

# Bulletin of the Mineralogical Society of Southern California

Volume 87 Number 1 - January, 2014

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*The 905<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Mineralogical Society of Southern California*

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*With Knowledge Comes Appreciation*

## **MSSC Banquet** **Saturday, January 18, 2014**

**Social Hour 5:30 pm: Dinner 6:30 pm: Speaker 7:30 pm**  
**Oak Tree Room (next to Coco's)**  
**1150 West Colorado Boulevard**  
**Arcadia, CA 91007**

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**Remember:** If you change your email or street address, you must let the MSSC Editor and Treasurer know or we cannot guarantee receipt of future Bulletins

***MSSC/Gem & Mineral Council Banquet Saturday, January 18, 2014***

This Banquet & Meeting will be held jointly by MSSC and the Natural History Museum Gem and Mineral Council.

The cost of the Banquet is \$37.00 per person.

**Make your reservation with Jim Kusely ([treasurer@mineralsocal.org](mailto:treasurer@mineralsocal.org)).**

For those of you without email, call Jim at **818.240.7022** to make your reservation.

There is limited seating as the NHM Gem & Mineral Council is joining us.

It would be a shame to miss this event because you delayed making that reservation.

**Special Note:** If you made a reservation and circumstances change where you or your guests cannot attend, please notify Jim Kusely before Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Thereafter you will be responsible for paying \$37.00 for each individual reservation regardless of attendance.

MSSC members: If you haven't already done so, please plan to pay your membership dues at the same time. Dues are officially due 1/1/2013.

The speaker this year is **Nathan Renfro**, Lead Analytical Specialist, Identification Services, GIA Gem Laboratory, Gemological Institute of America (GIA).

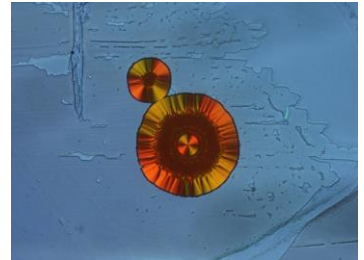
His talk is: **"The Micro Art of Gems,"** blending the science and the art of inclusions in gemstones.

***Items for the Silent Auction are always needed. What is gathering dust in your home may be a treasure in someone else's home.***

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**About the Program:**

**"The Micro Art of Gems,"** Presented by Nathan Renfro: Lead Analytical Specialist, Identification Services, GIA Gem Laboratory, Gemological Institute of America (GIA)  
Gems are appreciated for their intrinsic beauty, however there is an often unseen side of their beauty which is revealed through the microscope. Bright colors and geometric patterns observed under magnification are easily appreciated as natural art. This lecture will explore a wide range of gem materials to showcase the micro art of gems from the perspective of the microscope. Striking internal features and interesting surface textures will be sure to appeal anyone interested in minerals.



\*\*\*\*\*

**From the Editor:**

Here we are starting another year...Where has the time gone!

I went back to see what I wrote last year at this time. While I haven't been able to do everything I had hoped to do in the bulletin, we have seen quite a few things..a new format for the bulletin, the "Mineral of the Month", and "Member Articles" (Thank you all so much). Where do we go from here?

From the feedback I have received, everyone enjoys the contributions from our members and I encourage you to consider what you have done, know about or where you have been that may be of interest to our other members. We all want to hear from you!

Would you like to author a recurring column for the bulletin? Perhaps an occasional column on Micro minerals or if you are a field collector, how about taking on a monthly location/field trip column? Volunteers are always welcomed!

Our members can help make this a better bulletin for everyone! Sincerely, Linda Elsnau, Editor

\*\*\*\*\*

**MEANDERINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT** by Ann Meister

**\*\*\* HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE \*\*\***

Three important events this month: Dues are due, if you haven't yet paid, contact Treasurer Jim Kusely; our Annual Banquet is coming up on January 18th, 2014 at the Oak Tree Room; and ending the month is the Pacific Micromount Conference on January 31 and February 1. I hope to see many of you at both events.

The banquet is intended as a festive occasion to install the Society's newly-elected officers. The officers for 2014 are all "re-treads" so let's just have fun, enjoy the fellowship and the program, "The Micro Art of Gems". We need **items for the**

**silent auction.** Please help by donating your minerals, books, mining artifacts, jewelry, show posters and memorabilia, and other items of mineralogical, geological, or gemological interest.

