

# BRECCIA

Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society



All American Club

Volume 52, Number 8 San Jose, CA , August, 2005

# Breccia

## Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society (SCVGMS)

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 between Leigh Avenue and Harwood.

**Society Purpose:** The inculcation of a love of rocks and minerals by the furtherance of member's 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.

**Membership Requirements:** Attendance at two general meetings within twelve months. This society is a member of California Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CFMS) and is affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS). Dues are \$10.00 per year.

General Meeting: will be August 23, 05 at the Cabana Club, 100 Belwood Gateway. Los Gatos, CA 95032 at 7:45 PM

Board Meeting: will be August 25, 05 at 7:30 PM at Pat Speece's home, 2357 Loma Park Court, San Jose, 95124 (408) 226-4327

### Study Groups

**Stringers:** meet on the Second Thursday of the month. Group led by Pat Speece. For info call Pat (408) 266-4327

**Facet Cutters:** meet on the first Tuesday of the month. Group led by Bill Norton, call for info (408) 356-8254.

**Carvers:** meet on the third Monday of each month. Contact Herb Vogel (408) 247-1018 for information and details about joining this group.

**Cutaways:** meet on the first Saturday of the month at the Shoup Park Lapidary Shop. Group led by John Eichhorn for more info call (408) 749-0523.

**Mineraleers:** meet on the Second Monday of the month. Group is led Chuck Boblenz, call for info (408) 734-2473

**Silversmithing:** beginning and advanced classes are led by Kelly Van Vleck and John Bahr. Call Kelly for info (408) 262-8187.

**Juniors:** are led by Mark Wartenberg. Outings and get together's are announced at general meetings and via email. Contact Mark Wartenberg for more info, (650) 568-6114.

**Fossileers:** will be meeting quarterly for an outing and a study session. For more info call Gail Matthews (650)962-9960.

# John's Note

It look's like everyone enjoyed our summer barbeque/ raffle/ bingo. The board is always looking for ways to improve our meetings, activities, field trips, study groups, etc. We need your help with ideas and suggestions . Forms for these have been printed in the Breccia and are available at the hospitality desk at each meeting (also check the back issues of the Breccia on our web site SCVGMS.ORG for the forms). The meeting format can be changed to some extent to better reflect the members interests.

For study groups to expand and remain active, we need to look for ways get past using the private homes and facilities of club members. This means a facility dedicated to club activities. Wouldn't it be nice for someone to donate a building to us or lease to us at an affordable amount. Keep this idea in mind when you go about your day to day activities. You never know who might be able to help us, unless people are aware of the situation. Field trips are moving greater distances away, so linking up with other clubs will remain as part of the solution.

Making our guests welcome at the meetings is important . John Bahr will be asking for members to help him by being assigned to a guest for the evening. The task will be to introduce the guest and to answer their questions about the club in general, so give him a hand if asked to help. Thank You, John Eichhorn



**Ice Cream Social  
at August Meeting  
Starts at 6:30 PM  
Come meet all  
the new members**

# June's Jabberings

I've been thinking about all the new members we have in our club and what I feel is the most important piece of information that these new people need. I think that most important piece of information for all new members is to get involved. Join a study group, come regularly to meetings, take a field trip, talk to other members, go to a show, join a committee, and don't be afraid to ask questions. This club is as much your club and anyone else's.

In a few month's, there will be elections within our club. Every job is important. Some of the jobs are easy and require little knowledge about rocks and minerals, but are essential for smooth running of our club. These are great jobs for newer members, and it gives you the inside track on information about our club and it's activities. Being involved is the best way to feel at home and comfortable in a new group. I know many people would like to coast for a year or two, but if you really want to feel comfortable in a club take participating role.

Remember many hands make light work. I hope that many of the new members will take this advise and find an area that they truly enjoy and participate freely.

In the coming month's, a "Time and Talent" survey will be given to all members. Please take the time fill out the form and to consider your talents and what you can do to help grow our club.

Thanks, June Harris Breccia Editor

**Have you paid you dues?**

**They are past due.**

**How about paying today?**

**Adults \$10.00 Juniors \$3.00**

**Send your check to:**

**SCVGMS Treasurer**

**Chuck Boblenz**

**655 Santa Coleta Court**

**Sunnyvale, CA 94085**

**Make your checks payable to:**

**SCVGMS**

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

## MINERALEERS

The Mineraleers will resume meeting in September. If you are interested in this study group, contact Chuck Boblenz at (408) 734-2473 for more information.

## Carvers

The Carvers will resume meeting in September. If you are interested in this study group contact Herb Vogel at (408) 247-1018 for more information.

## Faceters

The Faceters will meet on August 2 at Bill Norton's Home, 276 Belblossom Way, Los Gatos 95032 at 7:30 PM. If you are interested in joining this study group contact Bill at (408) 356-8254. There will be no September Meeting, but will resume in October.

## CUTAWAYS

The Cutaways group is a group that focuses on the cutting, shaping, and polishing of rocks. Presently they are focusing on cutting cabochons for jewelry and other projects. This group is for anyone who is wanting to learn how to cut rocks and make a project from the cut rock. If you are interested in learning this skill, call John Eichhorn at (408)749-0523 for information and driving directions to the meeting place, Shoup Park. The group meets the first Saturday of the month from 10AM-Noon.

## Fossileers

If you are interested in this study group, contact Gail Matthews at (650) 962-9960.

## Stringers by Pat Speece

Both Stringers groups are ready to roll. Stringers 1 will first meet Saturday August 27 at 1pm for the Mandatory Pre-meeting. Classes will start September 8. Stringers 2 will first meet for the Mandatory Pre-meeting Wednesday evening at 7pm August 24, 2005. The first class is Wednesday September 7, 2005 from 7-10pm. Each group meets once per month. Members of both groups will be given the project materials list and the schedule at the pre-meeting. The list includes what the club provides for each project and what the student is to provide. For information, call Pat Speece at 408-266-4327.



