

ROCK CHIPPINGS

The Bulletin of the Woodland Hills
Rock Chippers, Inc.



Volume 67 Number 3
March 2026

Club Calendar

MONDAY

Mar 2nd

Business Meeting
On Zoom
7 PM

SATURDAY

Mar 14th

Class
Thalia's 10:00

SATURDAY

Mar 21st

Society Meeting
At the Church
7:00 PM
Meeting will be in
Room 10.
Program will be
Obsidian
With
Terry Wilson

Hello Rock Chippers,

Happy March! We are very excited for this month's class and program. Shanna and Thalia are presenting a wire wrap class for a small cross. Please sign up as soon as possible. The space is limited and we'd love to see you.

For the March Program we have a very special guest, Terry Wilson presenting Rainbow Obsidian and How to Reveal its Secrets. The program is featured at the Society meeting on March 21, 2026. We are very excited to put this on for you.

The members also worked on put together the showcase for the Ventura Gem Show on March 7 & 8 at the Ventura County Fairgrounds. It looks amazing. The theme is Rough and Ready. Stop by and check it out.

We are looking to grow the club and share the Lapidary Arts knowledge. If you know someone with the passion for minerals and lapidary arts, please let them know about us. We are here for our community and to share this amazing trade. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Best,

Paty M
President
Woodland Hills Rock Chippers

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Membership Information

For any questions regarding membership in the Woodland Hills Rock Chippers please email Debbie Hirlinger at whrc@rockchippers.org

Future Rockhounds of America

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

Regular club meetings are held at 7:00PM on the 3rd Saturday of each month at:
At the Church in Room 10

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

Woodland Hills Rock Chippers
Monday Board Meetings - via Zoom

6:45 pm Log In / 7:00 pm start time

February 2

March 2

April 6 - Easter Monday

May 4

June 1

July 6

August 3

September 7 - Labor Day

October 5

November 2

December 7



**We will be holding our social meetings in Room 10 at the church.
Here are the dates you can put on your calendar for the rest of this
year:**

March 21

April 18th

May 16th

June 20th

July 18th

August Picnic TBA

September 19th

October show TBA

November 21st

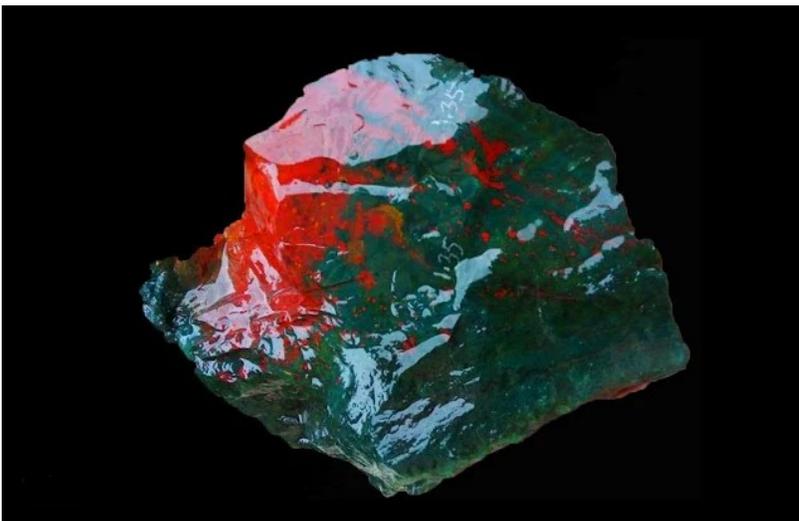
December Christmas Party TBA

Gemstone of the Month

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. The original deposits of bloodstone is mined in Australia, Brazil and India and typically found as pebbles in riverbeds or embedded in rocks. 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



February Class

There was no class in February

Cancelled due to illness

March Class

Hoping this finds everyone doing well. For this month's class we will be making a small cross pendant using square wire. If we finish this quickly we will also make a pair of heart earrings with a single wire. Please contact Shanna if you wish to attend.



March Birthdays

Aurora

Anniversaries

-

Nobody!



