



Bulletin of the Mineralogical Society of Southern California

Volume 98 Number 1 –January 2025

The 1,034th meeting of the Mineralogical Society of Southern California

With Knowledge Comes Appreciation

A ZOOM Meeting January 10, 2025, at 7:30 P.M.

Program: “From Gold to Lead: the Mineral Riches of Leadhills-Wanlockhead Mining District, Scotland” Presented by Dr. Nathalie Brandes

In this Issue:

<i>TITLE</i>	<i>Page</i>
<i>Program: “From Gold to Lead: the Mineral Riches of Leadhills-Wanlockhead Mining District, Scotland” Presented by Dr. Nathalie Brandes</i>	2
<i>From the Editor: Linda Elsnau</i>	3
<i>From Our President: Angela Guzman</i>	3
<i>Dues are Due</i>	6
<i>Minutes of the December 13, 2024, ZOOM Meeting</i>	6
<i>List of Upcoming MSSC Events</i>	10
<i>Notice: CFMS Dues / Tucson Gem & Mineral Show</i>	10
<i>MSSC Annual Banque & Silent Auction</i>	11
<i>2025 Pacific Micro-Mineral Conference</i>	12
<i>Other Free Things to Do...by Ann Meister</i>	12
<i>Calendar of Events</i>	13
<i>2025 MSSC Membership Form</i>	14
<i>2025 Officers</i>	15
<i>About MSSC</i>	15

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

Program: “From Gold to Lead: the Mineral Riches of Leadhills-Wanlockhead Mining District, Scotland” Presented by Dr. Nathalie Brandes

Leadhills and Wanlockhead, straddle the border of South Lanarkshire and Dumfries and Galloway on the north slope of the Lowther Hills. The rugged hills reveal piles of waste rock, adits and shafts, and deep gullies of 500-year-old hushes from the area’s long mining history.



Leadhills–Wanlockhead is the largest and most productive lead-zinc deposit in Scotland. About 70 veins occur in an 8 km² area. Ore veins are hosted by the intensely fractured and faulted Portpatrick Formation and are confined to an area between the Leadhills Fault to the northwest and the Fardingmullach Fault to the southeast.

Typical veins include the ore minerals galena, sphalerite, and chalcopyrite with the gangue minerals ankerite, calcite, dolomite, quartz, barite, and pyrite. The upper parts of the veins are oxidised, which has created numerous interesting oxidation minerals. In addition, interesting minerals can be found in slag heaps. Overall, 108 different minerals have been identified at Leadhills–Wanlockhead and it is the type locality of ten minerals: caledonite, chenite, lanarkite, leadhillite, macphersonite, mattheddleite, plattnerite, plumbonacrite, scotlandite, and susanite. The area also hosts alluvial gold deposits.

Mining became a major activity in the area in the sixteenth century. While lead mining was occurring, much of the focus was on the alluvial gold that had been discovered. Leadhills–Wanlockhead became an important source of gold for coinage during the reigns of James V and Mary, Queen of Scots. The gold was also used to make crowns and regalia for the Scottish monarchs. In 1620, George Bowes was using hushing in an attempt to find the source of the gold, but instead found rich lead veins. This ended the interest in gold and increased the extraction of lead.

Lead production reached a peak during the Napoleonic Wars when the Leadhills–Wanlockhead mines accounted for 90% of the total lead and zinc production in Scotland before suffering a serious decline. Mining continued throughout the nineteenth century and experienced a



short-lived revival with significant production in the early twentieth century. The last mine closed in 1934, the district having produced an estimated 270,000 tonnes of lead ore, 13,800 tonnes sphalerite, and 23 tonnes silver.

The mines are silent and abandoned now, but the moors around Leadhills–Wanlockhead hold a long history for visitors to discover. Deep gullies from hushing, adits and shafts, and an old beam engine are ghosts of this former industry. The Museum of Lead Mining in Wanlockhead houses exhibits about the geology and mining history of the district as well as offering the only underground mine tour in Scotland and preserving miners’ cottages.

