

ROCK CHIPPINGS

The Bulletin of the Woodland Hills
Rock Chippers, Inc.



Volume 67 Number 6
June 2026

Club Calendar

MONDAY June 1st

Business Meeting
on Zoom
7 PM

SATURDAY June 13th

Class
Thalia's House
Donut Pendant

SATURDAY June 20th

Society Meeting
At the Church
7:00 PM
Meeting will be in
Room 10.

Hello Dear Rock Chippers!

Where has the time gone? We are now almost halfway through the year!

In May we scheduled the Ocean View Mine Field Trip. We are very excited to visit the mine and dig for tourmalines! This field trip has been planned for a while now and we are making it happen.

For May's program we held an exciting Society meeting featuring Rock and Gem ID Part II. It was a great time. The members and guests brought very interesting material to be identified. Debbie reviewed the Hardness Test and showed us how to examine color streaks and the hardness used. We had a mystery rock presented, and while we are still in the midst of the mystery it was exciting to see the technique used on a rock.

We have the Silent Auction in June. Kindly bring the items labeled, tagged and ready for sale. These proceeds will fund the club's classes and programs. The classes department with Thalia & Shanna, is rescheduling the Dichroic Glass. Keep an eye out for the new date.

A very special thank you to Maureen for bringing her material specimens collected on various trips. We appreciate you sharing these with the club.

We have exciting events coming up this summer. Stay in touch and join our Society meeting on the third Saturday of the month. We look forward to seeing you!

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

JOIN US
SATURDAY OCTOBER 17, 2026
27TH ANNUAL SHOW
GEM SHOW

PRESENTED BY

THE WOODLAND HILLS ROCK CHIPPERS

DEALERS & DISPLAYS

RAFFLES & GAMES

SILENT AUCTION & GOLD PANNING

FREE ADMISSION & FREE PARKING

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
22700 SHERMAN WAY, WEST HILLS, CA 91307



STARTS AT 10AM - 5PM
FOR INFORMATION EMAIL:
WHRC@ROCKCHIPPERS.ORG
WWW.ROCKCHIPPERS.ORG



An educational Non-Profit Community Organization

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

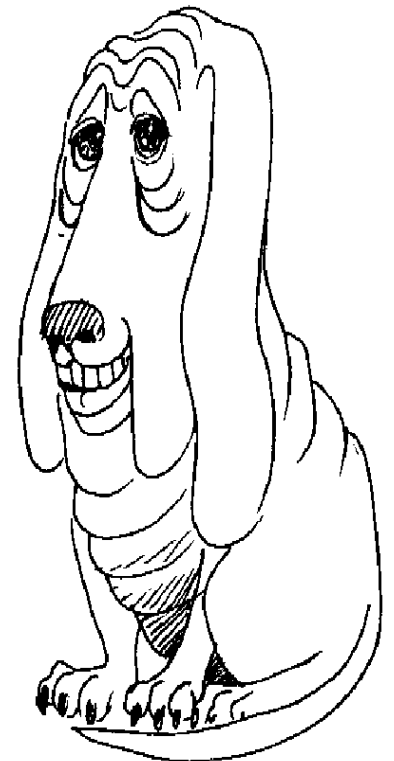
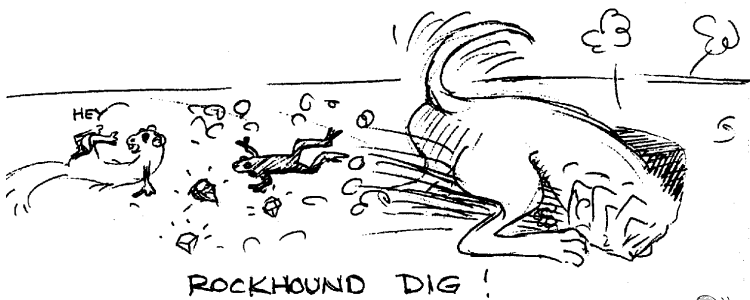
New Member Bio

My name is Aurora. My professional background lies in caregiving—helping others has always been my passion. However, I would also love to set aside some time to learn about nature; I find stones and rocks absolutely fascinating.

Learning is much more fun when you are truly engaged. For instance, observing the unique characteristics of various specimens is impressive—it allows me to recognize the inherent beauty of minerals and appreciate the world's beauty waiting for me to discover and cherish.

I'm delighted to meet with you all and eager to continue learning—specifically, to discover the unique value inherent in each distinct rock, which I will appreciate more as I gain knowledge. Thank you all for the opportunity within this group. Thank you.

Maureen's Treasures



Gemstone of the Month

The June birthstones are pearl, alexandrite and moonstone.

