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Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society (SCVGMS)

P.O. Box 54, San Jose, CA 95103-0054

Website: www.scvgms.org

Email: info@scvgms.org

Phone Number (408) 265-1422

An Invitation

This society is pleased to invite guests to attend general meetings, study groups, and field trips. General meetings are normally held the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7:45 PM at 100 Belwood Gateway (The Cabana Club), Los Gatos, CA 95032. Belwood Gateway is just south of Blossom Hill Rd. between Leigh Avenue and Harwood Rd..

Society Purpose: The inculcation of a love of rocks and minerals by the furtherance of members' interests in the earth sciences and by education in all facets of related educational activities with the promotion of good fellowship, proper ethics, and conduct.

Membership Requirements: Attendance at two general meetings within twelve months. This society is a member of the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CFMS) and is affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS). Dues are \$10.00 per year.

General Meeting: will be on January 24, '06 at the Cabana Club, 100 Belwood Gateway, Los Gatos, CA 95032 at 7:45 PM

Board Meeting: will be January 26, '06 at 7:30 PM. Location to be Determined.

Study Groups

Stringers: meet on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month. Groups led by Pat Speece. For info call Pat (408) 266-4327

Facet Cutters: meet on the first Tuesday of the month. Group led by Bill Norton. Call for info (408) 356-8254.

Carvers: meet on the third Monday of each month. Contact Herb Vogel (408) 247-1018 for information and details about joining this group.

Cutaways: meet on the first Saturday of the month at the Shoup Park Lapidary Shop. Group led by John Eichhorn. For more info call (408) 749-0523.

Mineraleers: meet on the second Monday of the month. Group is led by Chuck Boblenz. Call for info (408) 734-2473

Silversmithing: beginning and advanced classes are led by Kelly Van Vleck and John Bahr. Call Kelly for info (408) 262-8187.

Juniors: are led by Mark Wartenberg. Outings and get togethers are announced at general meetings and via email. Contact Mark Wartenberg for more info (650) 568-6114.

Fossileers: will be meeting quarterly for an outing and a study session. For more info call Gail Matthews (650) 962-9960.

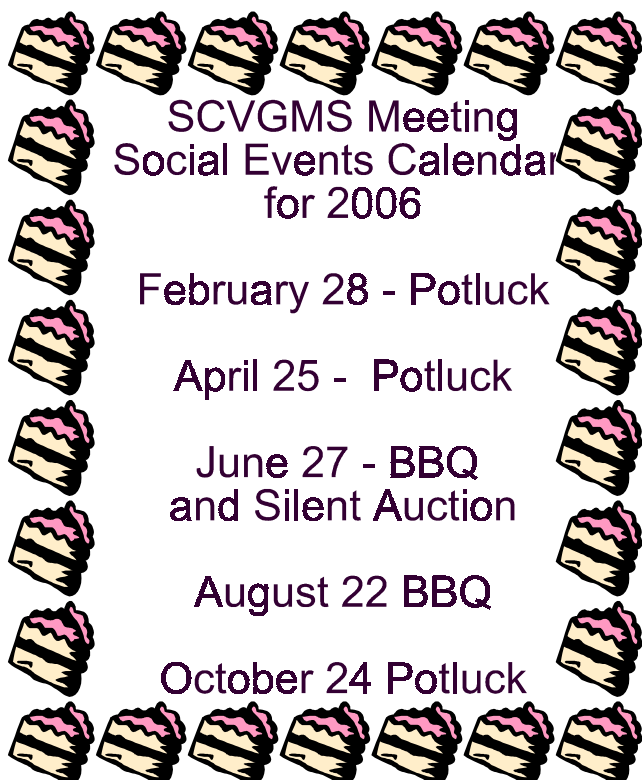
John's Note

MERRY CHRISTMAS, HAPPY HOLIDAY'S, AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

We need to have club members step up and take the empty committee positions. These jobs require some of your time and effort, but most are easily taken over with the help of the previous job holder.

The following are the positions that still need a committee chair: Founder's Day Raffle, Founder's Day Bingo, Member Displays, Programs, and Show 2007. Many of these jobs require very little time to complete and several are once a year jobs. I would like to see all the empty positions filled by January meeting. Give me a call, (408) 749-0523, if you can help.

Thank You,
John Eichhorn



SUNSHINE



If you have information concerning any member who is ill, hospitalized, or has had a death in the family, please contact our new sunshine person, 90oClaire Ferguson, (408) 395-8109.

Our 2006 Show Committee needs your help!

Decorations: Jane Yamashita would like members to think about loaning plants for our show decorations. They always add a touch of class to our displays. Also anything you think might enhance the looks of the plants such as statues or dolls. Be sure and mark them with your name, and Jane will be sure to get them back to you. Rock-themed items always look good, too.

Security: George Yamashita would like some volunteers to spend the night either Friday or Saturday night at the show for guard duty. You would just mostly need to sleep there so that we can say someone is on duty. Call George at (408) 353-2982 if you can volunteer for either night.