## Silversmithing

The latest silversmithing class began July 25. It is a beginning class and their first project was a pierced ring. The next class will be an intermediate class. If you are interested in taking either a beginning or intermediate silversmithing class call Kelly Van Vleck at (408) 262-8187 for information. He is taking signups for the next classes.

## Study Group Notice

We will be having a study group weekend at the Belwood Cabana club in September. We will have each of the study groups showing their stuff. The general schedule will be to have overlapping groups such as 8-12, 10 to 2, and 12 to 4 so people can attend two sessions each day. More details will follow as they develop. Marc Mullaney 408-971-6651 or [geologistm@aol.com](mailto:geologistm@aol.com).

# Member Displays by Kelly Van Vleck

At our July meeting, **Ted Peverini** exhibited some very colorful unidentified rocks he has collected. He said he would appreciate any help in identifying them. He still had some unidentified stones when the meeting was over. **Kathi Peverini** had a display of some beautiful sterling jewelry she has made, incorporating cabochons that she has cut and polished. Very nice. **Marc Mullaney** was searching over the weekend for a location of Poppy Jasper, but was unsuccessful. He did however find some pieces of a red colored jasper. He wants to know if anyone knows of a good location for Poppy Jasper, as he would like to be able to collect some. **George Yamashita** shared with us, some of his excellent opal finds from a location in northern Nevada. One choice piece was exceptionally pretty, with a full play of fiery red, yellow, blue and green colors. **R.K. Owens** showed and explained examples of pages from our Club web site that he has created. A glossary is available on the web site: [www.scvngms.org](http://www.scvngms.org). **Chris Owen** displayed and discussed his new rock farm, which was very nice. Keep up the good work Chris. **John Palmieri** had a beautiful display of Navajo Indian artwork - a picture frame of various media the Navajo Indians use in their artcrafts. Also, a choice framed sand painting and several exquisitely crafted, tiny seed bead bowls. **Paul Nowicki** purchased a geode from Gems Galore...it has a most beautiful interior of crystals. He also showed a sphere of Stone Canyon Jasper, with a very pretty color combination. The following members for Show and Tell for August are: **Dennis and Pat Phelps, James Robertson, William Rogers, Jesus and Ann Ruiz, Anthony Scott, Doris Smith and Ernestine Smith.** Can't wait to see what they bring!

# SUNSHINE

Kelly and Jan Van Vleck have a new addition to their family, a granddaughter. Hershall Boring is recovering from a broken leg. Kit Hultquist is getting a new knee this week. Cards and Calls are encouraged to all.

If you have information concerning any member who is ill, hospitalized, or has had a death in the family, please contact our own Suzi "Sunshine" Papineau, (408) 267-1620.

## Member News

This month we have five new members:

1. Vito Cangemi, Sr., 325 Belblossom Way, Los Gatos 95032 (408) 356-6705. Vito is interested in cutting and polishing, collecting, silversmithing, and geology.
2. Peggy Loranger, P.O. Box 610991, San Jose 95161 (408) 926-8624. Peggy is interested in collecting, geology and minerals.
3. Charles Spencer, 6619 Bubblingwell Place, San Jose, 95120 (408) 997-7319 Charles is interested in cutting and polishing, collecting, silversmithing, and faceting.
4. Hans Kirsch, 5083 Corwin Ct., San Jose 95111 (408) 224-3822. Hans is interested in cutting and polishing, collecting, silversmithing, fossils, faceting, geology, and minerals.
5. Rose Kirsch, 5083 Corwin Ct. San Jose, 95111 (408) 224-3822, Rose is interested in fossils, geology, and minerals.

Welcome to all and I hope that you will find your special niche within our club. Join a study group.

## July's Program Reviewed

July's Meeting program was a video entitled "Scenic National Parks". The parks discussed were the Grand Canyon, Florida's Everglades, Arizona's Petrified Forest, Hawaii Volcanoes, Great Smokey Mountains in the Appalachian Mountains, Carlsbad Caverns in New Mexico, and our own Yosemite. The video showed many breathtaking scenes and talked about issues and difficulties with the parks. The narrator also had a sense of humor about the mule treks in the Grand Canyon. Marc Mullaney 408-971-6651 or [geologist@aol.com](mailto:geologist@aol.com).

The Program for  
August is Rock  
Identification.  
Chuck Boblenz and  
Marc Mullaney will be  
identifying rock using a  
variety of methods.  
Bring in your rocks!!  
Try and stump em!

# SCVGMS Calendar



August 2 Faceters meeting at Bill Norton's 7:30 PM  
276 Belblossom Way, Los Gatos, 95032 (408) 356-8254

August 6 Cutaways meeting at Shoup Park from 10-12. For more information and directions, call John Eichhorn, (408) 749-0523.

August 17 Show meeting at Marc Mullaney's home, 1685 Cross Way, San Jose, 95125 (408) 971-6651. Meeting starts at 7:30 PM

August 23 General Mtg at the Cabana Club 100 Belwood Gateway, Los Gatos 7:45 PM

August 25 Board Meeting at 7:30 PM at Pat Speece's home 2357 Loma Park Court, San Jose, CA 95124 (408) 266-4327 Ice Cream Social at 6:30 PM

August 27 Stringers 1 meeting mandatory pre-meeting 1:00pm, at the Speece home, 2357 Loma Park Court, San Jose, 95124.

