

Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society

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



Please Deliver Promptly

BRECCIA

Santa Clara Valley
Gem and Mineral Society



All American Club

Volume 54
Number 3

San Jose, CA
March, 2007

SCVGMS ELECTED OFFICERS

President: Randy Harris
(831) 438-5150
Vice President: Marc Mullaney
(408) 691-1584
Secretary: John Eichhorn
(408) 749-0523
Treasurer: Frank Mullaney
(408) 266-1791
Editor: June Harris
(831) 438-5150
Federation Director: Ruth Bailey
(408) 248-6195
Alternate Fed. Director: Gail Matthews
(650) 962-9960
Directors:
Rick Kennedy (408) 529-9690
Larry Moore (650) 941-4966
Dean Welder (408) 353-2675
Matt Wood (408) 744-9402
Jim Ziegler (408) 528-4907
Historian: Linda Spencer (408) 997-7319
Parliamentarian: Bill Gissler (408) 241-0477

SCVGMS COMMITTEE HEADS

Donation Receiving Committee Chairman:
George Yamashita
Field Trip Committee Coordinator:
Dean Welder
Field Trip Committee: Randy and June Harris, John Eichhorn, Marc Mullaney
Financial Advisory Committee: Ruth Bailey, Chuck Boblenz
Founder's Day Picnic Food: Carol Pimentel
Founder's Day Picnic Raffle:
Founder's Day Bingo: John Eichhorn
Hospitality: Claire Ferguson
Installation Dinner: Open
Future RH: Gail Matthews & Marsha Owen
Librarian: Pat Speece
Member Display: Jim Ziegler
PLAC: (Public Lands Advisory Committee)
Frank Monez
Program: Bill Gissler
Refreshments: Marsha Owen and Denise Osterback
Secret Auction: Donation Receiving Comm.
Sergeant-at-arms: John Eichhorn
Show 2007: Marc Mullaney
Show 2008: Open
Silent Auction: John and Sylvia Palmieri
Social Committee: June Harris, Claire Ferguson
Sunshine: Ernestine Smith
Trailer Custodian: Herb Vogel
Trophies: Frank Mullaney
Webmaster: RK Owen

Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society

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

Website: www.scvgms.org

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 Road between Leigh Avenue and Harwood Road.

Our next general meeting will be on March 27, 2007 at the Cabana Club, 100 Belwood Gateway, Los Gatos, CA 95032 at 7:45 PM.

Our next board meeting will be on March 29, 2007 at Randy Harris' home, 107 Dell Way, Scotts Valley, CA 95066 at 7:30 PM.

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

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

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

Study Group Leaders

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

Cutaways	John Eichhorn	(408) 749-0523
Facet Cutters	Max Casey	(408) 227-0526
Fossileers	Gail Matthews	(650) 962-9960
Future Rockhounds	Gail Matthews & Marsha Owen	(650) 962-9960 (408) 377-5373
Jewelers	Marc Mullaney	(408) 691-1584
Mineraleers	Chuck Boblenz	(408) 734-2473
Smithies	Kelly Van Vleck & Pat Speece	(408) 262-8187 (408) 266-4327
Stringers	Pat Speece	(408) 266-4327

Randy's Ramblings

Hello Fellow Rockhounds,

As most of you know, the annual show is approaching fast. There are many areas we need your help to make things go well. There was a sign up list at the meeting and it will be back next month. Please sign up to help in some area, whether it is Security or Lucky Dip or Hospitality or some other area. The duties are not difficult, but we need lots of people to help. New this year is the Kids Area, for which June has over 190 kids already signed up to come. Also, we will have a Silent Auction booth, Flint knapping, the Scholarship booth, Demonstrators, and even a Fluorescent Display. There is also set up on Thursday and Friday, and tear down on Sunday after the show ends. We need your help in all of these areas and others, too. Without you, it will be tough to do.

It was a pleasure to meet both of our scholarship recipients at the meeting. They will be helping with the Kids Area at the show. For those of you new to the club, we usually give out two scholarships each year to Earth Science majors at San Jose State. The money for these scholarships is raised at the Show and other events during the year.

The trip to the California State Gem Mine on February 17 was very nice. The weather was perfect. The roads were muddy but passable. Everyone that went had a good time and brought home some nice material. I hope everyone can join us on March 24 for the trip to Clear Creek for Jadeite and Plasma Agate.

Randy Harris, President

**Come one, Come all!
Study Group Demo Day
May 19 from 10AM -3PM
at the Cabana Club.
Call Marc Mullaney for
more info (408) 971-6651
or email him at
geologistm@aol.com**

Kids Area Update for the 2007 Show by June Harris

The Kids Area for our club's annual show is a new addition. This area is based on two Girls Scout programs and 3 Cub Scout programs: Junior's "Rocks Rock" badge, Brownie's "Hobbies" Try it, Cub Scout's "Geology Belt Loop" and "Geology Academic Pin", and Webelos "Geologist Pin". Basing the Kids Area on these programs, it gave us an easy target group in which to advertise.

Using contacts that were made last April, we have sent out emails and flyers to all the Brownie and Junior Girl Scout troops and Cub Scout packs in the Santa Clara Valley. Our advertising costs have been at a minimum with only a couple hundred flyers being printed and distributed to area scout shops and offices.

This area is not exclusively for scouts. Anyone can enjoy it and probably learn a bit more about a variety of subjects that it encompasses. This area does have a small fee of \$1.50 to cover a few of our costs. Each paying participant (while our supplies of each last) will receive a show patch, paperwork for scouts to fill out, a rock bag, and a beginning rock collection. We are hoping to extend our advertising to area sixth grade classes where earth science is a part of the California science curriculum.

The Kids Area will have displays on the following subjects: minerals and rocks, rock cycle, how mountains are formed, fossils, volcanoes, soil exploration, caves and spelunking, common uses for rocks and minerals, geological careers, and rock collecting.

The Kids Area will be occupying the rear left corner of the building. The area will be display boards with information and interactive displays for the scouts to complete their badge work. Our two scholarship recipients will be helping the kids by answering questions about geology related careers. They will also be filling in at another station with rock identification and collecting.

Come by and check out this new area at our show.

**Rock Sale
March 17, 9 AM to 1 PM
at Pat Speece's Home
2357 Loma Park Court
San Jose, CA 95124
(408) 266-4327
Rain Date 3/18**

Check out what our study groups are doing!!!

MINERALEERS BY CHUCK BOBLENZ



The SCVGMS Mineraleers met at the Boblenz' residence on February 6th, with four members present. The topic was Pseudomorphs, Twinning, Scepters, and Hopper crystals. Matt Wood brought an excellent specimen of Fluorite that well-showed the hopper form of crystals for all to see.

The next meeting is Tuesday, March 12th, at 7:30 PM and the topic is Dichroism and Pleochroism: What it is, and demonstrations of these optical effects. Plan now to dust off your favorite stones and come out and join us. Please RSVP to me.



Smithies by Kelly VanVleck

Kelly and Pat will be conducting the Smithies class beginning Thursday, March 1st, and will continue for four weeks, two night each week. If you were not selected for this class, do not despair...you are still on the list and will be contacted for the next class if you are in the top of the order for notification. We have a limit of five students per class at this time. Please be patient. If you have a desire to take this class, please contact either Kelly at 262-8187, or Pat at 266-3247 to have your name put on the list.

You may also learn some silver working by attending the quarterly "Demonstration Day" hosted by Marc Mullaney. The next one will be on May 19.

