



# Breccia

Volume 56, Number 1

**January 2009**

An All-American Club

**Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society**

San Jose, California

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## Randy says...

Hello, Fellow Enthusiasts,

Thank you for electing me to lead the club for the next year, and thanks to everyone who helped with the many things we did this year.

We have several exciting things to look forward to such as field trips, the CFMS show, study groups, meeting new friends, and, most importantly, a chance to serve the club in many ways. I have already spoken with many of you and I thank you for stepping up to take charge of some of the committees.

Many committees have new leaders. If you have not volunteered for a committee position, please consider helping the club by accepting a position. I am looking for someone to do Programs, Refreshments, 2010 Show chairman, and a few other key positions.

Co-Chairmen are always welcome. Bill Gissler has volunteered to help with the programs, but cannot do the job himself. There is also an opening on the Board for a historian.

Please give me a call if you are willing to help. My phone number is (831)438-5150. If you have any ideas on how to improve the club, please write them down and give them to me or send me an Email: [randysparky234@netscape.net](mailto:randysparky234@netscape.net).

The Installation Dinner was well attended, and I think everyone enjoyed the evening. There were

several bags of toys donated to the Marines for Toys for Tots. The food was very good.

Many thanks to those who came early and helped set up the tables and chairs and decorate the room. It was nice to see all of you!

Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.  
Randy Harris, President



## Welcome new member...

Patt Magallon  
408-629-0449  
5132 Narvaez Avenue  
San Jose, CA 95126

Patt's interested in collecting, cabbing, metal-smithing, stringing, studying minerals, carving....



## Board meeting schedule 2009

*Meetings start at 7:30pm. All members are welcome.*

January: Ruth Bailey

February: Marc Mullaney

March: Dean and Karen Welder

April: Rick Kennedy

May: TBA

June: TBA

July: Frank Mullaney at Ruth's home

August: Randy and June Harris

September: Pat Speece

October: TBA

November: Cabana Club following the general meeting

December: Pat Speece



### From the *new* editor

Hi! I'm doing the Breccia this year. Here are some things you might want to know:

- Everything is subject to editing except the Minutes and the Treasurer's Report
- Deadline is the Board Meeting
- The Breccia is available to members through email or a paper copy
- Comments, suggestions, etc are welcome --- especially the good ones : )

Thanks! Pat



### Meet Randy and June Harris

*"My grandfather was always doing things with rocks. When we would visit, he would let my brothers and sister and me choose rocks he had tumbled to take home. He also polished thundereggs and made agate wind chimes."*

Many rockhounds could have written the above, as Randy's experience seems happily typical.

Randy and June Harris of Scott's Valley got involved with our group shortly after our 2002 show. Seeing membership as an opportunity to learn more about the lapidary arts, meet interesting people, and go on field trips, they set out to do just that. It wasn't so much the show, but the people they met while attending meetings after the show that convinced them to become members.

#### Who does what

Randy is the main family rockhound, though June is interested in several areas as well. Besides learning about fossils, geology, petrified wood, minerals, and collection, June likes to read even as Randy is collecting in the great outdoors.

When not collecting, cutting and polishing, or learning about minerals, fossils, petrified wood, and how to make things with the rocks after they are cut and polished, Randy likes to read some science fiction occasionally and books on rocks, lapidary, and geology. Randy also likes going to shows, and meeting nice people.

With no time left for other-club commitments, Randy would like to learn new techniques, more about

geology and places to collect, as well as wire wrapping, silver smithing, identification, and most importantly, how to pack the vehicle so he can bring home just a few more rocks. [Randy, let us know when you solve this problem!]

Rounding out interests, Randy and June like movie comedies, dining out, and gardening. June, our club secretary, concentrates on leading Girl Scouts as well as developing the Kids Area at our annual show.

