

# ROCK CHIPPERS

The Bulletin of the Woodland Hills  
Rock Chippers, Inc.



Volume 63 Number 9  
September 2022

## Club Calendar

**September 3rd**  
Business Meeting  
On Zoom  
7 PM

### September 10th

Thalia's House  
Showcase Liners  
10 AM

### September 17th

Society Meeting  
At Church  
6:30 PM Social  
7 PM General  
Meeting  
Program will be  
Amber  
by  
Maxine Dearborn

Guests welcome!

## *From the President....*

Hello Fellow Rock Chippers,

I hope everyone is doing well.

Thank you for all those that attended our last meeting/ pot lock picnic, it was a wonderful gathering with good food, great rock Bingo games and prizes, and much laughter. Our next in person meeting will have a great speaker, Maxine Dearborn on the fascinating subject of Amber

I ask everyone to please try to make the time to attend and support our club by trying to make it to our meetings. 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 meeting. Our next board meeting will take place on September 3rd at 7pm and our next general meeting will take place on September 17th at 7pm, but all are welcome to come at 6:30 for some mingling.

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 91307

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

## SOCIETY MEETING PROGRAM

### AMBER - "THAT FANTASTIC TREE RESIN"

Maxine Dearborn will walk us through the gem stone.

Yes, Amber, like Pearls, is one of the few non-mineral gemstones.

Amber comes in many colors and she will have samples for you to see and touch. Maxine will go from where Amber is found and what it looks like in the rough, to finished items in jewelry.

You will also learn how to polish and take care of your Amber. You will want your own Amber necklace after this program.



### September 10<sup>th</sup> Class

In anticipation of our October show, I will assist members who want to make liners for our club showcases.

I have enough materials to cover one liner base. If you are interested in making one for yourself, you will need to purchase a 30 x 40 piece of 1/8 or 1/4 inch thick foam core board. I will have fabric to cover the board in darker tan and cream colors. We need to use an Xacto knife with a sharp blade to cut the board. I have clear packing tape to join the pieces. To tape the fabric to the board we will use duct tape. If you have some, some please bring it.

If you have a color preference for the fabric here are some measurements to consider. You need a piece that is 50 inches by 27 inches. Neutral colors are best – tan, grey, cream or off-white. Knits are a little harder to work with, but usable – cotton/polyester are fine. No patterns or textures.

Thalia

## September Birthstone – Sapphire

We all recognize blue sapphires stones as their color is well known. Besides occurring in multiple colors, the red color is called ruby, there is a lesser known version of sapphire – star sapphire. This occurs naturally when titanium oxide crystallizes first and then the sapphire crystallizes around it. This causes the 6 or 12 rayed star we see in cabochon cut stones. Man made star sapphires have been produced in deep pink (ruby) as well as blue. The cabochon has a hardness and durability the same as natural stones.



## WHRC Social Meeting Minutes

In person 22700 Sherman Way, West Hills, CA. August 20, 2022

There are no official minutes for the August 20th meeting, and we did not formally meet.

We had a potluck dinner, and almost 20 people showed up.

We played Rocky Bingo, on the patio outdoors, and a great time was had, and too much eaten by all.

We also took a partial inventory of some of the things in the trailer, and made plans to work on the display cases before the show.

Any old or new business overlooked this month should be brought up at the business meeting.

Notes by John O'Brien

Way & Means

## *Birthdays*

*Jennifer, Pat*



## *Anniversaries*

*Jean & David*

*Pat & Rue*



## SHOW NEWS

There has been some progress in the planning for our show.

I have a count on the tables needed by size. This allows for lay-out of the tables for the quantity a vendor wants/needs.

Many of the vendors we have had in the past shows were contacted. Responses back regarding participation in this show were received with resounding enthusiasm. IF we do not have any further participants we will still have enough for a small show.

What will be needed for future planning will be the lay-out of the vendors in the Fellowship Hall. One of the requirements will be how many Display Cases will be needed. Also, the craft table, FRA and the "Guess How Many Are In The Jar" game.

Raffle tickets need to be printed and members need to be getting prizes ready for that. IF we get prizes early pictures can be taken and help sales early on.

