



Breccia

Volume 56, Number 2

February 2009

An All-American Club

Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society

San Jose, California

Randy says...

Hello, Fellow Rockhounds,

I would like to encourage each of you to take advantage of some of our **upcoming activities**. There is a Potluck Dinner at 6:30pm before the next regular meeting, a Feb. 21 Demonstration/Play Day, and several other events, which are listed in the Breccia. Come and say hello to our scholarship recipients at the next meeting.

The **Show** is coming up and there is still much to do. Please contact Frank Mullaney and let him know how you can help. The show is our main fundraiser for the year. **About 85 % of our operating expenses are raised by having the show each year.**

Without the funds brought in by the show, we would not be able to do such things as the Founders Day Picnic, Installation Dinner, awarding annual Scholarships, Cabana Club rental for club events, the Breccia, and many of the other things we do to promote our hobby.

And now, it's time to get up on my soapbox. I have a few committee positions that are still open, including **2010 Show Chairman**. There are some people doing more than one job. This can lead to burnout, which can be the death of a club. Remember, "Many hands make light work". Some of the committees that already have a Chairperson need help also. Please contact me if you are willing to lend a hand. Phone (831) 438-5150; email randysparky234@netscape.net,

Please let me know if there is anything you are interested in that we are not already doing. I will take it to the board and see what it takes to make it happen. We are planning on having a **bus trip** somewhere this summer or fall. If there is any place that you think would make a good day trip, let someone on the board know. We have a few ideas, but input from the membership is always good. This is your club. It will be more fun if we do what you like to do!

Randy Harris, President



New Members, Welcome!

Mark Ziebarth

(408)779-9081

Morgan Hill, CA 95037

Mark is interested in field trips, geology, minerals and meteorites.

D'Evelyn Moran

(408) 857-1418

devlyn.moran@sbcglobal.net

D'Evelyn is interested in cutting and polishing, metal smithing, carving, stringing and field trips.

Robert Tyler (junior)

(408)857-1418

Shadow007RST3@yahoo.com

PO Box 572 Newman, CA 95360

Robert is interested in cutting and polishing, collecting, metal smithing, fossils, carving, minerals and trips.



You're On! Member Displays

This is a favorite part of every meeting. Show your stuff!

You're on for member display for our February meeting if your last name starts with D, E, or F. January A, B, and C members are welcome, too.



Meet George and Jane Yamashita

Members since 2003

Have you ever brought home rocks as souvenirs?

You are not alone!

Jane had been bringing home rocks as souvenirs for years. After both Jane and George retired, they started looking for a common hobby. When they heard of the club through their son Adam who heard of it from Marc Mullaney, it seemed perfect.

Both are California natives, going back generations. George was raised in Santa Clara Valley. [I think he knows almost everybody here.] They live in the same house in the Santa Cruz Mountains that George built 38 years ago.

Club job involvement

George and Jane have headed the Donation Receiving Committee (DRC) since its inception in 2006, earning over \$7000 for the club.

Both enjoy beading, silversmithing, and most every other facet of the hobby. They also like the camaraderie that comes with the group. They are always interested in learning about how and where and when gems, minerals and fossils are formed, and how to recognize them.

George and Jane love going to the Opal Mines in Virgin Valley, Nevada with family and friends. Introduced to Quartzsite, Arizona, by Kelly Van Vleck, they have really enjoyed the trips there as well. George is a fisherman and a good one. He also enjoys sporting events with their grandchildren. Jane enjoys the rescued dogs that they have adopted. Both enjoy watching their grandchildren, Zachary, Malia, and Ruby as they grow and mature. All the grandchildren have shown an interest in our hobby.

What else?

Jane belongs to a small group that goes to the Broadway shows in San Francisco. George belongs to

a group of retired P.G. and E. friends that meet up often and talk about how they're glad they retired when they did.

Jane enjoys reading Patricia Cornwell's crime books. Both enjoy going to Farmer's Markets and the Santa Cruz Flea Market, and spending as much time by the ocean as possible, as well as with their aging parents --- all in their 90s.