They have a long list of fruit trees (3 cherry, apple, pear, persimmon, apricot, nectarine, orange, tangerine, and lemon), berries (raspberries, blueberries, and loganberries) and bulbs, along with rhododendrons, azaleas, and a full vegetable garden of tomatoes, potatoes, cucumbers, corn, beans, beets, artichokes, summer and winter squash, pumpkins, and asparagus, as well as other things they try once in a while.

As president, Randy would like to see the club organize a few extended field trips for a long weekend or longer, establish a workshop to attract new members, teach classes on the lapidary arts, and increase public awareness of our club and services.

*Say hello to Randy and June Harris!*



### Member display schedule

This is a favorite part of our general meetings. Your scheduled date is a suggestion; you can display any time you wish. This list is alphabetical by last name.

**January: A-B-C**

**February: D-E-F**

**March: G-H**

**April: I-J-K**

**May: L-M**

**June or July: N-O-P** (we have a Silent Auction at one of these meetings)

**August: Q-R-S-T**

**September: U-V-W**

**October: X-Y-Z + anybody**

**November: None** due to the Silent Auction.

**December: None** due to the Installation Dinner.



## Bits and pieces

Our not-so-silent auction took in \$426.75. We usually have a silent auction in the summer, and again during November elections. Items from our Donation Receiving Committee (DRC) brought in \$92. Fun stuff!



## Mineraleers report

By Chuck Boblenz

Nine members convened at the Moore residence where a number of nice specimens of dendrites and plume were available for viewing. A good discussion was held about the forming of dendrites, and a number of samples were passed around for all to see. The discussion then turned to any similarity of plumes to that of dendrites and examples were likewise passed around for viewing and discussion.

Winnie shared the announcement of a special TV program by National Geographic about the gypsum caves in Mexico. I hope that all were able to view this very interesting documentation of their find. It was chock full of information and history of the find, showed excellent footage of the crystals, and told of the perils in exploring the caves down there.

The meeting adjourned to the kitchen where Winnie served delicious refreshments.

The last meeting was in December at the Harris residence, and the topic was obsidian.

**The next meeting is the 13th of January at Frank Monez' home. Meeting topic is topaz and starts at 7:30 PM.** So dust off your prize specimen of topaz and come out and join us.



## Cutaways and Carvers group

By John Eichhorn

Meet at John Eichhorn's house  
408-749-0523

Please give advance notice if you plan to attend a future meeting.

[johneichhorn@earthlink.net](mailto:johneichhorn@earthlink.net)

What do Cutaways or Carvers do? Contact John!



## Shows to see

From the CFMS webpage  
[GMS = Gem and Mineral Society]

### January 17-18, 2009, Exeter, CA

Tule GMS  
Exeter Memorial Bldg.  
420 N Kaweah, Exeter; Sat. 10 - 5, Sun. 10-4  
Margaret Buchmann (599) 739-0401  
Email: [mab@mindinfo.com](mailto:mab@mindinfo.com)  
Webpage: [tulegem.org](http://tulegem.org)

### February 13-22, 2009, Indio, CA

San Gorgonio GMS  
Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival  
G&M Building Bldg #1  
46-350 Arabia Street; 10 am - 10 pm  
Bert Grisham: (915) 849-1674  
Email: [bert67@verizon.net](mailto:bert67@verizon.net)

### February 27 - March 8, 2009, Imperial, CA

Imperial Valley GMS  
G&M Building on Fairgrounds  
Fri., Sat. & Sun. Noon - 10pm  
Mon. thru Thur. 4pm - 10pm  
Jim Strain (760) 356-2361

### March 6, 7 & 8, 2009, Hayward, CA

GMS of Castro Valley  
Centennial Hall; 22292 Foothill Blvd.  
Fri. & Sat. 10 - 6, Sun. 10-5  
Larry Ham (510) 887-9007  
E-mail: [showchair@mgscv.org](mailto:showchair@mgscv.org)  
Website: <http://www.mgscv.org>

### March 7 - 8 2009, Arcadia, CA

LA Co. Arboretum & Botanical Garden  
301 North Baldwin Ave. (1 block South of I-210,  
Foothill Freeway); 9 - 4:30 both days