Touch and Feel Table: John Eichhorn is collecting rocks for the touch and feel table. Contact John, (408) 749-0523, if you have something that you would like to share at the show.

Yard Signs: Frank Mullaney needs to know the following:

1. Who still has yard signs?
2. How many of each type do you have?

Contact Frank (408) 266-1791 if you have any yard signs so that the signs may be updated for the upcoming show.

Check out what our study groups are doing!!!

MINERALEERS BY CHUCK BOBLENZ



The Mineraleers met on Nov. 14th at the Boblenz' residence and spent the evening touching, feeling, and talking about Tourmaline. Many of the specimens that were provided for discussion were from the Stewart Lithia Mine in San Diego County, Thomson Peak from Plumas County, and Afghanistan. The discussion was lively and went into the detail of the species. Jeri served delicious refreshments following the discussions.

The next meeting will be Jan 9th at the Boblenz' residence, and the topic will be Wulfenite. So dust off your specimen and plan to join us then. Call Chuck or Jeri for directions (408) 734-2473.

Stringers 1 & 2 by Pat Speece



We've made some changes. Stringers 2006 will be one group. People already on the waiting list will be called first, then anybody can sign up. At the January general meeting, we will show the projects that are planned. We will also have a signup sheet there. The mandatory pre-meeting is February 15, 2006. This will allow several weeks to gather up project materials prior to the first class. All class members will be contacted in January to confirm that they are in the class.

The first class meeting is March 9 and 23, 2006. The group is meeting twice per month --- on the second and the fourth Wednesdays from 7 to 10pm.

The first meeting (the second Wednesday) of each month, a lesson will be presented and work will begin. The second meeting of each month (the fourth Wednesday) will be a work meeting to work on the current project. Many materials will be provided. I'll have a schedule of what we're doing, what the club is providing, and what the class participants are to bring. There will be a materials fee to cover some of the cost. Details will be given at the pre-meeting.

Faceters

The Faceters will meet on February 7 at Bill Norton's home, 276 Belblossom Way, Los Gatos 95032 at 7:30 PM. If you are interested in joining this study group, contact Bill at (408) 356-8254.

Carvers

No report submitted. If you are interested in the joining the Carvers study group, contact Herb Vogel for information, (408) 247-1018.

Fossileers

No report submitted. If you are interested in joining the Fossileer study group, please contact Gail Matthews at (650) 962-9960.

CUTAWAYS

The Cutaways group will be meeting on January 7 and February 4 from 10-12 at Shoup Park. Call John Eichhorn at (408) 749-0523 for information and driving directions.

Silversmithing by Kelly Van Vleck



The first session of Beginning Smithies is full. I'll have samples at the January general meeting of what we are going to do. This is a basic class of how to solder, drill, saw, make bezels, and a few other things. We're making a pierced ring, a split-shank cab ring, and a cabbed pendant. There is a mandatory pre-meeting in early February, and the classes start later in the month. The pre-meeting covers the tools and materials needed, safety precautions, as well as samples of the coming projects. We meet on Mondays and Tuesdays (mostly) for four consecutive weeks from 7 to 10pm. We still have a few people on the waiting list, but will have a signup sheet at the general meeting. This is a hands-on, do-it-in class class.

Questions? Call Pat at 266-4327.

SCVGMS Calendar



- January 9** Mineraleers meeting at Chuck Boblenz's home.
January 18 Show Meeting at Marc Mulaney's home.
January 24 Regular business meeting
January 26 Board meeting
February 7 Faceters meeting at Bill Norton's home.
February 28 Regular business meeting
March 2 Board meeting
March 28 regular business meeting
March 30 Board meeting
March 30-31 Show setup
April 1-2 Annual Show
April 25 Regular business meeting
April 27 Board meeting
May 23 Regular business meeting
May 25 Board meeting
June 27 Regular business meeting
June 29 Board meeting
July 25 Regular business meeting
July 27 Board meeting
August 22 Regular business meeting
August 24 Board meeting
September 26 Regular business meeting
September 28 Board meeting
October 24 Regular business meeting
October 26 Board meeting
November 28 Regular business meeting
November 30 Board meeting

Little Known Facts

The Black Sea is black because of the high concentration of Hydrogen Sulfide (a gas) in the water.

The Red Sea gets its red hue from the recurring bloom of small algae.

The Russian White Sea earned its name from Ice that covers it most of the year.

The Yellow Sea Derives color from the mud the rivers carry into it.

From Stoney Statements 2/04, via The Glacial Drifter 8/04, via Jax Gems 11/05

Peacock Ore

By Kemp Roll from Chats and Chips 3/02 via the Rockhound Gazette 10/05, via The Pick and Shovel 11/05

"Peacock Ore" - A strange name for a mineral; but it makes sense. The peacock is noted for its brilliant array of iridescent colors -gold hued reds, blues, and purples. So is this mineral. It's brilliant colors change from golden purples to pinks to blues depending on how the light reflects from it.

