



The Matrix

Official Newsletter of the
Sacramento Mineral Society
Sacramento, California

SMS

August 2006
Volume 66, No. 8

It's Tailgate Time at the SMS!!

Be sure to mark the date of Saturday, August 26th, for the SMS summer Open House, Barbeque and Tailgate event at the clubhouse. The tailgate is a great opportunity to get together with other club members and guests to "rock talk" and socialize. It's also a great way to show visitors and guests what the club is all about. Members from the SMS and other CFMS clubs will be there to show, swap, sell or trade a variety of lapidary and nature-related items and crafts — jewelry, wire-wrapping, rough rock, lapidary equipment and much more.

The event will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and will include a BBQ lunch for the amazingly low donation price of only \$3.00. There will also be lapidary shop, wire-wrap, and other demonstrations, a rock auction and door prizes, as well as time to peruse the clubhouse with its library and displays and explore the rock pile.

Any SMS or CFMS member is welcome to bring along a table to set up and swap, show and sell. Contact President, Sheldon Shuper, at (916) 383-9153 for details and to reserve your spot as space is limited.

All club members are being asked to bring a potluck dish or dessert for the BBQ. The club will provide burgers and hot dogs for grilling, all the condiments, and beverages. Volunteers are also needed to help set up on Friday and early Saturday, work the open house and take down after the event. Please let Sheldon know you're willing to help by giving him a call. Or you can do like this editor did the last time and just show up to help out where ever it's needed.

So come and show your support for the club. You just might find that unique item you've been looking for and you're sure to have some fun!

Instructors Wanted

Are you hiding your light under a basket?!?!?!? We know there are members out there doing wonderful and creative things with rocks, stone, bead, wire, metal, glass, and who knows what else. Or maybe you're an expert on the details of something nature-related. So how about teaching a class for us?

It can be as short as a few hours, just demonstrating how something is done. It can be a series of three or four workshops to give some hands-on experience, or it can even be on-going workshops or study-groups on a specific theme. We can arrange time and space for you at the clubhouse facility, or you can offer to show it at another venue. It can be for as few as two people or for a whole army. And we can schedule it any time of the year.

Volunteering to teach others about your favorite topic or hobby costs nothing but your time and a little of your enthusiasm. You will be adored for sharing your expertise and may just get a few more people hooked on your favorite hobby. Classes and workshops benefit all the members of SMS by expanding their knowledge and allowing them more occasions to socialize with others that share their interest. And remember: *we are all teachers and we are all students.*

Please consider sharing your talents with other club members. If you have an idea for a workshop that others might enjoy, please let a Board member know at any time or drop the editor a note at sms-editor@pacbell.net.



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All articles by the editor unless otherwise noted.





Sacramento Mineral Society
 P.O. Box 160544
 Sacramento, CA, 95816

Founded February 1936 ♦ Colors: Blue & Gold

Member of:

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
 California Federation of Mineralogical Societies
 CO-OP Field Trip Association

Location and Meeting Times:

SMS Clubhouse
 4205 LeMay Street, Rancho Cordova, CA

Business Meeting:
 2nd Thursday of every month, 7:00 p.m.

Educational Meeting:

3rd Thursday of every month, 7:30 p.m.

Visitors are always welcome

Shop open Saturday and Wednesday
 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; Shop fee: \$7.00

Dues: \$30.00 per calendar year

Web Site: www.sacmineralsociety.org

Mission Statement

The Sacramento Mineral Society is dedicated to promoting interest in and increasing knowledge and understanding of mineralogy and the related sciences and lapidary and the related arts; to promote and organize field trips, to encourage the study of geological formations and the collection and preservation of minerals as they occur in nature.

SMS Goal

The goal of the Sacramento Mineral Society is to gain and maintain an active membership of adults and juniors who are interested in mineralogy and the related sciences, and lapidary and the related arts, and who will eventually carry our club into the future. Our club is about learning and teaching. We all have something to learn and each of us has something to teach. We share our passion for minerals, fossils and the lapidary arts.

President's Message

Hello Rockhounds!!

I hope you are having a wonderful summer. Get up in those mountainous areas and hunt or pan for gold and other interesting rocks, minerals and fossils. It is much cooler up there than in the valley areas and the foothills.

Remember that the August show meeting is on August 17th at 6:30 p.m. at the clubhouse before the Educational Meeting. The topic for the Educational Meeting in August will be on meteorites and the Earth.

Remember, too, that the SMS Barbeque is on Saturday, August 26th, 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. We will be needing help from our members for set-up and fixing the food and asking everyone to bring a dish or dessert. There will be a lot of interesting things for sale with a rock auction also planned. Come out and meet a lot of our new members and guests.

Enjoy the rest of the summer.

Thank you,

— Sheldon Shuper

Wire Wrap Workshops

Workshops on wire wrapping techniques are now being offered on a continuing basis by Kevin Beguhl. Look forward to classes at the clubhouse on every 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month beginning at 10:00 a.m. each day at least through the end of the year.

Classes are available both for beginners and those with experience in wire-wrapping. Kevin will continue to offer beginning cab wrapping but will also offer more advanced projects including bead or cab bracelets.

