



# BRECCIA

Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society

Volume 67 Number 3 March 2020

## Calendar of Coming Events

**March 3 and March 17** Smithies  
**March 20** Festival Set Up  
**March 21-22** Festival  
**March 24** - Meet and Greet at 7:15 and General Meeting at 7:45  
**March 26** Board Meeting at Jo Borucki's home  
**March 31** Smithies  
**April 14** Smithies  
**April 28** Smithies  
**April 28** - Meet and Greet at 7:15 and General Meeting at 7:45 with a presentation by Alan Achor on Antarctica  
**April 30** Board Meeting at Rick Kennedy's home  
**May 12 and 26** Smithies  
**May 26** Meet and Greet at 7:15 and General Meeting at 7:45 with presentation by Missy Fox on Agates  
**May 28** Board Meeting at Jim and Missy Fox's home

## Take Note

- **General Meeting:** March 24
- **Bragging Rights**-Bring your entry which is something pink.
- **Show and Tell** -Bring a rock, mineral, or something else to do with rockhounding to show to the rest of us.
- **SCVGMS Festival:** March 21 and 22.

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General Information

## Presidents Message

I was thinking about how little I know about Geology. I joined the Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society (SCVGMS) because I was interested in learning more about Geology and I thought I might have some knowledge to share. I was wrong. I had almost no knowledge to share. Well, that is an exaggeration, but not much of one.

My Geology knowledge was gained throughout my lifetime by trips my family took into the desert and parks of Arizona and California. My father was born in Claypool, Arizona, and he grew up in a copper mining community. My mother was born in Perryton, Texas and moved to Kingman, Arizona, in a run from the Dust Bowl. So my life was permeated with references to their lives and visits to extended family in prime rock hunting acreage.

After all this rambling I do have a point. Geology vocabulary is infinite. On my second visit to a meeting I brought in a Very Interesting Rock (VIR), and was told it was a Leaverite. Then I found out that meant to 'leave 'er right' there. In other words, don't pick up every rock you see. Enjoy and move on, because there are so many gems and minerals you can't hold on to all of them.

When we are born we learn words to communicate. Usually by the time we are 18 months old, we might speak about ten words and by the time we are two, we might speak about 50 words. That is how we should think about our Geology knowledge.

Start off doing your best to learn. Ask questions of the dustier and more calloused members. Maybe you know the names of ten minerals. But in a year you will know more mineral names accompanied with knowledge about where to find these minerals and safety practices and how to be successful in your rock gathering. Join the club field trips and start getting comfortable going out on your own with the knowledge to know how to look and what you are looking at.

One really good way to learn about our earth and treasures on it and in it is to go to shops, shows and festivals where the focus is on geology. You can ask the vendors questions about their collections and come away with your brain stuffed with knowledge that you didn't have when you went in.

When you volunteer at the SCVGMS Festival you help out the club and learn enough to share your knowledge with the people who will come to you and ask questions. Don't tell them a rock is a Leaverite! That is geology humor, best kept among the gem and mineral fraternity. We don't want to appear to be smug in our knowledge, especially if we are trying to get new people interested in our Geology passion.

Having said all that, make sure that some (but not much) of your personal collection includes Leaverites. I still have my Leaverite and I think it is a VIR. Just don't tell me it is a chunk of concrete.



# 2020 GEM, MINERAL & JEWELRY FESTIVAL



GOLD ON QUARTZ

Photo by:  
JEFF SCOVIL

## SANTA CLARA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

Presents its 65th Annual Festival  
at the  
Santa Clara County Fairgrounds

### March 21 & 22, 2020

10:00 am - 5:00 pm Saturday

10:00 am - 5:00 pm Sunday

**Fun for children of all ages**

See a large display of Petrified Wood.

Gold Panning, polish stones by Tumbling, and other how to Demonstrations.

See how the early Americans made Arrow Heads.

Over 45 dealers selling many treasures for you to purchase.

Many of the dealers are kid friendly so the children can touch and ask questions.

Visit our scholarship booth where there is a spinning wheel, grab bags, geodes that can be cut open for the prize inside.

