

President's Message

James May
KCMS President 2021



The holidays are approaching fast with Thanksgiving and Christmas sure to keep us busy with family get-togethers and celebrations. The Kern County Mineral Society will also be celebrating with our annual Christmas Potluck and BINGO on December 16th. Last year was difficult for most of us and of course we had to cancel the potluck so we anticipate a good showing this year. Connie F. will be cooking the turkey while Bernie B. will be preparing the ham. For the rest of us, please bring an item for the potluck. After dinner, we will transition into BINGO. If each member could please bring two or three gifts that would be outstanding. We would like enough items that each member wins one or two gifts. Please wrap the gifts so it will be a surprise for each winner.

The Club had a great field trip on October 23rd and October 24th out to the Mojave Desert. We stopped at numerous locations including Dragon Blood, Spider Web, Thulite, and Lavic Siding. Our trucks were filled with buckets of rocks and our spirits filled with memories. The camping was perfect, and we spent the evening reminiscing about past rock-hunting adventurers by the campfire with the trucks busy making headway on Interstate 40.

David Schaad held our first Club Lapidary Session on Saturday, November 13th for those wanting to learn the basics in cabochon making. David had six members show up to work on their Cabs. It was a tremendous showing and thanks to all those who attended. David has also agreed to host a second workshop at his house on Wednesday morning December 8th. The Club would like to host a workshop once a month in 2022 to learn from our experts in the techniques of lapidary arts.

I went to Visalia on Saturday, November 13th for the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CFMS) semi-annual meeting. Many clubs were represented, and this was the first live event they have had in over a year because of the pandemic. It was good to see the various clubs represented and the CFMS plans for 2022.

Many of you were able to make it out to the Indian Wells Show last weekend and may have also had the pleasure of attending the fieldtrip out to Rainbow Ledge. This is really the last show of the season unless you plan on going down to Lake Elsinore in December. Additionally, please mark your calendar as Quartzite will be hosting many events in January, and of course the prestigious Tucson Mineral and Gem Show scheduled from January 27th through February 13th.

The bylaws committee will be meeting on Saturday, November 20th to hopefully wrap up the bylaws. Also, KCMS can certainly use help with the Christmas Potluck in December. We would need help decorating the Veterans Halls with Christmas Cheer. Please let Connie know if you can assist with setting up.

Please remember our November 18th General Membership Meeting. I have enclosed the ballot along with this Newsletter. We also hope to have a presentation from a CSUB Geology Major who attended field camp last summer. I hope you all can all make it.

--James



Boxes of various rocks and minerals from John Baz-Dresch Collection.

Upcoming General Membership Meeting

- **Thursday, November 18th at East Bakersfield Veterans Hall at 7:00 PM**



SAFETY FIRST!

John Baz-Dresch

It is now rock-banging season. It is important to wear proper eye protection to avoid rock chips from contacting one's eye and possibly causing permanent damage. For us older people that require reading glasses, note that they are available with readers. I prefer the 3M NUVO safety glasses, available with 1.0, 1.5, and 2.0 diopter readers. With these, I do recommend that you put a dab of glue on the soft, removable nose piece. They seem to disappear. Below are two sources. They may be available at some local stores.

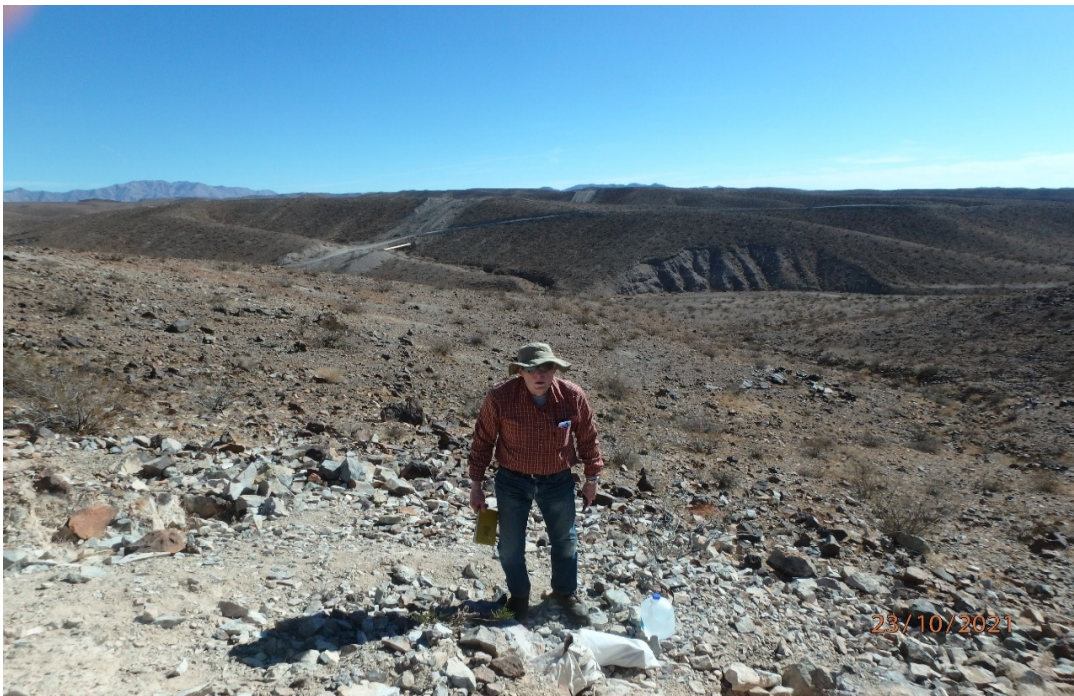
<https://www.northersafety.com/Product/22921/3M-NUVO-Reader-Clear-Magnifying-Lens-SafetyGlasses>

