

# NOC GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWS

Vol, 20 No. 2

February 2001

## President's Message

by Don Warthen

We had a small group at Quartzsite this year and we had no potluck due to the cold, wet weather but I think that everyone had a memorable time.

At the Youth Science Workshop in Hacienda Heights we also had very small turnout. Inspite of all this I think we are going to have a great show this year.

It's Feb. already and the plans for the show are coming along. We are looking for any new ideas so if you have any please let us know about them.

We have been discussing some interesting field trips this year that I think everyone will be interested in.

I hope to see everyone at the meeting Feb. 13, 2001.

## Febreuary Meeting

Date: February 13  
Time: 7:30 p.m.  
Place: La Habra Community Center  
101 W. La Habra Blvd  
Program: Irene is still negotiating for a speaker.

## Refreshments

by Oscar Veloz

Livezey's are on the refreshment list to bring goodies for our February 13 meeting.

Thanks to Don and Loretta for bringing the refreshments to the January meeting.

## NOC Club Activities

Cab Classes at Walt Messemer's — 7-10 p.m.  
every Tuesday Evening (except Wensday on  
Regular Meeting night).

Board Meeting — February 13, 6:30 p.m.

Regular Meeting — February 13, 7:30 p.m.

Field Trip — The next field trip will be to Stoddard  
Wells in March.

Deadline for NOC News — February 25

## Board Meeting

by Susan Hansen

See NOC Generaql MEETING.

### NOC DUES ARE DUE

Please send your dues: \$10 Individual; \$15  
Family; Juniors, \$3 to:

Don Livezey  
1722 Virginia Place,  
Placentia, CA 92870

## Members in the News

HAPPY BIRTHDAY and have a wonderful  
day all of you who were born in February.

*Frances Troemmler - Feb 2*

*Chalmer Steed - Feb 3*

*Clarence Pool - Feb 8*

*Zeke Wilder - Feb 9*

*Alfred Hermosillo - Feb 26*

Your gemstone is Amethyst.

Your flower is Primrose or Violet.

## Shows and Events

*via CFMS Web Page*

### **February 16-25** Indio, CA

San Gorgonio Mineral & Gem Society  
Riverside County National Date Festival  
Gem & Mineral Building  
46-350 Arabia  
Hours: 10-10 daily  
Don Grisham (909) 845-9361 or  
Bert Grisham (909) 849-1674

### **February 24-25** N. Hollywood, CA

Del Air Rockhounds, Sierra Pelona Rock Club,  
VIP Gem & Mineral, Woodland Hills Rockchippers  
San Fernando Valley Gem Fair  
Valley Plaza Recreation Center  
12240 Archwood St.  
Hours: 10-5 both days  
Julie & Oscar Marin (818) 886-7190  
E-mail [ohmarin@flash.net](mailto:ohmarin@flash.net)

### **March 3-4** Arcadia, CA

Monrovia Rockhounds  
The Arboretum of LA County  
201 North Baldwin Ave., Arcadia  
Hours: 9-4:30 both days  
Jo Anna Ritchey ((626) 359-1624

### **March 3-4** Ventura, CA

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society  
Ventura Co. Fairgrounds  
10 W. Harbor Blvd. (Seaside Park)  
Hours: Sat. 9-5 Sun. 9-4  
Richard Jiaras (805) 646-7184  
Kathryn Davis (805) 658-2606

### **March 10-11** San Marino, CA

Pasadena Lapidary Society  
San Marino Masonic Temple  
3130 Huntington Drive  
Hours: Sat. 10-6 Sun. 10-5  
Alex Sergienko (323) 258-1394

### **March 17-18** Hawthorn, CA

Northrop Grumman Gem & Mineral Club  
NGRC Clubhouse  
12329 Crenshaw Blvd., Gate 16  
Hours: Sat. 10-6 Sun 10-5  
Jimmy Lapham (310) 331-1406