Free admission to:

**MILITARY** Active, Veterans their Dependents & First Responders  
With valid Military ID or First Responder ID

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE**

Boy & Girl Scouts in Uniform FREE

Adults \$6 Kids 12 & under FREE

**Print this flyer or show on your electronic device for:  
\$1.00 off admission for your group**

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

### Festival Volunteers Announcement

If you are volunteering at our festival and are not going to be at the Santa Clara county Fairgrounds on Friday, March 20, which is the set up day, please arrange to get a parking pass from : Missy Fox 408-356-7711 or [jfox152@comcast.net](mailto:jfox152@comcast.net)

## Jargon Alert

Many of us have been involved in the hobby/members of a club long enough that we develop our own language, sets of terms that don't make a lot of sense to the outside world. It is a shared language, our own kind of "secret handshake". When we use this language among ourselves, it feeds and strengthens our community.

However, when a system is not in place for a neophyte (who might be shy, and a bit afraid to be the only person not in on a joke) to ask questions, that same shared language can have a very unwelcoming effect on new people.

There is another organization that I belong to that has come up with a great way of dealing with this issue. At the beginning of our meetings, the leader announces that if there is any word or term that does not make sense, shout out "Jargon Alert"!! At which point, whoever is speaking must pause, and explain the unknown term. This leads to better understanding and fosters better community.

One last thing: Neophytes need help identifying rocks and minerals. It is one of the foremost reasons they initially come to club meetings. By definition, they are inexperienced and likely not discerning collectors yet. As a club, it is our job not just to help them identify things, but to do it in a kind, teaching manner. New people will pick up anything that catches their eye, or looks different, and there is nothing wrong with that. We have knowledge they don't and if we want to be welcoming, we will use that knowledge gently and kindly. Calling our own collecting mistakes "Leaverite" leads to good natured humor, giving the same name to someone else's finds can easily come off as an insult, especially if they are new to the hobby and just don't know any better.

By Rick Kennedy



## Our February Program

Our Program for the February 26th meeting was a panel discussion led by **Rick Kennedy** and **Frank Mullaney** on their experiences at Quartzite and at the Tucson show. To anyone who has ever attended the Tucson Show, you know that it would take probably many weeks to cover all of the show. It is scattered throughout Tucson. There are times especially for dealers, and then, right at the last four days, the Convention Center, with its many dealers is open to everyone, as are many dealers scattered throughout Tucson. **Stephen May** and **Rick Kennedy** brought some of the treasures that they had bought so that we could all enjoy looking at them. As usual, there was excellent food and drink for all, our membership displays were laid out on a table in the front of the room, and the bragging rights entries were on a table at the back of the room. I really enjoy the general membership meetings. There is lots of participation and friendliness. It's a great place to be on the fourth Tuesday of every month except December, when instead we enjoy a delicious dinner among friends and celebrate the installation of officers for the coming year.



## SCVGMS Field Trips

May 16<sup>th</sup>, Saturday: Mariposa Mineral Museum, hours 10:00 a.m. to 4: p.m.

Mariposa Fairgrounds

5005 Fairgrounds Rd, Mariposa, CA 95338,

Meet at the fairgrounds 10:30 a.m.

Drive time is about 2 1/2 hours.

June 7<sup>th</sup>-June 13<sup>th</sup>, Sunday-Saturday

Delta UT, Dugway Geode Beds, Drum Mountain. Agate, Obsidian, Malachite, Azurite,  
Other areas to be determined.

Drive time is about 11 hours.

June 18<sup>th</sup>-June 24<sup>th</sup>, Thursday-Wednesday

Prineville Pow Wow, rock show and field trips,

Drive time is about 9 hours.

Followed by Virgin Valley, Rainbow Ridge, Opal,

Drive time is about 5 hours.

Drive home where drive time is about 9 hours.

Field Trip Coordinator: Stephen May Email: [Stephenmay0990@gmail.com](mailto:Stephenmay0990@gmail.com)

## DRC

I am pleased to announce new leaders for the DRC. **Jim Sugiyama** and **Michele Smith** will be taking over the leadership. I plan on helping as a regular member.