<https://www.safetyglassesusa.com/bf43.html>

Reflections from the Field Scout
Submitted by Bernie Bentsen

Paula, Sherlee, Ken and I started out from Bakersfield on our field trip to the Dragon Blood and Spider Web Jasper. It was going to be a beautiful day with perfect weather. We met David at Eddie's World, which is a good place to stop for restrooms and refreshments. We then proceeded to try to find the Dragon Blood and Spider Web Jasper locations. The last time I led Steve F. on a wild goose chase in deep-sandy roads to find it, but got lost instead. This time I almost made some wrong turns, but finally found the road that felt right. It turned out to be the right road to the Dragon Blood and Spider Web Jasper. At Dragon Blood you can pick up any size of rock you want within a few yards. It didn't take long for everyone to get all the rocks they wanted before moving on to Spider Web Jasper. We dug around for about two hours and could not find the vein. We did find some pieces on the ground. We were going to spend the night there, but I suggested we move to the Thulite and camp there instead. Sherlee and Paula went back to Bakersfield while Ken, David and I headed to the Thulite to set up camp. It is on a flat hilltop overlooking the valley and Interstate 40. A beautiful location to camp for the night. We still had some daylight, so we all started looking around. David found a nice piece sticking out of the ground right on top of the hill where we parked. He kept digging at it and it was getting larger and larger. I decided to help and with my big 6-foot-long pry bar. We could see it moved a little. Then Ken came to the rescue. We finally took out about a 300-pound piece of the beautifully colored thulite. The piece next to the large piece was loose so we took that one out and the next one and the next one. We took about five or six rocks that weighed from 40 to 60 pounds. We all took our picks, but left the 300-pounder, even though Ken was really trying to figure out how to get it in the pickup. In doing all that, we dug ourselves out a very nice fire pit. It was time to start setting up the tents and get ready for Ken's famous hamburgers for dinner, just as James arrived. We got the campfire going as it was getting dark and we all ate Ken's hamburgers around the fire as the almost full moon came up. It was a great evening.

The next day Ken was out looking for rocks before the sun came up. Everyone was starting to get up and it was time to start cooking breakfast as I had to meet Steve F. and John at Ludlow. I fixed scrambled eggs and bacon for breakfast along with coffee, hot chocolate, and juice. We finished just in time to go meet Steve F and John at Ludlow. Everyone found Thulite in about two hours, so we went to what is called Lavic Hill Jasper. As you step out of your vehicle, the jasper is right there. Most of it is small so it is great for tumbling. We were there for about two hours and decided to head back to Bakersfield. James took off searching for the famous Ketchup-Relish-Mustard Jasper and found some nice material. It was another great day.







CABACHONS FROM GRANITE?

John Baz-Dresch – Western Section, Keene Mineral Club

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is rebuilding the Lake Isabella Dam to make it higher and stronger so that it will not destroy Bakersfield, which is downstream. The Lake Isabella Dam consists of the main dam (shown) and a longer auxiliary dam.



In case the reservoir level increases to the danger level below the top of the dams, the water will start flowing down the emergency spillways. The rock from the new, enlarged, emergency spillway is being used for enlarging the dams. But to do this, big rocks need to be made into small rocks.