Stringers by Pat Speece



The January Stringers was a busy group. In our eight meetings, four separate projects were completed. The class also learned about tools, equipment, materials, and sources. The goal was to educate everybody enough so they could go into a bead shop and pick out what they wanted for a particular project. We also wanted them to be able to go to department store jewelry departments and think "I can do that!" We believe the five students in the last class can do that now.

Our next scheduled Stringer group meets in May ---Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7 to 9pm. There will be a mandatory pre-meeting in April to learn about details, what is provided, and what they need to provide. We'll have a display of proposed projects at the March general meeting. Interested members can sign up then, or phone or email me anytime of their desire to take the class. Pat Speece 408-266-4327



Jewelers by Marc Mullaney

Our last meeting was on February 26, 2007. We had to move the meeting because of a conflict with the board meeting that also landed on the first Thursday of the month. Our next meeting will be on April 5, 2007. We will be making a simple silver pendant and chain. This may take us two meetings to complete. Materials will be soldering equipment, third hand, tweezers, paste solder, pliers, jewelers saw, flux, pickle, pickle tweezers, bezel pusher, a stone for the pendant, 20 or 22 gauge silver plate big enough for the pendant (30% bigger than your stone), bezel wire, and about a half ounce of 20 gauge half hard silver wire. I will coordinate an order with Rio Grande if people let me know by March 19th. Wenrics will have most of these items if you want to get your own. Otherwise, you will need to bring your own materials. Some extra tools will be available for use if you do not have your own. I will have my jump ring maker to speed the chain making process along. Contact me if there are any questions at 408-691-1584 or geologistm@aol.com.

Fossileers By Gail Matthews



For those dyed in the bark petrified wood fanatics, Fossils for Fun in cooperation with Sierra College (in Rocklin) is offering the 7th Annual Petrified Wood Seminar, March 16-18. This is a chance to view fantastic specimens and learn about them at the cellular level. If interested, you can check out the Sierra College website or contact fossilsforfun@hotmail.com.

Fossileers was represented at the Demo Days with fossil seed ferns, shells, petrified wood, and the California state fossil replica, *Smilodon* skull. This was the quarterly opportunity to talk fossils. The next chance will be at the next demo day on May 19. If there is a particular type of fossil you would like discussed or possibly displayed at that time, please send a message to glassrockwood@aol.com or contact me.

If you prefer collecting wood rather than studying it, then note the upcoming June 3-9 trip to Virgin Valley and the Black Rock Desert. These are great wood localities as well as opal and agate places.

I'll keep you posted on other fossil oriented events as they occur which may not be every month.

STONEDAWGS FUTURE ROCKHOUNDS OF AMERICA PROGRAM



See article on page 14 of this month's Breccia

Member Displays By Jim Ziegler

Thank you to those who shared your treasures with us. We had some interesting and worthwhile items on display. I'm anxious to see even more participation at future meetings.

John Eichhorn showed off a great set of Clear Creek jade bookends that are in progress. I presume that they are waiting their turn on his flat lap.

Ed Ferner brought some of his finds from Arizona, including some rough and finished purple agate and pumpkin jasper from Burro Creek and some nice looking banded rhyolite from Quartzsite. He also had many of us caught-up in a little game of "Name That Slab," with about ten mystery specimens.

The evening's program was Benitoite, so club members who participated in the Benitoite field trip brought their finds—and a black light.

Also on the tables--Bill Gissler provided magazines and books from Tucson, and Linda Spencer had pix of the last Demo Day.

Next month, the following people are scheduled to bring something for member displays: JT Fuller, Misako Fuller, Dan Gehret, Jennie Gibson, Bill Gissler, Gareth Hagen, Randy and June Harris, Ramona Heimlich, Jennifer Olsen House, Dick and Kit Hultquist.

Next month's program is on Morrisonite Jasper. If you have any Morrisonite specimens or other jasper specimens that you would like to share, please bring them and display on the Member Display table. These will support the program nicely.

March Program will be on Morrisonite Jasper

February Program Reviewed

By June Harris

Bill Gissler showed a great DVD, "The Benitoite Mine, the Dallas family, and the history of Colinga". We recently had a field trip to the mine where twelve of our members and guests went hunting for Benitoite. Several members brought in specimens that they had collected on that trip. Rick Kennedy also spoke about the more current history of the mine and addressed questions regarding the lost vein of Benitoite and the current collecting. Additionally he spoke on night collecting with a black light and his recent adventures at the mine.

SUNSHINE BY ERNESTINE SMITH



Mary Brown, a member of SCVGMs since 1973, who now lives in Washington state sends her best wishes to all her friends in the club. She says she enjoys each issue of the Breccia.

Al Lamb, a past member of our club in the 70's and 80's, passed away from cancer on August 24, 2006.

Peggy Loranger was recently hospitalized for a bleeding ulcer. Currently, she is in a local nursing facility working on building her physical strength so that she may navigate the steps at home.

Jason Windsor is seeing a specialist in San Francisco to see if he will need surgery on his hand.

David Windsor is trying to get over the cough that follows the cold that so many people in the San Jose area have had.

If you have information concerning any member who is ill, hospitalized, or has had a death in the family, please contact our sunshine person, Ernestine Smith, (408) 395-5035.

Historian Needs Your Help

Just as Santa needs his Elves,
so does your Historian need you.

The 2007 History Book can be minimal, or it can be exciting with writeups on Programs, Field Trips, Study Group projects, the Annual Show, of course, ... and with photos from these and anything else that our club does during the year. New in this position, I'll be taking pictures at the activities where I am present, but if everyone helps a bit, it will be a lot more fun to look through the book in the future.

If you are leading a study group, please take a picture of the members and their project(s). If you are on a field trip or other outing, please take a picture. If you are at the Installation Dinner or the Founder's Day Picnic, please take a picture. If you don't have a camera, see if someone else in your group has one that can be used. Any time that you're on a club project and you don't see me around with camera in hand, please take a picture.

It would be great to have the History Book full of photo memories, so feel free to send me pictures (either digital ones or paper ones that I can scan), and please list the names of the people in the picture, too. It would make it even better if you describe what project the people in the picture are working on or digging for... or whatever is happening.

Questions? Email or call Linda Spencer LSpencer@best.com (408) 997-7319. Kodak photos, send to me at 6619 Bubblingwell Pl.; San Jose, CA 95120-2020.

SCVGMS 2007 Calendar



March 6 Show meeting at Ruth Bailey's house
7:30 PM

March 12 Mineraleers meeting

March 17 SCVGMS hosts the NBFT meeting at
the Cabana Club

March 17 Rock sale at Pat Speece's house

March 24 Clear Creek Field Trip (rain date
3/31)

**March 27 Regular Meeting at Cabana Club at
7:45 PM. The program for the evening will
be on Morrisonite Jasper.**

March 29 Board Meeting at Randy Harris'
home, 107 Dell Way, Scotts Valley, CA 95066,
(831) 438-5150 at 7:30 PM

April 5 Jewelers study group meeting

April 12-13 Show Setup Days

April 14-15 SCVGMS Annual Show

**April 24 Dessert social at 7:00 PM and Regu-
lar Meeting at the Cabana Club at 7:45 PM.**

**The program for the evening will be on
Tourmaline and the Stewart Tourmaline
Story. Colleen McGann will have an exten-
sive display of tourmaline to share with us.**

April 26 Board Meeting at Ruth Bailey's home,
2857 Addison Place, Santa Clara, CA 95051,
(408) 248-6195 at 7:30 PM

May 3 Jewelers study group meeting

May 4-6 Snyder's Pow Wow

May 19 Demonstration Day at the Cabana Club

**May 22 Regular Meeting at 7:45 PM at the
Cabana Club. The evening's program will be
on Opals and the Virgin Valley Mines.**

May 24 Board Meeting at 7:30 PM Location to
be determined.

