

Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society

Send Exchange Bulletins to:  
June Harris  
107 Dell Way  
Scotts Valley, CA 95066

**January meeting location  
change, see page 3.**



Please Deliver Promptly

# BRECCIA

Santa Clara Valley  
Gem and Mineral Society



All American Club

Volume 58  
Number 1

San Jose, CA  
January, 2011

## SCVGMS ELECTED OFFICERS

President: Randy Harris  
(831) 438-5150  
Vice President: Carol Pimentel  
(408) 489-4761  
Secretary: Rick Kennedy  
(408) 529-9690  
Treasurer: Frank Mullaney  
(408) 266-1791  
Editor: June Harris  
(831) 438-5150  
Federation Director: Ruth Bailey  
(408) 248-6195  
Alternate Fed. Director: Chuck Boblenz  
(408) 734-2473  
Directors:  
Maxie Casey (408) 227-0526  
David Lowe (408) 720-9339  
Marc Mullaney (408) 691-1584  
Michael Paone (408) 340-3258  
Art Pimentel (408) 593-7903  
Historian: Michael Paone (408) 340-3258  
Parliamentarian: Dean Welder  
(408) 353-2675

## SCVGMS COMMITTEE HEADS

Donation Receiving Committee Chair:  
George Yamashita  
Field Trip Committee Coordinator:  
Dean Welder  
Founder's Day Picnic Food:  
Art Pimentel  
Founder's Day Raffle: Pat Speece  
Founder's Day Bingo: OPEN  
Hospitality: Winnie Moore  
Installation Dinner: Michael Paone and  
Nancy Reineking  
Librarian: Jennifer House  
Member Displays: Rick Kennedy  
PLAC (Public Lands Advisory Committee): Bill Spence  
Program: Frank Mullaney & June Harris  
Refreshments: Ed Orekar  
Secret Auction: Donation Receiving  
Comm.  
Sergeant-at-arms: OPEN  
Show 2011: Frank Mullaney,  
Marc Mullaney and Randy Harris  
Show 2012: OPEN  
Silent Auction: Julaine Mullaney  
Social: June Harris  
Sunshine: Ernestine Smith  
Trailer Custodian: Herb Vogel  
Trophies: Frank Mullaney  
Webmaster: RK Owen

# Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society

P.O. Box 54, San Jose, CA 95103-0054

Website: [www.scvgms.org](http://www.scvgms.org)

Email: [info@scvgms.org](mailto:info@scvgms.org)

Phone Number (408) 265-1422

## An Invitation

This society is pleased to invite guests to attend general meetings, study groups, and field trips. General meetings are normally held the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7:45 PM at 100 Belwood Gateway (the Cabana Club), Los Gatos, CA 95032. Belwood Gateway is just south of Blossom Hill Road between Leigh Avenue and Harwood Road.

***Our next general meeting will be on January 25, 2011, at the Elks Lodge #1857, 105 Newell Ave. Los Gatos, CA 95032 at 7:45 PM.***

***Our next board meeting will be on January 27, 2011, at .***

Our Society's Purpose: The inculcation of a love of rocks and minerals by the furtherance of members' interests in the earth sciences and by education in all facets of related educational activities with the promotion of good fellowship, proper ethics, and conduct.

Our Membership Requirements: Attendance at two general meetings within twelve months. This society is a member of the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CFMS) and is affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS). Dues are \$20.00 per year.

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

## Study Group Leaders

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

Cutaways & Carvers	John Eichhorn	(408) 749-0523
Facet Cutters	Max Casey	(408) 227-0526
Fossileers	Gail Matthews	(650) 962-9960
Jewelers	Marc Mullaney	(408) 691-1584
Mineraleers	Chuck Boblenz	(408) 734-2473
Smithies	Pat Speece	(408) 266-4327

Hello Fellow Rockhounds,

Let me take this opportunity to thank you for electing me to lead the club for the next year. Also, I would like to thank everyone that helped with the many things we did last year. We have several exciting things to look forward to such as field trips, the 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 of the committees have new leaders. If you have not volunteered for a committee position, please consider helping the club by accepting a position. I will be calling to ask what you are willing to do. Co-Chairmen are always welcome.

If you have any ideas on how to improve the club or activities you are interested in, please write them down and give them to me or send me an Email: randysparky234@netscape.net. My phone number is listed here in the Breccia if you would rather call.

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

I wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Randy Harris

President's Message	Page 3
Meeting location chg. notice	Page 3
Member displays	Page 4
Rockhound of the month	
Nominations	Page 4
Play Day announcement	Page 4
Sunshine	Page 4
Show meeting notice	Page 4
SCVGMS election results	Page 4
Study Group Reports	Page 5
Jade Articles	Page 5
2011 SCVGMS Calendar	Page 6
Field Trip Schedule	Page 6
NBFT Meeting notice	Page 6
New SCVGMS members	Page 6
2011 SCVGMS Show Update	Page 7
CFMS Show calendar	Page 8
Members' Display schedule	Page 9
Jade	Page 9
CFMS Federation report	Page 10
Stamps	Page 10
Libra Birthstone	Page 11
Chalchihuitl	Page 11
Question of the month-Jade	Page 12
Marine Origin of Jade	Page 12-13
Member and dealer ads	Page 13
General meeting minutes	Page 14
Board meeting minutes	Page 14
General meeting minutes	Page 15
Board meeting minutes	Page 15
Treasurer's report	Page 16

**January meeting location has been changed to the Los Gatos Elk Lodge 1857, 105 Newell Ave, Los Gatos**

**Jade Carver, Matt Glasby, will be our guest speaker for the evening**

## Member displays

by Rick Kennedy

Check out page 9 for the Member display schedule. The January program is a jade carver. Do any of you have any jade pieces or a jade carving? If you have a green rock and think it might be jade, bring it. The rocks you bring help support the program.