Sept 8 Stringers 1 meeting from 7-10 PM at the Speece home, 2357 Loma Park Court, San Jose, 95124

September 27 General Mtg at the Cabana Club 100 Belwood Gateway, Los Gatos 7:45 PM Nominating committee appointed

September 29 Board Meeting at 7:30 PM at John Bahr's home, 4991 Corbin Ave. San Jose, 95118 (408) 267-1620.

October 25 General Meeting at the Cabana Club 100 Belwood Gateway, Los Gatos 7:45 PM Italian Dinner/Potluck at 6:30 PM Nominating committee submits 2006 board member nominees.

October 27 Board Meeting at 7:30 PM at Frank Monez's home, 407 Bluefield Dr, San Jose, 95136(408) 578-7067

November 22 General Mtg at the Cabana Club 100 Belwood Gateway, Los Gatos 7:45 PM 2006 Board elections, Board Meeting immediately following general meeting.

December 5 Installation Dinner at 3 Flames Restaurant. Remember "Toys for Tots" gift.

December 8 Board Meeting at 7:30 PM Place TBD

## Founder's Day Picnic RECAP

By Randy and June Harris

On July 17, we held our annual Founder's Day Picnic at the Belwood Gateway Cabana Club. We had 36 people present. We served tri-tip, chicken, garlic bread, potluck salads and desserts, and soda and water. Thank you to George and Jane Yamashita for all their help with shopping, BBQing, and cleanup. Thank you to Pat Speece for running this year's raffle. Bingo was run by John Eichhorn and lots of fun. Thanks John! Everyone seemed to enjoy the afternoon and had plenty of food and drinks for everyone. All of the extra meat was sold after the picnic to help offset the picnic cost. Total cost of the picnic was about \$325.00.

## 2006 Show Report

The committee chair positions continue to get filled. I still need Guest Exhibitor, Tickets, Printed Program and Flyers, Program speakers, Publicity (parts), and Touch and Feel table. I am currently working on getting the study groups to have a larger presence at the show. Both at the demonstrators booths and showcases. Competition!!! We have not had competition at any of our shows for the last several years. With the influx of new members I think that the time has come to push competition. For this year I will be pushing individual stones, faceting, jewelry, etc. Next year we can work on getting full cases (if someone wants to put in a competition case I will not discourage it). Also we have some examples of a club polo shirt and we should have the club logo on it by the August board meeting. These are to replace/supplement the club vests and provide visibility at club events. The Hospitality committee is coming along well. We still need at least two more people to volunteer to be our main greeters/talkers at the show and we will still need our door greeter as always. Lastly, (I could go on and on) the name for the 2006 show will be "Nature's Showcase" (Thank you Anna Windsor). See you all soon. Marc Mullaney 408-971-6651 or geologistm@aol.com

# CFMS Show Schedule

Changes to this calendar are printed in italics. For the latest version of the CFMS Show Schedule go to [www.cfmsinc.org](http://www.cfmsinc.org)



September 2-5 2005, Fort Bragg, CA Mendocino Coast Gem & Mineral Society Town Hall at Main & Laurel Hours: Fri., Sat., & Sun. 10 - 6; Mon. 10 - 4 Don McDonnell (707) 964-3116 643 N. McPherson; Fort Bragg, CA 95437

September 17-18 2005, Paso Robles, CA Santa Lucia Rockhounds Pioneer Park and Museum 2010 Riverside Park Hours: 10 - 5 both days Joyce Baird (805) 462-9544 Email: [lily-see@webtv.com](mailto:lily-see@webtv.com)

September 17-18 2005, Redwood City, CA Sequoia Gem & Mineral Society Community Activity Building 1400 Roosevelt Avenue Hours: 10 - 5 both days Carol Corden/Preston Bingham co-chairs Carol (650) 776-5990 Email: [ccorden@earthlink.net](mailto:ccorden@earthlink.net) Preston (650) 368-6351

September 17-18 2005, Jackson, CA Fossils For Fun Society 5th Annual Tailgate Gemboree Kennedy Mine in Jackson, CA Hours: Both days 9 - 5 Dan Brown (209) 296-6466 Email: [danbrown@volcano.net](mailto:danbrown@volcano.net)

September 23-25 2005, San Bernardino, CA Orange Belt Mineralogical Society - Tailgate Western Regional Little League Park 6707 Little League Drive Hours: Fri., Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-4 Mike Woolery (909) 882-6806 Email: [ROCKPIK98@aol.com](mailto:ROCKPIK98@aol.com)

September 24 2005, Los Altos, CA Peninsula Gem & Geology Society Rancho Shopping Center Corner of Foothill Expressway & Springer road HOURS: 9:30 - 4:45 Dave Smith (650) 967-7392 E-MAIL: [rdsmeks@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rdsmeks@sbcglobal.net)

September 24-25 2005, Downey, CA Delters Gem & Mineral Society Downey Women's Club 9813 Paramount Blvd, Hours: Sat. 10 - 6 Sun. 10-4 Earl Liston (562) 865-1348 Email: [ejliston5@juno.com](mailto:ejliston5@juno.com)

September 24-25 2005, Monterey, CA Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Soc. Monterey Fairgrounds 2004 Fairgrounds Road Hours: Sat. 10 - 6; Sun. 10 - 5 Sky Paxton (831) 755-7741 Email: [sky@familystones.net](mailto:sky@familystones.net) Web Site: [www.cvghms.org](http://www.cvghms.org)

September 24-25 2005, San Diego, CA San Diego Lapidary Society Bernardo Winery 13330 Paseo Del Verano Norte Hours: 10 - 4 both days Kim Hutsell (619) 294-3914 Email: [sdlapidary@yahoo.com](mailto:sdlapidary@yahoo.com)