Each workshop requires the standard \$7.00 shop fee plus an amount determined by the wire required for the project. The beginning cab wrap class is an additional \$8.00; fee for the wire bracelet workshop is an additional \$23.00. Those taking a dual class on any one Saturday need only pay a single \$7.00 shop fee. Of course, if you supply your own wire, only the shop fee applies.

Check the SMS Calendar in *The Matrix* for the session offered on a particular day. While Kevin is always prepared with an abundance of tools and wire, it helps to know how many people will be attending each session. Please give him a call at (916) 459-7556 or email him at webebeguhl@aol.com in advance of the session(s) you plan to attend.



Little known fact: It's physically impossible for you to lick your elbow. (Go ahead — try it!)

2006 Board Members

President: Sheldon Shuper (916) 383-9153
 Vice President: Carl Zimmerman (916) 739-1279
 Secretary: Carolyn Davis (916) 482-1345 bb1doc@hotmail.com
 Treasurer: OPEN (Sheldon Shuper, Acting Treasurer)
 Federation Director: Barbara Foscett (916) 685-4111 jfosback@aol.com
 Editor: Kris Jarusevicius (916) 451-4806 sms-editor@pacbell.net
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 Dixie Christenson (916) 455-0421 gildedcat@sbcglobal.net
 Lana Paulhamus (916) 372-5117
 Directors 2005-2006: Mike Hunerlach (916) 989-4653 mphunerlach@comcast.net
 Richard Davis (916) 482-1345 bb1doc@hotmail.com

Committees and Chairs

By-Laws: Sheldon Shuper
 Barbara Foscett
 Les Clark
 Display: Carl Zimmerman
 Field Trip Coordinator: Les Clark
 Shop Foreman: Mike Hunnerlach
 Groundskeeper: Carl Zimmerman
 2006 Show Coordinator: Sheldon Shuper
 Librarian/Historian: Frank Fawcett
 Greeters: Linda Baglin
 Sheldon Shuper
 Scholarship: Lisa Hammersley
 Mike Hunerlach
 Sheldon Shuper
 Shop Advisor: Stan Henneman
 Membership: Barbara Foscett
 Webmasters: Tarance & Kevin Beguhl
 Mailing: Tony & Millie Ivanovich
 Juniors: OPEN
 Advertising: Janice Marzolf
 Publicity: Tarance Beguhl
 Sunshine: Carl Zimmerman
 Dan Brown

Bone Carving Workshops with Tina Smith

Tina Smith's hands-on instructional classes on bone carving given last year were so well received that she's offered to present the class again. Her friendly, thorough instruction and sharing of her techniques allows everyone attending to come away with a unique, handmade design.

Tina will share her carving techniques during two workshops at the SMS clubhouse this fall: first on Saturday, September 16th, then again on Saturday, October 21st. Bone to be used for carving will be provided, but each participant should bring a piece of leather or some other lap protector. A feather pattern will be provided for the first project. If you have a *Dremmel* tool, bring that as well; Tina will have some extra *Dremmel* tools available for use at the workshop for those that need them.

Workshops are held outdoors on the SMS grounds. The classes are limited to five participants per session to allow for individual attention, so contact Tina in advance to sign-up by phoning: (916) 391-0485. A \$7.00 shop fee should be paid on the day of the workshop.

Happy Birthday to All August Babies! August's Birthstone: Peridot

Peridot is the birthstone for the month of August. It was known to be dull by day, but "glow like a coal" at night. It is said that miners searched for peridot crystals at night because the moonlight made the crystals "glow" and allowed the prospectors to spot deposits in the dark. They would mark the location and come back in the daylight to dig them up.

There is some confusion over where the name Peridot comes from. Some say it was derived from the Greek word for "giving plenty". It is also said to stem from the Arabic word *faridat*, meaning gem, or from the French word *peridot* which means unclear.

Peridot has been mined as a gemstone for an estimated 4000 years. Ancient Romans were fond of the stone and called it the "evening emerald". It was used by the Egyptians as early as 1500 B.C. and was considered the gem of the sun. Historically mined on the ancient Red Sea island of Assuan (Now St. John's Island), peridot was used in Egyptian royal jewelry and is said to have been a favorite of Cleopatra (although at the time it was called emerald). The gems were also said to be used in the fabled breastplates of Jewish high priests.

Peridot is a transparent magnesium/iron silicate. It is a gem variety of the mineral chrysolite (chrysolith) or olivine, and ranges between 6.5 and 7 on the *Mohs Scale of Hardness*. It ranges in color from light yellow-green to intense bright green to olive. It is one of few gems that come in only one color. The purer green a peridot is the higher the value; any tinges of brown or visible flaws greatly diminish the price. The best colored stones have an iron



Manti's Observations

Even with the sweltering heat, a large group of members and visitors attended the Education Meeting. I was too warm to fly around and greet people as I did two years ago. Besides the heat, the swat I received that evening tends to make me cautious when I am around the group so I just sat on the top of the display case and listened. The speaker was Mandy Plaskett, a recipient of one of our 2005 scholarships. Her topic was "Corundum" and I learned a lot. She had important words listed on the bulletin board along with pictures of corundum. This technique really helps the visually oriented individuals who make up more than half of the population. At Mandy's request, Sheldon Shuper brought examples of corundum. Many questions were asked and some very good dialog emerged from the discussions that evolved. It was a wonderful learning experience for everyone.