Or, in the theme of our program, how about an art donation? Mineral illustration was important for documenting specimens before photography. Now mineral and mining art are featured on the Mineralogical Record website's "Museum of Art." Minerals and crystals have become an inspiration for artists, both naturalists and impressionists. One artist and illustrator that the Min Record has missed is MSSC member Katherine Foster Clarke, who I remember as a tall, slender and serene woman. She is listed in *Artists in California 1786-1940* by Edan Houges. I found some of her desert landscapes on-line at eBay and other art sites as well as the book *The Rough and the Righteous of the Kern River Diggins* by Ardis Manly Walker where Katherine F. Clarke is listed as the illustrator.

Katherine Foster Clarke was born in Honolulu, Hawaii on Sept. 6, 1896. She grew up in Chicago and began her art studies there in 1908 at the Art Institute. While at that school she met her husband-to-be, Marquis D. Clarke. She further studied in Paris before settling in Pasadena in the late 1930s. During WWII she did weather maps at California Institute of Technology. The crystals she observed in the geology department became her painting forte. After the war she taught art for 30 years at Adult Education Center at Pasadena City College and in other public schools. She died there on Dec. 13, 1990. Her works were exhibited in Dallas, TX in 1959, Women Painters of The West (Ojai 1959), Pasadena Society of Artists, and at the Gallery 8 in Pasadena.

Katherine donated several paintings of minerals to MSSC and they have been residing at the Meister household for many years. I don't know when they were painted and there is no date by the signature "Katherine F. Clarke." Two framed oils on masonite(?) will be offered at the auction.

Benitoite and Neptunite, titled verso, "*Blue Forms in Snow*" (image size 19" x 23") and  
Malachite and Azurite, titled verso, "*Pseudomorphic Jungle*" (image size 24" x 30")

There are several more unframed works that will be offered in the future. Katherine has left a legacy to support MSSC. I hope you enjoy her work and add to our coffers. And I look forward to seeing you all at the banquet.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **MINUTES of the December 13th, 2013 Meeting**

The 904<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Mineralogical Society of Southern California (MSSC) was held on Friday, December 13, 2013 at Geology Building of Pasadena City College. The meeting was called to order by President, Ann Meister at 7:30 p.m.

### **Regular Business**

- Committee Reports: JoAnna Ritchey reported on California Federation Mineralogical Society (CFMS) meeting held recently. CFMS' show will be held May 30, 31 and June 1, 2014;
- Discussion regarding MSSC's show cases and the need for inventory;
- Discussion to promote Federation group clubs;
- There will be a 1<sup>st</sup> quarter Board of Directors meeting, details to be announced;
- Our new Program Chair is Rudy Lopez. Please help by providing names of potential speakers, videos, etc. Rudy reports that he has some lined up through February '14;
- Treasurer Jim Kusely announced that membership dues are now due and Editor Linda Elsnau stated that there will be a dues form in the next bulletin;
- Jim also asked for volunteers to assist at the January 18, 2014 Installation Banquet (for check-in and auction areas);
- President Ann Meister announced that donations are needed for the Banquet's Silent Auction;
- Banquet speaker will be Nathan Renfro of GIA who will speak on Micro Art of Gems;
- Pacific Micromount Conference will be held at the San Bernardino County Museum on Friday, January 31, 2014 through Sunday, February 2, 2014 (field trip day). [Registration on-site will start at 3:00pm Friday with Pot Luck Buffet Dinner beginning at 6:00pm, "Fluorite Fantasies" following at 7:00pm and informative talks and presentations continuing through Saturday. Refer to the 49<sup>th</sup> Pacific Micromount Conference registration flyer for full details];
- Monrovia Rockhounds is having their 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Gem and Mineral Show at the L A Arboretum and Botanical Garden on March 1 and 2, 2014;
- Huntington Show is coming up soon: December 26, 2013 through January 2, 2014 featuring very special Japanese stones;
- Show and Tell: Jewel Tunnel Imports (JTI) had their special open house November 16, 2013 where MSSC members Fred Elsnau and others were delighted to view, search and purchase interesting specimens. (Thanks to Rock for again hosting a great event!);
- President Ann Meister got new specimens for door prizes – will bring them next time.

### **Program**

Meeting was turned over to Bruce Carter who introduced our presenter, Charles Carmona. Charlie is a master gemologist, well traveled throughout the world and will speak on gems of Tanzania.

