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 55
Number 7

San Jose, CA
July, 2008

SCVGMS ELECTED OFFICERS

President: Randy Harris
(831) 438-5150
Vice President: Rick Kennedy
(408) 529-9690
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: Frank Monez
(408) 578-7067
Directors:

Chris Cherry	(408) 448-0635
Marc Mullaney	(408) 691-1584
RK Owen	(408) 377-5373
Michael Paone	(408) 340-3258
Matt Wood	(408) 744-9402

Historian: Linda Spencer (408) 997-7319
Parliamentarian: Dean Welder
(408) 353-2675

SCVGMS COMMITTEE HEADS

Donation Receiving Committee Chairman:
George Yamashita
Field Trip Committee Coordinator:
Dean Welder
Field Trip Committee: Randy Harris,
John Eichhorn, & Marc Mullaney
Financial Advisory Committee:
Ruth Bailey & Chuck Boblenz
Founder's Day Picnic Food:
Nancy Reineking & Michael Paone
Founder's Day Raffle: Claire Ferguson
Founder's Day Bingo: John Eichhorn
Hospitality: Chris Cherry
Installation Dinner: Marc Mullaney
Librarian: Marsha Owen
Member Displays: Rick Kennedy
PLAC: (Public Lands Advisory Committee)
Frank Monez
Program: OPEN
Refreshments: Linda Spencer
Secret Auction: Donation Receiving Comm.
Sergeant-at-arms: Vito Cangemi & JT Fuller
Show 2008: Marc Mullaney
Show 2009: Frank Mullaney
Silent Auction: John and Sylvia Palmieri
Social: June Harris
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 July 22, 2008 at the Cabana Club, 100 Belwood Gateway, Los Gatos, CA 95032 at 7:45 PM.

Our next board meeting will be on July 24, 2008, at Frank Mullaney's home, 5705 Begonia Dr., San Jose, CA 95124 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 handles 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
Jewelers	Marc Mullaney	(408) 691-1584
Mineraleers	Chuck Boblenz	(408) 734-2473
Smithies	Kelly Van Vleck &	(408) 262-8187
	Pat Speece	(408) 266-4327
Stringers	Pat Speece	(408) 266-4327

Randy's Ramblings

Hello Fellow Rockhounds,

I would like to welcome all of the new members who have joined the club. I invite you to take advantage of the many study groups and upcoming trips that are planned for the near future. If you are planning on going on field trips sponsored by other clubs, please contact Dean Welder for information. He is listed in the club directory and here in the Breccia.

The Founder's Day Picnic will be held on July 26th. I am sure Michael and Nancy would appreciate help with some of the details. Please volunteer yourselves to help them. The more help they have, the easier it will be. Also, anyone planning on attending should fill out a reservation form and mail it to Michael and Nancy. The deadline has passed, but I believe they are still taking reservations. You can download a reservation form from the Website: www.scvgms.org or call Michael or Nancy. This is a fun event where you can visit with other rockhounds, eat good food, and win some nice prizes in the raffle and playing Bingo. New members and guests are also welcome.

There are many jobs that keep the club running as well as it does. Even though the year is only half over, we are always looking for help in several areas. June has told the Board that she does not plan to continue the Editor's job next year. Anyone interested in the job should talk to June about helping with the next several editions of the Breccia. This would give you the opportunity to learn how it is done.

Randy Harris, President

Demonstration Day
August 9th
from 10 AM - 3 PM
at the Cabana Club
100 Belwood Gateway,
Los Gatos, CA 95032

Come by and see what the various study groups are doing. All of our study groups should be represented.

Margaret Norton
1925-2008

Margaret and Bill Norton became members of our Society in 1973 and were very active members from that time. Margaret was President three times and served in almost every office one or more times. She was Editor of the Breccia for five years and won awards during that time. Margaret and/or Bill served as Show Chairman several times.

Margaret was very interested in lapidary and was active in the Cutaways and participated in the competition at the CFMS level, becoming a judge and working with the Rule Committee. She was always very helpful to other people and filled many jobs during her years in the Society.

In 1988 she was President of CFMS and participated in Federation activities. She was selected by the CFMS Scholarship Committee to choose a student for the CFMS scholarship.

Margaret was always willing to help, and in 1995 she and Bill were chosen for lifetime membership in appreciation for all of their hard work. She has been a good friend to all of our members, and we missed her during her long illness.

Remembrance submitted by Ruth Bailey

SCVGMS dues were due by June 1st

$10.00 per adult member
$3.00 per junior member

Please make out your check to SCVGMS and send it to:

SCVGMS Treasurer
c/o Frank Mullaney
5705 Begonia Drive
San Jose, CA 95124

Check out what our study groups are doing!!!

Mineraleers
by Chuck Boblenz

The Mineraleers will resume meeting in September. If you are interested in studying minerals, contact Chuck Boblenz, (408) 734-2473, for more information about this study group.

Smithies
by Kelly Van Vleck

If you are interested in learning to work with silver, please call Pat Speece at (408) 266-4327, or email at pat.speece@sbcglobal.net, or Kelly Van Vleck at kellyv22000@yahoo.com, or (408) 262-8187, for more information about learning this art.

Fossileers
by Gail Matthews

The next meeting will be at the August 9th Demo Day at 1pm, even though I will be there from 9am to 3pm to discuss and identify fossils. Contact Gail Matthews at (650)-962-9960 or glassrockwood@aol.com.

Faceters

The Faceters study group will resume meeting in October. The group is for anyone who would like to learn the art of faceting a gemstone. Novices are welcomed and encouraged. Contact Max Casey at (408) 227-0526 for more information about this study group.

Cutaways and Carvers

The Cutaways and Carvers study group will be meeting at John Eichhorn's home on Saturday, July 12th at 1:00 PM. Call John at (408) 749-0523 to RSVP and for more information about his address and project suggestions and ideas.

Jewelers
by Marc Mullaney

The next Jewelers meeting will be on July 10th at the Belwood Cabana Club from 7pm to 10pm. We will be getting back to silverwork and working on some simple rings. Bring your tools and silver, and we will work on a couple of different kinds of simple rings. Questions? Please email Marc at geologistm@aol.com or call him at (408) 691-1584.

