

Breccia

Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society (SCVGMS)

P.O. Box 54, San Jose, CA 95103-0054
Website: www.scvgms.org
Email: 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 Rd. between Leigh Avenue and Harwood Rd..

Society 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.

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 \$10.00 per year.

General Meeting: will be September 27, '05 at the Cabana Club, 100 Belwood Gateway, Los Gatos, CA 95032 at 7:45 PM

Board Meeting: will be September 29, '05 at 7:30 PM at Frank Monez's home, 407 Bluefield Dr. , San Jose, 95136 (408) 578-7067.

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 by 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 togethers 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

The September meeting is that time of the year to get a nominating committee together. We need three members to work together gathering names for next year's slate of club positions to be voted on at the November meeting. The committee will be calling and asking for members to be nominated for President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Editor, Federation Director, Alternate Federation Director, Five SCVGMS Directors, Historian, and Parliamentarian. Soo.. Volunteer to be nominated for an office when you are called, and **DON'T FORGET TO TURN IN THE TIME AND TALENT SHEETS.**

There are many committee positions to be filled for next year, so keep thinking of how you can contribute by taking one of these jobs. All the jobs have written descriptions and advice from the previous job holder.

DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE UGLY ROCK CONTEST AT THE SEPTEMBER MEETING. THE WINNER WILL HAVE SOMETHING TO BRAG ABOUT FOR A WHOLE YEAR!

Thank You, John Eichhorn



Italian Night at the October Meeting. The club provides lasagna, drinks, and table service. You bring the following
A-L Side Dish
M-Z Dessert
Meal starts at 6:30 PM
Regular Meeting to follow. Come meet our new members.

June's Jabberings

I would like to take a moment to thank all of the study group leaders, committee chairpersons, and officers who send me timely reports in their areas of responsibility. It certainly makes writing the Breccia much easier. Having to track down leaders to get reports or to having to take notes at the regular meetings makes the meetings less enjoyable and a lot of unnecessary effort. Getting a report *prior* to the regular meeting is the best way to assure that your report will make it into the Breccia in the month you intended.

Linda Spencer is my new proofreader, and boy, is she doing a great job. Randy will continue to help with proofing, too. To make this arrangement work best for Linda and me, I am requesting that you send me your reports by the Sunday prior to our regular meeting. This gives me time to get everything formatted into the Breccia, and gives Linda time to proof it prior to the meeting. I realize that some jobs are not complete until the regular meeting or the board meeting, but everything else I'd like by the Sunday prior to the regular meeting. I will only guarantee placement in the Breccia if I have it by that Sunday.
Thank you, June Harris

Fossil Field Trip

November 13

Time 11-4:30

At Seacliff State Beach, New Brighton State Beach, and Capitola Beach. We will visit the Seacliff visitor's center, have a private slide show and docent tour. If weather and tides permit, collecting can be done on Capitola Beach.

Bring a picnic lunch.

Sign up with June Harris today, (831) 438-5150.

Limited to 30 people.

Check out what our study groups are doing!!!

Mineraleers

The Mineraleers will be meeting on September 12 at 7.30 at Chuck Boblenz home, 655 Santa Coleta Ct. The speaker will be Rick Kennedy on minerals at Carson Hill. If you are interested in this study group, contact Chuck Boblenz's at (408) 734-2473.

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 October 4 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.

Cutaways

The Cutaways group will be meeting on October 2 from 10-12 at Shoup Park. Call John Eichhorn at (408) 749-0523 for information and driving directions.

Study Group Weekend October 15-16, 2005

Mark your calendars! We will be hosting a study group demonstration weekend on October 15 and 16 at the Belwood Cabana Club. Each Study Group will have a hands-on demonstration during the weekend. The exact schedule will be available at the September General Meeting and in the October Breccia. We will be collecting signups for interest in each study group so we can accommodate everyone. Call Marc Mullaney at 408-971-6651 or email him at geologistm@aol.com with any questions.

Stringers by Pat Speece

Stringers 1 met in late August to discuss the needs and options of the five projects and to learn the vocabulary of stringing. Actual findings were circulated, as were finished projects from previous classes. The club is providing the use of tools as well as all the needles, threads, findings, and pearls for the knotted bracelet. Class members provide the beads of their choice except the pearls for the knotted bracelet. Classes start on September 8. Stringers 2 also met in late August to discuss the needs and options of their four projects and to become acquainted with the various types of headpins, eyepins, and earwires. This group is making Suzi earrings (theme and variation), chain bracelets, crimp bead bracelets, and a watch bracelet. The club is providing all the needles, thread, and findings except a clasp for the watch bracelet and the watch itself. Class members provide all the beads. Classes start on September 7.



