



Breccia

Volume 56, Number 8

August 2009

An All-American Club

Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society

San Jose, California

Randy says...

Hello Fellow Rockhounds,

You will notice as you read this month's issue that we are drawing near to election time again. Please give serious consideration to how you would like to be involved in the workings of the club. Then fill out the *Time and Talent sheet* and turn it in to one of the officers by the September meeting. This is how we determine who to nominate for office and committee positions. If you are unsure about the jobs, talk to the person doing the job now for some insight. For some of the newer members, there are several jobs that are not very difficult and would be a good way to learn more about how the club operates. This is your club, it does not work without your help.

Nominations for officers are coming up in October. The election will be held at the November meeting.

The Board has reserved the Cabana Club for our annual **Installation Dinner**. We are working on the logistics at present. It will be catered by Willow Street Wood Fired Pizza. They served a wonderful meal at the last Installation Dinner.

There has been some question about the **Founder's Day raffle** and why it is only open to club members. My understanding is that a show dealer many years ago donated some nice prizes after a profitable show with the stipulation that they be raffled off to club members only. This became the tradition at each Founder's Day Picnic. If you have any more questions about this subject, please contact my or Frank Mullaney for more explanation.

There will be another **Potluck** before the August 26th meeting. We will eat at 6:30PM at

the Cabana Club. Please bring your favorite main dish, side dish, salad, or dessert to share.

I hope everyone is having a great summer.

Randy Harris, President

Member Displays: AUGUST

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.

If your last name begins with Q, R, S or T, it's your turn!



Welcome, New Members

Sharon Updyke

supdyke@gmail.com- collecting, fossils, carving, stringing beads, geology, minerals, and field trips.

Isabella Updyke-Welch (junior)- cutting and polishing, collecting, fossils, carving, stringing beads, geology, minerals, and field trips.

Dues due!

Dues were due a while back. You can send your check to Frank Mullaney or pay at the next general meeting.



Jade burial suit

<http://encyclopedia.thefreedictionary.com/jade+burial+suit>

A **Jade burial suit** (**Chinese**: 玉衣; **Pinyin**: yù yī; literally "jade suit") is a ceremonial suit made of pieces of **jade** in which some **nobles** in **Han Dynasty China** were buried. The Chinese believed that jade had magical properties and would prevent the decay of the body.

Structure of a jade burial suit

Of the jade suits that have been found, the pieces of jade are mostly **square** or rectangular in shape, though triangular, trapezoid and rhomboid plaques have also been found. Plaques are often joined by means of wire, threaded through small holes drilled near the corners of each piece. The composition of the wire varies, and several suits have been found joined with either **gold** or **silver**. Other suits, such as that of the King of Nanyue, were joined using silk thread, or silk ribbon that overlapped the edges of the plaques. In some instances, additional pieces of jade have been found beneath the head covering, including shaped plaques to cover the eyes, and plugs to fit the ears and nose.

According to the *Book of Later Han*, the type of wire used was dependent on the station of the person buried. The jade burial suits of emperors used gold thread; princes, princesses, dukes, and marquises, **silver** thread; sons or daughters of those given silver thread, **copper** thread; and lesser aristocrats, **silk** thread, with all others being forbidden to be buried in jade burial suits. Examination of the known suits, such as the two found in Mancheng, has revealed that these rules were not always followed. Considering the vast size of the country, and the relatively slow means of disseminating information, it is not surprising that the materials and techniques use in a jade burial suit occasionally differed from the official guidelines.

A jade burial suit was extremely expensive to create, and only **wealthy** aristocrats could afford to be buried in them. Additionally, the process of manufacturing a suit was labor intensive and is estimated to have required several years to complete a single suit.

History

For many years, many **archaeologists** believed that jade burial suits did not really exist and were only **myths** or **legends**. The discovery in **1968** of two complete jade suits in the tombs of **Liu Sheng** and **Dou Wan** in **Man-ch'eng, Hebei**, finally proved their existence. The jade suits of Liu Sheng and Dou Wan consisted of 2,498 plates of solid jade connected with two and a half pounds of gold wires.

In **1973**, a jade burial suit belonging to Prince Huai of the **Western Han Dynasty** was discovered in Dingxian, **Hebei**. It consisted of 1,203 pieces of jade and 2,580 grams of gold thread [1].