It is also called "purple copper ore". Freshly mined chalcopyrite displays such colors also. The ore is called "Yellow Copper Ore".

It's the tarnishing exposure to air that produces the thin-filmed iridescence. The reason one doesn't see such minerals on jewelry is that the color disappears soon after exposure to the atmosphere. The sulfides oxidize and a thicker, duller coat of copper/iron oxides conceals the colors below.

An ore is exactly what it is, copper ore. Chemically, it is a sulfide of copper and iron with metals in varying proportions. It's an important source of metallic copper. Mining is mostly in Chile, Canada, and Mexico.

For the purist, it is "Bornite" after the 18th century mineralogist, Ignatius Von Born (Also called "Peacock" by his friends.)

Shop Tip

Trim sawing— Trim saw blades can be worn or damaged by force feeding of slabs. An indication of too much pressure is a little dry area on the surface of the slab just in front of the blade. Sparks may also indicate too much pressure. An easy way to align the blade to the marked slab is to have the spray of coolant hit just outside the line.

From Jax Gems 11/05, via Dops and Digs 3/05, via Rockpile 12/01

Geo-Quiz by Keri Dearborn

Via Chips 11/2005

Can you name this California Island?

It is 3 times the size of Manhattan. It has the longest sea cave in the world. It is half volcanic and half sedimentary.

Answers on page 8.

CFMS Show Schedule



Changes to this calendar are printed in italics. For the latest version of the CFMS Show Schedule go to www.cfmsinc.org

2006 Shows

January 21-22 2006, Exeter, CA Tule Gem & Mineral Society "50th Annual Fabulous Fun-Filled Show" Exeter Veteran's Memorial Building Hwy. 65 Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4

January 27-29 2006, Redlands, CA Southern Calif. Micromineralogists 41st. Pacific Micromount Conference 2024 Orange Tree Lane Hours: Fri. 3 -10; Sat. & Sun. 8 - 10 Paul M. Adams (310) 336-6927 Email: paul.m.adams@aero.org

February 17-26 2006, Indio, CA San Gorgonio Mineral & Gem Club "Date Festival" Riverside County Fair & Date Festival Gem & Mineral Bldg. #1 , 46-350 Arabia Street, Hours: 10 - 10 daily Gert Grisham (951) 849-1674 E-mail: grish1@msn.com

February 25-26 2006, Antioch, CA Antioch Lapidary Club Contra Costa Co. Fairgrounds 1201 West 10th Street Ellen Bauer (925) 458-2539 Email: jbauer@wwdb.org

March 3, 4, 5 2006, Hayward, CA Mineral and Gem Society of Castro Valley Centennial Hall, 22292 Foothill Blvd, Hayward, CA Hours: Fri. & Sat. 10am - 6pm Sunday 10am - 5pm Ron Miller (510) 887-9007 Publicity Chair: Larry Ham Email: mgscv@yahoo.com Show website: www.mgscv.com

March 4-5 2006, Ventura, CA Ventura Gem & Mineral Society Seaside Park Ventura Co. Fairgrounds Hours: Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4 Jim & Nancy Brace-Thompson (805) 659-3577 Web Site: <http://www.vgms.org>

March 4-5, 2006, Arcadia, CA Monrovia Rockhounds Inc. Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanical Garden 1 block South of I-210, Foothill Freeway near Santa Anita Race Track 301 North Baldwin Ave. Arcadia, CA 91007 Hours: Sat. 9-4:30, Sun. 9-4:30 Janie Duncan 626-358-8157 Email Jo Anna Ritchey: j.ritchey@verizon.net Website: www.moroks.com

March 10, 11, & 12 2006, Victorville, CA Victor Valley Gem & Mineral club Stoddard Wells (11 miles east of I 5) Hours: Fri. & Sat. 8 - 5; Sun. 8 - 2 Joe Kosik (760) 241-0894

March 11-12 2006, San Marino, CA Pasadena Lapidary Society San Marino Masonic Center 3130 Hunting Drive Hours: Sat 10 - 6, Sun 10-5 (626) 355-6964 or (626) 914-5030 Todd Neikirk (323) 256-4992

March 11-12 2006, Turlock, CA Mother Lode Mineral Society Stanislaus County Fairgrounds 900 N. Broadway Hours: 10 - 5 both days Bud & Terry McMillin (209) 524-3494 Email: terrymcmillin@yahoo.com Web Site: www.motherlodemineralsociety.com

March 11-12 2006, Salinas, CA Salinas Valley Rock & Gem Club Annual Show, Spreckels Veterans Memorial Bldg. 5th and Llano Street Hours: 10 - 5 both days Jim Bassett (831) 758-5830 Email: jbmcs@sbcglobal.net

March 11-12 2006, San Marino, CA Pasadena Lapidary Society San Marino Masonic Center 3130 Hunting Drive Hours: Sat 10 - 6, Sun 10-5 (626) 355-6964 or (626) 914-5030