Silversmithing by Kelly Van Vleck

The Silversmithing Class has come to an end with all participants having completed their projects. They all came up with some very nice pieces of jewelry. John and I are very proud of the progress made by the students who just finished this past class and hope they continue to work with the silver, making more beautiful pieces.

We all owe Pat Speece a debt of gratitude for permitting us to use her workplace as a classroom for the silversmithing class. We also have been very fortunate that the Board of Directors has given us money to purchase some tools for our class. We have purchased six torches and six Bench Pins that will remain at Pat's for the use of future students. This will make it much easier on the pockets of all future students. John Bahr and I are thinking of several other items we really need.

The next class will be an Intermediate Class, and a start date will be forthcoming soon. John, Pat, and I need to discuss time and dates. After the Intermediate Class, there will be another Beginners Class, sometime after the first of the year 2006.

Fossileers

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

Member Displays Sunshine

Ernestine Smith and Frank Monez shared highlights from their trip to Montana for Ernestine's family reunion, which was in Twin Bridges, Montana. They brought back rocks from the Big Hole River which is along the Lewis and Clark National Historical Trail. The rocks were from an area around a bridge that Ernestine's grandfather helped build. Part of the rocks that they brought back will go to Isabel Burns and her educational program regarding the Lewis and Clark Trail.

John Bahr brought in some specimens that he recently collected at Jade Cove.

The most recent Silversmithing Class had a display of their completed projects.

Howard Perry brought in some specimens found on and near Garnet Hill. One piece was garnet and another was identified as Epidote. Ask Howard about the story of how he collected these rocks.

Debbie Wartenberg's mother has recently had cancer surgery and is starting her chemotherapy treatments.

Jenny Gibson is in the hospital with pneumonia. Cards and notes are appreciated.

Earnest Foreman, one of our founding members, passed away recently. Our condolences go out to his family and friends.

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

At the August Board meeting, three new members were accepted into membership. Make sure you welcome them.

Dodi Friedenber and Talia Friedenber (junior member). Dodi and Talia are interested in cutting and polishing, collecting, fossils, faceting, and minerals.

Malia Yamashita (junior member) 122 Wolverine Way, Scotts Valley, 95066 (831) 335-9460. Malia is interested in cutting and polishing, collecting, fossils, and minerals.

Welcome and join the fun.

**The program for our
September meeting is a mystery!
Come find out what it will be!!**

July's Program Reviewed

Members Chuck Boblenz and Marc Mullaney took on all comers in a rock and mineral identification program. A formal lecture was not given. Instead Chuck and Marc gathered members and guests around two tables to discuss the specimens that they brought. The program actually started before the meeting with several members getting a head start with hand specimens and small boulders in the back of vehicles in the parking lot. The techniques used to identify the specimens included hand lenses, hydrochloric acid (effervescence), crystal forms, color, sheen, hardness, and streak test.

Ugly Rock Contest at the September meeting.

One entry per person. Everyone gets a vote. Bring in your ugliest rock!

SCVGMS Calendar



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

September 21 Show Meeting at 7:30 PM at Marc Mullaney's, 1685 Cross Way, San Jose 95125

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

September 29 Board Meeting at 7:30 PM at Frank Monez's home, 407 Bluefield Dr, San Jose, 95136 (408) 578-7067

October 1 Cutaways Meeting at 10-12 at Shoup Park. Call John Eichhorn (408) 734-0523 for more information

October 4 Faceters Meeting at 7:30 PM at Bill Norton's home, 276 Belblossom Way, Los Gatos 95032 (408) 356-8254

October 15-16 Study Group Workshop at Cabana Club

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 John Bahr's home, 4991 Corbin Ave., San Jose, 95118 (408) 267-1620.

October 29 Trailer Inventory

November 22 General Meeting 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



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.