### March 7 - 8, 2009, Ventura, CA

Ventura GMS  
47th Annual Gem, Mineral, Lapidary & Fossil  
Seaside Park; Ventura County Fairgrounds  
Sat. 10 - 5, Sun. 10-4  
Website: <http://www.vgms.org>

*Continued on next page.*

**March 13, 14, 15, 2009, Stoddard Wells, CA**

Victor Valley GMS  
33rd Annual Tailgate  
Held off Stoddard Wells Road in Apple Valley  
10-5 Daily; (760) 243-2330  
Website: [www.vvgms.org](http://www.vvgms.org)

**March 14-15, 2009, San Marino, CA**

Pasadena Lapidary Society  
San Marino Masonic Center  
3130 Hunting Drive, San Marino  
Sat. 10 -6 , Sun 10-5  
Drew Wilson (626) 298-1534  
Email: [todrew@sbcglobal.net](mailto:todrew@sbcglobal.net)

**March 14-15, 2009, Turlock, CA**

Mother Lode Mineral Society  
Stanislaus County Fairgrounds  
900 N. Broadway, Turlock  
Sat. 10 -6 , Sun 10-5  
Bud & Terry McMillin (209) 524-3494  
Email: [terry.mcmillin@yahoo.com](mailto:terry.mcmillin@yahoo.com)  
Website: [www.motherlodemineralsociety.com](http://www.motherlodemineralsociety.com)  
Show Website: [www.turlockgemshow.com](http://www.turlockgemshow.com)

**March 14-15, 2009, Spreckels, CA**

Salinas Valley Rock & Gem Club  
Veteran's Memorial Hall  
5th & Liano Streets; 10-5 daily  
Teri Beck (831) 679-2896  
Email: [taitani@cencentric.net](mailto:taitani@cencentric.net)  
Website: [salinasrockandgem.com](http://salinasrockandgem.com)

**March 21 - 22, 2009, Vallejo, CA**

Vallejo GMS; allego Elks Lodge  
2850 Redwood Parkway (Intersection of Parkway  
and Admiral Callahan Road); 10 - 5 both days  
Phyllis Malicki (707) 745-3255

**March 28 - 29, 2009, Torrance, CA**

South Bay Lapidary and Mineral Society  
Torrance Recreational Center  
3341 Torrance Blvd. Torrance, CA  
Sat. 10 - 5, Sun. 10-4; Roger Mills (310) 377-6226  
Email: [roger\\_mills@acm.org](mailto:roger_mills@acm.org)  
Website: <http://www.palosverdes.com/sblap/>

**March 28-29, 2009 Angels Camp, CA**

Calaveras GMS  
Calaveras Frog Town USA Fairgrounds  
Highway 49 in Angels Camp; Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4  
Tak Iwata (209) 928-5579  
Website: [Calaverasgemandmineral.org](http://Calaverasgemandmineral.org)

**March 28-29 2009 Roseville, CA**

Roseville Rock Rollers  
Placer County Fairgrounds  
800 All America City Blvd., Roseville  
Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4  
Gloria Marie (530) 367-2262  
Email: [Gloria.Marie@Conservation.ca.gov](mailto:Gloria.Marie@Conservation.ca.gov)  
Website: [www.rockrollers.com](http://www.rockrollers.com)

**April 3-5, 2009, Bakersfield, CA**

San Joaquin Valley Lapidary Society  
Kern County Fairgrounds  
1142 South P Street 9-5 Daily  
Lew Helfrich (661) 323-2663 / cell (661) 378-4450  
Email: [lewsrocks@bak.rr.com](mailto:lewsrocks@bak.rr.com)

**April 17, 18, 19, 2009  
San Jose, CA  
54th Annual Show  
Santa Clara Valley GMS  
Fairgrounds 334 Tully Road  
Fri. 9-5; Sat. and Sun. 10-5  
Show Page: [Click Here](#)  
Email: [info@scvgms.org](mailto:info@scvgms.org)  
Website: [www.scvgms.org](http://www.scvgms.org)**