In **1983**, a jade suit was found in the tomb of **Zhao Mo**, the second king of **Southern Yue**, in **Guangzhou**. The red silk thread used to bind the 2,291 jade plates represented **Zhao Mo's** immersion into Nam Viet culture. It is exhibited in the local **Museum of the Tomb of the King of Southern Yue in Western Han Dynasty**. [2].

It is now believed that jade burial suits were actually relatively common among the wealthiest aristocrats of the Han Dynasty, but that over the years most have been lost due to the activities of **grave robbers**.

References

1. ^ [China.org.cn](#)
2. ^ [Gdnet.gd.cei.gov.cn](#)



Bits and Pieces

Cutaways and Carvers

Meet at John Eichhorn's house on
August 8th , 1- 4 pm . 408-749-0523
Please give advanced notice if you plan to attend .
johneichhorn@earthlink.net

Smithies

By Pat Speece

Our next class will be in September. You can sign up at the August meeting, or inquire via email.

Thanks to sharp-eyed Kelly Van Vleck, we have floor mats to cushion our tender feet! While driving home, he spotted a garage sale. We now have enough mats, and I won't have to wear my snow boots in the shed for classes. Thanks, Kelly.

Stringers

By Pat Speece

We made the Donna Bracelet and will skip August and resume classes in September. If you are interested in Stringers in general, let me know. Tell Pat.

Field Trips

Members, you must contact our field trip chairman, Dean Welder, for further information.

September 19 or 26 Hanksville, UT for petrified wood, fossils and agate.

October 3 Empire Mine Tour. Sun City

November Thanksgiving week Southern CA – annual Thanksgiving week trips.



Member displays

by Rick Kennedy

Lapis Lazuli was the theme this month and many of our members and even a guest brought a nice variety of displays with everything from Lapis to Silicon!

Pam Montagne brought a lovely Rhodonite that had been wire wrapped, **El Presidente** brought some yummys from his most recent trip, some Hampton butte Petrified Wood and thunder eggs from the Richardson Ranch including one that had a pink opal center. Rumor has it that after Randy and June left Oregon, the entire state has begun rise as a result of all the rock Randy took out of there!

Ron Erickson showed a number of pieces of quite varied and beautiful material. One of our guests, **Jim**, showed an unknown that was tentatively identified as Silicon!

David Marshal and **Gail Matthews** had samples their work from the Gemstone Carving

Class that was recently taught by **Ron Martinez**.

Kathi Peverini had some Richardson Ranch thundereggs that she had sanded with a very cool looking flat dry sander. Fingernails? Who needs those?

Rick Kennedy brought some Chrysacolla and Garnet specimens from the Bay Area Mineralogists field trip in May.

David Lowe has been very busy in the field and brought a number of specimens from different localities. Augite from Oregon, Scheelite from the Rainbow Mine and Quartz from Dinky Lakes/ Dogtooth Peak.

Anne Ruiz brought some Lapis rough and a very interesting ring that was made both to be worn and to stand alone as a display specimen, very clever! And just when I thought we were done and was about to collapse into my chair, someone said, "What about the Poppy?" Sure enough, I had missed the box that **Frank Santos** brought with some very nice Poppy Jasper.

Next month's program is on Rock Tumbling, so bring your finished stones, trouble stones and a variety of rough to get advice and guidance about.



Donation Receiving Committee (DRC)

George and Jane Yamashita

The DRC held our most recent sale on July 25th. and we are planning another one on August 29th. This recent sale brought in over \$465.00 for the club. Since January we have

*brought in \$694.00 in sales,

*donated rocks to the club for sale at the CFMS show,

*provided secret auction items and door prizes at our monthly meetings,

*provided rocks and items for our silent auctions,

*provided rocks for our yearly Founder's Day picnic and provided rocks for our modified Scholarship Booth at the County Fair.

Since inception in 2006, we have brought in over \$8,300.00. Many club members work on the DRC by picking up donations, sorting and cleaning donations, and setting up for our sales at the Speece home. All work is voluntary, all rocks and equipment sold have been donations. Since initial setup costs for tables and bins, there has been very little cost to the club for this added income. The general club members and members of the community enjoy our rock sales. They are very well attended. The DRC is a viable, contributing part of our club.

Remember next sale is Saturday, August 29, 2009 from 9am till noon.



