



Breccia

Volume 56, Number 4

April 2009

Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society
San Jose, California

Randy says... Hello, Fellow Rockhounds,

As most of you know, the **annual Show is approaching quickly**. There are many areas that we need your help to make things go well. Please sign up to help in some way, whether it is Set up, Security, Hospitality, Kids Area, Ticket Sales, Scholarship Booth, or some other area. The duties are not difficult, but we need lots of people to help (the more the better).

There is set up on Wednesday and Thursday, and tear down on Sunday after the show ends. We need your help in all of these areas and others. Please call Frank Mullaney and volunteer if you have not already signed up for something. We have many dealers, flint knapping, the Scholarship booth, demonstrators, several exciting speakers, and a fluorescent display. This year we will also have several very large rocks and many cases on display.

Listen for our radio ads on 98.5 KFOX and pre - movie ads at the Oakridge Century Theater in the weeks before the show. There are many other activities planned.

June and I attended the North Bay Field Trip meeting today. There are many wonderful adventures waiting for you to go collecting. There is a list of them here in the Breccia. There are more in the planning stages. **You need to contact Dean Welder (e-mail is best) for more information about upcoming trips.** Dean is our Field Trip Committee Chairman. He will have information on trips being hosted by other clubs as well as the ones our club is planning.

Also remember that there will be an **Ice Cream Social** before the next regular meeting on April 28th at 6:30 PM. The club will supply everything. All you need to do is come and enjoy everyone's company.

See you at the Show!!!
Randy Harris, President



Proposed By-Laws Change re dues

Bylaw Change language: MSP (D. Welder, R. Bailey) to remove the first paragraph from Bylaw Article 3 Dues Section 1, and place that paragraph in the Operating Regulation as #1 and to re-number all of the other operating regulations.

A new sentence will be added to the Bylaws Article 3 Dues Section 1 "**Dues and initiation fees are established by the Board of Directors.**" [Note: please see our Statement of Revenue and Expenses on p. 7 in this issue.]



Welcome new member

Don Jensen

20 E. 5th Street, Morgan Hill, CA 95037

(408)778-2495; djensen@garlic.com

Don is interested in cutting polishing, collecting, fossils, faceting, Smithies, carving, geology, field trips, petrified wood, and meteorites.



Correction:

The fluorite crystals were donated by David Marshall . In addition to the geodes the DRC donated, the club has also provided geodes.



Member Displays: I-J-K and anybody else. A favorite part of our meetings.



April Program: Rick Kennedy will talk on something. Always interesting.



Take a look at what our show offers!

Dealers 62 of them offering a wide variety of wares. Here's a sampling:

- rough lapidary materials, slabs and cabs, pearls, emeralds, benitoite, Russian fossils, Morgan Hill Poppy Jasper, sunstones, tourmaline, Mexican fire opals, condor agates and more
- Fossils, petrified wood
- Czech beads, pearls, other beads, findings
- Opals, crystals and mineral specimens
- Jewelry, estate jewelry
- Diamond grinders, tools, and equipment
- Educational kits
- Packaging and display



Large Displays

Ice Age Mammal by Applegate Lapidary Including fossilized **Cave Bear, fossilized rhinoceros skull** and many other fossilized specimens all in Exposition Hall

200 pound rose quartz sphere in the Pavilion

3' square jade table in the Pavilion

Pebble Garden-How big is a 500 pound rock? A 1000 pound rock? Come see in the Exposition Hall!

Smaller Displays of collections, specimens and various aspects of the hobby.

New Almaden Quicksilver Mine - Pavilion

United States Geology Survey in the Pavilion

Fluorescent Mineral display - these rocks and minerals glow with fantastic colors - Pavilion