March 18-19 2006, Bakersfield, CA Southern San Joaquin Lapidary Society 4th Annual Bakersfield Rock & Gem Rendezvous Kern County Fair Grounds 1142 South P Street & Bell Terrace Gates 28, 29 & 30 Hours: 9 - 5 both days

March 25-26 2006, Roseville, CA Roseville Rock Rollers 44th Annual Gem & Mineral Show Nature's Wonders Roseville (Placer County) Fairgrounds 800 All American City Blvd Hours: Sat 10 - 6, Sun 10-4

April 1-2 2006, San Jose, CA Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society, Santa Clara County Fairgrounds 344 Tully Road Hours: 10 - 5 both days Marc Mullaney 408 - 971-6651 Email GEOLOGISTM@aol.com

April 29-30 2006, Santa Cruz, CA Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society Corner of Center & Church Streets Hours: 10 - 5 both days Sallee Brumbaugh (831) 336-5662

May 13-14 2006, Reno, NV Reno Gem & Mineral Society "Jackpot of Gems" Reno Livestock Events Center Exhibit Hall 1350 N. Wells Ave. Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4 John Peterson

May 19, 20, 21 2006, Anderson, CA Superior CA Gem & Mineral Association Shasta County Fairgrounds Hours: Fri/Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4 Steve Puderbaugh (530) 365-4000

May 20-21 2006, Yucaipa, CA Yucaipa Valley Gem & Mineral Society Yucaipa Community Center 34900 Oak Glen Road Hours: Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4 William Jochimsen (909) 790-1475 Email bjm2285@aol.com

May 20-21 2006, Newbury Park, CA Conejo Gem & Mineral Club Borchard Park Community Center 190 Reino Rd. Hours: Sat. 9-5 Sun. 10-4:30 Sal Scarpato (818) 707-9972 Email SALSCARPATO@SBCGLOBAL.NET

June 3-4 2006, La Habra, CA North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society Jubilee of Gems Show La Habra Community Center 101 W. La Habra Blvd. Hours: 10-5 both days Don Warthen (626) 330-8974 Email: warthen@earthlink.net

June 9-11 2006, Angels Camp, CA Calveras Gem & Mineral Society Calveras Co. Fairgrounds Hours: 10-5 daily Website: calaverasgemandmineral.org

October 14-15 2006, Grass Valley, CA Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society Earth's Treasures Nevada County Fairgrounds 11228 MC Courtney Road Hours: 10 - 4 both days Cliff Swenson (530) 272-3752

October 21-22 2006, Anderson, CA Shasta Gem & Mineral Society Shasta District Fairgrounds Hours: Sat 10-5 Sun 10-4 Alex Stoltz (530) 474-4400

November 11-12 2006, Yuba City, CA Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Yuba Sutter Fairgrounds (Franklin Hall) 442 Franklin Avenue Hours: 9 - 4 both days Cliff Swenson (530) 272-3752

PLAC Report by Frank Monez

Many of the past PLAC Reports pertained to the "Paleontological Resources Preservation Act". It has been referred to the House Committee after being received from the Senate. Rather than trying to condense an article from the December, 2005 – January, 2006 AFMS Newsletter, "Truth and Some Consequences", it is being printed verbatim in the next article. Letters to our Senators and Congressional members, voicing comments to Bill S. 263, are urgently required. A full copy of the Bill can be obtained off the Internet. Go to <http://thomas.log.gov/home/thomas.html>, then go to "Search Bill Text", check "Bill Number", then insert "S.263" as the bill number. Clicking "Search" will get you to four copies of the actual bills. The latest version is "S 263 RFH".

When writing comments to government documents, try to be somewhat original. Form letters are usually identified, gathered together, and considered as a single comment.

If you have any questions, feel free to call me – Frank Monez, 408-578-7067, or email frankm2@sbcglobal.net.

TRUTH & SOME CONSEQUENCES

By John Spunaugle, Conservation/Legislative Chair
Article reprinted from AMFS newsletter 12/05-01/06

Some talking points on: The Paleontological Resources Preservation Act, Senate Bill S-263 now being considered by the U. S. House of Representatives Natural Resources Committee.

This Bill is, for all practical purposes, identical to the fossil bills considered by the 108th Congress in 2003-4. Therefore, past comments by previous AFMS and ALAA (American Lands Access Association) reviewers applies to this latest introduced Bill, S-263. Again, as in the last Congress, the Bill was passed by the U.S. Senate by voice vote and has been referred to the U.S. House of Representatives for consideration and possible passage. In the last Congress several reviewers called it a "bad bill" primarily because it criminalized fossil collecting with outrageous penalties for picking up a fossil on public land. The Bill was also criticized for its reward provisions for turning in violators, which seemed ripe for abuse. Those same statements apply to the current version.

The S-263 Bill has some good points and some bad points. For someone like myself, who helped write the first version of the "rockhound" fossil collecting bill, and worked to defeat the so called "Baccus Bill" in 1992-3, I can clearly see some improvements. Several of the objections the amateur fossil collecting public voiced to the original 1992-3 Bill have been remedied in this latest S-263 version. However, several of the re-

maining "rockhound" objections remain a part of Senate Bill S-263 as passed by the U.S. Senate.