Sept 3-5 Cedarville, CA Petrified Wood Fossils For Fun and Carmichael Club, Contact Debbie Bunn, (916) 929-6665 fossilsff@aol.com

Sept 10-11 Southern Death Valley a BLM Tour. Contact Dr. Gregg Wilkerson (661) 391-6081

Sept 30-Oct 2 Mother Lode part I Southern Mines a BLM Tour. Contact Dr. Gregg Wilkerson (661) 391-6081

October 1 Soapstone Ridge (Coulterville, CA) for soapstone. Calaveras Co. Club. Contact Will Corey, (209) 383-5037 Wwillcorey@aol.com or Claude Huber (209) 532-3939 rockcrystal@earthlink.net

October 8-9 Searles Lake, Trona Show Field Trips

October 22-23 Kettleman Hills CA for fossils. Fossils For Fun Club. Contact Barbara Terrill (530) 676-2375 rockhabit@comcast.net

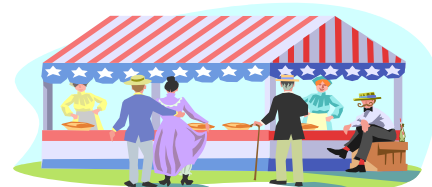
Nov 13 Aptos and Capitola CA for fossils, Contact June Harris (831) 438-5150 Juneconeyharris@yahoo.com

Nov 23-27 Barstow Area Annual Thanksgiving Trips Mother Lode Club. Contact Marion Roberts (209) 538-0197 mvroberts@bigvalley.net or Al Troglin (209) 838-7725

Nov 23-27 Jade Cove for jade, serpentine, soapstone, jasper, rhodonite, and gold panning. SCVGMS contact 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



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, Fiddletown, CA The Rock Hound Saloon 14444 Fiddletown Rd. Hours: all day Ken or Vilia 209-245-3912

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: lilysee@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 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

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

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

September 24-25 2005, Downey, CA Delvers 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

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 Web Site: www.cvgms.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

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

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

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

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

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

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

November 4, 5, 6 2005, Eureka, CA Humboldt Gem & Mineral Society Redwood Acres Fairgrounds 3750 Harris Street Hours: Fri. 9 - 6; Sat. 10 - 6; & Sun. 10 - 5 Pat Bunselmeier (707) 677-0131

November 5-6 2005, Concord, CA Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Soc. Centre Concord @ 5298 Clayton Rd. Hours: 10 - 5 both days Bill McKay (925) 439-8195 Email: williammckay@hotmail.com

November 5-6 2005, San Diego, CA San Diego Mineral & Gem Society Al Bahr Shrine Center (Behind Hampton Inn) 5440 Kearny Mesa Road Hours: Sat. 9:30 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4 Wayne Moorhead (858) 586-1637

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

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

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

November 19-20 2005, Livermore, CA Livermore Valley Lithophiles "The Barn" 3131 Pacific Avenue Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4 Dick & Joyce Friesen (925) 447-8223 Email: friesenr@ix.netcom.net

November 19-20 2005, Victorville, CA Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club San Bernardino County Fairgrounds 14800 Seventh St. Hours: Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 9 - 4 Mavis Mushaney (760) 241-8282

November 26-27 2005, Barstow, CA Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society Barstow Community Center 841 South Barstow Road Hours: 10-5 both days Bob Depue (760) 255-1030

PLAC REPORT -- Nevada

By Norvie Enns, Public Lands Advisory Committee - Nevada from CFMS Newsletter August 2005

The fight isn't over yet. The Wilderness Coalition is proposing 7 or 8 new wilderness study areas in Pershing County. These are areas that have a lot of agate, wood and other material that we love to collect. We must keep letting our senators and congressmen know that we have more than enough wilderness. The BLM has more wilderness than they can manage effectively now.

I just spent three days with the BLM out in the Blackrock/Highrock wilderness area checking the damage the increase in visitor usage has caused. Boundary markers are being destroyed as fast as they can be replaced. Hot springs have been trashed and fences removed, so people can camp close to the water. The law in Nevada is: park 200 feet from any spring.

The OHV people are still driving where the area is closed to all wheeled travel. There are many OHV organizations that are trying to police their own groups to stay on existing trails, but it looks like a lost cause. I don't believe it is the organized groups that are the causes of the destruction of sensitive areas.

In the wilderness areas the rock collecting is limited to 25# of material per day and 250# annually. I have been working to get two areas set aside as Rockhound Recreational areas. One is an abandoned opal mine and the other is the geode mine on the East side of the Blackrock Range. So far there seems to be a lot of support from the BLM on the local level. This will take some time and volunteer labor on the part of the CFMS, as we may be asked to be stewards of the areas. If we follow the Code of the Rockhound Rules, the BLM will work with us.