## Have you nominated a member for Rockhound of the Month?

Please give your recommendation to Randy Harris. You can contact him at a meeting or by email at randysparky234@netscape.net. Please include a short note about what this member has done in support of the society.

I wonder who will be the next Rockhound of the month. Could it be you?

## Play Day for the 2011 Show March 5th from 10AM – 3 PM Lunch provided

Bring your jewelry-making tools and any small specimens that you would like to donate to the Scholarship Booth. If you have specimens that you would like to donate and cannot attend the Play Day, please bring them to the January or February meetings.

Please RSVP to Randy or June Harris

**Play Day Location:**  
Randy and June Harris' Home  
107 Dell Way  
Scotts Valley, CA 95066  
(831) 438-5150

## Sunshine

If you know of a society member who has been or is ill, had a death in the family, or has had a great event happen in their life, please contact Ernestine Smith with the news. Ernestine's phone number is (408) 395-5035, or email her at ebotts@juno.com.

**Next Show Meeting  
January 31st at 7:30 PM  
at Ruth Bailey's home.  
Everyone is encouraged  
to attend.**

## 2011 SCVGMS Officers & Board of Directors

**President:** Randy Harris  
**Vice President:** Carol Pimentel  
**Secretary:** Rick Kennedy  
**Treasurer:** Frank Mullaney  
**Editor:** June Harris  
**Federation Director:** Ruth Bailey  
**Alt. Fed. Director:** Chuck Boblenz  
**Board of Directors:**  
1. Marc Mullaney  
2. Art Pimentel  
3. Max Casey  
4. Michael Paone  
5. David Lowe  
**Historian:** Michael Paone  
**Parliamentarian:** Dean Welder

# Check out what our study groups are doing!!!

## Mineraleers by Chuck Boblenz



The Mineraleer's met on January 11th at the Peverini's home with twelve folks in attendance. Lynn Toschi led the topic about Poppy Jasper for the evening and shared a large selection of Poppy Jasper from the Morgan Hill area with the attendees. Each attendee was able to ask questions and to touch and feel as each of the specimens were passed around. The meeting moved to the kitchen where discussion continued about the material and its availability. Our thanks to Lynn for leading the evenings discussion and sharing his specimen with each of us.

**The next Mineraleer meetings will be:**

**Feb. 8th Mike Paone's home with a topic of Turquoise**

**Mar. 8th Larry and Winnie Moore's home with a topic of Geodes**

We hope that you will join us for these meetings and enjoy touching and feeling the many specimen brought to share.



## Smithies by Pat Speece

**What do the Smithies do?** We make jewelry using a torch, saw, files, polishers, et al. We teach you how and when to use the tools. You are welcome to use our tools, materials, and help. Beginners are always welcome.

We're cuttlefish bone casting during our January 2011 class/workshop. A cuttlefish is related to the squid, and the bone is soft and carve-able. Metal is heated to melting and flowing point, then poured into the cuttlebone mold. We normally meet the second Monday and Tuesday of each month, 7 to 10pm.

If you would like to be on the Smithie email list, let me know at [pat.speece@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pat.speece@sbcglobal.net). If you would like to be on the Smithie telephone list, let me know at 408-266-4327.

If you would like to be in the February class, let me know. The January class is full. We have all the tools and materials necessary for classes, but you are welcome to bring your own. Classes are held at my home. Questions? Email or phone. Thanks

## Cutaways and Carvers



The Cutaways and Carvers group meets on the second Saturday of the month at John Eichhorn's house from 1 pm to 4 pm. Please call John for more information and directions (408) 749-0523.

## Faceters



The Faceters meet on the first Saturday of the month from 9 AM—noon at Max Casey's home. Please call Max at (408) 227-0526 for directions and more information about this group.

## Are You Sure It's Jade

1. If a chip is knocked off the freshly broken surface should not sparkle in the sun. If it does, it's not jade.
2. If you can scratch it with a knife point, it isn't jade.
3. It will be much heavier than a common rock of similar size.
4. Tap the specimen with a hammer. If a moon shaped fracture appears, it is agate or jasper, but not jade.
5. If it is jade, it will have a smooth, waxy almost greasy look.
6. The only positive test for jade is x-ray analysis and specific gravity tests.

from Rockhound Rumbblings, 11/00; via Rock Writings, 7/04; The Rock Collector, 9/04.

## Another One on Jade

The more milky the water is when cutting jade, the better the grade of jade. If the water isn't milky, then you don't have true jade. You have something else.

from Chips 'n Splinters, 12/00; via Rock Writings, 7/04; via The Rock Collector, 9/04

# 2011 SCVGMS Calendar



**January 25th** General meeting at 7:45 PM.  
**January 27th** Board meeting at 7:30 PM, at Ruth Bailey's home, hosted by Frank Mullaney.  
**February 8th** Mineraleers meeting  
**February 22nd** General meeting at 7:45 PM.  
**February 24th** Board meeting at 7:30 PM, location to be determined.  
**March 5th** Play day to work on items for the scholarship booth and show. Location; Randy and June Harris's home at 10:30 AM  
**March 8th** Mineraleers meeting  
**March 22nd** General meeting at 7:45 PM.  
**March 24th** Board meeting at 7:30 PM, location to be determined.  
**April 26th** General meeting at 7:45 PM.  
**April 28th** Board meeting at 7:30 PM, location to be determined.  
**May 24th** General meeting at 7:45 PM.  
**May 26th** Board meeting at 7:30 PM, location to be determined.  
**June 28th** General meeting at 7:45 PM.  
**June 30th** Board meeting at 7:30 PM, location to be determined.  
**July 26th** General meeting at 7:45 PM.  
**July 28th** Board meeting at 7:30 PM, location to be determined.  
**August 23rd** General meeting at 7:45 PM.  
**August 25th** Board meeting at 7:30 PM, location to be determined.  
**September 27th** General meeting at 7:45 PM.  
**September 29th** Board meeting at 7:30 PM, location to be determined.  
**October 25th** General meeting at 7:45 PM.  
**October 27th** Board meeting at 7:30 PM, location to be determined.  
**November 22nd** General meeting at 7:45 PM and Board meeting immediately following general meeting. Silent Auction throughout the evening. Please bring items to donate to the silent auction. They can be rock-related or not. 2012 election of officers and board of directors throughout the evening  
**November 24th** Board meeting at 7:30 PM, location to be determined.  
**December 6th Installation Dinner**  
**December 8th Board meeting at 7:30 PM, location to be determined.**