Some of the remaining objections to the Bill S-263 in its current form are:

The Bill fails to make any distinction between scientifically significant and commonly found fossils. Instead it defines the paleontological resource it would protect to mean "any fossilized remains, trace, or imprints of organisms preserved in or on the earth's crust"...except for archaeological resources or those associated with an archaeological resource. (The latter are covered under an archaeological resources protection act passed many years ago). Casual collecting of a reasonable amount of common invertebrate and plant fossils may be allowed under this Bill in Section 5, at the discretion of the Secretary (the land managers). Therefore amateurs "may" be able to collect certain common invertebrate or plant fossils found on Federal lands, but not necessarily. Only hand tools could be used and collecting can not cause more than a "negligible surface disturbance" (undefined). Collecting common vertebrate fossils such as fish fossils, sharks teeth and the like, would be a violation of the act, as would picking up a isolated single dinosaur bone fragment in the badlands of the western United States if it was on Federal land.

All other collecting of paleontological resources on Federal lands would require a permit issued by the Secretary (the land managers) and be given only to "qualified" applicants. The resources collected would remain the property of the United States with the resources collected and the associated data deposited in a approved repository when collected under a permit.

Further, there would be no commercial collection of fossils allowed. This would preclude anyone, amateur or otherwise, from selling, trading, or bartering any fossil collected on federal land. Not only does this effect amateurs, but completely eliminates the valuable and considerable contributions to paleontology that commercial fossil entities have provided in the past in discovering, extraction, and preparation of fossils. The Dinosaur "Sue" a Tyrannosaurus Rex, is a perfect example.

Penalties for criminal violation of any provisions of this Bill would result in fines in accordance with Title 18 of the U.S. Code and/or imprisonment for up to 10 years. Title 18 provides for fines ranging up to \$5,000 and up to \$10,000 in certain circumstances, or up to \$250,000 in certain cases. Such cases would be tried in Federal Courts.

Civil penalties are also provided in the Bill and can go as high as double the replacement cost or restoration cost of the resource involved, The value is to be determined by the land managers. No due process is required under the civil penalty provisions other than a required notice of a hearing. A judicial review petition is

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TRUTH & SOME CONSEQUENCES

allowed only within a thirty day period following any civil penalty assessment, but the court is allowed to rule only on the evidence presented in the hearing report. Forget "innocent until proven guilty" and the right to a trial by your peers.

The Rewards and Forfeiture Section, Section 9, allows the Secretary of Interior or Secretary of Agriculture to pay a reward for information leading to a civil (or criminal) penalty. Rewards can go as high as \$500. So, you might want to look out for any neighbors who don't like you if you have any vertebrate fossils in your collection, especially, if you cannot prove where they came from. Most fossils I know of don't say "Made in China" or "Hocho en Mexico" on them. And, how many of you kept receipts on items purchased, or can you vouch for exactly where the vertebrate fossils really came from even if you did purchase them and can prove it?. The Bill calls for a person to exercise "due care" in knowing if the resource was excavated or removed from Federal land. Again "due care" is undefined.

Also subject to forfeiture under this Bill are "paleontological resources with respect to which a violation... occurred and which are in possession of any person and all vehicles and equipment of any person that were used in connection with the violation". I'm not a lawyer, but I do have knowledge of what has happened to several collectors and to several hobbyists in the past with regard to property confiscated, rightly or wrongly. In most cases nothing was ever returned regardless of its being legally obtained.

So, I worry for fossil collectors if this Bill, S 263, becomes law. The best way to prevent its passage in its present form is for each and everyone of us to communicate your feelings to your Congressional Representatives. A copy of the Bill is found on the Internet by using any of the Internet search engines, Google, yahoo, msn, etc.

There is nothing new on the other issues we are following including the America the Beautiful Pass and legislation that would restrict public access to federal lands. js

Geo-Quiz Answer: Santa Cruz Island

Santa Cruz Island is one of the eight Channel Islands off the coast of California. The largest of the islands, it is three times the size of Manhattan and has the greatest plant and animal diversity of all the Channel Islands.

Santa Cruz Island is actually two separate islands on the opposite sides of a geological fault. One of the land masses was volcanic and

the other is made up of ancient sedimentary layers. Twenty million years ago the two pieces of land slid into each other to create one island. Today, the fault runs through the center of the island from the southeast to the northwest. Ancient species of plants and animals from the two original islands can be found on the different sides of the fault.

The volcanic eastern side of the island is honeycombed with caves. Santa Cruz Island is home to the world's longest sea cave, 1277 feet long.

Santa Cruz Island has a variety of terrain: rugged coastline sheltering the endangered Santa Cruz Island dudleya or liveforever and providing shelter for numerous nesting sea birds, mountains dotted with the rare Santa Cruz Island pine and freshwater streams running through the valleys shaded by the Santa Cruz Island oak. These valleys are home to the endangered Santa Cruz Island fox and the rare island scrub jay.

