



**YUBA SUTTER GEMS
P.O. BOX 269
MARYSVILLE, CA 95901-3118**



**Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society presents our 28th Annual
“FESTIVAL OF GEMS & MINERALS”**

NOVEMBER 9th & 10th, 2019

Sat 10 am – 5 pm

Sun 10 am – 4 pm

Fun for the whole family!!

Gems – Minerals – Fossils – Books – Demonstrations
Jewelry – Florescent Rocks – Silent Auction – Exhibits
Dealers – Kid’s Table – Door Prizes – Food & Drinks

ADMISSION/PARKING – FREE

Franklin Hall, Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds, 442 Franklin Ave, Yuba City, CA

Show Chairman: Karen Horita

916-677-6696

SUTTER BUTTES GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

P. O. Box 269

MARYSVILLE, CA 95901

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2019

OFFICERS

(Area Code: 530)

President	Larry Baird	916-607-7734
Vice President	Tim Unruh	633-9623
Secretary	Inez Berg	633-4612
Treasurer	Karen Horita	916-677-6696
Bulletin Editor	Carolyn Lutton	823-1917
Field Trip Chairman	Tim Unruh/Gerry Hill	633-9623
Show Chairman	Karen Horita	916-677-6696

DIRECTORS

Past President	Debra Bluford	916-308-6907
1-Yr Director	Lucy Baird-Clark	743-5561
2-Yr Director	Candi Baird	635-5167
3-Yr Director	Rebecca Heverin	743-3808

STANDING COMMITTEES

Federation Director	Inez Berg
Program Chairman	Tim Unruh
Membership Chairman	
Club Librarian	Inez Berg
Junior Director (Rock Stars)	Inez Berg
Publicity	Karen Horita
Historian	
Sunshine Chairman	Carol Nelson 673-2146
Hospitality Chairman	All Club Members
Web Site	sutterbuttesgemmin.org

**Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society is a member of
California Federation of Mineralogical Societies
and affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies**

**Exchange Bulletins send to: Bulletin Editor
P.O. Box 269
Marysville, CA 95901**

**(Club bulletin material should be in-hand of the
Editor by the third Tuesday of the month.
Permission to reprint is granted, proper credit will
be appreciated.)**

**DUES: Single - \$20.00
Family - \$25.00**

MEETING PLACE:

**Feather River Baptist Church
5400 Chestnut Road, Olivehurst, CA 95961**

**TIME: Executive Board, 4th Thurs, 7:00pm
Education Meeting 4thThurs, 7:30pm**

YUBA SUTTER GEMS

October 2019
FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN

SUTTER BUTTES GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

"An All American Club"

Greetings, everyone. We had a couple of sessions at our house to sort and price some the rocks and minerals, and clean some of the smaller equipment we received from the Kelly family. In addition, Al Horita has generously volunteered to clean up the larger equipment before our show. Thanks, Al!

We're less than a month away from our annual show and we will need as many volunteers as possible. There is LOTS to do. Karen Horita will have all the information about how you can help.

Also, it's getting on towards the end of the year and we will have to start taking nominations for club officers. Please let us know if you are interested.

See all of you at the October 24 meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Larry Baird

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DATE TO REMEMBER

Oct 24 7:00 PM Business Meeting
 7:30 PM General Educational Meeting,
 Feather River Baptist Church
 5400 Chestnut Road, Olivehurst, CA

UPCOMING SHOWS

- Oct 19 – 20 El Dorado County Mineral & Gem Society
 El Dorado County Fairgrounds, 100 Placerville Drive, Placerville, CA
 Hours: 10 – 5 daily
- Oct 26 – 27 Sacramento Mineral Society
 Scottish Rite Temple, 6151 H Street, Sacramento, CA
 Hours: Sat 10 - 5, Sun 10 - 4
- Nov 2 – 3 American Opal Society
 Business Expo Center, 1960 S Anaheim Way, Anaheim, CA
 Hours: Sat 10 – 7; Sun 10 – 5
- Nov 2 – 3 Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society
 Centre Concord, 5298 Clayton Road, Concord, CA
 Hours: 10 – 5 daily
- Nov 9 – 10 Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society
 Yuba/Sutter Fairgrounds, Franklin Hall, 442 Franklin Ave, Yuba City
 Hours: Sat 10 - 5, Sun 10 - 4

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“An All American Club”

SUTTER BUTTES GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

BIRTHDAY FOR OCTOBER

**Birthstone: Opal & Tourmaline
Flower: Calendula**

5th – Judy Lee

29th – Karen Horita

18th – Joyce Emerson

26th – Chris Larenz

25th – Rebecca Heverin

Opal is a gemstone that is made mostly of the elements of common sand, or silica. The stones contain a rainbow of color. Opal may be black, brown or white in background. When cut and polished, opal reflects many colors when held up to the light.