### **March 24-25** Torrance, CA

South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society  
Torrance Recreation Center  
3341 Torrance Blvd.  
Hours: Fri. & Sat. 10-6 Sun. 10-5

### **March 31-April 1** La Habra, CA

NOC Gem & Mineral Society  
La Habra Clubhouse  
200 W. Greenwood  
Hours: Sat 10-6 Sun. 10-5  
Jeff Parker (562) 946-0057

### **April 7-8** Boron, CA

Mojave Mineralogical Society Inc.  
Boron High School - Multi-purpose Room  
Hours: Sat. 9-6 Sun. 9-4  
David Eyre (760) 762-6575 or  
Roy Eyre (760) 762-6555

### **May 5-6** Anaheim, CA

Searchers Gem & Mineral Society Inc.  
Brookhurst Community Center  
2271 W. Crescent Ave.  
Hours: Sat. 10-7 Sun. 10-4  
Connie Van Kampen (714) 993-2827

### **July 7-8** Culver City, CA

Culver City Rock & Mineral Club  
Culver City Veterans Memorial Complex  
4117 Overland Ave.  
Hours: Sat. 10-6 Sun. 10-5  
Gary Strickland (310) 676-4523 / [g.strickland@prodigy.net](mailto:g.strickland@prodigy.net)  
Brad Smith (310) 472-6490 / [brad@greenheart.com](mailto:brad@greenheart.com)

### **September 22-24** Downey, CA

Delters Gem & Mineral Society  
Woman's Club of Downey  
9813 Paramount Blvd.  
Hours: Sat. 10-5 Sun. 10-4

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## First Field Trip of 2001

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*by Bill and Izzie Burns*

It was decided to camp at the east side of the QIA Powwow in Quartzsite. A good choice. Ruth, the manager, was a dear. Everyone was pleased to be in walking distance of QIA, Tyson Wells, and Clouds. Don 7 bill rather Ofelia, got a great buy on geodes for the club. Don found a fossils bargain, Bill got a bag of Priddy agate nodules and I found my favorite seamstress and bought a dress and ordered two more.

Things have changed in the old town. Clouds will soon be closed there were vacant spots every where and many unhappy dealers. The New Desert Gardens has possibilities, but needs better organization. Ginny, Jerry, Walt and Joan joined us for the evening festivities. Dinner at the Desert Gardens was nice. Do to cold weather the pot luck at Sweet Darlenes was good; as was the campfire in the burns rig. Roberto found us, but had trouble with his rig and missed the dinner. Plans were made for the Super Bowl Party on Sunday at 4:00. Bill talked Ruth into supplying us electricity and I made some soup, but the cold morning, sunny afternoon, and heading for home kept the quests away. Bill and I enjoyed the game and popcorn and had lots of soup.

The next field trip will be to Stoddard Wells in March.

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## All American Awards Program

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*by Don Ogden*

The deadline for submission of entries for the year 2000 activities is February 28, 2000. We will have an entry form at the February 13 meeting.

Please bring supporting data to support this activity. We will begin assembling the support data on February 14. If you have any questions, call Jenny Grafton at (562) 865-2040 or Don Ogden at (909) 598-2456.

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## CFMS News

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*by Loretta Ogden*

I just finished reading this months issue of the CFMS Newsletter and it made me think about how important it is to make this information available to the all of you. In this months issue just a few of the things I read were how to address different sizes of news letters to protect them from the dreadful post office machines, an other area in danger of being destroyed for rock hounds and the future. A showmanship work shop will be hosted by the Reno Club and information on the worlds largest and oldest meteorite. It always contains forms needed for upcoming events and a calendar of the years shows. This particular issue contained a supplement for your rules book. This is only a sample of what this publication contains, there is much more.

I will high light the contents in my Federation Report at the meeting and it will be available at that time for you to read . You may also access the newsletter on the internet at [www.cfmsinc.org](http://www.cfmsinc.org)

I would like to encourage all of you that do not have internet access and are not one of the people in your club who receive a copy to subscribe. The value far out weighs the cost. \$5.50 a year, 50 cents an issue.