Both would like to see our club do more club sponsored field trips. Jane and George organized a successful bus field trip with Board approval to the Jade Festival last year.

Jane says, "*I know a big effort was made to start up a SCVGMS children's group. It still hasn't become a reality. Don't know what the answer is.*"

We spend lots of money on kids at our yearly shows, but the kids who are members of our club are really not taken care of. I'd like to see our club do more for the kids that are actually members."

Say hello to George and Jane!



Meeting programs (tentative)

Gail Matthews and Bill Gissler

February: Video Geology Profession

March: Speakers show prep by Bill Gissler and Chuck Boblenz

April: Speaker Rick Kennedy tbd

May: Speaker: Caves by a USGS speaker

June: Silent Auction

July: Speaker: Chuck Boblenz on Lapis

August: Video and **speaker:** Rock Tumbling video + Bill Gissler

September: Video How the Earth Works

October: Speaker Gail Matthews on Petrified Wood

November: Silent Auction and Elections

December: Christmas dinner in lieu of gen. mtg.



NOTICE: Sylvia Palmieri

It is with great sadness that we tell you of the recent death of long-time member Sylvia Palmieri. She and her husband, John, have run our Silent Auctions for years.

They joined in 1978, and have been lifetime members since 2001. Our sympathies go to John and their family.



Fossileers

By Gail Matthews

Bring your fossils that you would like to discuss or identified February 21, 2009. **Call Gail for exact times.** We will discuss fossils and petrified wood samples that support the movements of the tectonic plates. Any questions or suggestions for other topics, contact Gail at (650)962-9960.



Stringers

By Pat Speece

We just held a class focused on how to knot between pearls or beads. Since half the class was sick, we are holding this class again in March. If you want to be in this class, you need to let me know. Class is limited to five students.

pat.speece@sbcglobal.net
(408)266-4327



Smithies

By Pat Speece and Kelly Van Vleck

We are having a beginners class in late February. We supply everything. Materials may be purchased in class, or you can bring your own. Class will be two three-hour sessions. Cost is \$10. If you want to be in this class, you must let us know. Class is limited to five students.

pat.speece@sbcglobal.net
(408)266-4327



Mineraleers

By Chuck Boblenz

Seven Mineraleer's met at the Frank Monez residence to learn about Topaz. Frank had specimens from Topaz Mountain, Utah, and Bill Spence shared some superb examples from around the world.

Frank set up some viewing lights in the dining room and the discussion continued along with delicious refreshments. **The next meeting is February 10th at the Boblenz' residence and the topic is Variscite. Join us for the evening. Please RSVP to (408) 734-2473.**

Carvers and Cutaways

By John Eichhorn

Contact John if you plan on attending.

Saturday, February 14, 2009 1-4pm

Phone : 408-749-0523

703 San Conrado Terrace #4 Sunnyvale , Calif. 94085
johneichhorn@earthlink.net



Jewelers

By Marc Mullaney

The Jeweler's Study Group meets at the home of one of our members from 7 to 10 pm on the first Thursday of each month, except January and December. We work on a variety of projects and work at helping each other with various silversmithing projects from soldering to bezels to stone setting. We regularly take on projects suggested by group members. Get on our mailing list at the Show so we can let you know about our meetings. Marc Mullaney, geologistm@aol.com, 408-691-1584.



Club calender

Show meetings: February 17 and March 17 at 7:30 at the home of Ruth Bailey. All members are welcome.

Demo Days when study groups show all

All Demo days are normally 10-3pm

Demonstrations 10-1pm; Show work 1-3pm

February 21, 2009

July 11, 2009

August 8, 2009

October 10, 2009

March 28, 9- 3pm You are all invited to the Spring North Bay Field Trip (NBFT) Meeting hosted by Peninsula Gem and Geology Society at Shoup Park in Los Altos, CA.