October 2 2005, Fallbrook, CA Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Society Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Museum 123 W. ALVARADO STREET Hours 10 - 4 FGMS Board (760) 7281130 Email: [FGMS@tfb.com](mailto:FGMS@tfb.com)

October 8-9 2005, Grass Valley, CA Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society The Nevada County Fairgrounds 11228 McCourtney Road Main Exhibit Hall Hours: 10 - 5 both days Cliff Swenson (530) 272-3752

October 8-9 2005, Lakeside, CA EL Cajon Valley Gem & Mineral Lakeside Rodeo Grounds Hwy. 67 & Mapleview Street

Hours: 10 - 5 both days Peggy Bowery (619) 561-1823 Email: [Docsgirl9@aol.com](mailto:Docsgirl9@aol.com)

October 8-9 2005, Trona, CA Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society 13337 Main Street HOURS: Sat: 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.: Sun. 7:30 - 4 Bonnie Fairchild (760) 372-5356 E-MAIL: [jbfairchild@verizon.net](mailto:jbfairchild@verizon.net)

October 15-16 2005, Anderson, CA Shasta Gem & Mineral Society Shasta District Fairgrounds Five Miles South of Redding Hours: 10 - 5 both days Alex Stoltz (530) 474-4400

October 15 2005, West Hills, CA Woodland Hills Rock Chippers First United Methodist Church 22700 Sherman Way, at Falbrook 101 Fwy off at Falbrook - North & Right on Sherman Way Hours: 10 - 5 Virginia Rotramel (818) 790-7598 Email: [show@rockchippers.org](mailto:show@rockchippers.org)

October 15-16 2005, Long Beach, CA Mineralogical Society of Southern California Long Beach Convention and Expo Center 300 East Ocean Blvd. Hours: 10 - 5 both days Jason Butts Email: [msscshow@hotmail.com](mailto:msscshow@hotmail.com)

October 15-16 2005, Whittier, CA Whittier Gem & Mineral Society Whittier Community Center 7630 Washington Ave. Hours: 10 - 5 both days

October 22-23 2005, Santa Rosa, CA Santa Rosa Mineral & Gem Society Veterans Memorial Auditorium 1351 Maple Avenue Hours: Sat. 10 - 6; Sun. 10 - 5 Shirley Mottson (707) 795-1730

October 22-23 2005, Stockton, CA Stockton Lapidary & Mineral Club 54th Earth's Treasures Show San Joaquin County Fairgrounds, Bldg. 2 1658 South Airport Way (corner of Charter Way & Airport Way) Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4 Laurie Haines (209) 838-0108 or Jim Dunlap [jimsopals@comcast.net](mailto:jimsopals@comcast.net)

November 5-6 2005, Ridgecrest, CA Indian Wells Gem & Mineral Society Desert Empire Fairgrounds Mesquite Hall; 520 S. Richmond Rd. Hours: 9 - 5 both days John DeRosa (760) 375-7905

November 11-13 2005, Sacramento, CA Sacramento Mineral Society Scottish Rite Temple 6151 H Street Hours: Fri. 9 - 6; Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4 George Sterpka (916) 984-9730 E-mail: [sterpka@comcast.net](mailto:sterpka@comcast.net)

November 12-13 2005, Lancaster, CA Palmdale Gem & Mineral Club Lancaster Fairgrounds@ 2551 west Ave. H Hours: Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 9 - 4 John Martin (661) 916-9479 Email: [pgmc@antelecom.net](mailto:pgmc@antelecom.net)

November 12-13 2005, Yuba City, CA Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society 442 Franklin Avenue Hours: Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 9 - 4 Barbara & Charlie Brown (916) 652-4240 Email: [cbbrown@wizwire.com](mailto:cbbrown@wizwire.com)



# Field Trips for 2005

By Jennifer House

North Bay Field Trip and CO-OP Coordinator

If you are planning on attending any field trips listed below please contact the person for that field trip and be sure to wear your name tag when you attend.



## French Wire

At 7:00 am, Sunday morning, the phone rang. Now who would call us that early on a weekend except family and probably an emergency! I answered but the other person was a strange man with a clipped accent who knew my name. Being a bit leery, I asked how he got my number, as it is under Larry's name in the phone book. He explained he found it on the internet while browsing the Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society site. He was interested in French wire for jewelry making.

Well I was surprised and then shocked when he told me he didn't want to be rude but had to make the call as short as possible since he was calling from Vienna. It seems he could not locate that type of material in Europe and wanted the name of the manufacturer. I wasn't thinking clearly yet, no coffee infusion. I did find a few catalogs, an email, and some phone numbers to pass on. It wasn't until we finished and hung up that I realized I never got his name, did not exchange email addresses or anything!

So Vienna man looking for French Wire, if you see this article, check out [www.riogrande.com](http://www.riogrande.com).

Sincerely,  
Mary Lu Ferrara

## Thanksgiving Weekend Field Trip

I am planning on being at Jade Cove for Thanksgiving Weekend. Unfortunately, the group campsites are not available. I will be heading out early on Wednesday November 23 to get my individual site at Plaskett Creek Campground. Nearby are Kirk Creek and Lime Kiln campgrounds. Reservations can only be made at Lime Kiln (800-444-7275). Plaskett and Kirk Creeks campgrounds are first come first serve. Available collecting are jade, serpentine, soapstone, jasper, rhodanite and gold panning. We will have a Thanksgiving potluck on Thursday (turkey provided) and another on Saturday. Call Marc Mullaney with any questions or to get the map 408-971-6651 or [geologistm@aol.com](mailto:geologistm@aol.com).