To subscribe sent a \$5.50 check with your name and address to:

CFMS Inc.  
P.O. Box 1657  
Rialto CA, 92377-1657

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## Deadline for NOC News

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*by Don Ogden*

Usually, I prepare the NOC News at Smiley Park the last weekend of the month. It's printed and mailed out down the hill on the following Tuesday.

Any articles for the newsletter must be received by Thursday before the last week end of the month.

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## NOC General Meeting

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by Susan Hansen

The meeting was **called to order** on January 9 at 7:35 by President Don Warthen.

The **flag salute** was led by Bill Burns.

**Program:** Clare Gagnon presented the program on "Carving Stones for Beginners". He is a member of the Carvers' Guild. Clare had samples of carving materials, tools, and some completed and in-process pieces. He also gave some suggestions on where carving material could be found. He also gave some tips on safety when using tools that create dust-good ventilation and wear a mask. He also had a book of sketches of animals that he uses as a source for relative shapes and proportions.

**Hospitality:** Jane Livezey reported that 23 members and 2 guests signed in. The guests were introduced – Larry Green of La Habra, and Lucille Householder of Hacienda Heights. There were cards to be signed for Zeke Wilder's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday, and get well cards for Barbara Steed and Jane Hendrixson. Chalmer reports that Barbara is doing much better after her surgery.

Don and Loretta Ogden provided refreshments for tonight. Oscar has the list, so please sign up for this year. The Livezey's volunteered for February.

Drawings were held by Pat Maggs and Ofelia Warthen. The main prize was donated by Chalmer Steed and won by Loretta Ogden. There was a secret "white elephant" prize brought in by Don Warthen. which was won by Izzie, Burns and turned out to be a singing fish skeleton on a trophy plaque.

The December meeting was the Christmas dinner and installation of new officers. There were no other minutes. The November minutes were in the December bulletin.

**Treasurers Report:** Don Livezey gave the Treasurer's report.

**Federation Report:** Loretta Ogden gave a Federation report. The All American Club entries should be submitted in April. Ginny Grafton is collecting the information so please get your activities outside the

## NOC General Meeting (Continued)

club and for the community for last year to her. We will also include club activities and how many participated at ;the La Habra Days, the cleanup day at the geode beds, donations to the community, displays in other clubs' shows. CFMS show this year will be in Paso Robles. Loretta would like us to put in a club case. To enter competition, material should be from 5 different people at least. Other club shows information is on the front table and in the bulletin. Lapidary Journal sent a subscription package where the club gets 25% of new and renewal subscriptions sent in through the club. Don Livezey has the information.

**Education:** The class/workshop at the Wedgeworth Elementary School is this coming Saturday. Don Ogden will get the club's machines. Bill Burns. will bring his. Wednesday at Walt's. They will finish the blanks for the kids to cab. The classes at Walt's will now be on Tuesdays, except for our meeting night, then it will be on Wednesday.

**Board Meeting:** At the board meeting last week at Don Warthens, we discussed possibility of a second class in La Habra or around this area. He would like us to have cases so they could see our work, also possible demonstrations for adults. Possible wire wrap for the adults to work on-simple using a crystal or polished stone. Maybe at the boys and girls club, or through the school. There was discussion of our participating in the La Habra Community Fair. We get a 10x10 space and some lighting, free. Everything has to fire retardant. We need a 100 ft. extension cord. Set up is Friday afternoon. The Fair opens 4:30 Friday, and closes Sunday. We can use Ginny's and Jerry's cover so we can zip it shut at night. We usually give out tumbled stones, not sure how many we have left, we can get more at Quartzsite.

**Field Trips:** January is to Quartzsite on 23<sup>rd</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>. Izzie and Bill Burns will stay next to QIA and have a car. Most members elected to stay in the parking lot also. For \$5 a night, it is close enough to walk to most areas. We probably can't have a campfire there, though. Some want to park outside

## NOC General Meeting (Continued)

the area in the desert, and walk or drive in. We want to plan another museum trip, it was suggested we go to the LA Natural History Museum. The San Diego trip went very well last year. We also will have another Mojave trip, to put up the poster after BLM puts up the kiosk. CFMS is trying to get an educational permit to go into Hackberry Wash, which is in a National Preserve area.