June 7 Jewelers study group meeting

**June 26 Potluck/BBQ before meeting at 6:30
PM, Regular Meeting at 7:45 PM with a Silent
Auction throughout the meeting.**

June 28 Board Meeting at 7:30 PM Location to
be determined.

**July 24 Regular Meeting at 7:45 PM at the
Cabana Club. The evening's program will
be on Idar Oberstein with displays by Bill
Gissler and Linda Spencer.**

July 26 Board Meeting at 7:30 PM at Dean

Welder's home, 22682 Summit Road, Los Gatos,
CA 95033, (408) 353-2675

August 11 Demonstration Day at the Cabana
Club

**August 28 BBQ/Potluck at 6:30 PM and Regular
Meeting at 7:45 PM at the Cabana Club**

August 30 Board Meeting at 7:30 PM Location to
be determined.

**September 25 Regular Meeting at 7:45 PM at
the Cabana Club. Nominating committee
elected.**

September 27 Board Meeting at June Harris'
home, 107 Dell Way, Scotts Valley, CA 95066,
(831) 438-5150 at 7:30 PM

**October 23 Potluck at 6:30 PM, Regular Meet-
ing at 7:45 PM, both at the Cabana Club.**

October 25 Board Meeting at 7:30 PM Location to
be determined.

October 27 Demonstration Day at the Cabana
Club

**November 27 Regular Meeting at 7:45 PM
Election of Board and Silent Auction through-
out the meeting.**

December 4 Installation Dinner at the Cabana
Club.

Hospitality Needs Your Help by Claire Ferguson

I would like to create a Hospitality Committee that would be more proactive in welcoming and announcing questions for the guests and new members at our monthly meetings. I'm looking for people who would be comfortable meeting new people and taking an active role in making a new person to our club meeting feel welcome and informed. If you are interested in being a part of a Hospitality Committee, please contact me at (408) 395-8109. I look forward to working with a committee of people who are committed to expanding our membership and making our new members and guests feel more comfortable.

February Show Report

by Marc Mullaney

The show is fast approaching, and we are looking for people to staff various activities at the show. Please come to the March meeting so we can be properly staffed. If all of our active members sign up for one 2-hour shift, everyone will only have to work one shift. Isn't it amazing how many hands make light work?

In other developments, our radio ads are set for the week before the show with KBAY, KRTY, and KLIV. We will be doing 15 give-aways, 14 donated by our dealers and one jointly by Max Casey, and George Mundweyer, and myself. Five of these will be featured on KBAY's website, and the others will be given away on KRTY and KLIV.

As a bonus attraction at the show, we will have a magnificent sculpture called "The American Woman" by Francisco. Check it out at <http://www.franciscosfineart.com/amwoman/amwoman-a.htm>. Another new attraction at this year's show is a fluorescent mineral display which will have it's own 10' X 20' tent.

I still need leaders for hospitality, security, and decorations. Remember we still need a few displays. Lastly, setup begins on Thursday, April 12, 2007, at 9 am. We will see you there. Contact me if you have any questions at 408-691-1584 or geologistm@aol.com.

Safety

by Chuck McKie, CFMS Safety Chair
Via CFMS Newsletter, October 2006

A good many of our rockhounds are getting up in years. I know you have heard it all, but here is a little something to think about. We have stressed practicing safety for many years, so I'm sure you do so. However, no matter how careful we are, there are always those accidents which just happen. If that accident happens to someone else while you are there, here are some things to keep in mind.

Warning Signs: Recognizing Signals of a Head, Neck or Back Injury

Although head, neck and back injuries are only a small fraction of all injuries, they cause more than half the deaths. Each year, more than two million Americans suffer a head, neck or back injury. Motor vehicle accidents cause about half of these types of injuries. Falls, sports accidents and acts of violence are other causes.

When to Suspect Head, Neck or Back Injuries

1. A fall from a height greater than that of the victim or any fall by an elderly person.
2. Any diving mishap.
3. A person found unconscious for unknown reasons.
4. Any motor vehicle accident involving a driver or passengers where severe blunt force to the head or chest, abdomen or pelvic area is possible.
5. Any injury that penetrates the head or chest, abdomen or pelvic area, such as a gunshot wound.
6. Any person thrown from a motor vehicle.
7. Any injury in which a victim's helmet is broken, including a motorcycle, bicycle, football or industrial helmet.
8. An incident involving a lightening strike or other incident where the victim is thrown.

Besides the causes of the injury, certain signals suggest head, neck or back injury. Signals of head, neck and back injury include:

1. Change in consciousness
2. Severe pain or pressure in the head, neck or back
3. Tingling or loss of sensation in the hands, fingers, feet and toes
4. Partial or complete loss of movement of any body part
5. Unusual bumps or depressions on the head or over the spine
6. Blood or other fluids in the ears or nose
7. Heavy external bleeding of the head, neck or back
8. Seizures
9. Impaired breathing or vision as a result of injury
10. Nausea or vomiting
11. Persistent headache
12. Loss of balance
13. Bruising of the head, especially around the eyes and behind the ears

If you suspect a person has a head, neck or back injury, call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number. While you are waiting for EMS personnel to arrive, the best care you can give is to minimize movement of the victim's head and spine. Do this by placing your hands on both sides of the victim's head. Position the head gently in line with the body and support it in that position until EMS personnel arrive. If you feel resistance as you try to do this or it hurts the victim, stop. If the head is sharply turned to one side, do not try to move it. Support the head as you found it.

Via Fall Issue 2003 The American Redcross SafetyNET

To learn more, contact your local Red Cross chapter and enroll in a CPR and first aid course.

Source: National Spinal Cord Injury Association, 2000. CONTACT YOUR LOCAL CHAPTER FOR COURSES AVAILABLE IN YOUR AREA

(<http://www.redcross.org/where/where.html>) or enter your zip code in the "Find Your Local Red Cross" box on the front page of [Redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org).)