**May 9-10, 2009, Reno, NV**

Reno G&M Society  
Reno Livestock Events Center Exhibit Hall  
1350 N. Wells Ave., Reno, NV  
Sat. 10 - 5, Sun. 10-4

**May 30-31, 2009, Glendora, CA**

E. Sierra Madre Ave. Glendora  
Sat. 10 - 5, Sun. 10-4  
Bonnie Bidwell (626) 963-4638  
Email: [Ybidwell2@aol.com](mailto:Ybidwell2@aol.com)



# Silicon, silica, silicates and silicone

By Dr. Bill Cordua, University of Wisconsin, River Falls

People get confused about the difference between silicon, silicate, silica and even silicone. What is it exactly that we collect, cut and polish??

**Silicon is a chemical element**, one of the 97 natural building blocks from which our minerals are formed. A chemical element is a substance that can't be subdivided into simple substances without splitting atoms. Silicon is the second most abundant element in the earth's crust, making up about 27% of the average rock. Silicon links up with oxygen (which makes up 55% of the earth's crust) to form the most common suite of minerals, called the silicates. Quartz, feldspars, olivine, micas, thomsonite, jadeite, and prehnite are all silicates. There is so much oxygen around that pure native silicon is almost never found naturally.

**Silica is a bit trickier** concept. It refers the combination of silicon plus oxygen. The mineral quartz is silica. But so are the minerals tridymite, coesite, cristobalite and stishovite which are mineral forms of silica that are stable at high temperatures and pressures. All these minerals are also silicates. In other words, quartz is a silicate made of pure silica. But feldspars contain sodium, aluminum, potassium and calcium in addition to silicon and oxygen. Thus feldspars are silicates but they aren't pure silica.

Geochemists also use the term "silica" to refer to the overall silicon and oxygen content of rocks. This is confusing, but stems from the fact that in rock analysis the sample is dissolved, the solution treated, and the amount of silicon present is determined by precipitating it as silica. So a geologist may say "This rock is 48% silica". A rockhound will look at the rock and say "How can that be? I don't see any quartz in it!" Both are right. The rock will not have the mineral quartz because the silicon and oxygen are tied up with other elements to make silicate minerals like feldspar. Its a bit like looking at a cake and saying "I don't see any eggs in there!" The eggs are cake ingredients, but are present in different forms.

**Now, what is silicone?** It's a synthetic polymer of silicon with carbon and oxygen that could be in solid, liquid or gel form. It has all kinds of medical uses, such as in antacids, artificial joints, pacemakers and implants of various notoriety, but is not, as far as anyone knows, found in rocks.

Can pure silicon be found in Nature? Yes, rarely. Recently Russian geologists were sampling gases from Kudriavoy volcano on the Kamchatka Peninsula. Here they drove quartz tubes into vents jetting out gases of over 900 degrees C. Their tubes filled with minerals precipitating from this gas. Among them were pure silicon metal embedded in masses of salts such as halite. The silicon formed crystals up to 0.3 mm across. It was associated with pure aluminum metal, Si-Al alloys and other rare minerals. This find was unusual enough to warrant a note in the prestigious science journal, *Nature*.

So unless you are in Russia sampling hot volcanic gases, you can be sure that what you are finding are silica and silicates, but not silicon or silicone.

Dr. Bill Cordua, U. Wisconsin- River Falls

Reference: Korzhinsky, M.A., et. al., 1995, "Native Al and Si Formation," *Nature*, vol. 375, p. 544.

# Life and minerals evolve together

Michael Reilly, Discovery News

## Earth's Special Recipe

Nov. 13, 2008 -- Etched in the shockwaves of exploding stars, in the gas and dust of fledgling stellar nebulae -- and in Earth's ample oceans, winds and fiery volcanoes -- the multi-billion-year history of minerals appears ageless to us mere mortals.