Annual Picnic June 28 , 2009

Installation Dinner December 1, 2009

Camp Paradise May 17-23, 2009

Zyzyx Camp November 2009



Our show information

Show dates April 17, 18, 19, 2009

9-5 Friday, 10-5 Saturday and Sunday

Special attractions include:

- **Exhibits** of collections, rock and mineral specimens, samples of jewelry, a cave bear, and a dinosaur jaw.
- **Treasure hunt** for children.
- **Speakers** : **Dinosaur** expert, Richard Wade; Steve Yvaska, who will also do **informal antique appraisals**, so bring in your antiques including jewelry and other treasures.
- **Demonstrations** of various aspects of the hobby.
- **60+ dealers** of rocks, minerals, beads, tools, equipment, fossils and more.
- **Gold panning**
- **Kids Area**, a hands-on interactive area; special programs for Scouts and Future Rockhounds of America. Lots of fun.
- **Scholarship Booth** (proceeds go to our scholarship recipients): make jewelry, paint a fossil replica, spin the prize-wheel, buy tumbled stones, obsidian and petrified wood, or other rocks. Scholarships go to qualified students from San Jose State University, University of California at Santa Cruz, and/or California State University at East Bay.
- **Raffles**: first prize: Barranca Diamond BD-125WP Electric Wet Polishing Kit; Second prize is a \$250 pair of Benitotite earrings donated by Earth's Treasures, and other prizes.

For further information, go to our website <http://www.scvgms.org/>. You can print out a flier for a \$1 off the admission price of \$6.00.

This show is shaping up to be a wonderful don't miss-it show with something for everyone.



Donations requested

The **Scholarship Booth is now accepting donations** of rocks and minerals to be sold at the 2009 show. Nothing larger than a tangerine in size with

labels to identify specimens are appreciated! Please bring donations to the next two general meetings and leave them with Michael Paone.

Upcoming play date

Our next play date will be **Saturday Feb 21** (same Day as Demo Day) from 1 to 3pm or later at the clubhouse. Bring friends and family to join the fun in assembling items for the Scholarship Booth and Treasure Hunt. Questions? Contact Michael Paone for more information at (408)340-3258 or Email at mppaone@comcast.net.

Security needed

Our show needs two people to spend the night in each of our buildings on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights to discourage would-be intruders. Security is also needed during the show in both buildings for the entire show. We need a lot of roving security and a lot at specific workspaces. Frank Mullaney will have a sign up sheet at the next meeting.



Advertising help needed

Marc Mullaney

Lots going on here.

- Advertising on **KFOX** the week before the show and we may be doing some give-a-ways. I am looking to see if anyone has some things to donate with a value of about \$25.
- We have just signed a two week agreement with **Oakridge Theaters** for advertising before each movie on each screen.
- We will also be using our new postcards as **flyers in the theater** and I will need some assistance to keep those stocked. So if anyone lives near the theater and is willing to help, please let me know.
- I am continuing to talk to some **car dealers about co-op advertising** and it looks promising but nothing firm yet.
- We still need leads for **corporate sponsors** and any contact you may have would be appreciated.
- On our next **Demo day on February 21, 2009** from 10 to 2 we will start putting on the vinyl car signs on the back windows. If you have signed up, please plan on coming by so we can get these going. Marc Mullaney, geologistm@aol.com, (408)-691-1584.



See a show!

Reference: <http://www.cfmsinc.org/>

February 13-22, 2009, Indio, CA

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

February 27 - 28, Northridge, CA

Del Air Rockhounds Club
United Methodist Church
9650 Reseda Blvd. (at Superior Street)
Fri. 3p.m. - 9:30p.m.- Sat. 10-5
Julie Marin (818) 886-7190
<http://http://delairrockhounds.blogspot.com>

February 27 - March 8, 2009, Imperial, CA

Imperial Valley Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.
Gem and Mineral Building on Fairgrounds
Sat. & Sun. Noon - 10pm
Mon. thru Thur. 4pm - 10pm
Jim Strain (760) 356-2361

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

Mineral and Gem Society 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
Website: <http://www.mgscv.org>

