

Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society

Send Exchange Bulletins to:

June Harris

107 Dell Way

Scotts Valley, CA 95066



Please Deliver Promptly

BRECCIA

Santa Clara Valley
Gem and Mineral Society



All American Club

Volume 54
Number 8

San Jose, CA
September, 2007

SCVGMS ELECTED OFFICERS

President: Randy Harris
(831) 438-5150
Vice President: Marc Mullaney
(408) 691-1584
Secretary: John Eichhorn
(408) 749-0523
Treasurer: Frank Mullaney
(408) 266-1791
Editor: June Harris
(831) 438-5150
Federation Director: Ruth Bailey
(408) 248-6195
Alternate Fed. Director: Gail Matthews
(650) 962-9960
Directors:
Rick Kennedy (408) 529-9690
Larry Moore (650) 941-4966
Dean Welder (408) 353-2675
Matt Wood (408) 744-9402
Jim Ziegler (408) 528-4907
Historian: Linda Spencer (408) 997-7319
Parliamentarian: Bill Gissler (408) 241-0477

SCVGMS COMMITTEE HEADS

Donation Receiving Committee Chairman:
George Yamashita
Field Trip Committee Coordinator:
Dean Welder
Field Trip Committee: Randy and June Harris, John Eichhorn, Marc Mullaney
Financial Advisory Committee: Ruth Bailey, Chuck Boblenz
Founder's Day Picnic Food: Carol Pimentel
Founder's Day Picnic Raffle: Pat Speece
Founder's Day Bingo: John Eichhorn
Hospitality: Claire Ferguson
Installation Dinner: Open
Future RH: Gail Matthews & Marsha Owen
Librarian: Pat Speece
Member Displays: Jim Ziegler
PLAC: (Public Lands Advisory Committee)
Frank Monez
Program: Bill Gissler
Refreshments: Marsha Owen and Denise Osterback
Secret Auction: Donation Receiving Comm.
Sergeant-at-arms: John Eichhorn
Show 2008: Marc Mullaney
Silent Auction: John and Sylvia Palmieri
Social Committee: June Harris and Claire Ferguson
Sunshine: Ernestine Smith
Trailer Custodian: Herb Vogel
Trophies: Frank Mullaney
Webmaster: RK Owen

Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society

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 Road between Leigh Avenue and Harwood Road.

Our next general meeting will be on September 25, 2007 at the Cabana Club, 100 Belwood Gateway, Los Gatos, CA 95032 at 7:45 PM.

Our next board meeting will be on September 27, 2007 at June Harris' home, 107 Dell Way, Scotts Valley, CA 95066 at 7:30 PM.

Our Society's 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.

Our 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.

Our Newsletter, the Breccia, is published ten times annually. The deadline for most articles is the Sunday before the regular meeting. The Breccia Editor is June Harris who may be contacted by email at juneconeyharris@yahoo.com or by phone at (831) 438-5150. The Breccia is proofread by Linda Spencer. Ruth Bailey and Bill Norton handle all aspects of mailing. Exchange bulletins may be sent to June Harris at the following address: 107 Dell Way, Scotts Valley, CA 95066. Permission to copy is freely granted to American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) affiliated clubs when proper credit is given.

Study Group Leaders

For information on a study group, please call the leader(s) listed below

Cutaways & Carvers	Frank Mullaney	(408) 266-1791
Facet Cutters	Max Casey	(408) 227-0526
Fossileers	Gail Matthews	(650) 962-9960
Future Rockhounds	Gail Matthews & Marsha Owen	(650) 962-9960
	Marsha Owen	(408) 377-5373
Jewelers	Marc Mullaney	(408) 691-1584
Mineraleers	Chuck Boblenz	(408) 734-2473
Smithies	Kelly Van Vleck & Pat Speece	(408) 262-8187
	Pat Speece	(408) 266-4327
Stringers	Pat Speece	(408) 266-4327

Randy's Ramblings

Hello Fellow Rockhounds,

I hope you can join us for the club trip to Clear Creek on Sunday, October 7th. If you would like to go, please contact John Eichhorn or myself and let us know. We will give details when you call. Our phone numbers are listed here in the Breccia.

We now have a better way to contact everyone by E-mail through the Website. If you are not getting the E-mail notices that go out on a regular basis, please send Marc Mulaney or June Harris a message so they can add you to the list. If you have changed your E-mail address recently, please let them know what the new one is. The messages for meetings and other club activities are sent out several times a month. Marc and June are the only authorized users of this system. It saves the club quite a bit of money to send notices by E-mail rather than using the Postal Service.

Please fill out your Time and Talent sheets and turn them in at the September 25th meeting. I will appoint a nominating committee at the meeting, and they will use the Time and Talent sheets to determine the recommended nominees. This makes their job much easier. Otherwise they will have to call everyone in the directory to find people willing to run for office. The Time and Talent sheets also help me when it comes time to appoint committees. If I know who is willing to help, I won't have to bother the rest of you! Nominations for officers are coming up in October. The election will be held at the November meeting.

The Board has reserved the Cabana Club for our annual Installation Dinner. We are working on the logistics at present. We are looking into having it catered if we can find good food at a reasonable price. Any suggestions would be welcome.

Randy Harris, President

Founder's Day Picnic Report

by Carol Pimentel

The annual Founder's Day Picnic was held on Saturday, June 23rd at the Cabana Club with 35 persons in attendance. It was a sunny and relaxing afternoon. The club provided BBQ tri-tip, chicken, hotdogs, bread, beans, and drinks. Members brought many delicious side dishes and desserts.

Thanks to Pat Speece for organizing a raffle and John Eichhorn for organizing a bingo game. It appeared that everyone got a prize or two (or more), and it looked like everyone had a fun time! A big thank you goes to Randy and June Harris for their advice and assistance.

September and October Meeting Programs

Since the source of almost all of the rocks and the neat gems we use in our lapidary work are the result of volcanic activity, our September and October programs will be on volcanism.

The September program, Volcanic Activity, is a program about volcanism describing the three associated sites: (1) convergent plate margins, (2) divergent plate margins, and (3) hot spots. This program is a 30-minute VHS from the "Earth Revealed". Volcanoes provide clues about what is going on inside Earth. Animations are used to illustrate volcanic processes and how plate boundaries are related to volcanism. Various types of eruptions, craters, cones and vents, lava domes, magma, and volcanic rocks are surveyed.

The October program will deal with volcanic hot spots that you can visit.

Check out what our study groups are doing!!!

Mineraleers by Chuck Boblenz



The Mineraleers will meet on Monday, September 10th at 7:30 PM. The topic will be "Geodes & Thundereggs: What Can They Tell Us?" The meeting will take place at the Boblenz' residence. Please RSVP to Chuck or Jeri at (408) 734-2473.



SMITHIES BY KELLY VAN VLECK

We have just completed our second week of the silver class, and all students are doing very well with their projects. We still have two more weeks with two projects to go. I think this will probably be the last class for this year because of vacations.

