

ROCK CHIPPINGS



The Bulletin of the Woodland Hills
Rock Chippers, Inc.

Volume 61 Number 11/12
Nov/Dec 2020

Club Calendar

December 5
Business Meeting
On Zoom
7 PM

December 19
General Meeting
On Zoom
6:30 PM Social
7 PM General
Meeting and
Program.

January 2
Business Meeting
On Zoom
7 PM

January 9
Class 10am
Tree of Life
Pendant

Guests welcome
Email society or
Thalia for
invitation.

From the President...

Hello Fellow Rock Chippers,

Another month has come and gone, As we all made it through November, I hope everyone had a safe and pleasant Thanksgiving day.

As we enter December, and the wonderful holidays coming up. Let us all complete the year with positive intentions and a steadfast excited outlook to the future of our beloved rock chippers club. Although we will not be having the holiday party gathering this year, let us all look forward to making next year even better.

I ask everyone again to please try to make the time to attend and support our club by trying to make it to our virtual meetings. I know it's not the same as being face to face, but at these testing times, the board of WHRC are working hard at keeping our club educational, fun, and exciting.

I hope to see more of you on our next zoom gathering. Our next board meeting will take place on November 5th at 6:30pm and our next general

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Membership Information

For any questions regarding membership in the Woodland Hills Rock Chippers please email Merlene Lear at info@rockchippers.org

Future Rockhounds of America

For any questions regarding membership in the FRA please email Thalia Goldsworthy at info@rockchippers.org

Regular club meetings are held at 7:00PM on the 3rd Saturday of each month at:
First United Methodist Church, 22700 Sherman Way, West Hills, CA 91303

Visit our website www.rockchippers.org
WHRC Editor: P.O. Box 205 Woodland Hills, CA 91365

meeting will take place on November 19th at 6:30pm. As most can see, we added that extra half an hour to give us some time to mingle before the start of the meeting.

Sagi Salmon

ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER CHANGE IN APPEARANCE

A good news item should contain these elements: Who, What, Where, When and Why. So here is the news.

Starting many months ago Melanie, or Editor, began having problems with her laptop overheating. This caused delays between sessions and publication of the issue. This all came to a head in late October with other challenges and prevented preparing the November issue.

Long story short, she tried different repairs and fixes over the month of November. It was very frustrating as one fix or replaced part after another could not change the problems. She is still working on a new solution and is not able to work on this month's issue. What to do. Our newsletter is an important tool for keeping members and visitors to our web site interested and participating. Thalia had an old 2016 issue of Rockchippings which could be edited with Publisher 2003. So this is what this change in look is all about.

Melanie will return as editor when things are calmed down and she feels able to continue. In the mean time you will see this basic issue form. The fancy fonts and clever layout will return when Melanie is at the helm again.

Because this is a double issue and because we need to publish all our minutes the October and November meeting minutes are included in this issue.

PROGRAM FOR DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING

Our program for the General Meeting on December 16th will be "Sharing Our Blue Stones". The main focus will be on the December Birthstone turquoise but all other blue stones are appropriate.

Members are asked to photograph on a placemat size neutral background what they have to share. During our Zoom meeting all attendees will have opportunity to use their share option on the zoom screen to switch to their computer desktop. This means that the photograph needs to be visible on your computer as an opened jpg file and full screen. Hand held items are not in focus and are blurry.

CLASSES

We have been experimenting with virtual classes using Zoom. A few of our members have participated. A separate email is sent with details of tools, materials, and the Zoom invitation. If you have materials we can work along with the video. Let Thalia know you are interested so she can send you the information and invitation. \

Our virtual Viking Knit demo was well received. We also looked at another video about making a heart shape accent for a cabochon. Debbie used the videos to make pendants from what she had on hand. They came out lovely.



November's virtual "class" was how to make double loops for a beaded necklace.

There is no class planned for December. We will resume on January 9th with this Tree of Life Cab Pendant.. Class goes from 10:00am until about noon. For this class attendees will be able to work along with the video. Details

will be included in the required invitational email. Email Thaliaa for the link.



In December we Remember

Happy Birthday to Lillian

Happy Anniversary to ???

Did we miss you? Let us know so we can con\congratulate you next year.

2021 OFFICERS

Voting for 2021 officers of the Woodland Hills Rock Chippers was done by email, phone and in- person voting at the “Zoom” General Meeting on 11/21/20. A majority of the members voted in the new officers for 2021.