For many years, scientists have tried to explain the flashes of different colors that opal gives off when held to the light. Most scientists believe the color flashes are due to the varying water content of the gem. Each different layer of silica gel in an opal has a different index of refraction, or bends of light at a different angle, the angle varies according to the amount of water the layer contains. Scientists believe that these many different bendings break up the light which strikes the stone into its various rainbow of color.

Although opal has no crystal form, it does have a good conchoidal fracture. It is fairly soft – 5 ½ to 6 ½, therefore, should not be exposed to undue wear. However, a worn and scratched stone can be restored by polishing. Very often, fine cracks will appear on the surface, and this “checking” or “crazing” greatly interferes with the play of color, and of course, the value of the opal. Opal should be cleaned with a dry cloth and should be kept away from perfumes and all strong chemicals and detergents. Take them off when doing the dishes.

Tourmaline is a hard mineral that is found in deposits of coarse granite called “pegmatite dikes.” It is formed in crystals which are usually six-sided. It is harder than quartz and scratches glass easily. There are three types of tourmaline, which are classified according to the mineral oxides which give them their color: black or “iron”; brown or “magnesia”; and “alkali” which range from rich reds to various shades of greens ad blues. The best come from Maine, but large quantities were found in San Diego & Riverside counties in California.

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Turritella Agate by Ed Wengerd

Twenty to thirty million years ago, small turritella shells were laid down on an ancient sea floor at the foot of the Wind River Range in what is now Wyoming.

These tiny spiral shells then solidified to form a compact mass pressed into very thin slabs. When sliced, the black jasper-like matrix highlights the unique beauty of these agatized fossils. If you want to hunt for Turritella agates, you’ll have to hike the country roads and trails around Superior and Wamsutter, Wyoming, as the gems are found nowhere else in the world. *via Gem Cutters News 11/05, Breccia 11/08 & the Rollin’ Rock 8/09*

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WHICH GEMS ARE OF ORGANIC ORIGIN?

By Patricia Roebuck

Pearl, Coral, Amber and Jet are the four organic gems. Although they contain calcium carbonate, a miner4al substance, pearls are the product of certain mollusks whose secretions allay the discomfort of an irritation caused by disease, a parasite, or a foreign particle. The result is the “Queen of Gems” formed inside the protective mantle that surrounds the soft parts of the animal’s body, within the shell.

Coral is the accumulated skeletal material of tiny marine animals called polyps, which live in branching colonies. Extracting calcium carbonate from the water, they deposit it in their tissues and build their framework of hollow tubes, which remain after their death.

Whereas Pearl and Coral are of animal origin, Amber and Jet are derived from plants. Amber is the fossil resin of ancient coniferous trees. These trees flourished during the Oligocene Epoch of the Tertiary Period – nearly 40 million years ago, and were species of pine (Pines Succinifera). Most properly speaking, Amber is a fossil resin containing Succinic acid. Hundreds of species of insects and other invertebrates of the Oligocene Age are found beautifully preserved in Amber, caught in the sticky sap as it dripped down the bark of trees.

Jet is a compact black variety of lignite coal. Lignite is the lowest rank of coal, having been least changed. The best quality of Jet is velvety black. All coal has a plant ancestry, having formed from the remains of ancient vegetation. During many centuries vegetation thrived and died. Progressive changes of heat and pressure carried these plants through peat, then to lignite, which we know as Jet. Jet was most popular during the Victorian Era and was mainly used as mourning jewelry.

Via The Rollin’ Rock 10/03 & Mineral Memos 8/04

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MINUTES, EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING, September 26, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President Larry Baird. There were 8 Board members present.

SECRETARY: It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the minutes of August 22nd, as printed in the bulletin.

TREASURER: All fees for the Fairgrounds have been paid. There are now two names on the checking account.

SHOW: Karen handed out the vendor list. All fees for the Fairgrounds have been paid. Food permit has been obtained. We will have the key on Thursday afternoon for set-up. Doug will pull our trailer to the Fairgrounds.

