

# ROCK CHIPPINGS



The Bulletin of the Woodland Hills  
Rock Chippers, Inc.

Volume 62 Number 10  
October 2021

## Club Calendar

**October 2nd**  
Business Meeting  
On Zoom  
7 PM

**October 9th**  
Class 10am  
Fusing Dichroic  
Glass

**October 16th**  
Society Meeting  
on Zoom.  
6:30 PM Social  
7 PM General  
Meeting and  
Program.

Guests welcome  
Email society or  
Thalia for Zoom  
invitation.

## *From the President...*

Hello Fellow Rock Chippers,

I hope everyone is doing well.

For October, we will have a Zoom program on Metal Mining presented by Paty.

Sadly, this year we again will not have our famous annual rock show. As we move forward with 2021, the board has voted that it is in our best interest to keep everyone safe from the danger of COVID, and having a show may create some issues. Hopefully 2022 will be safer and we can all join for an amazing rock gathering.

I hope to "see" more of you on our next "pow wow". Our next board meeting will take place on October 2nd at 7pm and our next general meeting on October 16th at 6:30pm. Both meetings on Zoom.

For our November in person meeting and silent auction at the church, I ask everyone to please try to make the time to attend and support our club. With a face mask and safe distancing we can meet in person safely. We at the board of WHRC are working hard at keeping our club educational, fun, and exciting., but most of all safe.

Stay Safe and Healthy  
Sagi

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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 91303

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

## SOCIETY MEETING PROGRAM

### Metal Mining —October 16, 2021



This month Paty will present a Zoom program on Mining Metals. She will show various videos and talk about some of the metals used in Lapidary work. Her passion for making jewelry has led to her studying for a GIA Certification. This should be a great program from a well informed rockhound.

Social hour 6:30pm, program at 7pm, Look for the Zoom link sent on October 7th.



## BENCH TIP

### LAYOUT TOOLS

Dimensions on some features of a design can be fluid while others must be accurate for the design to work. When precision on a piece is important, good layout techniques are essential.

These are the tools that I rely upon to get holes in the right place, to achieve correct angles, and to cut pieces the correct length.

I like crisp sharp lines to follow, so I often coat surfaces with a dark marker and scribe my layout lines onto the metal. A square makes quick work of checking right angles or marking where to cut, and the thin center punch helps me mark a place to drill holes exactly where I want them.

Finally, a good set of dividers is probably my favorite layout tool. They let me quickly mark a strip for cutting, swing an arc, and divide a line or curve into as many equal segments as I need. I keep at least one set of dividers in every toolbox.

Learn New Skills with Brad's "How To Do It" Books  
[Amazon.com/author/Bradford Smith](https://www.amazon.com/author/Bradford-Smith)

## ELECTION COMING IN NOVEMBER

Election of the Woodland Hills Rock Chippers 2022 Officers will be held at the November 20<sup>TH</sup> In Person General Meeting at the church, we will also be having our silent auction that evening. If you would like to vote on the officers but will not be in attendance, please email your “Yes” or “No” response to our club’s email [whrc@rockchippers.org](mailto:whrc@rockchippers.org). If you have no access to email, you can snail mail your response to our P.O. Box 205 Woodland Hills, CA 91365 please have it arrive by 11/20/21 to be counted. If you want to run for any of the offices listed below please contact Debbie or send to our club’s email, nominations will be also be taken from the floor at the November 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The newly elected President will fill the open committees/positions, so if you want to participate on any of those please let us know as well.

Here is the slate for 2022 officers of the Woodland Hills Rock Chippers: All have agreed to run again for their current posts for the 2022 year.

**President** -Sagi Salomon

**Corporate Administrator /VP**—Deborah Hirlinger

**Treasurer** –Barbara Bradbury-

**Secretary**-Paty Mejorado

**Directors:**

Lillian Berwager

Gene Berwager

Larry Bradbury

John O’Brien

Shanna O’Brien



## BUDGET FOR 2022

Because we have had little expenses or income during the Covid pandemic our Treasurer will be using the budget for the last active year. Members should watch for a separate emailing of that information (PDF). An email response to [whrc@rockchippers.org](mailto:whrc@rockchippers.org) with any modifications or suggestions and your yes or no are needed to approve the budget. Thank you.

## FIELD TRIP “DREAMS”

At the last business meeting the subject of field trips opened a lot of discussion about missing those trips. We are asking all members to help us compile a “dream list” of possible trips. This can be all those that our members can remember whether or not you attended. From that combined list we hope to be able to schedule future trips. Currently we have no field trip chairman so these suggestions should be sent to our email address [whrc@rockchippers.org](mailto:whrc@rockchippers.org). Let’s get back to some outdoor fun and collecting!