Jewelers by Marc Mullaney



Our next meeting will be on Thursday, September 6, 2007. We will continue to work on our filigree bracelet. If you were not at our last meeting, a materials list is available if you contact me. I will also have some materials available for you to purchase if you want to get started. Please contact me if you have any questions. Marc at 408-691-1584 or geologistm@aol.com

FACETERS

The Faceters will be meeting on September 1st and October 6th at Max Casey's home from 9-noon to work on the beginning skills for faceting. For directions and additional information, call Max at (408) 227-0526. Please RSVP if you are planning to attend the meeting.



Cutaways & Carvers

Cutaways & Carvers study group will be starting to meet again on September 13th at the Cabana Club at 7:00 PM. The Cutaways study group is for the cutting and polishing of stones (cabochons, flats, or polished specimens). The Carvers is for carving into soft or hard stones. The meeting on the 13th will be a planning meeting where projects and the focus of the group will be discussed and decided. There will be a \$5.00 fee for the rental of the clubhouse for each meeting. Please RSVP to Frank if you are interested in joining this study group. For more information and to RSVP, contact Frank Mullaney at (408) 266-1791 or email him at rockyfiv@aol.com.

Next Demo Day October 27, 2007 10 AM — 3 PM

All the study groups will be there. Come and check out what they are planning for the coming months. Additionally, area teachers are invited to attend and view the Kids Area and get information regarding signing up to visit our 2008 show.

If you have questions regarding the October Demo Day, please contact Marc Mullaney at geologistm@aol.com or (408) 691-1584.

Dichroic Glass Class

Sunday, October 28, 2007, 9 AM-5 PM

Cost: \$55.00 per person

Contact Ruth Bailey (408) 248-6195 if you are interested in attending the class.

Must have a minimum of 10 people to hold the class. Deadline: September 25

Stringers

by Pat Speece

Stringers met twice this month to make two bracelets: Grace's Bracelet and the Daisy Bracelet. In September, we are making a Byzantine chain bracelet with several large beads added. This looks difficult, but it is not. Questions? email Pat at sparkylarky@sbcglobal.net, or phone 408-266-4327.

Specimens needed

SCVGMS is donating a wall mounted display case to the Hollister BLM office. Additionally, we would like to fill the display case with rocks and minerals specimens from the Clear Creek area. If you have any rock and/or minerals from the Clear Creek BLM area that you would like to donate, please contact Rick Kennedy. Rick is collecting specimens for the case and is intimately familiar with the vast mineral and rock varieties of the area. Rick's phone number is (408) 529-9690.

Sunshine

by Ernestine Smith 

June Warne has had her knee replacement surgery, is improving, and is home now. She would enjoy cards.

John Palmieri had his successful hip replacement surgery August 23 and is progressing well. He said that if anyone wants to phone him, he is at home now.

If you have information concerning any member who is ill, hospitalized, or has had a death in the family, please contact our sunshine person, Ernestine Smith, (408) 395-5035.

August Meeting Program Reviewed

by Bill Gissler

The August program was a slide presentation by Bill Gissler of the CFMS "Exploring Meteorite and Tektite Mysteries". This 2004 AFMS Competition Program winner is based on the original script provided by NASA. The program answers questions like:

- 1) What are the differences between a meteor and a meteorite?
- 2) Where do meteorites come from and how many fall to Earth annually?
- 3) What are they made from and how are they different?
- 4) How are they bearers of life and death?
- 5) What is the best place on Earth to find meteorites?

The program closed with several slides on tektites. Bill showed a piece of translucent green Moldavite tektite that he purchased in the Czeck Republic where it is found and is recognized as the nation's gem stone. One of our guests brought several meteorites for display.

Would you like to renew or order a new subscription to Rock and Gem?

The club receives a \$6.00 premium for each subscription if the members order through the club secretary. Deadline September 25. Cost \$19.99 Contact John Eichhorn if you would like to renew or order a new subscription.

SCVGMS 2007 Calendar

September 1 Faceter's meeting at Max Casey's home at 9:00 AM.

September 6 Jewelers meeting at the Cabana Club at 7:00 PM.

September 10 Mineraleers meeting at Chuck Boblenz' home at 7:30 PM.

September 13 Cutaways and Carvers at the Cabana Club at 7:00 PM.

September 25 Regular Meeting at 7:45 PM at the Cabana Club. Nominating committee elected.

September 27 Board Meeting at June Harris' home at 7:30 PM.

October 4 Jewelers meeting at the Cabana Club at 7:00 PM.

October 6 Faceters meeting at Max Casey's home at 9:00 AM.

October 23 Potluck before meeting at 6:30 PM, Regular Meeting at 7:45 PM, both at the Cabana Club.

October 25 Board Meeting at Marc Mullaney's home at 7:30 PM .

October 27 Demonstration Day at the Cabana Club from 10-3.

November 1 Jewelers meeting at the Cabana Club at 7:00 PM.

November 27 Regular Meeting at 7:45 PM at the Cabana Club. Election of Board and Silent Auction throughout the meeting.

November 29 Board Meeting at Larry Moore's home at 7:30 PM.

December 4 Installation Dinner at the Cabana Club.

December 6 Board Meeting at 7:30 PM. Location to be determined.

Work Bench For Sale

It is good and solid with a handy top shelf. Dimensions are 28.5" high + the little top shelf is 9" above the main table top. 24" deep and 32" wide. Sturdy and does not wobble. The Donation Receiving Committee is asking \$10 or the best offer for this work table. Please contact Pat Speece at 408-266-4327 or sparkylarky@sbcglobal.net for your offer or for further information.

Field Trip Seminar

Peninsula Gem & Geology Society is hosting a field trip seminar at the Garden House in Shoup Park in Los Altos on Saturday, October 6, 2007. Dave Muster, CFMS Field Trip North, will be presenting the seminar and members are encouraged to attend. The seminar, will be from 9:00 am to noon, and a sandwich lunch will be provided.

There will be information on map reading, and we will cover items which need to be addressed by a field trip leader and using the BLM to check land status. Boundaries, Quarter Corners, Township, Section and Range Lines will be considered.

Upcoming Field Trip Opportunities

Contact Dean Welder (408) 353-2675 for information about the below field trips. Dean will make the appropriate introductions for you to be able to attend.

September 15-16 7th annual Tailgate Gemboree at the Kennedy Mine (in Gold Rush area) from 9am—5pm.

September 23-29 Southern Utah for petrified wood.

October 6 San Andreas area for serpentine and to Stories in Stone, presentation by Russ Shoemaker.

October 6 CFMS Seminar for field trip leaders

October 7 Clear Creek Trip—Article in Breccia

October 27-28 Kettleman Hills, CA for fossils

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you....