Just like the Galapagos Islands of South America, California's Channel Islands are home to plant and animal species found no where else in the world.

Species Found only on Santa Cruz Island:

* Endangered # Threatened

Animals:

Santa Cruz Island Fox *
Santa Cruz Island harvest mouse *
Santa Cruz Island Deer mouse
Island scrub jay
Flightless Katydid
Santa Cruz Island Woodland Skipper
Santa Cruz Island cicada

Plants:

Santa Cruz Island fringepid or lacepod *
Santa Cruz Island Dudleya or liveforever *
Santa Cruz Island manzanita
Santa Cruz Island oak
Santa Cruz Island bird's-foot trefoil or silver lotus *
Santa Cruz Island gooseberry #
Santa Cruz Island bush-mallow *
Santa Cruz Island monkey flower*
Santa Cruz Island pine#

Species Believed Extinct:

Santa Cruz Island Monkey Flower

Via Chips 11/2005

reprinted from the Del Air Bulletin 7-8/2005

Show and Tell Member's Displays Schedule for Meetings this Year

All Members are asked to display one time per year. This list is alphabetical and members who live far away are not included, but may display at any time. If you cannot display in your designated month, that's OK, just display when you can. You can display as many times as you like. There are no displays in June and November due to the Silent Auctions and there are no displays in December because there is the installation dinner in lieu of our regular meeting. The displays are a much enjoyed feature of our monthly meetings.

Don't know what to display? Any type of rock (identified or not), your latest project, information on a field trip to take, ideas for a display case, anything to do with rocks!!!

January

David Alexander
Walter Andrus
Deborah and Gabriel Arambula
John Bahr and Suzi Papineau
Ruth Bailey
Chuck and Jeri Boblenz
Hershall and Nancy Boring
June Warne
Vito Cangemi

February

Maxie Casey
Don Cox
Lynda DeiRossi
John Eichhorn
Ron Erickson
Dennis Ewell
Claire Ferguson and Gordon Snyder
Mary Lu Ferrara and Larry Knutson
Robert Ferrario

March

Dodi and Talia Friedenbergl
JT Fuller
Misako Fuller
Dan Gehret
Jennie Gibson
Bill Gissler
Garth Hagen
Randy and June Harris
Ramona Heimlich

April

Jennifer Olsen House
Dick and Kit Hultquist
Rick Kennedy
Hans and Rose Kirsch
Nancy Kortright
Montella Lopez
Peggy Loranger
Gail Matthews
Alice McCammon

May

Gary and Kathy McChristian
Bill Mercer
Nancy Mezzanotte
Frank Monez
Larry and Winnie Moore
Gerry Moseley
Frank and Julaine Mullaney
Kevin Mullaney
Marc and Ann Marie Mullaney

July

Jim and Diana Nelson
Bill and Margaret Norton
Paul Nowicki
The Owen Family
John and Sylvia Palmieri
Howard Perry
Mike Perry
Claudia Peterson
Ted and Kathi Peverini

August

Dennis and Patricia Phelps
James Robertson
Georgiana Rudge
Jesus and Anne Ruiz
Rich and Niki Santone
Anthony Scott
Doris Smith
Ernestine Smith
Patricia Speece

September

Charles and Linda Spencer
Keesa Stewart
Dee Stolpe
John and Eva Surrell
Matt Surrell
Lynn Toschi
Johan Van Ommerren
Kelly Van Vleck
Herb and Rosalies Vogel

October

Sieg and Rosmarie Vogel
Debbie and Mark Wartenberg
The Windsor Family
Adam and Malia Yamashita
George and Jane Yamashita
Zachary Yamashita
John Zerbini
New Members

Safety Article

CARBON MONOXIDE By Chuck McKie CFMS Safety Chairman

Carbon monoxide (CO) is an odorless, colorless, deadly gas. It can kill you before you know it because you can't see it, taste it or smell it. At lower levels of exposure, it can cause health problems. Some people may be more vulnerable to CO poisoning such as fetuses, infants, children, senior citizens and those with heart or lung problems. When an individual breathes in CO, it accumulates in the blood and forms a toxic compound known as carboxyhemoglobin (COHb). Hemoglobin carries oxygen in the bloodstream to cells and tissues. Carbon monoxide attaches itself to hemoglobin and displaces the oxygen that the body organs need. Carboxyhemoglobin can cause headaches, fatigue, nausea, dizzy spells, confusion and irritability. Later stages of CO poisoning can cause vomiting, loss of consciousness and eventually brain damage or death.

Carbon monoxide is a by-product of combustion of fossil fuels. Fumes from automobiles contain high levels of CO. Appliances such as furnaces, space heaters, clothes dryers, ranges, ovens, water heaters, charcoal grills, fireplaces and wood burning stoves produce CO. Carbon monoxide usually is vented to the outside if appliances function correctly and the home is vented properly. Problems occur when furnace heat exchanger cracks or vents and chimneys become blocked. Insulation sometimes can trap CO in the home.