Nathalie Brandes grew up studying geology from a very early age traveling around the world with her geologist father. She earned her BS and MS in geology at the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology (New Mexico Tech). After working at the New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources, she pursued her doctoral studies at Michigan Technological University. She has taught at Michigan Tech, the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, and the University of Nevada-Las Vegas, before accepting a position as Professor of

Geosciences at LoneStar College- Montgomery, a community college in Texas, where she has been teaching for the past nineteen years. Nathalie’s current research focuses on ancient mining techniques as well as the history and geology of classic mineral localities.

Nathalie is a member of the Management Team for Mindat.org, as well as on the Board of Directors for the Hudson Institute of Mineralogy. She is an active member of the Geological Society of America, the Geological Association of Canada, the British Micromount Society, the Mining History Association, The Russell Society, and the Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration.

Her hobbies include travel, reading, and writing; her latest book, *New Mexico Rocks, A Guide to Geologic Sites in The Land of Enchantment*, was published in October 2021 and her upcoming book *Texas Rocks, A Guide to Geologic Sites in The Lone Star State* will be published in 2025.

How to Join our ZOOM Meetings

MSSC members are automatically included in the invite list each month.

For non MSSC Members who want to join this meeting. You must respond to our Programs chair, Carolyn Seitz speakers@mineralsocal.org. no later than the Thursday prior to the next scheduled meeting. Please include “current month ZOOM Meeting” in the subject line of your response. This response date will allow time for us to send you the information needed to participate in the ZOOM meeting.

From the Editor: Linda Elsnau.

Wow! What a busy month we have this January. A general Meeting on Zoom, A board meeting on Zoom, our Annual Installation Banquet and the Micro Mineral Conference. Also, the 2025 Membership Dues are Due.

It looks like we have another excellent program scheduled for our January Meeting as well.

Please take note of the new deadline for Banquet Reservations and the new date for the Banquet itself.

From Our President, Angie Guzman

“Ring out the old, ring in the new...”
HAPPY NEW YEAR!



January and February of 2025 promise to be quite a busy time for the Mineralogical Society of Southern California:

1/10 (Friday) is MSSC’s **1,034th Membership Meeting** at 7:30pm via ZOOM. Our speaker will be Nathalie Brandes on *“From Gold to Lead.”*

1/12 (Sunday) is the MSSC **Board Meeting** at 1pm via ZOOM – guests are welcome to attend.

1/19 (Sunday) is MSSC’s **Installation Banquet and Silent Auction** event at Pinocchio’s in Pasadena (Noon-4pm).

1/31-2/2 (Friday, Saturday & Sunday) is the **Pacific Micro-mineral Conference** in Fallbrook, CA. Speakers, auctions, \$1 tables and lots more. Field trip on Sunday TBA.

1/20-2/16 are the Quartzite, **Tucson Gem & Mineral Show** plus various other shows, meet ups, exhibits and sales of minerals from around the world; (check listings on Internet).

2/21 (Friday) is MSSC's **1,035th Membership Meeting** at 7:30pm via ZOOM.

Other dates of interest in January 2025:

- 1st New Years Day!
- 20th Inauguration Day and Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 29th Chinese New Year – Year of the Snake

Check the Bulletin for shows and other related events.

NATIONAL MONUMENTS

National Monument designations are out of control. This year, 2024, brought the Mojave Trails National Monument issue to the fore again when we found out that our efforts of 2023 (letters written to government legislators and representatives, e-mails from MSSC members to BLM representatives, meetings attended by MSSC members and more) were virtually ignored and quite possibly lost, during an employee shift at BLM. In addition, we found out that the Biden* Administration wanted to designate more public land Chuckwalla (660,000 acres), Kw'tsan (390,000 acres), Sattitla (200,000 acres) and Feather River Canyons (400,000+ acres) with National Monument status. (* Ref AP "Biden adds to the nation's list of national monuments during his term. There's an appetite for more")

More letter writing and emails to local and national representatives by yours truly have thus far yielded responses!!! I'm thinking "Hooray" - BUT **don't get excited**. The response from a U S Senator from California (Padilla) and a U S Representative from California (Chu) were less than a blip on the excitement scale. The responses' contents were boiler-plate blather aimed to appease the masses, as it were, non-committal and a huge brush-off.