... to Linda Spencer, Chris Cherry, Claire Ferguson, Ernestine Smith, Ruth Bailey, Montella Lopez, Grace Santos, and Jessica Kernan for their help making rock bags for next year show's Kids Area. Great progress has been made, and with a bit more work, all of the bags will be finished.

In the Spring we will have a rock bag stuffing day, where the rock bags will be filled with five rocks. The rock bags are playing an important part in teaching kids, who visit the Kids Area, the ABC's of rocks and minerals.

2008 Show Report

by Marc Mullaney

We are going to start pushing for the next show on April 4, 5, and 6, 2008. A new attraction, that the board approved for the 2008 show, was a special raffle. The prize is a Barranca cab machine which retails for \$1,200. Tickets are \$1 each or a book of 6 for \$5. The special raffle is not in any way related to the door prizes or the Lucky Dip.

We are almost 50% full of dealers already, and the contracts keep coming in. June is working diligently on the Kids Area which we are expanding to grade school kids on Friday.

I have been pleased with advertising efforts, but I think we can do better. A subcommittee will be getting together to look at how we are spending our advertising dollars.

Lastly, I am looking for volunteers for all the usual jobs. Most of the main ones are filled, but for the smaller jobs I still need some people. I will send out a separate list and start calling people to help fill those in. With everyone pitching in, the work for this next show will be light for everyone. Questions, please contact me at geologistm@aol.com or (408) 691-1584.

DRC Report by Jane Yamashita

The Donation Receiving Committee had another successful sale on Aug. 4th. The proceeds of \$400.+ was added to the SCVGMS treasury. This amounts to thousands of dollars since the committee was formed less than a year ago. We spent the day before (actually many days before) the sale sorting rocks and adding many rocks to the free tables. We may have a close-out sale or no sale until another donation comes in to the club. Hopefully this will happen via the club phone number or via members who receive donation information. If you have information about any donations, please call the DRC chairman (George Yamashita) at 408-353-2982 or email him at Leikili5@comcast.net. So far, most of our donations have come from information received from the general membership. Thanks again to the hard-working DRC and its supporters.

Clear Creek Field Trip by Randy Harris

Date: October 7, 2007

Meeting Time: 7:30 AM SHARP

Meeting Place: D Mart on the corner of E. Tenth and Chestnut Streets in Gilroy. D Mart address is 6900 Chestnut St., Gilroy, CA 95020.

Meeting place directions: From San Jose, take Highway 101 south to Gilroy. Take the Highway 152 east exit. At the exit, turn right. Immediately get into the inside lane and turn left at the first signal onto Chestnut St.

What we hope to find: plasma agate, jadeite, chromite, yellow garnet.

Tools needed: sledge hammer, chisels, collecting bags and buckets, safety goggles or glasses, heavy gloves.

Other suggested items: sturdy shoes, long pants, lots of water, sunscreen, lunch, and a full tank of gas.

Everyone who is attending the field trip will be required to sign in and out and also fill out and turn in a waiver form to the field trip leaders. Sign in/out sheet and waiver forms will be available at the meeting place.

RSVP to Randy Harris (831) 438-5150 or John Eichhorn (408) 749-0523 by October 5, 2007.

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



August 31 - Sept. 3 2007, Fort Bragg, CA Mendocino Coast Gem & Mineral Society Town Hall, Main & Lausal Hours: Sat. & Sun 10-6; Mon. 10-4 Don McDonell (707) 964-3116

September 15-16 2007, Redwood City, CA Sequoia Gem & Mineral Society, Community Activities Building, 1400 Rosewood Ave., Hours: 10-5 both days, Carol Corden (650) 248-7155, Email: ccorden@earthlink.net Website: sgms.driftpmine.com

September 15-16 2007, Paso Robles CA Santa Lucia Rockhounds, Pioneer Park Museum, 2010 Riverside Drive, Hours: 10-5 both days, Mike Doherty (815) 466-4061, Email: mdoherty@tcsn.net.

September 20-23 2007, San Bernardino CA Orange Belt Mineral Society, Inc., Western Region Little League Ball Park, 6707 Little League Dr., Hours: 9 a.m. - Dusk each day, Emma Rose Couveau (951) 288-6182

September 22 2007, Los Altos, CA Peninsula Gem & Geology Society Recreation with Rocks Rancho Shopping Center Foothill Expressway & Springer Road Hours: Sat. 9:30am - 4:30pm David Muster (408) 245-2180 Email: colleen.mcgann@hds.com

September 22-23 2007, Downey, CA, Delvers Gem & Mineral Society, Woman's Club of Downey, 9813 Paramount Blvd., Hours: Sat. 10 - 6; Sun. 10 - 4, Steve Miller (562) 633-0614, Email : guynellallen@sbcglobal.net

September 29-30 2007, Monterey, CA Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society, Monterey Fairgrounds, 2004 Fairgrounds Rd., Hours: Sat. 10 - 6; Sun. 10 - 5, Sky Paston (831) 417-7477, Email: sky@familystones.net, Janis Rovetti (831) 657-1933, Website: www.cvgms.org

September 29-30 2007, Stockton, CA Stockton Lapidary and Mineral Club, Scottish Rite Masonic Center, 33 West Alpine Ave., Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4, Nettie Meissner (209) 858-2263

October 7 2007, Fallbrook, CA Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Society "Fall Festival of Gems" FGMS Museum 123 W. Alvarado Hours: 10-4 Mary Fong-Walker (760) 723-3484 Email: mrwiz-ard@tfb.com

October 13-14 2007, Grass Valley, CA, Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society, "Earth's Treasures", Nevada County Fairgrounds, 11228 McCourtney Road, Hours: 10 - 5 both days, Cliff Swenson (530) 272-3752

October 13-14 2007, Lakeside, CA, Cajon Valley Gem & Mineral Society, Lakeside Rodeo Grounds, 12584 Mapleview, Hours: 10-5 both days, David Newton (619) 390-5054, Email: jontom@nethere.com

October 13-14 2007, Trona, CA, Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society, "66th Annual Gem-O-Rama" , Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society, 13337 Main Street , Hours: Sat. 7:30 - 5; Sun. 7:30 - 4, Bonnie Fairchild (760) 372-5356, Email jbfairchild@verizon.net, Website: www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub/tronagemclub.html

October 20 2007, West Hills, CA, Woodland Hills Rock Chippers, "9th Annual Show", First United Methodist Church, 22799 Sherman Way, Hours: Sat. 10 - 5, Virginia Rotramel (818) 790-7598, Email: info@rockchippers.org, Website: www.rockchippers.org

October 20-21 2007, Anderson, CA Shasta Gem & Mineral Society, Shasta District Fairgrounds, Hours: Sat. 9-5: Sun. 10-4

Bill Seward (530) 365-8641

October 20-21 2007, Placerville, CA El Dorado County Mineral & Gem Society El Dorado County Fairgrounds 100 Placerville Drive Hours: 10 - 5 both days Jackie Cerrato (530) 677-2975 Email: jacobocer@directcon.net Website: eldoradomineralandgem.org