Stringers
by Pat Speece

Stringers will meet again on Wednesday, July 23, 2008, 7pm at my home. Our project will be a bracelet, aimed at beginners. Time permitting, we will make matching earrings. If you wish to be a part of this class, phone (408) 266-4327, or email me at pat.speece@sbcglobal.net. The class is limited to five members. I will contact class members regarding what to bring.

The Stringers Group supplies all tools, equipment, and hardware, as well as many beads. Students are welcome to bring their own tools, equipment, and/or hardware, and are encouraged to bring their own beads.

Questions? Email or phone me.

Thanks,
Pat Speece

2008 Show Report
by Marc Mullaney

As a final show report for this year's show, we may have made a record profit to fund our scholarships for next year. Also, I inadvertently left out the DRC in my thanks for running the silent auction. Thanks to Pat Speece, George and Jane Yamashita for organizing and running the booth. If I have left out anyone else out, I assure you it is an oversight and I thank you. We are looking for your support for the 2009 show. We will be needing people to go to other shows to man a table advertising the Federation Show we will be hosting.

Member Displays
by Rick Kennedy

The July meeting program topic is rhodocrosite. Let's see if we can bring something related to it for member displays. Of course, you are always welcome to bring anything that you would like to share as well.

The following members are scheduled to bring something rock-related to share at the July meeting: Paul Nowicki, the Owen Family, Denise and Travis Osterback, John and Sylvia Palmieri, Michael Paone and Nancy Reineking, Kathryn and Robert Payne, Howard Perry, Mike Perry, Ted and Kathi Peverini, Dennis and Patricia Phelps, and Georgiana Rudge. I wonder what treasures these people will bring to share.

DRC Report by Jane Yamashita

The DRC is planning a sale on July 19th at the Speece residence from 9 to 12 am. We have had two new donations from club members, Ruth Bailey and Doris Smith. There will be new material. Lots of large rocks, wonderful for gardens and cutting. We cleaned and sorted rocks this past week and we have some interesting donations.

We are happy to announce that the bus trip to the Jade Festival is a go. We only have 40 spaces so please get your reservations in early. It will be fun. Information and sign-up flier is located on page 16 of this newsletter.

'09 CFMS Show meeting

Date: July 7, 2008
Time: 7:30 PM
Place: Ruth Bailey's home

All interested members are invited. Call Frank Mullaney, (408) 266-1791, for more information and directions to Ruth's home.

Sunshine
by Ernestine Smith

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.

July Meeting Program

Rhodochrosite,
Red Treasure of the Rockies

Bring your Rhodochrosite specimens to share during member displays.

2009 CFMS Show Committee

Show Chairman	Frank Mullaney
Facilities coordinator	**OPEN**
Treasurer	Chuck Boblenz
Secretary	Temporary- June Harris
Dealers	Randy Harris
Program	**OPEN**
Publicity	Marc Mullaney and Matt Wood
Post cards	Julaine Mullaney
Hospitality	**OPEN**
Tickets	Julaine Mullaney
Mementos	Frank Mullaney
Competitive cases	Federation
Non Competitive cases	Dean Welder
Demonstrators	John Eichhorn
Special Exhibits	Rick Kennedy
Awards Banquet	Carol Pimentel
Editors' Breakfast	Carol Pimentel
Directors' meeting	Michael Paone
Pre-registration	Ruth Bailey
Show Packets	Ruth Bailey
Decorations	**OPEN**
Layout	Herb Vogel
Signs, Printing	Julaine Mullaney
Printed Programs	**OPEN**
Security	**OPEN**
Cracker Barrel	Michael Paone and Nancy Reineking
Kids Area/Scholarship	June Harris and Chris Cherry

SCVGMS 2008 Calendar

July 7 Show meeting at Ruth Bailey's home at 7:30 PM.
July 10 Jewelers meeting at the Cabana Club from 7-10 PM.
July 22 General meeting at the Cabana Club at 7:45 PM.
July 24 Board meeting at Frank Mullaney's home at 7:30 PM.
July 26 Founders Day Picnic at the Cabana Club.
August 7 Jewelers meeting at the Cabana Club from 7-10 PM.
August 9 Demonstration Day at the Cabana Club from 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM. All study groups are requested to demonstrate.
August 26 Barbeque/Potluck and General meeting at the Cabana Club. Barbeque/potluck starts at 6:30 PM. Club will provide drinks, burgers, hotdogs, buns, condiments, and paper goods. Members need to bring a salad or dessert to share, at least 10 servings, please. Meeting starts at 7:45 PM.
August 28 Board meeting at Michael Paone's home at 7:30 PM.
September 4 Jewelers meeting at the Cabana Club from 7-10 PM.
September 23 General meeting at the Cabana Club at 7:45 PM.
September 25 Board meeting at Frank Monez's home at 7:30 PM.
October 2 Jewelers meeting at the Cabana Club from 7-10 PM.
October 25 Demonstration Day at the Cabana Club from 9:30 AM-3:30 PM. All study groups are requested to demonstrate.
October 28 Potluck and General meeting at the Cabana Club. Potluck 6:30 PM, Meeting 7:45 PM Club will provide drinks and paper goods. Members provide main dish, salad, side dish, or dessert to share, at least 10 servings, please.
October 30 Board meeting at Randy Harris' home at 7:30 PM.
November 6 Jewelers meeting at the Cabana Club from 7-10 PM.
November 25 General meeting at the Cabana Club at 7:45 PM. Elections and Silent Auction throughout the evening. Board meeting immediately following the general meeting.
December 2 Installation Dinner at the Cabana Club at 7:00 PM. Please bring an unwrapped toy to donate to Toys for Tots.
December 4 Joint Board meeting at Ruth Bailey's home at 7:30 PM.

Your Help Please

The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies is attempting to attain Birthstones on U.S. stamps. We need you to actively support and promote the project by continuing letters or notes to the USPS. You do not have to be an AFMS member to write. Please mail your personal letter to:

Citizen's Stamp Advisory Committee
Stamp Development
US Postal Service
1735 North Lynn St., Room 5013
Arlington, VA 22209-6432

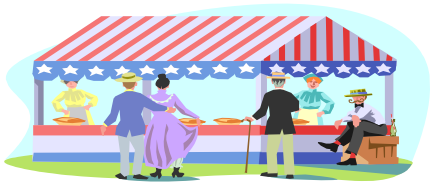
Competition is stiff with about 50,000 proposals to the USPS annually. We are convinced that gem stamps would be attractive. We and the public would use them, and we would all enjoy their beauty. Do you agree?