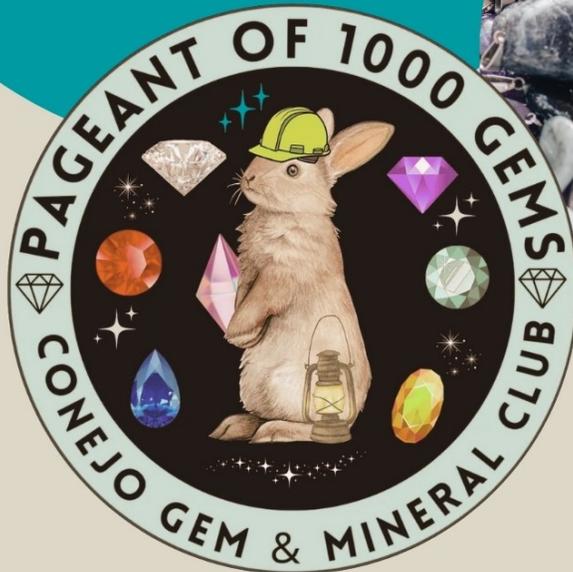
Announcement!

**49TH
ANNUAL
GEM &
MINERAL
SHOW**

APRIL 18TH-19TH, 2026

SATURDAY: 10AM-5PM

SUNDAY: 10AM-4PM



Free Admission - Free Parking

Borchard Community Center

190 N. Reino Road
Thousand Oaks, CA

www.CGAMC.org



**Vendors
Exhibits**

**Live Lapidary-
Demonstrations**

Silent Auction

Hourly Raffle

Plant Sale

Youth Room

Woodland Hills Rock Chippers *Presents* Rainbow Obsidian and How to Reveal its Secrets

Terry Wilson, an experienced rainbow obsidian collector and lapidary, will show us the wonders of Rainbow Obsidian from Davis Creek, CA, then show us how to inspect the specimens everyone seems to have somewhere in their stash. Unlocking the rainbow of colors within is tricky, and it's all too easy to ruin a beautiful piece by cutting it improperly. Terry will show us how to mark the rough for proper slabbing based on her own journey of exploring this fascinating material.

Terry Wilson has a BA in Studio Art, and is retired from a career in the graphic arts. Her nature is to make things, and has explored many different art and craft forms in her life. She is a member of the Ventura Gem and Mineral Club, a very vibrant Southern California club where she learned to do lapidary work. A long time silversmith, she enjoys jewelry-making from picking up a stone and tossing it in her bucket to polishing the final piece of jewelry, doing all the steps in between. She is also the newly appointed webmaster for the CFMS.



MARCH 21, 2026 AT 7 O'CLOCK PM

***22700 SHERMAN WAY WEST
HILLS, CA 91307***

WHRC Board Meeting February 2, 2026
Via Zoom

Members in attendance: Paty Mejorado, Debbie Hirlinger, Barbara Bradbury, Gene and Lillian Berwager, John and Shanna O'Brien, Thalia Goldsworthy, Celia Barnett, Virginia Rotramel, Maureen Levitt
The Board Meeting was called to Order by Paty at 7:06.

February meeting Silent Auction and Debbie will do a show & tell too.

Treasurer: Barbara stated all is in order, bank statement not received yet.

Auditor - Virginia - no report.

Newsletter - John - made corrections to the Newsletter as noted. Sending it out tonight.

Classes/Workshops: Shanna - Dichroic glass 2/14, March will be wire wrap pendant,

Corporate Admin. - Debbie filed tax return for raffle but needs final 2025 numbers from Barbara.

Courtesy/Hospitality: Up to date per Lillian.

Display - Bring items to February meeting - Theme this year is "Rough & Ready". Paty got an application for Conejo Valley gem show - will send to Barbara.

Federation - Celia - CFMS Bulletin sent out.

Historian: Gene, nothing new.

Insurance - Debbie, up to date.

Librarian - Shanna - need to move the library.

Membership - Debbie - dues notice sent out, received application from Michael Grey, Paty moved to vote him in for Feb 2026, Celia seconded, he's in. Paty's aunt Aurora will be sending in her application. Debbie conversed with Yvonne - she will do badges but in Arizona until April. Debbie will get stock from Yvonne & check with a local engraver. Celia will check on CFMS badges. Debbie moved to approve Aurora, Paty seconded, admitted into membership.