Love,
~Manti

percentage of less than 15% and includes nickel and chromium as trace elements. Because of the way peridot splits and bends the rays of light passing through it, the gem has a velvety appearance, a rich glow, and a slightly greasy luster. Rarities are peridot cat's eye and star peridot.

It can be found in volcanic regions all over the world. Recent discoveries in the Cashmere region of Pakistan have helped to make the Peridot more available and more popular. The gem is also mined in Burma, China, Africa, Australia and the U.S. (Arizona, Hawaii, and New Mexico). Most of the world production of peridot comes from Arizona while stones from Myanmar, Pakistan and Egypt are more rare and of finer quality.

Peridot is considered a tonic for the whole body and protects the wearer from negativity. It is associated with stress reduction and relaxation. Egyptians used peridot to clean and heal the heart. Powdered peridot has been used to cure asthma and a peridot placed under the tongue of someone in the grip of a fever is said to lessen his or her thirst. Egyptian legend has it that drinking from a peridot goblet can increase the potency of medicines and would put the user in touch with the nature goddess, Isis.

Peridot is thought to bring the wearer good luck, peace and success. Its powers include health, protection and sleep. It can attract love and calm anger while also soothing nerves and dispelling negative emotions. It is said to help heal a "bruised" ego by lessening anger or jealousy and inspiring happiness and delight in the nature of one's life. Peridot was thought to help dreams become a reality, and was often given as a symbol of fame and dignity.

July Business Meeting Minutes Thursday, July 13, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Sheldon Shuper. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. A quorum of board members was present.

Sheldon informed the board that it is necessary to have a business meeting in August in view of all the pending topics that require discussion.

As to the treasurer's report, Sheldon indicated that to date we have an operating loss of \$2,092.09. This does not include monies received for the show.

Because we have a strong waiting list, the board agreed to expand the space available for dealers to 750 feet of table space. This will allow us to have 34 dealers. Contracts are coming in and Sheldon should have them wrapped up in a few weeks.

Tarance Beguhl has been working on additional advertising for the show and club overall. It looks like he may be able to coordinate some television exposure using our non-profit status and our educational focus.

Les Clark will probably have one additional field trip in August or September. Details are pending at this time.

Under new business, CFMS is looking for clubs who are willing to hold a CFMS show (2008 or 2009). A discussion was held and it was felt that we should contact other clubs in the area who might be interested in a joint effort.

Five people applied to join the club and were accepted as members.

We are still seeking ways to increase advertising in *The Matrix*. We are going to evaluate costs for advertising in other newsletters and vote for rates based on the prevailing rates.

A shop steward meeting will be held in August. Tarance will organize this.

Gem Faire is coming in August (18th, 19th, and 20th) and Stan Henneman will be seeking volunteers to man the SMS table.

The Saturday following the *Gem Faire* will be our tailgate, open house and BBQ. We will need to have volunteers for this also. Any member of a CFMS organization may have a table at the event. Sheldon will coordinate the sign-ups. Information will be forthcoming.

We confirmed via the by-laws that members of the board cannot miss three meetings in a row unless excused.

Ways of increasing shop income were discussed. We plan to have more rock sales and auctions as well as items for sale in silent auctions. Minimum bids will be placed on items for sale in the silent auctions and we will have all items up for auction displayed in a case in the clubhouse in advance so they may be viewed by all before the auction. We may also attempt to have the items posted for viewing on the website. Any additional suggestions would be appreciated.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

—Carolyn Davis



July Educational Meeting Thursday, July 20, 2006

The meeting began at 7:30 with the Pledge of Allegiance led by President Sheldon Shuper.

We had a wonderful turn-out with a full house and parking lot. Barbara Foskett introduced two visitors, Lynn and Stan Cyrus, and Carol and Ken Otterstrom, two of our new members. Ken's father owns a rock shop in Quartzite and does faceting. Ken showed the group calcite that was obtained in a rock shop at Hilo, Hawaii. The calcite deposits looked like diamonds, hence the name *Diamond Head*.

Les Clark will be leading a two-day field trip to Nevada in September or October; more information later.

The presentation this evening was given by Mandy Plaskett, a senior at CSUS and one of our scholarship winners for 2005. Her presentation was on corundum, chemical composition Al_2O_3 , with a Mohs hardness of 9. Corundum comes in many colors, two of the most common being the red ruby and the blue sapphire. Actually, any corundum that is not a ruby is considered a sapphire. Sapphire comes in many colors due to trace amounts of other compounds. They can be clear and almost any other color.

Ruby comes from the Sanskrit word *kuru inda*, meaning king or leader of precious stones. Blood-red ruby is the rarest and most valuable gemstone. Occasionally, *asterism* (a star pattern) is noted. This is rare and is almost never perfect.