October 20-21 2007, Santa Rosa, CA Santa Rosa Mineral & Gem Society Veterans' Memorial Auditorium 1351 Maple Avenue, Santa Rosa Hours: Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5 Shirley Mattson or Tom Dering / (707) 795-1730 or (707) 564-4537 Email: squirly48@yahoo.com or farmarch@sonic.net Website: www.gem-n-i.org

October 20-21 2007, Whittier, CA, Whittier Gem & Mineral Society, Whittier Community Center, 7630 Washington Avenue, Hours: Sat. 10-5: Sun. 10-5, Jay Valle: (626) 934-9764

November 3-4 2007, Concord, CA, Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society, Centre Concord - 5298 Clayton Rd. Clayton Fair Shopping Center, Hours: 10 - 5 both days Sam Woolsey (925) 837-3287

November 3-4 2007, Anaheim, CA American Opal Society, Clarion Hotel Anaheim Resort, 616 Convention Way (off Harbor Blvd.), Hours: Sat. 10-6; Sun 10-5, Jim Lambert (714) 891-7171, Email: jlamb777@yahoo.com, Website: opal.society.org

November 3-4 2007, Lancaster, CA, Palmdale Gem & Mineral Society, 2551 W. Ave. H, Hwy 14, Hours: 9 - 5 both days, Susan Chassin-Walblom (661) 943-1861, Email: SLChassin@yahoo.com Website: pgms@antelecom.net

November 3-4 2007, Ridgecrest, CA Indian Wells Gem & Mineral Society, Desert Empire Fairgrounds, Mesquite Hall, 520 S. Richmond Rd., Hours: 9-5 both days, John De Rosa (760) 375-7905

November 10-11 2007, Yuba City, CA, Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society, "Festival of Gems", Grace Franklin Hall, 442 Franklin Avenue, Hours: Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 9 - 4 Cliff Swenson (530) 272-3752

November 17-18 2007, Oxnard, CA, Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society, 800 Hobson Way, Hours: Sat. 9 - 5, Sun. 10-4, Miriam Tetraut (805) 642-5779, Website: www.OGMS.net

December 1-2 2007, Orangevale, CA American River Gem & Mineral Society, Orangevale Grange, 5807 Walnut Ave., Hours: 10-5 both days, Florence Hansan (916) 955-5189, Evelyn Tipton (916) 791-4517

2008 Shows

January 19-20 2008, Exeter, CA Tule Gem & Mineral Society Gemboree, Veteran's Memorial Bldg., On Highway 65, Hours: Sat. 10 - 5, Sun. 10-4, Marshall Havner (559) 562-4133, Email: mdhavner@verizon.net

April 4-6, 2008, San Jose, CA, Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society, Santa Clara County Fairgrounds, 344 Tully Rd, Hours: Fri 9-5, Sat 10-5, Sun 10-5, Marc Mul-laney (408) 691-1584, Website: www.scvgms.org

Lead Safety in Faceting by Blaise Harper

I can't take it anymore. All these postings about biting lead bullets and almost slurping the stuff (lead or mercury) has driven me up-the-wall. As gentlemanlike and as politely as possible, I must say that I have never heard such misknowing and misinformed information presented in such a cavalier manner and on a subject matter that can be life or death. Please, if you are considering cutting any rough containing lead, then please don't do it. Jon must be correct when he said the poor guy probably couldn't remember to come out of the rain.

I will tell you my story regarding the cutting of three stones of high lead content. Considering my background, it's a bit embarrassing to go public about this. Of course I have felt really stupid for harming myself. I had worked for a number of years in Silicon Valley and among other things was involved in monitoring clean rooms specs and docs for related equipment for producing clean rooms. Considering the loose talk on cutting stones with lead content I feel it would be nice if I could save someone from nearly dying as I almost did. Here is my story.

On e-bay I purchased a piece of unused clean nuclear reactor brick glass. For those of you who have recently described your lead glass, I would say what you have is what I cut. It was the high RI that lured me. I cut three stones that were each close to 20mm in diameter. I felt that I would have no problem. I ran lots of water. I kept my cutting desk and equipment very clean. I have good air circulation in the room. Looking back I now realize that if I had enough material to cut two more stones I would not be here to tell about it.

I cut these three stones rather quickly. Sometime later I started getting what I thought were symptoms of sinusitis. After several doctor visits, the doctor was unsure of what was happening. To make a longer story short, I had what the CDC would class as a Class V level of lead poisoning. I was around 65 micrograms per deciliter. Two more stones would have put me well over 100, and that is when permanent organ and/or brain damage happens. While this determination was ongoing, I was getting worse and worse. It became like looking at the world through a very bent looking glass. For all I know, it's about on par with what a terminal cancer patient must experience. It was easily the sickest I had ever been in my life.

As usual the patient has to make a final choice on what kind of action to take to get the lead out. It was go to the hospital for several weeks which included intravenous chelation at a cost of 20k to 40k depending on how it went or to do oral chelation instead. When a person is this ill, cost is not a factor. At first intravenous chelation looked like the best choice. Thanks to the research capability of the Internet, I was able to make a better informed decision to do oral chelation.

I found the only two companies in the US that put out an oral chelation product that will remove heavy metal, including lead and mercury, at a removal rate that would get me quickly out of danger. I had these two products

shipped to me. Within about 8 or 9 days my level went down to 6 micrograms per deciliter. By this time I was feeling really great and at first believed that I was nearly cured. How wrong I was to find out as more time went by and more blood tests were done.

I did learn that the CDC loses interest when the level falls below 10 or even 20. In fact intravenous chelation, because of how it is administered, does not usually get the reading down as low as 10. Doctors tend to accept anything under 20 as good enough. That is poor thinking based on my experience of trying to remove all the lead. I have now been on this program for 16 months.

What happens is that chelation gets the lead out of the tissues and into the blood stream. Then the liver processes it, and it starts to be eliminated through the small intestine. Before it can get through the small intestine, the lead passes through the wall of the intestine, goes back into the blood, and then goes back into the tissues. The lead goes around in circles. After understanding this problem, I'm finally using some advanced techniques to overcome this recycle problem. So far it looks like it is working, and hopefully, before this year is over, I will be lead free.

Do low levels over 10 and under 20 cause a problem? There are more than 2 million young children in the US that have levels above 10. Because their brains are not fully developed, it's known that these children will have permanent IQ's 10-20 or more points lower than normal. These are inner-city kids who are eating lead paint chips from the older housing in which they live. This is ongoing, and there are no programs to halt this from happening again and again.

My lead level is under 4 now and dropping, but I still have symptoms. My energy level is almost back to normal. Lead lowers one's energy level. Water retention is also a symptom. These symptoms are going away as I approach zero for lead. As long as I still take oral chelation and the special supplements that actually cause the lead to be expelled and not go around and around, I feel fine. Right now I feel as good as I was in my school days, and I'm 65 now. I have no long-term organ or brain damage, but I did take an aggressive long-term approach toward treatment and I have stuck with it. All in all, it has been a sobering experience. It has made me approach faceting from a different viewpoint.