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



March 9 - 10 - 11 2007, Stoddard Wells, CA Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club 31st Annual Tailgate Held off Stoddard Wells Road in Apple Valley Tailgate Map (Google): N34.670650 W117.108983 (760) 243-2330 Email: vvgmc@charter.net
Website: www.fosse.schema-root.org/vvgms/

March 10-11 2007, Escondido, CA Palomar Gem & Mineral Club, Army National Guard Armory 304 Park Avenue, Escondido, CA Hours: Saturday 10-5, Sunday 10-4 Matt Boeck (760) 216-8971 Email: mkboeck@hotmail.com Show Website: www.palomargem.org

March 10-11 2007, Spreckles, CA Salinas Valley R & Gem, Veteran's Memorial Hall, 5th and Llano Streets, Jim Bassett (831) 758-5830 Email: jbmisc@sbcglobal.net

March 10-11 2007, San Marino, CA Pasadena Lapidary Society San Marino Masonic Center 3130 Hunting Drive Hours: Saturday 10-6, Sunday 10-5 Information (626) 355-6964 or (626) 914-5030

March 10-11 2007, Turlock, CA Mother Lode Mineral Society Stanislaus County Fairgrounds Hours: 10 - 5 Bud & Terry McMillin (209) 524-3494 Email: terry.mcmillin@yahoo.com

March 10-11 2007, Vallejo, CA Vallejo Gem & Mineral Society, Solano County Fairgrounds, (junction Interstate 80 & Hwy 37) in the County Bldg. Hours: 10 - 5 both days Phyllis Malicki (707) 745-3255

March 16, 17, 18 2007, San Bernardino, CA Orange Belt Mineralogical Society, Western Regional League Ballpark, 6707 Little League Drive Hours: Fri, Sat. 9 a.m. to dusk; Sun. 9 - 4 Al Carrell (951) 961-5988; Emma Rose (951) 288-6182; Lyle (Pappy) (909) 887-3394

March 23, 24, & 25 2007, Bakersfield, CA San Joaquin Valley Lapidary Society 5th Annual Rock & Mineral Rendezvous Indoor Show/Outdoor Tail Gate Kern County Fairgrounds Hours: Fri. 9 - 8; Sat. & Sun. 9 - 5 Lewis Helfrich (661) 872-8230 or 323-2663

March 24-25 2007, Angels Camp, CA Calaveras Gem & Mineral Society Jump for the Gold Gem & Jewelry Show, Hwy 49, Hours: Sat. 10 - 5, Sun. 10 - 4, Tom Reeves (209) 754-4863, Email: star@volcano.net

March 24 - 25 2007, Roseville, CA, Roseville Rock Rollers, Placer County Fairgrounds, 800 All America City Blvd. Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4, Jim Hutchings (530) 367-5108 Email: rockrollers@hotmail.com Website: www.rockrollers.com

March 31 - April 1 2007, Torrance, CA, South Bay Lapidary Mineral Society, Ken Miller Recreation Center, 3341 Torrance Blvd. Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4 Leslie Neff: (310) 318-2170 Email: lesneff@aol.com Website: www.palosverdes.com/sblap

April 14 - 15 2007, Mariposa, CA Mariposa Gem & Mineral Club, Mariposa County Fairgrounds, Hours: 10 - 5 both days Peggy Ronning (209) 742-7625 Email: mineralmuseum@sti.net

April 14-15, 2007, San Jose, CA Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society, Santa Clara County Fairgrounds, 344 Tully Rd. San Jose, CA 10-5 both days, Marc Mullaney (408) 691-1584 Club Website: www.scvgms.org Email: info@scvgms.org

April 28 - 29 2007, Santa Cruz, CA, Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society, Civic Auditorium at Corner of Center & Church Streets, Hours: 10 - 5 both days, Eleanor & Hubert Drake (831-8086) Email: hmdrake@pacbell.net

May 4, 5, 6 2007, Bishop, CA Lone Pine Gem & Mineral Society Tri County Fairgrounds Sierra Street & Fair Drive Hours: Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 10 - 3 Francis Pedneau (760) 876-4319 Jeff Lines (760) 937-4498

May 12-13 2006, Reno, NV, Reno Gem & Mineral Society, "Jackpot of Gems", Reno Livestock Events Center, Exhibit Hall 1350 N. wells Ave. Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4 Call: (775) 356-8820 Website: renorockclub.com

May 18-20 2007, Redding, CA Superior California Gem & Mineral Association Shasta county Fairgrounds, Anderson, CA Hours: Fri, & Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4 Bill Seward (530) 365-8641

May 19-20 2007, Yucaipa, CA Yucaipa Valley Gem & Mineral Society Yucaipa Community Center 34900 Oak Glen Road Hours: Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4 Bill Jochimsen Email: bjim2285@aol.com Website: www.mysite.verizon.net/YucaipaGem/103.html

May 19-20 2007, Newbury Park, CA Conejo Valley Gem & Mineral Club Bochart Park 190 Reino Rd., Newbury Park, CA Hours: Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4:30 Robert Sankovich (805) 494-7734 Email: rmsorca@adelphia.net

May 26. 27. 28 2007, Weaverville, CA Trinity Gem & Mineral Society Lowden Park; 550 Washington St. Hours: Sat. & Sun. 10 - 5; Mon. 10-4 Jack renewing 778-3786 Jim Robertson 623-3493

June 2-3 2007, Glendora, CA Glendora Gems 859 E. Sierra Madre Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4 Bonnie Bidwell (626) 963-4638 Email: YBidwell2@aol.com

June 2-3 2007, La Habra, CA, North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society, La Habra Community Center, 101 W. La Habra Blvd. Hours: 9 - 5 both days Don Warthen

June 15-17 2007, Lancaster, CA Palmdale Gem & Mineral Club Antelope Valley Fairgrounds Hours: 9-5 Daily Email: pgmc@antelecom.net

August 3-5 2007, Nipomo, CA Orcutt Mineral Society St. Joseph Church 298 S. Thompson Ave. Wes Lingerfelt (805) 929-3788

August 31 - Sept. 3 2007, Fort Bragg, CA Mendocino Coast Gem & Mineral Society Town Hall, Main & Laural Hours: Sat. & Sun 10-6; Mon. 10-4 Don McDonell (707) 964-3116

September 22 2007, Los Altos, CA Peninsula Gem & Geology Society Recreation with Rocks Rancho Shopping Center Foothill Expressway & Springer Road Hours: Sat. 9:30am - 4:30pm David Muster (408) 245-2180 Email: colleen.mcgann@hds.com

October 7 2007, Fallbrook, CA Fallbrook Gem & Minera Society "Fall Festival of Gems" FGMS Museum 123 W. Alvarado Hours: 10 - 4 Mary Fong-Walker (760) 723-3484 Email: mrwizard@tfb.com Website: FGMSORG/organization/orglocations/html

October 13-14 2007, Grass Valley, CA, Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society, "Earth's Treasures", Nevada County Fairgrounds, 11228 McCourtney Road, Hours: 10 - 5 both days, Cliff Swenson (530) 272-3752

October 20-21 2007, Anderson, CA Shasta Gem & Mineral Society Shasta District Fairgrounds Hours: 1Sat. 9-5: Sun. 10-4 Bill Seward (530) 365-8641

October 20-21 2007, Porterville, CA El Dorado County Mineral & Gem Society El Dorado County Fairgrounds 100 Placerville Drive Hours: 10 - 5 both days Jackie Cerrato (530) 677-2975 Email: jacobcber@directcon.net Website: eldoradomineralandngen.org

November 3-4 2007, Concord, CA, Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society, Centre Concord - 5298 Clayton Rd. Clayton Fair Shopping Center, Hours: 10 - 5 both days Sam Woolsey (925) 837-3287

November 10-11 2007, Yuba City, CA Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society, "Festival of Gems", Grace Franklin Hall, 442 Franklin Avenue, Hours: Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 9 - 4 Cliff Swenson (530) 272-3752

PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES ACT REINTRODUCED IN THE HOUSE

by Jon Spunaugle, American Lands Access
Association Executive Vice President for
Legislation

On January 18, 2007 a fossil collecting Bill HR 554 "Paleontological Resources Preservation Act" was introduced into the U. S House of Representatives by Congressional Representatives McGovern of Massachusetts and Renzi of Arizona. It was sent to the Committees on Natural Resources and Agriculture for a period of time to be determined by the Speaker of the House. (This means that regardless of what the Committee Chair people do, the Bill can be brought to the floor of the U.S. House for a vote at any time with or without amendment or Committee recommendation).