March 7 - 8, 2009, Arcadia, CA

Monrovia Rock Hounds, Inc.
LA Co. Arboretum & Botanical Garden
301 North Baldwin Ave. 9 - 4:30 both days
E-mail: joannaritchey@gmail.com
Website: www.moroks.com

March 7 - 8, 2009, Ventura, CA

Ventura Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.
47th Gem, Mineral, Lapidary & Fossil Show
Seaside Park
Ventura County Fairgrounds
Hours: Sat. 10 - 5, Sun. 10-4
Website: <http://www.vgms.org>

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

Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club
33rd Annual Tailgate; 10-5 Daily
Held off Stoddard Wells Road in Apple Valley

Tailgate Map (Google): N34.670650
W117.108983
(760) 243-2330; Website: 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

March 14-15, 2009, Turlock, CA

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

The really big one!

CFMS FEDERATION SHOW

April 17, 18, 19, 2009, San Jose, CA

54th Annual CFMS Show Hosts
Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Santa Clara County Fairgrounds 334 Tully Road
9-5 Fri, 10-5 Sat and Sun.; Detailed Show Page: [Click Here](#)
Email: info@scvgms.org
Website: www.scvgms.org



A Magic Rock Club

*Joe Meade, President's Message for the Napa Valley
Rock & Gem Club. 1978*

SCVGMS is not magic

Randy needs help

Once upon a time, in a beautiful valley, there was a magic rock club, or at least many of its members thought it was. Why did they think so? Because many strange and wondrous things happened in their club.

Wow! This is great!

After all, they only had to bring themselves to the club meeting once a month, and they found at the beautiful meeting hall their chairs all lined up neatly for them, the place ablaze with light, the big coffee pot perking away, the cookies and many other delicious "goodies" all set out and ready for them.

Continued on next page.

The microphones were all hooked up and buzzing quietly, and all the tables were set up. It was indeed wondrous. The members need only to sit down, and soon they were told all the bills had been paid, correspondence answered, and problems solved.

What's up?

They were brought up to date on what was happening, not only in their area but something called "The Federation" always took care of defending their favorite collecting areas. They didn't know much about this "Federation", but they did know somebody in their club always looked out for their interests and they were content.

There was hardly ever anything to argue about during the short pesky thing they called the "business meeting". Somehow the problem, whatever it might be, was solved whether they paid attention to what was happening or not. After all, if they all said "Aye" to whatever motion was being made, and they all always did, they could gripe about it later when they really found out what they had voted on.

On with the show!

Anyhow, they were anxious to get on to the rest of the meeting that they liked so well, like the passing out of beautiful and wondrous pieces of gemstone or finished jewelry as door prizes. Though many had been members for years, they were not sure exactly where these prizes came from, but it was probably more magic since they always appeared.

But that was not all. Some liked the "committee reports" because some of them were really interesting. They could find out about a forthcoming field trip; find out how much money their club had in the bank; find out what the next program would be; about the latest news on their big annual show; and many other interesting things.

Shush

During the parts they were not interested in they could always talk to their neighbor, but if anyone talked during the part that they were interested in, they could always shush them. But the best part was when they could have all the goodies and crunchies and hot tea or coffee that was ready for them.

Then they could visit with their friends and enjoy the program that was always something interesting. There were films, there were slides, there were knowledgeable speakers, there were bingo games for gemstones, there were "silent auctions" where slabs of gemstone from the four corners of the world could be had for a few pennies, and there were picnics and pot-lucks.

Many were only vaguely aware of how these things came about, but after all, wasn't it a magic rock club?

Ah, it was indeed a fortunate thing to be a member of this club many members felt. The telephone would ring, and they would be told of anything of interest to them regarding the club. They all knew that if a member was ill, flowers, cards and messages from their club would appear to express their concern for them.

Happy and proud

If they wanted to go on a field trip, and many did, the location was already surveyed for them, and they knew what gems they might find, how to find them, what they looked like, where they could park, what to bring and everything they needed to know.

Not only did many members feel lucky to be a part of a magic rock club, but they were also proud! After all, didn't they often see their club mentioned in the newspaper, hear it discussed on the radio, and wasn't it always a feature of the Fair? People would come from far and near to ooh and aah at the beautiful gems in the cases with their club's name on them.