My faceting machine now sits inside a laminar flow hood that I designed. I may have the only faceting machine in the US set up this way. I had the plastic fab shop make it for me out of 1/4 inch Plexiglas. The back, top, and two ends are solid walls except for the round hole for an exhaust fan. It's working well, and I do not have any problems with the tight space. Air is sucked in through the front and exits out the hole in the top using a pretty healthy exhaust fan. I also do not cut material that contains lead. By the way, this nuclear reactor brick window glass is about 81% lead oxide or about 70% lead.

Article continues on page 10

Yes, as soon as you grind away on it, you are very susceptible to being poisoned by lead. Do you believe that the 19% silicon dioxide will encapsulate the 81% lead oxide and hide it from your lungs.

In looking back, I know now what one mistake I made that nearly killed me. I will not say what it was, because if I did, then someone might decide they could cut lead after all if they avoided this little no-no. The idea is to not cut material that contains lead.

If a person wanted to devise a machine to put heavy metals into the air for a person to breathe, then a faceting machine is the ideal means of delivery. The horizontal spinning disk grinds the rock into particles small enough to become airborne. The spinning produces a vortex of air current, and the particles are thrown up into the air. The person running this machine keeps his or her nose fairly close to the grindstone (so to speak), so airborne particles do not have far to go to be inhaled. When examined in this light, faceting may be considered to be a fairly dangerous activity. After I got well, I had to decontaminate my entire work room because it seemed like it had become a toxic waste dump.

Apparently some people who facet seem to believe that they have been immune to heavy metal poisoning. What is really happening is that inch by inch they are shortening their life and the quality of their life. This event was easily the most stupid thing I have ever done in my life. I hope my experience and the telling of it will deter others from making the same mistake.

via The Tumbler, 2/2005; downloaded from some Internet message board, the original posting dated 3/24/04.

Yellow Lead Oxide—An Industry Perspective: How to Handle Lead by Michel De Poortere

Lead oxide has low solubility and is not acutely toxic. Visible symptoms indicative of saturnism are very rare today. Signs of low-level chronic exposure are more subtle, such as intellectual impairment. However, in occupational settings, exposure can take place by dust inhalation or by inadequate personal hygiene. From the description of your process, there seems to be a possibility of dust generation. The most dangerous type of dust is the one which is invisible to the eye or which is so fine it can penetrate deep into the lungs. Ingestions of dust deposited on skin is another major mode of intake (unconscious hand to mouth contacts). Dermal absorption is considered to be negligible. I would consider one or more of the following, which are standard in occupational settings where lead oxide is manufactured:

Wear latex gloves when cutting the gems and discard gloves after use.

Wear a dust mask.

Do not eat or drink in the room where the gems are being cut.

Wash your hands after a work session (even if you have worn gloves), especially before eating.

Change clothes at the end of the day. Are you using a coat such as lab coat? Then wash it at the end of each day!

Regularly clean the workbench and the workroom with a vacuum cleaner (with a good secondary dust filter).

Check ventilation systems (ideally the gems should be cut under a hood; at a minimum the airflow should carry any dust away from you). The ventilation exhaust should carry the air outside.

The water used to lubricate the cutting, the silicone, the vacuumed dust, etc., should be discarded as hazardous waste after one use.

Prevent children or pregnant women from entering the workshop.

Consider having blood sample analysed; the "normal amount" of lead in a healthy adult is 10-15 micrograms/dl. The occupational exposure limit used to be 70 micrograms/dl but there is good agreement today that the upper blood lead limit for an adult should be less than 40 micrograms/dl. If the exposure is too high, you will need to take immediate measures to reduce exposure. Have the blood test repeated after 3 months to check the levels again. Many labs are capable of doing this type of analysis. Your physician should be able to help. The ideal is to find a physician who has occupational exposure to hazardous chemicals training.

Disclaimer: The advice given is at your own risk. Consult a professional physician in case of any doubt on the recommendations given above. A professional occupational hygienist might be willing to carry out an audit of your workshop and provide good advice.

via The Tumbler 2/2005, downloaded from some Internet message board, the original posting dated 3/26/2004.

Continental Split

By Randolph E. Schmid, Associated Press
(excerpted)

via The Glacial Groove, 5/2005; via The Chisseler, 8/04;

Volcanic rocks newly discovered in Brazil indicate that an eruption 200 million years ago produced the most widespread lava flow in Earth's history, splitting apart North America and South America, Europe, and Africa. A previously unrecognized area of lava flow covering about 965,000 square miles in the Amazon basin turns out to be related to lava flows in three continents, researchers say in the journal *Science*. The eruption occurred at the same time and had the same origin as lava flows found in North America, Africa, and Europe, said Paul Renne of the University of California at Berkeley, who led the international team that conducted the research. And, he added in an interview, an early mass extinction at the same time seems likely to have been connected to the huge magma flow.

The Pacific Mountain System

via the Petrograph, 1/2005 edition

The Pacific Mountain System straddles the boundaries between several of Earth's moving plates. These plates are the source of the monumental forces needed to build the sweeping chain of mountains arcing from Alaska to the southern reaches of South America. This province includes the active and sometimes deadly volcanoes of the Cascade Range and the young, steep mountains of the Pacific Border and the Sierra Nevada. It is one of the most geologically young and tectonically active in North America. Until about 70 million years ago, most of what is now the west coast of the United States was covered by warm seas supporting a rich variety of sea life, including brachiopods, corals, sponges, and ammonites. Where land rose above the seas, ferns, cycads, ginkgoes, and conifers grew in a warm temperate climate. Their fossils are found in the older rocks of the coast. About 70 million years ago, volcanoes dominated the land that emerged from the tropical warm seas. A great north-south chain of volcanoes grew episodically for the past 400 million years. The generally rugged, mountainous landscape of the province provides evidence of the ongoing mountain-building.

Where the northern end of the Sierra Nevada ends, a chain of explosive volcanic centers, the Cascades volcanoes, begin. The Cascades Province forms an arc-shaped band extending from British Columbia to Northern California, roughly parallel to the Pacific coastline. Within this region, 13 major volcanic centers lie in sequence like a string of explosive pearls. Although the largest volcanoes like Mount St. Helens get the most attention, the Cascades is really made up of a band of thousands of very small, short-lived volcanoes rising above the platform and dominating the landscape. This platform, named the Columbia Plateau, is one of the world's largest accumulations of lava. Within the last 17 million years, lava flows inundated the countryside with amazing speed, mostly within the first 1.5 million years. Over 170,000 cubic kilometers of basaltic lava poured out at no less than 100 degrees centigrade. Basaltic lava is very fluid and repeatedly covered the subdued terrain until the rise of the Sierra batholith. The batholith, a single massive and deeply imbedded rock, is the combination of plumes, formed by liquid plutonic magma resulting from the grinding of the North American and Pacific Plates. This contact began 400 million years ago with the Pacific plate plunging beneath the North American and melting together for 250 million years. About 60 million years ago, the movement changed to strike/slip movement; the uplifting and tilting of the overlying mountains started 25 million years ago. Tensional forces throughout what is now called Basin and Range facilitated the rise of the batholith as part of the developing fault system.