# Shake Rattle and Roll by June Harris

## Are you ready for the next big earthquake? Water!

### Do you know everything you should about it?



Water is the most important item to store in the event of a natural disaster. Loss of safe drinking water can be deadly. Most people, with few exceptions, will start feeling the effects if they do without water for more than 36 hours. Dehydration occurs much quicker than starvation. Our bodies can tolerate loss of food much better. With an ample water supply, starvation is delayed many days, even weeks.

The city water supply is vulnerable to the effects of a large earthquake. Contaminants can get into the drinking water supply through ruptures in the pipes, the mixing up of supply sediments, the adulteration of filtering systems, etc. Do not take our water for granted. Plan ahead and store a sufficient supply for your family.

#### HOW MUCH SHOULD I STORE?

A good rule of thumb is one gallon per person per day for 7 days (minimum). A three week supply of water is ideal.

#### EASY WATER SOURCES?

Bottled water from the store—one and two gallon sealed containers. Note: The one and two gallon containers that you purchase in your local store are not designed for long term storage and will begin to leak after about six months.

One and five gallon sealable containers—From camping or survival stores. Be sure to sanitize and treat the water that you are storing. Old Bleach bottles clearly marked make good containers from water storage.

Five gallon sealed containers from private water companies. Water companies claim their containers are good forever if still factory sealed. Store all plastic water containers on a wooden pallet or shelf. Keep water containers in a location where container failure will not destroy your other supplies. Keep all water and supplies in a cool dark place.

Do not store any plastic water container directly on concrete. The concrete will leech chemicals into the water, contaminating it. Concrete will also degrade the plastic bottle causing failure.

#### PURIFYING YOUR TAP WATER

Any water that you make up yourself needs to be treated. If left untreated over time, it becomes contaminated with bacteria and algae. Eight drops of pure unscented liquid bleach per gallon of water will reduce the contaminants in the water. Add the bleach when you first store the water away. Rotate your water every six months. This means any stored water, commercially bottled or self stored.

#### OTHER SOURCES OF WATER

Your water heater is an excellent source for water in an emergency. Every water heater has a drain valve near the bottom of the tank. Use extreme caution and let the water cool. Turn off the cold water supply to the tank. Turn off the gas or electric heater for the tank. Open the drain valve at the bottom and remember that some sediment at the bottom of the tank may at first make the water flowing out look murky. Continue to drain water until it becomes clear. Filter the water with coffee filters, cheesecloth or paper toweling after draining the water heater. This will separate the water from the mineral deposits that collect in the bottom of the tank.

The toilet water storage tank is another place to find potable water. Do not use water from the bowl, only from the tank. Also do not use if you color the water or add chemicals to the water.

Melted ice cubes are another source of water. Also packed can goods usually contain water. Even syrups are mostly made of water.

Water trapped in house plumbing can be collected by locating and shutting off the main valve. Open the valve at the highest point of your property (like a second story faucet) and then open the valve at the lowest point of your property. Gravity will force the water from the pipes.

#### IF THE PURITY OF YOUR WATER SOURCE IS QUESTIONABLE, USE THE FOLLOWING METHODS TO MAKE THE WATER SAFE TO DRINK.

Best: Add liquid chlorine bleach to the water. Eight drops per gallon of water. Double the dose if the water is cloudy.

Good: Add 2% tincture of iodine to the water. (12 drops per gallon of water). Double this dose if water is cloudy.

Acceptable: Boil the water vigorously for ten minutes.

Do not forget to clean and sanitize your food containers before using them. Wash with soap and warm water, then fill with a 10% bleach solution. After five minutes empty the bleach solution and let dry.

Water that is dirty should first be strained through a coffee filter, cheese cloth, or a paper towel to remove suspended matter.

All you ever wanted to know about water and more. Hopefully we will never have the occasion to need this information, but if you do, you have it now.

Information derived from the Los Angeles City Fire Department Earthquake Preparedness Handbook.

## Rock of Ages - Granite

by Bill Gissler

Late Spring is a wonderful time of the year to visit Vermont and New Hampshire. Trees and foliage are in every shade of green imaginable. The summer holiday traffic has not begun. For a rock hound it is a mecca of interest from the granite quarries in Barre, Vermont, to the marble manufacturing plant in Proctor, Vermont, and to the field trip areas in the White Mountains in search of smoky quartz crystals. All are educational, interesting and unique experiences.

The granite quarry manufacturing and historic displays at the Rock of the Ages exhibit center in Barre, Vermont was a special destination. Having read the book "Men Against Granite", stories about the rugged granite pioneers, Barre was a must to visit. The town of Barre, initially called Wildersburgh, was chartered in 1780. During the 1820's, Robert Parker was the first professional quarryman and granite manufacturer to recognize the economic potential that lay beneath the earth.

Barre granite is an igneous rock composed of minerals that cooled and crystallized relatively deeply within the earth's crust. Some of the main minerals that comprise Rock of Ages' Barre granite are quartz, feldspar and micas. Quartz is the hardest of these minerals; twenty-three to thirty percent of Barre granite is quartz. Quartz gives Rock of Ages' Barre granite its hardness, luster and durability. Rock of Ages' Barre granite has long been prized for use in memorials, mausoleums and architecture because of its beauty and durability. The depth of Barre granites beautiful gray color, derived from its plagioclase feldspar, is enriched by the biotite, giving Barre granite a warmth and richness that established its reputation as the premier gray granite.

The Barre granite industry grew slowly between 1830 and 1880. With the arrival of the railroad in 1875 and subsequent spur tracks completed in 1888, Barre's granite industry was poised for explosive growth. Waves of immigrants came from the granite production areas of Scotland, Italy, Sweden and French Canada.

To learn more about the past and present granite industry, the 20 minute video V-113 entitled "Rock of Ages, a legacy of excellence" can be borrowed from the CFMS Library.