Gold panning daily in the Midway between the Exposition and Pavilion Halls

Demonstrations

Held periodically throughout the show

Bead Weaving by Cheri George

Cabochons by JT Fuller and David Marshall

Faceting gemstones by John Eichhorn and group

Flint Knapping by Donna Kelly

Fossil cleaning by Gail Matthews

Gold Panning with Michael Phillips and group

Jade Carving by Skip Stange

Knotting Pearls Suzi Bahr and Pat Speece

Metalsmithing by Norvie Enns

Mineral Identification by Jim Hutchings

Rock and Mineral Identification im Hutchings

Stone setting by Kelly VanVleck

Wirewrapping by Jennifer House



Raffle of 87 items including

Barranca Polishing Kit \$585 value

Benitoite earrings donated by Earth's Treasures, a \$250 value



Speakers

Fossil Walk through both halls Gail Matthews
Flint Knapping by Donna Kelly

Antiques Informal appraisals by Steve Yvaska of the San Jose Mercury News in the Town Hall (appraisals in the Pavilion)

Dinosaurs by Richard Wade in the Pavilion. This is appropriate for children.

USGS talk on chert - in the Town Hall

Dick Pankey will talk on Davis Creek - in the Town Hall

Scholarship Booth offers a wide range of activities for kids, as well as hobby related books, magazines and rocks for adults. Come make a beaded bracelet, spin the wheel!

This is a big booth. Old issues of lapidary magazines are sold at great prices. Rocks are sold at good-for-you prices.

All proceeds go to our Scholarships. In the Pavilion.

Continued on next page.

Kids Area offers the fun experience of earth science studies. \$2.50 per child. Learn about caves, volcanoes, and how mountains are formed. Study soil and erosion. Discover eleven ways to become a fossil. Learn the difference between a rock and a mineral, and how a rock is formed. Find out what minerals are in everyday items we use daily. Play the career game with our scholarship recipients. There are special programs for Scouts and Future Rockhounds of America. In the Pavilion.

WE HAVE SPONSORS!

Marriotts We thank Marriotts for the complimentary suite provided to our guest speaker Mr. Richard Wade. The Marriott proudly announces their new bar, *Tang*, and their celebrity chef, Michael Mina in the Arcadia Restaurant. **We've included a coupon with the show paper program.**

California Water Service

Naturals From the Earth This is Fred Fisher and Joe Lattuaga, longtime dealers and now club members. Check out their booth!

Rocky Five This is Frank and Julaine Mullaney, long time members, and current show chairman. Check out their booth!



USGS Open House

You're invited!

The USGS is hosting it's bi-annual Open House **May 16&17, 2009**. This years theme is "Year of Science".

hours are from 10am - 4pm daily
435 Middlefield Rd, Menlo Park, CA.

• You'll see:

- Science Demonstrations
- Music and Entertainment
- Trading Card Stamp Stations
- Recycling
- Welcome Tables
- School Preview Day
- VIP and Opening Ceremony festivities
- Fun for the whole family

The USGS is also looking for enthusiastic volunteers to assist with welcoming guests,

parking, set up and tear down and various other fun tasks. More information on <http://openhouse.wr.usgs.gov>



Bits and pieces

Free Ads

Members, did you know that if you have a lapidary need or offer, you can put it in the Breccia for free? There are some limits as to frequency and word limit.

Paid Ads

Members may also request a paid ad.

Too many rocks?

Did you know that if you have too many rocks at home, that the Donation Receiving Committee (DRC) will come and take them off your hands?

Call Jane or George at (408) 353-2982.

Needed:

Do you have an old picnic shade that still has some life in it? The Donation Receiving Committee (DRC) needs a new sunblocking roof over the rocks. It gets very hot out back while sorting prior to rock sales, and during rock sales in the warmer months. Contact Jane Yamashita or Pat Speece. Thanks.



Rock Sale Soon

By Jane and George Yamashita

The DRC picked up a small donation in Menlo Park recently. It was a small donation but full of great goodies that our club will see at our next Silent Auction and maybe some of the Secret Auctions.

We will be picking up a donation sometime in April from a club member. After we collect and sort it, there will be another sale. We will announce in at the general meeting and in the Breccia.

Keep your eyes and ears open for an upcoming sale. If you have or hear of any donations, please contact George or Jane Yamashita at 408-353-2982. The donations are collected and sold at sales that benefit our club and all our members.



FIELD TRIPS

Call our field trip leader, Dean Welder, beforehand to sign up and for further information.

April 4 Calistoga, CA tour petrified redwood forest. No collecting.