The next meeting will be for Valentines Day, our usual room is being used by another group, so we will meet in the Valle Verde room.

**2001 NOC Show:** Chairman Susan Hansen, Loretta is doing the donation awards, the first prize is \$100 in the new dollar coins. Don Ogden is doing the flyers and tickets. There is a box of 1500 flyers to give out tonight, and Loretta has the tickets to distribute. Kitchen – Oscar Veloz, with help. Jerry Conley will do a fluorescent display and demo. Jerry has plenty of material, but wants to be able to close off the area when he isn't there. The last time someone went in and left the UV lamp on. Banner – Don Ogden. and Oscar Veloz will redo the dates, Don Livezey already paid the city for putting it up. Security – Norberto will stay one night, if he is still here, Don Ogden. will stay one night. We need 2 more people.

Al Hermosillo said he would do demonstrations, Mike Maneth is doing dealers and has already got 2. Loretta has names of 2 more that want information, will get them to Mike. Don Livezey will get the truck. Meet at the warehouse at 10, others can meet them at the clubhouse to unpack and set up. Chalmer and Jerry Conley. will lay out the electric cords. Izzie Burns has a floor plan if one isn't in the storage room.

Bill Burns introduced the new American Federation President, our own Izzie Burns. Our club was well represented at her installation at the AFMS show at Moab, Utah.

Don Warthen thinks we should start wearing our vests more to club meetings and events. Ginny Grafton still has some made up, but we don't have any more material.

The meeting adjourned at 9:48pm.

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## HELPFUL HINTS

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**To Clean Brass & Copper:** Cut a lemon in half, sprinkle it with salt and rub the lemon on whatever needs to be polished. Buff with a cloth to remove excess lemon juice.

*(The Rock-A-Teer, August 2000)*

**Untried Shop Tips:** To use your silver or gold scrap take an old straw broom, wet it thoroughly (dunking it in a scrub bucket of water for awhile is good), and pour your melted scrap down among the straws. The result will be a beautiful broom straw casting, suitable for a pendant. Several can be done at once, and if some turn out less desirable than others, just melt them down and try again.

If you like nuggets of silver and gold, take some more scrap and a small pan. Place some rock salt in the bottom, pour melted scrap over the salt and as the salt melts there will be indentations similar to natural nuggets.

*Chips June/2000, via The Pegmatite 6/00, via Breccia 11/99)*

**Purple Glass:** If you wish to know if a clear glass bottle will turn purple without exposing it to desert sunlight, place it under a black light. If it fluoresces green, it will turn purple when it is exposed long to the sunlight. This is due to small amounts of manganese. Manufacturers stopped using manganese some time before the twenties, so that you know that this glass most likely was made before World War 1.

*(Pick and Pack 2/00 via others via Rock Chips 2/00, via St.Croix Rockhound's Leaverite News September 2000)*

**Adding one can of STP:** to every five gallons of cutting oil will prevent misting in your slabbing saw. *(Jim Neufeld of Manteca via Breccia 2199, via The Nugget 10/2000)*