Dense As A Rock

William S. Cordua, University of Wisconsin River Falls, 2001

Rocks are pretty dense, but some are denser than others. Estimation of a rock's or mineral's density can help in its identification. Density is the mass (grams) of a substance found in a particular volume (cubic centimeters). A related value, specific gravity, compares a mineral's volume to that of an equal volume of water. Both specific gravity and density are the same number, but density has units, (grams per cubic centimeter or g/cc) while specific gravity is unitless. Thus quartz has a specific gravity of 2.65 and a density of 2.65 g/cc.

One can heft a rock to estimate density. Less dense rocks will feel unusually light. Pumice is a good example of a low density rock. It has tiny air pockets, making it light enough to float on water. Or think of a geode with a large cavity in it. It will feel lighter than one that is nearly solid. Rocks that feel unusually heavy contain dense minerals such as iron ore, sulfides, gold or garnet. Most rock hounds have picked up enough rocks to know what a "average" rock should weigh for its size. Quartz, feldspar, granite and sandstone have "average" densities. If you pick up a chunk of vitreous red mineral, and it feels heavy for its size, you should consider that you aren't hefting quartz. Maybe you have a garnet, or scheelite.

A famous story is based on the use of density. The Greek scientist Archimedes was given a problem by his king, Heiro II. The king had sent a metal smith some gold to make a crown. He didn't want the smith to be adding silver and keeping some of the gold for himself. The king asked Archimedes how he could tell if the crown were pure gold. Archimedes had no immediate answer. He decided a relaxing bath may help him think. As he got into the tub, the rising water gave him his answer. The crown would displace a volume of water related to its mass, and its mass per volume would tell how much pure gold was present. Archimedes was supposedly so excited by this discovery, that he leaped from his bath and ran naked through the streets shouting "EUREKA" or "I've found it!" The crown was weighed. Then it was immersed in a vat full of water. The water that escaped was carefully measured, giving the volume. The density was then easily calculated. The crown was not pure gold, and the metal smith was suddenly the one in hot water.

Heft tests are fine for quick determinations of relatively pure minerals. Should one wish to get a mineral's density more accurately, Archimedes' measurements can be done with a equipment found in a typical high school lab.

Here's one way to do it. Get a rather pure chunk of the mineral, perhaps 1 cm across. Measure the sample's mass (grams) on a balance. Then submerge the sample in a small graduated cylinder and note the increase in volume (milliliters = cubic centimeters of water). Divide the volume into the mass to get the density. Leave off the units to get the specific gravity. Most mineral books have charts listing minerals by their specific gravity. Remember, just like King Heiro's crown, the density you measure will be affected by any impurities, so don't be too fussy about how well you match a particular mineral's recorded density.

William S. Cordua, University of Wisconsin River Falls, 2001



Part 1 of 3

**California Federation of Mineralogical Societies
(our club is part of this)**

**Rockhounding in State Parks and BLM Mining-
Related Fees**

**By John Martin, AFMS Conservation & Legislation
Committee**

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

ROCKHOUDING IN CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS

During the last several months there have been several incidences where rockhounds have had an encounter with an authority figure over collecting in a California State Park or on a California State Beach. After lengthy searches on the internet, hours of reading regulations and several trips to the local State Senator's office, there is light at the end of the tunnel, and it is not the headlight of the approaching train.

Yes, Virginia, there really is rock collecting within the boundaries of California State Parks and California State Beaches. The collecting regulations are intermixed within several dozen California Code of Regulations documents, which give explicit collecting requirements and conditions. This does not mean that collecting is allowed at all parks and beaches nor does it exclude collecting from all parks and beaches. As it turns out, each unit within the California State Parks System, through its own regulatory processes, may, can and will regulate rockhounding within its own boundaries within the regulations established at the state level.

During the search of the regulations covering rockhounding, it was discovered that there is no actual reference to the collecting of paleontological resources, such as fossils, petrified bone or petrified wood, nor is there any exclusion for these. So, during visits to California State Parks and Beaches for rockhounding activities, just keep in mind their definition of rockhounding as defined in the California Code of Regulations.

There are over 200 units within the California State Parks System, and therefore there could be over 200 different collecting regulations. After surfing several State Park and State Beach web sites, I discovered no consistency in published unit

regulations. For example, Hearst San Simeon State Park allows rockhounding as published in the California Code of Regulations; Carpinteria, El Capitan and Gaviota State Beach web sites had no mention of rockhound opportunities.