## Museum Corner

**By Debbie Bunn, Chair, Museum Committee**

Reno is home to the Mackay Mineral Museum, which was established in 1908. Named after one of the Comstock Lode silver barons, John Mackay, the museum has undergone a number of renovations. The most recent one was completed only a few years ago and resulted in a new name--the W. M. Keck Museum at the Mackay School of Mines.

The renovated display now span three floors and includes many famous mineral specimens from famous Nevada mining localities like the Getchell Mines. The new book "The Minerals of Nevada" shows pictures of some of these famous specimens. Besides the lovely mineral specimens, there is a fine display of mining artifacts and historical photographs of Nevada mining camps and towns. The Mackay family silver is the showpiece of the historical exhibits. More than half a ton of Comstock Silver was sent to Tiffany's in New York in the 1870's. Two hundred silversmiths worked two years to create an elaborate and ornate service for twenty-four consisting of 1350 pieces. It is truly something to see.

The Paleontology collection includes trilobites, ammonites, and mammoths. The footprints of ancient mammals that were discovered at the Carson City prison is one of the most interesting things to see in this section.

The major drawback to the W. M. Keck museum is that it is only open Monday thru Friday when the university is in session. It is located in the historic Mackay Mines Building on the University of Nevada, Reno campus. Be careful with parking. Public parking is available near the information booth of the Center Street entrance to the campus. Be very sure you are not in a permit only area.

The good news is that the museum is free. Special group tours can be arranged by calling #775-784-4528. Or check out their website <http://mines.unr.edu/museum>

So, if you are ever in Reno, Nevada in the middle of the week, and want to take a break from the one-armed bandits, consider a visit to the W. M. Keck museum. You won't be disappointed. From CFMS August 2005 Newsletter

**70+ year rock collection  
for sale  
Call Bill Mercer  
(408) 779-9417  
for details and  
driving directions**

## Agates

Author unknown, Via Gem Cutters News 05/05, via Quarry Quips 4/2000

A process which took nature hundreds, thousands, or perhaps millions of years to complete cannot be covered in a few words, but let's take a simplified look at their creation.

First came the raw materials—silica (silicon dioxide (SiO<sub>2</sub>)). This compound is a combination of silicon and oxygen and is a major rock builder in the earth's crust, being second only to the compound water in abundance. With silica so common, gems should be everywhere, but their formation depended upon conditions and this is where our story begins.

About 400 million years ago the Pacific Northwest began to rise from the sea. In a succession of volcanic upheavals a landmass rich in silica was created. Occasionally these lavas cooled so rapidly they formed a volcanic glass—obsidian. Generally however, volcanic masses cooled slowly, tended to crystallize and were porous, eventually breaking down to release minute particles of silica. This free silica in turn, was dissolved by acids in percolating ground water, then transported and finally deposited as concentrated liquids in subsurface cavities. Experts differ on how the liquids eventually became solids, however the following basic silica forms were the result.

**Crystalline**—Silica deposited in obvious crystal forms and known as quartz or rock crystal.

**Opaline**—Silica form similar to chalcedony, but totally noncrystalline, more porous and containing small added amounts of free water (3 to 14 percent) held within its structure rather than its chemistry. Gem opals are of this form.

**Cryptocrystalline**—Silica deposits of microscopically fine-grained, almost non-crystalline masses known as chalcedony. Chalcedony characterizes agate and jasper.

Each of the silica forms occurred within cavities of previously formed rock and are termed secondary deposits. How each formed however, depended largely on where it formed.

Individual gemstones, when found in gravel bars or loose soil, are usually a long way from their birthplace, having rolled and tumbled with the eroding forces. Generally the surface landmass of their origin has long since crumbled and vanished. Some Gems, however, are still embedded where they developed and show that each basic type resulted from its own characteristic surroundings.

**Agate:** The result of chalcedony which filled empty gas pockets or cracks in otherwise solid rock, forming as nodules or seams. Since only limited amounts of foreign materials were included, the stone is fairly pure and ranges from clear to translucent when held to the light. Not all agates formed this way, with the two exceptions being thunder eggs and fossils.

Recognizing and Testing Agate: The mineral

world has many look-alikes, but not all have gemstone quality. To avoid filling your pockets with excess rock, three simple tests can be made.

**Luster:** Look for even textured, non-granular material ranging from clear (glasslike) through translucent (semi-clear) to opaque (blocking out light). Rough specimens may have a glassy, waxy, pearly, or even dull appearance and can be better judged when wet. **Agate:** Waxy, clear to near opaque. **Jasper:** Waxy to dull and opaque. **Opal:** Pear-like, clear to opaque.

**Fracture:** Broken edges are usually conchoidal (cupped, shell-like fractures as on a chunk of glass). Water-worn pebbles often show curved crescent-like surface markings. An exception to this is opal, which tends to be brittle and more angular in fracture.

**Hardness:** Part of the reason these are termed gemstones is in their ability to polish well and withstand abrasion. They rank between 7 to 7.5 on the Mohs hardness scale.

Probably no gemstone is known in a greater variety of colors and patterns than agates. And like fingerprints, no two of these are ever exactly the same. Recurring agate characteristics however, have been given appropriate names such as: White or Milk, Turtle-back, Coated, Snakeskin, Blue, Amethystine, Carnelian, Sard, Polka Dot, Sunset, Enhydro or Water Agate, Fortification, Iris or Rainbow Agate, Banded, Sardonyx, Grape, Eye or Orbicular Agate, Tube or Pipe, Angel Wing, Dendritic, Moss, Plume, Flower, Sagenite, and Ellensberg Blue.

