

Inland Geological Society

May 2017

Newsletter of the Inland Geological Society

Volume 33 No. 5

Thursday
May 4ⁿ

Time:

Social: 6:00pm
Dinner: 7:00pm
Lecture: 7:45pm

Location:

LSA Associates
1500 Iowa Ave
Suite 200
Riverside, CA
92507

(Map on Pg. 3)

Coming to
Dinner?

Please RSVP
by Monday 5/1
(909) 227-7704
Baircrystal@ca.rr.com

In this Issue:

- Chuck Houser – "Got Calcite?" 1
- Upcoming Events/IGS Meeting Schedule 3
- Current IGS Officers and Meeting Location 4

May Speaker:

Chuck Houser, CHg
Project Manager, SCS Engineers, San Diego, CA

"Got Calcite?"

Abstract:

Calcite makes up about 4% of the earth's crust. The interesting thing about calcite is the sheer number of crystal forms and habits this mineral exhibits, as many as 3,500, depending on who you ask. Moreover, calcite forms twin crystals... following FOUR twin laws! So building a calcite collection offers virtually unlimited possibilities — crystal forms, twins, localities, associations, color... It is as close to a "bottomless pit" as any collecting possibility I know of. It also offers an interesting challenge: getting color into the collection. Calcite itself comes in two colors: white (actually colorless) and pale yellow. So getting other than white and pale yellow in your display cabinet requires a little work, but that is part of the fun.

As for calcite localities, they are, like the crystal forms, varied and abundant. Calcite collections will include specimens from every major country (and a number of minor ones), and from a wide array of occurrences. And of course there are those "classics," occurrences and localities that anyone collecting this mineral must have to claim rights as a true calcite collector. This talk presents an expose of this mineral from the standpoint of mineral specimen collecting. We will discuss its crystal forms, twinning, the big challenge to calcite collecting, localities, classics, and finally we will see what happens when six calcite collectors get together and are allowed to have ideas unchecked by reasonable people.

(continued on p. 2)

Abstract: (continued from p. 1)

By the way, as you recall from your mineralogy classes, calcite has a hardness of 3 on the Mohs hardness scale, so you might consider removing your wedding ring before you handle your fine specimens of this abundant and varied mineral.

Biography:

In the early 80's, while a student at SDSU working toward a bachelor's degree in Geology, I took a mineralogy class with Dr. Richard Berry. Shortly after taking that class, while on a driving trip from Missouri to California, I encountered a mineral and rock shop somewhere in western Missouri. Perusing the fine mineral specimens in that shop, I realized that I recognized many of the species, and so I purchased many of them (thanks Dr. Berry!). At that mineral shop began the Houser Mineral Collection.

There can be a bit of an art to mineral collecting, and only the richest can afford to simply collect EVERYTHING that catches their eye. Most collectors specialize: a specific country, a mining district or even a specific mine, or a single mineral species. Due largely to the influence of a long time neighbor who collected calcite specimens, I began to specialize in calcite from worldwide localities, a specialization that I have continued over a roughly 35 year collecting history, and through several other specializations including San Diego County minerals and minerals from the Elizabeth R Mine in Pala. At one point I even sold most of the calcite collection in order to fund the purchase of one kunzite specimen from the Pala Chief Mine. However I kept the twins and some of the unusual and hard to find specimens, which became the basis for eventually re-building the calcite collection. Today that collection is around 250 pieces.

In my spare time, I am a hydrogeologist and project manager for SCS Engineers in San Diego. My full time job is being husband to Cindy (almost 31 years) and dad to Julianna (24) and Jennifer (20).

May Poster Presentation:**Sadaf Kadir****2017 Riverside County Science and Engineering Fair Winner / Student****The Effect of Urban Runoff on the Water Quality and Salinity of Lake Elsinore****Abstract:**

The purpose of the project was to see how runoff affects Lake Elsinore, a point of concern currently considering that Lake Elsinore is suffering from an algae bloom that releases toxins which make the lake water dangerous for human or pet contact. These kinds of algae blooms often happen because the concentration of different nutrients, particularly different variations of phosphorus and nitrogen, in all their forms, are much higher than are healthy. Even when algae blooms do not result because of this, the concentrations of these nutrients are high enough on their own to be harmful to life in the water.