April 4-12 Topaz Mt. and Dugway for topaz, red beryl and geodes.

April 10, 11, 12 Black Butte Reservoir for various jaspers.

April 17-19 CFMS Show in San Jose – Santa Clara Gem and Mineral Club. See ad on back cover.

April 25, Lavic jasper.

May 23-25 Monte Cristo Mts., NV rhyolite, agate, apache tears and petrified wood.

May 20-25 Davis Creek, Lassen Creek and Adin, CA for obsidian and dolomite. [Please see article on p. 6](#)

June 6 Virgin Valley opals, opalized petrified wood.

June 7 University of the Pacific in Stockton. Contact Dean today. **Limit of 30 people.**

June 13/27 rain date Babcock Peak for rose quartz and tour of Taylorsville Museum.

July 4, 5 Buffalo Canyon, (Middlegate, NV) fossils.

July 30 – Aug. 2 AFMS/NFMS Show and Convention in Billings, Montana. During the week following the show, field trips in Montana.

Sept. 19 or 26 Hanksville, UT for petrified wood, fossils and agate.

October 3 Empire Mine Tour.

Nov. Thanksgiving week trips.



Study Groups

Mineraleers

Chuck Boblenz

The Mineraleers met recently at the home of Bill and Sharon Gissler.

Bill presented an excellent program about sand and passed around samples for the group to see. The meeting adjourned to the kitchen where Bill had two microscopes set up for viewing many more specimens from around the world.

Delicious refreshments were enjoyed by all.

Future meetings:

April	No meeting;	SCVGMS/CFMS show
May 12 th	Moore	Clinochlore
June	No meeting;	summer sabbatical
July	No meeting;	summer sabbatical
Aug	No meeting;	summer sabbatical
Sept 8 th	Eichhorn	Beryl
Oct 13 th	Paone	Fluorescence
Nov 10 th	Gissler	Marble
Dec	No meeting;	holidays

Future announcements will be in the Breccia. If you see a topic of interest, plan to come out and join us.



Stringers recently finished knotting a pearl bracelet. Our next class will be after the show. Call or email Pat Speece if you are interested in stringing beads, knotting pearls, or chainmaille.



Smithies have a two-night session in early April to make a pendant using a cab, bezel, backplate, bail and balls. If you are interested in learning how to solder, saw, drill etc, please call or email Pat Speece or Kelly Van Vleck.



Hobby Hints

The Breccia has not tried these hints unless otherwise noted, and advises caution when trying any new procedure or products. Comments or questions welcomed.

1- If you don't have time to polish a rock you want to display at our show or at home, add a little water to liquid dish detergent and paint your rock or slab with it. [This works.]

Let's See a Show!

April 3-5, 2009, Bakersfield, CA

San Joaquin Valley Lap Soc;
Kern County Fairgrounds
1142 South P. Street - Corner S. P & Belle Terrace
9-5 Daily; Email: lewsrocks@bak.rr.com
Lew Helfrich (661) 323-2663 / cell (661) 378-4450

April 3-5, 2009, Vista, CA

San Diego Co. Council of G&M Societies
The Tractor Museum
2040 N. Santa Fe Ave. & Museum Way
Hours: Fri. Noon-5; Sat. & Sun. 9-5
Contact: Ray Pearce (760) 7570
Email: raysrocks@cox.net

April 4-5, Mariposa, CA

Mariposa Gem & Mineral Club
Mariposa County Fairgrounds
Highway 49 (S. of Historic Mariposa)
Hours: Sat. 10-6; Sun. 10-4
Email: mineralmuseum@sti.net
www.thematrixmariposagemmineralclub.info/events.html

April 11-12, 2009, Paradise, CA

Paradise Gem & Mineral Club
Paradise Elks Lodge
6309 Clark Road; Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4
Carol Eggleston (530) 343-0894; Cell (530) 321-6941; Email: cjeggy@chico.com
Website: www.goldnuggetwebs.com/PGMC

April 17, 18, 19, 2009, San Jose, CA

54th Annual CFMS Show, Nature's Showcase
Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Santa Clara County Fairgrounds
344 Tully Road; 10-5 Daily
Detailed Show Page: [Click Here](#)
Email: info@scvgms.org
Website: www.scvgms.org