## Field Trip Schedule

For more information about the field trips below, please contact Dean Welder at [fieldtrips@scvgms.org](mailto:fieldtrips@scvgms.org)

**January 29th Santa Cruz, CA**, tour of the UCSC mineral collection. Starts at 2 PM.

**January 30th, San Jose, CA**, Guided tour of the newly renovated New Almaden County Park Mining Museum from 1-4 PM.

**May 27th-30th, 2011 (Memorial Day Wkd)**  
**Inter-Regional Rockhound Rendezvous, OR**

## North Bay Field Trip Meeting

On February 26, 2011  
From 9AM-?

Community Presbyterian Church,  
200 Leland Rd.,  
Pittsburg, CA 94565

Silver Pick Field Trip  
after the meeting.

Potluck lunch

Great Silent Auction

Find out about upcoming field trips.

## Welcome New SCVGMS Members

Paul Richards &  
Victor Gassmann

# 2011 SCVGMS Annual Show Update

## Support the show, Support the club

### Car Signs

Get them placed on your car. Call Julaine Mullaney to make an appointment.

### Display case entry form for competitive and noncompetitive cases is available on page 9 of the November newsletter.

For help with entering a competitive display case, contact Ruth Bailey, Frank Mullaney, or Chuck Boblenz.

For **single item competition**, use the bottom half of the Display case entry form. Form is on page 9 of the November newsletter. Rules on page 8 of the November Breccia. Ruth Bailey can help you, if needed.

### Poster and business card distribution.

Contact Marc Mullaney if you can help.

### All Hands on Deck!! Workers needed for the following dates:

April 13 & 14 Show Set-up  
April 15, 16 & 17 Annual Show

Mark your 2011 calendars to plan to help for a minimum of 8 hours.

### Next show meeting

Date: January 31st  
Place: Ruth Bailey's home  
Time: 7:30 PM.  
Everyone is welcome!!

2011 Show  
Chairpersons needed for:  
Hospitality  
Speaker coordinator  
Setup/Teardown



# Let's visit a show

## CFMS Club Show Calendar



**January 15-16 2011, Exeter, CA**, Tule Gem & Mineral Society, Exter Memorial Bldg., 324 N Kaweah (Hwy 65), Exter, Hours: Sat. 10 - 5, Sun. 10-4, Marshall Havner (559) 562-4133, Charles Reed (559) 784-6394, Webpage: [tulegem.org](http://tulegem.org)

**January 28,29 &30: Redlands, CA**, Mineralogical Society of Southern California, Micromounters Symposium, San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree, Hours: Fri. 5pm - 10pm; Sat. 9am - 10pm, Sun. Field trip time to be set, Dr. Robert Housley (714) 697-4435, e-mail: [rhousley@its.caltech.edu](mailto:rhousley@its.caltech.edu), Webpage: [mineralsocal.org](http://mineralsocal.org) (click on micromounters)

**February 18-27, 2011, Indio, CA**, San Gorgonio Mineral & Gem Society, Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival, Gem amp; Mineral Building Bldg #1, 46-350 Arabia Street, Hours: 10 am - 10 pm, Bert Grisham: (915) 849-1674, Email: [bert67@verizon.net](mailto:bert67@verizon.net)

**February 25-26, 2011, Northridge, CA**, Del-Air Rockhounds, Northridge United Methodist Church, 9650 Reseda Blvd., 46-350 Arabia Street, Hours: Fri. 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm - Sat. 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, Chris S. Ward , Email: [chris\\_ward678@yahoo.com](mailto:chris_ward678@yahoo.com).

**February 25, 26,27, 2011, Newark, CA**, Mineral and Gem Society of Castro Valley, Newaro Pavilion, 6430 Thornton Avenue, Hours: Fri.and Sat. 10:00 am to 6:00 pm - Sun. 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, Larry Ham, show chair - (510) 887-9007 , Email: [showchair@mgscv.org](mailto:showchair@mgscv.org), Website: [www.mgscv.org](http://www.mgscv.org)  
Website: [delairrockhounds.blogspot.com](http://delairrockhounds.blogspot.com)

**March 5-6 2011, Arcadia, CA**, Monrovia Rockhounds, Inc., Los Angeles Co. Arboretum & Botanic Gardens, 301 Baldwin Ave., Hours: Sat. & Sun. 9-4:30, Jo Anna Ritchey (626) 359-1624, Email: [vgms\\_editor@roadrunner.com](mailto:vgms_editor@roadrunner.com), Website: [www.Moroks.com](http://www.Moroks.com)

**March 5-6 2011, Ventura, CA**, Ventura Gem & Mineral Society, Seaside Park, Ventura Co. Fairgrounds, 10 W. harbor Blvd., Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4, Email: [vgms\\_editor@roadrunner.com](mailto:vgms_editor@roadrunner.com), Andy Anderson (805) 987-0043 / [lilliananderson@iuno.com](mailto:lilliananderson@iuno.com), Website: [vgms.org](http://vgms.org).