Some of the State Park web sites included Providence Mountains, which includes Mitchell Caverns, Silverwood Lake, which borders the National Forrest, had no mention of rockhound collecting while Red Rock Canyon State Park states that "All plant, animal, natural and cultural features are protected. Collection is prohibited without a permit."

So to be on the safe side and to avoid any confrontation with that big guy with the gun, check at the entrance to the park for the bulletin board where there will be the "Posting of Notices" where special instructions pertaining to areas where activities are curtailed or restricted are to be found for the particular state park or beach.

If there is no posting of restrictions, check with park personnel before collecting to avoid losing the collected specimens or worse yet, receiving a citation from a park ranger where the fine could be between \$10 and \$1,000 or more.

Just remember to follow the California Code of Regulations for Rockhounding and you should be safe. "Check before you collect." Below is the California Code of Regulations pertaining to the California State Parks and Beaches to serve as a guide while rockhounding.

Part 2 next month. Code of Regulations.



August General Meeting

June Harris

Members and guests are asked to bring a main dish, salad, or dessert (12 servings please) to share at our August potluck. The potluck will begin at 6:30 PM at the Cabana Club, 100 Belwood Gateway, Los Gatos. Paper goods and drinks will be provided by the club. Everyone is invited.

Meeting will follow at the usual time of 7:45 PM. **Bill Gissler will present a program on rock tumbling** following the regular meeting. Members and guests alike are requested to bring their tumbled stones and rocks, and their questions regarding tumbling. Everyone is encouraged to participate.



Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society
General Meeting Minutes
July 28, 2009

President Randy Harris called the meeting to order at 7:48 PM at the Cabana Club in Los Gatos. Members and guests were welcomed. Minutes were approved as published in the Breccia. The board meeting will be held immediately after the general meeting.

Announcements: Randy is still looking for a historian. Also Frank Monez has to step down as PLAC chairman. He is willing to mentor anyone who would like to start the job. This weekend is the County Fair. We will need members help at the booth there. Please sign up after the meeting with Frank Mullaney or Michael Paone.

New members: No new members were present to receive their new member packets. Randy explained to our guests that they are eligible to apply for membership after attending their second general meeting.

Correspondence: Dodge and Cox quarterly statement, Oklahoma Mineral and Gem Society newsletter, ALAA Newsletter, 2 acknowledgements of Ruth Bailey's donation in memory of John Surrell to the AFMS Scholarship Foundation. 3 postcard advertisements regarding an agate calendar, agate book, and a Tucson show video.

Study Groups:

Jewelers will meet at Marc Mullaney's home on August 6th and continue working on the Copper belt. More information can be obtained by calling Marc.

Cutaways and Carvers will be meeting on August 8th at John Eichhorn's home. Please RSVP to John if planning to attend.

Stringers and Smithies will be taking August off and resuming classes in September. If you are interested in either group, contact Pat Speece.

Faceters usually meet on the first Saturday of the month, contact Max Casey if interested.

Mineraleers will resume meetings in September. If you are interested in attending their meetings, contact Chuck Boblenz.

Fossileers Gail Matthews reported that the Fossileers met at Demo Day and discussed the evolution of birds. Their next meeting will be on October 10th and they will be studying Chinese fossils.

Sunshine: Ernestine Smith reported that she had not heard from anyone.

DRC: Jane Yamashita reported that the July 25th rock sale earned \$465.75. The next sale will be August 29th. There is a secret auction this evening and there will be a door prize drawing too.

Hospitality: There were 46 members and 6 guests at the meeting.

Federation Report: Randy reported that Ruth Bailey was at the AFMS convention in Billings.

PLAC: Frank Monez had no report.

Field Trips: Please check the Breccia for field trip information.

2010 show: Frank Mullaney reported that there will be a show meeting in September. There are business cards for members to distribute to advertise for the show. The 2010 show will be in the Expo Hall to accommodate the show's growth. Randy Harris indicated that he would be sending out dealer contracts soon. He encouraged members who have a favorite dealer, who had not been at our show, to give him their information so that he could send them a contract.

Member Sharing: See Breccia for details.

Evening's Program: Chuck Boblenz will be presented a PowerPoint presentation on Lapis Lazuli.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15PM.

Respectfully submitted,

June Harris, SCVGMS Secretary

TIME AND TALENT SHEET

What would you like to do? Take your pick!