But an ambitious new study describes how these seemingly static forms have evolved through the ages, just like biological life. From the 12 "primordial" minerals forged inside supernovae to the 4,300 or so mineral species known today, minerals have diversified, grown in complexity, and even been driven into extinction.

"The most basic definition of evolution is change over time," said Robert Hazen of the Carnegie Institution in Washington, D.C., who led a team of researchers in the work, published today in the journal *American Mineralogist*. "And that's dramatically displayed in the stories of minerals."

Before life evolved on Earth, the slow inexorable grind of plate tectonics created a total of 1,500 mineral species. Now, Hazen said, most minerals require living creatures to spring into existence.

"That's about as far as we think you can get without life," he said. That means about two-thirds of all known minerals depend on Earth's living creatures to survive.

In life's beginnings, it may have been the other way around.

"Many people believe that life first appeared from some sort of interaction of organic molecules on a mineral surface," said Peter Heaney of Pennsylvania State University.

If all life were suddenly wiped out, the 20-percent-oxygen atmosphere we currently enjoy would vanish in a matter of years. Along with the O<sub>2</sub>, all those minerals would go extinct.

Minerals containing radioactive elements with short half-lives, such as plutonium, melted into extinction long ago (all plutonium on Earth today is man-made). And Heaney suspects there's a new field of mineral archaeology just waiting to be born.

"No one has ever mapped out mineral extinction in Earth's history," Heaney said. "In a way, [Hazen's] work forces us to think in those terms and look for the mineral equivalent of a fossil record."

Reference: <http://dsc.discovery.com/news/2008/11/13/minerals-evolution.html>

[*Editor's Note*: the underlined words are hyperlinks. You can click on them in the Web edition for further information on the subject.]

## Key Event That Breaks Continents Apart Discovered

*Science Daily*

Dec. 11, 2008 — Researchers have captured for the first time a geological event considered key in shaping the Earth's landscape. An international research team was able to measure ground displacements as two tectonic plates in Africa moved apart and molten rock pushed its way toward the surface during the first so-called "dyking event" ever recorded within the planet's continental crust. The event left a wall of magma 6 miles long and 5 feet wide wedged between the two plates. A paper detailing the event was published Dec. 11 in *Nature*.

Dyking events have been reported in the thin oceanic crust but had never been directly observed and quantified in the thicker areas of the planet's shell, researcher Eric Calais, professor of geophysics at Purdue University said.

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2008/12/081210090817.htm>



SANTA CLARA VALLEY G&M SOCIETY

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

November 25th , 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 meeting will be the joint meeting December 4<sup>th</sup> at the Harris's home , 7:30 pm .

CORRESPONDENCE : 2 exchange bulletins , AFMS newsletter , returned drop letter , AFMS scholarship donation letter from for Carroll Dillion , Tucson show add , Livermore club show add .

NEW MEMBERS : Fred Fisher and Joe Lattuada , were presented with their membership packages and welcomed to the club .

HOSPITALITY : There were 54 members and 2 guests in attendance tonight .

SUNSHINE : Kelly Van Vleck has recovered from surgery , Mary Brown has broken her hip .

DONATION RECEIVING COMMITTEE : A rock sale will be held on November 22<sup>nd</sup>, at the Speece home with \$418.00 in sales .

NOMINATION COMMITTEE : See report in the Breccia .

FAIRGROUND COMMITTEE : The group attended the County Supervisors meeting on Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> . A letter with the clubs history and ideas was given to the board .

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

Faceteers . The first Saturday of the month , call Max Casey for meeting information .

Cutaways will be on Dec. 13th

Fossileers will meet at the next demo day .

Jewelry group will meet at the home of Mark Mullaney .

Stringers , Wed. Jan 21<sup>st</sup>

Silversmith , Feb 11<sup>th</sup> , 13<sup>th</sup> , beginning class .

Mineraleers , Tues Dec 9<sup>th</sup> , Randy Harris's home .