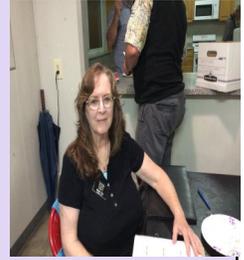
I thoroughly enjoyed my 12 year stint, but it is time for me to move on, and for new ideas to be implemented.

Please welcome Michele to the DRC, and Michele and Jim as the co-leaders of the DRC.

Thanks, Pat

## Rockhound of the Month

**Missy Fox** is our February rockhound of the month for all the many responsibilities that she has assumed for our club including that of treasurer, cochairing the festival with her husband, Jim, and being in charge of the drawings for scholarships for Camp Paradise. Thank you, Missy



## Smithies

Smithies started this year all wired up, by knitting chains using the Viking knit (No knitting needles involved.) **Charlie Tucker** led us through the basic process and more complicated variations. This is a good alternative to the basic chain used for pendants, and it is stand-alone attractive as well.

Our next classes, on March 3 and March 17, will be taught by **Jim Sugiyama**. The project will be to construct simple rings using a variety of metal smithing skills. On March 31 and continuing on April 14, **Sabine Hessmer** will teach a variety of wire riveting techniques.

I'll send out details and a class signup to our Smithie email list. If you wish to be on the list, let me know. We hope to repeat all classes.

The schedule is subject to change as needed.

Thanks, Pat [pat,speece@comcast.net](mailto:pat,speece@comcast.net)



Charlie Tucker Teaching  
the Viking Weaving Class

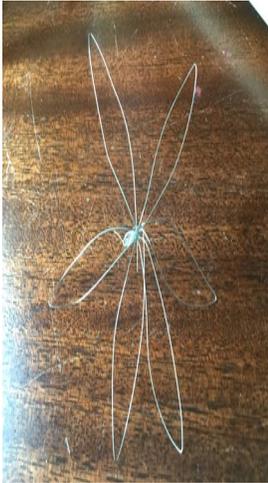


Pat Speece Weaving Her  
Chain



Jo Borucki Explaining the  
Process at the General  
Meeting

## Creating a Viking Knit Chain



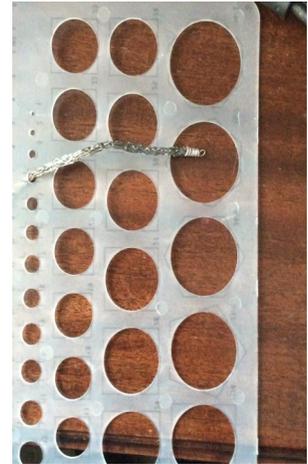
Wrap Wire around a cardboard, bind one end and open the other end into a set of equal sized petals.



Wrap the wire petals over the end of a dowel and tape in place.



Weave the wire.



Pull the wire through smaller and smaller holes to lengthen.



Construct wire end caps



Attach wire end caps.



This is one of Charlie's finished chains.



You can also buy kits with instructions.

## Bragging Rights

The winner for February is **Jim Fox** with his beautiful **display of Rhodochrosite**.

The **March** theme is the color **pink**.

Alan Achor - Chairman



## Members' Displays (Show and Tell)

All members are asked to display at least one time per year, but you may display as many times as you like. There are no displays in meetings when Silent Auctions are scheduled. There are no displays in December because there is the installation dinner in lieu of our regular meeting.

Don't know what to display? Any type of rock, mineral, or fossil (identified or not), your latest project, information on a field trip, ideas for a display case, anything to do with rocks is appreciated. Sharing items helps to educate all who attend the meeting. Show off what you love so that we can enjoy it with you.

**Derek** (a guest) brought a carving that was done with Soapstone. **Jo Borucki** brought a sample of Viking weaving that she had made. **Jose Sul** has been watching a number of instructional videos on flint knapping and brought a bunch of the tools and samples of the work he has been doing. **Max Lucich-Biehl** brought a number of samples she has collected and the club helped her identify them.

