIONS TO SITE – Take Rattlesnake Bar Rd. from Pilot Hill, off Hwy. 49, the east side of Folsom Lake (NOT from Auburn Folsom Rd. side). Follow Rattlesnake Bar Rd., towards Folsom Lake boating/camping, approximately 7.5 miles. If you get to the park entrance at the Lake you have gone too far.

VEHICLE REQ'S – Any vehicle is okay

CAMP/FACILITIES – No nearby facilities. The Lake is closed at this time of year.

TOOLS – Rock hammer, small pry bar, collecting bucket, small shovel.

SAFETY CONCERNS – Please Note this trip is on private land and we must respect the owner's property. **Please stay away from any equipment or property.** This is an open pit mine – **stay away from the steep walls and do not go near or in the cave mines for your safety.**

CLIMATE/WEATHER – Typical February weather for this area.

CLOTHING - Wear hat, Jacket/Raincoat, and shirt with sleeves, long pants, boots, and gloves.

FOOD – Bring Lunch/Food and water.

OTHER REMARKS – Bring a camera if you want to take some beautiful pictures of the lake. They last mined this area in the 1950's. Flagstaff Hill has been mined in several places and most rockhound trips to this area are to the pits nearest the road. We will explore the main mine site which is harder to get to but should provide for a better place for collecting.

Lapidary Shop & Class News

Lapidary classes: There are no classes scheduled at this time. Hopefully the COVID restrictions will lift in the near future.

Lapidary Shop: We are still open for the cabochon classes, open sessions and mineral ID. This will be by appointment only, there will be no drop-ins at this time. Classes will be limited to 4 students/ people at a time due to COVID mandates. Students must call the instructor for the day that they wish to attend for an appointment.



Everyone must wear a mask covering the mouth and nose while in the shop. Also, everyone must wash their hands or use a hand sanitizer before signing in.

The schedule is:

Mondays: 5PM to 9PM. Instructor is Vernon Deck. Please call him to set up an appointment. (805) 598-3206

Wednesdays: 11AM to 3PM. Instructor is Holli Hinkle. Please call her to set up an appointment. (916) 579-8011

Wednesdays: 5PM to 9PM Instructor is Fran Todd. Please call her to set up an appointment. (310) 987-0642

Mineral ID: with Jim Hutchings. Please call him for an appointment. (916) 995-7380

NEW: Thursdays: OPEN SESSIONS: Thursdays: 5PM to 9PM. Monitor is Holli Hinkle. Please call her to set up an appointment. (916) 579-8011

This open shop time is for those who have completed RRR's introductory cabochon class. Starting in February the open shop will be on the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Thursdays. The usual \$5.00 shop fee will apply. — Please contact Cathy for any questions. 925-321-2024.

***The Monday and Wednesday classes are still being limited to 4 students. Water is still off at the shop and we are working with bottled water and sponges.


Cathy Nelson, Acting Shop Chairperson



February Calendar

Birthstone: Amethyst



Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 Lapidary Shop 5:00-9:00 pm ***	5	6
7	8 Lapidary Shop 5:00-9:00 pm	9 Meetings: Rookies 5:30 pm Club 7:00 pm	10 Lapidary Shop 11:00 am-3 pm 5:00-9:00 pm	11 Lapidary Shop 5:00-9:00 pm ***	*** You must have completed the RRR introductory cabochon class to come to these Thursday sessions.	
14  Pillikin Mine Field Trip 9:00 AM	15  Lapidary Shop 5:00-9:00 pm	16	17 Lapidary Shop 11:00 am-3 pm 5:00-9:00 pm	18 Lapidary Shop 5:00-9:00 pm ***	19	20
21	22 Lapidary Shop 5:00-9:00 pm	23 Board Meeting 7:00	24 Lapidary Shop 11:00 am-3 pm 5:00-9:00 pm	25 Lapidary Shop 5:00-9:00 pm ***	26	27
28	For questions about classes, contact : Cathy Nelson (925) 321-2024 Email: canelson2@netscape.net					

Ancient Uses of Minerals

It has always been interesting to learn about the strange ways in which minerals have been used. Tin, for instance, has been known for thousands of years. The Phoenicians and other ancient people mined it in the famous mines in Cornwall, England...and from that time to this, tin has been an important metal in the progress of civilization. But perhaps the most unusual use of tin was as an additive to put rustle in silk cloth. The luxurious swish of a lady's skin in the era of elaborate clothes at the turn of the century was produced by a silk that was up to 25% tin, by weight.

