

# ROCK CHIPPINGS

The Bulletin of the Woodland Hills  
Rock Chippers, Inc.



Volume 64 Number 3  
March 2023

## Club Calendar

**March 4th**  
Business Meeting  
On Zoom  
7 PM

**March 11th**  
Thalia will have a  
class on dichroic  
glass.  
Reservations  
required.

**March 18th**  
Society Meeting  
At the church  
Presentation on  
fluorite by Dick &  
Marypatt Weber  
7:00 PM

Hello Everyone,  
Our first silent auction of 2023 was a wonderful success; and I would like to thank everyone who showed up for their participation, enthusiasm and devotion to our beloved society. As always, it was wonderful to see everyone at the February meeting.

This is turning out to be a very busy and exciting year for WHRC and I invite everyone to participate and bring in new ideas that will better our society.

The March business meeting will take place at 7pm on March 4<sup>th</sup> via zoom. The general meeting will take place on March 18<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:30pm. Hope everyone can come for a very informative fun evening.

Sagi Salomon

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## Membership Information

For any questions regarding membership in the Woodland Hills Rock Chippers please email Virginia Rotramel at [whrc@rockchippers.org](mailto:whrc@rockchippers.org)

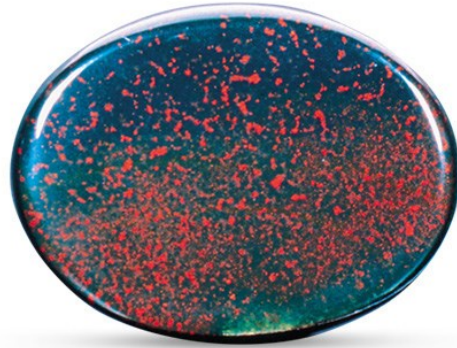
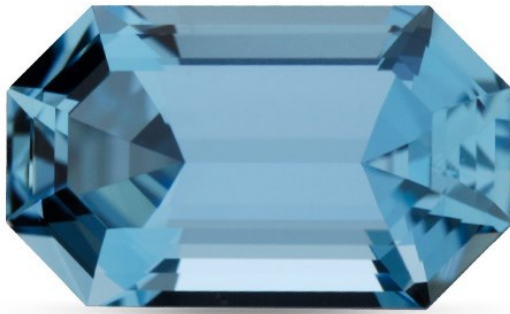
## Future Rockhounds of America

For any questions regarding membership in the FRA please email Thalia Goldsworthy at [whrc@rockchippers.org](mailto:whrc@rockchippers.org)

Regular club meetings are held at 7:00PM on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month at:  
First United Methodist Church, 22700 Sherman Way, West Hills, CA 91307

Visit our website [www.rockchippers.org](http://www.rockchippers.org)  
WHRC Editor: P.O. Box 205 Woodland Hills, CA 91365

## Birthstones of March



COURTESY: GLEN PREUS (LEFT)

### THE TWO BIRTHSTONES OF MARCH

**Aquamarine**, the gem birthstone of March, evokes the colors of the sea. From deep green blue to light, slightly greenish blue. This jewel is known for its vivid appearance and for the pop of color it provides. Aquamarine birthstones are mined in Kenya, Madagascar, Nigeria, Zambia and Mozambique, as well as elsewhere in Africa, USA, Vietnam and Cambodia. Aquamarine evokes the purity of crystalline waters, and the exhilaration and relaxation of the sea. It is calming, soothing, and cleansing, and inspires truth, trust and letting go. In ancient lore, aquamarine was believed to be the treasure of mermaids, and was used by sailors as a talisman of good luck, fearlessness and protection. It was also considered a stone of eternal youth and happiness. Today it protects all who travel by, over, or near water, and opens the channels of clear and heartfelt communication.

**Bloodstone**, the other birthstone of March is a dark-green gemstone flecked with vivid red spots of iron oxide. Generally found embedded in rocks or in riverbeds as pebbles, primary sources for this gemstone are India, Brazil, and Australia. A stone of courage, purification, and noble sacrifice, bloodstone has a long history of use for its healing properties. It was considered a somewhat magical stone because of its ability to transmute negative energy and purify a space while protecting it at the same time. In the ancient world, bloodstone was considered to be the most beautiful of the Jaspers, a deep, earthy green gem emboldened with spots of bright red. Called the Sun Stone, and later Christ's Stone, its energy carries the purity of blood and inherently speaks of life and birth, vitality and strength, passion, and courage. As a talisman it is both mystical and magical, and its virtues are protective and nurturing.