Rick Kennedy- Chairperson



Jose Sul Showing His Flints



Jose's Set of Tools For  
Flint Knapping



Arrow Heads That Jose Has  
Made

## Awards



Our president, **Michele Smith** (on the right) is shown presenting awards to **Sonia Dyer** and **Frank Mullaney**. Sonia was awarded a Malachite plaque for cochairing the 2019 Gem and Mineral Festival with Frank Mullaney, who received a Smokey Quartz crystal from Hallelujah Junction, Washoe County, Nevada. In addition Frank received an award of a wine bottle plaque for serving as the SCVGMS president in 2018. Our thanks to you both for your service.



Rocky by Steve Breazeale

## Sunshine

There were no reports of anyone needing sunshine, and no news is good news.

To report someone needing sunshine, email **Margo Mosher** - [margomosher@yahoo.com](mailto:margomosher@yahoo.com)

## Links to Important Websites

**Link to Our SCVGMS Website:** <http://www.scvgms.org/>

After you click on the above link, if you want to see the Breccia and other news items, scroll down and click on "Download", shown under the Newsletter option.

**Link to CFMS Shows and Festivals:** [CFMS Society/Club Shows](#)

**CFMS Bulletin:** <http://www.cfmsinc.org/>

To access the news from the **American Lands Access Association:** [www.amlands.org](http://www.amlands.org)

## Calling all Rockhounds! (Camp Paradise)

The Ruth Bailey Continuing Education drawing for Camp Paradise is coming in March! The dates of the camps are now set and you can choose either the last week of August or the first week in September. To be entered in the drawing, you must fill out the "**SCVGMS Continuing Education Application**" and give it to **Missy Fox**. It is included in this month's Breccia) This is a wonderful opportunity for those who enjoy working with rocks. Some of the classes include silver smithing, cab making, soft stone carving, wire art, precious metal clay, casting techniques and beading.

The cost of this wonderful experience has been \$400.00 per person in years past, but if you win, you and your guest will be treated to free meals, classes, and accommodations for the week.

The following 3 criteria must be met in order to enter the drawing:

1. Attended 3 or more general meetings in the last year
2. Volunteered 8 or more hours for the annual festival
3. Have not won and attended Camp Paradise or Camp ZZYZX for the past 3 years

Applications are available in this Breccia. The deadline for submitting your application is the beginning of the March 24 general meeting.

If you have any questions about the camp or the drawing, please contact Missy Fox at:  
Email: [jfox152@comcast.net](mailto:jfox152@comcast.net) or Phone: 408-356-7711.

## SCVGMS Continuing Education Application

Filling out this application and returning it to the SCVGMS board enters you into the Continuing Education drawing. The winner receives tickets for two people to attend the week-long stay at Camp Paradise the end of August and the beginning of September. The drawing will be held at the end of the March general meeting. The SCVGMS board welcomes you all to fill out the application if you have met the eligibility criteria below:

- Attended three or more SCVGMS general meeting a year.
- Volunteered eight or more hours at the annual festival or in preparation for the festival.
- Have not been a winner and attended the this camp or Camp Z'ZYZX in the last three years.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

What is the best way to contact you? Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please tell us what interests you about this opportunity. We like to hear what inspires people in this hobby. If you are a winner, we would like to share your words with the club members via the Breccia newsletter. Don't worry. We'll edit for spelling and punctuation.

Why would you like to attend Camp Paradise this coming season? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What is your favorite part in being in our hobby? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Things you need to know:

- The drawing will be held at the general meeting in March. You do not have to be present to win.
- Up to five names will be drawn. If for any reason the winner is unable to attend the camp, the second person will be contacted, and so forth.
- The winner is responsible for his/her transportation to/from the camp and any additional material fees for special classes. The ticket includes accommodations and meals.
- To assure your accommodations and attendance in one of the camps, you must contact Sandy Kilcrease at email: [slk95228@gmail.com](mailto:slk95228@gmail.com), CMFS head of Earth Science camps to make arrangements by July 1. Further contact information can be obtained from Missy Fox, Continuing Education Chair.
- The winner will share his/her camp experience with the club by taking some photos, doing a show and tell at a meeting, and writing a short article for the Breccia.