Precious grade sapphire is frequently associated with limestone and dolomite. It is found in Greece, India, and Africa. Some sapphire is found in New York and also at Yogo Gulch in Montana. In general, sapphires are found in pegmatite and metamorphic rocks. Iron oxide yields yellow sapphires; one of the rarest types is an orange variety called *padparadachoh* (sic). Also valued are cornflower blue and color-changing sapphires.

Corundum has a high melting temperature of 1010°C. Synthetic sapphires are made frequently these days as they are easy to synthesize.

Other names for various colored sapphires are: "oriental topaz" for yellow; "amethyst" for violet to pink; "peridot" for yellow-green stones; and white for clear sapphires.

Several questions and comments were made. Stan Henneman recommended a book by Fred Ward called *Sapphires and Rubies*.

The meeting was adjourned and refreshments were enjoyed by all.

—Carolyn Davis

Editor's Note: Please see the minutes from the Show Meeting for details of additional items discussed.

Refreshments

Thank you to Linda Baglin and Don Tadlock for the delicious refreshments they provided at the Educational Meeting. Carl Zimmerman is scheduled to bring the refreshments for the August meeting.

July Show Meeting Minutes

—By Kim Hofer

The meeting began with discussion about the dealers. They will be sending in their second deposits. Sheldon indicated that due to requests for additional space, it was agreed at the previous week's Business Meeting to increase the table space from 729 sq. ft. to 750 sq. ft. This will allow for a total of 36 dealers; we currently have 35 dealers who have committed so only one space is left. The floor plan will need to be reviewed and modified slightly to accommodate the additional table space. We will be using the Freedom Lounge as we did last year. A separate Saturday meeting will be held in the future to finalize the floor plan.

Linda Baglin is interested in knowing how the amount of food to purchase was determined in previous years. We will attempt to review previous records to come up with an answer. It was noted that, if necessary, we should be able to find a volunteer to make a run during the show to obtain additional food and drinks. Costs of food items for sale will be discussed at a later time. The group was reminded that there appeared to be a shortage of utensils in the kitchen in previous years, so we should plan to bring extras.

Responsibilities of the lead positions were discussed. It was determined that they would be the all-around monitors and would report to in to Sheldon. They will need to keep an eye on admissions, the spinning wheel and rock table, and check in with the dealers. They should also be willing to make announcements about food availability, remind visitors of the additional offerings in the Freedom Lounge and announce the door prizes. It

was suggested that the club consider investing in a few walkie-talkies so workers can keep in touch with each other during the show.

Stan Henneman will be assisting Sheldon with obtaining the insurance necessary for the show.

Tarance Beguhl has made some contacts with local TV stations, schools, colleges, and the *Sacramento Bee*, and publicity at no or minimal cost is looking promising. Tarance will coordinate with Janice Marzolf as to publicity for the show so as not to duplicate efforts. Obtaining advertising on the side of busses was mentioned as another advertising possibility. Unfortunately, no one submitted any ideas to Stan for a 70th Anniversary Poster; however, Vi Decou will be designing and creating something to use for advance notification at shows and events we attend.

As a side note, it was announced that there would be a Shop Steward meeting on Saturday, August 12th at 9:00 a.m. in the clubhouse. All stewards are being asked to attend.

Tarance Beguhl, Kris Jarusevicius, and Carolyn Davis have volunteered to be the Nomination Committee for this year. They will hold a meeting in the near future to discuss potential "candidates". Any member interested in helping the club by being on the Board, heading a committee, or being an area chair should contact one of the nominating committee.

Thank you to all those that attended the show meeting in July. Despite the temperatures outside, we had a great turn-out of enthusiastic members. It would be wonderful to see the momentum continue and see more of our members at future meetings. A special thank you also goes out to Boyd Lasater for attending and filling us in on lots of details from last year's show.



SMS is Out and About...

The Sacramento Mineral Society will be participating in two upcoming events in the near future.

As we do twice each year, the SMS will have a booth at the *Gem Faire* at the Scottish Rite Temple on August 18th-20th. *Gem Faire* has become a world-renowned marketplace for gemstones, beads, jewelry, minerals, fossils, meteorites, lapidary equipment, metaphysical items and much more. It is the largest gem and jewelry show circuit on the west coast.

As mentioned in *The Matrix* last month, we will also have a booth and possibly a display case at the first *Vino Piazza Gem & Mineral Show* in Lockeford on September 30th and October 1st, 2006. The event includes wine tasting at the in-house winery. Information on the event and a schedule of activities can be found on their web site at: www.vinopiazza.com.

Both events are great opportunities to offer information and education in the lapidary sciences as well as promote the Sacramento Mineral Society, its activities, and membership. To help out at either event, please contact Stan Henneman at (916) 363-5011. Stan also has a limited number of free passes to the *Gem Faire* available.

Desert Ventifacts

Do you now what a *ventifact* is? Rocks which have been etched, polished or sculpted by sand-carried winds are called *ventifacts*. The surface patterns of any particular rock depend upon many factors, including its mineral composition, orientation in relation to the prevailing wind direction and slope.