Biography:

Sadaf Kadir is a high school junior interested in science and using it to make the world a better place, which is why she chose to do a project on a problem close to her home: Lake Elsinore.

Upcoming Meetings/Events

South Coast Geological Society



Monthly dinner meetings are typically the 1st Monday of the month at The Hilton Double-Tree Hotel, 7 Hutton Centre Drive, Santa Ana. For more info, visit their website at www.southcoastgeo.org.

San Diego Assoc. of Geologists Meeting



The next SDAG meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 17th, location to be announced. John Wallace and Pat Shires will present "*Sycamore-Ranchito Landslide - Santa Barbara.*" For more info, visit their website at www.sandiegogeologists.org.

AEG—So. California Chapter Meeting



On Tuesday, May 23rd at the next AEG-SoCal meeting, Scott Anderson, PhD, P.E., AEG/GSA Jahn's Lecturer, will present at Victorio's Restaurante in North Hollywood. For more info, visit www.aegsc.org.

Los Angeles Basin Geological Society



Monthly lunch meetings are typically the 4th Thursday of the month from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm at the Willow Street Conference Center in Long Beach. On May 25th, Joann Stock, Cal Tech, will present "*Lithosphere thinning during continental breakup: drilling at the South China Sea rifted margin (Joides Resolution IODP Expedition 367).*" For more info, visit their website at www.labgs.org.

Rock & Gem Shows—Various locations

Various rock and mineral shows will be held throughout So. California. To find one near you, visit www.rockngem.com, then select the Show Dates tab.

Student Scholarship and Grant Opportunities

Association for Women Geoscientists (AWG)

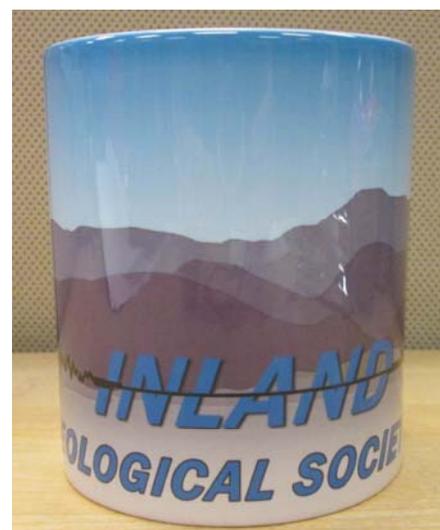
Scholarships and Awards:

Various awards with deadlines between February and November

<http://awg.org/awards>

Get Your IGS Coffee Mug!

IGS will now be selling IGS coffee mugs at the monthly meetings. They will be on sale for \$10.



IGS MEETING LOCATION:

**LSA Associates, Inc.
1500 Iowa Ave, Suite 200
Riverside, CA 92507**

**2016/2017 IGS OFFICERS****Co-President**

Greg Johnson
LA County DPW
gjohnson@dpw.lacounty.gov
626.458.1741

Co-President

Rob Johnson
AMEC
rob.b.johnson@amec.com
951.369.8060

Co-Vice President

Jeff Fitzsimmons
Lahontan RWQCB
geojeff08@att.net
951.212.5018

Co-Vice President

Debbie Kunath
Consulting Geologist
Debbie_Kunath@ymail.com
760.885.0232

Treasurer

Margaret Gooding
LSA Associates
Margaret.gooding@LSA.net
951.781.9310 x279

Secretary

Crystal Bair
Student, CSUSB
Baircrystal@ca.rr.com
909.227.7704

Membership

Steven E. Mains
Watermaster Support Services
watermains@aol.com
951.780.5636

Newsletter Editor

Alice Orton
Geocon West, Inc.
orton@geoconinc.com
951.401.3949

Web Mistress

Marina West
Bighorn Desert View Water Agency
wells.out.west@gmail.com
760.910.3264

Web Master

Ernie Roumelis
AKW Geotechnical
eroumelis@verizon.net
951.265.9849