

**Monthly Newsletter of the *Kern County Mineral Society (KCMS)*****President's Message  
James May - KCMS  
President 2022**

It is getting towards the end of the calendar year and the Kern County Mineral Society has been very busy with field trips, workshops, and preparing for our end of the year Christmas celebration. Again, with the Kern County Fair in the rear-view mirror, I want to say thank you for all of your hard work in making this year's fair an over success. During our October General Meeting we welcomed quite a few new members and we can all certainly rejoice about that. We definitely have benefited from the new members that have joined KCMS over the last year.

On Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, our fearless Field Scout Bernie lead us on a field trip to Lockwood Valley in search of an exquisite metamorphic rock referred to as Ozena. The rock filled the stream valleys, and it didn't take long for everyone to find rocks that they will polish up, cut up, tumble up, and create their augen-rich masterpieces. I especially like the drainage system and the high stream terraces exposing many years of deposition of large boulders when the valley was inundated with more rainfall. The name Ozena comes from a nearby reverse fault system associated with the compression of the tectonic plates that have compressed the valley, uplifted, and lead to spectacular landforms. Even the fine-grained sediment has been impacted by differential erosion and left us with hoodoos.

On the last Saturday of the month, the workshop was going strong, and Anita lead the members through a pour paint workshop. It is not something that rockhounds would typically due to rocks, but the process of painting the rocks was fun and we certainly had some beautifully

colored rocks. The process actually extended out over three days. We first had to apply primer to the rocks, the actual painting, and finally the sealant and felt undercoating. Even the left over paint skins were repurposed into stunning decadent necklaces. Thanks to all those who attended. The workshops have been a great benefit to all our members.

Looking forward to November, we have our General Meeting where Hector Z., from the prestigious CSUB Geology program, will be giving a presentation on his experiences during field camp last summer. According to Hector, it was a memorable experience. We can't wait to see what this means!?! Please make sure you attend, not only for the charismatic guest speaker, but to also participate in the election of Officers for 23.

We will also be heading into the field on Saturday the 19<sup>th</sup> to Kramer Junction to collect butterscotch and fire agate. There is a plethora of material out there, so you won't be disappointed with your finds. We have a few other stops planned as well.

Our December General Meeting is on the horizon. Start thumbing through your favorite recipe book for that award winning dish that will keep members talking for years to come. We ask each member to bring three items as gifts. We will have our BINGO event to rival the matches of the upcoming World Cup in Qatar. ---- James



**Upcoming General Meeting**  
➤ **Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM**  
**East Bakersfield Veterans Hall**  
**Address: 2101 Ridge Road, Bakersfield, CA**

**GENERAL MEETING**



**There will be NO Workshop in November due to the Thanksgiving Holiday Weekend**





**UPCOMING FIELD TRIP**

**Kramer Junction to North Edwards**

**Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Meet Bernie at 7:30 AM at Harbor Freight**



**Pour Paint Workshop – Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>**







**UPCOMING ROCK, MINERAL, AND GEM SHOWS****UPCOMING ROCK AND MINERAL SHOWS – FALL 2022****November 6, 2022 – Mason, NV**

Mason Valley Gem &amp; Mineral Club

55 Bridge St., Mason, NV

Time: 1 PM – till over

This event will be held at the VFW Hall in Mason, NV. Do not turn on Bridge St. in YERINGTON. See the map on the flyer.

LIVE AUCTION! Geodes, Petrified Wood, Rocks, Slabs, Minerals, Cabochons, and other lapidary crafts. Cash or Check only

Contact: srheid@usa.net

**November 6, 2022 – Lake Elsinore, CA**

Lake Elsinore Gem &amp; Mineral Society

32097 Corydon Road, Lake Elsinore, CA 92530

Hours: 10 AM – 4 PM

Winter Festival Rock &amp; Craft Show

Contact: Berylman50@aol.com

Find us on Facebook

**November 19-20, 2022 – Santa Cruz, CA**

Santa Cruz Mineral and Gem Society

Santa Cruz Live Oak Grange, 1900 17th Ave., Santa Cruz, CA 95062

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

Santa Cruz Holiday Sale – Rocks, Minerals, Gems, Fossils, Jewelry

Contact: (831) 459-0572, scruzmgms@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.scrockngem.org>

# 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](mailto: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 23<sup>rd</sup> and Eye streets in downtown Bakersfield. Everybody is welcome to attend!

-- Dalia Hernandez



No, Jack S. is not selling?



## THE ADVENTURES OF S.B.



### California Geological Formations

This is the beginning of a series of articles on California geological formations and sites you might be interested in visiting.