Preliminary examination of the actual Bill language suggests that is very similar to the Bills introduced and passed by the U. S. Senate in past years. Casual collecting would be allowed as seen appropriate by the government land managers. Provisions for civil and criminal penalties remain in the Bill as does a rewards section for information on possible violators and other property confiscation including all paleontology resources. The bill has also been introduced in the U.S. Senate, as bill S-320.

You can read the full text of HR 554 or S-320 at thomas.loc.gov/ and then entering the bill number. If you chose to write your Representatives and Senators, please also send a copy to Speaker Pelosi.

MORE INFORMATION ON THE FOSSIL BILLS IN CONGRESS

by Jon Spunaugle, ALAA Executive Vice
President for Legislation

Some talking points on: The Paleontological Resources Preservation Act, Senate Bill S-320 and House Bill HR 554 now being considered by the U. S. House of Representatives Natural Resources and Agriculture Committees and the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

These Bills are, for all practical purposes, identical to the fossil bills considered by the 108th Congress in 2003-4 and in the 109th Congress which passed the Senate in 2005. Therefore, past comments by previous AFMS and ALAA (American Lands Access Association) reviewers applies to these latest Bill introductions, (S-320 and HR 554). I would expect quick action on these bills, without the lack of action in the U.S. House as in the past. You may remember this Bill was passed by the U.S. Senate by voice vote without objection.. In the last several years several reviewers called this a "bad bill" primarily because it criminalized fossil collecting with outrageous penalties for picking up a fossil on public land. The Bill

was also criticized for its reward provisions for turning in violators, which seemed ripe for abuse. Those same statements apply to the current version.

The current Bills under consideration have some good points and some bad points. For someone like myself, who helped write the first version of the "rockhound" fossil collecting bill, and worked to defeat the so called "Baucus Bill" in 1992-3, I can clearly see some improvements. Several of the objections the amateur fossil collecting public voiced to the original 1992-3 Bill have been remedied in this latest S-320/ HR 554 version. However, several of the remaining "rockhound" objections remain. Some of the remaining objections to the Bill S-320/ HR 554 in its current form are:

(1) The Bill fails to make any distinction between scientifically significant and commonly found fossils. Instead it defines the paleontological resource it would protect to mean "any fossilized remains, trace, .or imprints of organisms preserved in or on the earth's crust" except for archaeological resources or those associated with an archaeological resource. (The latter are covered under an archaeological resources protection act passed many years ago). Casual collecting of a reasonable amount of common invertebrate and plant fossils may be allowed under this Bill in Section 5, at the discretion of the Secretary (the land managers). Therefore amateurs "may" be able to collect certain common invertebrate or plant fossils found on Federal lands, but not necessarily. Only hand tools could be used and collecting can not cause more than a "negligible surface disturbance" (undefined). Collecting common vertebrate fossils such as fish fossils, sharks teeth and the like, would be a violation of the act, as would picking up a isolated single dinosaur bone fragment in the badlands of the western United States if it was on Federal land.

All other collecting of paleontological resources on Federal lands would require a permit issued by the Secretary (the land managers) and be given only to "qualified" applicants. The resources collected would remain the property of the United States with the resources collected and the associated data deposited in an approved repository when collected under a permit.

(2) Further, there would be no commercial collection of fossils allowed. This would preclude anyone, amateur or otherwise, from selling, trading, or bartering any fossil collected on federal land. Not only does this affect amateurs, but completely eliminates the valuable and considerable contributions to paleontology that commercial fossil entities have provided in the past in discovering, extraction, and preparation of fossils. The Dinosaur "Sue" a Tyrannosaurus Rex, is a perfect example.

(3) Penalties for criminal violation of any provisions of this Bill would result in fines in accordance with Title 18 of the U.S. Code and/or imprisonment for up to 10 years. Title 18

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Continuation of article from page 9, MORE INFORMATION ON THE FOSSIL BILLS IN CONGRESS

provides for fines ranging up to \$5,000 and up to \$10,000 in certain circumstances, or up to \$250,000 in certain cases. Such cases would be tried in Federal Courts.

(4) Civil penalties are also provided in the Bill and can go as high as double the replacement cost or restoration cost of the resource involved, The value is to be determined by the land managers. No due process is required under the civil penalty provisions other than a required notice of a hearing. A judicial review petition is allowed only within a thirty-day period following any civil penalty assessment, but the court is allowed to rule only on the evidence presented in the hearing report. Forget "innocent until proven guilty" and the right to a trial by your peers.

(5) The Rewards and Forfeiture Section, Section 9, allows the Secretary of Interior or Secretary of Agriculture to pay a reward for information leading to a civil (or criminal) penalty. Rewards can go as high as \$500. So, you might want to look out for any neighbors who don't like you if you have any vertebrate fossils in your collection, especially if you cannot prove where they came from. Most fossils I know of don't say "Made in China" or "Hocho en Mexico" on them. And, how many of you kept receipts on items purchased, or can you vouch for exactly where the vertebrate fossils really came from even if you did purchase them and can prove it? The Bill calls for a person to exercise "due care" in knowing if the resource was excavated or removed from Federal land. Again "due care" is undefined.

(6) Also subject to forfeiture under this Bill are "paleontological resources" with respect to which a violation occurred and which are in possession of any person and all vehicles and equipment of any person that were used in connection with the violation". I'm not a lawyer, but I do have knowledge of what has happened to several collectors and to several hobbyists in the past with regard to property confiscated, rightly or wrongly. In most cases nothing was ever returned regardless of its being legally obtained by the collector.

So, I worry for fossil collectors if this Bill, S 230/HR 554 becomes law. The best way to prevent its passage in its present form is for each and everyone of us to communicate your feelings to your Congressional Representatives. Because it seems likely that these bills will be passed in short order, you need to write that letter immediately. Copies of the Bills are found on the Internet.

Donation Receiving Committee Report by Jane Yamashita

The DRC is gearing up for our first 2007 sale. It will be on March 17th at Pat Speece's house from 9 am to 1 pm. Get there early if you want to have a good chance at some of our new rocks. We have received two new donations since our last sale. One included lots and lots of rocks, and the other includes some fixable lapidary machines and lots and lots of rocks. The price will be 50 cents a pound for most items. We will have some miscellaneous items that will be priced individually. The DRC has also been working hard on a DRC policy that will be presented to the Board for final approval. Hopefully this committee will become a permanent asset to the club and all members.

The DRC has donated a number of items to the Smithies group from past donations. some of the items are, an 8" drill press, tumbler, ring clamps, white storage drawers, a jewelers saw, Optivisor, and ring mandrel. All will be put to good use by the Smithies' groups for years to come. If any of the study groups have items of need, let the DRC know, and we will set them aside for you if they come in. We want all of the Study Groups to benefit from the donations. George Yamashita will be the Chairman of the DRC, and if there is anyone interested in being on the Committee, please let him know.

We hope to continue having as much success as we have had in the past few months, and please come to our Rock, Slab, Machinery, etc. SALE.

Demonstration Day Report by Marc Mullaney

We had our biggest Demostration Day on February 10, 2007. We had a total of 32 attendees, including the Stonedawgs and our demonstrators. I want to thank all of our demonstrators including Jennifer Lee, Jim Ziegler, JT Fuller, Marc Mullaney, Ruth Bailey, Pat Speece, Frank Monez, Marsha Owen, Max Casey, Randy Harris, and Suzi Bahr. Our next three demonstration days will be on May 19th, August 11, and October 27, 2007, from 10 am to 3 pm at the Cabana Club. We plan on having the stringers, silversmithing, cabachons, faceting, Stonedawgs (our junior group), mineraleers, and possibly others. If you have any questions, please email or call Marc Mullaney at geologistm@aol.com or 408-691-1584.