According to the **Sierra Club** December 20, 2024 e-mail blast, they claim "VICTORY": "***We protected over 250 million acres of public land, and successfully pushed President Biden to protect another 120,000 acres of landscapes by designating and expanding national monuments.***"

It appears we need to bolster *our* "lobbying forces," namely us, by whipping out our pens, keyboards, phones, carrier pigeons – whatever it takes to fight back! Are you willing to fight for **your right to collect minerals on public lands?** Are you eager to **teach young people about minerals and rocks?**

What's at stake?

Mojave Trails National Monument:

We still have an opportunity to have included the descriptive language about mineral collecting, including out-door classrooms for professors and teachers at schools, colleges and universities, and rockhound collecting in the official National Monument designation documents before our narrow window closes. Once that window closes and the lands are proclaimed as National Monument(s), we cannot even hope to approach a conversation about re-opening/restoring those public lands **until 25 years have passed**. That is why we must ACT NOW!!!

Chuckwalla National Monument:

See the following message I received from *Ruth Hidalgo*, an activist who cares about public lands designations/proclamations and protecting those areas for teaching and collecting – minerals and rocks. Take action if you want to protect these public lands, too! I did!

Here is her message in its entirety:

Rockhounds:

Time is running out. We need to be loud NOW, and we have a been afforded a great and easy opportunity to do so.

Several groups and organizations have been working together to thwart off massive National Monuments being declared by Proclamation. Blue Ribbon Coalition now has an option to add a personal message when signing. Their original Petition did not mention the Hauser Beds or the major impact to Recreational Rockhounding a Proclamation would have on over 600,000 acres of land in SoCal and essentially the last major collecting area in Ca currently not in a wilderness or monument. They graciously have added that option.

WE DO NOT HAVE MUCH TIME. THE PUSH IS ON TO HAVE THIS ADMINISTRATION DECLARE THIS MONUMENT BY PROCLAMATION.

Please sign the Petition at the link below to save the Hauser beds and the other collecting spots in the Wiley Wells collecting area NOW. Add a personal message indicating you're a recreational rockhound.

Some points to consider:

The legislation for the monument is very new, has had little input from stakeholders and Therefore, designation by proclamation would be premature.

The importance of the Hauser geode beds to Rockhounds for recreation.

The importance of roads and trails to access collecting areas for Rockhounds.

Blue Ribbon will forward your response to all relevant representatives and well as the Trails NM has proven there is no way to ensure our hobby will be protected if they are declared by Proclamation. The way to do it is by carefully crafted legislation, not the wipe of a (Biden) pen.

Ruth Hidalgo

PLAC CHAIR, ANTELOPE VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB

And so, MSSC Members, as you see, important collecting areas within the proposed monuments will be lost to not only rockhounds but to mineral collectors, students, teachers and anyone interested in minerals and mineralogy. It is in our best interest to speak up, say something now to protect and preserve these lands for us, our children and all future generations curious about minerals! This **latest government land grab must cease**. We, too, have a right to the great outdoors and gifts and wonderment the Earth bestows.

Please re-read Ruth's message and, if you are so inclined, kindly respond through the website listed, if you are unable to write a letter or send an e-mail to your legislative representatives in Washington DC. I'll tell you, though, if you don't speak up about this issue in whichever manner you select, you will have no right to complain about lands that shut out mineral collectors, rockhounds and others. "They" won't know how you feel unless you tell them. Act now!

Please note: "Rockhounds" includes Mineralogy professors and teachers, scientists, students, lay people and anyone who is interested in mineral collecting.

You know what they say: "You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make them drink." I'm offering you the water...

Still have a question? Shoot me an e-mail at president@mineralsocal.org

Thank you for your time and attention.

I WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

What's your story? What is your favorite mineral? What was/is it that attracted you to it? Send me a photo of your favorite and a little story about how you came by this mineral. I'll do a credited feature in my February 2025 article. I want to hear from you!

Thanks! & Happy New Year!
Angie

If you haven't already paid your MSSC Membership Dues, remember,

DUES ARE DUE!

Renewal Deadline is February 15, 2025, to be included in the MSSC Roster. And if you have not renewed, you will no longer receive your MSSC Bulletin

It's Time to Renew your MSSC Membership!

Don't miss the monthly bulletins, Zoom Meetings, or upcoming Field trips.
Send your dues to:

MSSC
13781 Alderwood Lane #22J
Seal Beach, CA 90740-3993
Or ----[Use PayPal](#)

\$30.00 INDIVIDUAL

\$40.00 Family

\$35.00 additional for USPS Delivered Bulletin

Please complete the online membership form.