The Basin and Range province has a characteristic topographic pattern. It extends from the Sierran Frontal Fault, that marks the western boundary of the Basin and Range extensional domain, east to Central Utah, North to

Southern Idaho, and south to Sonora, Mexico. Within the Basin and Range Province, the Earth's crust (and upper mantle) has been stretched up to 100% of its original width. The entire region has been subjected to extension that thinned and cracked the crust as it was pulled apart, creating large faults. The elongated mountain ranges alternate with long treks across flat, dry deserts, over and over and over again! The roughly north-south-trending faults uplifted the mountains and down dropped the valleys to produce this distinctive alternating pattern of linear mountain ranges and valleys. Meanwhile, the lava flowing from vents is changing and evolving to andesites and dacites, with phenocrysts of olivine and pyroxenes. The smooth flows of the basalts are increasingly evolving to the explosive silicic compositions. Major eruptions begin to follow.

Mount St. Helens: Baring her teeth or just crying wolf?

via Indianapolis Star, 2004; Tumbler, 1/2005.

Last October and November, the news was filled with the possible eruption of Mount St. Helens. In the new year we have not heard or read anything that might be or has happened. Was this due to panic on an impending disaster, or was the old girl playing tricks on us? Headlines in October – Scientists: Volcano will erupt within 24 hours. Hundreds asked to leave the area around Mount St. Helens after strong volcanic tremors. In November—Mount St. Helens sprouts big, glowing lava column.

Government scientists raised the alert level for Mount St. Helens after its second steam eruption in two days was followed by a powerful tremor. They said the next eruption was imminent or in progress and could threaten life and property in the remote area near the volcano.

The volcano had released more energy in about a week than it had since its devastating eruption on May 18, 1980, which killed 57 people and coated much of the Northwest with ash. It was expected that the impending eruption would be much smaller.

A day after the volcano spewed a plume of steam and ash, there was a very brief steam release followed by a dust-raising landslide in the crater. A volcanic tremor signal that came next was what prompted the heightened alert level.

A tremor—a steady vibration—indicated movement of gases or fluid within the volcano, while individual earthquakes indicated “a pounding and breaking of rock.” The tremor lasted about an hour, and was followed by a series of earthquakes

Article continued on page 12

—one or two a minute, some greater than magnitude 2.

A lava formation, about a month later, inside the Mount St. Helens crater had a new, glowing protrusion the size of a 30-story building. The protrusion, which glows red at night, had risen by 330 feet, pushed up by magma or molten rock within the volcano. Jeff Wynn, chief scientist, said, "It seems like every time you think you know what's going on (the volcano) twists and does something different.

The overall formation began building in October and has grown to roughly the size of an aircraft carrier, 900 feet long and 250 feet wide. Magma is reaching toward the surface at the rate of 7 to 8 cubic meters - about one large dump truck load - every second.

They noticed that it was growing at an unusually high rate and was spreading out horizontally like a big pancake. Then all of a sudden it is like a huge piston has been thrust up. Like the old lava dome, formed in the six years after the 1980 eruption, the new formation is made of a type of volcanic rock called dacite. More than 63 percent silica, it tends to be sticky and viscous, unlike the free-flowing lava of Hawaii. Temperatures on the new protrusion can spike as high as 1,200 degrees Fahrenheit.

The volcano rumbled back to life last September with shuddering seismic activity that peaked at about magnitude 3 as hot magma broke through rocks in its path. Molten rock first reached the surface in October, marking the resumption of dome-building activity that stopped in 1986.

An explosive eruption, possibly dropping ash within a ten-mile radius of the crater, is possible at any time. What happened?

Mt. St. Helens Volcano at 8:32 Sunday Morning, May 18, 1980, Mount St. Helens Erupted.

Rocked by an earthquake measuring 5.1 on the Richter scale, the north face of this tall, symmetrical mountain collapsed in a massive rock debris avalanche. In a few moments this slab of rock and ice slammed into Spirit Lake, crossed a ridge 1300 feet high, and roared 14 miles down the Toutle River.

The avalanche rapidly released pressurized gases within the volcano. A tremendous lateral explosion ripped through the avalanche and developed into a turbulent, stone-filled wind that swept over ridges and toppled trees. Nearly 150 square miles of forest was blown over or left

dead and standing.

At the same time, a mushroom-shaped column of ash rose thousands of feet skyward and drifted downwind, turning day into night as dark, gray ash fell over eastern Washington and beyond. Wet, cement-like slurries of rock and mud scoured all sides of the volcano. Searing flows of pumice poured from the crater. The eruption lasted 9 hours, but Mount St. Helens and the surrounding landscape were dramatically changed within moments.

A vast, gray landscape lay where once the forested slopes of Mount St. Helens grew. In 1982 President Reagan and Congress created the 110,000 acre Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument for research, recreation, and education. Inside the monument, the environment is left to recover from the eruption.

Scientists and visitors follow the changes in the landscape and the volcano. Surviving plants and animals rise out of the ash, colonizing plants catch hold of the earth, and birds and animals find a niche in a different forest on the slopes of Mount St. Helens.

The volcano continued to erupt until 1986, violently at first, and then quietly building a lava dome. Thick pasty lava eruptions oozed out, each one piling on top of the next, like pancakes in a sloppy pile. The lava dome is now 920 feet high. The United States Geological Survey scientists continue to monitor the volcano for earthquakes, swelling, and gas emissions.

In the summer of 2004, Mount St. Helens became active again with rapid dome building. A series of steam and ash explosive events temporarily closed access to some parts of the monument. Eruptions have continued into 2005 with plumes as high as 36,000 feet. via The Rockhouser, 5/2005

The Up and Down Volcano Island

Author unknown

summarized and condensed from article "From out the Azure Main" by Ted Neild in Geoscientist 2/2003; via The Pegmatite, 11/2003; via the Mountain Gem, 9/2004.

Geologists are pretty blasé about the idea of sea level, since they know that, on our planet's mobile crust, the level of the sea relative to the land at any given time and place is a pretty insignificant fact. This view is not shared by many outside geology, however.

For example, there seems to be a mysterious volcanic island threatening to reappear in the middle of a busy shipping lane off the shore of Sicily.

And, as in 1831 when this last happened, a diplomatic squabble broke out last year over whose territory the new island would be. Did previous claims still hold? Could it be preemptively claimed by placing an underwater plaque upon it? Can territory be legally claimed at all while it is still underneath international waters?