WE NEED MORE MEMBERS ON THE PLAC COMMITTEE.

**Installation Dinner
Dec 5, 2005 at
Three Flames Restaurant
No Host Cocktails 6-7PM
Dinner 7 PM
Reservation form in
the October Breccia**

In Memory

JOHN FABOS 1924-2005

Submitted by Eva and John Surrell

I received a phone call from Cecilia Becker to say that John Fabos, her father, passed away at the end of July after a short illness. He became ill on a trip to Canada with his wife, Betty, and they returned to Michigan.

John was President in 1968 and served as chairman of Field Trips and other committees. His interest was self-collected minerals which he showed at our shows as well as being a guest exhibitor in the CFMS. John generously shared his minerals as door prizes for our meetings and at our annual shows. He also gave minerals to California University geology classes, museums, and the Bureau of Mines. He has resided in Florida for about 15 years. and has traveled all over the world. Our sympathy to his family.

Thanksgiving Weekend Field Trip

Marc Mullaney is planning on being at Jade Cove for Thanksgiving Weekend. Unfortunately, the group campsites are not available. Marc will be heading out early on Wednesday, November 23, to get his 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 for collecting are jade, serpentine, soapstone, jasper, rhodonite, 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.

2006 Show Chairpersons and Minutes

Committee/Position

Show Chairman
Dealer Co-Chairs

Decorations
Demonstrators (shoebox)
Door Prizes
Exhibitors, guest
Exhibitors, member
Judging
Hospitality
Lucky Dip
Layout
Mementoes
Postcards
Flyers
Program Speakers
Ribbons
Scholarship Booth

Security
Setup
Setup Assistant
Signs, Dealer and Bldg.
Tickets
Touch & Feel
Trailers

Publicity positions

San Jose Mercury Ads
Flyers (3 colors)
Banners
Youth Groups
Home Schoolers
Teacher Packets
Free Passes
Web
Paper Event Calendars
Got Rock? Brochure
Paper Program
Radio Ads

Chairperson

Marc Mullaney
Chuck Boblenz
Randy Harris
Jane Yamashita
Mary Lu Ferrera
John and Suzi Bahr
open
Lynn Toschi
Ruth Bailey
June Harris
Kelly Van Vleck
Herb Vogel
Frank Mullaney
Julaine Mullaney
Frank Mullaney
Open
Frank Mullaney
Mark and Debbie
Wartenberg
George Yamashita
Frank Monez
Maxie Casey
RK, Kris, & Knut Owen
Julaine Mullaney
John Eichhorn
Herb Vogel

Pat Speece
Frank Mullaney
John Eichhorn
Open
Open
Pat Speece
Frank Mullaney
RK Owen
Open
Pat Speece
June Harris
Adam Yamashita

2006 Show Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Show Chairman Marc Mullaney at 7:45 on August 17. In attendance were Frank and Julaine Mullaney, June and Randy Harris, John Eichhorn, and John Bahr. The committee list was discussed, and a few more positions were filled. The Show Chairman added a new position of Judge Chairperson. We will be adding single piece competition to the 2006 show (full cases will of course be welcome). Discussion of the possible rules changes necessary for all of the current study groups to enter. Three new light weight signs will replace the heavy wooden ones that we use to steer people to the correct building/entrance. Two more street banners were ordered, and there was a request to count the yard signs by size to determine how many date labels will need to be printed.

The flyers should be ready by the next meeting, with maps on the back suggesting the best parking. Color coding of the flyers will be discontinued. Mememos for Guest Exhibitors were discussed along with Club polo shirts, refrigerator magnets, and folding business cards as reminders of our Club.

June Harris volunteered to get the Show Program compiled, and a deadline of March 1, 2006, was set for all information. Marc M. will get the Show information into the CFMS web calendar and get the information into Rock & Gem and Lapidary Journal.

Mark and Debbie Wartenberg need at least 150 rock grab bags made for the scholarship booth. The instructions for the construction of these bags are available at the meeting and on the website, www.scvgms.org, under the heading of forms.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45. The next Show Meeting will be on Wednesday, September 21, 2005. Minutes will be distributed at the following general meeting or by email or snail mail. If there are any questions, comments, or suggestions, please call Marc at 408-971-6651.