### Polishing Oregon Picture Rock

After cutting, sand on the 220 grit sander, then move to the 600 grit sander. Polish with cerium oxide. Use no water to wet the sheet at first polish. Spray the wheel with a diluted solution of cerium oxide, and polish lightly without pressure until you have worked it dry. Then wet the wheel again and work until the stone becomes dry again. Final polish is brought out by spraying the wheel with cerium oxide and working, keeping wet about two minutes. Wash and dry off your cab or picture. This will produce a beautiful finish.

Via Pick and Dop Stick 06/05, The Tumbler 04/05, Quarry Quips 01/05, The Glacier Drifter 03/00 Author Greg McGill

## Are you interested in the Geology of The Pinnacles National Monument?

Cabrillo College has a course for you. Geology 27 is a weekend field lecture course that allows the student to study through direct observation, the geological history and processes that have formed and shaped the Pinnacles.

Camping and Hiking is required.

Course #42638

Tuesday Sept 13 5-10PM room 706

Sat Sept 24 6:30 AM –3:30 PM

Sun Sept 25 6:30 AM –3:30 PM

Instructor D. Schwartz 1 unit class transferable

CoRequisite course is Astro 27

An intensive one weekend field lecture in general astronomy, using direct visual, and telescope observations in explaining planetary geology, solar system, star, and galaxy formation and evolution, and the origin of the universe. Course #43933

Thursday Sept 15 4-10PM room 706

Friday Sept 23 3:30 PM—12:30AM

Saturday Sept 24 3:30 PM-11:59 PM

Instructor R. Nolthenius 1 unit class transferable

Students are responsible for transportation. Students must see the instructors during the first week of the semester to make arrangements to pay camping deposit fee, or they will be dropped from the class. For more information regarding these classes see the instructors web page at [www.cabrillo.edu](http://www.cabrillo.edu), "Directory"

## Saltwater Inclusions Reveal Marine Origins of Jadeite

From Inside Smithsonian Research Winter 2005  
Via Show Me Rockhounds July 2005

Smithsonian geochemist, Sorena Sorensen studied slivers (one tenth the thickness of a human hair) of polished jadeite to reveal the growth sequence of minerals found in jade. Sorensen says 'most of Earth's jade crystallized 100 to 200 million years ago in high pressure, low temperature subduction zones where the plates that make up the Earth's crust converge. Composed of the dissolved mineral constituents carried in seawater, jade also contains seawater itself, present as tiny inclusions of fluid within the mineral grains.

## Ingredients of an Arrowhead

Author unknown, original source The Petrified Digest, Ginkgo Mineral Society, Wenatchee WA, July 2003

The American Indian wasn't fussy about what he used to make an arrowhead as long as the material would suit his need.

Throughout the ages, the Indian's choicest material for arrowheads was flint, and flint related rocks such as chalcedony, agate, novaculite, jasper, opal, etc. He liked obsidian, too. These are silicon dioxide glass rocks of nature and, like glass, they flake beautifully in conchoidal fractures and shape easily into sharp cutting edges. Quartzite, which is more granular silica, was used extensively, but was more difficult to shape.

The Indians of the eastern seaboard were starved for good flint-like rocks and their arrowheads are the ugliest of all since they are made of slates, quartzite, traprock, schist's and other forms of rocks, which a Wyoming Indian would have written off as junk.

There are rumors of Wyoming jade arrowheads, but they probably aren't true. The Indians of the Valley of Mexico made beautiful jadeite sacrificial knives, but they weren't flake. They abraded, honed and polished them into shape.

Probably the most spectacular arrowhead ever found was a fabulous fluted early-man Clovis point Struck out of a large quartz. This diamond clear point was found by a farmer in North Carolina who then took it home and used it to strike against steel to start kitchen fires. The now damaged point rests in the Smithsonian.

Some arrowheads and spear points were made of wood, especially the stunning arrow. Many were made of bone, antler, and tusk. The Indian tribes bordering the gulf of Mexico used garfish scales extensively. Everywhere bottles, insulators and other glass articles were popular. Best of all, Indians liked the white man's iron. Barrel hoops were a favorite source.

The Indians also traded fur pelts to the white man for steel arrowheads.

**Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society**  
**General Meeting Minutes**  
**July 26, 2005**

President John Eichhorn called the meeting to order at 7:47 PM at the Belwood Cabana Club in Los Gatos. Members and guests were welcomed and invited to stay for refreshments after the meeting. The minutes for June 28, 2005 were approved as printed in the Breccia.

**New Members:** Marsha Owen and Zachary Yamashita were presented with their new member packets.

**Executive Board:** Meeting will be Thursday July 28, 2005 at Lynn Toschi's home.

**Hospitality:** There were 43 members and 4 guests in attendance tonight. Guests were introduced and welcomed.

**Correspondence:** Thank you letter from CFMS for donation in memory of Lucile Keck. Vallejo club notice of 36" slab saw for sale. Tallman Rock Chippers show flier. Gem Faire Flier. Several show fliers from other clubs have been received.

**Sunshine:** details in the Breccia

**PLAC:** None.

**Study Groups:** details in the Breccia.

**Founder's Day Picnic:** details in the Breccia.

**Committee Reports:** Marc Mullaney reported on the 2006 show. There will be a show meeting August 17<sup>th</sup> at Marc Mullaney's home at 7:30 PM. See details in the Breccia.

**Field Trips:** details in the Breccia.

**Federation Report:** AFMS show in St. Louis the weekend of August 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Member Displays:** details in the Breccia.

**Secret Auction:** Secret auction was not held.

**Program:** Tonight's program was a video on scenic National Parks.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:01 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Harris, Secretary

**Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**July 28, 2005**

President John Eichhorn called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM at Lynn Toschi's home. All board members were present except for Ruth Bailey, Frank Monez and R K Owen. Minutes were approved as corrected: under Show 2006 report should have said that Marc will be increasing the advertising budget.