I know October seems a long way off, but, there is much to be done. And the more positive information we have the easier it is for publicity to tout. Customers are our goal and selling Raffle tickets to them.

Virginia  
Asst. Show Chair

## FINISHING PIERCED PATTERNS

After sawing patterns there's always a little cleanup to do, and the smaller cutouts can be a challenge. Needle files (7-8 inches) can get into the larger areas, and escapement files (4 inches) can get into some of the corners.

But I often find myself wanting even smaller files. I couldn't find them, even at a watchmaker tools supply company, so I had to try something else. I ended up grinding down the tip of a small 4" barrette file using a separating disk (or cutoff wheel) in your Dremel or Foredom.

Be sure to wear your safety glasses when using this tool. A flake of steel in your eye makes for a bad day.



## SMALL PARTS CONTAINERS

I'm always on the lookout for small containers to use for holding all those little parts and tools we deal with in making jewelry, especially since I'm always traveling to classes and workshops.

My latest find are some plastic vials about 15 mm in diameter and 75 mm long. Best part is they are free. The vials are used in the doctor's office to draw blood samples. They cannot be used after their expiration date and are thrown out. On my last doctors visit, I asked the nurse if they had any expired vials. She replied "How many do you want?" and tried to give me 400 of them. (We settled on 200).

The ones shown above are called "Vacutainers", but there are probably many other names. They're clear plastic with a rubber stopper and a paper label all ready to write on. I find them really handy for small parts like jump rings, prong settings, small drills, nuts & bolts, faceted stones, and precious metal filings.

- Brad Smith

[BradSmithJewelry@gmail.com](mailto:BradSmithJewelry@gmail.com)



***WHRC Business Meeting Minutes******Time:*** 7:12 P.M.***Location:*** Zoom***Date:*** August 8, 2022***Call to Order:*** 7:12pm***Quorum:*** Yes***Correction or Approval of Minutes:*** Minutes look good. Approved by Debbie.***Report of Treasurer - Barbara:*** We are in the black.***Auditor - Virginia:*** Not present.***Bulletin/Publisher - John:*** Everything is up-to-date.***Classes/Workshops Thalia:*** The July was a success. The August 13th Class is on how to make Raffle Tickets for the Gem Show. Possible class to create showcase liners is pending.***Corporate Administrator - Debbie:*** Secretary of State Bi-Annual Form permit was requested.***Courtesy/Hospitality - Lillian:*** Everything is current.***Display/Education/Community Outreach - Thalia:*** We missed a few showings.***Federation Director:*** We are looking for a new Federation Director.***Field Trips:*** Club members visited the Culver City Gem Show. It was a good show.***FRA - Thalia:*** Nothing at the moment. Demelza is in the UK on vacation.***Historian - Gene:*** Nothing to report.***Insurance - Debbie:*** The Insurance covers the Gem Show in October. We are waiting for the renewal.***Librarian - Shanna:*** Nothing to report.***New Business:*** Who will accept raffle prizes for the show? We are checking the status of the trailers condition?***Membership - Virginia:*** Everything is up to date.***Old Business:*** The Potluck start time was changed and the club was notified via email. It now starts at 6:00pm at the church.***Programs:*** The program for July is Family Craft Night was a success. The August Potluck and we are playing Rocky Bingo. The September Program features Maxine speaking on Amber. This is an In-Person meeting.***Publicity:*** The Raffle Tickets are going to be passed out to members at the Potluck gathering.***Show Chairman - Sagi/Virginia:*** Barbara mentioned we are listed in the Rock & Gem Magazine. We are listed in the Mining Journal.***Ways and Means:*** John is requesting donations for the Gem Show's Silent Auction.***Webmaster - John:*** We have future changes to the website.***Adjourned:*** 20:05***Patricia Mejorado******Secretary, Board of Directors******Woodland Hills Rockchippers***



## October Show Raffle Prizes



Additional pictures will be posted as more donations are received.



## 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.....Open  
 Alternate Fed Director.....Open  
 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  
September 17th  
6:30 Social & 7:00 Program  
Maxine Dearborn Amber Program**



Address exchange Bulletins to: Editor at above address

*Woodland Hills Rock Chippers, Inc.*  
MEMBER OF CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES  
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