Charles Carmona began by letting us know that he has been to Tanzania four times this year! He is commissioned and committed to the Tanzania Gemological Center (an 18 month project) in Arusha, Tanzania. The "Gem Center" is a school that will teach gem cutting, carving, gemology and jewelry making. The classes will be 3 to 4 months each. There will be classes with specific initiative for women due to the scarcity of women gem cutters and carvers. At the completion of their course, a Certificate of Authenticity will be awarded to the gem cutters students. The Director for the school is East African renowned geologist Mussa Shanyangi. Mr. Shanyangi, also a gemologist from GIA Thailand, is a graduate from University of Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania.

As for gems themselves, specifically, Tanzanite, the Tanzanite One Company is generally the predominant mining operation in the world's only known Tanzanite deposit. The company sells approximately two-thirds of Tanzanite to the world. The deposit is sorted into four areas, A, B, C and D. A, B and D are very rugged and primitive, but C is the more modern, sophisticated mining operation of the four. The entire deposit area can probably be productively mined for another 20 years before depletion. There are, however, hundreds of small, independent mining individuals who mine quality output suitable for sale to collectors and brokers. These independents sell the remaining one-third Tanzanite to the world.

Charlie also spoke of Tsavorite (green garnet) and other gems, such as sapphires, from the rich Umba Valley. He also told about other zoisites including the stunning trichoric Tanzanite whose optic axis can be blue or violet. Generally, Tanzanite is brown when extracted from the ground, but when heat (approx 600 degrees) is applied, the blue/violet is evident and desirable.

Exporting from East Africa is restrictive to certain weights and other parameters. Tanzanian law states that gems over 1 gram in weight rough cannot be exported in that form/weight. They must be adhered to regulations before export. In the past, many of the gems were delivered to India to be cut and carved because Tanzania had next to no one with the skill required to perform the task, hence, the need for the school. It is expected that Tanzania will "graduate" quality gem cutters, carvers and jewelry makers enough so the gems will not have to be outsourced. In that way, the school will contribute to Tanzania's economy and employment.

Charlie was kind enough to take a Q & A session and provided interesting and insightful information on East African gems. Charlie's photo displays were from [FieldGemology.org](http://FieldGemology.org) and his maps were from Peter Keller's "Gemstones of East Africa". Thanks, Charlie. Great presentation!

**Drawing:** The drawing was won by Rudy Lopez, our new Program Chair!

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m. Refreshments were served at the social afterward.

Respectfully submitted, Angie Guzman, Secretary

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**Your MSSC Membership Renewal forms are now due! *DUES ARE DUE!***

Your 2014 MSSC Membership renewal form is attached.

Remember, if you are requesting **USPS** delivery of your monthly bulletin, **you MUST include the additional \$20.00 with your regular Membership dues.** Unless specifically requested and paid for, all bulletins are now delivered via e-mail. On that note, don't forget to include your e-mail address!

Also, since your full Postal Zip code, including the last 4 digits, is now required by the CFMS, please be sure to show your full "Zip+4" Zip Code.

Complete the form and send it, with all necessary payments, to our Treasurer, Jim Kusely at the address on the bottom of the form. If you will be attending the Annual Banquet, save a stamp and deliver your renewal to Jim in person!

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**The Mineralogical Society of Southern California** Proudly Presents the 49th Pacific Micromount Conference on **January 31 and February 1, 2014** at the **San Bernardino County Museum;** 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands, CA (located just north of the 10 Freeway, at 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands, California. Take California Street exit and go north to Orange Tree Lane, then turn right to the Museum Entrance.)

**Registration Fee is \$15.00 before Conference, \$20.00 at door.**

(Your Conference Registration Form is included later in this bulletin)

**Friday, January 31**

3:00-6:00 PM On-site Registration, greeting friends and microscope time, Sales Tables open



6:00-7:00 Famous Potluck Buffet Dinner: For the Potluck –Please bring an hors d’oeuvre, salad, hot dish, dessert, etc.

7:00-8:00 PM Herwig Pelckmans: “Fluorite Fantasies”

Contributed Talks and Member Photos

**Saturday, February 1**

8:00-9:00 AM Doors Open, On-site Registration. Setting up scopes, filling “Give-Away”, Sales Tables, and greeting friends.

10:00 AM Welcome, Introductions and Special Announcements.

10:15 AM – Joe Marty: “My Favorite Microminerals---Self-collected, Trades & Purchases”

12:00 PM -- Lunch. Subway sandwiches served at Museum. (No cost to attendees)

1:30 PM -- Verbal Auction, followed by silent auction of member donated materials.