Many never even bothered to go see for themselves, as they knew that the cases would always appear at the appointed time. The building would be available; the kitchen would be clean, the electric wiring would light up and test itself; the big heavy tables would march into place; and a 1001 other things would somehow happen whether they were there or not.

News directly to you

But that was not all! Every month a newsletter would suddenly appear in their mailbox. This was really a wondrous thing. Many were amazed at how the news, articles of interest, and other things would assemble themselves, type themselves, run themselves through reproduction, staple, address, stamp and mail themselves, too! The members knew that if they had not paid attention or even come to the last meeting, everything that happened would be in their club paper.

However, there was one long standing mystery in this magic rock club that had never been solved by any President or Chairman. This was the strange thing that happened every time the word "volunteer" was mentioned!

What a lovely ceiling

Practically the whole membership would suddenly find something immensely interesting on either the floor or the ceiling and commence to gaze intently at them for long periods of time.

However, there were always certain members who
Continued on next page.

knew there was really nothing there to see, just as they had learned the truth about Santa Claus long ago, so one of them would say "I volunteer" and immediately the other members lost interest in whatever had intrigued them about the floor or ceiling.

If you really want to know the real secret of this magic rock club, you can find the name of nearly all the magicians listed on the inside of the cover of your magic club newsletter. Of course all are not listed there, because many of them have quietly and unheralded "made things happen".



OPAL

A short treatise

By Don Skillman

Opal is, chemically, silicon dioxide with varying amounts of water entrapped. The formula is $\text{SiO}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$. This makes opal, and ordinary window glass which is also silicon dioxide without the water, close cousins. Neither have a crystalline structure. Common quartz is also silicon dioxide, but it does form a crystalline structure. But here the similarity ends, and opal moves towards that realm occupied by the precious gems we have all loved and admired.

Because this is introductory in scope, we'll touch on the high points of the types of opal found at Bonanza and in the Virgin Valley. Most of the opal found here is **wood replacement** opal. This means that what is now opal, was once in the form of wood. The wood has been replaced by opal (silica) in the same way that wood in the petrified forest in Arizona was replaced by agates and jaspers. In this process, ions of silica, in solution in water, exchange with ions of the organic

wood, replicating the organic form with silica dioxide. In another opal-forming process, silica-rich fluid fills gaps, or vugs, in the clay or stone, and gradually over time, the gap fills with opal. This form is called **seam or amygdule** opal. Additional research is needed, because it is often observable that both processes have occurred in the same piece of opal. It is also not known how much time is required for opal-forming to occur. It may have occurred relatively rapidly once the ingredients were present, or it may have been in the process of forming over millions of years.

Opal itself, regardless of the originating process, is of two characteristics which are immensely important. Common opal does not contain play of color, often called fire. Precious opal does contain play of color. Often a single opal will be composed of an area that is common opal, usually of a white or grayish color, and another area of precious opal that sparkles with red, green, blue and yellow plays of color.

Common opal is called patch. This term originated in Australia, but we use it here also. Common opal, usually white or clear, may have base colors of green, blue, tan, black or other hues. This is a color that is imparted by mineral impurities as the opal was formed, and is much different than play of color.

The electron scanning microscope made it possible to determine some of the properties of opal. It was found that in all opal, the silica present was in the form of tiny spheres, around one-millionth of an inch in diameter. In common opal, the spheres vary in size and are arranged in a haphazard manner.

[Editor's Note: Please see below. June 6, the coop is sponsoring a field trip to Virgin Valley.]



Field Trips for 2009

From the North Bay Field Trips website

Important: If any member is interested, you must first contact our own Field Trip Coordinator Dean Welder at Wdeanwelder@yahoo.com, phone (408) 353-2675 for specific details and introductions.