A “zoom” swearing in ceremony will be done at the General Meeting on December 19, 2020 for the new board. Congratulations to all!

Wear your fun Christmas gear.

Sagi Salomon-President

Deborah Hirlinger –Corporate Administrator /VP

Barbara Bradbury-Treasurer

Paty Mejorado-Secretary

Directors:

Lillian Berwager

Gene Berwager

Larry Bradbury

John O’Brien

Shanna O’Brien

The newly elected President will fill the open committees/positions, so if you want to participate on any of those please contact Sagi.

I have the “oath of office” all ready to go, I think we can all repond on zoom at the general meeting- just not take photo...

Debbie for Nominating Committee

FRA NEWS

Due to the Corona virus any work we do is virtual. We hope to be able to have in person meetings in the near future.

Thalia Goldsworthy, FRA Advisor





Federation News



By Gary Levitt

. Greetings Rock hounds! This certainly has been an unusual year especially for our societies.

Due to my personal health problems, I had to give up my CFMS position of managing the Rock hound of the Year (ROTY) awards. I have been CFMS Chairman of the ROTY for many years and thoroughly enjoyed it. Chris Ward from the Del Air Rock Club will be taking over the responsibility of CFMS Chairman of the Rockhound of the Year. I have no doubt he will do an excellent job!

Because of COVID-19 restrictions, all Federation and related meetings have been held via Zoom. What I found to be most interesting was that they have been the most well mannered meetings I think I have ever participated in!

Our Federation dues dropped a tad this year do to our insurance rates going down. This is a rare occurrence. Don't be surprised if the insurance rate goes back up when we start having shows and field trips again.

BENCH TIP—RAISING A CABOCHON

When a cabochon sits too low in a bezel, the bezel can hide a lot of the stone. The solution is to either sand down the bezel height or boost up the stone. But if you choose to to raise it up, the question is what is the best material to use ?

I was taught to use fine sawdust but now think that might be a problem when used in rings. I reason that rings will frequently get wet, which would cause the sawdust to swell in size and push the stone against the bezel. Then when the sawdust dries out, the stone would be a little loose.

In any case, I now prefer to insert a flat sheet to boost up my stones. It can be a scrap of metal or some plastic from product packaging or old credit cards. In either case, just cut a piece to loosely fit into the bezel and drop in the stone (with some dental floss) to check it's height.

Bench Tips by Brad Smith

Learn New Jewelry Tricks and Techniques
with Brad's Jewelry-Making Books
[Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](https://www.amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith)

WHRC Business Meeting - via Zoom



October 3, 2020

Call to Order: 19:04

Present: Sagi, Paty, Thalia, Virginia, Debbie, John O'Brien and Shanna O'Brien

Correction or approval of Minutes: Not available.

Report of Treasurer: We are in the black.

New Business: Fine tuning discussions during meetings. Possible vote by email for Office. Holiday Party "Picnic".

Auditor: Virginia - Everything ok.

Bulletin/Publisher - Melanie: Submit her articles to publish in the WHRC Newsletter.

Classes/ Workshops: Virtual Zoom Class Trial - October 10th "Simple Wrap" - A link with instructions will be sent out to class. Start at 10:00am to 12:00pm. Thalia is working on the second class - "Wire wrap for cabochons".

Courtesy and Hospitality: No updates.

Community Outreach: On hold due to Covid-19 restrictions. Showcase is stored for Ventura Show.

Corporate Administration: Per Debbie everything is up-to-date.

Field Trips: On hold due to Covid-19.

FRA: Nothing to report.

Librarian: Everything on hold due to Covid-19.

Membership: Virginia sent Jeffrey and Sophie to join the club.

Program: September 2020 Society meeting, the floor is open to sharing your favorite Rockhound or collection item. October Birthstones Opal and Tourmaline Specimen Sharing.

Publicity: Updating magazines with cancellation of the Gem Show.

Show Chair: Due to Covid-19 Regulations, show is cancelled.

Ways and Means: John will work on alternatives for Virtual Auctions.

WebMaster: Updating website.

Meeting Adjourned: 19:55

Secretary

~ Patricia Mejorado

WHRC Society Meeting - via Zoom

October 17, 2020

President ProTem: Thalia

Call to Order: 19:06

Correction or approval of Minutes: Standing as published.

Report of Treasurer: Everything is in order.

New Business: Per Debbie slate has been published for elections.

Bulletin/Publisher - Melanie: Possible change to bulletin's format.