This speck of strategically important potential land— when it is above sea level— is known to the British as the Graham Bank Volcano, to the Italians as Isola Ferdinandea, to the French as L'Isle Julia, and to various others as Nerita, Hotham, Corrao, and Sciacca.

Enzo Boschi, head of Italy's Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology, set off the squabble last September by saying that the Graham Bank Volcano might erupt "in a few weeks or months." Then in November, the Italian Naval League suddenly demanded that Italy prevent perfidious Albion (or any other nation) from stealing their island again, like they tried to do in 1831.

Back in 1831, Admiral Sir James Robert George Graham, First Lord of the Admiralty, claimed the newly emerged island for Britain by planting a flag on it. However it was also claimed by France, Spain, and of course, the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies. (Italy as we know it didn't even exist then.) The diplomatic tempest of 1831 only subsided when everyone realized that, while they had been fighting over ownership, the sea had solved the problem by eroding the island completely away.

Geologists just yawn. The scoriae surrounding the vent have been planed off and lie 90 feet deep, while a 60-foot diameter plug rises centrally to within 24 feet of the surface. Mineralogically, the rock contains phenocrysts of bytownitic plagioclase, forsteritic olivine, and rare titanite, set in a dark brown mass of glass and pyroxene crystallites. In other words, it's common alkali olivine Hawaiite basalt, high in sodium. Geologically speaking, nothing to get excited about. Now about the plaque: the two descendants of King Ferdinand of the Two Sicilies ordered a beautiful 330-pound marble tablet installed below the waves to claim Ferdinandea (just in case it rises again).

LAVA

via The Glacial Drifter, 4/2004; taken from the Voice, 9/2002; from <http://www.aqd.nps.gov/grd/parks/labe/>

For millions of years, volcanoes have spewed forth lava, gases, and cinders. Lava that is discharged from volcanoes is a thick fluid composed of melted rock, gases, and steam. The flow speed of the lava is determined by its temperature, the gases contained in it, and its chemical composition. Basic lava flows faster and further than acid

lava. Lava containing more than 58% silica is called basic lava and it flows from the deeper levels of the volcano. The upper level contains 66% or more silica and it is called acid lava. Lava that cools too quickly for its minerals to crystallize forms a glass-like obsidian. Partial crystallization results in rhyolite.

The Lava Beds National Monument of northern California has a history of volcanism. The legacy of these times — and it should be assumed that all volcanic activity is a thing of the past— is all around. Cinder cones, shield volcanoes, stratovolcanoes, lava tubes, both Pahoehoe (smooth and ropy) and AA (rough and cinder-like) lava, spatter cones, and chimneys are all a part of this legacy. Perhaps one of the most striking volcanic features in Lava Beds is the phenomenon of lava tube caves.

Lava tubes are not particularly unusual in a volcanic area nor is their formation difficult to explain or understand. Nearly 200 caves have been counted within the monument making this formation an especially prominent feature.

When lava pours from a volcano it is hot, about 1800 degrees Fahrenheit. The outer edges and surface of the flow cool rapidly, however, and begin to slow down and harden. This outside layer acts as an insulation material while the rest of the flow beneath it remains hot and fast moving. The flow continues on, somewhat like a river that keeps flowing even though the surface has frozen over. When the eruption stops and the river of lava drains, a tunnel or tube (the outer shell) is left. Lava tubes can lie atop one another, the result of subsequent flows. Many of the tubes here were formed about 30,000 years ago after an eruption at Mammoth Crater on the southern boundary.

Sometimes portions of a tube's roof may collapse as it cools. These openings allow plants, animals, and precipitation to enter and create a world of life within. A few of the tubes are ice caves; rain collects in them and the air temperature remains constantly below freezing. Even when temperatures outside reach 100 degrees Fahrenheit, lava is such a good insulator that the air remains below freezing and ice formations can be found year around. Many of the caves were first explored and named by J.D. Howard, a local miller. The names he painted on the walls are still visible in most of the caves. In many of the caves, trails have been laid out and ladders installed to make access easy. Many of these caves lie off Cave Loop Road, northwest of the visitor center. Mushpot Cave, an extension of the visitor center, is the only cave in which lights have been installed.

Geology Report Article

submitted by John Washburn

"Krakatoa" by Rob Kaleel

"Civilization exists by geologic consent, subject to change without notice" - Will Durant

The book sitting on the discount table at Barnes and Noble looked irresistible. Krakatoa—The Day the Earth Exploded—August 27, 1883, by Simon Winchester, powerfully describes the biggest volcanic eruption in human history.

Krakatoa was located between Java and Sumatra in Indonesia, the former Dutch East Indies. I speak of the island in past tense because it is no longer there. The island, and its 2,600 foot volcano, was virtually destroyed by the eruption of 1883. The volcano had been dormant for 1,200 years. Dutch colonists, who ruled the area for the prior 200 years, thought it was extinct.

Indonesia has been described as the volcanic cockpit of the world, with more than 75 active volcanoes. It owes this distinction—its very existence—to its location above a tectonic subduction zone. For 60 million years, two crustal plates have been converging toward a violent, and still ongoing, collision. At its northern edge, the dense, basaltic Indo-Australian plate is colliding with, and diving below, the lighter granitic Eurasian plate. As the down-racing plate moves toward the hot mantle, it melts to liquid magma, and the lighter components float back toward the surface. When the rising magma encounters a crack, or fault, in the overlying crust, it rushes to the surface as a volcano. More than 90% of the world's volcanoes are located above subduction zones at the edges of the world's 26 crustal plates.

Islanders noticed the first signs of the imminent disaster in May, just 3 months before the climatic August eruption. Weak tremors, followed by stronger, more sustained earthquakes, were felt throughout Java and Sumatra. Within days, Krakatoa erupted for the first time, blanketing the area with ash and pumice. When the volcano quieted down two days later, the Dutch colonists were convinced that the event was over. They returned to their business of exporting pepper and other spices from the islands. They even organized excursions to the noisy island for nervous tourists. Krakatoa, however, was only clearing its throat.