April 18 - 19, 2009, Lancaster, CA

Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral club
Lancaster High School
44701-32nd St. West; 9-5 daily
Vivian Watts (760) 373-1309
Email: vivea22@yahoo.com
Website: www.geocities.com.av.gem

April 25 - 26, 2009, Santa Cruz, CA

Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society
Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium

Corner of Center St. & Church
10-5 daily; Dean Welder (408) 353-2675
Email: wdeanwelder@yahoo.com
Website: www.scmgs.org/newsite/shows/index.html

May 1-3, 2009, Bishop, CA

Lone Pine Gem & Mineral Society
Tri County Fairgrounds; Corner Sierra St. / Fair Dr
Fri. 6p.m.-10p.m.; Sat. 9:30-4; Sun. 10-3
Jeff Lines (760) 872-6597: franceem@qnet.com

May 2-3, 2009, Anaheim, CA

Searchers G&M; Brookhurst Community Center
2271 West Crescent Ave. Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4:30
James Williamson (714) 995-9080
Email: showchair@searchersrocks.org
Website: <http://www.searchersrocks.org>

May 9-10, 2009, Reno, NV

Reno Gem and Mineral Society
Reno Livestock Events Ctr Exhibit Hall
1350 N. Wells Ave., Reno, NV
Hours: Sat. 10 - 5, Sun. 10-4

May 15, 16, 17, 2009, Anderson, CA

Superior California Gem & Mineral Society
Shasta Dist. Fair; Near Redding off hwy 273
Hours: Fri. & Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-5
Manuel Garcia (530) 877-7324
Email: mmpg@earthlink.net
Website: www.superiorcal.com

May 16-17, 2009, Newbury Park, CA

Conejo Gem & Mineral Club
Borchard Park, 190 Reno Road
Hours: Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4:30
Robert Sankovich (805) 494-7734
Email: rmsora@adelphia.net
Website: www.cgamc.org

May 16-17, 2009, Yucaipa, CA

Yucaipa Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Yucaipa Com. Ctr; 34900 Oakglen Road
Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4
Bill Jochimsen (909) 790-1475
Email: webmaster@yvgms.org
Website: www.yvgms.org

May 30 -31, 2009, Glendora, CA

Glendora Gems; 859 E. Sierra Madre Ave.
Sat. 10 - 5, Sun. 10-4
Bonnie Bidwell (626) 963-4638
Email: Ybidwell2@aol.com



**AFMS FIELD TRIP
Big Rockhound Rendezvous
Obsidian Heaven
CFMS Newsletter March 2009**

By Richard Pankey

The **Davis Creek/Lassen Creek** area of the Modoc National Forest in northeastern California is truly a unique and beautiful place. And for rockhounds its most unique feature is **OBSIDIAN!** It is abundant and of great quality. Easy to find and collect, it comes in a wide variety of colors, sheens and shapes. Best of all, our rendezvous will be held there in late May. If you like obsidian, if you like rock collecting, if you like meeting other interesting rockhounds, join us for this **Inter-regional Rockhound Rendezvous, May 20 to 25.**

Now is the time to get your name on the sign-up list. Sign up early and bring friends. A two-page Field Trip Flyer is available on the AFMS and CFMS web sites. This flyer has all the details about the trip, directions to our campsite, and other useful information.

Special activities

There were two activities mentioned in the flyer that I would like to explain in more detail. On Friday and Saturday afternoons we will conduct **Tailgate Displays.** We will have rockhounds from all over the western United States that I am sure have collected some unique and interesting material from their home areas. Bring along some specimens to show and share at the tailgate display.

This will also be a good time to conduct the **Map Exchange.** Map exchanges are easy! To get a map, you have to give a map. Before you leave home, prepare a good, detailed map of a good, unique or little-known collecting area that you are familiar with. A detailed map should have accurate mileages; and GPS coordinates are very desirable. Note collecting site details and campsites, where appropriate.