3:15 PM – Paul Adams: “Some Other Micromineral Localities in San Bernardino County, California”

6:00 PM -- Buffet Dinner Served at Museum. Cost is \$5.00. Advance dinner reservations necessary, -- see the Registration Form

7:00 PM Contributed Talks and Member Photos

**Sunday, February 2**

Field Trip to a site to be determined

**Conference Guidelines**

Now is a very good time to make your advance registration for the 2014 Pacific Micromount Conference.

Registration: Please provide the names and home towns of all members of your party. We like to have a name-tag waiting for everyone. In addition to Conference registration, you will need to make a reservation if you plan to attend the delicious Saturday evening buffet dinner.

**Nearby Motels :**

**Redlands Motor Lodge**, 1151 Arizona St., Redlands (Alabama off-ramp) 909-798-2432

**Good Nite Inn**, 1675 Industrial Park Ave., (Redlands (Alabama off-ramp) 909-793-3723

**Starlight Motel**, 1371 W. Redlands Blvd., (Alabama or Tennessee off-ramp) 909-792-3333

**Super 8**, 1160 Arizona St., Redlands Redlands (Alabama off-ramp) 909-335-1612

Also, if you have an RV, a trailer, or van and are self-contained, you may camp at the outer edge of the Museum parking lot. Quite a few do this, and you will not be alone. (Use the Registration form to let us know)

\*\*\*\*\*

**Featured Mineral: Anglesite**

**Formula:** PbSO<sub>4</sub> **Crystal System:** Orthorhombic

**Name:** Named in 1832 by Francois Sulpice Beudant for the type locality, Parys Mine on the Island of Anglesey (Ynys Môn) in Wales, U.K.



*irocks.com photo*

**Anglesite**

**Locality:** Touissit, Touissit District, Oujda-Angad Province, Oriental Region, Morocco

5.8 cm x 5 cm x 4.3 cm



*irocks.com photo*

**Anglesite**

**Locality:** Monteponi Mine, Iglesias, Carbonia-Iglesias Province, Sardinia, Italy

5 cm x 3.1 cm x 1.6 cm



*irocks.com photo*

**Anglesite**

**Locality:** Tsumeb Mine (Tsumcorp Mine), Tsumeb, Otjikoto Region (Oshikoto), Namibia

6 cm x 2 cm x 0.7 cm

**Ride Share Listing**

**Can You Provide A Ride?      Would You Like Company On The Drive To Meetings?**

Looking for	Who	Where	Contact at
A ride	Richard Stamberg	North Orange County, near Cal State Fullerton	714-524-3577 Please leave a message
A ride	Catherine Govaller	San Bernardino, CA	cgovaller@msn.com

We have heard from several of our members that they would like to ride-share with someone to the meetings. We will list the names, general location and either a phone number or an email address of anyone who would like to connect for a ride-share. If you would like to catch a ride or would like company for the trip, let me know at [msscbulletin@earthlink.net](mailto:msscbulletin@earthlink.net) and I'll put the information in this section of the bulletin. After that, any final arrangements made are up to you. Also, If you make a connection that works for you, let me know so that I can remove your information from the bulletin.      The Editor

<b>MSSC Advertisement Policy:</b>			
Mineral-related ads are allowable in the MSSC bulletin. Below is the price per month			
	Business Card	\$5.00	
	1/3 page	\$10.00	
	1/2 page	\$20.00	
	Full Page	\$35.00	
In addition, any advertiser who purchases 12 months of space in advance will receive a discount of 12 months for the price of 10 months. The copy for the ads should be mailed to the editor at <a href="mailto:bulletin@mineralsocal.org">bulletin@mineralsocal.org</a> and the payment should be sent to the <b>MSSC Treasurer 1855 Idlewood Road, Glendale, CA 91202</b>			

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**Calendar of Events:**

Only local area shows are listed here. Other CFMS Club shows can be found at: <http://www.cfmsinc.org/>

**JANUARY 2014**

There are no shows listed for January

**FEBRUARY 2014**

**February 15 - 24: INDIO, CA**

San Gorgonio Mineral & Gem Society, Banning  
Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival  
46350 Arabia Street  
Hours: 10 - 10 daily

**February 21 - 23: NEWARK, CA**

Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley  
Newark Pavilion  
6430 Thornton Avenue  
Hours: Fri & Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5  
Website: [www.mgsev.org](http://www.mgsev.org)

**MARCH 2014**

**March 1 - 2: ARCADIA, CA**

Monrovia Rockhounds  
Los Angeles Arboretum & Botanic Gardens  
301 Baldwin Avenue  
Hours: 9:00 - 4:30 daily  
Website: [www.Moroks.com](http://www.Moroks.com)