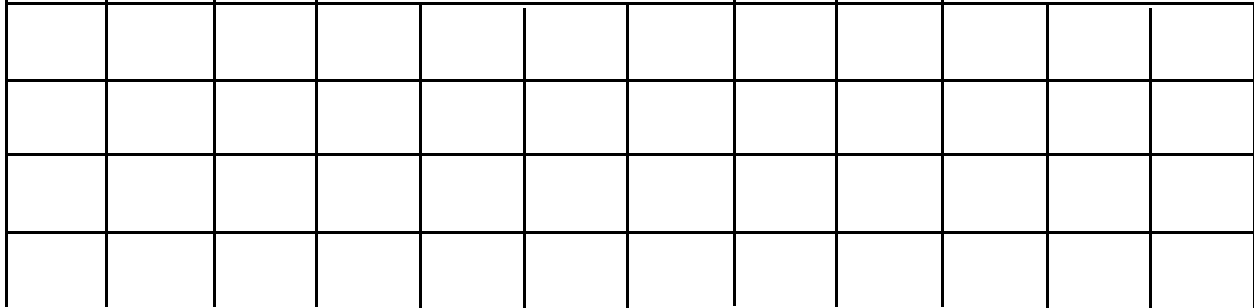
The Consumer Product Safety Commission and the Phoenix Fire Department recommend installing at least one carbon monoxide detector with an audible alarm near the bedrooms. If a home has more than one story, a detector should be placed on each story. Be sure the detector has a testing laboratory label. The following is a checklist for where to look for problem sources of CO in the home:

1. A forced air furnace is frequently the source of leaks and should be carefully inspected.
2. Measure the concentration of carbon monoxide in the flue gases.
3. Check furnace connections to flue pipes and venting systems to the outside of the home for signs of corrosion, rust gaps, holes.
4. Check furnace filters and filtering systems for dirt and blockage.
5. Check forced air fans for proper installation and to assure correct airflow of flue gases. Improper furnace blower installation can result in carbon monoxide build-up because toxic gas is blown into rather than out of the house.
6. Check the combustion chamber and internal heat exchanger for cracks, holes, metal fatigue or corrosion. Be sure they are clean and free of debris.
7. Check burners and ignition system. A flame that is mostly yellow in color in natural gas fired furnaces is often a sign that the fuel is not burning completely and higher levels of carbon monoxide are being released. Oil furnaces with similar problems can give off an oily odor. Remember you can't smell carbon monoxide.
8. Check all venting systems to the outside including flues and chimneys for cracks, corrosion, holes, debris, blockages. Animals and birds can build nests in chimneys preventing gases from escaping.
9. Check all other appliances in the home that use flammable fuels such as natural gas, oil, propane, wood or kerosene. Appliances include water heaters, clothes dryers, kitchen ranges, ovens or cooktops: wood burning stoves, gas refrigerators.
10. Pilot lights can be a source of carbon monoxide because the by-products of combustion are released inside the home rather than vented outside. Be sure space heaters are vented properly. Unvented space heaters that use a flammable fuel such as kerosene can release carbon monoxide into the home.
11. Barbecue grills should never be operated indoors under any circumstances nor should stovetops or ovens that operate on flammable fuels be used to heat a residence.
12. Check fireplaces for closed, blocked or bent flues, soot and debris.
13. Check the clothes dryer vent opening outside the house for lint.

Via the Phoenix Fire Department, via CFMS Newsletter 12/2005

Need a place to keep all your polished cabs?

Well here is a simple and effective way. Take a hand towel and fold it in half. Sew up the sides and to edges. Now sew horizontal rows across the towel a little wider than your cabs. Row size can vary, depending on your needs. Then sew vertical rows a little wider than your cabs. Decide which edge is up. Using a sharp knife or X-acto, slice close to the seam to form a pouch. Do this for each little pocket. You now have a way to keep your cabs from being damaged. It should look something like this:



When I first started making cabs, Frank Martz told me of this idea. The towel will lay flat and are easier to stack. If you have any great tips and /or questions, just send them to me. I will do my best to answer any questions and pass on any great tips. Margaret Kolaczyk.

Via Amador Nugget 1/05, via The Golden Frog 12/2005

Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society Board Meeting Minutes December 8, 2005

President John Eichhorn called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM at the home of Pat Speece. All board members were present except R. K. Owen, John Bahr, Lynn Toschi, Don Cox, Ruth Bailey and Jane Yamashita. Minutes for the October 27, 2005 meeting were approved as read. Minutes for the November 22, 2005 meeting were approved as read.

Treasurer's Report: M/S/P to pay the bills.

Communications: We received show fliers from other clubs, CFMS Scholarship Fund recognition for a donation, CFMS Endowment Fund recognition for a donation, The Gem Shop order form for 2006 calendars, The Fundamental Rockhound order form for a Treasure Scoop, Santa Barbara Club support for an honorary CFMS membership for Dr. John Parrish, California State Mining and Mineral Museum requesting we renew our membership for 2006.