Any Questions, please contact Carolyn at treasurer@mineralsocal.org

MINUTES of the December 13, 2024, MSSC ZOOM Meeting

Welcome

President Guzman called the 1,033rd Membership Meeting of the Mineralogical Society of Southern California (MSSC) to order at 7:33 pm. There were 23 members and guests present. She welcomed all. Angie said this is the 1,033rd membership meeting of the Mineralogical Society of Southern California (MSSC). It is our 55th ZOOM Conferencing meeting. If there are any Guests who would like to introduce yourselves, please feel free to do so now. No guests introduced themselves.

Program

President Guzman turned the meeting over to our Speaker Chair, Carolyn, who introduced tonight's speaker Raquel Alonso Perez. She is talking about the rarest of the rare at The Mineralogical & Geological Museum Harvard University."

Dr. Alonso-Perez started with a question "What are the rarest species in the different collections at Harvard?" These three drive education and research.

She introduced the Mineralogical and Geological Museum at Harvard University. The Mineralogical collections existed prior to 1784 and were part of the chemistry department. The Mineralogical Museum was built in 1891. The Geological Museum merged with the Mineralogical Museum in 1977 and continues to this day.

They oversee around 400,000 specimens, they are the results of research in mineralogy, petrology, mining geology and planetary sciences subdivided into four main collections: Mineral, Gems & Jewelry, Earth Archive & Meteorite Collection.

The Earth Archive collection has more than 150,000 objects. Holdings are based on field trips by faculty and students; it is a rare and unique collection and cannot be recollected because ore bodies have been mined out and many of the mines are closed.

The Meteorite collection has around 1600 meteorites. It is a broad representation of falls and findings. The specimen weights range from < 0.1 g to ~ 180 kg.

Mineral collection over 100,000 specimens. It is their most famous collection due to the quality and broad representation of species and occurrences. It contains a large number of described, illustrated and/or type specimens.

Gem & Jewelry collection contains around 1600 gem and jewelry pieces. It was started in 1923 as a systematic development of a gem collection by Professor C. Palache and thanks to the endowment fund set up by A.F. Holden.

Back to the rarest of the rare. We go to Mt. Mica Maine for the first pegmatite discovery in the United States in 1821. She showed a photo of the Hamlin family: A.C Hamlin (1829-1905), holding a tourmaline and his son E. L. Hamlin (1800-1872) holding a very large elbaite that was once used as a door stop! A.C. Hamlin was asked to document the history of the mine in a book. His book is *The History of Mt. Mica of Maine U.S.A.* It included many drawings of crystals he found at the mine.

She showed "Plate No. 25. A drawing described as a restored crystal of indicolite, with both terminations; color a fine blue, passing into green at the summit. Cavity 26, 1891.- Harvard Cabinet." Next to the drawing was a photo of the actual crystal.

Another detailed description "Plate No. 18. A drawing of two parts of the same crystal. "These two sections represent parts of two choice crystals....these fragments yielded three magnificent gems which are among the finest known of the species. One of them was a perfect stone of the finest green, of 27 ³/₄ karats weight, and is now in the Tiffany collection; the other was of the same exquisite shade of green but had a minute flaw. It weighed 34³/₄ karats and is now in the American necklace of native gems in the Hamlin Cabinet. The top of the longer section furnished also a beautiful stone of chrysoberyl green-cut parallel to its axis-of about 7 karats, and was exhibited at Paris Exhibition, and is now in the Hamlin necklace. Found in cavity No. 24."

Raquel showed the Hamlin necklace with the two tourmalines.

In 1890 Hamlin created a *Catalogue of Gems and Jewels*, a Manuscript of 1890 by A.C. Hamlin. It contains detailed notes about each gem and a drawing. But no mention of the necklace.

Dr. Alonso-Perez found this article from the *San Francisco Call*, June 21, 1908.

"There are not many necklaces which, in addition to being the envy of society queens the world over and rivalling the crown jewels of royalty, have the distinction that everyone came from the mine owned by the family of the possessor of the regal ornament. Such a priceless parure is the property of a Boston schoolgirl, Miss Elinor Cutting Hamlin, a granddaughter of Dr. Augustus Choate Hamlin and a great niece of the late Hannibal Hamlin, vice president of the United States" She zoomed in on the newspaper and you can see the necklace and the caption that says it is worth \$50,000.