Secret Auction Donations Needed

Pat Speece is taking over the secret auction and is requesting donations of rock material, books, equipment, etc. Contact Pat at (408) 266-4327 if you have anything you would like to donate.

**Historian needs help!!
Anna Windsor is
collecting pictures
and items for the
historian scrapbooks.
Call her if you have
anything that you'd like
to donate. (408) 926-8624**

Time and Talent Survey

Each year we have elections. To do that, we have three people from the Board and general membership put together a slate of proposed officers. To get this slate, the nominating committee must ask other members to run for offices.

If they know ahead of time who would be willing to run for a particular (or any) office, AND who wouldn't or couldn't accept any position for the following year, their job is made much simpler. Please call John Eichhorn for further information (408) 749-0523. Please note that many positions can be filled by members with little to no experience, and mentoring is available to anyone who would like to take on a position but is unsure as to how to do the job.

Please fill out this sheet to indicate what offices you are willing to fill, turn it in at the next general meeting, or mail it to John Eichhorn, 703 San Conrado Terrace, Apt. 4, Sunnyvale, CA 94086. If you live out of state, you don't need to do this.

Your Name _____

Your Phone Number _____

Board of Directors and Positions
(elected by the membership)

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Editor
- Federation Director
- Alternate Fed. Director
- Board Member (need 5)
- Parliamentarian (non-voting)
- Historian (non-voting)
- Unable to accept a board position at this time.

Other ways to contribute:

- Be a greeter at meetings
 - Give a program to adults or juniors
 - Write Articles for the Breccia
 - Give a demonstration at the show
 - Lead a study group
 - Help on a committee(s) (Please name committee(s) below)
-

Committee Chairpersons (selected by the President) Co-chairpersons are welcome.

- Field Trips
- Financial Advisory Committee (FAC)
- Founder's Day Picnic
- Hospitality
- Juniors
- Installation Dinner
- Librarian
- Programs
- Member Displays
- Public Lands Access (PLAC)
- Refreshments
- Sargeant at Arms
- Secret Auction
- Silent Auction
- Social Activities
- Sunshine
- Show Chair (2007)
- Vice Custodian (Trailers)
- Trophy Chair
- Unable to accept a committee chair position at this time

Shake, Rattle, & Roll By June Harris

Knowing Your Utilities

What will you do in the next big earthquake?



Knowing the location and how to operate the utility shut-off valves is possibly the key to saving your house from further damage in the event of a large earthquake. Your utility company can show you the location of your shut-off valves. The shut-off valves are usually located where your utility meters are located. Most homes are equipped with at least electricity and water, and many have some form of gas.

There is no cost involved in teaching everyone in your home about how and when to turn off the gas, electricity, and water after an earthquake. This can be as simple as clearly marking where the shut-off valves are and posting instructions close by. If you cannot find the shut-off valves or you do not understand the valve system, call your local utility company or tank provider. Remember, consider shutting off utilities if you can smell gas or see damage to, from, or near the utility lines.

BEFORE AN EARTHQUAKE AND CHECKED YEARLY:

Locate and identify your gas meter and main shut-off valve with those persons you believe could and should know how to shut off the gas, if necessary. The valve is located on the side of the meter that does not enter the home. Usually that side of the meter has a pipe coming up from out of the ground. The valve is a joint in the pipe that has a rectangle shaped protrusion in the center of the joint. The longest sides of the rectangle should line up parallel with the length of the pipe when the valve is open. To close the valve, you turn the valve a quarter turn so that the longest sides of the rectangle are perpendicular to the length of pipe. Once you have located the valve, you may wish to mark the valve with fluorescent paint for ease in locating the valve in the future.

To test the valve, only turn the valve an eighth of a turn in either direction. Use a 12" adjustable (or other appropriate) wrench to turn the valve. It may be difficult to turn at first. This is why yearly exercise of the valve is needed. After you have exercised the valve to make sure it works, it is advised that you secure the wrench to the gas meter. Make sure the wrench is adjusted to the right size to fit the meter, as leaving the wrench out in the weather will invite corrosion.

If the valve will not turn a 1/8 turn, call your utility company to come out and fix or replace the valve. If you turn the valve more than one-eighth of a turn, you will extinguish the pilot lights on your appliances, and you will need to have them professionally relit. Additionally, make sure you keep the area around your gas valve clear of debris for easy access in an emergency.