Wind is one of the most important agents of erosion in deserts. The arid environment and sparse vegetation leave the land exposed and vulnerable to the effects of winds and wind-carried debris. In the Coachella Valley for example, strong winds can last for days and have been known to reach speeds in excess of 100 mph in San Geronio Pass.

Even moderate air movements may pick up objects from the dry surface such as sand particles and turn them into projectiles colliding with anything in their path. The sand-charged winds are exceedingly abrasive, etching car windshields, wooden power poles or solid rock.

MOROKS, Monrovia Rockhounds 09/01, via Rumble Tumble 04/06



AFMS www.amfed.org

Prez Message

—By Colleen McGann, CFMS President

I would like to share the report I have sent to the AFMS on the status of CFMS. The CFMS annual show and meeting was held this year in June at Angels Camp, California in historic gold rush country at Calaveras County fairgrounds. As the site was long and hilly the club provided electric carts to transport folks around to the meeting. CFMS celebrated our 70th anniversary at the show, with 13 past Presidents attending, cake and ice cream, and commemorative cups.

Membership update: Since last year CFMS had 1 new club join, 5 clubs did not rejoin, 4 clubs merged into 2, and 1 disbanded. Membership of clubs to CFMS as well as membership in clubs is a concern and I created an Ad hoc committee to write articles for the newsletter with ideas on how to gain new members and to keep current members. This includes club activities provided to members and the public, classes and programs. I would like to thank the many clubs that have sent their good ideas so far.

CFMS activities: We only had 3 All American Club binders in competition this year, but Bulletin Aid competition had 35 entries between bulletins and adult or junior articles. We had a wonderful increase in competition cases at the annual show with 37 entries, from education, scrimshaw, faceting, petrified wood and carvings, to lapidary and minerals. Our CFMS Scholarship Fund was able to provide scholarships to five students this year. Jim Brace-Thompson reported that CFMS had enrolled 17 new clubs in Future Rockhounds of America and mailed 137 badges to California kids. The Slide and Video library is still very active with 46 requests from January-April.

CFMS Earth Science Studies seminars promotes lapidary activities and continues to be very active with participants. We offer one week in southern California Mojave desert at Zzyzx in the spring and two weeks in northern California forest at Camp Paradise in the fall. Teachers offer classes in lapidary, beading, silver work, wire wrap, stone carving, field trips and evening programs. These seminars are now in their 21st year. I have attended geology camp for many years now and placed my soapstone carving into competition for the first time. The skills learned at either club classes or CFMS classes expand our opportunities to teach others about lapidary activities and this expands membership. CFMS is doing well and looks forward to many years to come.

One new item, Diana Paradis from Fairfield Society has volunteered to compile a Demonstrators Directory, similar to Podium People. This will include folks willing to travel to not just give programs, but to teach classes. This list will be very helpful to our clubs, please help CFMS by sending Diana your local information.

CFMS Newsletter, 08/06

Federation News

CFMS www.cfmsinc.org



Earth Sciences: Camp Paradise

—By Jack Williams, Coordinator

Hey, have I got a deal for you! We're all ready for another exciting time for you at Camp Paradise. A little different time of year and some changes to the schedule, but fun and learning is still what it's all about. Our starting dates are a week earlier than in the past. Also, some of our second week classes are now on the first week and yet others are now on both weeks. So please check the schedule to sign up for the week that has your classes.

We still have our classes in our basics as in the past. In moving things around a little we will now have copper enameling with Betty Egger which we missed last year, so you can try that again. Judy Gooch is back with her silver clay (PMC) work for the first week only. Then Judy will be teaching the glass fusion class the second week only. A new class is starting this year for all you Beaders - Shirley Hill will be there to teach us all some new and fun projects to do with beads.

So go to the CFMS web site at www.cfmsinc.org, click on forms and download the "Camp Paradise Registration Form", fill it out and mail it in. Then stand by for a great time.

Our 2006 CFMS Gem and Mineral Show at Calaveras Gem & Mineral Club's home was a great success. I can't help but wonder after seeing all those new displays in competition, did a lot of these artists get their start at an Earth Science Study Center? I do know a lot of them did get a chance to pick up new techniques or honed up on the skills they already had. Finding a new technique or another way to do a process in our art is what Camp Paradise is all about.

If you have not found out about Camp Paradise, it's about time someone let you in on our big secret. It's not only very educational, but it's also a lot of fun, and you sure can't beat the price. Just look at the back of the Registration Form, take a look at all the classes being offered. Please let me know just where there is a better deal. I want to go.

Well, if I were to tell you why I love it so, it's cause I get to see all you folks there.

CFMS Newsletter, 08/06

Camp Paradise registration forms are available in the SMS clubhouse.



Rhyolite
SWEET HOME MINE

Vino Piazza's 1st Annual

Treasures in the Cellar

Sept. 30 - Oct. 1, 2006
10am-6pm

Gems - Minerals - Jewelry
Sales & Displays

Interactive Demonstrations - Lectures
Dinosaur Displays - Mineral Signs
Family Fun - Activities for Kids
Raffles & Prizes

Free Admission & Parking!