**If soft material stick to the buff:** when polishing, try using vinegar instead of water.

*(Breccia 8/99, via The Nugget 10/2000)*

## Preliminary NOC Calendar 2001

Jan		Old and New Board Meeting
	13	Youth Science Workshop in Hacienda Heights
	9	Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. General Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
	23-28	Quartzsite AZ Field Trip
	27	SCRIBE Annual Workshop and Symposium at Wuartzsite
Feb	13	Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. Board General Meeting 7:30 p.m.
	TBD	Field Trip
Mar	13	Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. General Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
	16-18	Stoddard Wells Field Trip
	30	NOC Show Setup
	31-4/1	NOC Show
	25-4/1	ZZYZX
Apr	10	Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. General Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
	TBD	Field Trip
May	8	Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. General Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
	26-28	Field Trip (Memorial Day) TBD
Jun	12	Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. General Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
	13-15	AFMS/South Central Show in Arlington, TX
	22-24	Field Trip to CFMS Show & Convention (Paso Robles, CA)
Jul/Aug		No Meetings
Sep		Camp Paradise
	11	Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. General Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
	22-23	Field Trip TBD
Oct	9	Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. General Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
	20-21	Field Trip TBD
Nov	13	Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. General Meeting at 7:30 p.m. CFMS Business Meeting
	22-25	Field Trip (Thanksgiving) TBD
Dec	11	Annual Christmas Dinner and Officer's Installation

## Howlite

*from November 2000 MOROKS*

Howlite is named after Henry How of Nova Scotia, A chemist, geologist, and mineralogist, who found the material in that province in Canada.

Howlite is also found in abundance in California in the U.S. the most famous location is Tick Canyon, near Saugus in Los Angeles County.

Howlite is a calcium silicaborate with a somewhat variable composition. The color is generally milk-white, veined with black. The mineral generally occurs as cauliflower-shaped nodules of very fine monoclinic crystals. Some of the nodular masses may be of great size, weighing hundreds of pounds.

Howlite is usually found in conjunction with two other boron minerals:, a hydrous calcium borate, and ulexite a sodium calcium borate, which is the well-known "TV rock" whose crystals -have striking fiberoptic properties.

Howlite is often used as decorative stone, or as bookends, clock faces, bowls, etc. In spite of its softness, it polishes up nicely and makes a very attractive cabochon. Blue-Eyed howlite sometimes serves as a substitute for turquoise, but there are enough slight differences that no turquoise buyer need ever be deceived.

*Submitted by Miriam Tetreault via the Rock Bag OGMS*

## Oil Shortages

*from the AFMS Newsletter - January 2001*

There are a lot of people who can't understand how we came to have oil shortages here in the USA.

Well, there's a very simple answer...nobody bothered to check the oil.

We just didn't know we were getting low. The reason for that is purely geographical. All the oil is in Texas, Oklahoma, Alaska, etc.

All the dipsticks are in Washington, DC.

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## Sapphires

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*By Joan Abramson*

A microcosm of earth's hue  
Lies upon my outstretched hand,  
Stones encompassing the blue  
Of fruit and flowers in this land -  
Of bluebells blooming far and wide,  
Cornflower's that reflect the sky,  
Bluebonnets, source of Texans' pride,  
Blueberries ripe in jam and pie!  
Soft lavender is there and pink,  
And green of Neptune's surging seas,  
And gold of daffodils. Some think  
That only blue the eye should please,  
But minerals have joined to blend  
Such variegated vibrant tones  
That there's an extra dividend -  
The lovely differences in stones.  
Crystals formed by pressure, heat.  
Mountains shifted, rivers changed.  
Erosion made a slow retreat  
Revealing where the sapphires ranged.  
From shallow river bed or mine  
We find the gems. Some ancient streams  
Wore down the points and dulled the shine,  
But all surpass our fondest dreams.  
We shovel dirt into our screen --  
Sweat and toil must never stop!  
We wash the gravel, centering,  
And flip-the treasures lie on top!  
Then faceters enhance the beauty,  
Cutting to exact degree.  
Reaping joy beyond mere duty,  
Freeing inner quality.

### **NOC DUES ARE DUE**

Please send your dues: \$10 Individual; \$15  
Family; Juniors, \$3 to:  
Don Livezey  
1722 Virginia Place,  
Placentia, CA 92870

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## La Habra Street Fair

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*By Jane Livezey*

The "I Love La Habra Community Street Fair" is scheduled for Friday, February 9 through Sunday, February 11. This fair has been in existence for 22 years. We are very happy to be a part of this event as we have for several years.