Prior to our November elections, we ask members to fill out this sheet to help the nomination committee select a slate of board members. It also helps the president to know who to ask to chair committees. It makes the process quicker and easier if they know ahead of time who is able or not able to help in these capacities.

Your Name _____

Your Phone Number _____

Board of Directors and Positions (elected by the membership)

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Editor
- Federation Director
- Alternate Fed. Director
- Board Member (need 5)
- Parliamentarian (non-voting)
- Historian (non-voting)

Unable to accept a board position at this time.

Other ways to contribute:

- Greet everyone at meetings
- Give a program to adults or juniors
- Write articles for the Breccia
- Demonstrate at the show
- Help at the show in other ways
- Lead a study group
- Help on a committee(s) (Please name committee(s) below)

Committee Chairpersons (selected by the President)

Co-chairpersons are welcome.

- Donation Receiving Committee(DRC)
- Field Trips
- Financial Advisory Committee (FAC)
- Founder's Day Picnic
- Hospitality
- Juniors
- Installation Dinner
- Librarian
- Programs
- Member Displays
- Public Lands Access (PLAC)
- Refreshments
- Sergeant-at-Arms
- Secret Auction
- Silent Auction
- Social Activities
- Sunshine
- Show Chair (2008)
- Vice Custodian (Trailers)
- Trophy Chair
- Unable to accept a committee chair position at this time

Let's see a show!

CFMS

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

All are in California unless otherwise noted.

August 7-9 2009, Nipomo, CA

Orcutt Mineral Society

St Joseph's Church

298 S. Thompson Ave.

Hours: 9-5 daily

Wes Lingerfelt (805) 929-388

Email: Rocks4u@prodigy.net

Website: www.omsinc.org

Show Flyer: [click here](#).

August 14, 15 & 16 2009, Tehachapi, CA

Tehachapi Gem & Mineral Society

St Malachy Catholic Church

407 West E. Street

Fri. & Sat. 8-7:30; Sun. 8-5:30

Chuck Overall (661) 821-4650

Email: Luckydog5433@aol.com

Aug 22-23 2009, Orangevale, CA

Orangevale Com Center

6826 Hazel Ave.

Fri. & Sat. 10-6; Sun. 10-5

John Moulder

Email: gbcorp@surewest.net

www.treasuretroveofgems.com

September 4-7 2009, Fort Bragg, CA

Mendocino Coast G & M Soc, Town Hall

Cr. of Main & Laurel

Hours: Fri. to Sun. 10-6, Mon. 10-4

Don McDonell / (707) 964-3116

September 12-13 2009, Vista, CA

Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum

2040 N. Sante Fe Ave.

Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4

Fred Wilson (760) 433-8464

Cherie Wilson (760) 941-7073

Lois Harr (560) 724-0395

Sept 19-20 2009, Redwood City, CA

Sequoia Gem & Mineral Society

Redwood City Com Activities Bldg.

1400 Roosevelt Ave.; Hours: 10-5 daily

Carol Corden (650) 248-7155

Email: coorden@comcast.net

www.sgms.driftmine.com/home.htm

Show Flyer: [click here](#).

Sept 19-20 2009, Paso Robles, CA

Santa Lucia Rockhounds

Pioneer Park & Museum

2010 Riverside Ave.

Hours: 10 - 5 both days

Richard Smith (805) 467-2966

E-mail: jonme2@wildblue.net

Show Flyer: [click here](#).

September 19-20 2009, Stockton, CA

Stockton Lapidary and Min Club

Scottish Rite Masonic Center

33 West Alpine Ave.

10 - 5 both days; (209) 946-0113

E-mail: footsey1@yahoo.com

Website: www.stocktonlapidary.com

September 26-27 2009, Carmel, CA

Carmel Valley Gem & Min Soci

Monterey Fairgrounds

Hours: Sat. 10 - 6; Sun. 10-5

Website: www.cvgms.org

Show Flyer [click here](#).