New Members: None.

PLAC: See details in the Breccia.

2006 Show: The next show meeting will be January 18th at Marc Mullaney's home at 7:30 PM. Currently 33 dealers have reserved a spot, most are paid in full.

Unfinished Business: Discussion was held about renewing Liability Insurance through CFMS for 2006. We will need to purchase additional insurance for the show.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

President Eichhorn called the meeting to order at 8:30 PM with the incoming Board of Directors. All Board members were present except for Ruth Bailey, Lynn Toschi, and Jane Yamashita. Treasurer and Parliamentarian positions are open.

Treasurer's Report: There was extensive discussion about the Financial Advisory Committee and the use of club funds under the new 501(c)(3)-tax exemption. Discussion was held about the way the club books are kept. Frank Mullaney will be resigning as a Director at the January regular meeting. M/ S/ P to pay the CFMS dues and insurance as soon as the directory update is completed.

New Business: There was discussion about building workbenches for the metalsmithing classes. The next Study Group Weekend will be February 18th. There will be a Potluck before the February Regular meeting. There was discussion about having an event calendar at the meetings. M/ S/ P to renew membership with the California State Mining and Mineral Museum. M/ S/ P to have a new badge made for Winnie Moore.

Field Trips: Adam Yamashita will chair a field trip committee.

M/ S/ P to Adjourn at 9:50 PM

Pat Speece served refreshments that were enjoyed by all.

Respectfully Submitted,

Randy Harris

**SCVGMS TREASURER'S REPORT
7 December 2005**

Beginning Balance 18,903.40

Receipts	06 Show Dealers	2,950.00	
	Installation Dinner	675.00	
	Silent Auction	282.75	
	SJ Mercury News	198.00	
	Sub-total		4,105.75

Disbursements	Website Expenses	134.88	
	06 Show: Lucky Dip	100.00	
	Fed. Dir. Fall Meeting	76.00	
	06 Show: Name Badges	58.01	
	06 Show: Guest Exhibits	45.67	
	BRECCIA: Postage Dec.	36.00	
	Meeting Expense: Dec.	27.00	
	Hospitality Expense	7.58	
	Installation Dinner	1,064.80	
	Meeting Room Rent	202.00	
	(Aug thru Dec)		
	BRECCIA: Dec Printing	42.43	
	Stringer's Expenses	330.97	
	Sub-total		2,125.34

Ending Balance 20,883.81

Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society 2006

ELECTED OFFICERS

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Parliamentarian: OPEN

COMMITTEE HEADS

Field Trip Committee Coordinator: Adam Yamashita
Field Trip Committee: John Eichhorn, Randy and June Harris, Jennifer House
Founder's Day Picnic Food: June and Randy Harris
Founder's Day Picnic Raffle: OPEN
Founder's Day Bingo: OPEN
Hospitality: Rich and Niki Santone
Installation Dinner: Kathy McChristian
Juniors: Mark and Debbie Wartenberg
Gary and Kathy McChristian,
Librarians: June Warne and Nancy Boring
Member Display: Open
PLAC (Public Lands Advisory Committee)
Frank Monez
Program: OPEN
Refreshments: Claire Ferguson
Sargeant-at-arms: Hershall Boring
Show 2006: Marc Mullaney
Show 2007: OPEN
Silent Auction: John and Sylvia Palmieri
Sunshine: Ernestine Smith
Trailer Custodian: Herb Vogel
Trophies: Frank Mullaney
Webmaster: RK Owen

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Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society

Send Exchange Bulletins to:

June Harris

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Scotts Valley, CA 95066



Please Deliver Promptly

Birthstones

The following birthstone list was adopted in 1912 by the forerunner of the present Retail Jewelers of America
Via The Rockhounder 12/2005

Month	Official birthstone	Powers anciently attributed to the birthstone	Alternates
January	Garnet	Brings its wearer power, grace and victory	Chalcedony
February	Amethyst	Calms the overwrought, pacifies the frustrated	Hyacinth, Zircon
March	Aquamarine Bloodstone	Preserves marriage, stops wounds from bleeding	Jasper, Ruby
April	Diamond	Heightens awareness of the infinite	Sapphire, Crystal
May	Emerald	Symbol of immortality and incorruptibility	Agate, Chrysoprase
June	Pearl, Moonstone, Alexandrite	Power to make the married wearer cry	Emerald
July	Ruby	Confers long life, health and happiness	Pearl, Turquoise
August	Peridot , Sardonyx	Gives protection from melancholy and illusion, Brings self control and success in legal matters	Carnelian, Alexandrite
September	Sapphire	Protects against poison and plague	Beryl, Lapis Lazuli
October	Opal	Brings its bearer luck	Tourmaline
November	Topaz, Citrine	Improves psychic abilities and strengthens the body	Pearl, Garnet, Cats Eye
December	Turquoise, Zircon	Draws upon itself the evil that threatens its wearer. Promises riches, wisdom and honor	Blue Zircon, Ruby