FEDERATION : Ruth Bailey attended the Visalia meeting , dues were increased by 50 cents . The AFMS/CFMS 2010 show will be in Riverside . The CFMS 2011 show will be in Redding . June Harris has been chosen as the scholarship honoree .

PLAC : See Frank's message in the Breccia .

*Continued on next page.*

SHOW : There are still jobs open for the CFMS show , sign up sheets and set up sheets will be available . Photo posters ,business cards and flyers are available . Julaine Mullaney is measuring car windows and taking names for window stickers . A pair of Benitoite ear rings was donated by Rick Kennedy for a drawing prize .There will be a treasure hunt for the kids . Tickets for the Barranca grinder are available from Frank Mullaney. A January work day will be scheduled for the kids area .

MEMBER DISPLAY : none

FIELD TRIPS : See details in the Breccia . E-mail Dean Welder for any info.

PROGRAM : Silent auction and club elections.

Elections : President , Randy Harris . Vice President , Rick Kennedy . Treasurer , Frank Mullaney . Secretary , June Harris . Editor , Pat Speece . Fed Director , Ruth Bailey . Alt Fed Director , Michael Paone . Directors , Marc Mullaney , Gail Matthews , Bill Spence , Veto Cangemi , Karen Welder , Chris Cherry . Historian : open . Parliamentarian , Dean Welder .

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm .Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm .

Respectfully submitted, John Eichhorn, Secretary

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Santa Clara Valley G&M Society  
Board Meeting Minutes

November 25th , 2008

President Randy Harris called the meeting to order at 7 the Cabana club meeting hall after the regular club meeting at 9:30 pm. All board members were present except Frank Monez .

m/s/p to postpone reading of the minutes .

m/s/p to accept Patty Magallon as a new member .

m/s/p to dispense with business .

Dec 4<sup>th</sup> will be the joint board meeting .

m/s/p to adjourn at 940pm.

Respectfully submitted , John Eichhorn , Secretary

[johneichhorn@earthlink.net](mailto:johneichhorn@earthlink.net)

*[Editor's Note:* the November Board Meeting is always held immediately after the general meeting because the following Thursday is Thanksgiving. Normally, board meetings are held the Thursday of the same week as the general meetings.



*To help you remember the difference between stalagmites and stalagtites* --- which goes up from the floor and which comes down from the ceiling: It's like ants in the pants --- the mites go up, and the tites (tights) go down.



**Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society  
December 4, 2008 Board meeting minutes**

SCVGMS President, Randy Harris, called the December 4, 2008 joint board meeting to order at 7:30 PM at the home of Ruth Bailey. The meeting agenda was distributed to attendees and a request was made to maintain the time frame allotted for each agenda subject. All 2008 SCVGMS Board member were present except Frank Mullaney, Frank Monez, Chris Cherry, Dean Welder, and Michael Paone.

**Minutes** from the October and November Board meeting were read. MSP (R. Owen, M Mullaney) to approve the October and November Board meeting minutes as read.

**Correspondence:** None

**Treasurer's report:** Marc Mullaney distributed the Treasurer's Report for Frank Mullaney. MSP (R. Bailey, R. Owen) to pay the bills have been submitted.

**Committee reports:**

**Fairgrounds Redevelopment Committee Report:** Randy Harris reported that the FRC attended a meeting with the County of Santa Clara Special Project Manager Larry Klamecki regarding a letter that was requested by and submitted to the Morley Bros. following the first public outreach meeting in August, 2008. Mr. Klamecki chose our organization to be the first he met with because our letter was so detailed and well done.

**Field Trips:** Randy Harris submitted for adoption the CFMS Informed Consent/Assumption of Risk/Waiver of Liability Form. The board had some questions regarding our insurance. Karen Welder assumed responsibility for contacting the insurance company and obtaining answers regarding which insurance policy acts first in the event of a claim for an accident at a member's home while a club event is occurring, club members homeowners/rental insurance or the club liability policy. She will also try to obtain a copy of our policy. She will report back at the January Board meeting.

