



Pasadena Lapidary Society

Field Trip

October 14th & 15th, 2017

If you have never experienced the Searles Lake Show at Trona you have missed some real fun! Because of that we have designated October's field trip to be to this special event. This year's annual GEM-O-RAMA by the Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society will held be on October 14 – 15, Saturday 7:30AM to 5PM - Sunday 7:30AM to 4PM at the Lapidary and Show Building - 13337 Main St. (corner of Main & Trona Rd) in Trona, CA.

FIELD TRIPS: The field trips out to Searles Dry Lake are the best part of the show. Plan to attend both days trips. Registration is at the show from 7:30-9:00 am and 1:30-2:30 pm - you must register during these times to go on field trips

Mud Trip - Saturday - 9AM (2½ hrs)- Cluster & barrel hanksite, trona, borax - \$15 per car. Blow Hole - Saturday - 2:30PM (2½ hrs) - Hanksite, halite, borax, sulfahalite - \$15 per car.

Pink Halite - Sunday - Departure 9AM (4½ hrs) - In brine, beneath hard salt - \$20 per car.

Searles Valley Minerals & Plants Tour - Saturday only: 10:40, 11:25, 12:10, 12:55 and 1:40 - in bus - FREE
Pinnacles Natural Landmark - Self guided, information at show - FREE

TOOLS: Saturday collecting trips - 3-tined cultivator to dig through mud, small brush to wash mud crystals, brine to wash crystals, bucket to hold what you find, carpet square to kneel or sit on (optional), gloves to protect hands (optional). All these items can be purchased at the show.

Sunday trip - rock pick to chop off small specimens, heavy steel bar with blade for large specimens, bucket to hold what you find (boxes work well too), gloves to protect hands, carpet square to kneel or sit on (optional).

Important: for either collecting trip bring a hat, water, sunscreen, a complete change of clothes, clean wash water, towels or rags.

AT THE SHOW: Searles Lake Pink Halite at wholesale prices, 20+ dealers, 50 exhibits, geode cutting and sales, demonstrations, games, gem dig, free parking, snacks & drinks, grand prize, drawing, hourly door prizes, food, pancake breakfast at Trona Community Church (2 blocks north of show) at 6AM, Museum opens daily at 9AM.

Look at the times and events and go at your own pace. Try to attend as many of the field trips as you can and enjoy the show in between. For more show information visit their web site at www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub or call Jim or Bonnie Fairchild at (760) 372-5356 .

ACCOMMODATIONS: Valley Wells Recreation Area - 5.3 miles north of show, \$8/vehicle (dry camp, no reservation). Motels and stores in Ridgecrest - See list on the following page.

Call me at (626) 914-5030 if I can answer any questions.

Joe Goetz
Field Trip Chairman



CAMPING

Lodging In Ridgecrest, CA

The SLG&MS invites you to camp at the Valley Wells Recreation Area of Searles Valley Minerals, Inc. while attending the Gem-O-Rama. Although it is dry camping, there are restroom and portable toilets, fresh water at 3 faucets, an outdoor shower to wash the salt and mud off after field trips, and a trash receptacle. There are also tennis courts. And you will be camping with several hundred other enthusiastic mineral collectors. All this for just \$8 per night. Registration will either be as you drive in or someone will stop by your camp. Valley Wells is located about 5.3 miles north of the show building. Follow the "Show Camping" signs north on the main road (this road continues on to Death Valley) until you see a sign pointing down a paved road to the right (east). Turn at this corner and drive the last 1/4 mile to Valley Wells. During the day, Valley Wells is noticeable because of the large collection of trees at the site, the only trees in the area. At night, you will see the large collection of yellow, sodium vapor lights. Bertrand RV Park Phone (760) 377-4000

Desert Empire Fair - 520 South Richmond Road Ridgecrest, CA. 93555.

Tel: (760) 375-8000. Fax: (760) 375-8134. <http://www.desertempirefair.com/rental/rv-park>

Camping in the open desert: Allowed by the BLM. www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/ridgecrest/camping.html

Americas Best Value Inn & Suites
131 S China Lake Blvd
Ridgecrest, CA 93555
(760) 371-7454
www.americasbestvalueinn.com

Motel 6 (760) 904-6979
535 S China Lake Blvd
Ridgecrest, CA 93555
www.motel6.com

Econo Lodge
201 W. Inyokern Rd.
Ridgecrest, CA
(760) 446-2551
www.econolodge.com

Quality Inn
507 S China Lake Blvd
Ridgecrest, CA 93555
(760) 375-9731
www.qualityinn.com

Economy Inn
416 S China Lake Blvd
Ridgecrest, CA 93555
(760) 375-1591
www.economyinnandsuites.net

SpringHill Suites Ridgecrest
113 Sydnor St
Ridgecrest, CA 93555
(760) 446-1630
<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/iyksh-springhill-suites-ridgecrest/>

Hampton Inn
104 Sydnor St
Ridgecrest, CA 93555
(760) 446-1968
<http://www.hilton.com/search/hp/us/ca/ridgecrest/>

Super 8 Ridgecrest
426 S China Lake Blvd
Ridgecrest, CA 93555
(760) 375-2220
www.Super8.com



Directions And Map To Trona, California

Field Trip to Searles Lake (Trona, CA)

Driving Time = about 3 hours

From Pasadena and Central and Western Los Angeles Area

Take I-210 west to I-5 north. Keep right on CA State Highway 14 north through Lancaster and Mojave. Turn east (right) on State Highway 178 toward Ridgecrest. Continue east on SR 178 through Inyokern and Ridgecrest and continue on SR 178 to Trona. Becomes Trona Road. Turn left on Main Street to the Lapidary and Show Building - 13337 Main St. (corner of Main & Trona Rd.)

From Victorville, San Bernardino, Orange County and San Diego Areas

Take Interstate 15 north through San Bernardino and over Cajon Pass. Keep right to transition to the north on U.S. 395. Continue north on U.S. 395 through Adelanto, Kramer Junction (4 Corners), and on to Red Mountain. About 1 mile past Red Mountain turn north (right) at the sign to Trona. Follow this road until it ends at the Trona-Ridgecrest Road where you turn east (right again) and follow this road to Trona. Becomes Trona Road. Turn left on Main Street to the Lapidary and Show Building - 13337 Main St. (corner of Main & Trona Rd.)