#### **Eastern Sierra Formation**

From Lone Pine to Mount Whitney the elevation increases 10,600 feet in a horizontal distance of 13 miles. The east side of the Sierra was formed by a massive volcanic eruption that occurred approximately 760,000 years ago. The blast sent 140 cubic miles of volcanic rock and ash as far as what is now Nebraska. This eruption was 500 times larger than the 1980 eruption of Mt. Saint Helen. The oval shaped depression which remained is still geologically active today.

Sites you might be interested in visiting formed by the Eastern Sierra Formation are Mono Lake Tufa State Natural Reserve, Panum Crater and Bodie State Historic Park.

#### **Mono Lake Tufa State Natural Reserve**

Mono Lake formed approximately 760,000 years ago dating back to the Long Valley eruption. Sediments below the ash layer indicate that Mono Lake could be a larger and older lake that once covered the larger part of Nevada and Utah, possibly the oldest lake in North America. Volcanic activity continues in the Mono Lake area, the most recent eruption approximately 600 years ago forming Paoha Island and Panum Crater on the south shore of Mono Lake is an example of a rhyolite dome and cinder cone.

Mono Lake is a highly alkaline lake. The most striking features of the lake are the tufa towers, craggy limestone pillars. The limestone in tufa is produced as a freshwater spring bubble up from the bottom of the lake. The calcium rich spring water interacts with the carbonate rich lake water and forms hard calcium carbonate (limestone). Tufa towers are

continuously forming within Mono Lake. The towers visible at South Tufa are an indication of the lake's former water level since tufa only forms underwater. Research at similar lakes in Nevada suggests that the tufa may be fast growing exceeding 1 inch per year. This might seem slow but fast compared to the growth of calcium carbonate in cave features which may take 100 years to grow 1 inch.

Mono Lake covers 65 square miles and has no outlet. Throughout its long existence salts and minerals washed into the lake from Eastern Sierra streams, the freshwater evaporation from the lake has left the salts and minerals behind making the lake 2 ½ times salty as the ocean and very alkaline.

Mono Lake is located on Highway 395, 13 miles east of Yosemite National Park near the town of Lee Vining, California. Due to the draught the lake is currently very low, but it is a very interesting location to visit and has a rich history.



## Panum Crater

Panum Crater is a side trip near Mono Lake's South Tufa site. Look for a small sign to Panum on California 120 about 3 miles east of the US 395 intersection.

Panum Crater is a volcanic cone and is part of the Mono-Inyo Craters, a chain of recent volcanic cones south of Mono Lake. Panum Crater is between 600-700 years old and exhibits all the characteristics of the rhyolitic lava dome. Rhyolite is an extrusive igneous rock with the same composition as granite, but because the magma reached the surface and solidified quickly into a volcanic rock it is rhyolite. Because rhyolite lava has lots of silica, gas gets trapped in it making rhyolite eruptions quite explosive.

Panum's central dome is surrounded by a ridge of tephra, volcanic ash and fragments deposited from the air. The rock inside the crater consists of obsidian and pumice, which are both chemically similar to rhyolite but cool so quickly that crystals don't have time to form. Pumice is a very gassy, frothy variation of rhyolite. Obsidian is a glassy black or gray rock that has very sharp edges when broken.

Panum Crater is a Plug Dome, a two-stage volcano with an outer pumice rim and an inner jagged core of obsidian layered with pumice. The rim erupted first from a fountain of pumice formed as gas charged magma expanded, as it met the water table and shot out of the ground. The plains around the rim formed at this time. At one point an explosion occurred, and an avalanche of volcanic blocks blew through the rim forming a notch to the north. After some time, the magma eruption lost momentum and a sticky mass emerged from the crater. While hiking you see spectacular outcrops of streaked pumice and obsidian. As the mass erupted it folded over onto itself and formed pinch and swell "boudinage" structures. The best place to see these is to the right of the trail that leads to the summit.

Panum Crater is a wonderland of rock and vista, to be enjoyed carefully. No collecting of rock is allowed in this area.



### **Bodie State Historic Park – Gold Mining Ghost Town**

Bodie State Historic Park is located southeast of Bridgeport. W. S. Bodie discovered gold here in 1859, but it took almost 20 years before gold fever drew nearly 10,000 residents to this eastern Sierra location. The town thrived from 1877 to 1882 and more than \$30 million worth of gold in 1880 dollars was extracted from the mines. California most famous locations for mining gold are on the western slope of the Sierra, commercially gold has been mined in forty-seven of California's fifty-eight counties. Bodie was one of the most significant deposits mined during the late 1800s.

The gold at Bodie is an epithermal deposit related to ancient volcanic activity in the region. Epithermal deposits form when mineral-rich water from deep underground rises along fractures in the rock and then cools, precipitating the minerals in veins near the surface. At Bodie the principal ore-bearing quartz vein was approximately 1,000 feet wide and 1,000 feet deep.