Next, she mentioned the Paris Exhibit of 1889, George Kunze was sent as a delegate. In his report he mentions a 300-specimen collection of gold from all over the world. A few years later that collection came to Harvard. One specimen in the collection is the Gold Horn. A fantastic gold wire. She wondered if it was pure gold, or a mixture of gold and silver (silver forms wires, gold usually does not. She showed a Colorado newspaper "The Great Divide" from 1983 which describes a find in the Groundhog mine. This specimen was described as weighing 8.5 ounces and its estimated value is \$160. The rarity and value of this specimen was recognized from the beginning in the fact that it was not melted down but preserved for its scientific and historical importance.

The third object in the story is an Emerald Brooch. Eleonore von Kern Nelson, aka Lorli, was born in 1917 in Wiener-Neustadt, Austria, and studied radiology in Vienna before working in Athens and Northern Italy. During WWII, she worked as a radiologist in Rome and Milan, then traveled widely throughout Asia, Africa,

and Europe, documenting her adventures in diaries. In 1951, she moved to the US, married Jim Nelson in 1953, and later settled in Godfrey, Illinois, where she built a cottage for elderly living in 2000. She died at the age of 102, in 2019. She donated her necklace to Harvard.

Raquel showed a picture of Ursula Marvin, (1921-2018) emerita Geologist at the Harvard-Smithsonian Astrophysics wearing the Hamlin necklace! Raquel decided that if she couldn't wear the necklace, she would study it.

She worked with Dr. Rossman on the study. She began with this quote from J. Ruskin, Tourmaline "....the chemistry of it is more like a medieval doctor's prescription than the making of a respectable mineral." Sometimes referred to as a garbage mineral. She disagrees and says, "it's a mirror, whatever is happening in the environment will be mimicked in the tourmaline."

She decided to study all the tourmaline gemstones (83) from Mt. Mica. Many different colors of stones were collected over a 30-year period.

The tools she used in her study were:

1. Raman spectroscopy, a well-established and widely applied experimental technique for the identification and study of structural properties of minerals. She found distinctive Raman peaks where the water was in the crystal. It was different for the assorted colors of tourmaline. Next, she looked at the chemistry.
2. Laser ablation inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (LA-ICP-MS) is a destructive technique that helps determine the chemistry. Combining Raman and laser ablation showed different OH ratios for the pink vs. blue and green.

Next, the Gold Horn. She worked with John Rakovan who was also studying gold and silver.

Gold is a scarce resource. Low abundance in Earth's mantle (1.7 ppb) and crust (1 to 3 ppb). Rarer still is the occurrence of gold as natural wire. They examined the 263-gram, 12 cm-long specimen, known as the 'Ram's Horn' Colombia wire and a Colorado gold wire. They determined it was man made. They went to Los Alamos and bombarded it with neutrons, making it a little radioactive! It had to stay in a vault at the Los Alamos nuclear facility for six months. The results showed the horn was a single crystal of pure gold.

Back to the Eleonore von Kern Nelson emerald brooch. Dr. Alonso-Perez wanted to create an emerald "standard" for gem labs, it is proving to be difficult.

Raquel showed two emeralds, one natural and one lab grown. One was the Rockefeller Emerald, it sold for \$5,511,500, (\$305,500 per carat- 1 ct= 0.2gr). The other can be bought on eBay for \$500.

Why are gems important?

- The purest form of minerals, which are cut and polished.
- They are amongst the rarest and most desirable materials known on Earth.
- It is throughout history they have played important roles in economics, politics, religion, and fashion.
- They hold unique geochemical fingerprints of geological processes.
- Traditionally it was the study of gems that enabled the identification of natural materials versus synthetic and treated.

Beryl: $\text{Be}_3\text{Al}_2(\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{18})$ simpler than tourmaline. It gets its color from the impurities Fe, Cr, and V. These varieties of color help with provenance study.