**March 11-13 - VICTORVILLE, CA** Victorville Valley Gem & Mineral Society, Tailgate at Verde Antique Quarry (Stoddard Well), Bell Mountain/Stoddard Well exit from I-15, Hours: 8-5 daily, Brett Ward , (760) 954-4323, Email: [Brefts88@verizon.net](mailto:Brefts88@verizon.net), Website: [www.vvqmc.org](http://www.vvqmc.org)

**March 12-13 - TURLOCK, CA**, Mother Lode Mineral Society, Turlock Fairgrounds, 900 N. Broadway, Hours: Sat. 10-6; Sun. 10-5, Bud & Terry McMillin (209) 524-3494, Website: [www.turlockgemshow.com](http://www.turlockgemshow.com), Email: [Bud.mcmillin.b7y@statefarm.com](mailto:Bud.mcmillin.b7y@statefarm.com)

**March 12-13 - SAN MARINO, CA**, Pasadena Lapidary Society, San Marino Masonic Center, 3130 Huntington Drive, Hours: Sat. 10-6; Sun. 10-4, Joe & Marcia Goetz (626) 260-7239, Email: [joen-mar1@verizon.net](mailto:joen-mar1@verizon.net)

**March 12-13 2011, Salinas, CA**, Salinas Valley Rock & Gem Club, Veteran's Hall ,Spreckels, CA, 5th & Llano Streets, Hours: Sat. 10-5 daily, Karen Jones (831) 678-0337 / [KenKAre0337@att.net](mailto:KenKAre0337@att.net)

**March 19-20 2011, Bakersfield, CA**, San Joaquin Valley Lapidary Society, Kern County Shrine Club, 700 south P. Street (P & Bell Terrace), Hours: 9-5 daily, Lewis Helfrich Home (661) 323-2663, Cell: (661) 378-4450 , Email: [lewsrocks@bak.it.com](mailto:lewsrocks@bak.it.com)

**March 26-27 2011, Angels Camp, CA**, Calaveras Gem & Mineral Society, Calaveras Co. Fairgrounds (Frog Town USA), Hwy 49 in Angels Camp, Hours: Sat. 9-5 - Sun. 9-4, Tak Iwata (209) 928-5579, Email: [Tak2me@msn.com](mailto:Tak2me@msn.com) , Website: <http://www.calaverasgemandmineral.org>

**March 26-27 2011, Roseville, CA**, Roseville Rock Rollers, Roseville

(Placer Co.) Fairgrounds, 800 All American City Blvd., Hours: Sat. 10-5 Sun. 10-4, Glori Marie (530) 367-2262, Email: [gloriarosevillerockrollers@gmail.com](mailto:gloriarosevillerockrollers@gmail.com), Website: [www.rockrollers.com](http://www.rockrollers.com)

**April 8, 9 & 10 2011, Vista, CA**, San Diego County Council, Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum, 2040 N. Santa Fe Avenue, Hours: 9-5 daily, Ray Pearce (769) 726-7570, Cathy Davis (858) 278-9987, Simon King (619) 991-2226 Email: [raysrocks@cox.net](mailto:raysrocks@cox.net)

**April 9-10, 2011, Mariposa, CA**, Mariposa Gem & Mineral Club, Mariposa Co. Fairgrounds, Hwy #49, 1.8 miles South of Mariposa, Hours: Sat. 10-6 Sun. 10-5, Diane (209) 742-7625, Website: [www.thematrixmariposagemmineralclub.info/](http://www.thematrixmariposagemmineralclub.info/)

**April 9-10 - PARADISE, CA**, Paradise Gem & Mineral Society, Elks Lodge, 6309 Clark Road, Hours: Sat 10-5; Sun10-4, Manuel Garcia (530) 877-7324, Email: [mmpg@earthlink.net](mailto:mmpg@earthlink.net) , Website: <http://paradisegem.org>

**April 15, 16, 17, 2011, San Jose, CA**, Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society, Santa Clara County Fairgrounds, 334 Tully Road, Hours: Fri 9-5, Sat & Sun10-5, Frank Mullaney (408) 265-1422, Email: [info@scvgms.org](mailto:info@scvgms.org), Website: [www.scvgms.org](http://www.scvgms.org)

**April 23-24 - SANTA CRUZ, CA**, Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society, Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium , Corner of Church and Center St, Hours: 10-5 daily, Dean Welder (408) 353-2675 , Email: [wdeanwelder@yahoo.com](mailto:wdeanwelder@yahoo.com) , Website: [www.scmgs.org](http://www.scmgs.org)

### Mother Lode Mineral Society's ROCK & GEM SHOW MARCH 12 & 13<sup>TH</sup>

Saturday 10 am-6 pm & Sunday 10 am-5 pm  
Admission \$5.00 - 12 & under free

- 40+ Dealers, 100 Exhibits
- 35 Demonstrators!
- Large Children's Area
- Free Parking
- Fluorescent Tent
- Great Food



**Speakers:** (Check website for dates, times and additional info)

Bob Jones will talk about California Minerals.

Mike Kokinos will be talking about the benefits of 501(c)(3) non-profit status.

Larry Martin will be discussing Mammoth and other fossils found in the Madera Land Fill.

Gregg Wilkerson from BLM will speak on Land Claims.

Richard Wade will present fossils and dinosaurs for children of all ages.

**Turlock Fairgrounds 900 North Broadway Turlock CA**  
**[www.turlockgemshow.com](http://www.turlockgemshow.com)**

Chairman: Bud & Terry McMillin 209-524-3494



## Show and Tell Members' Display Schedule for Meetings this Year

All members are asked to display at least one time per year. This list is alphabetical, and members who live far away are not included; they may display at any time. If you cannot display in your designated month, that's OK; just display when you can. You can display as many times as you like. There are no displays in June and November because of the Silent Auctions. There are no displays in December because there is the installation dinner in lieu of our regular meeting. The displays are a much-enjoyed feature of our monthly meetings.

Don't know what to display? Any type of rock (identified or not), your latest project, information on a field trip to take, ideas for a display case, anything to do with rocks!!!