Gem & Mineral Show Jewelry & More!

Public Lands Advisory Committee—North Report

-- Frank Monez, PLAC-NorthChair

The PLAC-North Committee needs your help. The immediate need is for additional members to provide the people power necessary to fulfill its responsibilities to the CFMS membership.

Please review your member roster for a potential member of PLAC-North, and have your president submit his recommendation to the CFMS President for review and approval. The CFMS President will then make the necessary appointment to the PLAC Committee. (It is desirable that the recommended member have access to the Internet for rapid communications.)

PLAC Committee members are urged to attend the government sponsored meetings held in their local area as a member of CFMS, and can identify their membership in other clubs and societies having an interest in the meeting's agenda. They will be urged to actively participate in discussions of the documents, take notes, and provide comments (if appropriate). After each meeting, the PLAC members will keep the respective PLAC chair informed as to status, potential affects on our hobby, and possible action that can be taken by CFMS members. The PLAC Chairs, and/or the reviewing members, will consolidate the individual reports for inclusion in upcoming CFMS Newsletters.

Via *The Rollin' Rock* 07/06

In Search of Board Nominees

The 2006 Nomination Committee

The Nomination Committee for 2006 has been formed. Members Kris Jarusevicius, Tarance Beguhl, and Carolyn Davis will begin meeting to prepare a list of candidates for SMS officers for 2007. The ticket of candidates should be available by the October Educational Meeting.

According to the club by-laws, any additional nominations to the list created may be made from the floor by members of the Society at the October and November meetings. The final Board will be elected by secret ballot in November and winners will take office January 1, 2007.

The Governing Board of the SMS consists of twelve members: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Federation Director, Past President, Bulletin Editor, and five Directors. Officers are elected for the term of one year, and Directors are elected for a term of two years; there are currently two Director positions to be filled at the next election.

While actually appointed by the President, Chairs for various other committees also need to be filled. The Nomination Committee will also be accepting names and creating a list of those individuals willing to fill these positions. The names will be given to the President to assist in making necessary appointments in the new year.

Some SMS members have already expressed interest in being an officer or assisting on a committee, but all positions need dedicated "can do/will do" members to fill them. Please take a few minutes to review the list of positions on page two of *The Matrix* and think about just where you might be able to help. The talents and expertise of all of our members can help our club grow and prosper in the year ahead. You don't have to have experience to help out; past officers and chairs will be available to give you advice. You CAN make a difference by volunteering.

If you wish to nominate someone or would like to be a nominee yourself, contact one of the Nominating Committee members: Kris at (916) 451-4806, Tarance at (916) 519-2590, or Carolyn at (916) 482-1345. Please remember that if you want to nominate someone else, you must first have his or her permission.

SMS Roster Updates

A monthly update of SMS member information.

Please make note of the following changes or corrections to the SMS club roster.

New/Corrected Email Addresses:

John & Betty Snyder snyderspowwow@sbcglobal.net

New/Corrected Telephone Numbers:

Tarance Beguhl..... (916) 519-2590

Changes or corrections should forwarded to the editor at sms-editor@pacbell.net or by phone at (916) 451-4806.

KATERINA'S TREASURES
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Pebbles 'n Gems

Items of interest related to members of the SMS too small to make into articles of their own. Any tidbits of information can be sent to the editor at any time by email at sms-editor@pacbell.net, or just fill me in when you see me at the shop.

It has just been announced that two of our members, **Janice Marzolf** and **Kevin Beguhl**, have been accepted as artists for the 2006 KVIE Art Auction. Both submitted wire-wrap pieces; Janice wrapped a piece of purplerite in gold wire and Kevin's piece of labradorite is wrapped in sterling silver. How wonderful to hear that out of 379 entries, the final 115 includes not one, but two SMS members! The on-air auction will be presented September 15th-17th on local KVIE channel 6, but all items up for auction will be available for preview on their website at: <http://www.kvie.org/events/artauction/default.htm> in the near future.

Past President, **George Sterpka** and his wife, **Carol**, send their greetings to the members of the SMS. They are active in the *Central Arkansas Gem, Mineral & Geology Society*, and George has already taken over the editor's job and gotten the club on-line. They'd enjoy hearing from members of the SMS and can be contacted at sterpka@cebridge.net. I guess they can't fully let go of the SMS... the picture of them on the *Central Rockhound* website (<http://centralrockhound.org/fieldTrips/mc2006.htm>) has George still showing off that SMS t-shirt!

Do you know of a good restaurant? While it may be 100+ degrees outside lately, the club needs to start tracking down a place to hold the annual SMS Christmas Dinner and Installation of Officers. We've had the event at the *Spaghetti Factory* in Elk Grove for the past few years, but their meeting room is becoming a little small for our needs. We're looking for a place with abundant parking and a separate meeting room that would accommodate approximately 50 people that would be available on December 21st. Dinner price should be around \$15.00 per person. If you know of a good place that will fit our needs, please let **Barbara Foskett** know by calling her at (916) 685-4111 or dropping her an email at jfosback@aol.com.