The World's Emeralds deposits. Major Producers of Emeralds are Colombia, Brazil, Zambia, China, Madagascar, Nigeria, Egypt, Russia, and Pakistan. There are over fifty deposits found on every continent. Using Raman Spectroscopy on Emeralds helps to determine which country they came from. Each one has a different spectroscopic fingerprint.

“Fused Linear Discriminant Analysis” Fused-LDA model consists of 10 PCA-Raman model combined with 10 PCA - LA-ICPMS geochemical data of the same samples previously measured (Alonso-Perez et al., 2024). By integrating multiple datasets, the fused model enhances the overall classification robustness. It allows for the differentiation of Pan-African deposits that were previously indistinguishable with just LA-ICPMS analysis.

Thank you, Dr. Raquel Alonso-Perez, for an interesting and beautiful talk. A short Q & A session followed. Angie thanked Dr. Alonzo-Perez and all others in attendance. President Guzman started the general business portion of the meeting.

Approved Mineral Species Update

According to the International Mineralogical Association (IMA) there are 6,100 approved mineral species as posted on the New IMA List of Minerals for November 2024. The complete list can be found on the IMA Commission on New Minerals, Nomenclature and Classification (CNMNC) website, <https://cnmnc.units.it/>

President’s Message

- (1) Membership dues are now due for renewal period 1/1/25-12/31/2025. Please [go to MSSC’s website](#) to submit your renewal with our 2-step process: (a) complete the renewal form and (b) pay via PayPal (dues plus \$2 PayPal fee) or send your check payment to Carolyn, MSSC’s Treasurer.
- (2) Installation Banquet and Silent Auction: [Pay on-line](#) or by check (as above). Rudy will address the banquet later in the meeting.
- (3) Pacific Micro-mineral Conference (PMC) will be held January 31-February 1, 2025, at the Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Hall. Advance registration is \$20, OR, pay-at-the door is \$25 per person. If you have not made accommodation arrangements yet, do so now as rooms are limited in town. Great speakers, microscope time, giveaway tables, \$1 tables, silent and oral auctions! Send registration information and remittance to Al Wilkins at 34731 Calle Ramona, Capistrano Beach, CA 92634-1536. [Check MSSC’s website.](#)

Business:

Minutes to approve: November 8, 2024, as published in the December 2024 Bulletin: Angie asked do I have a motion for the stated Minutes? A motion was made by Bert V. and seconded by George R. She asked for any additions, corrections or discussion; hearing none, Angie called for the vote to approve the motion. The motion to approve the stated Minutes carried on a voice vote.

Announcements and Reports

1. Field Trips (Marek C.): Jurupa Mountains Discovery Center on December 14th. See the website for details.
2. Installation Banquet and Silent Auction Fundraiser (Rudy L.): The Banquet was moved to January 19, in the afternoon, from 1 to 4 pm. at Pinocchio’s.

Last Words:

The next membership meeting will be held January 10, 2024, and the next board meeting will be 1:00 pm, Sunday, January 12, 2025. Both meetings are via ZOOM conferencing. Guests are welcome. Happy and safe holidays!

Adjournment: The president adjourned the meeting at 8:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Leslie Ogg, MSSC Secretary

Memorial

Ray Ritchey, a long time rockhound, passed away on 12/5/2024. He leaves behind his wife of 59 years, Jo Anna along with their son & daughter in law, Raymond & LI and their daughter, Sonja. A date for Memorial Services will be determined soon.

List of Upcoming MSSC Events : Mark your Calender!

Event	Date	Comments / Scheduled Program (if known)
Meeting Dates:	Annual Banquet, Jan 19, 2024	Pinocchio’s Restaurant in Pasadena (<i>see details in Bulletin</i>)
	ZOOM February 14, 2024	Joan Karrie on "Orbicular Granite from New Mexico
	ZOOM March 14, 2024	Christopher Stefano, PH.D.: TBA
Board Meeting	ZOOM January 12, 2024	ZOOM at 1:00 PM
Field Trip	TBA	No trips scheduled at this time

Note: Dates and programs shown above are subject to change. Check your bulletins to confirm final information each month.

The Ride Share Listing is being temporarily discontinued until such time as MSSC starts holding in-person meetings again.

NOTICE

California Federation of Mineralogical Societies

Effective January 2025, California Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CFMS) membership dues and insurance will increase to \$10 per member/per year, up a dollar from last year. The increase is already incorporated into your 2025 MSSC membership dues. This increase was announced at the CFMS Directors meeting held in Visalia, California November 8-9, 2024.