Steve Dover - all approved him being a life time member. Paty will contact him and Celia will write a letter to him. We'll need a badge for Steve too. Debbie will ??? in 30 days.

Publicity - We will work on.

Program/ Ways & Means - Debbie has some cabs, members should bring auction items.

Maureen asked how much space in Room 10 for Silent Auction - Per Debbie only space available at church. Picnic and December meeting won't work in small room. Park suggested, Balboa park is \$75. We can just meet at a park. December - a restaurant? Pay \$100 for space and food at a restaurant instead of church. Sunday instead of Saturday?

Program calendar: February Silent Auction, March Rainbow Obsidian presentation, \$150 fee. Paty moves we do Obsidian in March, Debbie seconded,, approved.

Show location: Tarzana Community Center - Shanna investigated, building small but grounds gorgeous. Per Debbie electric boxes all over. Have to use their table/chair rental. A couple vendors 50/50 on returning. Shanna - only 5 cases indoors. Room in dining room for cases, also some room in gazebo. No entry before 7 and need their volunteers to get in and out.

Debbie checked with VA Armory and all inside but Calif. Government so probably too many regulations. Salvation army rents out facility.

All will need assigned places, Paty and Debbie we'll check into location Debbie ok with raffle outside, PA and raffle case in front, maybe gem jar too. Parking quite small but parking nearby available.

Debbie checked place in Northridge - inside and outside, but \$150/hr - so \$2,000 out of budget.

Maureen still checking into location in Chatsworth and another on Topanga. Debbie mentioned we need to book a venue soon because dates fill up. Paty will contact Sonya to see if she's ok outside. Location is not dirt. Maybe move show hours from 10 to 4, more time to pack up. Debbie will contact location to set it up and will get table/chair rental quote. She will confirm and Paty will work up flyers and contact vendors. Food truck also.

Per BArbara - church found some of our tables under the stage. Virginia stated they were given to the church.

Website - Debbie contacted Yvonne, only in town today. Yvonne will contact John. He will set up Rock-chipper email, Paty and Debbie will work on website - Debbie hearing from people interested in meeting. John asked about payments - ACH will use club checking account.

No further business, Paty adjourned the meeting 8:30.

Celia Barnett, Secretary, Woodland Hills RockChippers

WHRC Meeting February 21, 2026
First United Methodist Church

Members in attendance: Paty Mejorado, Debbie Hirlinger, Barbara Bradbury, Gene and Lillian Berwager, John and Shanna O'Brien, Thalia Goldsworthy, Celia Barnett, Virginia Rotramel, Maureen Levitt, Larry.

The Meeting was called to Order by Paty at 7:14 following the Pledge of Allegiance.

The 2/2/26 Board meeting Minutes will be in the Newsletter.

Treasurer: Barbara stated all is in order, made some money on the raffle.

Auditor - Virginia does the books in July.

Newsletter - John has newsletter under control, will put in Gemstone of the month, rest of content up to members. Needs President's message, Minutes, Shanna will do class notices. He will do program notices. Deadline 25th of the month.

March program - Rainbow obsidian. Paty asked - regarding programs, when to send e-mails out? Wednesday prior, all agreed.

Classes/Workshops: Shanna - cancelled dichroic glass 2/14, March will be wire wrap pendant, and maybe heart earrings. Maureen passed around clay magnets - had a question about type of clay used. Discussion about fimo clay vs. ? and drying time.

Courtesy/Hospitality: Up to date per Lillian, got list from Debbie

Community outreach - Showcase in Ventura March 7-8. Showcase meeting at Thalia's Sunday 22 at 10.

Corporate Admin. - Debbie will get final 2025 numbers from Barbara for Franchise Tax Board, Fed taxes..

Insurance - Debbie received an email from Hartford Insurance directly since we don't have an agent.. Insurance \$340/ year due 6/4/26 - will handle prior to her trip.

Display - Bring items to February 22 meeting - Education for public - Rough & Ready.

Federation - Celia - Newsletter sent out, will send to John to forward to membership

Field trip - Ocean View mine in April, starts promptly at 9. Natural History trip in August.