**January** -Members with the last name that starts with A, B, or C.

**February**- Members with the last name that starts with D, E, or F

**March** Members with the last name that starts with G or H

**April** Members with the last name that starts with I, J, or K.

**May** Members with the last name that starts with L or M.

**July** Members with the last name that starts with N, O, or P

**August** Members with the last name that starts with R or S

**September** Members with the last name that starts with T, U and V.

**October** Members with the last name that starts with W, Y, and Z.

## Jade

Lapidaries and jewelers should constantly attempt to call gemstones and tough material by their correct name. Jade has many other stones named after it, as any material. The confusion as to what jade is, has been compounded by this deceptive practice.

- Amazon Jade is aventurin.
- American Jade is a rock—a mixture of idocrase and grossular.
- Australian jade is chrysoprase
- Colorado jade is green microcline
- Flukien, Manchurian, and Honan jade are all soapstone.
- Indian jade is aventurin
- Jadite is pure jade
- Jasper jade is green jasper
- Korean jade is bowenite, a hard variety of serpentine.
- Mexican Jade is green dyed marble or calcite
- Oregon Jade is a dark green jasper
- Silver Peak jade is malachite
- Transvall jade is a massive variety of green grossular garnet.
- Real Jade such as BC jade, Alaska or Yukon jade are truly nephrite jade.

Nephrite hardness: 6-6.5, S.G. 2.95, R.I 1.6-1.63

Jadeite hardness: 6.5-7, S.G. 3.3, R.I. 1.66-1.68

Possibly more information (some true, some false) has been written regarding the polishing of jade than all other lapidary materials combined. And so, one concludes that jade is difficult to polish. The answer is "Yes" and "no". Let us consider the mineral itself. There are three separate and distinct minerals that are known under the general term jade: Nephrite, Jadeite, and Chloromelanite. Nephrite is the one found in BC, Alaska, and Wyoming, this the one we shall consider here. Let us first consider the nature of these rock-forming minerals. They are described as being fibrous, which simply means that structurally, they are a mass or network of tiny fibrous hair-like crystals, much like straws in a straw stack. They are so fine in nephrite that they cannot be seen even with a powerful magnifier. A peculiarity about crystals is that they are generally softer than parallel to the crystal growth, and harder across the crystal. It is just this simple characteristic that creates all the difficulty in applying a polish, if one uses the same procedure as for example, Agate. However, provided one has the proper equipment and uses it in the proper manner, nephrite jade is easy to polish. And now for the job.

From the Rockhounder, 10/08; via Opal Express, 3/05; via the Palomar Gem, 2/05

## **Federation Report**

**by Ruth Bailey, SCVGMS Federation Director**

The fall business meeting of the California Federation was held in Visalia the second weekend in November. On Friday evening the cracker barrel session was attended by a number of the delegates, officers and chairmen. We do not have a venue for the 2012 CFMS show yet although there was a bid presented for the 2013 show.

The business meeting was held on Saturday morning and reports were presented from the committee chairmen. The 2010 show report was presented and the chairman of the 2011 show in Anderson reported on their plans. The show will be at the Ventura Fairgrounds in 2013 and we have had a number of shows there.

The Earth Science Studies chairmen reported that our study programs are being returned to their original dates which should make it better for the programs. Zzyzx camp will be held from April 1 to April 8, 2012. This will make it easier for the classes to function as it gets dark earlier in November and is also more likely to be cold. Camp Paradise will be moved back to early September but the exact dates have not been set yet.

The Education through Sharing chairman gave us the certificate from the CFMS for Randy and June Harris. They previously received a certificate from the AFMS.

Steve Puderbaugh, Chairman of the show "Northern California Treasures" to be held at the Fairgrounds in Anderson on May 13, 14 and 15, 2011, passed out the show packets. We also received the Official Visitors Guide covering the area and there are a lot of places that are really interesting and beautiful. I have maps of the area and of the fairgrounds. Let me know if you need a copy of any of them or of the application forms for display, dealer or registration.

At the evening dinner the new officers were installed and I feel they will be doing a good job of helping our Federation go forward.

## **Stamps**

**by Ruth Bailey, SCVGMS Federation Director**

For a number of years we have been collecting used postage stamps and donating them to Fossils For Fun in Sacramento. In turn these stamps are given to a group who turns them in for a stamp auction which is a yearly affair of the Easter Seal Society. They are placed out and stamp collectors go through them for their collections. The proceeds of this auction go to the Easter Seal Society for their programs for the disabled. They are able to pay for needed items which are not included in the regular budget of the society.

Over the years this has been a great benefit for the clients of the Easter Seal Society and we have been able to help this group without any expense to ourselves. The society asks that the stamps be cut with a 1/4" border when possible but they are also able to use any stamps. The commemorative ones bring more money but any stamp is useful. If you can collect any used stamps and give them to our Federation Director they will be taken to the Directors' meeting and given to the Fossils for Fun group.

Also, the American Federation has a Commemorative Stamp Committee. The purpose of this committee is to promote the issuance of commemorative stamps featuring rocks and minerals. In 1974 and in 1992 mineral stamps were issued and now the committee is asking for the USPS Stamp Program to issue a set of birthstone commemorative stamps. I am sure that you all realize that this would be a beautiful addition to our stamps.

Please take time to write to the Citizen's Stamp Advisory Committee Stamp Development, U.S. Postal Service, 1735 North Lynn St., Room 5013, Arlington, VA 22209-6432 and ask them to issue some commemorative stamps featuring the lovely birthstone stamps.