**Installation Dinner:** Marc Mullaney wished to thank Rosmarie Vogel, Claire Ferguson, and Ernestine Smith for their help with decorations. He also reported that the evening went well and the meal was terrific.

**Show 2009:** Ruth Bailey reported that there were extra show packets available for anyone who would like one. Randy Harris reported that there are still 39 tables available for dealers. Randy also has fliers available for anyone who would like to pass them out at work or to businesses you visit.

**Old Business:**

**Status report on finding a professional investments advisor for the endowment fund** Marc Mullaney will give a report at the January Board Meeting.

**Officers' and chairmans' manual revisions:** Matt Wood reported that no new progress has been made lately, but he intends to complete the project. He will report back in a couple of months, currently he does not feel a committee is necessary to complete the project.

**Club Trailers:** Report on wheel covers construction status: John Eichhorn indicated that he would stop by the storage facility and re-measure the wheels. John thought that Frank Mullaney was going to make the covers from scrap plywood that he has.

**SCVGMS cost/member analysis: Is a dues increase recommended?** Marc Mullaney will complete his analysis for the January Board Meeting.

**Large show case repair status: What is happening with repairs?** John Eichhorn needs to have help removing the cases from the storage trailers to obtain the correct measurements for repairs to be made. John indicated that he would work on finding help to complete the project.

**PLAC: Did we submit our application to ALAA?** Yes, a check was sent in June of 2008.

**Youth Science Institute:** Do they still want to borrow three display cases to display their collections? Rick Kennedy reported that YSI is currently in a budget crisis and we will have more information regarding if they still wish to borrow three display cases in January.

**Volcano Case for Kids Area:** Has it been purchased? June Harris reported that she still needs to purchase the materials to make the case.

**09 Scholarship Recipients:** Have you received replies from each school? Do we have the names of the recipients from each school? Which meeting were they invited to attend? John Eichhorn reported that he has heard back from California State University at the East Bay and University of California at Santa Cruz about their scholarship recipient choices. He is still waiting to hear from San Jose State University. He has invited all the scholarship recipients to the February 2009 general meeting to introduce them to the club.

**All American Award-** What is the progress on the application and book? Gail Matthews indicated that no work has been done on the application or book for 2008 year.

*Continued on next page.*

**Thank you letter to USGS** for allowing Larry Schimel to present a program at our October '08 meeting was requested by Gail Matthews. John Eichhorn will send a thank you letter.

Motion to adjourn 2008 board meeting at 8:14 PM

Meeting called to order by President Randy Harris with 2009 Board members at 8:16 PM. All 2009 board members were present except Dean Welder, Frank Mullaney, and Michael Paone,

**New Business:**

**Club directory printing:** MSP(R. Bailey, V. Cangemi) to approval the printing of 125 club member directories.

**CFMS dues and insurance.** MSP (R. Bailey, M. Mullaney) to authorize the Treasurer to pay our club dues and insurance as soon as the club directory is printed.

**CFMS and AFMS Newsletters:** MSP( M. Mullaney, R. Bailey) to have Michael Paone, Pat Speece, and June Harris be submitted to receive the CFMS and AFMS Newsletters.

**Demonstration Days:** It was recommended that "Play Days" for upcoming shows be held after Demo Days rather than in conjunction with them. MSP (M. Mullaney, R. Bailey) to continue Demo Days and to make reservations for the Cabana Club on a quarterly basis similar to this year's schedule. Marc and June to coordinate dates, times, and reservation request.

**Founder's Day-** MSP (M. Mullaney, R. Bailey) to have Founder's Day at the Cabana Club during the months of June or July and make reservations as soon as the chairman has chosen a date.

**Installation Dinner site reservations:** Marc Mullaney was directed to bring bids for the 2009 Installation dinner to the July Board meeting. MSP (V. Cangemi, B. Spence) to reserve the Cabana Club for the 2009 Installation Dinner on December 1.