Historian: Gene, nothing new.

Librarian - Shanna - Will begin to organize material. Will get key from Barbara to access library.

Membership - Debbie - New roster done up, new members Mike and Aurora, she is contacting unpaid members.

Club needs a new Jackalope for badge proceeds - John & Shanna will research.

Program - February Silent Auction, March Rainbow obsidian with a speaker. April - I.D. night for identifying specimens. Shanna & Thalia will organize equipment. May - ?

Show chair - Paty - Tarzana Community Center vs. church discussed - church is \$500 and \$75 for bathrooms. Outside & one day only. John likes Ventura, church unreliable. Debbie got a contact for a Tarzana church location. We will have to have a definitive answer in March. Tarzana nicer grounds but 2 hr setup and 2 hr takedown. Number of people attending discussed. Tarzana has strict guidelines. Barbara will get something in writing from the church. John advocated getting a contract. Discussion re: using new meeting room for showcases, maybe Friday setup. Everybody keep on the lookout for a new place for 2027.

New business - Paty moved subscription for Office and website through Hostwins and Microsoft Office (\$109 & \$126) be reimbursed to John, Celia seconded,, approved.

Ways & Means - Shanna graciously set up Silent Auction.

Webmaster - John - we have a mailbox that works. Can receive mail but needs to work on sending. Debbie not receiving. No new web address, will set up with Yvonne next week.

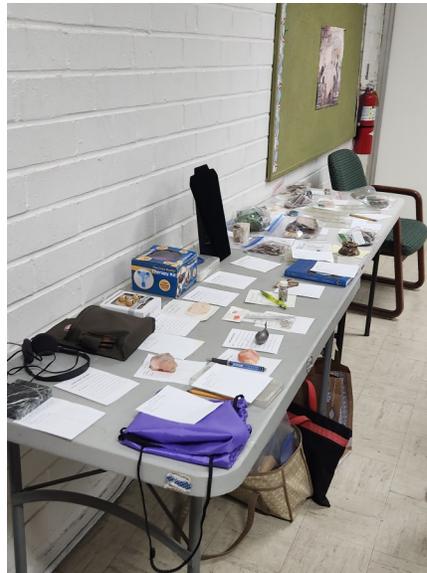
Old business - Still need storage for cases. Discussion re: members birthdates on roster for Lillian.

Debbie gave show & tell program - Trip to central California beaches - Gaviota first stop. At Orcutt received tip to go to Guadalupe - swell sand dunes. Morro Bay - no rocks on beach, King tides. At Cayuca State Beach found nephrite & serpentine. At Montana de Oro saw tennis team riding tide into inlet - brr. Got cute stones with happy faces & showed those. Got a Pismo clam at Pismo Beach. We all checked out the rocks/bone/shells she brought.

Meeting adjourned at 8:46, Silent Auction commenced. Maureen contributed quite a few swell items.

Celia Barnett, Secretary, Woodland Hills RockChippers

February Silent Auction





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	Paty Mejorado	Director At Large	Gene Berwager
Treasurer	Barbara Bradbury	Director At Large	Lillian Berwager
Secretary	Celia Barnett	Corp. Admin. V/P	Debbie Hirlinger
Directors At Large John & Shanna O'Brien (1 vote)			

Chairpersons and Appointed Positions

Auditor.....	Virginia Rotramel	Membership	Debbie Hirlinger
Bulletin Editor	John O'Brien	Outreach.....	Thalia Goldsworthy
Classes.....	Thalia Goldsworthy	Programs	Thalia Goldsworthy
Courtesy/Hospitality...	Lillian Berwager	Publicity.....	Open
Custodian.....	Open	Shop	Open
Fed Director.....	Cecelia Barnett	Club Show Chair.....	Paty Mejorado
Alt. Fed Director.....	Virginia Rotramel	Asst.Show Chair.....	Open
Field Trips.....	Paty Mejorado	Ways and Means.....	Celia Barnett
FRA.....	Thalia Goldsworthy	Webmaster-A/V.....	Open
Historian.....	Gene Berwager		
Librarian.....	Shanna O'Brien		



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