NEW BUSINESS: We will meet at Larry and Candi's house October 7th at 10:00 am to identify and price rocks and equipment.

There being no further business, motion was made and passed to dismiss.

Respectfully submitted,

Inez Berg, Secretary

MINUTES, EDUCATION MEETING September 26, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President Larry Baird. He then led the flag salute.

SECRETARY: Motion to approve the minutes of the meetings of August 22nd, as printed in the bulletin, was made by Liz and seconded by Candi.

NEW BUSINESS: We will meet at Larry and Candi's house October 7th at 10:00 am to identify and price rocks and equipment.

SHOW: Karen will pick up the key on Thursday at 1:00 pm for early set up. Doug will pull the trailer. Please **help, help, help!**

There being no further business, motion was made and passed to dismiss.

Respectfully submitted,

Inez Berg, Secretary

PROGRAMS: GLASS, presented by Tim Unruh:

Is glass a liquid or a solid? Modern glass is tempered and made into window glass, table ware, etc. These can be made into optical glass, telescopes, windshields and marbles. There are natural glass forms such as volcanic glass (obsidian), Apache tears and tektites. Roman explorers named obsidian. Fulgurite is formed by a lightning strike into sand. Tim had samples of cullet, insulators and leaded glass. He talked about Rupert's drop in which molten glass dropped into water forms a tail.

Inez Berg

SUTTER BUTTES GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY HISTORY:

1996 – A motion was made that the Show Chairman should also be a voting member of the Executive Board.

This motion was carried over and discussed for several months until it was finally voted to approve the Show Chairman as a voting member of the Board. A suggestion was made to find a source for small enameled club pins. Various sources and other clubs were contacted without a good source found. Another suggestion was to purchase plaques for members to put into their cases when shown at other club shows. This was also tabled. Field trips that year were to Stoneyford, Black Butte Reservoir, New Hogan Reservoir, Wilbur Springs for fossils, Town of Washington, Wall Canyon, Stillman's Flat, Crystal Peak and CO-OP trips were also announced. The Annual Show had nine dealers, four demo-dealers, and five demonstrators.

The Installation/Christmas dinner was held at Lee's Canton.

Inez Berg, Historian

AFMS Code of Ethics

About this time each year the AFMS (American Federation of Mineralogical Societies) Code of Ethics is included in the Bulletin. The purpose of the AFMS Code of Ethics, as stated in the monthly AFMS Newsletter, is "to promote popular interest and education in the various Earth Sciences, and in particular the subjects of Geology, Mineralogy, Paleontology, Lapidary and other related subjects, and to sponsor and provide means of coordinating the work and efforts of all persons and groups interested therein; to sponsor and encourage the formation and international development of Societies and Regional Federations and by and through such means to strive toward greater international good will and fellowship."

Since our club is affiliated with the AFMS and a member of CFMS, our members should honor this code when participating in various federation events and field trips which also includes personal gathering of lapidary material.

AFMS CODE OF ETHICS

I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without permission from the owner.

I will keep informed on all laws, regulations and rules governing collecting on private lands and will observe them

I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.

I will use no firearms or blasting materials in collecting areas.

I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind, such as fences, signs, buildings, etc.

I will leave all gates as found.

I will build fires only in designated or safe places and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.

I will discard no burning materials...matches, cigarettes, etc.

I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.

I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.

I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.

I will support the Rockhound Project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.

I will cooperate with Field Trip Leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.

I will report to my Club or Federation Officers, Bureau of Land Management, or other proper authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other material on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations and for public educational and scientific purposes.

I will appreciate and protect our heritage of Natural Resources.

I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use Good Outdoor Manners and will at all times conduce myself in a manner which will add to the stature and public Image of Rockhounds everywhere.

Revised: September 1, 1999

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Drop of Water Test for Topaz

Quartz and topaz are not easy to separate by eye, and are sometimes impossible when the quartz is a true topaz color. There is a big difference in price between the two and anyone describing quartz as "topaz", however innocently, may well be in trouble.

Topaz is quite a different mineral, which is harder than quartz. Because of this, a drop of water will not spread on topaz but will spread on quartz. Clean the stone as effectively as possible with a cloth or handkerchief to remove all trace of grease. It must be dry before the test. Then place a spot of clean water on it with a thin glass or metal rod.

On stones with a hardness of less than 7, on the Mohs scale, the water is dispersed. On harder stones it will remain a globule. The harder the stone the more rounded will be the globule.

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