Morrisonite: The March Club Meeting Program

By Bill Gissler

Credit Note: "Oregon Under Foot", an OMSI Press Guide by D.E. McMullen

A colorful, patterned jasper from beds or seams near the Morrison Ranch along the Owyhee River in Malheur County, southeastern Oregon, called Morrisonite Jasper will be the primary subject of our March meeting. A brief 17-minute professionally made promotional video will show where and how Morrisonite is mined and how it is worked into handsome jewelry pieces.

There are, of course, many types of jasper. To name a few - Poppy Jasper, Zebra Jasper, Bloodstone, Pumpkin Jasper, Moukaite, Brecciated Jasper, Jasp-agate, Jasponyx, Wascoite, Orbicular Jasper (or Oregonite), Ochoco jasper, Biggs Jasper, Picture Jasper, Owyhee Jasper, McDermitt Chicken-track Jasper, etc. Jasper and agate are so closely related that the classification of the one nearly begins where the other leaves off. Jasper, however, is a completely opaque chalcedony with bold coloration due to a high level of mineral impurities. Light will not pass through even thin jasper, while you can "see into" agate.

When found in the rough, jasper shows the same hardness marks and fractures as agate and can be distinguished from the less valuable chert and sandstone look-alikes by its almost non-existent grain. This fine grain and the hardness of jasper also causes a good luster on surface fractures. Although dull-appearing in the rough form, jasper takes a fine polish and is a popular gemstone.

To enhance our program, please bring a few of your favorite jasper stones to our meeting for member displays. Let's see how many different types of jasper we can have represented at the meeting.

Benitoite Mine Field Trip Report

By Dean Welder

Fifteen people attended; most of us were first timers to the Gem Mine. Rick Kennedy thinks that at least one person found a multi-hundred (possibly quite a bit more with careful etching) dollar value piece. Everyone seemed happy with the specimens they brought home. The roads were a little wet and muddy, but not too horrendous (I've seen them much worse!). The weather was sunny enough for me to sunburn my neck, but at times the breeze was still quite chilly. All in all, I think it was an enjoyable and successful trip for all involved.

Upcoming Field Trip Opportunities

Contact Dean Welder (408) 353-2675 for information about the below field trips. Dean will make the appropriate introductions for you to be able to attend.

March 17 Black Chasm Caverns in Volcano, CA

March 24 Clear Creek Field Trip for jadeite, plasma agate, jasper, petrified wood.

April 14 & 15 Lovelock NV for ammonites

April 28 Yerington NV for verde antique, purite, Minnesota Mine.

May 12-18 Eastern Montana (Glendive) for fossils, petrified wood, Montana moss agate.

June 3-10, Virgin Valley and Black Rock Desert. For more information, call Jennifer House at (408) 243-7025.

June 9 Babcock Mt., Taylorsville CA for rose quartz

June 30-July 1 Elko NV for fossils, petrified wood, brachiopods, crinoids, horn coral.

July 7 Forest City, CA 16-1 Mine Tour of gold mine and ghost town

July 21-22 Edward's Crossing, Yuba River, North San Juan/North Bloomfield area for gold panning.

July 28-29 Fairview (East of Fallon NV) for agates and geodes

August 11 Sutter's Gold Mine and Wine Tasting

Sept. 1, 2, 3 Cedarville, CA for petrified wood

Sept 24-Oct 1 Southern Utah for petrified wood

Morrison Ranch Jasper has been a sought-after lapidary material for over 50 years. Below is a very early article published in The Sundial of Payette, Idaho, in the May-June issue of 1948. A special thank you to Doris Snyder of the Midwest Mineralogical and Lapidary Society of Dearborn, Michigan, for providing a copy of this article.

"We Call It Morrisonite"

by Julian Field

Quite often a certain gem stone or mineral is named for the person by whom it was first discovered. Being new, it must be given a name, and what is more fitting than that it be given the name of the one who first brought it to public notice?

And that is the reason one of the most outstanding ornamental gem stones found in Malheur county, eastern Oregon is known as "Morrisonite," named for James Morrison, who for a half century has made his home in a canyon of the Owyhee river some six or eight miles above the discontinued post office of Watson. During those years Mr. Morrison has explored much of that rugged area known locally as the Owyhee breaks. Deeply interested in Indian lore, Mr. Morrison has accumulated a large collection of Indian artifacts most of which he found at old campsites and in caves along the river.

It was fifteen years ago that I first heard of Morrison and his unique place on the Owyhee. It was thru Riley Horn, an old-time stockman in Malheur county, that I learned of the Morrison collection of artifacts and of the Indian rock writings along the Owyhee about eight miles above the Morrison ranch.

I believe that Frank Zimmerman of Payette, and myself can justly lay claim to being the first rockhounds to make a trip to the Morrison ranch, for that same summer we managed to find our way in. That was a trip well seasoned with grief, such as car trouble and much walking. At that time neither of us was particularly interested in rock collecting...Indian relics is what we were after. But while we were there "Jim" called our attention to a few small pieces of the gem stone which were lying about the place, and told us where he found them.

I don't recall bringing any of the material out with us on that trip. Don't believe we did. But on a later trip we went with the express purpose of bringing back some "Morrisonite," realizing here was an unusual gem stone. We made but one trip to the location, which, measured in terms of miles, is but a short distance from the Morrison ranch, but on a hot summer day that was plenty, for the steep climb out of the canyon is really something.

As a result of that trip 15 years ago, Morrisonite, as far as I know, was first brought to the attention of rock collectors in this region. I remember sending a small specimen to a rockhound in Boise, a chartered member of the Idaho Gem club. He immediately came back at me with the query: "Where in h---I did you get that rock?" That was Harry Eslick, now located at Auburn, Calif.

Soon after that the Boise rockhounds got wind of the location, as did other collectors in nearby communities,

and several parties made trips to the locality. In spite of the this, not a great deal of Morrisonite has been taken out. It is formed in rhyolite, and is confined to a small area, by no means being what one would call plentiful. I have made a number of trips to the place, but my supply of Morrisonite is quite limited, though a few pieces I think are outstanding.

Now you have been given a brief history on "Morrisonite." What type of gem stone it is I would not say. Some say it is a form of jasper. Others call it a jasp-agate... if there is such a stone. It has even been classified as jade, perhaps because occasionally solid green specimens are found. But those who have sawed and polished the material are inclined to disagree and are content to call it Morrisonite, and let it go at that.

Strange as it may be, the fact remains, Morrisonite is confined to one small area, although the surrounding territory is of the same formation. At least it would appear thus, for Morrison has pretty well covered the country and reports no new finds. Therefore the material is not easy to find, and collectors are loath to part with it.

Perhaps you will think I have described this Morrisonite in terms rather glowing; which I have. But it rates all of that. However, rockhounds, I'm telling you this: The road to Morrison's is rough and there's lots of it. We found it plenty bad 15 years ago, and it is no better today.

But here is a real gem stone, and classify it as you may...we call it Morrisonite.

Via the internet, www.thegemshop.com/morrisonite4/htm.