One of the strangest uses of lead ever recorded is found in the story of the Hanging Gardens of Babylon. This wonder of the ancient world was contained in a square 400 feet on each side and built up as several large terraces which attained the height of the city walls. The whole structure is supported by arches, one above the other, strengthened by a wall 22 feet thick surrounding it on all sides. On top were first laid large flat stones, 16 feet long and 4 feet wide; over these were laid a layer of reeds mixed with a great quantity of bitumen upon which were set 2 rows of bricks cemented closely together. The whole was covered with thin sheets of lead which laid the mold of the garden and soil deep enough to take the roots of the biggest trees. Amyitis, wife of Nebuchadnezzar, longed for the hills and her husband, to please her, built this magnificent structure. This ancient garden with its lead shielding suggests a modern bomb shelter.



We are all familiar with the crystal ball of the fortune teller, cut from flawless quartz. Another more practical use for these smooth spheres was discovered by the oriental needle workers. These women, skilled in the art of fine embroidery, used the balls to cool their hands and prevent moisture from soiling the fine silks on which they worked.

The long slender crystal selenites from the Cave of the Swords at Naica in Chihuahua, Mexico, are beautiful to look at but they too have been put to a practical use. Some of these crystals retain the water of crystallization in the form of a bubble in which the water moves as it is tipped to and fro. These crystals have been used as hand levels by the native miners.

- Author Unknown, Via The Moroks Newsletter 2/14



Words to Dig By

Fossil: Farmers in medieval Europe dug trenches and ditches to drain rainwater off their fields. These trenches were called "fosses" after the Latin expression meaning "to dig." Often enough, the ditch diggers uncovered what appeared to be ancient bones, teeth, or shells and called them "fossils" because they came from a fosse.

Erosion: Mice and other gnawing animals plagued the ancient Romans, and it is from their term *rodere*, "to gnaw," that we derive the word "rodent." Later, the alchemists experimented with acids and discovered that they would attack metals, slowly dissolving them. This slow corrosive action was labeled "erosion." Geologists then adopted the term erosion to describe how glaciers, streams, and rivers gnawed away sediments and rocks.

Goldbrick: Goldbricking is the shirking of one's duties, but the term had its origins during the Gold Rush days. An unscrupulous promoter would cover a block of lead with a layer of gold and offer it at a "discount" to unwary investors. The man who bought the "goldbrick" was cheated and the word came to be a verb meaning "to swindle." During World War I, however, the term acquired a somewhat different meaning. A soldier who avoided doing his duty was called a "goldbrick." The term retains its original meaning as a secondary definition.



Bonanza: Bonanza is another word that entered general use during the Gold Rush days. Derived from the Latin *bonus* for "good," the word bonanza was coined by Spanish sailors to describe days of clear weather coming on the heels of a storm. The term came to mean any good fortune and was applied to very rich gold discoveries. Today, the term is applied to any source of great wealth.

Source: Ref.: Garrison, W., 445 Fascinating Word Origins (Galahad Books, N. Y. 2000) 248 pp. ©2011, Andrew A. Sicree, Ph.D. via The Rockhounder via The Moroks Newsletter 2/14

ROSEVILLE ROCK ROLLERS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY
BULLETIN EDITOR
P.O. BOX 212
ROSEVILLE, CA 95678

Send exchange bulletins to
above address



February 2021

*** First Class Mail ***



the
**ROLLIN'
ROCK**

ROSEVILLE ROCK ROLLERS, INC.



**MEMBER, CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES
MEMBER, AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES
VOL. 62 NO. 2 FEBRUARY 2021**

**EDUCATIONAL MEETING 2ND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH, 7:00 PM
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING 4TH TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH, 7:00 PM**

**EDUCATIONAL MEETING LOCATION: @THE GROUNDS,
JONES HALL, 700 EVENT CENTER DRIVE, ROSEVILLE, CA**

Changes and exceptions will be published in the bulletin.
GUESTS AND VISITORS ALWAYS WELCOME