Sept 26-27 2009, Downey, CA

Delvers Gem & Mineral Society

Womens Club of Downey

9813 Paramount Blvd.

Hours: Sat. 10 - 6; Sun. 10-4

Nancy Bird (562) 697-0636

E-mail: nancyjbird@verison.net

Sept 26-27 2009, Monterey, CA

Carmel Valley Gem and Min Soc

Monterey Fairgrounds

2004 Fairgrounds Road

Sky Paxton (831) 262-2492

E-mail: sky@familystones.net

Janis Rovetti (831) 657-1933

E-mail: Janis12@sbcglobal.net

Website: www.cvgms.org

October 3-4 2009, Fallbrook, CA

Fallbrook Gem & Min Society

Fallbrook Gem & Min Museum

123 W. Alvarado Street; 10 - 4 both days

Mary Fong-Walker (760) 728-1130

Email: ikonmiming@gmail.com

October 3-4 2009, Oroville, CA

Feather River Lap & Min Club

Oroville Municipal Auditorium

1200 Myers St.; Hours: 10 - 5 both days

Connie Rossetto (530) 59-1840

crossetto@aol.com

Website: www.orovillerocks.com"

Show Flyer: [click here](#).

October 10-11 2009, Grass Valley, CA

Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society

"Earth's Treasurers"

Nevada County Fairgrounds

11228 McCourtney Road

Hours: 10-5 both days

Kim Moore (530) 470-0388

Email: kmoore160@comcast.net

Website: www.ncgms.org

October 10-11 2009, Trona, CA

Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society

Searles Gem & Mineral Show Building

13337 Mian Street

Hours: Sat. 7:30-5; Sun. 7:30-4

Jim & Bonnie Fairchild (760) 372-5356

Email: sigms@iwvisp.com

Website: www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub

Oct 17 2009, Woodland Hills, CA

Woodland Hills Rockchippers

first United Methodist Church

22700 Shemman Way, West Hills

Hours: Sat. 10-5

Email: show@rockchippers.org

Show Flyer: [click here](#).

October 17-18 2009, Anderson, CA

Shasta Gem & Mineral Society

Shasta District Fairgrounds

Near Redding off hwy 273

Hours: Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4

Steve Puderbaugh (530) 365-4000

October 17-18 2009, Lakeside,

El Cajon Valley G&M Society

Lakeside Rodeo Grounds

12684 Mapleview Ave.; 10-5 daily

Carolyn Boland (619) 561-7498

Email: bobpeggy99@aol.com

Website: www.ECVGMS.com

October 17-18 2009, Placerville,

El Dorado Cty Minl & Gem Society

El Dorado County Fairgrounds

100 Placerville Drive; 10-5 daily

Jackie Cerrato (530) 2676-2472

Email: info@rockandgemshow.org

Website: <http://>

www.eldoradomineralandgem.org

Show Website: <http://>

www.rockandgemshow.org

Show Flyer: [click here](#).



July 2008 Treasurers report
AS OF July 28, 2009

Beginning Balance	\$13,095.01		
Receipts July	\$10.00	Dues	
	\$7,656.34	Income from CFMS show	
	\$0.11	Intrest	
Total July	\$7,666.45		
Plus Receipts	\$20,761.46		
Disbursements July			
Approved			
1156	\$25.00	CFMS Encowment fund in momory of John Surrell	
1157	\$24.26	Julaine Mullaney April Phone Bill	
1158	\$357.11	Michael Paone Founders Day	
Need approval			
1159	\$22.78	AT&T july phone bill	
1160	\$40.00	June Harris Post Office	
1161	\$25.00	McDaniel Insurance	
1162	\$120.00	Julaine Mullaney Table rental Farigrounds	
Total Disbursements	\$614.15		
Balance	\$20,147.31		



**Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society
Board Meeting Minutes
July 28, 2009**

President Randy Harris called the meeting to order at 9:20 PM at the Cabana Club. All board members were present except Marc Mullaney, Ruth Bailey, Dean Welder, and Karen Welder. MSP (F. Mullaney, J. Harris) to postpone the reading of the June 25, 2009 board meeting minutes until the August meeting.

New Member applications: None

Correspondence: None

Treasurer's Report: Frank Mullaney distributed the July Treasurer's report. MSP (R. Kennedy, M. Paone) to pay the bills. MSP (V. Cangmei, F. Mullaney) to spend \$20.00 to rent 10 chairs for the fair booth. Frank will email the list of delinquent members to June so that she can send out dues reminder notices to those members.

Committee Reports:

2010 Show: report in August

Volunteer Rewards Committee: report in August

Old Business:

Professional Investments advisor: report in August

Trailer wheel covers: Frank Mullaney reported that they are almost complete.

Communications: to be discussed in August.

New Copier/Printer: Pat Speece reported that she is having the Breccia copied at a new business, Able Printing on the corner of Meridian and Hamilton in San Jose.