The Many Uses of Gypsum

When you bake baking powder biscuits or use self-rising flour, do you know that you are using food containing a ground-up mineral called gypsum? There is nothing toxic about it; it dissolves to form harmless liquid in your stomach and supplies your body with calcium. It is used in toothpaste, in the heads of matches, in cement, in chalk to write with, in splints for broken limbs, in the brewing industry to help settle and clarify their products, in peanut fields, in mushroom beds, and in our houses as wallboards. It is used as molds for dishes, knives, forks, spoons, bathroom fixtures, and aircraft ductwork. The White Sands proving grounds in New Mexico is a gypsum deposit. It is estimated that if ever needed, there is enough gypsum there to supply the world for 60,000 years at its present rate of consumption.

via The Pick and Dop Stick, 4/06; The Rockpile, 11/05; chats and chips, 2/04; Hellgate Breezes, 4/93.

TIPS ON STAYING SAFE. . .FOR WOMEN

The elbow is the strongest point on your body. If you are close enough to use it, do! If you are ever thrown into the trunk of a car, kick out the back tail lights, stick your arm out the hole, and start waving like crazy. The driver won't see you, but everybody else will. This has saved lives.

A friend went to a personal safety workshop, given by Pat Malone, who has been a bodyguard for famous figures like Farah Fawcett and Sylvester Stallone. He works for the FBI and teaches police officers and Navy SEALs hand-to-hand combat.

This man has seen it all and knows a lot. He focused his teachings on HOW TO AVOID BEING THE VICTIM OF A VIOLENT CRIME. He gave some statistics about how much the occurrences of random violence have escalated over the recent years, and it's terrible. Something like 99% of us (?) will be exposed to, or become a victim of, a violent crime . Here are some of the most important points:

(1) . The three reasons women are easy targets for random acts of violence are:

(a.) Lack of Awareness: You MUST know where you are and what's going on around you.

(b.) Body Language: Keep your head up, swing your arms, stand straight up.

(c.) Wrong Place, Wrong Time: DON'T walk alone in an alley, or drive in a bad neighborhood at night.

(2) . Women have a tendency to get into their cars after shopping, eating, working, etc., and just sit (doing their checkbook, or making a list, etc.) DON'T DO THIS! The predator will be watching you, and this is the perfect opportunity for him to get in the passenger side, put a gun to your head, and tell you where to go. AS SOON AS YOU GET INTO YOUR CAR, LOCK THE DOORS AND DRIVE AWAY.

(a.) A few notes about getting into your car in a parking lot or parking garage. Be aware: look around you, look into your car, at the passenger side floor, and in the back seat.

(b.) If you are parked next to a big van, enter your car from the passenger door - - lock the doors before sliding across the seat! Most serial killers attack their victims by pulling them into their vans while the women are attempting to get into their cars .

(c.) Look at the car parked on the driver's side of your vehicle, and the passenger side. If a male is sitting alone in the seat nearest your car, you may want to walk back into the mall, or work, and get a guard/policeman to walk you back out. IT IS ALWAYS BETTER TO BE SAFE THAN SORRY. (And better paranoid than dead.)

(3.) ALWAYS take the elevator instead of the

stairs. (Stairwells are horrible places to be alone and the perfect crime spot) .

(4.) If the predator has a gun and you are not under his control, ALWAYS RUN! The predator will only hit you (a running target) 4 in 100 times . And even then, it most likely WILL NOT be a vital organ. RUN!

(5) . As women, we are always trying to be sympathetic: STOP IT! It may get you raped, or killed .

(a.) Ted Bundy, the serial killer, was a good looking, well educated man, who played on the sympathies of unsuspecting women. He walked with a cane, or a limp, and often asked "for help" into his vehicle, or with his vehicle, which is when he abducted his next victim.

b.) Pat Malone told the story of his daughter, who came out of the mall and was walking to her car when she noticed 2 older ladies in front of her. Then she saw a police car come towards her with cops who said hello . She also noticed that all 8 handicap spots in the area were empty. As she neared her car she saw a man a few rows over calling to her for help. He wanted her to close his passenger side door. He was sitting in the back on the driver's side, and said he was handicapped. He continued calling, until she turned and headed back to the mall, and then he began cursing at her. In the meantime, she wondered why he didn't ask the 2 older ladies, or the policeman for help, and why he was not parked in any of the empty handicap spots. As she got back to the mall, two male friends of hers were exiting, and as she told them the story, and turned to point at the car, the man was getting out of the back seat into the front and the car sped away. DON'T GET CAUGHT IN THIS TRAP! ALWAYS BE AWARE OF WHAT IS GOING ON AROUND YOU!

Tell your friends about this. It may save a life. A candle is not dimmed by lighting another candle. PLEASE BE SAFE AND NOT SORRY! JUST A WARNING TO ALWAYS BE ALERT AND USE YOUR HEAD!!! Pass this along to every woman you have access to. Never let your guard down!!!!!!!!!!!!

Chuck McKie CFMS Safety Chairman 2007

Tips and Hints

When polishing Peridot apply a drop of lemon juice or vinegar to speed things considerably. The slight acid seems responsible for the improvement. Rinse laps and splash pans with plain water when finished.

Via Rock Chips, June 06; Quarry Quips, July 06.

MEET THE STONEDAWGS

by Gail Matthews



This group had their initial meeting in Nov 2006, to begin an educational program which will fulfill the basic requirements in the AFMS (American Federation of Mineralogical Societies) Future Rockhounds of America Merit Badge Program and then some. In setting this up, I have interpreted THIS PROGRAM as trying to instill skills for interpreting the geologic world around us and perhaps instill a more permanent interest in geology, biology, and other sciences. I drew this conclusion from one of the first requirements I looked at. Before saying collect and identify, the requirement said, bring a reference/resource book--which is something one can go back to repeatedly to dig out more information on the specimens collected, once one is familiar with terms used, etc.

I have found it challenging to make arrangements for our varied and growing members that are aged 6 to 14 and their accompanying parents. To discover and then accommodate the different knowledge levels while meeting a requirement for earning the badges, we have had 5 meetings so far:

- 1) The Introduction meeting in Nov 2006.
- 2) The hands on discussion of characteristics of rocks, minerals and fossils and making a fossil in Dec 2006. Minerals and their characteristics were introduced with scratch and streak tests. This also started our egg carton collection and introduction to categorizing, understanding scientific names, and labeling specimens. Locality, locality, locality. Names for our group were suggested and Stonedawgs won the vote. (The coyote emblem shows our slightly wild side!)
- 3) Review of the rock, mineral and fossil discussion while looking at the Cal Academy of Sciences specimens during the field trip to the Dinosaur exhibit in Jan 2007.
- 4) Review of rock, mineral and fossil discussion during the Feb 2007 Demo Day. Labeling and displaying of minerals and fossils were highlighted. Mineral characteristics were elaborated on and a mineral ID kit was started. Pumice was added to the egg carton. State rock, fossil, and mineral were discussed.
- 5) To help the Stonedawgs join into the hosting SCVGMS group, we combined for the potluck in Feb 2007. Members were introduced and three Stonedawg Spotter Awards were given out. We then enjoyed the movie on the state gemstone, Benitoite.

STONEDAWG SPOTTER AWARD

MOTTO: Bringing Details into Focus!