While the SMS has already had three of our members receive awards for articles and our bulletin from the CFMS this year, it looks like we're in the running again. Notification from the AFMS indicates that **Kris Jarusevicius** is in the top ten for New Editor. **Les Clark's** article, "A Rockhounder's Wander Through Nevada" is also in the running for an award for Original Adult Article. Final outcomes will be announced at the AFMS Show Breakfast in Nashville on August 20, 2006.

Tarance Beguhl has agreed to fill our vacancy in the area of Publicity through the end of the year. He has already made many contacts with local television stations and his attempts at acquiring some spotlight coverage of our club in the near future looks quite promising.

SMS members are invited to set up an exhibit at the *El Dorado County Mineral and Gem Society's* Rock and Gem Show being held on October 21st and 22nd at the El Dorado County Fairgrounds in Placerville. Their theme for this year is "crystals", so they are especially interested in exhibits that support the theme.

Contact information is available on the bulletin board at the clubhouse or contact their Exhibits Chairperson, Fred Ott, at (530) 677-8440.

SMS members **Kymerly Andrews** and **Rolf Zschoernig** must be the ultimate Rockhounds. *Gemform*, the bi-monthly newsletter of the *Nunawading and District Lapidary Club* in Victoria, Australia, recently mentioned them as new members. Now that would be a field trip!

July's New Members

Five new members were voted in at the July Board Meeting and have already become active participants in many areas of the club.

Ken and **Carol Otterstrom** live in Citrus Heights and were introduced to the club by Kim Hofer. Ken has been interested in Mineralogy for several years, sharing that his father owns a rock shop in Quartzite and does faceting. Kim indicates that she has been interested in Lapidary for some time and is ready to become active in working with stone; she's also interested in attending Field Trips. Both Ken and Carol are willing to help out with our annual show and social events. They shared some calcite that was obtained in Hilo, Hawaii, with those in attendance at the July Educational Meeting.

Joni Asakawa of Davis heard about our club at the UC Davis Craft Center. She's been working at her silversmithing hobby for three years and has a collection of various stones such as jade, agate, carnelian and jasper that she'd like to set in silver. She's interested in Lapidary and is anxious to learn how to make cabochons. We hope that Joni would be willing to share some of her silversmithing experience with club members in the future.

Ken Pearsall and his son, **Max Pearsall**, reside in Carmichael. Ken has an interest in Geology and has been interested in Lapidary and Minerals for approximately one year. He joined the club to assist his son in exploring the world of rocks. Young Max has an interest in all of our offerings and would like to become involved in any junior activities the club might have to offer. He attends Trajan Elementary School and already has a collection of rocks and minerals; after a venture into the rock pile he seems particularly interested in those that shine!

We hope that all SMS members will welcome our new members when they see them at the clubhouse.

How to Work Amber

Always use wet/dry sandpaper. Starting with 100 grit, take off all outer coating. Dip in water, then hold against strong light to locate insects. Shape and/or round corners with metal file.

Using 200 grit sandpaper, sand until any deep scratches are gone. Finish sanding with 600 grit. Use circular motions to prevent long scratches.

Let piece dry. Examine your finish carefully for any bad spots and re-sand as necessary. Put regular toothpaste on a wet wash cloth. Make a paste and rub amber to polish. (Gel type toothpaste isn't abrasive enough).

Rewritten from *Delvings* 8/98

ROCKHOUNDS THE MOVIE

GeologyVideo.com Presents RockHounds: The Movie Special Edition DVD

Norman, OK – Due to popular demand, gem & mineral collectors can now own their very own copy of the “RockHounds: The Movie” Special Edition DVD. The documentary film has toured the film festival and gem & mineral show circuit during 2005 and has been screened on three different continents and throughout the U.S.

Produced by Explorer Multimedia Inc. in conjunction with the School of Geology & Geophysics at the University of Oklahoma, the film showcases the fun, adventure and science behind the hobby of gem & mineral collecting. Topics include the World Championship Quartz Crystal Dig, fossil hunting, barite rose rocks, the “Rock Food Table” and more!

Loaded with special features, the DVD includes:

- The full feature length film (55 minutes)
- Audio commentary by Executive Producer & Geologist Devin Dennie and Director Todd Kent
- “The Making of RockHounds: The Movie” featurette
- Special Sneak Peak of “GeoAmerica” featurette

The film is available for sale at www.GeologyVideo.com. This is the first film available on [GeologyVideo.com](http://www.GeologyVideo.com), which is also an Explorer Multimedia Inc. venture, but others will soon follow.

“We plan to have a series of GeoAmerica DVDs that feature a different popular tourist city,” said EMI President Devin Dennie, “and the focus of each will be the geology and earth science behind those destinations.”

For more information about “RockHounds: The Movie” please visit www.RockHoundsMovie.com or www.GeologyVideo.com. “RockHounds: The Movie” was an official selection of SCINEMA '05 – Festival of Science Film and will continue to screen at film festivals and gem & mineral shows including the 2006 Tucson Gem & Mineral Show.

Explorer Multimedia Inc., is a non profit 501(c)(3) corporation. For more info, please visit www.ExplorerMultimedia.org.