Additional Insurance Certificates: Bill Spence indicated that he needed information regarding the contact person for the Cabana Club. June Harris to email Gina's information to Bill.

Booth at County Fair: Michael Paone indicated that he still needed people to sign up for the Sunday afternoon shift.

New Business:

Installation Dinner: Michael Paone will contact Willow Street restaurant and bring a menu and costs for a buffet dinner to the next board meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted, June Harris, SCVGMS Secretary

Let's Make Some Tumbled Gemstones! Part 2

www.geology.com/rock-tumbler/rock-tumbler-instructions.shtml

Stick around for a few minutes to make sure the tumbler is running smoothly and the barrel isn't leaking. If the barrel is leaking, stop the machine, remove the lid and re-clean the surfaces of the lid and barrel that must make the seal. Double-check that they are clean and dry. Replace the lid securely and proceed. Also, check the tumbler in a few hours again to make sure it's still running smoothly. After this, it can probably be left unattended, but it's not a bad idea to check up on it every day or so.

If you have a double-barrel tumbler, you might will need both barrels charged (loaded) for the tumbler to function properly. We recommend filling both barrels with batches of coarse grind of the same hardness so that they can be combined later on. Then you can have one barrel running a batch of fine grind while the other prepares more rough.

Let the tumbler run for 7 days, 24 hours a day. You can open the barrel to check the slurry (the muddy liquid inside) or to release gas build-up (gas build-up is usually not a problem) occasionally if you like, but be sure to clean and dry the seal areas before replacing the lid! After 7 days, stop the tumbler and open the barrel. It will look like a barrel of muck!

Empty the barrel into a colander.

You can put the colander over a bucket or a disposable container, like the bottom half of a milk jug or 2-liter bottle. Rise with a weak stream of water. Wear safety glasses while rinsing to protect your eyes from a possible splash of muddy water.

After rinsing all grit and muddy water from the rocks, barrel, and lid, you should dispose of the muddy water and used grit. To dispose of the used grit, you can allow the water to evaporate and then dispose of the solid material in the trash. Or you might rise the rocks outdoors with a gentle spray from a garden hose.

A word of caution: DO NOT POUR SLURRY DOWN ANY HOUSEHOLD DRAIN! When the slurry dries it hardens into a concrete-like substance that could clog your drain. Do not dump it down the drain.

Now that you have rinsed the rocks, take a good look at them.

Virtually all of the shaping is done in this first step. The other steps only smooth the rock, not shape it, so the shape you see now is what you will end up with if you continue to the fine grind. If you would prefer your rocks to be more rounded, you should repeat this step with fresh coarse grit until they are shaped to your liking. It may take a few re-runs, but the extra wait is worth the results. Don't be in a rush! Quality takes time. We are picky. When we tumble, most loads of rock that aren't beach rocks or pre-tumbled will go through the coarse grind at least twice. If some of the batch is ready to go on to the next step, you should set aside these rocks to wait for the others to catch up.

If there are any rocks that have deep cracks or pits, these rocks should not be tumbled with the fine grind. Particles of the coarse grit will get trapped in these voids and contaminate the next step, scratching the other rocks. Break these rocks and include them with your next batch of coarse grind. If the cracks or pits are very shallow, it might be possible to tumble them out, but this should only be done in the coarse grind. Don't think that you can scrub the grit out; it's next to impossible! Be safe and save them for your next coarse batch.

If you are repeating the coarse grind, use fresh grit. The old grit can't be reused because after seven days it breaks down too much to be effective in shaping (yet will still effectively scratch rocks if it contaminates the fine grind). When charging the barrel, you might need to add new tumbling rough to bring the volume of the barrel to at least 1/2 full. If you don't have more rough, you can use [plastic pellets](#) or [ceramic media](#) to bring the volume to 1/2 full.

Third installment to be continued next month.

Need information?

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Our website: www.scvgms.org

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

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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.

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Groups and Services

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

Donation Receiving Committee (DRC) If you have rocks, tools, or equipment you want to get rid of, call George and Jane Yamashita (408) 353-2982

Field Trips Dean Welder (408)353-2675 or fieldtrips@scvgms.org

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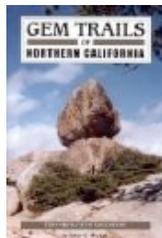
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