

# NOC GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWS

Vol. 32 No, 10

December 2013

## President's Message

*by Nancy Bird*

Hi All

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving, and if I don't see you at our Awards Banquet, have a great holiday, what ever it may be. And I hope your New Year will be blessed.

If you go on any field trips, please pick up extra rocks for the grab bags we will be making, probably in April or May. So you have plenty of time to fill buckets of rock for grab bags and to start collecting for the Silent Auction at our show.

Next year we will again be at the La Habra Citrus Fair, being held April 12 & 13. We have made our reservations and will be getting the same great spot back by the Historical Museum, where we have electricity in order to cut geodes. They are calling it Back to the Farm and they want plants, so I've started them already. Please be on the lookout for nice clay pots like I use for the bigger succulent gardens-garage sales, etc.

The next Board Meeting, Jan. 21, will be combined with a Show Meeting, at 7 p.m. One new possible vendor to replace Amargosa (who is unable to make it) will be Zuni Pueblo Fetish Carvers. I am on their facebook page and I just threw it out there, and it's possible they would come. This would be something totally unique to the gem shows. Also, Walt Wright has agreed to fill our extra large case at the entrance. Both of these would be great publicity for the show. And I will be speaking with the Youth Committee about running the Spinning Wheel and the Kid's Room. And I'm pretty sure the Route 66 gold panners will be outside by the geodes this time, as I've already spoken with them.

Rock On, Nancy Bird

## NOC Club Activities

Board Meeting - 6 p.m. 3rd Tues. at La Habra Community Center (none in Jul & Aug)

*Next Board and Show Meeting - Jan 21 at 7 p.m.*

Field Trips - January - Quartzsite

## Programs

Dec. 10 - Holiday Dinner Portofino restaurant  
6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

For Operation Santa, please bring a new toy or gift certificate for children

## Refreshments

Thanks to Armando Pedroza, Heather Bates, Nancy Bird, and Nancy & Richard O'Conner for bringing the goodies to the November meeting.

## Members in the News

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

Members in the news in December:

Janine Arp	Linda Chu
Ray Cooley	Wendy Erskine
Natividad Farquer	Pat Mogan
Richard O'Conner	Jerry Turner
Kathleen Turner	Kathy Valle
Barbara Woolfok	

Your gemstone is Turquoise

Your flower is Holly or Narcissus

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## Shows and Events

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- December 13 - 15: SAN BERNARDINO, CA

Orange Belt Mineralogical Society  
Western Regional Little League Ball Park  
6707 Little League Drive  
Hours: 9 am to Dusk daily  
Contact: Ken, (909) 381-0089

Email: [kengard@roadrunner.com](mailto:kengard@roadrunner.com)

Website: <http://OBMSrocks.yolasite.com>

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### February 15 - 24: INDIO, CA

San Gorgonio Mineral & Gem Society, Banning  
Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival  
46350 Arabia Street  
Hours: 10 - 10 daily  
Contact: Bert Grisham, (915) 849-1674, (951)  
288-9025 cell

Email: [bert67@verizon.net](mailto:bert67@verizon.net)

### March 1 - 2: ARCADIA, CA

Monrovia Rockhounds  
Los Angeles Arboretum & Botanic Gardens  
301 Baldwin Avenue  
Hours: 9:00 - 4:30 daily  
Contact: Jo Anna Ritchey, (626) 359-1624

Email: [joannaritchey@gmail.com](mailto:joannaritchey@gmail.com)

Website: [www.Moroks.com](http://www.Moroks.com)

### March 1 - 2: VENTURA, CA

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society  
Ventura County Fairgrounds  
10 W. Harbor Blvd.  
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4  
Contact: Krishna Juarez, (805) 323-6725

Email: [abaris2007@gmail.com](mailto:abaris2007@gmail.com)

### March 8 - 9: SAN MARINO, CA

Pasadena Lapidary Society  
San Marino Masonic Center  
3130 Huntington Drive  
Hours: Sat 10 - 6, Sun 10 - 5  
Contact: Marcia Goetz, (626) 260-7239

Email: [joenmar1@verizon.net](mailto:joenmar1@verizon.net)

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## NOC General Meeting Minutes La Habra Community Center November 12, 2013

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*by Teri Heuer*

The flag salute.

Guest introduced, and the silent auction began.

Armando Pedroza , Heather Bates, Nancy Bird, and Nancy & Richard O'Conner brought the refreshments. Teri read the minutes minutes stand as read.

Treasurers report by Don Warthen were accepted. Committee reports field trips Whittier claim success they collected many specimens the next field trip Thanksgiving weekend at Afton Canyon NOC & Pasadena go out to Wiley Wells. Federation director report given by Teri which was about the federation directors meeting in Visalia. It was fun and full of information. Nancy Bird through the education sharing created the junior rockhound of the year award.

Membership- We are going to have a booth at the Pomona Federation show and we will be handing out information packets to prospective members. Education committee the last class will be held on November 26, 2013 the cost is \$25 the class is being taught by Clyeda and the project will be painting snow angels and snowman's on rocks. Zzzyck is full in the bunkhouse for next spring If you have an RV then you can still make arrangements to go there.

Armando cut geodes at the opal show he raised over \$400 for the club. Frank and Heather stated that they would like to join the scholarship committee.

Nancy Bird brought up the subject of our holiday dinner at Portofino restaurant in that we will be having the operation Santa gift giving again so each of the members attending the dinner shall bring a new toy or a gift certificates for children.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 p.m..

## View from the Big Four Bridge

by Don Ogden

The **Big Four Bridge** is a six-span (2,525 feet) former railroad truss bridge. It crosses the Ohio River between Louisville, Kentucky, and Jeffersonville, Indiana.

It was built in 1865, updated in 1929, rail traffic removed in 1969, and converted to a pedestrian and bicycle walkway in 2013.

Construction of the original bridge began in 1865, and the bridge was completed in 1895.

In 1895, before it was opened, the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago, and St. Louis Railway Companies (Big Four) took over the bridge to obtain access to Louisville.

After the transition of steam-powered to diesel-powered engines, the bridge was no longer able to support heavier loads. It was shut down to all heavy traffic in 1923.

In 1928-29, a new bridge was being built inside the original bridge using the original piers (an unusual engineering solution).

In 1929, the Big Four Bridge was completed in a remarkably short time. It would be free from the bad fortune attached to the original structure.

The original bridge had a full-size rail track next to a smaller track for interurban trains. On both sides of the tracks were six-foot-wide walking paths for pedestrians.

The new Big Four Bridge was built with only a single track and it, and all the bridge's superstructure, fit neatly within the old span.

When the new bridge was complete, the old bridge surrounding it was removed, and the modern Big Four Bridge emerged like a chick from an egg.

The bridge fell into disuse in the late 1960s.

In 1969, the ICC (Interstate Commerce Commission) declared the bridge "abandoned".

The Kentucky and Indiana approaches to the bridge were removed in 1974.

The bridge was reclaimed as a pedestrian/bicycle path in 2013. It now has three paths, a bicycle path in the center, and a pedestrian path on each side.



**Big Four Bridge**



**View From The Bridge**



**Indiana to Kentucky  
Lane**

**Bicycle Lane**

**Kentucky to Indiana  
Lane**



**View of Louisville Kentucky From The Bridge**



**View Through The Fence to Indiana (Lanes Under Construction)**



**View of Jeffersonville Indiana From The Bridge**

# Knapping - Leavenworth, Indiana