February 7	Chinese Camp (Jamestown area) magnesite and common reddish opal
April tba	3 day weekend at Black Butte Res more later
April 4	Calistoga, CA tour petrified forest
April 4-12 pending	Topaz Mt and Dugway for topaz, red beryl and geodes
April 17-19 CFMS	Show in San Jose. That's OUR show.
May 23-25	Monte Cristo Mts, NV for rhyolite, agate, apache tears and petrified wood
May 20-25	Davis Creek/Lassen Creed and Adin, CA for obsidian and dolatite
June 6	Virgin Valley for Opals, opalized petrified wood

Continued on next page.

June 13/27 (rain date)	Babcock Peak for rose quartz and a tour of Taylorsville Museum
July 4-5	Buffalo Canyon (Middlegate, NM) for fossils
Sept 5, 6, 7	To be Announced
Sept 19 or 26	Hanksville, UT for petrified wood, fossils and agate
October 3	Empire Mine Tour



Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society
General Meeting Minutes
January 27, 2009

President Randy Harris called the meeting to order at 7:46 PM at the Belwood Cabana Club in Los Gatos. Members and guests were welcomed. Minutes were approved as published in the Breccia. The board meeting will be held at Ruth Bailey's home on January 29th at 7:30 PM.

Announcements: Randy Harris announced that we still have several positions to fill. He is looking for a 2010 Show Chairman and a Historian. See Randy if you are interested in either of these positions. Also, there will be a potluck on February 24th at 6:30 PM (prior to the meeting). Everyone is asked to bring a entrée, salad, side dish, or dessert to share. The club provides table service and drinks.

Correspondence: 1. Advertisement for a new Flat Lapping book from Oscar Marshall. 2. Brochure from Opal Originals. 3. Brochure from Martin Zinn Expositions. 4. 2 AFMS Scholarship Foundation acknowledgments of donations from Ruth Bailey in memory of Betty Keator and Dee Holland. 5. CFMS acknowledgement of a donation from Ruth Bailey in memory of Betty Keator. 6. Mother Lode Mineral society show fliers. 7. California State Mining and Mineral Museum Association request for renewal of membership. 8. CFMS Scholarship letter

Sunshine: Ernestine Smith reported that Gordon Snyder had surgery on his leg and is currently recovering in a rehab center.

Study groups:

1. Jeweler's: Call Marc Mullaney for more information; meets 1st Thursday of the month.
2. Cutaways and Carvers group: Call John Eichhorn for more information; meets 2nd Saturday of the month from 1-4 PM.
3. Stringers: Call Pat Speece for more information; Next class in March, topic knotting through pearls.
4. Smithies: Call Pat Speece for more information; next beginning class in mid-February,
5. Faceters: Call Max Casey for more information, meets 1st Saturday of the month.
6. Mineraleers: Next meeting is February 10th at 7:30 at the Boblenz home, topic variscite.
7. Fossileers: Next meeting will be February 21st at Demo Day. Topic unspecified.

DRC Report: Pat Speece reported that the DRC is working to obtain a new donation. Information about upcoming rock sales to follow.

Hospitality Report: Chris Cherry reported that we had 40 members and 4 guests in attendance.

Founder's Day Picnic: Randy Harris reported that the picnic will be on June 28th.

Social Activities: The next meeting will have a potluck prior to the meeting. Everyone is asked to bring a dish to share. The club provided table service and drinks.

Installation Dinner: Randy Harris reported that the installation dinner will be on December 1st.

PLAC Report: Frank Monez reported the CFMS Field Trips North will be sponsoring a seminar on "What Rockhounds need to know about claims" on March 21st in Pittsburgh, CA from 8:30-3. Cost will be \$5.00 which will include lunch. Dr. Gregg Wilkerson will be the presenter. RSVP by 3/16. More information should be available in the Breccia.

Federation Report: Ruth Bailey spoke about the date changes for Camp Paradise and Zzyzx. Applications are on the CFMS website. She also encouraged members to participate in the upcoming CFMS show by entering a display case either as a competition case or noncompetitive case or working a booth.

FRC: Chris Cherry reported that there has been no activity since the holiday.