**Deadline for submitting the application for the drawing for Camp Paradise is at the beginning of the March 24 meeting.**

**Mail or turn forms in to Missy Fox, 16344 Shady View Lane, Los Gatos, CA 95032  
Open to member and nonmembers alike.**

**Questions??? Contact Missy Fox (408) 356-7711 or email [jfox152@comcast.net](mailto:jfox152@comcast.net)**

## General Meeting Minutes

February 25th, 2020

The February meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society was called to order at 7:45 pm at the Cabana Club.

**Announcements:** Welcome! Reminder that our Festival is this month, see Margo Mosher to sign up to volunteer. Remember that hours worked at the Festival count towards Camp Paradise and Camp Zzyzx entries.

**Changes to Smithies and DRC:** Michele Smith reported that Pat Speece needs to step back a bit due to family health issues, so Smithies will be a series of classes for now, and Michele Smith and Jim Sugiyama will be co-chairs for the DRC.

**Audit Committee:** Michele called for volunteers to be part of the audit committee: Deb Runyon, Paul Kidman and possibly Jim Sugiyama volunteered.

**New Members:** Thunder Parley and Max Lucich-Biehl received their packets and were welcomed into the club. In order to join the club, one must attend at least two club meetings and have two sponsors from the club, it is easy to do!!

**Board Meeting:** Will be at Paul Kidman's home at 7:30.

**Directories:** Are ready for pick up from Rick Kennedy or Missy Fox.

**Member Displays:** By Rick Kennedy. Derek (a guest) brought a carving that was done with Soapstone. Jo Borucki brought a sample of Viking weaving that she had made. Jose Sul has been watching a number of instructional videos on flint knapping and brought a bunch of the tools and samples of the work he has been doing. Max Lucich-Biehl brought a number of samples she has collected and the club helped her identify them.

**Bragging Rights:** Last month's theme was the letter "A" and the winner was John Bahr for his sample of Sage Agate. This month's theme is the South America. The theme for March will be "Pink".

**Festival:** Margo Mosher is signing up volunteers for the Festival. Michele Smith announced that swingers will be given out to all who volunteer.

**Rockhound of the Month:** Missy Fox won for multiple things she does for the club.

**Camp Paradise signups:** Missy Fox announced that the drawing will be next month.

**Field Trips:** Stephen May talked about several upcoming trips and also reported that Davis Creek will be closed to collecting for at least a year. Please check the Breccia for updated field trip information.

### Study Groups:

Cabbers: In search of a new leader.

### Smithies:

The Smithies will be run as classes for the near future. Please check the Breccia for times and places of these classes.

**Hospitality:** 39 members and 2 guests were in attendance.

**ALAA:** Nothing new.

**DRC:** There will be no new sales until the spring.

**Federation Report:** The 2020 CFMS Show will be June 26-28 in Lodi.

**Correspondence:** Rick Kennedy reported that the club received the AFMS and CFMS newsletters, post cards for a new show in Kern County and a bunch of statements.

**Sunshine:** Margo Mosher reported that there was no news from the club. Rick Kennedy shared the passing of two legends in the Bay Area mineral collecting world: Chuck Trantham and Si Frazier.

**Program:** Quartzite and Tucson Panel Discussion, led by Rick Kennedy and Frank Mullaney.

**All Future Meetings:** There will be a meet and greet with refreshments from 7:15 – 7:45 before our Gen-

eral Meeting.

**March program:** Bill Borucki will talk about NASA and the Moon Mission.

**Meeting was adjourned** at 9:15 PM

Respectfully submitted, Rick Kennedy SCVGMS Secretary

## **Board Meeting Minutes**

February 27th, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 7:44 PM at the home of Paul Kidman.

**Roll Call:** All board members were present except for Dean Welder.

**Reading of the minutes from the January 28th Board Meeting:** M/S/P to approve the minutes as read.  
(F. Mullaney, J. Fox).

**New Members:** No new members.

**Correspondence:** No new correspondence.

**Treasurer's Report:** Presented by Missy Fox.

M/S/P to pay the following bills: Quality Ins. \$20/month increase; \$5000.00 deposit to the Fairgrounds for the 2021 Festival; \$312.00 for See's Candy gift cards (used for Bragging Rights prizes) (C. Hansen, R. Kennedy).