Up on the hill sides, the weathering works its way down the joints and causes spherical weathering or core stones



The primary rock is Alta Sierra granite. It has a salt-and-pepper look. It is going to be interesting to cut and polish some cabochons.



But when it weathers, it cannot be used. The black, biotite mica decomposes and releases the iron in its composition. Then the iron oxidizes or rusts.



And when it weathers further, it crumbles.

UPCOMING ROCK, MINERAL, AND GEM SHOWS



November 20-21, 2021 – Lake Side, CA

El Cajon Valley Gem and Mineral Society
El Cajon Valley Gem and Mineral Society Annual Rock
and Gem Round-up

Lakeside Rodeo Grounds, 12584 Mapleview St.,
Lakeside, CA 92040

Time: Saturday 9 AM – 5 PM, Sunday 9 AM – 4 PM

Free admission and parking.

Contact: 619 729-7904, ecvgms@gmail.com

Website: <http://ecvgms.org>



November 20-21, 2021 – Santa Cruz, CA

Santa Cruz Mineral and Gem Society
Santa Cruz Live Oak Grange, 1900 17th Avenue, Santa
Cruz, CA 95062

Time: 10 AM to 5 PM both days

Free admission and parking. Santa Cruz Mineral and
Gem Society annual holiday sale. Come and see
wonderful gifts of nature and art from around the
world – gems, jewelry, rocks, minerals, and lapidary
arts. Browse the bargains and pick up some great gifts
for the holidays.

Contact: 408-644-7848, scruzmgms@gmail.com

Website: <http://scrockngem.org>

Show flyer:



December 5, 2021 – Lake Elsinore, CA

Lake Elsinore Gem & Mineral Society
Rock 'n Craft Winter Festival, 32097 Corydon Rd., Lake
Elsinore, CA 92530

Hours: Sunday, December 5 – 10 AM – 4 PM

Contact: (909) 208-6956, berylman50@aol.com

Website: Facebook: Lake Elsinore Gem & Mineral
Society

KCMS CLASSIFIEDS

KCMS is proud to announce the addition of a Classified Ads Section to the Pseudomorph Newsletter!!

Calling on all members who have any items that they want to sell or those looking to buy.

**Rocks, Minerals, Rock Saws, but that’s not all!!
We will also accept Lawn Equipment, Electronics, Homemade Crafts, etc.**

The Pseudomorph Classifieds will not be limited to only rock & mineral related items, but to any items members are looking to sale.

When making a classified ad for the newsletter be sure to include:

- Description of Item
- Asking Price
- Contact Information
- Picture(s)

Pictures are not necessary but will be added if provided. Please send photographs in JPEG (.jpg) format if possible.

Classified Ads for the Pseudomorph are due to the editor no later than the first Thursday of each month, via Email or by U.S. Mail.

James May, Editor
Email geojim9@hotmail.com

If you have any ads you want added to the next Pseudomorph, please email me the details and I will post.

Don't Forget the BREAKFAST CLUB

The first Wednesday of each month, year-round, KCMS Members and occasional guests meet at 8:30 AM at Lorene’s Coffee shop at 23rd and Eye streets in downtown Bakersfield. Everybody is welcome to attend!
-- Dalia Hernandez



David Schaad’s Cabochon Making Course
Wednesday, December 8th at 10:00 AM at
David’s house in Northeast Bakersfield



KCMS Monthly Meeting

Please join the KCMS at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday November 18th at the East Bakersfield Veterans Hall located at 2101 Ridge Road in Northeast Bakersfield.

We hope you can attend, and visitors are always welcome.



Kern County Mineral Society

is a Charter Member of the
California Federation of Mineralogical Societies

and is affiliated with the
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies



The Kern County Mineral Society, Inc. was organized in 1935 to promote the study of mineralogy and allied earth sciences, to collect and study minerals and rocks, to study and practice the techniques of jewelry making, to promote good fellowship and good citizenship and to promote education in the earth sciences. Membership dues are; \$15 for singles, \$20 for couples.

Pseudomorph Subscriptions

The Pseudomorph is published 10 times a year (September through June) by Kern County Mineral Society, P.O. Box 12305, Bakersfield, CA, 93389-2305. Subscription included with Membership. Non-members \$5.50 per year, Jan. thru Dec., not prorated.

KCMS will email a free .pdf subscription to any high school, college, or university student who wishes to receive it. Just email a request to geojim9@hotmail.com

Articles for *The Pseudomorph* are due to the Editor no later than the first Thursday of each month, via Email, via Facebook, or by US Mail. Please send photographs in JPEG (.jpg) format if possible, and text as Notepad, Word, or other simple text for me to paste and edit.