## FRA NEWS

Because of the changing school situation FRA activities are on hold. When things return to some kind of normal here will be more time for in-person badge activities.

With in-person school classes starting I will watch how that goes. If possible we could meet with similar Covid requirements. We could work outside as my patio does not get hot until later in the day. Let's see how things are in October. More news via email to participants.



## CLASS FOR OCTOBER 9<sup>TH</sup>

This month we will be working with Thalia's kiln to fuse dichroic glass. Class size is limited to 5 so contact her to register. We will start at 10:00 AM. Part of this process is to learn how to cut glass. Eye protection is vital. If you have safety glasses bring them. Thalia's supply will be available for class use.

The fee for this class is \$35.00. This includes the cost of the materials and firings. The number of pieces you may make in this class is limited to four. Not all the firing/fusing will take place during the class as the cooling process between firings takes time. Each kiln load will be determined by Thalia according to size and arrangement of the pieces. Not all your pieces will be in the same kiln load. Thalia will complete any firings that are needed after the class ends.

You will be surprised at the color changes that occur when dichroic glass is fired. We will be careful to identify each participant's projects.

Debbie's project from last class is on the right. Phone or email WHRC to reserve space.



*Happy Birthday*  
*Maureen, Jean, Pete*  
*Steve and Gina*

*Happy Anniversary*  
*The Levitts*



**Opal**

## OCTOBER BIRTHSTONES OPAL AND TOURMALINE

Defined as a non-crystalline hydrous silicate with a chemical composition the same as quartz's but with added 1-2% water. In structure it is composed of tiny spheres set in a 3-D network. This structure defines the colors you see in opal. The distance between the rows of spheres diffuses the light rays depending on their spacing. The effect created is called iridescence. With a hardness of 5.5-6.5 and some porosity, care must be taken when wearing, especially by exposing opal to the only safe liquid – plain water. Take off your ring when doing the dishes or washing your hands!

Common opal is transparent or semi-transparent. It occurs as deposits in cracks, as nodules and as replacement of organic materials (wood or shells). When yellow orange to red in color it is known as Fire Opal. Precious opal is named for those specimens that are especially iridescent, often transparent. They are rare. Because the layers of iridescence can be very thin, they are often glued to a dark background then ground thin to show the colors and covered with a quartz cap – creating a durable triplet. There are many imitations of opal so be wary and learn what you can before purchasing an “opal”.

**Tourmaline**

Originally used as an alternate birthstone in German speaking countries it has become popular elsewhere. Tourmaline has the widest range of color of any gemstone in the world. Black is the most common variety. An unusual variety that has a red center and a green outside is called watermelon tourmaline. Two colors that have been separately named are Rubellite (red to pink) and Indicolite (blue to greenish blue).

It is a complex aluminum borosilicate with a hardness of 7 to 7.5. This makes it a durable stone for any jewelry use. It has a hexagonal crystal pattern and has vertical striations running along its main axis. It is commonly found in pegmatite dikes that are rich in silica, commonly around granite. Colors are determined by small amounts of other ions – iron or magnesium for example. **THIS IS ONE STONE THAT IS NOT SYNTHESIZED OR IMITATED.**

### BENCH TIP

#### INVENTORY RECORD

In an ideal world each of us who sells their jewelry has a good record with photos of all pieces in our inventory. We use it for insurance purposes, to record the cost to produce, to note where the item was sent out on consignment, and maybe to store descriptive text for marketing. Eventually, we note in the record when the piece was sold and for how much.

It's nice to also have good pictures of each piece, but sometimes we don't have time for a full-on photo session. In situations like this it's worth doing a quick group shot with the help of a phone, a camera, a scanner, or even a color copier. The quality is at least sufficient for an accurate identification in case a piece is lost.

Any repair parts needed are available on the ForeDom site or from most jewelry supply catalogs. If you have any question about their products, a phone call or an email will get quick answers.

## WHRC Business Meeting Minutes

**Time:** 7:04 pm

**Location:** Zoom

**Secretary:** Paty Mejorado

**Date:** September 11, 2021

**Call to order:** Sagi

**Quorum:** Yes

**Correction or approval of minutes:** No corrections to minutes, they are approved.

**Flag Salute:** Sagi

**Report of Treasurer- Barbara:** We received the statement. Also a donation for MaryBeth. Possibly setting up a scholarship for a college student majoring in Geology or Earth Sciences. Debbie asked Barbara if we still have a credit at the church? Per Barbara we have credit with the church. Barbara is requesting the WIFI Login information.

**Old Business:** Nothing to report.

**Auditor – Virginia:** Everything looks good.

**Bulletin/Publisher - John:** The website and newsletter will be updated in a few days.

**Classes/workshops - Thalia:** September 11<sup>th</sup> - Man Wrap Class at 10am was successful! It was a great class and everyone finished projects. October class pending.