MSSC’s website www.mineralsocal.org has a link to the CFMS site. [Take a look to view their monthly newsletter](#), programs offered, field trips (hosted by other societies and clubs), their Youth programs and other information. Please let me know if I may answer any questions about CFMS you may have.

Angie Guzman,
CFMS Director for MSSC

TUCSON - GEM & MINERAL SHOWS 2025

If you’re interested in attending the Tucson Gem & Mineral Show (TGMS) in February, there are a couple of websites you may find interesting with information such as general information, schedules and registrations (if necessary). All good to know before you head out. Make sure you have accommodations, as this is a huge *international event* and some hotels, motels or other arrangements (i.e., Airbnb), may already be sold out or otherwise unavailable.

Festivities for Tucson actually *start in Quartzsite, AZ on January 18th* and things take off from there including the *TGMS, which starts February 8th* at the Tucson Convention Center. There are many other outlets, so many vendors (include a stop at Jewel Tunnel) from around the world and so much to see.... It’s a great experience!

So, if you go to Tucson this year, we’d like your feedback at our February 21, 2025, MSSC Membership Meeting – maybe a little “Show & Tell”. Let us know what’s new, if you saw anyone you know or met someone interesting, what the prices were like and if you were happy you went. Are you game?

This year’s theme at Tucson Gem & Mineral Show is *Shades of Green - Experience the Magic*. Visit www.tucsongemshow.com for more information.

Xpo Press offers a great guide for all Tucson vendors/events: www.xpopress.com and, you can get the whole schedule at <https://tucsongemshow101.com/schedule-2024>, once opened, *click on the 2025 Schedule* for up-to-date information on the January and February 2025 events. Whatever you do, have fun!

Angie Guzman
MSSC Bulletin January 2025

**Notice of Date Change for the
MSSC ANNUAL BANQUET & SILENT AUCTION 2025**

**Pinocchio's Pizza, Pasadena
1449 N Lake Ave (near Washington Blvd)
Free parking in lot across the street**

Sunday, January 19, 2025

Dinner & Silent Auction: 12:00-4:00 pm



Plan to attend the Installation Banquet and Silent Auction, MSSC's fundraising Winter social! Dinner reservations are \$44 per person. **We need your reservation AND payment by Tuesday, January 14th. NO REFUNDS.** IMPORTANT: MSSC will reserve the location with the required non-refundable deposit.

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS TODAY!

\$44 per person

Two Methods to Pay:

Use PayPal® through MSSC's website: www.mineralsocal.org

*If you pay through the PayPal link on the website, the PayPal fee has been added to the price.

OR

Pay by check, payable to "MSSC."

Mail Checks to:

MSSC

**c/o 13781 Alderwood Lane #22J
Seal Beach, CA 90740-3993**

(*Please e-mail your reservation number to: treasurer@mineralsocal.org)

MENU

- SALAD: Green Salad & Caesar Salad
- APPETIZERS: Bruschetta, Caprese
- CHICKEN: Chicken Parmigiana
- FISH: Fettuccine Alfredo with Shrimp
- MEAT: Beef Lasagna
- VEGETARIAN: Lasagna
- DESSERT: Cannoli & Cheesecake.
- BEVERAGES: Unlimited Soft Drinks, Coffee or Tea.

MSSC ANNUAL BANQUET

SILENT AUCTION

2025

Silent Auction items needed.

Your donation is somebody's treasure

Don't forget the upcoming



Photo by A Guzman

PACIFIC MICRO-MINERAL CONFERENCE

January 31, February 1-2, 2025

Flyer by A. Guzman

Where: Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Hall
123 W Alvarado
Fallbrook, CA 92028

Event Cost: \$20 pre-paid or \$25 at the door.

Register: Send your registration information and check made payable to
MSSC to:

Al Wilkins
34731 Calle Ramona
Capistrano Beach, CA 92624-1536

Conference chairs: Al Wilkins and Bob Housley.