Pearls are organic gems that grow inside the tissue of a living saltwater or freshwater mollusk (either an oyster or a mussel). Natural pearls form when the mollusk secretes a substance called nacre around an irritant such as a piece of sand or a parasite that has invaded its shell. Cultured pearls are a product of human intervention. Technicians implant a piece of mantle tissue alone (common for freshwater cultured pearls) or with a mother-of-pearl shell bead (all saltwater) into a host mollusk. The mollusk covers the irritant with nacre, just like a natural pearl. Cultured pearls are raised in pearl farms – saltwater or freshwater operations where the mollusks are cleaned, protected from predators and eventually harvested. Thousands of years of pearl fishing have decimated the natural pearl beds, so cultured pearls account for the vast majority of pearl sales today. These cultured pearl birthstones come in a dazzling array of sizes, colors and shapes.

Moonstone is the best-known gem of the feldspar group of minerals. It is renowned for its adularescence, the light that appears to billow across a gemstone, giving it a special glow. The finest moonstones show a blue sheen against a colorless background. This June birthstone has been associated with both the Roman and Greek lunar deities. Hindu mythology claims that it is made of solidified moonbeams. Moonstone is often associated with love, passion and fertility; it is believed to bring great luck.

Alexandrite is the rare variety of the mineral chrysoberyl that changes color in different lighting. Most prized are those alexandrite birthstones that show a vivid green to bluish green in daylight or fluorescent light, and an intense red to purplish red in incandescent light. Major alexandrite deposits were first discovered in 1830 in Russia's Ural Mountains. The gem was named after the young Alexander II (1818–1881), heir apparent to the throne. Alexandrite caught the country's attention because its red and green colors mirrored the national military colors of imperial Russia.



May Class

Cancelled due to Illness

June Class

Unfortunately, we had to cancel the May class because of illness. We are looking to reschedule the Dichroic class at some later date.

For the June class, we will be making a wire weave donut pendant. There will be a \$5 class fee. There will be some supplies (wire and donuts) available for purchase and tools available for use if you do not have your own. Items to bring are; a donut (size can vary), 20 or 22 gauge wire (approx. 12 to 18 inches depending on size of donut and embellishments wanted), flat nose, round nose, or chain nose pliers, and wire cutters. The class will be at Thalia's home at 10am on June 13th. Please contact Shanna through the Rockchippers web e-mail that you would like to participate.



Showcase News



June Birthdays

Sarah



Anniversaries

None



Photos from Pala Trip



WHRC Board meeting
May 4, 2026
Via Zoom

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

Meeting called to Order by Paty at 7:15, we have a quorum.

Corporate Administrator - Debbie - Taxes are done, Secretary of State annual statement due next month - will pull the permit for the show in August.

Insurance will log into Hartford & check billing.

Membership - Debbie - got badges done by Rocky in San Jose, under budget. Has badges & certificate too for Steve Dover. Maureen contacted Mike S. re: contacts regarding meteorite. Barbara was an honoree at a Saturday event and told ladies of the club about the specimen.

Treasurer: Barbara - bank statement not received yet, received raffle money from Celia from April meeting.

Classes - Shanna - new young lady showed up for wire weave. Next class dichroic May 9. June will announce later. Maybe a doughnut wire wrap.

Minutes of March meeting in newsletter approved.

CFMS - Celia sent responses on So. Cal Lapidary camp interest forms to CFMS.

June program - Silent Auction. Maureen opened the kilns at the workshop at her house. Someone coming to get equipment. Discussion regarding Maureen's rocks.

Thalia was having trouble hearing - temporary delay.

Bulletin - John on it. Paty sent out Natural History Museum video and Aaron responded, ready for August.

Display - Shanna and John set up case for Conejo Valley. Ammonite missing but is in picture. Debbie will set up for Culver City in June. She and Shanna will coordinate getting case materials. The ammonite was an Award for being in the show, not part of the case, not missing.

Field trip 5/24/26 - Paty, maybe Barbara & Celia & Virginia. 5/31/26 instead of Memorial Day Weekend. Celia will collect donations for Museum, for the field trip. Where to stay? Cabins? Pala casino? All to research hotels and compare notes at general meeting.

Field trip meeting - only Barbara & Celia (briefly) at Maureen's. - need to check with John at CFMS what's still open - Barbara can't get through to BLM. Historian - Gene - nothing to report, will look at photos Maureen has from the club.

Librarian - Shanna - no news.

Program - Thalia's 100th birthday celebration awesome. May will be ID night, bring tools.

Black light, flashlight, magnet, cardboard to protect table. Thalia has an identifying kit.

July class - stick animal. July program - family night, September is pre-show meeting and October is post-show. November - maybe another mineral ID or trip story night with s'more's around a campfire.

Class schedule for the year requested to publicize them in newsletter

Publicity - show ads. Per Paty date confirmed and will work on more flyers. Shanna wants flyers and will deliver to libraries. Maureen will bring some to the meeting.

Refreshments for meetings? Virginia says trash has to be dumped far from room.

Ways & means - Celia - May raffle held.

Webmaster - John on it.

No more new business, no old business, no further business, Paty adjourned meeting 8:39.

Respectfully submitted, Celia Barnett, Secretary, Woodland Hills RockChippers



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-Temp. Acting...	John O'Brien
Historian.....	Gene Berwager		
Librarian.....	Shanna O'Brien		



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