After an 8-week calm, a second, then a third crater opened up on the volcano, emitting steam, ash, and toxic gases throughout the month of August. The final phase of the eruption began with a tremendous explosion at 1:06 PM on Sunday, August 26, 1883. The following 20 hours and 56 minutes were a living nightmare. Clouds of white smoke and ash billowed from the mountain, reaching a stratospheric height of 17 miles. Ash covered the surrounding villages to depths of several feet. The sky rained car-sized chunks of red-hot pumice. Continuous sheets of lightning charged through the dust clouds, and St. Elmo's fire electrified the masts and rails of passing ships, illuminating them with a terrifying glow. The sea around Krakatoa was punctured with waterspouts, and a continuous series of tsunamis, or tidal waves, radiated from the island in all directions. Dawn

never arrived in Java on Monday, August 27, 1883. Temperatures that morning were 15 degrees cooler than the previous morning due to the darkness. Four gigantic explosions rattled the area, beginning at 5:30 AM and culminating at 10:02 AM. The last explosion was the greatest sound ever experienced by man. It could be heard for 3,000 miles. It shattered the eardrums of the unfortunate locals. It created air pressure waves that circled the globe seven times, vibrating barometers in places as far away as Washington, D.C. for 15 days. When it was over, the island of Krakatoa, including its 2,600 foot peak, ceased to exist, collapsing back into the sea to a depth of more than 1,000 feet. Villages in Java and Sumatra—165 of them—had been swept away by the waves, killing more than 35,000 people. Rafts of pumice interlaced with human remains washed ashore for months in places as far away as Africa. Ash clouds reached the stratosphere in a westerly direction causing brilliant sunsets and other optical phenomena worldwide. On November 28, the sky was so red at sunset that the fire department of Poughkeepsie, New York, was dispatched to extinguish an apparent blaze in the western suburbs. The ash and dust remained in the stratosphere for at least 3 years, cooling the climate globally. Studies of the movement of the dust led to the discovery of the jetstream.

Krakatoa's eruption continues to this day. The tectonic fires below Indonesia still rage. Anak Krakatoz—"son of Krakatoa" - was born on January 26, 1928, rising from the sea in a steaming upwelling of red-hot lava. Today the central peak with two volcanic craters is 1,500 feet tall, growing at a rate of 20 feet per year. The geologic reality of the region ensures that what happened in 1883 will happen again... in exactly the same way.

Tumbling Tip

from *The Slab Gab*, 9/2006; from the *SCFMS Newsletter*, 7-8/2002; from the *Southwest Gem*, 6/2002; from *The Rock Collector*, 4/2001

By using small piece of Styrofoam plastic instead of the hard round, plastic beads, your polishing agent will do a better and quicker job. Those hundreds of polish-impregnated, little Styrofoam pieces will really put a shine on everything in the tumbler and will disappear from sight by the end of the polishing cycle.

**SANTA CLARA VALLEY GEM and MINERAL SOCIETY
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 28TH, 2007**

President Randy Harris called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM at the Belwood Cabana Club in Los Gatos. Members and guests were welcomed. Minutes were approved as printed in the Breccia. The board meeting will be at Ruth Bailey's home, August 30th, 7:30 pm.

CORRESPONDENCE: Letters from: Rock's and Gem's subscription letter, two Gem Faire notices, Searles Lake G&M Soc. field trip notice, Contra Costa M&G Soc. Show flyer's, McDermitt Rock and Gem show notice, El Dorado Co. M&G Soc. Show flyers, NBFT/CO-OP field trip notice, Sequoia G&M Soc. Show flyers. Dave Muster is hosting a field trip seminar on Oct 6th, in Los Altos. Go to www.cfmsinc.org to their newsletter link. The info is in the August bulletin.

NEW MEMBERS: none

SUNSHINE REPORT: See details in the Breccia.

HOSPITALITY: There were 42 members and 9 guests in attendance tonight.

STUDY GROUPS: See details in the Breccia for all groups. Contact the group leader for info and time.

Faceters study group will meet at Max Casey's house Saturday morning 9am to 12pm, Sept 1st

Jewelry study group will meet Sept 6th at the Cabana club house.

Mineraleers will meet Sept 10th at Chuck Boblenz's house. The topic will be Thunder Eggs and geodes.

Cutaways and Carvers will meet Sept 13th for an organization meeting at the Cabana clubhouse.

Smithies have one more class, then the next group will be in the fall.

DEMO DAY: Next meeting will be October 27th, 2007 at the Cabana clubhouse. 10am to 3pm. Come see the variety of study group demonstrations.

DONATION RECEIVING COMMITTEE: See details in the Breccia.

PLAC: See details in the Breccia.

SHOW: Mark Mullaney will be show chair for the 2008 show. Start thinking about helping with a committee assignment. This year will be a three day show, with Friday as a school kids day. A Barranca GP6 Diamond Wheel Cab Maker will be raffled, tickets can be purchased starting Aug 28th.

MEMBER DISPLAY: See details in the Breccia.

FIELD TRIPS: See details in the Breccia. SCVGMs is having a field trip to Clear Creek, Oct 7th.

PROGRAM: Meteorites, presented by Bill Gissler.

NEXT MEETING: Program will be on Volcanoes. Time and Talent sheets need to be filled out and returned.

DUES ARE DUE, The Treasurer, Frank Mullaney is collecting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

John Eichhorn, Secretary

**Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society
Board Meeting Minutes
August 30th, 2007**

President Randy Harris called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM at the home of Ruth Bailey on August 30th. All board members were present except for Gail Matthews, Rick Kennedy, Matt Wood, Dean Welder, and Parliamentarian, Bill Gissler. M/S/P to approve the minutes of the July 26, 2007 board meeting.

Correspondence: Letters from: Peninsula Library System; Phelps, Wartenberg, and Andrus dues letters; Rock and Gem Club listing form.

New Members: none.

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

M/S/P to transfer \$10,000 to a CD or to the Dodge and Cox Fund, with a stipulation that the money can be transferred back to the checking account before the 2008 club show.

M/S/P to increase the picnic raffle total to \$50.00 and donate the amount to the CFMS Endowment Fund.

Committee Reports: Discussion on installation dinner, various caterer's to be contacted.

Show: show meeting to be announced by the show chair in the future. Raffle tickets are on sale for the Barranca machine.

DRC: \$402. on the August 4th sale.

Field trips: Clear Creek trip on Oct 7th.

Unfinished Business: M/S/P to send letter to Hurricane Electric with corrections.

Bylaws to published on our web site without financial information.

New Business: Marc Mullaney will contact cabana club in regards to a separate storage area for our club.

M/S/P to pay \$250.00 for officers and directors insurance.

Ruth Bailey has education thru sharing and CFMS scholarship honoree paper work.

The website will have a subscription box added, if possible.

Members only will be allowed to e-mail for-sale items, to be controlled by the Editor and the Vice President.

M/S/P to adjourn at 9:30pm.

Everyone enjoyed refreshments after the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

John Eichhorn, Secretary

Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society
Treasurer's Report
August 30, 2007

Beginning Balance: \$11,718.53

Receipts:

Rock Sale	\$ 402.50
Picnic Raffle	\$ 34.00
Dues	\$ 183.00
Dealers 2008 Show	\$ 6,745.50
Interest	<u>\$ 2.05</u>

Total Receipts \$ 7367.05

Disbursements

CFMS July Program	\$ 7.50
Breccia Printing	\$ 48.50
Special Raffle tickets	\$ 259.37
Refreshment supplies	\$ 95.20
CFMS August Program	\$ 7.50
Diamond Dan	<u>\$ 36.95</u>

Total Disbursements \$ 455.02

Ending Balance \$18,630.56