### **Committee Reports:**

**Federation:** Stephen May reported that there was nothing new since the general meeting.

**Festival 2020:** Jim and Missy Fox reported that things are going well, Metro ads are already running and the KBAY ads will start two weeks before the Festival.

M/S/P to pay \$825 for both Vendor's and Aisle insurance for the Festival (R. Kennedy, F. Mullaney).

**Field Trips:** No change since the general meeting. Please refer to the Breccia for the most up to date information.

### **Old Business:**

**Website:** In progress, Michele Smith is working to determine issues and find a volunteer to become our webmaster.

**Installation Dinner:** The Cabana Club is booked on the preferred date of December 8<sup>th</sup>. It was decided to change the date to December 15. This will also change the Combined December Board meetings to December 17<sup>th</sup>.

### **New Business:**

**Founder's Day Picnic:** Sonia Dyer will at least co chair and will set a date soon.

**Demonstration day:** There was discussion about having a demonstrators' day. Michele will see if the Cabana Club is available on either the 9<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup> of May.

**Programs:** Here is a list of the upcoming programs:

March – Bill Borucki: NASA and the Moon Mission

April – Alan Achor: Antarctica

May – Missy Fox: Agates

June – Silent Auction

July – Noel and Deb Runyan – Carving and polishing Obsidian

**March Board Meeting:** Will be at Jo Borucki's house.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM**

Respectfully submitted, Rick Kennedy-SCVGMS Secretary

# 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

Like us on Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/santaclaravalleygemandmineralsociety>

## SCVGMS ELECTED OFFICERS

President: Michele Smith	(408)374-1897
Vice President: Billie Gordon	(408)356-3406
Secretary: Rick Kennedy	(408)529-9690
Treasurer: Missy Fox	(408)356-7711
Editor: Jo Borucki	(408)245-2881
Federation Director: Stephen May	(669)248-3993
Alternate Fed. Director: Paul Kidman	(408)356-4995

### Board Members at Large

Jim Fox	(408)356-7711
Sonia Dyer	(408)629-5735
Alan Achor	(408)749-0771
Frank Mullaney	(408)691-2656
Cal Hansen	(408)394-4642

Parliamentarian: Dean Welder	(408)353-2675
Historian: Jacquelyn Calderon	(408)995-5211

Calderon

## SCVGMS COMMITTEE HEADS

Bragging Rights Chair: Alan Achor  
 Donation Receiving Committee Chairs:  
 Michele Smith and Jim Sugiyama  
 Festival Chairpersons 2020: Jim and Missy Fox  
 Field Trip Coordinator: Stephen May  
 Founder's Day Picnic Chairman: Sonia Dyer  
 Founder's Day Raffle: Pat Speece  
 Founder's Day Bingo: Stephen May  
 Hospitality: Pat and Louis Schuesler  
 Installation Dinner: Rick Kennedy  
 Member Displays: Rick Kennedy  
 Refreshments: TBD  
 Silent Auction: TBD  
 Sunshine: Margo Mosher  
 Trophies: Frank Mullaney  
 Webmaster: TBD

**Note:** Some of these committee heads may change. Michele Smith and Stephen May are working to fill all positions.

## 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 with meet and greet time beginning at 7:15 followed by the meeting 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. The next **General Meeting is on March 24.** The **Board Meeting is at the home of Jo Borucki on March 26**

**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 per year are \$5.00 for Junior, \$20.00 for an individual, and \$30.00 for the household.

**Our Newsletter,** the Breccia, is published ten times annually. **The deadline for all articles is the Sunday after the general meeting.** The Breccia editor is Jo Borucki who may be contacted by email at [joborucki@yahoo.com](mailto:joborucki@yahoo.com) or by phone at (408)245-2881. Leave a message if no one picks up the phone. The Breccia is proofread by Pat Speece. Exchange bulletins may be sent to Jo Borucki, 1196 Sesame Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 94087. 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, please contact the leader listed below.

**Smithies:** Pat Speece 408- 266-4327 [pat.speece@comcast.net](mailto:pat.speece@comcast.net)

**Cabbers:** We need a leader. Can it be you?