Bring along as many maps as you would like to receive. I plan to bring 100 copies of my map. I am sure there will be a lot of informal exchanges of collecting sites, GPS info, and sharing of great places to go and see. Other rockhounding opportunities abound within 100 miles of our Rendezvous site: sunstones, opal, petrified wood, other obsidian sites, geodes, and more. The Rendezvous is a good way to start your summer collecting tour.

Flint Knapper demonstrations

We have arranged for several knappers to demonstrate and teach various knapping techniques. If you are already a knapper, beginner or experienced, bring along your tools and join the **“Knapp-In.”**

Although we are camping in a National Forest it is best that we bring in our own wood for our campfire. If everyone would bring some firewood, we should have enough for a campfire each night. Don't forget about the happy hours and two potluck dinners.

This trip is open to members and guests of all of the Federations of the AFMS, but I expect most of the attendees will be from the Northwest and California Federations. Everyone who agrees to adhere to the AFMS Code of Ethics, abide by the direction of the field trip leaders, and practice safe rockhounding is welcome to attend.

Please notify your respective Federation leader early, but no later than May 16 if you plan to attend; e-mail (or call) if you have questions or need more information. Don't wait – do it now. This will be a great opportunity for rockhounds from all over the West and all the Federations of the AFMS to meet one another, to share stories and information about collecting in their home areas. Be sure to bring material from your favorite collecting sites to show and share.

People to contact:

For more information go to the CFMS website
<http://www.cfmsinc.org/>

Dick Parks, Northwest Federation,
packrats2@msn.com, (360) 892- 3716;

Richard Pankey, California Federation,
dickpankey@juno.com, (925) 439-7509.

Join us for a great Inter-Regional Rendezvous of collecting, fun and fellowship.



More hints...

I haven't tried these; you're on your own...

Burp that tumbler!

If your tumbler keeps burping gas and making a mess, it's due to gas generated by acids and metals such as the iron in a stone, reacting with the weak acids formed by grinding other rocks.

Drop a couple of antacids in the tumbler and the problem will be reduced or go away!



Statement of revenue and expenses

Statement by Chuck Boblenz

Introduction by Marc Mullaney

We recently looked at Club's expenses, not including the show. What we realized is that we only bring in \$6,700 and spend \$13,800 per year. We would operate on a loss of about \$5,300 if it was not for the show. The gross operating cost per member is \$92.32 and after revenues are added the net operating costs are \$47.39. The reason this analysis was done is that we have not looked at changing the dues and initiation fees for almost 10 years and we figured that it was about time to look at a modest dues increase.

Here's a breakdown for the fiscal year ending November 30, 2009:

Revenues:

Membership Dues	\$1,302.00
Initiation Fee	\$95.00
Income Projects	\$1624.15
Miscellaneous	\$369.93
Interest	\$1039.14
Donation sales	\$1662.50
Installation Dinner	\$541.00
Contributions	\$60.00
TOTAL REVENUES	\$6,693.72

Expenses:

Rental	\$1575.00
Breccia	\$912.58
Meeting	\$839.70
Program	\$70.00
Sundry	\$250.07
Officers/ directors	\$92.00
Founder's Day	
and Installation Dinner	\$1374.39
Insurance	\$1322.50
Federation	\$40.00
Contribution (Scholarship &	
Memorial)	\$2305.89
Office	\$1460.04
Field trip	\$1602.99
Club project	\$11.00
Study group at Belwood	\$360.00
Equipment repair	\$1397.11
Potlucks	\$142.14

TOTAL EXPENSES \$13,755.41
NET OPERATING REVENUE (REVENUE
MINUS EXPENSES) \$7,061.69
GROSS OPERATING COST PER MEMBER = \$92.32
NET OPERATING COST PER MEMBER = \$47.39

MARCH 2009 Treasurers Report

As of 3/26/09

Beginning Balance \$3,356.47

Receipts

\$23.25 Secret Auction from DRC
\$10.00 Initiation Fee
\$66.00 Dues
\$110.00 Special Raffle 09 show
\$2,280.00 June Harris Kids area show.
\$0.0 5 Interest