Classes/ Workshops: Virtual Viking Knit class was taught and a part 2 class is being developed. Contact Thalia for more details.

Courtesy and Hospitality: Lillian sent a card to Melanie.

Community Outreach: Most of the specimens have been returned.

Federation Director: Gary - one club is still having a show in the Midwest. Most clubs are also transitioning to Zoom meetings.

FRA: On hold due to Covid - 19.

Historian: Gene received CD's submitted by John O' Brien for the archives.

Librarian: Nothing to report. Thalia has childrens books for library donations.

Membership: Thalia sent invite pending Jeffrey and Sophie's reply. Thalia requested the email address to add them to the list.

Program: Pending for November.

Show Committee: ***October Show was cancelled.***

Ways and Means: Considering door prizes for Society Meetings.

Web Master: Per John everything is under control.

Meeting Adjourned: 20:39

Secretary

~ Patricia Mejorado

WHRC Society Meeting - via Zoom—November 21, 2020

Call to Order: 19:00

Pledge of Allegiance – Virginia

Correction or approval of Minutes: No minutes available.

Report of Treasurer: Everything is in order.

New Business: Gary has sent over to the Federation list of members and board for CFMS records.

Auditor: Books look good.

Classes/ Workshops: No classes scheduled for December.

Courtesy and Hospitality: The Butows aren't well. Will need new address.

Community Outreach: On hold during pandemic.

Corporate Administration: Per Debbie we are good to go. All statements are up to date.

Federation Director: Gary is staying as Federation Director. We will no longer do "Rockhound of the Year".

Field Trips: On hold due to Covid-19.

FRA: Meetings on hold.

Historian: Nothing to report.

Librarian: The trailer is in good condition.

Membership: Jeffrey and Sophia are our newest members.

Program: A Presentation DVD, "The Living Rock".

Ways and Means: Door Prize for a member or guest.

WebMaster: Thalia is listed as Webmaster on Website. It will be updated with John O'Brien.

Meeting Adjourned: 20:59

Secretary ~ Patricia Mejorado

WHRC Business Meeting - via Zoom

November 7, 2020

Call to Order: 19:07

Correction or approval of Minutes: No changes to report.

Report of Treasurer: No changes to report.

Old Business: Sagi received USB from John.

New Business: New members Jeffrey and Sophia submitted application for new membership. Passed unanimously. Sophia's interest is tumbling stones.

Auditor: No books at the moment.

Bulletin/Publisher - Melanie: Melanie has laptop challenges.

Classes/ Workshops: Double loop wire bead bracelet. Thalia will send out email with instructions and zoom link. Date: November 14th at 10am.

Courtesy and Hospitality: No changes to report.

Community Outreach: Not active due to Covid-19.

Corporate Administration: Everything is up-to-date.

CFMS: Gary will attend a virtual meeting from Visalia.

FRA: Not meeting at the moment.

Librarian: No changes to report.

Program: CFMS has list of programs available for clubs. November is Living Rocks DVD.

Publicity: Website is attracting new members.

Ways and Means: Giving away door prizes to a guest or member. Passed Unanimously.

WebMaster: Social page has door prize information for next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned: 19:39

Secretary, ~ Patricia Mejorado



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. Refreshments are at 6:30 p.m.



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

Membership is open to interested applicants after they have attended at least 2 meetings. Annual dues are due in November for the following year. Membership fees are currently \$27.50 for one adult, \$17.50 for a second adult at the same address, juniors (ages 10-18) and pebble pups (ages 4-9) \$5 each. New members pay an additional \$15 initiation fee per person. Late joining new members may have lower dues as they are prorated after mid-year.



We are a member society of the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies and affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies.

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	MembershipVirginia Rotramel
Bulletin EditorMelanie Demont	Outreach.....Thalia Goldsworthy
Classes.....Thalia Goldsworthy	Parliamentarian.....Open
Courtesy/Hospitality...Lillian Berwager	ProgramsOpen
Custodian.....Open	Publicity.....Open
Federation Director.....Gary Levitt	Shop Pat Keene. Anita Niles
Alternate Fed Director...Maureen Levitt	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.....Thalia Goldsworthy
Librarian.....Barbara Bradbury	



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Woodland Hills Rock Chippers, Inc.

MEMBER OF CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

P.O. BOX 205, Woodland Hills, CA 91365

Address exchange Bulletins to: Editor at above address



General Meeting Program on December 19th
Holiday Sharing "Blue Stones"

Celebrate the season