Take this sheet home as a reminder to yourself. Personalize YOUR letter to Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee: "I support the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies efforts to try to get gemstones on American stamps because: (Write your own reasons). Ideas:

1. **Gems have never appeared on U.S. First Class stamps, and would be very attractive.**
2. **They would not be controversial.**
3. **Gems would continue the theme of "American's mineral Heritage" stamp.**
4. **We and the public would all enjoy their beauty. Etc. etc.**

Sign and date your letter and add your address. Stamp your envelope and mail it off to the address above!

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

July 12-13 2008, Culver City, CA, Culver City Rock & Mineral Club , Culver City Veteran's Memorial Auditorium, 4117 Overland Avenue , Hours: Sat. 10 - 6; Sun. 10 - 5 , Website: CulverCityRocks.org , Phone: (310) 391-8429, Email: maryellenandrick@aol.com

August 1, 2 & 3 2008, Nipomo, CA, Orcutt Mineral Society, St. Joseph Church, 298 S. Thompson Ave., Hours: 10 - 5 daily, Wes Lingerfelt (805) 710-1983, E-mail Rocks4u@proigy.net Webpage: http://www.omsinc.org

August 2 - 3 2008, San Francisco, CA, San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society, San Francisco County Fair Bldg, Ninth Ave. & Lincoln Way, Hours: Sat. 10-6 Sun 10-5, Ellen Nott (415) 564-4230

August 29 - Sept. 1 2008, Fort Bragg, CA, Mendocino Coast Gem & Mineral Society, Town Hall, Main & Laural, Hours: Sat. & Sun 10-6; Mon. 10-4, Don McDonell (707) 964-3116, E-mail ejwebb@mcn.org

September 13-14 2008, Downey, CA, Delvers Gem & Mineral Society, Woman's Club of Downey, 9813 Paramount Blvd, Hours: Sat. 10 - 6; Sun. 10 - 4, Guynell Miller (562) 633-0614, Email : guynellallen@sbcglobal.net

September 25-28 2008, 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 27-28 2008, 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 Website: www.cvgms.org

September 27-28 2008, 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 E-mail:footsey1@yahoo.com

October 5 2008, Fallbrook, CA, Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Society, "Fall Festival of Gems", FGMS Museum, 123 W. Alvarado, Hours: 10 - 4, Mary Fong-Walker (760) 728-1130, Diane Tjepkes (780) 468-8028

October 11-12 2008, Grass Valley, CA, Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society, "Earth's Treasures", Nevada County Fairgrounds, 11228 McCourtney Road, Hours: 10 - 5 both days, Kim Moore (530) 470-0388 Email: Kmoore160@comcast.net

October 11 - 12 2008, 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: glgms@wvisp.com, Website: www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub/tronagemclub.html

October 11-12 2008, 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, Webpage: ecvgms.com

October 11-12 2008, Vista, CA, Vista Gem & Mineral Society, Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum, 2040 North Sante Fe Avenue, Hours: Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4, Cherie Wilson (760) 941-7073, Lois M. Hair (760) 724-0395

October 18-19 2008, Anderson, CA, Shasta Gem & Mineral Society, Shasta District Fairgrounds, Hours: 1Sat. 9-5: Sun. 10-4, Bill Seward (530) 365-864, E-mail: glseward@sbcglobal.net

October 18-19 2008, 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: info@rockandgemshow.org Show Website: http://www.rockandgemshow.org Website: eldoradomineralandgem.org

October 18-19 2008, Santa Rosa, CA, Santa Rosa Mineral & Gem Society, Veterans' Memorial Auditorium, 1351 Maple Avenue, Santa Rosa, Hours: Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5, Tom Dering (707) 564-4537, Email: farmarch@sonic.net, Website: www.gem-n-i.org

October 18-19 2008, Whittier, CA, Whittier Gem & Mineral Society, Whittier Community Center, 7630 Washington Avenue, Hours: Sat. 10-5 both days, Jay Valle: (626) 934-9764, Email: res19pnb@verizon.net

October 25-26, 2008, Los Altos, CA, Peninsula Gem & Geology Society, Los Altos Youth Center, One San Antonio Road, Hours: Sat. 9-5 pm, Sun. 9-4 pm, Stan Bogosian: (408)569-2489, Email: sbogosian@aol.com

November 1-2 2008, 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, Email: sdwools@earthlink.net, Website: www.ccmgs.org

November 1 - 2 2008, 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, Vickie black (760) 371-4416

November 7, 8, 9 2007, Eureka, CA, Humboldt Gem & Mineral Society, Redwood Acres Fairgrounds, 3750 Harris, Hours: Fri. 9-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5, Toni Tyson (707) 725-2890, Email: BLUII911@msn.com

November 8-9 2007, Lancaster, CA, Palmdale Gem & Mineral Society, Antelope Valley Fairgrounds, 2551 W. Ave. H, Hwy 14, Hours: 9 - 5 both days, Susan Chaissin-Walblom (661) 943-1861, Email: SLChaisson@yahoo.com, Website: pgms@antelecom.net

November 8 - 9 2008, 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, Inez Berg (530) 633-4612

November 22-23 2008, Oxnard, CA, Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society, Performing Arts Center, 800 Hobson Way ,Hours: Sat. 9 - 5, Sun. 10-4 , Miriam Tetrault (805) 642-5779, E-mail: miriamtetreault@hotmail.com Website: www.OGMS.net

December 13 - 14 2008, San Bernardino, CA, Orange Belt Mineralogical Society, Hernandez Recreation Center, 2nd & Siera Way, SB, Hours: 9-5 both days, Lyle Strayer (909) 887-3394

March 28 - 29 2009, Torrance, CA, South Bay Lapidary and Mineral Society, Torrance Recreational Center, 3341 Torrance Blvd. Torrance, CA, Hours: Sat. 10 - 5, Sun. 10-4, Roger Mills (310) 377-6226, Email: roger_mills@acm.org Website: http://www.palosverdes.com/sblap/

FEDERATION SHOWS IN 2008

Rocky Mountain Federation (RMFMS), October 31 - November 2, Tulsa, OK

South Central Federation (SCMS) / AFMS, September 25-28, Humble, TX

DRC Rock Sale
July 19, 2008
9 AM - noon
at Pat Speece's home,
2357 Loma Park Court
San Jose, CA 95124
Call (408) 266-4327 or
(408) 353-2982
for directions.