Total Receipts \$2,489.30

Total Plus Receipts \$5,845.77

Disbursements

1109 \$21.20 Julaine Phone Bill
1110 \$149.17 County of Santa Clara Tax Collector
1111 \$15.00 CFMS Meeting Programs
1112 \$51.54 John Eichhorn Case Repair
1113 \$50.40 Expressions Breccia Newsletter
1114 \$21.78 Julaine Mullaney Phone Bill
1115 \$64.90 Breccia Postage Feb/Mar Ruth
Bailey
1116 \$48.45 Refreshments Meeting Grace Santos
Total Disbursements \$422.44
Balance \$5,423.33



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[a paid ad]

The Luster of Pearls

By Dr. Bill Cordua

Pearls occur in Wisconsin, Minnesota, in the shells of fresh water mollusks along the Mississippi River, and in other rivers and lakes in our region. Their harvest and crafting into fine jewelry forms a small but vigorous cottage industry. The mysterious luster of pearl has delighted humans since the dawn of history. It is alluded to in Hindu literature and the Bible. Without this luster, pearls would be a biological curiosity rather than a sought-after gemstone. To what physical effect do pearls owe this distinctive luster?

Why nacre?

Pearls form as growths which many species of mollusks secrete around impurities. The outer part of an oyster shell consists of a layer of calcite or, more rarely, aragonite. The calcite crystals line up perpendicular to the shell's surface, giving it a coarsely fibrous appearance. Inside is the nacreous layer. The nacreous layer is made of thin plates of aragonite in a network of a horny protein called conchiolin (C₃₂H₄₈O₁₁). The nacreous inner lining of the mollusk is called mother-of-pearl and has the same luster (for the same reasons) as isolated pearls. When a bit of grit gets between the mollusk's tissues and nacreous layer, the mollusk secretes a coating of nacre around it, isolating it from the rest of the shell. Blister pearls, growths still attached partly to the shell, show an intermediary stage of this process.

Why luster?

What is it about nacre that gives rise to luster? The answer is linked to the common test used to distinguish true from artificial pearls. True pearls feel rough against the teeth. This is because the surface of the nacre consists of thousands of tiny overlapping plates of aragonite, whose edges give the rough sensation. These edges also interact with the light that falls on the pearl's surface.

Then there is diffraction

The light striking the pearl experiences a phenomenon called *diffraction* in which light is split up into a spectrum of color by passing through a tiny opening. The different colors of light bend differently, separating them into their color. The edges of the aragonite flakes act as tiny diffraction gratings, and the colors we see are tiny spectra, playing out as we turn the pearl to different angles. The light striking the pearl's surface also experiences an interference effect at the grain boundaries. This occurs as different rays of light partly emphasize or cancel out different colors as they are bent differently at the platelet edges. The thinner and more numerous the plates, the more pronounced is this effect.

Knowing that, we will have one less question to ask St. Peter when we get to heaven and are standing by those gates.

Dr. Bill Cordua, U. Wisconsin- River Falls

References:

Kunz, George F., 1913, *The Curious Lore of Precious Stones*, Dover Pub., 406 p.

Webster, Robert, 1994, *Gems: Their sources, Description and Identification*, 5th edition, revised by Peter G. Reed, Butterworth, Heinemann Ltd. Pub. 1026 pp.



Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society
General Meeting Minutes
March 24, 2009

President Randy Harris called the meeting to order at 7:50 PM at the Belwood Cabana Club in Los Gatos. Members and guests were welcomed. Minutes were approved as published in the Breccia. The Board meeting will be held on March 26th at 7:30 PM at Karen and Dean Welder's home.

Announcements: Randy Harris announced that we still have several positions available on the list of committee chairs and on the board. He is looking for a 2010 Show chairman and a Historian. See Randy if you are interested. Randy reminded everyone that there was a secret auction in the rear of the room. There will be an ice cream social at 6:30 PM before the next meeting. Also Randy announced that club directories were available after the meeting.

New Members: Pat Magallon was given her new member packet and welcomed into the society.

Correspondence: Reno Gem and Mineral Society show information and fliers, Dodge and Cox 2008 annual report, ALAA newsletter.

Sunshine: No Report

Study groups: Any member who has faceted stones or cabochons that they would like to place in the study group show cases should contact John Eichhorn.

Jewelers: next meeting at Marc Mullaney's on April 2nd at 8 PM.