Several blocks of La Habra Blvd. will be roped off for this exciting annual event. We set up in the non-profit area on Friday. The Graftons will bring their tent which they have set up for us the past three years. Sometime on Friday everything should be ready. The fair will not officially open until after 4:30 PM when all cars must be unloaded.

We will need lots of help over the weekend. If you can possibly spare some time one of those days it will be gratefully appreciated. We like to be part of the La Habra Community and hopefully interest adults and children in our club. I will try to contact as many as I can who were not at the last meeting.

Thank you to those who offered to help.

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## Library News

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*By Jane Livezey*

Make a point to visit our library table at the meeting in February. Our video tape collection is growing!

Ginny Grafton has provided us with a series of three WIRE WRAP JEWELRY tapes. She has used funds from her education allotment. Thanks, Ginny. Also, we now have a fiction section!

Loretta Ogden has donated two mysteries - one is "18mm Blues" which has pearl diving as its theme and another, "Pearl Cove" which deals with black pearls.

Now we need "Amber Beach" and "Jade Island". Shall I buy them for our use?

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## NOC 2001 Show

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by Susan Hansen

Oscar will be Chief Cook, if you want to work in the kitchen, there will be a sign up sheet at the February meeting. Don't forget to bring your pies, cakes or cookies for the kitchen on Friday night or Saturday Morning.

Angie and Mary will do the Krafty Korner again. They would like: canned jams and jellies (home made, of course),

plants that have had time to root.

Toys (clean if used)

Children's books

crafts items

Easter items

Any other good items that you would buy to keep.

Not junk you just want to get rid of. . .

Price the items, and indicate if you want them back if they don't sell. Bring them in to February meeting, or (preferably) bring on Friday before the show or early Saturday between 8 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.

Joan will be chief spinner at the wheel, if you want to help, sign up. We also need donations for nice rocks or crystals for prizes on the wheel.

### PRIZES ARE WANTED FOR THE SHOW.

We have the \$100 in dollar coins for the first prize. We need other prizes for the hourly drawings. Rock or hobby related preferred. You can bring them in to the February meeting, or Friday night before the show, but we need to plan the display so it would help to have them earlier. Please sell the tickets, we have more for you to get for yourself that weekend.

Thanks ahead for your generosity and hard work.

We will have more flyers at the February meeting. And more tickets if you need them.

Jerry Conley will have his fluorescent mineral display/demonstration in the side room. We will need to monitor the doors and keep people out when he

isn't there to demonstrate the equipment.

We have Norberto (if he is here) and Don Ogden as security for 1 night each, we need 2 more for the other night. Please let Susan or Don Ogden know if you can help. We also need members to "walk" security during the show. The dealers appreciate our keeping an eye on things by just walking around and watching for problems.

Chalmer Steed and Jerry Conley will do the electrical set up. If you can help with set up, and skirting the tables, etc., on Friday, sign up at the February meeting.

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## We Are Going to Have an Obsidian Bonanza

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By Richard Pankey, Field Trips - North  
via CFMS Website

Two premier obsidian-collecting areas are within a one-day drive of each other and I will lead a field trip to them next July! The first is the Davis Creek/Lassen Creek area in the far northeast corner of California. The other is Glass Butte in south central Oregon. Both areas have an abundance of many types of premium cutting and polishing material.

Many colors and types of obsidian can be found - rainbow, silver sheen, royal purple, gold sheen, pink, electric blue, green sheen, and mahogany gold sheen. There is double flow mahogany, red, midnight lace, flame and iris. And to me the most interesting is the needle obsidian. Although obsidian can be found in many areas, the material at these locations is probably the highest quality and the greatest variety to be found anywhere. Two great collecting areas. Two great rockhound weekends. And less than 200 miles apart.

Please notify Dick Pankey by 7/2/01 if you plan to attend, call if you have questions or need more information:

Dick Pankey Ph. (925) 439-7509

4310 Kingsly Dr. Pittsburg, CA 94565

E-mail: dickpankey@juno.com

(Loretta has the forms.)