Upcoming Field Trip Opportunities

Contact Dean Welder, at email fieldtrips@scvgms.org. Email is the best way to contact him. If you can not email, then call him for information about the following field trips. His phone number is located in our club directory. Many of these trips are sponsored by clubs other than SCVGMS, so contact Dean who will make the appropriate introductions for SCVGMS members to be able to attend.

Labor Day Weekend Cedarville, CA for petrified wood.

Gemstone Inclusions

via The Pick and Dop Stick,2/06; MWF Newsletter, 4/05; Gem City Rock News,11/03; T-Town Rockhound, 2/04; Rock Lore, 3/04; Moroks, 9/02.

Almost all gemstones have some types of inclusion, which a lot of people look at as a flaw. This flaw is an important characteristic of the gem material as it often proves to be an indicator of the type of gem that you are looking at as well as the genuineness and sometimes even the country of origin of the particular stone. A jeweler's loupe of a microscope is needed to view the internal world of the gemstone.

* A Lily-pad inclusion looks like a liliy pad and is found in peridot.

* A Halo or Disk-like inclusion looks like a flat disk-like shape and resembles a halo. Very often this inclusion will contain a black mark in the center, which could be a zircon crystal. This inclusion is found from Ceylon.

* Fingerprints are small crystal inclusions that are arranged in curved rows and look like a fingerprint.

* Horsetail inclusions consists of hair-like fibers arranged together and resemble a horse tail. This is indicative of demantoid garnets.

* Needle inclusions resemble fine needles and are found in garnet, sapphires, aquamarine, andalusite, and Burmese rubies.

SAFETY

by Chuck McKie
via Jennifer Haley, Napa Valley Rock and Gem Club; via CFMS Newsletter, June 2008

For many of us, spring is the beginning of our rock hunting season each year. We wait through the winter, dreaming about when we can get back out to our favorite haunting grounds while eagerly keeping an eye on how low the creeks are getting so we can safely cross them once again. Rattlesnakes are beginning to enjoy the weather too, basking on warm rocks and foot paths. They pretty much like the same places rockhounds do and even like a little shade come summer. Each year is a new year and a good time to refresh our minds and our new members about what we would need to do in case of an emergency. A refresher course on safety tips is always a good idea and makes a good program for all ages. If needed, you will be able to handle the situation with a sense of calm.

California Poison Control has changed what we were taught to do years ago for a snake bite. If bitten, wash the area with soap and water and apply a cool wet cloth, if available. *Don't apply ice.* Bites on the arm and hand area require that all jewelry and watches be removed. *Don't apply a tourniquet*; instead, immobilize the area with a splint that's not too tight and keep the bite area below heart level. Keep the person calm and, if possible, lying down. *Don't cut into the bite or try to suck the venom out.* Get to a hospital quickly, and call the ER on the way there to let them know you are coming in with a snake bite.

Prevention: Wear loose-fitting long pants and wear boots that cover your ankles. The most common areas where people get bitten are the hands, feet, and ankles. Carry a walking stick to poke rocks and logs with before you sit down. Check sleeping bags and picnic quilts before using. Check under parked vehicles before entering or using the bed of your truck. Never stick your hands or fingers into rock piles or thick grass to get that rock unless you have taken every precaution to know there isn't a snake there. Avoid underbrush. Rattlesnakes can swim and may be resting on floating branches. *Remember*, most of the time the snake will rattle to warn you, but not always. Other states and desert areas have additional recommendations for their areas about snakes and other critters, so check with their poison control office or Fish and Game before your road trip. Be smart, stay safe, and happy rock hunting.

Thanks, Jennifer!!
- Chuck

Pretty in Pink

by Sue Medina

One of the most attractive ore minerals for jewelry is rhodochrosite, a manganese carbonate (MnCo3). It is the ore of manganese and occurs most commonly in vast sedimentary deposits. In one location, rhodochrosite occurs as stalactites in old silver mines abandoned by the 13th century. These tunnels in the Capillitas Mine in Argentina, have furnished some of the finest ornamental rhodochrosite ever found and continue to produce fine specimens. The owners of this mine currently only mine the rhodochrosite for jewelry and collecting specimens. Cavers oppose removing any materials from caves; but these are man-made tunnels in which stalactities have formed over the 700-year period since the mines were abandoned by the Inca Indians.

For jewelry, desirable rhodochrosite rough is a warm pink color. Its name is from the Greek and means “rose-colored.” A fancy name for rhodochrosite is “Inca Rose.” The rough often features concentric bands of pink and white rhodochrosite (not white calcite). More commonly, it is reddish-brown, brown, or gray. It is a very soft mineral, rating only 4 on the Mohs scale. It should be handled very carefully, as it is also brittle. Rhodochrosite crystals forming the trigonal system forming rhombohedral crystals. Fine crystals have begun to be found again in the Home Sweet Home Mine, a historic silver mine in Colorado. The largest gem on record is a 59.95 carat oval faceted gem from Kuruman, South Africa.

Working rhodochrosite rough into jewelry can be difficult. It may tend to separate along its bands. Further, it has three directions of easy cleavage making it brittle and weak. It is somewhat heat sensitive. Consequently, rough must be handled carefully to avoid shocks that might break it and excessive heat that might harm it. The bands have different degrees of hardness, so sanding will deform the stone; use only the finest wheels and grit to smooth and polish stones. Grinding results in pits that seldom disappear during sanding. Finished rhodochrosite will oxidize, causing the surface to turn brown with age. If you have rhodochrosite jewelry, treat it gently. Be sure to protect it from bumping against harder stones or being jumbled with other jewelry that may scratch or nick it.

from Oregon Rockhound, 5/04; via Golden Spike News, 8/00; via West Seattle Petroglyphs, 7/00; via the Golden Nugget, 4/96

The Rhodochrosite Story

Also called Rose Del Inca, this rare and beautiful pink stone is mined almost exclusively in a remote Andean region of Argentina known as Capillita.