Cutaways: next meeting at John Eichhorn's on April 11th.

Stringers: Just finished a course on knotting between pearls.

Smithies: starting a beginners course on April 7th. Class still has openings, contact Kelly or Pat for more information.

Faceters: Next meeting is April 4th at Max Casey's home.

Mineraleers: next meeting is in May. More info to follow.

Fossileers: John Eichhorn reported that Gail will be holding the next meeting on Demo Day, July 11th, and they will be studying bird evolution and other fossils.

DRC report: The DRC received a small donation recently and are arranging to pick up a larger donation after the show. Once the material has been sorted, a sale will be arranged.

Hospitality: We had 44 members and 4 guests present.

Federation Report: Ruth Bailey reported that there will be a tri-federation field trip to Davis Creek from May 20-25. She also encouraged members to help with the upcoming show. Ruth also indicated that members might want to attend a ALAA meeting at the CFMS show.

Recommended By-law change: Randy Harris read a recommendation from the board that the membership body needs to vote on a proposed By-law change to Article 3 Dues Section 1. to remove the dues amounts from the first paragraph of this section. This will allow the board to set dues amounts as needed.

PLAC: Frank Monez reported there was nothing new with PLAC, look in the Breccia for an article.

Field Trips: Randy Harris encouraged members to attend the NBFT meeting on March 28 in Los Altos. He announced Snyder's Pow Wow on May 1-3, Tri Fed. Trip to Davis Creek on May 20-25, Spider Mine trip on June 13. John Eichhorn announced that USGS Open House in Menlo Park on May 16-17.

Fairgrounds Redevelopment Committee: No report

Members Displays: Max Casey brought some rocks he bought in Idaho and told a funny story about angels and flies. Randy Harris showed some new rocks he purchased at the Turlock show, Donna Garland brought samples of her wire-wrapped jewelry. Pat Magallon brought some cabochons to be identified. Mary Lu Ferrara and Larry Knutson brought some spheres and material showing the steps to make spheres. Kelly VanVleck exhibited some of the silverwork that is being done in the beginning Smithies class.

Program for the evening was on the upcoming CFMS show and our participation in it. The program highlighted the venue, schedule of events, location of each activity, who was organizing those activities, publicity, opportunities for members participation, and encouragement from the show committee for each member's participation. Fliers and posters available for members to distribute.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM. Respectfully submitted by June Harris, SCVGMS Secretary

Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society
Board meeting minutes
March 26, 2009

President Randy Harris called the March 26, 2009 meeting to order at 7:35 PM at the home of Dean and Karen Welder. The meeting agenda was distributed. All board members were present except Vito Cangemi, Karen Welder, Bill Spence, Gail Matthews, and Michael Paone. Chris Cherry was a guest at the meeting. Minutes from the February board meeting were approved as read.

Correspondence: Rick Kennedy requested help with the disposition of two emails that he has received. First Email was from a San Francisco State graduate student who was looking for Gabbro specimens and a grant request. He was instructed to reply that we were unable to help her with either request. The second email was regarding equipment. We suggested that he instruct them to attend the show and talk to the dealers.

New members: MSP (F. Mullaney, R. Bailey) to accept Don Jensen as a new member.

Treasurer's Report was distributed. MSP (R. Bailey, M. Mullaney) to pay the bills. Frank indicated that he would request repayment of the startup fund from the 2009 CFMS show fund.

Committee Reports:

Show 2009: Frank Mullaney indicated that the show was moving along smartly. Fliers and business cards are available for members to distribute. Ruth Bailey indicated that there were 54 Banquet reservations, 19 Editor Breakfast reservations. Dean Welder said he has received 50 noncompetitive case entries. Frank said that Marion Roberts expected over 20 competitive cases. The production of the business card flier for the 2010 show was discussed. Rick Kennedy offered a photograph of one of his Rhodocrosite specimens. Rick will send the file to Frank. Frank will order the 2010 fliers to be distributed at the upcoming SCVGMS/CFMS show.

Old Business.