2009 CFMS Show: Frank Mullaney reported that he needed people to let him know how many show posters each member can put up in his or her neighborhood. Posters will be available at the next meeting. Advertisements will be placed on car windows at the next Demo Day on February 21st. Frank has post cards and business card advertisements available for members to take tonight. He is also looking for someone or a group of people who can help with keeping brochures supplied at the Oakridge Century Theater the two weeks prior to the show. Frank is continuing to look for corporate sponsors for the show. T-shirts, mugs, etc. are for sale at the back of the room. Tickets for the raffle are also available. Member

and guest exhibitors are needed for the show, see Dean Welder for applications. Frank also encouraged members to complete their preregistration forms and attend the CFMS awards banquet on Saturday night, April 18th. Frank also spoke about having a treasure hunt at the show to help move people from one building to the other. Randy Harris indicated that he is getting close to having all the dealer slots full.

Member Displays: Max Casey brought in some of his faceted stones.

Program for the evening: There was a video called "Sugar, Quartz, Diamonds: Crystalline Perfection". Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM

Respectfully submitted by June Harris, SCVGMS secretary.

Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society
January 29, 2009

Board meeting minutes

SCVGMS President Randy Harris called the January 29, 2009, Board meeting to order at 7:35 PM at the home of Ruth Bailey. The meeting agenda was distributed to attendees. All board members were present except Rick Kennedy, Michael Paone, Marc Mullaney, and Karen Welder. Minutes from the December Board meeting: MSP (F. Mullaney, R. Bailey) to approve the minutes as read.

Correspondence: None

New Members: MSP (P. Speece, V. Cangemi) to accept Mark Ziebarth, D'evelyn Moran, and Robert Tyler as members.

Treasurer's report: Frank Mullaney reported that Washington Mutual/Chase will not be returning cancelled checks to us. The CFMS dues for the year will be \$298.00 and the insurance will be \$894.00. Our Dodge and Cox account has dropped in value by about one third in the last year.

MSP (G. Matthews, Ruth Bailey) to pay the Santa Clara County property tax assessment of approximately \$90.00 when it is received. MSP (R. Bailey, F. Mullaney) to pay the bills as presented.

Committee Reports:

2009 CFMS show report: Frank Monez will be the Speaker Chairman, Frank will remind Chuck Boblenz to get insurance for the show from McDaniels Ins. Co. We only have a few dealer tables left. Post cards are available for people to give out. Dean Welder is still looking for members and guests to submit applications for display cases. Next show meeting will be Feb 17th at Ruth's.

DRC Report: Report attached to these minutes, available on request.

Old Business:

Professional advisor for endowment fund: Report expected in February.

Wheel covers for trailers: Frank will purchase two sheets of ½ plywood, angle iron, and paint to build wheel covers for the trailers.

SCVGMS member cost analysis: Report expected in February.

Large show case repairs: Frank to check status with John Eichhorn

Youth Science Institute: Report expected in February.

Volcano case: June Harris will purchase supplies next month.

Homeowners insurance vs. club insurance: Karen Welder emailed a report to Randy Harris. The report indicated that should someone be injured at a member's home during a club event that the homeowners insurance would pay first. The email stated that separate insurance could be purchased through the CFMS for each event to provide additional coverage.

CFMS Informed Consent/Assumption of Risk/Waiver of Liability Form: MSP (D. Welder, R. Bailey) to adopt the CFMS Informed consent/assumption of risk/waiver of liability form for field trips, club activities, etc.

09 Scholarship Recipients: June Harris will contact John Eichhorn to make sure all of the schools replied, chose a recipient, and have supplied the recipient's name.

Club Directory Printing: They are currently at the printer, and will be ready for next meeting.

CFMS dues and insurance: Frank Mullaney will be sending it in tomorrow.

Cabana Club Reservations: June Harris indicated that the dates for all general meetings, the Founder's Day picnic, installation dinner, four demo days have been reserved. She also indicated that there had been an increase in rental fees. Due to the pricing changes, we will be revising our social calendar for July and August to have either potlucks or dessert social instead of BBQs.