Its name comes from the Greek word “Rhodo” for rise and “Chros” for color. It is popularly known as Inca Rose because this semi-precious stone was discovered by the Inca Civilization and treasured by them around the 12th century AD.

Generations later, a man named Franz Mansfiel rediscovered the mine and, during one of his explorations, found the Inca mummy that held in its hand an amulet carved out of this unique stone. Most unusual formations with a circular pattern of light and dark rhodochrosite occur in this Argentine treasure chest.

Highly artistic pieces are hand carved out of the legendary Inca Rose, although, due to its rarity and cost, smaller pieces are more often frequently cut today.

from Chips ‘N Splinters, 8/01; via Rocky Review June and July, 2006.

Tin Oxide, Acid Give Rhodochrosite Polish

by Bob Daniel from Council Reporter 1/01

When cutting rhodochrosite, it is important that only water be used in the saw. An oil-based product will be absorbed, and the stone’s color deadened.

After the material is ground to form, sand first on 220 grit, wet, then on 400 grit, wet; for best results use worn sanding cloths.

Tin oxide is perhaps the best polishing agent for rhodochrosite. Some lapidaries report good results from tin oxide that has been mixed with a small amount of vinegar and used on a felt wheel.

Another method is to mix two teaspoons of tin oxide and one level teaspoon of oxalic acid in half a pint of water and use on a leather buff. In this formula, be sure that not more than a third by volume of acid to tin oxide is used or the stone will be damaged. This also works well on marble.

via Delvings, April, 2005 and April, 2001.

Meteorites, Meteors, Asteroids, & Comets

by John M. Wright,
Registered Professional Geologist (MS #555) Retired

The earliest known records of mankind are the pictorial representations left by cave dwellers. While we really do not completely understand the significance of all cave drawings, these early records give us much insight regarding the cave man's way of life. They were intelligent social beings adept at surviving in a harsh environment and recording things or events they considered necessary or important. These drawings normally depicted animals, human handprints, and primitive childlike stick drawings of themselves, but very importantly, they also depict natural occurring events that they observed. Meteors or shooting stars and comets are natural events often illustrated in cave drawings, confirming that they have inspired interest, fear, or admiration since the earliest recorded history of mankind.

Mankind's fascination with the stars has been constant throughout history, and any object such as a meteorite that could be directly attributed to an origin in outer space was considered to be a very rare treasure. The two items held in sacred esteem by the followers of Islam (Muslims) are bones believed to be from Abraham and a meteorite. Jim Bowie's knife, according to folklore, was made from a meteorite. A meteorite has magical properties, if you want to believe the mystics; they have adorned the crowns of potentates, are eagerly sought by museums, and are considered by some to be the vehicle that transported life to earth from other astrological bodies.

Any foreign object from outer space that is on a direct collision course with earth becomes a "meteor" when it enters the earth's atmosphere and starts to burn. If any recognizable residual part is left, this is called a "meteorite." Conglomerates of space debris cemented together by ice are "comets." Individual objects, large ones especially, floating around out in space that do not qualify as a planet or satellite are known as "asteroids." The adequate identification, characteristics, and nature of any one of these objects I have described would justify a rather lengthy book, but for the purpose of this article, I think the brief renditions given will suffice.

The origin of meteors is a mystery that has prompted numerous theories. The most commonly accepted origin is space debris resulting from astronomical galactic events such as supernova explosions or simply materials left over when our galaxy and solar system formed. Regardless of how they came to exist, the problem is that there are millions of them floating around in space and they range in size from microns to gigantic proportions.

Earth is constantly being bombarded by meteors. Most are small and burn up upon entering our atmosphere, causing the tattletale streaks of light seen at night known as shooting stars. They are just as plentiful during daylight hours, but are difficult to see.

Large chunks of material floating around in space are known as asteroids, and a tremendous number of these are in an orbital pattern around our sun forming belts, the "Kuiper Belt" located between Mars and Jupiter and the "Oorts Belt or Oort Cloud" at the outer limits of our solar system. Many believe that the celestial debris (Kuiper Belt) which exists between Mars and Jupiter is the remnants of a former planet or material that for some unknown reason was unable to form into a planet. Some of the asteroids in this belt are actually large enough to be classified as "Dwarf Planets". By the same token, many scientists believe that Pluto is actually not a "planet," but one of many "Dwarf Planets" found in the Oort Belt/Cloud.

For unknown reasons, items of space debris are occasionally knocked out of their normal orbit and drawn by gravity toward the sun. These items fall into an elongated elliptical orbit as they transverse our solar system. Their orbits gradually deteriorate, usually taking thousands of years, but some of the smaller ones are drawn towards the sun at a much faster rate. Keep in mind that these smaller items may be the size of a freight train or a large ship. Larger items, those called asteroids, may be the size of a small planet.

Some of the materials in the Oort Belt/Cloud are conglomerations of smaller matter held together by ice. When these are knocked out of their normal orbit, they are drawn in an eccentric elliptical arc toward the sun and they tend to partially melt leaving long trails of vapor and residue that reflect light and are know as "Comets'. Space debris that eventually becomes meteorites are often residual leftovers from the melting of comets when their path happens to cross earth's orbit at some point, its trash so to speak is left for us to run into. This excessive amount of material results in meteor showers, and they occur at predictable periods each year. The weather forecaster on your local television channel normally alerts the public as to when these showers will occur.

Sometimes the cementing materials of a comet, "the ice", or the comet itself, is the projectile that impacts with earth. An example of this occurred in 1908 in a remote section of Russia's Siberian province of Tungusta. The impact was so great that it leveled over a hundred square miles of forest with trees near the center being burned to cinders in a flash. Shock waves from the explosion were felt all over the world, and the flash of light was so great that you could read a newspaper at night as far away as London.

Comets have always evoked fear, awe, and superstition. Mystics equate the appearance of comets as harbingers of disasters, auguries of divine wrath that foretell all kinds of gloom and doom. Of course, if the circumstances are more advantageous to the mystics, comets can also foretell the coming of great and wondrous things.

Halley's Comet is probably the most popular and well known. In 1707 Edmond Halley, a well known mathematician, set out to prove his friend Newton's theory that comets were astrological bodies that circled the sun. Using historical records of comets, he found one that met the criteria of his calculations and made a prediction of its reappearance in 76-year cycles. He did

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not live long enough to see the return, but it did, right on schedule, and in honor of his work bears his name.