Professional Investments advisor: Marc Mullaney indicated that he tried to contact several investment advisors. Edelman Financial was the only firm to return his phone call. Marc presented a preliminary report about cost of a fund manager. He was directed by the board to come back to the May meeting with more information. Marc requested that the board define the goal of this fund.

Bylaw Change language: MSP (D. Welder, R. Bailey) to remove the first paragraph from Bylaw Article 3 Dues Section 1, and place that paragraph in the Operating Regulation as #1 and to re-number all of the other operating regulations. A new sentence will be added to the Bylaws Article 3 Dues Section 1 "Dues and initiation fees are established by the Board of Directors."

Club Trailers: postponed until May meeting.

SCVGMS Cost per member analysis: Marc will send Pat a copy of the analysis breakdown for publication in the Breccia.

Volcano case: Case materials have been purchased and will be put together soon.

Club Brochure: Pat distributed the latest version of the brochure. Suggestions were made and a revised copy will be distributed via email to the board for final approval before it is copied.

2010 show date: MSP (F. Mullaney, R. Kennedy) to have the show always be on the third full weekend of April counting only Saturday and Sunday.

NBFT: Trying to arrange a field trip to the University of the Pacific's geology department to view their mineral collection. June will call on Friday to finalize arrangements. It has been suggested that we use the USGS Open House as our club field trip.

Website update- FRC letter has been posted and an alias has been setup for Chris Cherry to receive questions by email from the website link.

New Business:

Digital records: Frank Mullaney suggested that the club investigate converting our club records to multiple digital media, to be discussed after the show.

A woman had contacted Frank Mullaney via the club phone number and trying to sell her collection. The woman's name and phone number will be given to all of the dealers at our show.

Officer and Chairman's manual-Frank asked that June send a copy of the manual to Herb Vogel. Meeting adjourned at 9:40PM Respectfully submitted by June Harris, SCVGMS Secretary.

Who to call for what

Board

President: Randy Harris (831) 438-5150

Vice-president: Rick Kennedy (408) 529-9690

Secretary: June Harris (831) 438-5150

Treasurer: Frank Mullaney (408) 266-1791

Editor: Pat Speece (408) 266-4327 or

pat.speece@sbcglobal.net

Federation Director: Ruth Bailey (408) 248-6195

Alternate Federation Director:

Michael Paone (408) 340-3258

Directors (5)

Vito Cangemi (408) 356-6705

Gail Matthews (650) 962-9960

Marc Mullaney (408) 691-1584

Bill Spence (408) 398-7502

Karen Welder (408) 353-2675

Parliamentarian: Dean Welder (408) 353-2675

Historian

Groups and Services

Carvers, and Cutaways John Eichhorn (408) 749-0523 form spheres, sculptures, and make cabs

Donation Receiving Committee (DRC) George and Jane Yamashita (408) 353-2982

Field Trips Dean Welder (408)353-2675 or fieldtrips@scvgms.org

Facet Cutters: Max Casey (408) 227-0526

Fossileers Gail Matthews (650) 962-9960

Librarian Jennifer House

Stringers Pat Speece (408) 266-4327 Group makes jewelry with beads, jumprings...

Smithies Kelly Van Vleck and Pat Speece. Group makes jewelry using torch, saw Kelly (408) 262-8187, Pat (408) 266-4327

Mineraleers Chuck Boblenz (408) 734-2473 Group studies and handles specimens.

Jewelers Marc Mullaney 408-691-1584

Links:

Our website: www.scvgms.org

We are members of the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CFMS). <http://www.cfmsinc.org/>

We are affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) <http://amfed.org>

Membership requirements: Attendance at two general meetings within twelve months. Dues are \$10.00 per year. General meetings are normally held the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:45 PM at 100 Belwood Gateway (The Cabana Club), Los Gatos, CA 95032 ---just south of Blossom Hill between Leigh Avenue and Harwood Road.

Society purpose: The purpose of the society is to foster an interest and appreciation for rocks and minerals by furthering knowledge of the earth sciences in our members and our community.

Breccia crew: Editor: Pat Speece; Proofreader: Daymond Speece; Paper Edition Mailer: Ruth Bailey

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To

Santa Clara County Fairgrounds, 344 Tully Road, San Jose

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