**Social activities for club members and guests:** MSP (M. Mullaney, R. Bailey) to have the following social activities for members before general meetings: February meeting, Potluck; April meeting, Ice Cream Social; June or July meeting(opposite of the Founder's Day Picnic), BBQ/potluck; August meeting, BBQ/potluck; October meeting, potluck.

**Cabana Club Reservations:** June Harris volunteered to make the reservations for the following events, monthly general meetings, Demo Days, Founders Day Picnic, Socials, and Installation Dinner.

**January General Meeting Program:** It was decided to order the following video: Sugar, Quartz and Diamonds: Crystalline Perfection 42 minutes Composition, formation, structure, symmetry and other properties of crystals. V65. June will make the reservation and bring the video to the meeting. We need a meeting program coordinator for the year.

**Auditing Committee volunteers:** Rick Kennedy (Chairman), Ruth Bailey, and RK Owen will audit the 2008 SCVGMS Treasurer's books.

Motion to adjourn: 9:10 PM.

Next Board meeting will be on January 29, 2009 at Ruth Bailey's home at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by June Harris, Secretary



## Hints to make life easier

**Editor's Note:** I haven't tried these ideas unless otherwise noted. Caution and common sense are advised when trying any new product or procedure. You're on your own!

**Slow down that tarnish!** Tarnish is caused by sulfur gases in the air. Chalk naturally absorbs sulfur. Place sticks of ordinary chalk in your cases, and jewelry boxes. Put it in your tool chest, too, since it also absorbs moisture. I have chalk in a few places along with Pacific Silver Cloth and Ziploc bags.

**To make labels that glow** in the dark for fluorescent rocks, mix quinine and water to use for ink. It glows a bright bluish-white under black light.

**White vinegar** can get that epoxy off your cab. Just soak the cab in a little bowl of vinegar. It takes anywhere from a few minutes to overnight. I've tried this and it works.

**Discourage those snails!** Don't throw away those worn out sandpaper discs. Instead, cut a slit up the radius, and lay them down like a collar around the stems of your plants. Slugs won't cross the scratchy surface! I'm going to try this one!



## Who to call for what

### Board

President: Randy Harris (831) 438-5150

Vice-president: Rick Kennedy (408) 529-9690

Secretary: June Harris (831) 438-5150

Treasurer: Frank Mullaney (408) 266-1791

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Alternate Federation Director: Michael Paone (408) 340-3258

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Gail Matthews (650) 962-9960

Marc Mullaney (408) 691-1584

Bill Spence (408) 398-7502

Karen Welder (408) 353-2675

**Parliamentarian:** Dean Welder (408) 353-2675

### Historian

### Interest groups

**Stringers** Pat Speece (408) 266-4327 Group makes jewelry with beads, jumprings...

**Smithies** Kelly Van Vleck and Pat Speece. Group makes jewelry using torch, saw ....

Kelly Van Vleck (408) 262-8187; Pat Speece (408) 266-4327

**Mineraleers** Chuck Boblenz (408) 734-2473 Group studies and handles specimens.

**Carvers, and Cutaways** John Eichhorn (408) 749-0523 form spheres and sculptures, and make cabs

**Facet Cutters:** Max Casey (408) 227-0526

**Fossileers** Gail Matthews (650) 962-9960

### Links

Our website: [www.scvgms.org](http://www.scvgms.org)

We are members of the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CFMS). <http://www.cfmsinc.org/>

We are affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS ) <http://amfed.org>

**Membership requirements** Attendance at two general meetings within twelve months. Dues are \$10.00 per year. 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 ---just south of Blossom Hill between Leigh Avenue and Harwood Road.

**Society purpose** The purpose of the society is to foster an interest and appreciation for rocks and minerals by furthering knowledge of the earth sciences in our members and our community.

**Breccia crew** Editor: Pat Speece; Proofreader: Daymond Speece; Paper Edition Mailer: Ruth Bailey; Web Edition: RK Owen

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