We know that large objects do impact with earth and while we consider these impacts to be rare, in "Geologic Time", the actual occurrences are quite frequent. The earth's surface is constantly undergoing geological change, and this extensive mechanism erodes the evidence over time. The meteor crater in Arizona is a youngster at twenty thousand years, and because of its location in a desert environment, it is well preserved. If it had landed in the southeastern part of the United States, there probably would be very little evidence left. The bulldozing effect of glaciers moving across certain landmasses on earth has exposed the skeletal remains of numerous impact craters. The tattletale rims are missing, but the distinct shapes left by the impact in the exposed rock crust are easily identified.

One that is easily identified and illustrates the tremendous energy of a very large meteor impact is Hudson Bay. If you have a map, look at the southeast end of the bay. You will see a crescent shape indicative of an impact crater. Now visualize the meteor coming in from the south and blasting material to the north. They think this one happened way before there was any type of life on earth. Numerous other craters have recently been identified using satellite photography, and more are being found with this technology.

Currently, the most popular theory for the extinction of the dinosaurs was that a large asteroid collided with earth near Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula. Yes, it became a meteor when it entered the earth's atmosphere and probably a real beauty. There is a good chance that the same thing will happen again and end our world as we know it, which hopefully will be way-way in the future.

Contrary to popular opinion, asteroids and meteors do not normally run into earth; more often it's just the opposite, earth runs into them. The earth spins on its axis at 1669 kilometers (1043.8 miles) per hour and orbits around the sun at 107,208 kilometers (67,005 miles) per hour. Note: Our solar system is located in the outer extremities of one of several spiral arms of stars that form the galaxy system to which we belong. We can see the other stars in our particular spiral and refer to them as the Milky Way. It is estimated that our solar system travels at a speed of more than a million miles per hour in its orbit around the center of our galaxy. With these astronomical speeds, it's no wonder that most meteorites burn up upon entering our atmosphere. The velocity of any sizeable meteors that remain intact and impact earth exerts tremendous explosive force. The meteor that made the crater in Arizona was just a little larger than a couple of railroad cars, yet this crater is more than a mile in diameter and several hundred feet deep.

Large bodies of space debris tend to break up as they approach earth forming a unique cluster similar to a bomb burst and are called "bolas." Bolas also occur after entry into the atmosphere and are quite spectacular. Those able to maintain their integrity and enter earth's atmosphere without breaking up are called "fireballs." If you are ever fortunate enough to see a fireball, you will also probably be able to hear it sizzle and crackle. You might even hear a sonic boom. Just to confuse the issue a little more, you could have an asteroid break up before entering earth's atmosphere (bola) and become several meteors, then have some of these become fireballs, bola again, burn up, or become smaller fireballs.

An American scientist landed a Volkswagon-size spacecraft on an asteroid known as 433 Eros on February 12, 2001. This asteroid is about 21 miles long by 8 miles wide and is just one of many thousands that orbit our sun. The original plans did not include landing the spacecraft on the asteroid and it did not have a landing mechanism. The spacecraft was designed to monitor the asteroid and be abandoned as space junk at the end of its expected life span, but the scientist discovered that the craft still had energy left and decided to try for a landing. The odds were against the craft surviving the landing, but the scientist felt that if this last effort worked, it would yield even more important information than was originally planned. I'm quite sure that we will be hearing a lot more about this as the data is analyzed and published.

Hopefully, I have at least momentarily captured your imagination and created or enhanced your interest in a very minute area of astronomy. So now you want to know how to get your hands on one of these visitors from outer space called meteorites. The easy way is to buy one, but that is no fun and it can be costly. The best way is to go out and try to find your own. If you decide on this course of action, you will learn why they are so darn rare.

The first thing that I recommend to those hardy individuals that want to tramp the hills and valleys in search of meteorites, is to know what you are looking for. This will require research and study. You must know the distinguishing characteristics of a meteorite if you are to accurately identify it. A burnt surface may be the result of a brush fire or a rock used as the perimeter of a campfire. Word description and pictures are helpful, but in my opinion, the best way to learn is to examine known specimens. You can see meteorites at some gem and mineral shows, museums, universities, and, of course, in private collections. The best way of all is to associate with experienced individuals or groups that share this interest.

Once you know what you are looking for, search for information on past meteor occurrences. Meteor showers are often reported in newspapers, particularly the local papers in the area where the incident occurred. The weatherman at your local television station may have information you can use. Try to affiliate with clubs or associations that share this interest as they usually have information about areas where meteorites can be found. A lot of information is readily available on the Internet, but may not be applicable to your local area or a location you want to visit.

Talk to people who live in your local area or the area where you plan to hunt. I find that farmers are extremely knowledgeable and usually very willing to share information.

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Remember, if you find anything, be sure to share with the individual who provided you with information or assistance or owns the property where you make the find.

You should know the type of material that normally occurs in a search area. If you are hunting in Mississippi, this is not a real problem as any rocks or chunks of metal you find more than likely came from somewhere else. If possible, pick the areas where you plan to search. Heavy undergrowth or forested areas are extremely difficult places to try to find anything.

I personally like to go over plowed fields after a heavy rain. I also prefer to hunt in the winter or early spring before the grass and weeds take over. It also helps me avoid snakes, chiggers, ticks, and heat stroke. Metal detectors and a good magnifying glass are extremely helpful, but a good pair of walking shoes and perseverance are your best assets. Most importantly, remember that the majority of meteorites are usually small.

Happy hunting and the best of luck in finding those special "out of this world" items for your collection.

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via Snoopy Gems, April 2008

Agatized Fossil Coral

via Ore-Cutts, 5/08

Contrary to common perception, Agatized Fossil Coral is collected from pits and trenches dug in the jungle and along streambeds, not from the sea where beautiful live coral thrives. In most jungles, the underlying coralline limestone has been weathered away, leaving only the hard agate replaced upper crust of the ancient reef as cobbles and boulders in soil. The fossilized coral appears as small "flowers" and designs on the stone. A porous layer is normally cutaway and the well-agatized fossil portion is sawed, producing high quality, high yield lapidary slabs for export. Small slabs are set aside for custom bead and cabochon orders. Some fossil coral can be heated to enhance the color and contrast in the fossil pattern. Fossilized coral can be found in brown, gray, black, white, yellow, and red. Success in heating is dependent on mineral content, oven temperature and luck!