## Libra Birthstone(s)- Jade

by Ted Robles for the Mountain Gem  
Via The Mountain Gem, 8/2006

Properly speaking, "Jade" is one of two different stones. The first, Jadeite, is sodium aluminum silicate, with more or less iron, hardness 6.5-7, Sp. Gr.  $3.4 \pm 0.1$ , translucent, vitreous luster, color white through green to black (chloromelanite) with shades of nearly every color. "Imperial" Jade is a rich emerald green, and is highly valued among Jade fanciers, as is the lavender variety. Nephrite is, properly speaking, a rock, since it is a series of mixtures of the two minerals, Tremolite, which is calcium magnesium hydroxyl silicate and is predominantly white, and Actinolite, which is calcium magnesium iron hydroxyl silicate and is dark green. Hardness is 5-6, Sp.Gr.  $3.2 \pm 0.1$ , translucent, vitreous to waxy luster, color white through green, the most desirable to the lapidary being the so called "apple green." Both nephrite and jadeite are in the monoclinic system, but crystals are rarely found. The intertwined, "felted" nature of the crystalline structure of both types result in the outstanding characteristic of "Jade," which is toughness. Jade may be sawn, but it is difficult to impossible to break it. Both types take a high polish and make attractive jewelry or ornamental figures; the Chinese jade carving industry is large and flourishing. (unfortunately a lot of other stones are also carved and represented as "Jade," so that "Buyer Beware" is the watchword of the industry.) Jadeite is found in China, Myanmar, Tibet, Japan, and California. Nephrite is found in Italy, Austria, Siberia, Central Asia, New Zealand, Canada, also in Wyoming and California, the apple green variety coming mainly from Wyoming and British Columbia.

Jade has been used as both an ornamental stone and for tools (axes, etc.) for at least 7,000 years; the pre-Columbian artifacts in Central America representing gods and animals are well known. In China jade carvings were largely the purview of royalty.

Metaphysically, it allegedly possesses the virtues of compassion, wisdom, justice, and courage, yet it also is symbolic of romantic love. Amulets have been made of the material for

millennia, and jade carvings of Kwan-yin, the Chinese goddess of mercy are plentiful, as are figurines of Buddha. These are alleged to bring good fortune to those who possess them, and are invariably given places of honor in the household of the owner.

But no matter the form or virtue, Jadeite and Nephrite both are handsome stones and are worthy of inclusion in any collection, whether the collector is a Libran or not.

Sources:

*Prinz et all. Simon and Schuster's Guide to Rocks and Minerals, New York, 1978*

*G.F. Kunz, The Curious Lore of precious stones, Dover, New York, 1971*

*A.H. Verrill, Minerals, Metals, and Gems, Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1939.*

[www.crystalcavern.com](http://www.crystalcavern.com)

---

## Chalchihuitl

Via Lapidary Journal, 9/83; via PGGs Petrograph, 10/96; via Golden Spike News, 2/06, via Rockhound Special, 4/06

Ancient cultures in Central America had a special word for jade, Chalchihuitl, which literally translates as herb-green stone. This translation fails to show the significance of the word and its meaning to the Mayans. Water was held to be a sacred element of 'center earth'; jade, too, was held to be a sacred element, and therefore the words in Mayan for water and jade were the same. Jade was believed to be possessed of curative powers, and the Mayans attached bits of the stone to parts of the body that were pained or ailing. They believed it was particularly effective in treating disease of the lower abdomen. Thus, with the coming of the Spaniards, the name *piedra de ijada* which in Spanish meant stone of the loins was coined. As jade was introduced to Europe, the stone of the loins was Frenchified to *Pierre l'ejade*. Ironically, a typographical error, an absent apostrophe, in 18th century book on mineralogy, resulted in *Pierre le jade*, or jade.

## Question of the month– Jade

by Don Schurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas

### What is Jade?

Jade is Nephrite. Jade is Jadeite. But until 1863, jade was just jade. It wasn't until 1863 that it was determined that there really was two forms of jade. In 1863 the French mineralogist Alexis Amour, while studying Chinese jade piece, determined that there were really two forms of jade, Jadeite (also called hard jade) and nephrite (also called soft jade). Chemically the two forms of jade are really quite dissimilar. Jadeite is a form of pyroxene, its chemical composition is  $\text{NaAlSi}_2\text{O}_6$ . Nephrite is a form of amphibole, its chemical composition is  $\text{Ca}_2(\text{Mg,Fe})_5\text{Si}_8\text{O}_{22}(\text{OH})_2$ . Neither form of jade is found in crystalline form.

When I think of jade, I think of China. 5000 years ago jade was venerated in China as YU, the royal gem. For most of the 5000 years, the Chinese works of art were formed from nephrite. It is only in the last 400 years that jadeite was imported from Burma to China where it was carved into works of art. During the California gold rush days, many of the miners wondered why many Chinese workers were seen hauling large boulders of green rock rather than panning for gold, but to the Chinese the California Nephrite was much more valuable than gold.

When I think of jade I also think of the Aztec and earlier cultures and their fascination with jade. While the predominate type of jade artifacts from China were made from jadeite, the jade artifacts of the early South and Central American cultures were made from nephrite. Many jade artifacts and tools are found in Aztec and earlier ruins. The Olmec artisans were carving jade items over 3000 years ago. To the Aztec people, jade was only worn by royalty, and only on certain occasions. Jade as a symbol of life and purity. It was only recently that a major source of the Aztec jade, known as blue jade, was rediscovered in Guatemala.

Today when I think of jade I think of British Columbia. Massive quantities of nephrite jade have been discovered in British Columbia and are now being actively mined. Jade is also found in California, South America, China, and Burma. If you want to look for jade in Texas, your

best bet is to visit your favorite rock shop, watch for displays of Chinese jade at local museums, or visit some of the markets in the China-town areas of Dallas and Houston. My research does not indicate that either form of jade has ever been found as a raw material in Texas.