## Bench Tips for March

### SOLDERING PRONGS

I often use prongs to hold an irregular cab or other object on rings and pendants. But prongs are a little tricky to solder. You have to find some way to hold them all upright while soldering. The simple butt joint that looks strong sometimes breaks when you start to bend the prong over the stone. There's nothing worse than having a prong break off when you're setting the stone! I solved both problems with one little trick. It keeps the prongs in position for soldering, and it gives you a stronger joint at the same time. Locate and centerpunch the position for each prong. Then drill holes a little smaller than your prong wire. Sand a small taper on the ends of your prong wires, and stand them up in the holes. The wires support themselves. Soldering is easy. The joint is stronger because of the increased soldering area.

### SHEET & WIRE STORAGE

The more you work with jewelry, the more problems you have finding the piece of metal you need. My pieces of sheet were generally stored in various plastic bags, and the wire was in separate coils. Few were marked. so it often took me a while to locate that piece of 26 gauge fine sheet I bought last year especially since I usually take my supplies back and forth to classes. A tip from a friend helped me organize everything. I bought an expanding file folder from the office supplies store (the kind that has slots inside and a folding cover). I marked the tabs for each gauge of metal I use. Then I marked all my pieces of sheet with their gauge, put them in plastic bags, marked the gauge on the bag, and popped them into the folder. I usually store coils of wire loose in the folder, but they can also be bagged if you prefer. I use one tab for bezel wire and one for miscellaneous items.

The resulting folder is really convenient when I want to take my metal out to a class or workshop. It's also colorful enough for me to easily find it in the clutter of the shop!

Smart Solutions for Your Jewelry Making Problems  
[Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](https://www.amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith)

## Let's Go to a Show!

### **CFMS SHOW & CONVENTION**

June 23, 24 & 25 - 2023

Lodi Grape Festival Grounds - 413 East Lockford Street Lodi California 95240

### **WEST COAST GEM & MINERAL SHOW**

May 12-13-14-2023

Fri & Sat 10am to 6pm

Holiday inn Orange County Airport 2726 South Grand Avenue

Santa Ana California 92705

### **ANTELOPE VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB'S MINERAL & JEWELRY SHOW**

Saturday May 6, 2023 10-5 and Sunday May 7, 2023 10-5

Antelope Valley Fairgrounds 2551 West Ave. H Lancaster CA 93536

### **VENTURA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY 60th ANNUAL**

#### **GEM, MINERAL, FOSSIL & JEWELRY SHOW**

March 4 & 5, 2023 Sat 10-5 Sun 10-4

Ventura County Fairgrounds 10 W. Harbor Blvd. Ventura CA 93001

### **TURLOCK GEM, MINERAL & ROCK SHOW**

March 11-12 2023 Sat-Sun 10-5 Adults \$8.00

Stanislaus Fairgrounds 900 North Broadway in Turlock CA

[www.turlockgemshow.com](http://www.turlockgemshow.com)



## DUES ARE DUE

Members not at the November meeting will be receiving a notice in the snail mail. Please respond promptly to the request as we as an organization need to respond to the CA Federation with our organization insurance and dues along with our membership information. This information will allow me to make up our membership list for our use to reach one another.

Single (one) member = \$27.50

Couple (two ) members at same address = \$45.00

A member under the age of 18 = \$5.00

## WHRC Business Meeting Minutes

Time: 7:04 P.M.

Location: Zoom Meeting

Date: February 4, 2023

Call to Order: Sagi

Correction or Approval of Minutes: No corrections to minutes. They are approved by Debbie.

Old Business: Nothing to report.

Report of Treasurer - Barbara: We are in the black. We still haven't received the statement.

Auditor - Virginia: Everything looks good.

Bulletin/Publisher - John: Send in articles by the 25th.

Classes/Workshops Thalia: Nothing is scheduled for this month.

Corporate Administrator - Debbie: Everything is up-to-date.

Courtesy/Hospitality - Lillian: Nothing to report.

Display/Education/Community Outreach - Thalia: Red, White and Blue theme for showcase.

Federation Director: Virginia hasn't received anything yet.

Field Trips: No report Shop: No report

FRA - Thalia: We are not meeting at the moment.

Historian - Gene: No report.

Insurance - Debbie: Everything is current. Librarian - Shanna: Nothing to report.

Membership - Virginia: The dues are \$27.50. Most members have renewed.

Programs: February 2023: Silent Auction. We need a theme and specimens for the showcase. A red, white and blue was picked. We are asking members to bring specimens to the February Society Meeting on February 18, 2023. Bags need to be marked with name and specimen. Thalia will photograph items. Which showcase will be used? The deadline is February 16th for the Ventura/Conejo shows. The Webbers have an Opal Program and we are looking for a Fluorite presentation as well. We are open to member ideas for future programs.

Show Chairman - Sagi/Virginia: Barbara is confirming the Show date with the church.

Ways and Means: Virginia has donations for the club.

Webmaster - John: Updating the website.

