

# ROCK CHIPPERS

The Bulletin of the Woodland Hills  
Rock Chippers, Inc.



Volume 63 Number 5  
May 2022

## Club Calendar

**May 7th**  
Business Meeting  
On Zoom  
7 PM

**May 14h**  
Class  
Thalia's House  
10 AM

**May 21st**  
Society Meeting  
At Church  
6:30 PM Social  
7 PM General  
Meeting  
Program will be  
silent auction  
Please mask

Guests welcome!

## *From the President....*

Hello Fellow Rock Chippers,

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday time last month.

This months meeting will be starting off with a fun in person gathering. Yes, you read correctly... I would like to invite our members and friends to our May in person meeting. We will be having our fun silent auction. So I know this will be one fun evening with wonderful things to acquire for our collections, and for others, to make room in their collection for new specimens.

I remind everyone to please submit any ideas that may be related to the bettering of our beloved club.

The next business meeting will take place 7pm on May 7th via zoom.  
Looking forward to seeing everyone in person at 6:30pm May 21 for our silent auction.

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 91303

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

## SOCIETY MEETING PROGRAM

### Program for May 21st– Silent Auction

Bring your donations, have a starting price.

Auction will be indoors, please be masked.



## CLASSES

Last month we completed the Geode Slice pendant. There were lots of challenges met by the persistence of the students. We needed two sessions. Photo on left is Anita's piece, photo on right is Debbie's.

For May the project will be a Beaded Cuff Bracelet. Class will be on May 14th at 10am at Thalia's home. Materials needed: 16ga or 18ga and 26ga or 28ga round wire plus 6mm beads. Tools for this are the usual wire wrapping tools.



Bring whatever materials you have. Thalia will have extra materials if needed. Class Fee is \$5.00. Register with Thalia to reserve space.



## 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 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.

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

## *Birthdays*

*Larry and John*



## *Anniversaries*

*Lisa and Mark*



### **MAY'S BIRTHSTONE**

Over the ages emerald has been the choice for May's birthstone, it's green color representing rebirth of the world with green plants renewing the landscape. The color has been even given a name for it's specific hue. - emerald green. Also the emerald name is used to describe Ireland = "the Emerald Isle".

Emerald is a member of the beryl family which includes aquamarine and heliodore, This stone requires special care. it's hardness is 6.5 to 7 on the Moh's scale - similar to quartz. It scratches relatively easily, It is brittle, and fractures easily because of the frequent inclusions and usual internal fractures. IT IS SENSITIVE TO HEAT - EVEN THE WARMTH OF DISH WASHING SOLUTIONS CAN AFFECT EMERALDS. Cool water, soap and a soft brush are recommended for cleaning.

Pure emeralds with clarity are very rare. Emeralds is one of the gemstones that man has been able to produce artificially. The chemical and physical properties of man-created stones are the same as natural stones. These are the deep green ones you see used for more inexpensive jewelry.

### **Growing Crystals. - a fun activity for all to enjoy**

Some minerals grow into crystals in water solutions. This process can be observed using readily available materials, such as sugar, salt, alum, and Epsom salts dissolved into a saturated solution in boiling hot water. A saturated solution contains the maximum amount of salt that will dissolve in a given amount of hot water.

#### **Materials.**

Crystal-building material: table salt, Epsom salts (from a pharmacy), or powder alum (from the grocery store spice section). Other materials you might use include borax or sugar.

#### **Procedure.**

1. Heat water to a boil, then turn off the heat.
2. If using table salt, mix one-half cup of salt into three-quarters cup of hot water. If using Epsom salts, mix one-half cup Epsom salts into one cup of water. If using alum, mix one-quarter cup alum into one cup of water.
3. Stir your solution. If all of your mineral dissolves, the solution is not yet saturated, and you should add a bit more mineral until no more will dissolve. (Note: you can make colorful crystals by adding a couple drops of food coloring.)
4. Place a few pebbles in the bottom of a glass jar and pour your solution over the pebbles. Or, tie string to a stick or pencil, pour your solution into a glass jar, and dip the string into the solution with a paperclip to weigh the string down, and leave it hanging there from the pencil
5. Set your jar aside in a spot where it won't be disturbed and don't bump or bounce it. Check every so often the next few days. As water evaporates, you'll see crystals forming on your pebbles or string.



### **Let's Go To A Show!**

#### **May 6-7-8, 2022 – Lancaster, CA**

##### ***CFMS Gems, Minerals, Fossils & Jewelry Show***

Antelope Valley Fairgrounds, 2551 W Avenue H, Lancaster, CA 93536

Hours: Friday, Saturday 9 AM -5 PM, Sunday 9 AM – 4 PM

Gems, Minerals, Fossils, Jewelry, Demonstrations, Exhibits, Dealers, Kid's and Family Activities.

Free parking and Free Admission.

Contact:

Bob Backus (661) 526-3564, email: lbackus@aol.com

Susan Chaisson-Walblom (661) 406-0143, email: slchaisson@yahoo.com

#### **May 6-7, 2022 – Yucaipa, CA**

Yucaipa Valley Gem and Mineral Society

Yucaipa Blvd and Adams Street, Yucaipa CA 92399

Hours: Friday 6 PM – 10 PM, Saturday noon – 10 PM

The YVGMS annual show features great vendors, geode cracker, kids' activities, raffle, and club store. The YVGMS show is part of the Yucaipa city Music and Arts Festival with music, various local artists, kids' zone with rides and jumpers, other craft vendors, food vendors, and a beer/wine garden. It is a fun time for the entire family.