The population of Bodie dwindled in the 1940s, reduced to a lone caretaker until it became a state park in 1962. At least two major fires destroyed much of Bodie but about 200 buildings remain in a state of decay. Visitors are encouraged to wander freely, park rangers conduct guided tours of the stamp mill, which houses huge machines used to pound ore into fine particles so that gold could be extracted.

Bodie State Historic Park is open 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. in summer (May 15 – Oct 31<sup>st</sup>) 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. in the winter. Be sure to pack water and snacks, there are no services, however, restrooms are available. It is recommended that you bring sunscreen, a hat, and jacket. Bodie is located at an elevation of 8,375 feet and weather can be extreme, there is limited cell service. During winter driving can be a challenge due to snow and mud. Before going in the winter check the weather and road conditions and have plenty of gas.





# KCMS Monthly Meeting

Please join the KCMS at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup> 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; \$20 for singles, \$25 for couples.

KCMS WEBSITE: <http://www.kerncountymineralsociety.org/>

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:geojim9@hotmail.com)

Facebook: Kern County Mineral Society

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## KCMS Officers 2022

### President

James May

[geojim9@hotmail.com](mailto:geojim9@hotmail.com)

### Vice President

Connie Fleishauer

### Secretary

Anita Andersen

### Treasurer

Dennis Huggins

## Board Members 2021

### Pseudomorph Editor

James May

[geojim9@hotmail.com](mailto:geojim9@hotmail.com)

### Curator

Steve Fleishauer

### Federation Director

Bernie Bentsen

### Sergeant at Arms

Dennis Huggins

### Field Scout

Bernie Bentsen

## Committee Chairs 2022

### Kitchen

Sue Kimbriel

### Scholarship

David Schaad

### Door Hostess

Kay Hevle

### Facebook Editor

Anita Andersen



## FUN, GAMES, & FIELD EXCURSIONS



### GUESS THIS MONTH'S MYSTERY CABACHON



**Here is this month's mystery slab. Please submit your answer to [geojim9@hotmail.com](mailto: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 John Baz-Dresch who correctly identified the slab as bronzite. Nice work John.**

*Hint:* Steve Collett likely has this one easy!



**FIELD TRIP TO LOCKWOOD VALLEY**  
**Conducted on Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022**

















### The Surface is Calm by Jack Stewart

As we view a scenic river flowing on its course,  
Sometimes it is hard to see its power and true force.  
For where the bottom is smooth and the water is deep,  
The surface appears calm and the water seems to slowly creep.

Then the rapids appear, angry, deadly, white with foam.  
Into these turbulent waters few souls would dare to roam.  
The difference is caused by boulders and rocks in the river's path,  
Pushing the force to the surface and showing its power and wrath.

Sometimes we are like that river, as life's emotions we feel.  
For the tragedy and sorrow we face in life is truly real.  
Sometimes we are able to control the feelings so strong,  
And the surface appears calm as through life we go along.

At other times, to the surface these feelings will rise.  
Causing us to weep and sob as tears fill our eyes.  
Although we strive these deepest of feelings to hide,  
To the surface they will rise as sure as the ocean's tide.

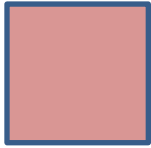
We remember, with His loved ones, Jesus wept,  
When at their brother's death, emotions o'er them swept.  
To weep and even sob, is not of weakness a sign,  
For tears flowed from the eyes of the Son of God, so divine.

And so today, when in life our own tears must fall,  
It is upon God, the Father, through His Son we can call,  
And He will soothe the feelings so strong with a verse or a psalm.  
Then, with faith and trust in God, we can say, the surface is calm.

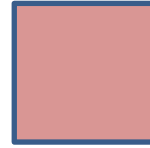


Congratulations Jack on your Poem!

2023 Kern County Fair Poem Contest












# 2023 KERN COUNTY MINERAL SOCIETY OFFICERS OF THE BOARD








## NOVEMBER ELECTION BALLOT

### Board of Directors:

- *President* James May 
- *Vice President* Connie Fleishauer 
- *Secretary* Anita Anderson 
- *Treasurer* Dennis Huggins  SB 
- *Federation Director* Bernie Bentsen  Steve Collett 
- *Field Scout* Bernie Bentsen 
- *Pseudomorph Editor* James May 

### Committee Leads:

- *Curator* Steve Fleishauer 
- *Door Hostess* Kay Hevle 
- *Sunshine* Sue Kimbriel 
- *Kitchen* Sue Kimbriel 
- *Scholarship* S.B.  David Schaad 