New Business: Virginia needs a copy of the Bylaws and Standing Rules for new members.

Meeting adjourned: 8:05 P.M.

Patricia Mejorado

Secretary

Woodland Hills Rockchippers

***WHRC Society Meeting Minutes******Time:*** 6:58 P.M.***Location:*** In Person 227400 Sherman Way***Date:*** February 18, 2023***Call to Order:*** John /flag salute. Guests Introduced by Virginia***Correction or Approval of Minutes:*** Debbie approved minutes***Old Business:*** Specimens brought in for Show Case, Red white and blue theme, meeting at Thalia's to arrange on Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup> 10:am***Report of Treasurer - Barbara:*** We are in the black***Auditor - Virginia:*** The books are done and the audit finished for 2022, July 2023 next review***Bulletin/Publisher - John:*** get in articles by the 25<sup>th</sup>, published bulletin on time***Classes/Workshops Thalia:*** March 11<sup>th</sup> dichroic glass class at Thalia's 10:00 am please contact her to sign up, glass expensive- Class fee \$35.00. Open to future class ideas.***Corporate Administrator - Debbie:*** All up to date, will have tax returns due in March after gets the info from Treasurer for 2022***Courtesy/Hospitality - Lillian:*** no report***Display/Education/Community Outreach - Thalia:*** Ventura Show Barbara and Larry to set up, possibly Debbie take down... March 4-5 2023 Ventura Co Fairgrounds***Federation Director:*** Virginia will be director, still need alternate. Maureen mentioned Camp Paradise dates from current CFMS bulletin.***Field Trips:*** No report ***Shop:*** no report***FRA - Thalia:*** We are not meeting at the moment.***Historian - Gene:*** No report.***Insurance - Debbie:*** Everything is current. ***Librarian - Shanna:*** Nothing to report.***Membership - Virginia:*** Most have paid for 2023, still a few outstanding, two new application to be approved by the Board.***Programs:*** Tonight is silent auction. Possible Weber's guest speakers has new program on fluorite for March or April in person. Barbara will bring DVD on Turquoise if guest speakers not open. John to let us know. Open ideas for future months.***Show Chairman - Sagi/Virginia:*** No discussion for show but Barbara confirmed date of 10/21/23 reserved. Vendor contracts to go out soon.***Ways and Means:*** Will have raffle at March meeting, none tonight- as we are having silent auction.***Webmaster - John:*** Everything is good. Will post flyer for show when it becomes available.***New Business:*** Barbara will confirm having picnic in August earlier at 1:00 instead of 7:00, church board has to meet and let her know.***Meeting adjourned:*** 7:15pm Followed by silent action***Debbie Hirlinger******Pro-Tem Secretary******Woodland Hills Rock Chippers***





**Woodland Hills Rock Chippers, Incorporated**



Our organization, a non-profit corporation, was formed for educational and instructive purposes: to foster collection and study of minerals, to disseminate knowledge about them, to sponsor field trips to find them, to encourage the use of them in lapidary and faceting studies, etc. And to have one whale of a good time doing those things with all of our friends.



Regular meetings are held on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Social time from 6:30 p.m.



Field trips are at various times throughout the month. Guests are always welcome to attend.



**Elected Officers/Directors**

President	Sagi Salomon	Director At Large	Gene Berwager
Treasurer	Barbara Bradbury	Director At Large	Lillian Berwager
Secretary	Paty Mejorado	Director At Large	Larry Bradbury
Corp. Adm.	Debbie Hirlinger	Director At Large	John O'Brien
		Director At Large	Shanna O'Brien

**Chairpersons and Appointed Positions**

Auditor.....	Virginia Rotramel	Membership .....	Virginia Rotramel
Bulletin Editor .....	John O'Brien	Outreach.....	Thalia Goldsworthy
Classes.....	Thalia Goldsworthy	Parliamentarian.....	Open
Courtesy/Hospitality...	Lillian Berwager	Programs .....	Thalia Goldsworthy
Custodian.....	Open	Publicity.....	Open
Fed Director.....	Virginia Rotramel	Shop .....	Pat Keene. Anita Niles
Alternate Fed Director.....	Open	Club Show Chair.....	Sagi Salmon
Field Trips.....	Committee	Asst.Show Chair.....	Virginia Rotramel
FRA.....	Thalia Goldsworthy	Ways and Means.....	.....John O'Brien
Historian.....	Gene Berwager	Webmaster.....	John O'Brien
Librarian.....	Shanna O'Brien		



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# February Society Meeting

**At the Church  
Saturday, March 18th  
7:00 pm**



Address exchange Bulletins to: Editor at above address

*Woodland Hills Rock Chippers, Inc.*  
MEMBER OF CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES  
P.O. BOX 205, Woodland Hills, CA 91365