**Corporate Administrator – Debbie:** No raffles were played during the last period. Forms to file were sent out, payment is due end of September.

**Display/Education/Community Outreach - Thalia:** Thalia will follow-up with the library for showcase exhibit is currently pending.

**Federation Director – Gary:** Nothing to report.

**FRA –Thalia:** Kids are going back to school. We are keeping in touch with them.

**Hospitality Historian – Lillian /Gene:** Not present.

**Insurance – Debbie:** Everything is up to date.

**Librarian – Shanna:** Nothing to report.

**Membership – Virginia:** Nothing from the website.

**Programs:** September 18 - Sapphire Extravaganza – A video program / October 16 – Mining for Minerals – A video program / November 20 – Silent Auction / December 18 - Potluck and White Elephant Exchange. December 18 – Regular meeting and Gift Exchange

**Show Chairman – Sagi/Virginia:** Not scheduled at this time.

**Ways and Means – John:** Nothing new at this time.

**Web Master – John/Thalia:** Website is current.

**New Business:** Thank you email received for publishing a Rock sale. Steve informed us the Culver City Show was CANCELLED due to Covid-19.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 7:47 PM

## WHRC Society Meeting Minutes

**Time: 7:10 pm**

**Location: Chatsworth, CA**

**Secretary: Paty Mejorado**

**Date: September 18, 2021**

**Call to order:** Debbie Pro Tem

**Correction or approval of minutes:** No corrections minutes are approved.

**Flag Salute:** Thalia & Debbie

**Report of Treasurer- Barbara:** Everything is okay.

**Old Business:** Club Showcase is will not be displayed at the Chatsworth library.

**Auditor – Virginia:** Everything looks good.

**Bulletin/Publisher - Thalia:** John is taking over as Publisher of the Newsletter.

**Classes/Workshops Thalia:** September 11<sup>th</sup> - Man Wrap Class at 10am. Please contact Thalia for details. The class was a success. The October 9<sup>th</sup> class is Dichroic Glass Class. It will start at 10am. If you are interested, please reach out to Thalia.

**Corporate Administrator - Debbie:** Insurance forms are up to date. Requested that a copy be sent to the church.

**Display/Education/Community Outreach - Thalia:** Showcase will not be displayed at the library.

**Federation Director – Gary:** Not present.

**FRA –Thalia:** Keeping in touch with FRA kids. They are also in school. We are not meeting at this time.

**Hospitality Historian – Lillian /Gene:** Not present.

**Insurance – Debbie:** Everything is up to date.

**Librarian – Shanna:** Nothing to report.

**Membership – Virginia:** Nothing new right now.

**Programs:** September 18 - Sapphire Extravaganza – A video program, started at 7:15p.m. / October 16 – Mining for Minerals – A video program / November 20 – Silent Auction  
December 18 – Regular meeting and Gift Exchange

**Show Chairman – Sagi/Virginia:** Not scheduled at this time.

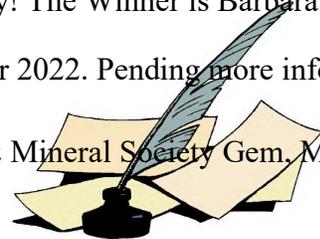
**Ways and Means – John:** Debbie has the door prize for giveaway! The Winner is Barbara.

**Web Master – John/Thalia:** Website is current.

**New Business:** Possible Woodland Hills Rockchippers in October 2022. Pending more information a possible Fee Dig at Benitoite.

The Ventura Club is having a show: 59th Annual Ventura Gem & Mineral Society Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Lapidary Show March 5-6, 2022.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 8:16 PM





## 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.

Membership is open to interested applicants after they have attended at least 2 Society 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.

### 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  
 Bulletin Editor .....Open  
 Classes.....Thalia Goldsworthy  
 Courtesy/Hospitality...Lillian Berwager  
 Custodian.....Open  
 Federation Director.....Gary Levitt  
 Alternate Fed Director...Maureen Levitt  
 Field Trips.....Committee  
 FRA.....Thalia Goldsworthy  
 Historian.....Gene Berwager  
 Librarian.....Shanna O'Brien

Membership .....Virginia Rotramel  
 Outreach.....Thalia Goldsworthy  
 Parliamentarian.....Open  
 Programs .....Open  
 Publicity.....Open  
 Shop ..... Pat Keene. Anita Niles  
 Club Show Chair.....Sagi Salmon  
 Asst.Show Chair.....Virginia Rotramel  
 Ways and Means.....John O'Brien  
 Webmaster.....John O'Brien



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**Society Meeting  
October 16th Program  
Metal Mining**



**6:30pm Social—7:00pm Program**



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