James May, Editor
Email geojim9@hotmail.com

Facebook: Kern County Mineral Society

Articles in this publication may be reprinted if attribution is given to the author and to *The Pseudomorph, Monthly Newsletter of the Kern County Mineral Society.*



KCMS Officers 2021

President

James May
geojim9@hotmail.com

Vice President

Currently Vacant

Secretary

Connie Fleishauer

Treasurer

Currently vacant

Board Members 2021

Pseudomorph Editor

James May
geojim9@hotmail.com

Curator

Steve Fleishauer

Federation Director

Bernie Bentsen

Sergeant at Arms

Dennis Huggins

Field Scout

Bernie Bentsen

Committee Chairs 2021

Kitchen

Sue Kimbriel

Scholarship

David Schaad

Door Hostess

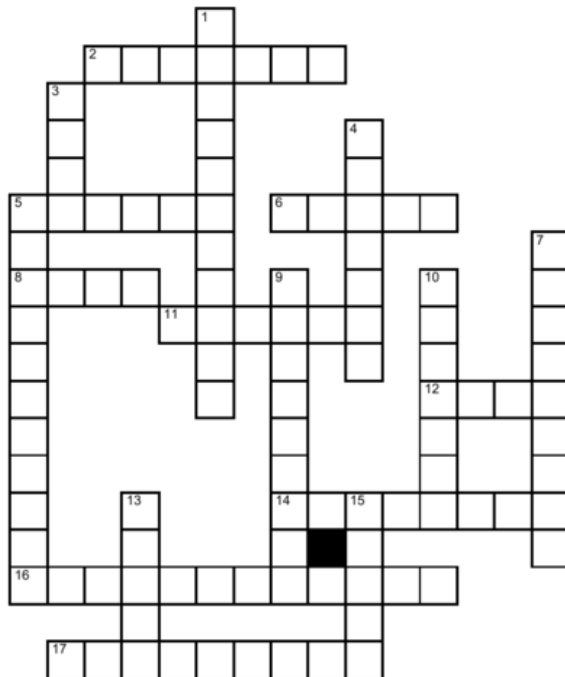
Kay Hevle

Telephone / Sunshine

Vernedene Ebbs


FUN, GAMES, & FIELD EXCURSIONS


Kinds of Rocks



Across

- 2 Rocks that form as a result of cooling magma (7)
- 5 A metamorphic rock formed from limestone. (6)
- 6 A metamorphic rock formed from shale. (5)
- 8 A rock with hardness '1' on the Moh's scale. (4)
- 11 Rock formed when magma cools at the Earth's surface. (6)
- 12 A scale used to measure the hardness of rocks. (4)
- 14 A smooth, glassy, black igneous rock. (8)
- 16 A sedimentary rock composed of large chunks of other rocks cemented together. (12)
- 17 A metamorphic rock formed from sandstone. (9)

Down

- 1 Rocks that are formed as a result of deposits from weathering and erosion. (11)
- 3 Hot liquid rock that is exposed at the surface. (4)
- 4 A type of intrusive igneous rock with large crystals. (7)
- 5 Rocks made when other rocks are subjected to intense pressure and heat. (11)
- 7 A sedimentary rock that is sometimes formed by deposits of shell fragments. (9)
- 9 A sedimentary rock that is formed from sand deposits. (9)
- 10 A rock with hardness '10' on the Moh's scale. (7)
- 13 Hot liquid rock. (5)
- 15 A sedimentary rock formed from clay deposits. (5)

THE PSEUDOMORPH
GUESS THE SLAB












Here is this month's mystery slab. Please submit your answer to geojim9@hotmail.com. Each month's winner will be placed in a drawing at the end of the year for a special prize. Last month's winner was Steve Fleishauer who correctly identified the slab as lapis lazuli.



2022 KERN COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS

NOVEMBER ELECTION BALLOT

Board of Directors:

- *President* James May 
- *Vice President* Connie Fleishauer 
- *Secretary* Anita Anderson 
- *Treasurer* Dennis Huggins 
- *Federation Director* Bernie Bentsen 
- *Field Scout* Bernie Bentsen 
- *Sargent-At-Arms* Dennis Huggins 
- *Curator* Steve Fleishauer 
- *Pseudomorph Editor* James May 

Committee Leads:

- 
- *Door Hostess* Kay Hevle 
- *Sunshine* Sue Kimbriel 
- *Kitchen* Sue Kimbriel 
- *Scholarship* David Schaad 
- *Facebook Editor* Anita Anderson 