Next, locate your main electrical shut-off. Your house may be equipped with fuses or circuit breakers. If your house has fuses, you will find a knife switch or pullout fuse that should be marked "Main". If your house has circuit breakers, you may need to open the metal door of the breaker box to reveal the circuit breakers (never remove the metal cover). The main circuit breaker should be clearly marked showing on and off positions. Turn off all the small breakers first, then turn off the "main". If you have any sub panels adjacent to the main fuse, breaker panel, or in other parts of the house, (in an emergency) be safe and shut them off, too. A short can sometimes develop to cause a circuit to

bypass the breaker or fuse. If you are unsure of any of these directions, a professional should identify your electrical system for you and make sure it is adequately marked for your protection.

Lastly, locate the main water service pipe into your house (probably in the front at the basement or lowest point of your home). You will see a gate valve on the pipe. If you know you have leaks after an earthquake, you can shut off all the water in your house with this valve. You may wish to paint the valve so it is easy to find in an emergency. You can shut off all water to your property by finding the water meter box (usually at the street or sidewalk). Open the cover with a long screwdriver or specialty tool. If this box is inaccessible or you cannot find it, call your local water department. Be sure to identify this box and the water valve inside before the need to use them arises. Inside the water meter box, you will see a valve that is similar to the valve on your gas meter. Turn it off just the same as your gas valve.

AFTER AN EARTHQUAKE

Be aware that aftershocks will occur and may cause new or additional damage. Check your property carefully after each quake. Turn off your water if any leaks are found. Use the main at the street as a last resort. If you have any structural damage, turn off all electricity to the building until it can be determined that the electrical system is functioning properly.

Turn the gas main off if any of the following are found. If you hear, smell, or even suspect that gas is escaping in your home. If your gas water heater or any other gas appliance has been knocked over and/or pulled free of its wall connection. If your building has suffered extensive damage, and you suspect gas lines may have been ruptured.

If you smell gas, do not turn on or off any switches. Don't use any open flames to check for leaks. Don't turn on any battery operated flashlights. Do not use phones or cell phones. Chemical sticks are a safe source of light in the event of a gas leak.

If you turn off your gas main, DO NOT turn the gas valve back on after an earthquake unless a qualified person has checked extensively for gas leaks. Also, have a qualified person relight all your pilot lights when the gas is turned on again.

I hope these directions and suggestions are helpful, and I also hope that no one will ever have to use them. If you have any questions regarding your utilities or these directions, you should contact your individual utility company and ask for their individual directions for emergencies. For instance, some water companies don't want their customers turning off their water mains at the street. They usually have a 24-hour free service that will turn them off for you in the event of an emergency. Most utility companies will come out and inspect your meters and appliances for free and answer any questions you might have.

The above information derived from the Los Angeles City Fire Department Earthquake preparedness Handbook. Information verified by George Yamashita and Randy Harris.

Having Fun—Junior Activities: Expanding Activities for the FRA Badge Program

Jim Brace-Thompson, Junior Activities Chair, AFMS Newsletter September 2005

In my May column, I stated a goal of expanding the number of clubs with kids enrolled and using the Future Rockhounds of America badge program to 50 (or approximately one club for each of the 50 states) by year's end. I need the help of every reader of this column to make this goal a reality by spreading the word within your regional federations and local club newsletters. We recently received great help from Lynn Varon, Managing Editor of Rock & Gem magazine, who published a terrific article on the program in their September issue. Within two days of its publication, three more clubs called to ask how to sign up for the program!

I ask everyone's help in spreading the word to get these activities into the hands of as many kids as possible.

In addition to getting more clubs and kids involved with the program, a goal I have for the coming year is to consider and develop still more activities. These might include individual activities that could be incorporated into our current set of nine badges, or entire sets of activities for which we might create whole new badges for kids to earn.

With that in mind, I'm interested in hearing back from clubs and societies now using the program. How are they utilizing it? What sorts of adaptations have they made to the current activities to improve them or to make them better suited to their particular group of kids and circumstances? How can we make the individual activities and the program as a whole work even better in helping our kids learn the science and craft of our hobby?

I'll be sharing new activities over the course of the coming months in the pages of this column. These will include ideas that I have been thinking of and collecting in recent months and any ideas that come in from others. If you're not familiar with the current sets of activities, I encourage you to check out the on-line manual for the AFMS/FRA Badge Program on the AFMS web site at <http://www.amfed.org/fra/meritbadge.htm>.