How To Build A Shortwave Lamp

by Robert Winsor,
from Gem Cutters News, 6/08; via Mineral Newsletter, 5/08

I have had several requests lately for information about how to make a shortwave lamp. This article serves as one method which can be used to build one, but there are many variations that can be made to this plan.

The heart of the shortwave lamp is a simple fluorescent lamp. Many types will work, but some may be more convenient than others. For example, one possible starting point is to purchase a fluorescent "trouble light". These are automotive type lamps with a cord built-in and have compact fluorescent bulbs inside. Another type of lamp that can be made to work is a desk lamp. Whatever lamp is chosen is likely to work, but keep in mind that the bulb type should be one that emits a lot of light in a small area. For example, compact fluorescent lamps have "U" shaped bulbs so that this is accomplished.

The next step is to remove the bulb. Notice on the bulb there is a designation of the bulb type. Common types are the 9 watt, the 13 watt, and the 18 watt. The bulb needs to be replaced with the same bulb type, but rather than using a bulb that emits soft white light, you want to purchase a germicidal UV bulb. These are commonly available via mail order (e.g. http://www.bulbs.com). The light fixture is now capable of emitting shortwave UV (SWUV) light, and prolonged exposure will result in sunburns. You should never look into the light without wearing safety glasses-the same type you use to protect your eyes from flying debris (they also block SWUV).

Any "window" on the fluorescent fixture needs to be removed or altered. In its place needs to be a shortwave UV filter. Replacement filters for many commercial SWUV lamps can be obtained from this site: <www.uvsystems.com/>

Follow the links to Products, then the link to UV filters. Pick one with dimensions that will match your lamp (i.e. a 2" X 5" size is a good choice). A housing needs to be constructed to hold the bulb, ballast, and filter together and block the visible light emission. This can be done a number of ways, but if you start with a "trouble light," much of the work is already done. You only need to make a new window. Most windows are plastic, so altering them is easy. Make an undersized cutout in the window where the UV filter will be placed, and using epoxy or a hot glue gun, bond the filter to the window over the cutout. Then use a coating of primer paint and then flat black paint to cover the rest of the window to prevent visible light from escaping.

Using this technique and some planning and elbow grease, you can construct a SWUV lamp for about $130-$150 in parts, about half to a third what you would pay for it retail.

Virgin Valley Field Trip Report by Dean and Karen Welder

After a vehicle mechanical adventure that delayed our departure by nearly a day and a half, we (the Schueslers and Karen, Jasper and Dean) headed out. Thursday night we camped outside Winnemucca, Nevada. Friday we continued the drive to Virgin Valley, with a stop in Denio Junction to top off on gas. Amazingly enough, the price at Denio was fairly close to what we paid in Winnemucca.

It has been several years since our last visit. So, we stopped in the campground first, circled around and picked our spots. I placed orange paper plates with "NBFT" to identify our spots to any other attendees that might arrive while we were out exploring. We drove up to the Royal Peacock mine office to make sure we were all set for the next day. Now was time for some exploring the outlying areas to see what we might find.

We started by exiting the campground to the east/north-east. A decent road follows along the side of the marsh and towards Thousand Creek Gorge. The road ends where the marsh drains into the gorge. We walked around the area for a short while. Apache Tears, common opal and petrified wood were found, but nothing that we felt like keeping.

Saturday arrived and we found our lone visitor, Steve from SFGMS. Steve drove basically all night, with 4 hours of sleep in a rest stop, in order to meet up with us at 7:45 AM! We all went out to the Royal Peacock mine to try our luck digging in the bank (for a fee of $180 per person). Karen's rough count of 20 people all whacking away shows the mine did decent that day in my opinion. We think that MAYBE one person was actually finding some possible material, which MAY have had some fire, but nobody else was. Karen found a screwdriver (well, ok plus a little less than 1/2 a poorly formed petrified pine cone) around 3 PM while walking the tailings pile - that was our reward for the $$ we spent.

Back to camp for showers and dinner. Pot lucks while camping are always challenging, even more so with only 5 people. But we did well. Steve brought along fresh fruit and veggies, Pat & Louis made a really nice Asian chicken salad plus some meat (and cookies, can't forget the cookies that Pat always was pushing ;-). And Karen made some pasta.

After the zero finds of Saturday, I think everybody was a little worried about what Sunday would bring. But our tractor bucket load was good, real good, although one of the most difficult ones we've ever had to dig through. The late winter (snow only 1 week earlier covered many of the surrounding ridges) has kept the soil extremely moist. The bucket load delivered to us had soooo many large (30, 40, even up to about 70 pounds) clay clumps, each of which required careful breaking up to make sure that no opal chunks or other items were found. Usually two of us can dig through a bucket load in no more than 4 or maybe 5 hours. This time, 7 hours after we started we were still breaking up clay clumps. I'm sure that some good material was missed, but we were running out of time. I mean even at 3:45 (the owners start chasing people out of the mine at 4 PM), I was still whacking away with the large Estwing pick!

We found quite a bit of possible material. No time was available for gentle cleaning and inspecting, but we did bring back about 3/4 of a 5-gallon bucket size volume of material. All of which is still packed up because we haven't had a chance yet to inspect it better.

All in all, everybody had a good time and we found some pretty good material.

Until next time, good luck on your own rockhounding adventures.

What does that future of our hobby look like to us?

via Rock Chip Reporter, 8/08

Do we see a vibrant and expanding club with new finds in new locations or do we see clubs dying off and a world where these lands are closed to us and our hobby is limited to estate sales and high grading from the collections of our fellow rock club members?

The first area of concern is the people and is a problem probably very common to most clubs. The majority of the members are those who have been faithful to our wonderfully invigorating hobby for many, many years. We appreciate them, their expertise and guidance, but they are the foundation, not the future. If we want to see our clubs grow, we need to spread the word to younger people that we have a family oriented and exciting hobby.

We need to go to where young people are and use the tools to attract them that appeal to young people, like the Internet. Set up a vibrant and colorful website. Keep it up to date and change it often to attract people back to it. Place posters, or copies of your newsletter, in libraries and stores. Keep in contact with your schools and find ways to make presentations and advertise the fact that you are from a club that has exciting meetings and field trips.