Ref:

**Jade**, <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jade>

**Jade Source**, <http://ssss.jademart.com/source.htm>

**Gem by Gem, Jade**, <http://www.gemstone.org/gem-by-gem/english/jade.html>

**Official symbols of British Columbia**, <http://www.gov.bc.ca/bcgov/popt/bcfact/default.htm>

**Re-discovery of Olmec blue jade**, <http://www.hgs.org/en/articles/printview.asp?49>

**Chinese Jade**, <http://www.rightreading.com/writing/jade.htm>

**Jade in Mesoamerica**, [http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/jade2/hd\\_jade2.htm](http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/jade2/hd_jade2.htm)

---

## Marine Origin of Jade

via The Pegmatite, 5/06

Inclusion expert John Koivula always says, "Mother Nature cooks in a very dirty kitchen," and the Smithsonian Institution's Sorena Sorensen has been slowly looking into this premise for the past 26 years. Her type of geological research focuses on subduction zones, particularly where young ocean crust gets forced beneath older, denser ocean crust or even beneath continental crust. The younger crust generally carries a bunch of seawater with it when it gets pushed down into the hot mantle, and Sorensen's task has been to figure out how water-rich fluids are moving and transferring chemical components around in the subduction zone (the "very dirty kitchen").

Now jade had previously been thought to have formed from other rocks in subduction zones. However, in 1997, Sorensen came across a study of jade

*continued on page 13*

continued from page 12

by a group of French scientists, who were bombarding very thin slices of jade with an electron beam, and became intrigued with the idea of what this might reveal. She borrowed some of the Smithsonian's jade samples, tried it for herself and discovered her jade samples turned out to be full of tiny (10 micron, 1/10th the thickness of a human hair) inclusions full of water and gas. Analysis revealed that the water was seawater.

Sorenson states that most jade was created between 100 and 200 million years ago, when seawater trapped in ocean crust sweated out in subduction zones - areas of high pressure about 18 to 25 miles below the surface of the Earth and relatively low temperature (just 750 degrees F.). Jade seems to have crystallized directly from the fluids.

Ref: *Inside Smithsonian Research*, Winter 2005 pp.7-8; and the Smithsonian Institution -Department of Minerals website: [www.minerals.siedu/research/summary/sorenson/htm](http://www.minerals.siedu/research/summary/sorenson/htm))

## For Sale

### EQUIPMENT & ROCK STUFF--

10" Saw Blades,  
Grit all sizes,  
Polish,  
Floor Laps,  
Drill on stand,  
Grinding and Polishing wheels,  
Minerals,  
Fossils,  
Flo. rock.  
Contact-Jim- by phone for appointment-  
408-274-2181- or  
E-Mail--[jamesnelson2002@yahoo.com](mailto:jamesnelson2002@yahoo.com)

# Wenric's

The Jeweler's Resource

**Jewelry CAD Design & Repair**  
**Jewelry Appraisals & Identification**  
**Welding & Recycle Gold**  
**Precious Metal Prototype & Cast**  
**Lapidary Supplies & Equipment**  
**Jeweler's Tools & Supplies**

1008-B Blossom Hill Rd.

San Jose

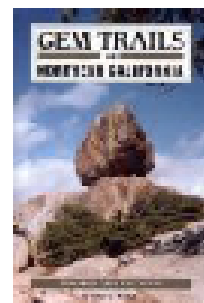
(408) 445-8075

[www.wenrics.com](http://www.wenrics.com)

Tues-Fri 9-6, Sat 9-5, Sun-Mon closed

## Books

- ♦ collecting guides
- ♦ jewelry making
- ♦ geology
- ♦ up to 40% off retail for SCVGMS members



## Tools

- ♦ gem scoop
- ♦ hammers
- ♦ grit

## Rocks

- ♦ misc. slabs
- ♦ mineral specimens
- ♦ polished display pieces



Dean & Karen Welder  
Members SCVGMS

[www.peregrine-rocks.com](http://www.peregrine-rocks.com)

SCVGMS Regular Membership Meeting Minutes  
November 23, 2010

The Meeting was called to order at 7:50 PM at the Belwood Gateway Cabana Club.

**Announcements:** The Board Meeting will be held immediately following the General Meeting. Installation Dinner reservations are due tonight. Check you listing in the 2011 Directory.

**Minutes** of the October 26<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved as printed in the Breccia.

**New Members:** Mario Garcia was presented with his new member packet.

**Correspondence:** None.

**Sunshine:** Nothing to report.

**Study Groups:** See listings in the Breccia.

**DRC:** The rocks are covered until after the rainy season. Some donations are coming in.

A five minute break was held for bidding on auction items. Tables 5 & 6 closed after the break.

**Randy Harris** was nominated for President by the nominating committee.

**Hospitality:** There were 33 members and 5 guests in attendance.

**Carol Pimentel** was nominated for Vice-President by the nominating committee.

**PLAC:** Bill Spence reported that there is a meeting in Hollister on November 30<sup>th</sup> regarding mining claims in the Clear Creek area.

**Rick Kennedy** was nominated for Secretary from the floor and accepted the nomination.

**Federation Report:** Ruth Bailey reported on the fall business meeting. Xyzzyx will be in April and Camp Paradise will be in September 2011. The CFMS Show in 2017 will also be the 70<sup>th</sup> AFMS Show.

A five minute break was held for bidding on auction items. Tables 1 & 3 closed after the break.

**Auditing Committee:** Michael Paone, Bill Spence and R. K. Owen volunteered for the auditing committee. They will meet with the treasurer after the books are closed.

**Frank Mullaney** was nominated for Treasurer, **June Harris** was nominated for Editor, and **Ruth Bailey** was nominated for Federation Director by the nominating committee.

**Field Trips:** Dean Welder reported on the Co-op meeting. They are having the same problems finding clubs to host field trips as the NBFT group.