Here's to expanding the universe of clubs using the program and expanding the resources for those clubs to reach kids within that universe while—as always—having fun!

AFMS Show in St. Louis

By Ruth Bailey, AFMS Scholarship Fdn. Secretary

Last week was the 58th Annual Board of Directors meeting of the AFMS, and this was followed by the members' meeting of the AFMS Scholarship Foundation. Marion Roberts was not able to attend, as Vivien had surgery just before the meeting. Colleen McGann substituted for Marion and Dick Pankey, our second vice president, took Colleen's place on the Board. The meeting was over quickly as there was just regular business to be transacted.

The meeting for 2006 will be in Nashville, Tennessee, on August 14-20, and the 2007 meeting will be in Roswell, New Mexico, on June 7-10. Houston, Texas, will host the 2008 show on the last weekend of September, 25-28.

The AFMS Scholarship Treasurer reported that the Federation has sent in \$10,151.79 for the unrestricted funds which, together with the amounts received from the Scholarship Auction on Saturday afternoon, will allow us to offer the second scholarship from each Federation Awardee. CFMS donated over \$2,000 to the Scholarship Foundation during this past year, and we have donated a total of \$183,095.69 as of the April 30, 2005, report.

As I had to return home on Sunday morning, I was not able to attend the Bulletin Editor's breakfast, but I was pleased to find that Colleen had brought a nice certificate for our Editor, June Harris, who placed ninth in the New Editor category. Since I have judged many New Editor Bulletins, I can tell you that she won against some stiff competition. Congratulations, June!!

Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society
General Meeting Minutes
August 23, 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. The minutes for July 26, 2005, were approved as printed in the Breccia.

New Members: Anne Ruiz, Ramona Heimlick, Charles Spencer, and Peggy Loranger were presented with their new member packets.

Executive Board: Meeting will be Thursday, August 25, 2005, at Pat Speece's home.

Hospitality: There were 47 members and 5 guests in attendance tonight. Guests were introduced and welcomed.

Awards: June Harris was presented with a certificate for placing in the AFMS New Editor contest.

Correspondence Several show fliers from other clubs have been received.

Sunshine: See details in the Breccia

PLAC: See details in the Breccia.

Study Groups: See details in the Breccia.

Show Report: See details in the Breccia.

Field Trips: See details in the Breccia.

Federation Report: Ruth Bailey attended the AFMS show in St. Louis. They are offering two scholarships this year. Nominations are open for CFMS officers.

Member Displays: details in the Breccia.

Secret Auction: Secret auction was not held.

Program: Marc Mullaney and Chuck Boblenz presented a program on mineral identification.

Time and Talent: Please take the time to fill out a time and talent sheet so the nominating committee will know how you would like to be involved in your club.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:01 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Harris, Secretary

Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Board Meeting Minutes
August 25, 2005

President John Eichhorn called the meeting to order at 7:37 PM at Pat Speece's home. All board members were present except for R K Owen. Minutes were approved as read.

Treasurer's Report: M/ S/ P to pay the bills.

New Member Applications: M/ S/ P to accept Dodi Friedenberg, Talia Friedenberg (Junior) and Malia Yamashita (Junior) for membership.

Correspondence: Alzheimer's Disease Research request for donations.

Sunshine: See details in the Breccia.

PLAC: See details in the Breccia.

Field Trips: There was discussion of taking some local field trips. See details in the Breccia.

Federation Report: See details in the Breccia.

2006 Show: The next Show Meeting will be September 21 at Marc Mullaney's home at 7:30 PM. M/ S/ P to increase the advertising fee to dealers to \$50. There was discussion about shirts for club members.

Installation Dinner: The Installation Dinner will be December 5, 2005 at The Three Flames Restaurant. M/ S/ P to have the same menu at the same price as last year.

Social Committee: The next event will be a Potluck before the October meeting.

Unfinished Business: There was discussion about a letter to Chris Cox about dissolving his Web site. There was discussion about a study group weekend at the Cabana Club on October 15 and 16.

There will be a trailer inventory on October 29.

New Business: M/ S/ P to send out letters to members that have not paid their dues.

At the September meeting, there will be an Ugly Rock Contest. See details in the Breccia.