SS Award #1, DEC 2006: Per my request, members attending the first activity day meeting in Dec brought reference books on rocks and fossils. To my surprise, during break one youngster compared items in his book with specimens displayed on the table AND he found a match! He showed me the picture in the book and the fossil, which I hadn't talked about yet. The book said the fossil was "turitella agate", referring to small gastropod (snail) shells within agate material from Kemmerer, Wyoming (which is appreciated by lapidarists who like to shape and polish it into interesting cabochons). Well, this gave me a chance to explain that the material from Kemmerer has fresh water fossils in it and that *Turritella* is a marine genus that is several times larger. The agate actually contains fossils of *Gonio-basis chrysalis*. Insightful observations like this youngster's are exactly what I want to promote, thus the Stonedawg Spotter Award was warranted and born. The first award with Dalmation stone coyote was earned by and given to Blake B. (Where does this stone material (relatively new on the market) come from?)



SS Award #2, JAN 2007: Our field trip to the Dinosaur exhibit at the California Academy of Sciences included a visit to tanks within the colocated aquarium. One bright Stonedawg took special note to read all the names and spotted two interesting ones. One described a large ferocious looking aquatic insect aptly named the "Giant Toe-Biter". The other was the name of a fish called the "Cross-Dressing Cichlid", (for reasons unknown to me). The second award with Hematite stone coyote was thus given to Chris B. (What color streak will this lustrous metallic stone have and why?)



SS Award #3, FEB 2007: During the Feb Demo day meeting, there was one attendee who quickly figured out the answers to my questions and made statements that bridged perfectly into my next topics. One such comment was when we were adding items into our mineral ID kits and I asked the group why I was giving them a piece of emery board. Her response was that it had ground rocks on it which led right into my comments on it fitting into 7.5 to 8.5 on the Mohs Hardness Scale due to the Topaz. The third award with Sodalite stone coyote was thus warranted for Annie M. (What color streak will this rock have and how is that different from Lapiz Lazuli which looks similar?)

**Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society
General Meeting Minutes
February 27, 2007**

President Randy Harris called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM at the Belwood Cabana Club in Los Gatos. Members and guests were welcomed. Minutes were approved as printed in the Breccia. The board meeting will be at Ruth Bailey's home on March 1, 2007.

CORRESPONDENCE: Jan./Feb. Stockton club newsletters, Castro Valley newsletter, CFMS Endowment Fund letter for Bill Mercer, AFMS Scholarship donation letter for Toby Cozens, two letters from the IRS, CO-OP field trip letter, Reno show letter, CO-OP seminar notice.

NEW MEMBERS: None

HOSPITALITY: There were 48 members and 21 guests in attendance tonight.

STUDY GROUPS: See details in the Breccia.

DEMO DAY: Flyers were handed out with the schedule of meeting dates.

DONATION RECEIVING COMMITTEE. A sale is planned for March 17, 9 AM to 1 PM. March 18th will be the rain date. March 3rd is a DRC set-up work day.

PLAC: See details in the Breccia

SCHOLARSHIP : The San Jose State University scholarship recipients were introduced and each gave a talk on their studies and interests in Geology. Jamie Clay will use the award to help fund her field trip. Brad Buerer is interested in structural and sedimentary geology. Both will be helping at our show.

SHOW: See details in the Breccia. A sign up sheet for show work was passed around, **THERE ARE STILL POSITIONS TO FILL!** Next show meeting is March 6th at Ruth Bailey's house.

FIELD TRIPS : See details in the Breccia. Sign up sheets were out for March 24, Clear Creek field trip. NBFT meeting March 17th, 9 am at the Cabana Club meeting room. Dean Welder talked about the field trip to the Benitoite mine. On that field trip Max Casey probably found the best rock, and Matt Wood found a twinned Neptunite crystal.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORIES: Copies of the club directory were available for member to pick up. A copy of the club directory can be obtained at future meetings.

MEMBER DISPLAY : See details in the Breccia.

SUNSHINE : See details in the Breccia.

PROGRAM: Bill Gissler showed a movie on the history of Coalinga and the Benitoite mine and handed out information sheets. Rick Kennedy gave a talk about the movie and the geology of the mine area.

SECRET AUCTION: Four rocks were sold.

MERIT BADGE PROGRAM: See details in the Breccia. Gail Matthews introduced the Stonedawgs group and presented awards to Blake, Chris, and Anne Marie.

HISTORIAN: Pictures of the demo day were on display.

Everyone enjoyed the pot luck dinner.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
John Eichhorn, Secretary

**Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society
Board Meeting Minutes
March 1, 2007**

President Randy Harris called the meeting to order on March 1st at 7:40 PM at the home of Ruth Bailey. All board members were present except for Jim Ziegler and Dean Welder. M/S/P to approve the January 25, 2007 board meeting minutes as read.

Correspondence: Dealer show chair letter, Dodge and Cox annual report, two IRS letters.

New Members: M/S/P to accept Geno Acevedo for membership.

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

Committee appointed to review and recommend club guidelines on revolving funds, study groups, and any functions in which money is collected in the club's name. Ruth Bailey, June Harris, and Frank Mullaney to be on committee.

DRC COMMITTEE: M/S/P to extend current DRC policy to the next board meeting, to continue discussion of the revised DRC policy. Revisions will be sent to Randy and distributed to the board members prior to the next board meeting.

M/S/P to recommend the Founders Day BBQ be held on June 23, 2007.

SHOW: Discussion of adding a third day (Friday) at show for next year, manpower, security issues, cost of extra day, and setup. M/S/P to authorize up to \$1000.00 for Mercury News advertisements for 2007 show. M/S/P to contract with

Francisco on the date and cost of \$1000.00 to show the American Women Statue at the 2007 show. 2008 show to be held in April.

NEW BUSINESS: M/S/P to have Federation Director to contact Golden Bear chairmen of CFMS regarding nominations. M/S/P the Stonedawg's group to have pins from club inventory.

M/S/P to adjourn at 9:40pm

Respectfully submitted,
John Eichhorn, Secretary

SCVGMS Treasurer's Report February 28, 2007

Beginning balance: \$20,332.51

Receipts:

Jeweler's study group meeting dues (Jan., Feb., & March)	\$ 62.00
Dealer's fees	\$ 355.00
Initiation fee	\$ 5.00
Dues	\$ 5.00
DRC	\$ 202.95
Kids Area	\$ 249.00
Interest	<u>\$ 1.79</u>
Total receipts:	\$ 880.74

Disbursements:

Mineraleers Handouts	\$ 52.12
January Meeting Program Handouts	\$ 11.69
CFMS January Meeting program rental	\$ 7.50
Expressions	\$ 75.78
Show Expense \$30.00	
Club Directories \$55.78	
CFMS	\$ 975.00
Federation Dues \$195.00	
Insurance \$780.00	
Trailer storage March '07– February '08	\$1,560.00
CFMS Endowment Fund	\$ 25.00
– in memory of Bill Mercer	
California State Mining & Mineral Museum	\$ 130.00
KBAY Radio Advertising for '07 show	\$1,530.00
KRTY Radio Advertising for '07 show	\$1,500.00
Library Supplies	\$ 107.16
Postage for Feb. and March Breccia	\$ 63.00
CFMS February Meeting program rental	\$ 7.50
February Meeting program handouts	\$ 11.50
Phone Bill	\$ 61.90
Expressions– Breccia copying	<u>\$ 41.57</u>
Total Disbursements	\$6,159.72

Ending Balance: \$15,053.53

Correction to the January '07 Treasurer's Report. Under Disbursements: Payment of \$26.00 was for January '07 Meeting refreshments rather than Future Rockhounds Merit Badge expense.