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

Pasadena Lapidary Society  
San Marino Masonic Center  
3130 Huntington Drive  
Hours: Sat 10 - 6, Sun 10 - 5

**March 1 - 2: VENTURA, CA**

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society  
Ventura County Fairgrounds  
10 W. Harbor Blvd.  
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4  
Website: [www.vgms.org](http://www.vgms.org)

**March 29 - 30: TORRANCE, CA**

South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society, Torrance  
Ken Miller Recreation Center  
3341 Torrance Blvd (entrance on Madrona Ave)  
Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4  
Website: [www.palosverdes.com/sblap](http://www.palosverdes.com/sblap)

2014 MSSC Officers:

<b>OFFICERS</b>		
President	Ann Meister	<a href="mailto:president@mineralsocal.org">president@mineralsocal.org</a>
Vice President	George Rossman	<a href="mailto:vicepresident@mineralsocal.org">vicepresident@mineralsocal.org</a>
Secretary	Angie Guzman	<a href="mailto:secretary@mineralsocal.org">secretary@mineralsocal.org</a>
Treasurer*	Jim Kusely *	<a href="mailto:treasurer@mineralsocal.org">treasurer@mineralsocal.org</a>
CFMS Director	Jo Anna Ritchey	
Past President	Geoffrey Caplette	
<b>DIRECTORS</b>		
2013--2014	Bruce Carter	
2013--2014	Bob Housley	
2013--2014	Leslie Ogg	
2014-2015	Pat Caplette	
2014-2015	Pat Stevens	
<b>COMMITTEE CHAIRS</b>		
Bulletin Editor	Linda Elsna	<a href="mailto:bulletin@mineralsocal.org">bulletin@mineralsocal.org</a>
Hospitality	Laura Davis	
Membership	Jim Kusely	<a href="mailto:treasurer@mineralsocal.org">treasurer@mineralsocal.org</a>
Micro Mount Conf. Chairman	Al Wilkins	
Program and Education	Rudy Lopez	<a href="mailto:programs@mineralsocal.org">programs@mineralsocal.org</a>
Publicity	Linda Elsna	<a href="mailto:bulletin@mineralsocal.org">bulletin@mineralsocal.org</a>
Webmaster	Leslie Ogg	<a href="mailto:webmaster@mineralsocal.org">webmaster@mineralsocal.org</a>
* Treasurer	Jim Kusely –proviso due to surgery, mid-year, Ahni Dodge and Laura Davis to assist while Jim convalesces	

**About the Mineralogical Society of Southern California**

Organized in 1931, the Mineralogical Society of Southern California, Inc. is the oldest mineralogical society in the western United States. The MSSC is a member of the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies, and is dedicated to the dissemination of general knowledge of the mineralogical and related earth sciences through the study of mineral specimens. The MSSC is a scientific non-profit organization that actively supports the geology department at Pasadena City College, Pasadena, California. Support is also given to the Los Angeles and San Bernardino County Museums of Natural History. The Bulletin of the Mineralogical Society of Southern California is the official publication of the Mineralogical Society of Southern California, Inc.

The MSSC meetings are usually held the second Friday of each month, January, February and August excepted, at 7:30 p.m. in Building E, Room 220, Pasadena City College, 1570 E Colorado Boulevard, Pasadena, California. The annual Installation Banquet is held in January, and the annual Picnic and Swap Meeting is held in August. Due to PCC holidays, meetings may vary. Check the Society website for details.

The Society also sponsors the annual Pacific Micro mount Symposium held at the San Bernardino County Natural History Museum during the last weekend of January.

Annual Membership dues for the MSSC are \$20.00 for an individual membership, \$30.00 for a family membership. The Society's contact information:

**Mineralogical Society of Southern California**

**1855 Idlewood Rd.,**

**Glendale, CA 91202-1053**

**E-mail:** [treasurer@mineralsocal.org](mailto:treasurer@mineralsocal.org)

**Web:** <http://www.mineralsocal.org> **The Mineralogical Society of California, Inc.**

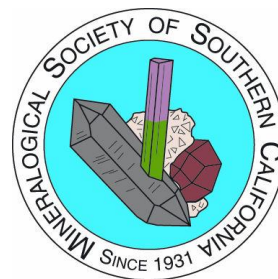
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MSSC Bulletin Editor  
3630 Encinal Ave.  
Glendale, CA 91214-2415

To:



**With Knowledge Comes Appreciation**

**West Coast  
GEM & MINERAL SHOW - SPRING  
MAY 16 - 18, 2014**

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