Auditing committee report: Frank Mullaney stated that the report was delayed due to his surgery; it will be submitted at the February meeting.

Club Brochure: Pat Speece reported that she is working on a brochure titled "Rocks are Cool". She indicated that the brochure would be 8 ½ X 5 ½ booklet. She hoped to have it finished by the show.

AFMS and CFMS Newsletters: Our changes have been submitted to the AFMS newsletter and will be submitted to the CFMS tomorrow.

New Business:

Meeting Programs: Randy Harris passed around the preliminary schedule of meeting programs that Bill Gissler submitted. No objections by the board were indicated.

Kids Area request to add Future Rockhounds program to the Kids Area: MSP (R. Bailey, D. Welder) to authorize June Harris to add the FRA program to the Kids Area.

2010 Show Date: MSP (F. Mullaney, J. Harris) to contract with the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds to hold our show on April 16-18, 2010. Frank Mullaney to obtain contract.

California Sate Mining and Mineral Museum: MSP (R. Bailey, J. Harris) to maintain our club's membership at \$1.00 per member level for the 2009 year.

Request for a Bus Trip to Snyder's PowWow: After much discussion, it was decided that due to our financial outlays with the show, we would investigate a bus trip for later in the year to another location.

North Bay Field Trips plan: Dean Welder indicated that he was investigating several new locations for field trips. He asked for ideas and suggestions for field trips to share with NBFT.

Website Update: Frank Mullaney and Chris Cherry will be working on developing updated pages for the website. The pages will be submitted to RK Owen to be uploaded. It was indicated that Steve Yvaska, the silver antiquities appraiser, needed to be added to the website when he has signed a contract for the show. Fairgrounds redevelopment committee chairman, Chris Cherry, requested that our letter to the Morley Bros (which was forwarded to the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisor) be placed on our website as well. Chris passed out copies of the letter to all new board members for their perusal. MSP (D. Welder, J. Harris) to place the letter of our website.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted by

June Harris, SCVGMS Secretary

**DECEMBER 2008 /JANUARY 2009 Treasurers Report
As of 1/24/08**

Beginning Balance		\$7,427.27	
Receipts		\$65.00	Jewelry Study Group
		\$10.00	Installation Dinner
		\$485.00	Kids Area
		\$13.00	Dues
		\$7.00	Initiation fee
		\$0.50	Interest
Total Receipts		\$580.50	
Total Plus Receipts		\$8,007.77	
Disbursements			
Approved	1094	\$1,053.78	Willow Street Instillation Dinner
	1095	\$72.76	Marc Mullaney Instillation Dinner
	1096	\$3.89	Marc Mullaney Sunshine
	1100	\$1,192.00	CFMS Dues & Insurance
To Be Approved			
	1097	\$54.56	Expressions Jan Newsletter
	1098	\$22.52	Julaine Mullaney December Phone Bill
	1099	\$32.45	Ruth Bailey Breccia Postage
	1101	\$260.00	Belwood Homeowners Association Cabana Rental
Total Disbursements		\$2,691.96	
Balance		\$5,315.81	

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

Editor: Pat Speece (408) 266-4327 or

pat.speece@sbcglobal.net

Federation Director: Ruth Bailey (408) 248-6195

Alternate Federation Director:

Michael Paone (408) 340-3258

Directors (5)

Vito Cangemi (408) 356-6705

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

Links:

Our website: 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 each 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

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Groups and Services

Donation Receiving Committee (DRC) George and Jane Yamashita (408) 353-2982

Librarian Jennifer House

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

Smithies Kelly Van Vleck and Pat Speece. Group makes jewelry using torch, saw Kelly Van Vleck (408) 262-8187, Pat Speece (408) 266-4327

Field Trips Dean Welder, (408) 353-2675 or Wdeanwelder@yahoo.com

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

Jewelers Marc Mullaney 408-691-1584

Facet Cutters: Max Casey (408) 227-0526

Fossileers Gail Matthews (650) 962-9960

BRECCIA Editor
Pat Speece
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San Jose, CA 95124

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