**Chuck Boblenz** was nominated for Alternate Federation Director by the nominating committee.

**2011 Show:** There will be a show meeting on December 13<sup>th</sup> at Ruth Bailey's home.

**Marc Mullaney, Max Casey, Michael Paone,** and **Art Pimentel** were nominated for Director by the nominating committee, and **David Lowe** was nominated for Director from the floor and accepted the nomination. **Michael Paone** was nominated for Historian and Dean Welder was nominated for Parliamentarian by the nominating committee. All offices were unopposed and a white ballot was cast. Congratulations to the officers for next year.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Randy Harris, Secretary

---

SCVGMS Board Meeting Minutes  
November 23, 2010

The Meeting was called to order at 8:54 PM at the Belwood Cabana Club.

**Roll Call:** All board members were present except Art and Carol Pimentel, and Karen Welder.

Reading of the minutes will be postponed until the December 9<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

**Programs:** David Marshall will organize the program for the January general meeting. He has contact with a jade carver who will demonstrate for us. M/S/P (F. Mullaney, R.K. Owen) to authorize a \$50 stipend for the speaker.

**Treasurer's Report:** M/S/P (R.K. Owen, R. Kennedy) to pay the bills as presented.

The December board meeting will be a joint board meeting with the outgoing and incoming board members at Randy and June Harris' home on December 9<sup>th</sup>.

Meeting adjourned at 8:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Randy Harris, SCVGMS Secretary

SCVGMS Board Meeting  
December 9th, 2010

President, Marc Mullaney, called the meeting to order at 7:36 PM at the home of Randy and June Harris.

**Correspondence:** Statement from Dodge and Cox, Letter from Franchise Tax Board, and Office Max coupon.

**Meeting adjourned** due to lack of a quorum.

Respectfully submitted by  
Randy Harris, SCVGMS secretary.

SCVGMS Board Meeting  
December 9th, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM at the home of June and Randy Harris

**Roll Call:** All board members were present except for Carol Pimental, Chuck Boblenz, Michael Paone, Art Pimental and Dean Welder. M/S/P to accept the October 28<sup>th</sup> minutes as read (F. Mullaney, M. Mullaney). M/S/P to accept the November 23<sup>rd</sup> minutes as read (F. Mullaney, R Bailey).

**New Members:** M/S/P to accept Paul Richards and Victor Gassmann for membership (F. Mullaney, M. Mullaney)

**Treasurer's Report:** M/S/P to pay the bills as presented (R. Bailey, M. Mullaney). Carol Pimental will fill out a profile card as needed by the bank.

**Old Business:**

**2011 Show:** M/S/P to make up to three more banners to be put up on the parking lot side of Tully Road for the duration of the show (M. Mullaney, R. Bailey). M/S/P to provide adequate signage to direct people to the entrance of the Expo Hall (M. Mullaney, R. Bailey). M/S/P to instruct Jo, Fred and Frank to look for gem bottles up to 20 cents each, 1000 bottles, and a minimum of one box each of small and large tumbled stones (M. Mullaney, F. Mullaney). M/S/P to give active duty military and dependents free admission for show with proper ID (M. Mullaney, F. Mullaney). M/S/P for the Dealer Chair to send a letter to Rock Solid Jade that the club will accept their contract if the deposit is made within 30 days of receipt of the letter (M. Mullaney, R. Bailey). Max Casey volunteered to be the Security Chair.

**New Business:**

**Cabana Club:** M/S/P to approve the making of reservations for the Cabana Club for general membership meetings (R. Bailey, M. Casey)

**Programs:** M/S/P to approve the proposed program schedule from January – July, 2011 (M. Mullaney, R. Kennedy)

**Founder's Day:** M/S/P to approve to set a date and reserve the Cabana Club for the Founder's Day picnic (M. Mullaney, R. Bailey)

**Installation Dinner:** M/S/P to approve to reserve the Cabana Club for the 2011 Installation Dinner on December 6<sup>th</sup> (M. Mullaney, R. Bailey)

**Social Calendar:** M/S/P to approve the 2011 Social Calendar (M. Mullaney, R. Bailey)

**Membership Directories:** M/S/P to approve to have 125 membership directories printed (M. Mullaney, F. Mullaney).

**CFMS:** M/S/P to approve to pay CFMS insurance and dues when membership directories have been printed (F. Mullaney, M. Mullaney).

**Bars and Pins:** M/S/P to approve to order 2011 bars and pins for officers and the president's Golden Bear pin (F. Mullaney, M. Mullaney).

**Rockhound of the Month:** M/S/P to continue the "Rockhound of the Month" award and order badges for the "Rockhound of the Month" (M. Mullaney, F. Mullaney).

**Swingers:** M/S/P to order swingers as needed for officers (M. Mullaney, F. Mullaney).

**Newsletters:** M/S/P for Randy Harris, Chuck Boblenz and David Lowe to receive CFMS and AFMS newsletters (M. Casey, R Kennedy)

Meeting adjourned at 9:22 PM

Respectfully submitted

Rick Kennedy, SCVGMS Secretary

**Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society  
Treasurer's Report  
December 2, 2010**

**Beginning balance:** **\$18,725.90**

**Receipts:**

Installation Dinner	\$ 100.00
Kids Area 2011 show	\$ 446.00
DRC correction	\$ 5.00
Patches and Pins	\$ 55.00
Dealers 2011 show	\$ 2,325.00
Silent Auction	\$ 388.50
Dues and Initiation fee	\$ 50.00
Initiation fee	\$ 10.00
Interest	<u>\$ .27</u>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>\$3,379.77</b>

**Disbursements**

President and Officers pins	\$ 41.00
Phone Bill	\$ 25.00
Printing Tickets	\$ 73.91
Breccia copying	\$ 49.06
Meeting Refreshments	\$ 27.53
Meeting refreshments	\$ 6.49
Kids Area 2011 show	\$ 17.11
Installation dinner	\$ 14.20
CFMS Director meeting travel	\$ 40.00
Breccia postage	<u>\$ 27.05</u>

**Total Disbursements** **\$ 321.35**

**Ending balance** **\$21,784.32**

**Checking account** **\$ 5,500.00**