**Treasurers Report:** M/ S/ P to pay the bills. Bill Mercer sent in dues for two years. He will be reimbursed for the second year.

**New Member Applications:** M/ S/ P to Hans and Rose Kirsch, Charles Spencer, Peggy Loring, and Vito Cangemi for membership.

**Correspondence:** Bill Mercer has rough rock and slabs for sale at very reasonable prices.

**Sunshine:** details in the Breccia.

**PLAC:** None.

**Field Trips:** Marc Mullaney was unable to get reservations for campgrounds near Jade cove for Thanksgiving weekend. We can still go but individuals will have to find their own campsite. M/ S/ P to try and reserve a group site for next year.

**Federation Report:** none.

**2006 Show:** See details in the Breccia.

**Social Committee:** There will be an Ice Cream Social before the August meeting. The next event will be a Potluck before the October meeting.

**Unfinished Business:** We have not received an answer from Chris Cox about dissolving his website. M/ S/ P to send Chris a letter from the Board asking him to remove his website. The "Got Rocks" flier is being worked on. Jane reported on some of the member surveys she has received. There are some good ideas coming from the surveys. There was discussion about field trips and a study group weekend at the Cabana Club.

**New Business:** New suggestions for the website were discussed. There was discussion about programs and mentoring for new members and guests.

M/ S/ P to adjourn at 9:35 PM.

Lynn Toschi served delicious refreshments that were enjoyed by all.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Harris, Secretary

SCVGMS TREASURER'S REORT  
JULY 27, 2005

|                     |                       |          |             |
|---------------------|-----------------------|----------|-------------|
| Beginning Balance   |                       |          | \$11,681.45 |
| Receipts            | Silent Auction        | \$387.00 |             |
|                     | Dues                  | \$384.00 |             |
|                     | Picnic Refund         | \$92.81  |             |
| Total Receipts      |                       |          | \$863.81    |
| Disbursements       | Silversmith Class     | \$505.55 |             |
|                     | Founder's Day Advance | \$300.00 |             |
|                     | Stringer's Class      | \$266.96 |             |
|                     | Barbeque June Meeting | \$198.48 |             |
|                     | Library—Books         | \$96.13  |             |
|                     | Choate Trophy         | \$ 48.71 |             |
|                     | Breccia Postage       | \$45.00  |             |
|                     | Phone Bills           | \$40.13  |             |
|                     | Meeting Exp. June     | \$17.51  |             |
|                     | 05 Show Property tax  | \$266.33 |             |
|                     | Breccia Printing      | \$76.21  |             |
|                     | Stringer's Class      | \$54.60  |             |
|                     | Breccia Postage       | \$51.30  |             |
|                     | Meeting Exp. July     | \$24.00  |             |
| Total Disbursements |                       |          | \$2000.91   |
| Ending Total        |                       |          | \$10,544.35 |

# Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society 2005

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Jane Yamashita (408) 353-2982  
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Parliamentarian: Ruth Bailey  
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## COMMITTEE HEADS

Field Trip Coordinator: Jennifer House  
Founder's Day Picnic Food: Randy and June Harris, and  
Jane and George Yamashita  
Founder's Day Picnic Raffle: Pat Speece  
Founder's Day Bingo: John Eichhorn  
Hospitality: Kris and Knut Owen  
Installation Dinner: Kathy McChristian  
Juniors: Gary and Kathy McChristian,  
Mark and Debbie Wartenberg  
Librarians: June Warne and Nancy Boring  
Member Display: Kelly Van Vleck  
PLAC (Public Lands Advisory Committee)  
Frank Monez  
Program: Marc Mullaney  
Refreshments: Montella Lopez  
Sargeant-at-arms: Hershhal Boring  
Show 2005: Frank Mullaney  
Show 2006: Marc Mullaney  
Silent Auction: John and Sylvia Palmieri, &  
Adam Yamashita  
Sunshine: Suzi Papineau  
Trailer Custodian: Herb Vogel  
Trophies: Frank Mullaney  
Webmaster: RK Owen

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Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society

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Scotts Valley, CA 95066

**Please Deliver Promptly**

## Azurite $\text{Cu}_3(\text{CO}_3)_2(\text{OH})_2$

By Tom Prachar, PESA

From the PESA Rock News 6- 2004, via The Shin-skinner News 12-2004

Azurite is a prized and beautiful mineral which has always been a favorite of both dealers and collectors. Its brilliant azure blue color accounts for its name.

Azurite is always azure blue and being a carbonate will react readily with dilute hydrochloric acid making it very easy mineral to identify. Its variable crystal forms in combination with green malachite create some of the world's most attractive mineral specimens.. Azurite is less common than malachite but has the same origin and associations.

Numerous worldwide locations have produced prime specimens and include Lyons, France; Tsumeb, Namibia; Touissit, Morocco; and Broken Hill, New South Wales, Australia. The best known localities in the United States are the Bisbee and Morenci Areas of Southern Arizona.

Azurite is found widely distributed with numerous copper deposits in a number of other states. In Pennsylvania, azurite occurs sporadically in the copper deposits of Rossville and in the Columbia and Sullivan counties copper and uranium deposits. At Easton, PA, it has been found on rare occasions associated with malachite.

Azurite is most valuable for quality mineral specimens but is also a minor ore of copper.

Diagnostic Features:

Crystal Habit: Monoclinic, habit varies ( frequently complex)

Specific Gravity: 3.77                      Hardness: 3.5 to 4.0 (Moh's Scale)

Cleavage: Perfect                      Luster: Vitreous

Color: Light Blue to very dark blue, usually azure blue

Streak: Blue Lighter in color

Acid Test positive reaction with dilute HCl.