M/ S/ P to adjourn at 9:37 PM.

Pat Speece served delicious refreshments that were enjoyed by all.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Harris, Secretary

**SCVGMS Treasurer's Report
August 24, 2005**

Beginning Balance		\$10,544.35
Receipts		
Dues	\$75.00	
Picnic Raffle	39.00	
Subtotal		\$114.00
Disbursements		
Rent: Mar thru July	\$256.00	
Rent: Founders Day Barbeque	108.00	
06 Show: Publicity	123.41	
Rent: October Study Groups	160.00	
Breccia Postage	48.85	
Breccia Printing	72.74	
Ice Cream Social	38.01	
Subtotal		\$807.01
Ending Balance		\$9,851.34

Charoite

Charoite is the most valuable of the colored stones from Russia. Since its discovery in 1976 in the Chary River basin in Siberia, Russia, charoite has been widely prized for its exquisite color, which ranges from dark lavender to an intense blue violet. Inclusions of black aegirine-augite and clear and light green microcline, along with sprays of metallic orange tinaksite, give tremendous character and variety to charoite.

When first discovered, it was thought that charoite was a purple type of the rare mineral canasite. However, testing done by a team of Russian geologists led by V.P. Rogova proved that charoite was indeed a new mineral. Due to her work, it was recognized as such by the commission on New Mineral Names in 1976.

Charoite first found its way to the U.S. in 1978 and caused quite a stir. Love at first sight is not an uncommon reaction to charoite, and this was the case for many folks. Due to the difficulty in getting the highest quality charoite out of Russia, the supply was spotty during the 1980's. Much charoite brought over from Russia in the past has so much in the way of black inclusions that it is not suitable for cabochons and beads, although it looks quite stunning when made into something larger, like a vase or box. Lately, we have been getting the best quality charoite out of

Russia and we hope this continues, but due to unstable conditions in Russia and the world market, we cannot count on it.

Charoite's unique beauty has resulted in its use as a gemstone and an ornamental stone for making vases, dishes, cups, and other fine pieces. Due to severe weather conditions, mining only occurs in the months of August and September and helicopters must be used to transport it from the deposit site. To date, the deposit remains unique.

A metamorphic stone formed by complex radiation between alkalic rocks and marble, charoite occurs as large masses of interlocking crystals associated with several other rare minerals, including miserite, canasite, pectolite, and others. Its hardness is about 6 on the Mohs scale.

In the years since its discovery, the Russian people have developed such a love for charoite that it is now considered their most cherished colored stone. This is another reason it is difficult to obtain best quality charoite, and why it costs a bit more than some other colored stones. Aptly named, the root of the word "charoite" means "charming" or "magical" in Russian—a very fitting description of the unique and exquisite stone.

Via Jax Gems 7/05, via the Glacial Drifter 11/01, via flyer from Wonder Works, Cambria, CA

Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society 2005

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COMMITTEE HEADS

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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: Hershel Boring
Show 2005: Frank Mullaney
Show 2006: Marc Mullaney
Silent Auction: John and Sylvia Palmieri, &
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Sunshine: Suzi Papineau
Trailer Custodian: Herb Vogel
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Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society

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Please Deliver Promptly

How to Saw Montana Agate

People not familiar with working with Montana Agate have, perhaps, wondered how to “set-up” to saw the first nodules they acquire. Most Montana nodules are found in two shapes, flat and slightly curving, or round and elongated. As this material probably has rolled hundreds of miles down turbulent streams, nearly all of it is cracked, so take this into consideration when sawing to get the largest slab.

First, look into the rocks with a strong light to determine which way the moss or banding layers lie. Light cuts taken off an end, or side, at right angles to the layers, will then reveal whether you should slab from end to end or side to side. Many people who are used to sawing thunder eggs get used to sawing each nodule through the center to expose the pattern. While this method works well with nodules, it cannot be used to the best advantage with Montana Material. It will probably ruin the best sprays as the larger and best ones usually lie toward the center. Sawing across them will render them valueless.

Only a very few specimens carry fine large sprays, so do not be disappointed if the first few do not have them. About the time you are ready to give up, one of the poorest looking pieces may have the fine spray you are looking for.

From Grindings 8/05, from the Puget Sounder 11/99, from Fox Rox News 11/97, from Rock Rollers 7/97, from Gem Cutting Shop Helps, Grinding 6/94