OTHER FREE THINGS TO DO...by Ann Meister

The **Watson Lecture** is on Wednesday, **January 29** at 7:30 PM at Caltech's Beckman Auditorium. The speaker is **Michael Lamb**, professor of geology, Caltech. The title is, "**Arctic Rivers in a Warming World.**" The slow tick of the geologic clock is accelerating in the Arctic. It is warming at a rate that is several times faster than the global average, which will have dramatic consequences for landscapes and ecosystems. In river floodplains, permafrost thaw is accelerating riverbank erosion, displacing Indigenous communities, and liberating sediment, carbon, and mercury from long-frozen soils into the environment. In this talk, Michael Lamb will discuss his research team's findings from expeditions to the Yukon River watershed in Alaska over the past five years and the global impact of Arctic rivers as warming continues. Enjoy pre-lecture activities starting at 6 PM. Find past Watson Lectures on [Caltech's YouTube channel](#).

The **Von Kármán Lecture** is on Thursday, **January ??** at 5:00 PM. Available live on YouTube at [NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory - YouTube](#). Date, speaker, and topic were not available at time of publication. Check website for information and past lectures [Lecture Series \(nasa.gov\)](#). The 2024 lecture series is available on YouTube.

The **UCLA Meteorite Gallery** is open to the public weekdays from 9 am to 4 pm and on Sundays from 1 to 4 pm when it is staffed with volunteer docents. Admission is always free. The monthly lectures seem to have been discontinued but the gallery is well worth exploring. Visit the website and check on events, videos, and other neat things including resources for teachers, Go to <https://meteorites.ucla.edu>

With Knowledge Comes Appreciation

Calendar of Events:

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

January 18-19, 2025 – Exeter, CA

Tule Gem & Mineral Society
 Exeter Veterans Memorial Building, 246 Chestnut St.,
 Exeter, CA 93211
 Hours: Sat 10 AM – 5 PM, Sun 10 AM – 4 PM
 Tule Gem & Mineral Society Gemboree
 Website: <http://www.tulegem.com>

March 1-2, 2025 – Ventura, CA

Ventura Gem and Mineral Society
 Ventura County Fairgrounds, 10 W. Harbor Blvd.,
 Ventura CA 93003
 Hours: Sat 10 AM – 5 PM, Sun 10 AM – 4 PM
 Free admission but the Fairgrounds charges parking if
 using the Fairgrounds lot.
 Website: <http://www.vgms.org>

March 7-9, 2024 – Stoddard Wells, CA

Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club
 1-15 toward Barstow. EXIT #157, stay on Stoddard
 Wells Road. Follow the signs 7 miles to tailgate
 Hours: Daily 9 M – 5 PM
 Family field trip on Saturday 9a-1p at local collecting
 site.
 Website: <http://vvgmc.org>

March 22-23, 2025 – Torrance, CA

South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society
 Ken Miller Recreation Center, 3341 Torrance Blvd.,
 Torrance, CA 90503
 Hours: Sat 10 AM – 5 PM, Sun 10 AM – 4 PM
 Website: <http://southbaylapidaryandmineralsociety.com>

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	Business Card	\$5.00	
	One-third page	\$10.00	
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Happy New Year !



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Additional name(s) and relationship if this is a family membership:

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Questions?

Contact Linda Elsnau (MSSC Membership) at: membership@mineralsocal.org

revised 12/2024

2024 MSSC Officers:

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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. We are a scientific non-profit organization that actively supports those endeavors through public outreach, field study and related programs. 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. However, due to current health considerations, MSSC meetings are conducted via ZOOM conferencing until further notice. The annual Installation Banquet occurs in January, and the annual Picnic and Swap Meeting are in August. Check the Society website for details.

The Society also sponsors the annual Pacific Micro mount Symposium held at the Fallbrook Mineral Museum during the last weekend of January.

Annual Membership dues for the MSSC are \$30.00 for an individual membership, \$40.00 for a family membership. Bulletins are sent by email, there is an additional annual fee if you prefer paper bulletins mailed to your address. The Society's contact information:

Mineralogical Society of Southern California

13781 Alderwood Lane, #22-J, Seal Beach, CA 90740

E-mail: treasurer@mineralsocal.org

Website: www.mineralsocal.org **The Mineralogical Society of California, Inc.**

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Glendale, CA 91214-2415

To:



**With Knowledge Comes
Appreciation**

**Your MSSC
Bulletin Is
Here!**