



Happy Holidays

President's Message

Well, Thanksgiving has past and Christmas is just around the corner and before you know it New Year's will be here. A new start, another chance to start new projects and more importantly to finish the ones you started last year or even those from the year before that and the dim past.

Of course there is still the December meeting/potluck. Time, date and location information can be found in this bulletin. At the meeting/potluck will be the installation of the new officers for 2010-2011. It is my hope that you support the new president (Drew Wilson) and officers as well as you have supported me and the present officers. It has been an honor to be your president these past four years. I'll be un-installed but not deleted. For the next two years I will be the fieldtrip chair again. As well as co-show chair with Marcia. And next year I'll get to make motions and vote once again. Still, it'll feel odd not to be seated at the front of the room facing you. So I'd like to take this opportunity thank you all for your support and help during my tenure as president. I would like to wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Field trip meeting January 9, 2010. This is your chance to tell the club where to go, who knows how this may change our destiny.

Have a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!
Joe Goetz
Be safe out there.



Christmas Pot Luck

We will have our annual pot luck at the Masonic Lodge, in Sierra Madre, on December 16, at 7:00. Please bring main dish, salads, breads, drinks, or deserts to serve 4-6.

There will be a gift exchange, which includes: his, hers or either. Keep the cost down to under \$10.00 if you wish to participate.

After dinner we will honor the out-going board and welcome in the new board, under Drew.

PLS School Committee Report Ed Imlay 12/11/09

Visits to the four second grade classes at K. L. Carver School in San Marino are scheduled for January 13 and 14, 2010. **DISPLAY TABLE** For the January meeting, please display any items of general interest, especially: workshop projects, material from locations of recent or upcoming field trips, and the birthstone of the month - Garnet.

WEB SITES OF INTEREST: Quartzsite <http://www.quartzsitebusinesschamber.com/events.html>
<http://www.qiaaz.org/schedule.htm#fieldtrips> Tucson <http://www.colored-stone.com/tsg/> Laughlin

"Color of Gems" Club Show

The club show is a scant 3 months away. I know with Christmas and New Year's just around the corner, it's the last thing you want to think about. But right after New Years, when the fog lifts, is a good time to start thinking about how you could help make the show a great success. Many of the members have already stepped forward and taken various jobs. However they can't do the whole thing for the entire weekend by themselves, it takes all of us to support them and help with other less glamorous jobs. Some of them are; 1- Donate an item to the raffle (Sylvia and Vern are the Raffle Chairs this year). 2 - Greeters/grab bag sellers (grab bags will be great this year!); 3- Making sure the restrooms are stocked; 4- Answering questions in the case display room; 5- Demonstrating up on stage (Ed will be Demonstration Chair this year); 6- Bring items for the sand scoop prizes; 7- Setup (Friday morning)/ Teardown (Sunday night). These are just a few of the jobs that can make or break the show. If you are physically able to do the setup or the teardown, there are plenty of things that you can do to help. Please don't just show up on Friday to put in your case and then we don't see you until Sunday to take out your display.

But most of all be friendly and helpful. The show is our time to shine and educate the public about our hobby. We are in a sense the ambassadors of rockhounds and the Lapidary Arts. It is through us that we attract new members. It is up to each member whether we have a good show or a great show.

Joe and Marcia Goetz

FEDERATION REPORT

by Mark Nelson, Federation Director

It is with mixed feelings that I write this last Federation Report for 2009, as I am also turning the report over to Dave Svenson as I accept the positions of Treasurer and Newsletter Editor.

The CFMS has announced their last fieldtrip until February. It is to the same area where PLS went over Thanksgiving in November. The following is from CFMS Field Trip South leaders Shep Koss and Adam Dean.

“Hi, fellow Rocknuts! Hopefully, you remember the Dec. 12-13 CFMS field trip to the Cadys for an overnighter Adam Dean will be leading to his favorite spots in his "backyard." This trip is going to the North Cady Mtns near the Afton Canyon area, off Basin Road exit by I-15 about 45 miles east of Barstow. This is Adam Dean's favorite spots for agate, jasper, calcite, green and purple fluorite, sagenite, opalite and much more.

For further information, please contact:

Adam Dean: (909) 489-4899 or e-mail

him: theagatehunter@verizon.net.

With no trips planned for January due to potential changeable weather and post-holiday recovery, this will be an opinion article.

Assaults on our prolific and public sites haven't abated. The latest that I am aware of that is under consideration is turning a stretch of old Route 66 between Barstow and Needles into a National Landmark. A worthy designation, in my humble opinion, due to its historical significance, but the huge downside for us is adding 10 miles on either side of this stretch as a designated National Landmark, as well. Is this aspect necessary? The Cady Mountains area may also move from Wilderness designation to National Park designation. For us, that just means from bad to worse. We must continue to voice our opinions to our congressional representatives. And, as yet, our state hasn't followed the examples of numerous other states in setting aside sites as official rockhounding areas. Many states have such areas set aside. Why do we allow this state to move in the opposite direction?"

-Shep & Adam

Shows In Our Local Area

December 18-20--SAN DIEGO, CA

Gem Faire; Gem Faire Inc.
Scottish Rite Event Center, 1895 Camino del
Rio S; Fri. 12-7, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5
\$5 weekend pass
Web site: www.gemfaire.com

Hi, all !

The January newsletter needs to be in the hands of the members before January 1.

Accordingly, the deadline for articles is December 15.

This will be the same for upcoming months. If a field trip recap is available late, I may be able to squeeze it in. No guarantees.

We need:

President's Letter

Annual Show article

Meeting Program

Workshop Feature

Monthly field trip with map and details

Recap of last month's field trip with photos

Educational Outreach (Ed's Corner)

Meeting display and drawing items

Officers, Directors & Chairs: I received a comment that it was undesirable to publish the names and info on O,D&C's. Any comments?

Mark Nelson

FROM YOUR EDITOR

It has been my pleasure to have been the club bulletin editor for the past five years, and I appreciate all the good work PLS members have provided for me.

I am looking forward to Mark's outstanding skills to share with us as the new editor for 2010.

Dave