Advertise those exciting field trips outside your club (check on your club's insurance liability) , and make sure that your outings are child friendly. Set up one day workshops/demos for the public, and advertise them well, so that others can see the beauty of what we have found and get a taste of what we do. All club functions must have activities for the children in order to be a place that their parents can attend. Make sure you have brochures and applications available, of course.

Have a rock show that is changing, expanding, and draws new people in with widespread and exciting advertising. Focus again on what the younger generation might be interested in: new rocks from new dealers, more educational opportunities, exciting activities for the kids, demonstrations that allow hands on and take home projects, etc. Be sure again to have your club member applications prominently available.

The second problem is that many area are closing down. Be active in groups that are government watchdogs such as the Oregon Council of Rocks and Minerals and your NFMS. Keep your ears open to hear about any actions by the government that threaten our access to the forest, deserts, and mountains. Forward this information to the larger groups so they can act on it. Join with others that want to keep access open even though you might not agree with everything they are about. The ATV groups, for example, are larger and have more clout, and we can find ways to share the land with them as long as we keep vehicles access open.

I know there are other opportunities out there that will help us make sure our hobby has a bright and vibrant future. I value your input, so please get in touch with me and share your ideas.

Thank you,
Bryan Schroeder,
Newsletter Editor, NFMS

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SANTA CLARA VALLEY GEM and MINERAL SOCIETY
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
June 24th , 2008

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 was held after the regular meeting, the next board meeting will be at Frank Mullaney's home July 24th, 7:30 pm.

CORRESPONDENCE: Letters from: AFMS Scholarship foundation acknowledgement letter of Ruth Bailey's $50.00 contribution in memory of Margaret Norton, SCVGMS Scholarship Fund donation of $25.00 from John and Sylvia Palmieri, in memory of Margaret Norton, letter from Sue Reeves acknowledging the memorial contribution from Ruth Bailey, exchange bulletin from the Stockton club.
SUNSHINE REPORT: Alice McCammon is 97 and says hi to everyone.
HOSPITALITY: There were 58 members and 6 guests in attendance tonight.
STUDY GROUPS: See details in the Breccia for all groups. Contact the group leader for info and time.
Faceters will be on a break from July until October.
Mineraleers will be on a summer break until September.
Cutaways will be at John Eichhorn's on the second Saturday afternoon each month.
Jewelry group will the first Thursday in July.
Fossileers will meet at the next demo day.
Stringers and Smithies have new sign up sheets.
DRC COMMITTEE: Sale on July 19th from 9am to 12am.
SHOW: Frank Mullaney will present the CFMS with our show proposal for 2009. There are plenty of jobs that need to be filled.
MEMBER DISPLAY: See Breccia.
FIELD TRIPS: See details in the Breccia. E-mail Dean Welder for any info.
PROGRAM: Silent auction. Tables 1 and 3 were closed at 8:20, tables 8 and 7 at 8:48, tables 4 and 6 at 9:05, all tables closed at 9:13.
NEXT MONTH: Dues were due in May.
DON'T FORGET THE PICNIC!
Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.
Respectfully submitted,
John Eichhorn, Secretary

Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society
Board Meeting Minutes
June 24th, 2008

President Randy Harris called the meeting to order at 9:25 pm at the Cabana club meeting room. All board members were present except Chris Cherry. M/S/P to read the minutes at the next board meeting.
Correspondence: Letters from: Dodge and Cox quarterly report, p o box payment letter, thank you letter sent to Ruth Bailey for her donation to the DRC Committee.
New Members: M/S/P to accept Aurora McDowell, Mary Karas, David Lowe, Yvonne Go, Paul Herrera, and Barbara Herrera as new members.
Treasurer's Report: M/S/P to pay p o box bill. M/S/P to switch Margaret Norton donation to a CFMS Scholarship donation. Silent auction collected $310.75 with $96.50 being from the DRC material.
Installation Dinner: Nancy Reineking will give a bid on the dinner.
Unfinished Business: M/S/P to have the club pay for snacks and the difference of three dollars per head in tips, the fee will remain at $10.00. M/S/P to pay a deposit and the quote for the bus trip. M/S/P to have Jane Yamashita pay a deposit and be reimbursed at a later date.
SHOW 2009: Stanford and Cal State will except scholarships, UC Santa Cruz will return message at a later date.
New Business: None
M/S/P to adjourn at 9:50 pm.
Respectfully submitted,
John Eichhorn, Secretary

Jade Festival Field Trip
Oct. 11th, 2008
Big Sur

Pacific Valley School

Field trip description

The Jade Festival is held once a year in the beautiful Big Sur area. It is a small festival and they will have food, drinks and entertainment. We will be using a bus charter that will hold 40 people. There will be a charge of $10.00 per person (plus an added 3.00 per person for the driver's tip to be collected at the end of the trip). The SCVGMS will provide the bus, snacks, and water for the two and a half hour ride. The scenery on the way there is breathtakingly beautiful. Worth the ride in itself. You will be able to see where the Monterey Jade is collected and possibly take a ride to one of the collection areas. We are spending approx. 3 hours at the Jade Festival and Jade collecting area and then heading home. The tentative time frame will be 7 to 9:30 to the Festival then spend 2 or 3 hours at the Festival and surrounding area, You will be able to buy lunch at the festival or bring your own. There will tables to eat your lunch. We can take a ride to check out the areas' Jade collecting sites and then head home. If time permits, we will stop at the Natural History Museum in Pacific Grove. . If you are interested in going on this field trip. Send $10.00 per person to:

George Yamashita **Please make checks payable to SCVGMS.**
24320 Mountain Charlie Rd.
Los Gatos, CA. 95033 ph# (408)353-2982)
Pick up time:7am estimated return time will be 5 or 5:30.
Well behaved children must be accompanied by an adult (It's a long ride)
Please meet at the Moonlight Shopping Center on El Camino Real, Santa Clara 7am. sharp

The Donation Receiving Committee has initiated this trip with the help of the SCVGMS Board.

Charter will be with Royal Coach Please mail this bottom information with your checks

Names of those attending

_____

Phone and/or email in case we have to contact you._____