Contact: (909) 794-0731

Website: <http://yvgms.org>

## *WHRC Society Meeting Minutes*

**Time:** 7:00 P.M.

**Location:** Zoom

**Date:** April 16, 2022

**Call to Order:** Debbie

**Quorum:** Yes

**Flag Salute:** Debbie

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

**Report of Treasurer - Barbara:** Everything is in order.

**Auditor - Virginia:** Not present.

**Bulletin/Publisher - John:** Nothing new to report.

**Classes/Workshops Thalia:** Finishing part two of "The Geode Slice Pendant." May class is pending, we are open to suggestions.

**Corporate Administrator - Debbie:** Insurance is up-to-date. In May we get a bill. All the tax returns are current.

**Courtesy/Hospitality - Lillian:** Nothing to report.

**Display/Education/Community Outreach - Thalia:** Thalia has all the items for the showcase. We are reserving the showcase at the show. It will be displayed at the CFMS AV Lancaster Show at the Antelope Valley Fairgrounds on May 6, 7 & 8, 2022.

**Federation Director:** We are in need of a volunteer Federation Director. The job requires traveling to Visalia and the State show. The 2022 CFMS Show and Convention is scheduled for May 6th, 7th & 8th, 2022 at the Antelope Valley Fairgrounds. The address is: 2551 W Avenue H, Lancaster, CA 93536. <https://cfmsinc.org/shows-2/>

**Field Trips:** 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Fiesta of Gems – Culver City July 16-17<sup>th</sup> 2022 at the Veterans Memorial Auditorium

4117 Overland Avenue, Culver City, CA 90230. More details to come.

**FRA - Thalia:** Schools are back in session. We haven't had a meeting.

**Guest:** Loretta would like to learn more about cutting, learning jewelry making and is interested in field trips. Also learning more about the rocks she collects.

Alfonso likes pretty rocks. He is also curious about tumbled stones.

**Historian - Gene:** Nothing to report.

**Insurance - Debbie:** Everything is current.

**Librarian - Shanna:** The library will be open at the May meeting.

**Membership - Virginia:** Not present.

**Programs:** Presented by Shanna – 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the DVD: One Hour Bracelets with Jeff Fulkerson. The Program will start at 7pm. The May Society Meeting will feature the Silent Auction. In-person meeting Silent Auction scheduled May 21<sup>st</sup> starts 7:00pm.

**Show Chairman - Sagi/Virginia:** Not present.

**Ways and Means:** Silent Auction scheduled for an outdoor meeting on May 21st.

**Webmaster - John:** The website is up-to-date. Everything is looking good.

**Adjourned:** 8:30 P.M.

**Patricia Mejorado**

**Secretary, Board of Directors**



## WHRC Business Meeting Minutes



**Time:** 7:01 P.M.

**Location:** Zoom

**Date:** April 2, 2022

**Call to Order:** Sagi

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

**Old Business:** We are starting at 6:30 pm on May 21<sup>st</sup> for an In-Person meeting. We are looking into the cost per on-site meetings, with and without use of the kitchen. It's up to us if we use face-masks.

**Report of Treasurer - Barbara:** We are in the black.

**Auditor - Virginia:** Not present.

**Bulletin/Publisher - John:** Nothing new to report.

**Classes/Workshops Thalia:** Finishing part two of "The Geode Slice Pendant." May class is pending.

**Corporate Administrator - Debbie:** Received the check from Barbara to mail the Department of Justice return. They have a new fee this year. Already did the 990N and 199N online, the tax filing is up-to-date.

**Courtesy/Hospitality - Lillian:** Cards were sent out and are up – to – date.

**Display/Education/Community Outreach - Thalia:** Thalia has all the items for the showcase. It will be displayed at the CFMS AV Lancaster Show at the Antelope Valley Fairgrounds on May 6, 7 & 8, 2022. **Federation Director:** We are in need of a volunteer Federation Director. The job requires traveling to Visalia and the State show. Maureen is going to the show in May. The 2022 CFMS Show and Convention is scheduled for May 6th, 7th & 8th, 2022 at the Antelope Valley Fairgrounds. The address is: 2551 W Avenue H, Lancaster, CA 93536. <https://cfmsinc.org/shows-2/>

**Field Trips:** Pending

**FRA - Thalia:** Schools are returning back to session. We are not meeting at the moment.

**Historian - Gene:** Nothing to report.

**Insurance - Debbie:** Everything is current.

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

**Membership - Virginia:** Not present.

**Programs:** Presented by Shanna – 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the DVD: One Hour Bracelets with Jeff Fulkerson. The Program will start at 7pm. In-person meeting Silent Auction scheduled May 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Show Chairman - Sagi/Virginia:** Nothing to report.

**Ways and Means:** Silent Auction scheduled for an outdoor meeting on May 21st.

**Webmaster - John:** Everything is good.

**Patricia Mejorado**

**Secretary, Board of Directors**



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



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**Society Meeting Program  
At the Church  
April 16th  
6:30 Social & 7:00 Program  
Silent Auction**



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