Press release obtained 07/05 from <http://savvycenter.com/explorer/rockhounds/pressstuff.htm>

Editor’s Note: Does anyone have a DVD player that could be used at the clubhouse one evening? A copy of the DVD is on its way to my doorstep and I hope to share it with other club members at one of our upcoming educational meetings. Contact with Explorer Multimedia, Inc., confirms that we have permission to show the film to others without charge — including guests of our November gem show. What do you think folks? Shall we add a movie feature to our offerings at the show?

SMS Calendar

All events held at the SMS clubhouse unless otherwise noted.

August

- 10th—Thursday August Business Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 12th—Saturday Shop Stewards’ Meeting, 9:00 a.m.
ALL STEWARDS PLEASE ATTEND
- 12th—Saturday Wire Wrap with Kevin Beguhl
10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon: Beginning Cab Wrap, \$15.00
12:00 noon-3:00 p.m.: Advanced Bracelet (Cab or Bead)
\$23.00 if taken with Beginning Cab
- 17th—Thursday 2006 SMS Show Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 17th—Thursday Educational Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
Jay Buschio—“Meteorites and the Early Solar System”
Silent Auction!!
- 26th—Saturday SMS Open House, BBQ and Tailgate
10:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Bring a guest and introduce them to YOUR club!

September

- 9th—Saturday Wire Wrap with Kevin Beguhl
Beginning Cabochon Wrap
10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., \$15.00
- 14th—Thursday September Business Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 16th—Saturday Bone Carving with Tina Smith
10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., \$7.00
- 21st—Thursday 2006 SMS Show Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 21st—Thursday Educational Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
Elizabeth Sehan—“Why Diamonds Sparkle”
Silent Auction!!
- 23rd—Saturday Wire Wrap with Kevin Beguhl
10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon: Beginning Cab Wrap, \$15.00
12:00 noon-3:00 p.m.: Advanced Bracelet (Cab or Bead)
\$23.00 if take with Beginning Cab

October

- 12th—Thursday Business Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 14th—Saturday Wire Wrap with Kevin Beguhl
Beginning Cabochon Wrap
10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., \$15.00
- 19th—Thursday 2006 SMS Show Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 19th—Thursday Educational Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
Topic TBD — Silent Auction!!
- 21st—Saturday Bone Carving with Tina Smith
10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., \$7.00
- 28th—Saturday Wire Wrap with Kevin Beguhl
10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon: Beginning Cabochon Wrap
12:00 noon-3:00 p.m.: Advanced Bracelet (Cab or Bead)

Shop open every Wednesday and Saturday
from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Spread the word and bring a friend!

History of Wire Wrapping

—By M.H. Case, Sr.

Wire wrap jewelry has recently gained popularity among all groups of peoples. For a small investment, any person can have a unique piece of wearable artwork. Bold, angular designs or smooth, flowing curves can change a common gemstone into an heirloom. Ancient Phoenicians are credited with the creation of wire wrap jewelry, but the art goes back nearly 1,000 years earlier.

In the Biblical record, detailed instructions are given to Moses to construct the tabernacle and the priestly garments and attire, including Aaron's breastplate. In Exodus, gems are listed: sardius (ruby), topaz, carbuncle, emerald, sapphire, diamond, jacinth, agate, amethyst, beryl, onyx and jasper. All were to be set in gold filigree. Filigree was gold or silver hammered into thin sheets, then cut into thin strips and the edges filed smooth, thus making wire. The wire was woven into a basket or filigree and set into the breastplate. Later in Exodus, more detailed instructions were given about setting other gemstones into the rest of the priestly garments. Biblical scholars have placed this event near 1446 BC, nearly 1,000 years ahead of the Phoenicians.

There was a change in the Egyptian sarcophagus around 1900 BC, about the time that Joseph traveled to Egypt and brought his family there to avoid the famine in Israel. A sarcophagus was layered with fine sheets of gold prior to that time, but about 1900 to 1800 BC the sarcophagus changed to include woven strands of gold and silver, suggesting that the Hebrew artists brought this art form to their new homeland.

Wire was produced this way through the rise of the Phoenician empire. Phoenician culture thrived on arts and performance. As a semi-nomadic group of people, they took their art forms across the known world.

At the height of the Phoenician Empire, from 1250-500 BC, their jewelry was prized throughout the world. When the Greek navy came to power, the Phoenician trade started to dwindle and finally was engulfed totally by the rise of the Roman Empire. Although Roman culture was to absorb other art and cultural ideas into their own, the wire wrap art was abandoned for more traditional silversmith techniques.

The earliest mention of wire production in England was 1465. Wire wrapping was limited to fastening crucifixes and other religious symbols to lanyards and chains.

During the late 1800's the Bohemian culture used wire to string chips of polished glass and stone beads to make necklaces and bracelets. This was popular among the European aristocracy for nearly 50 years. These hand-forged chains were so popular that if you were found not to have an authentic Bohemian piece of jewelry, you were shunned and scorned.

From 1837 to 1901 in the Victorian Age, the most popular pieces of jewelry was the cameo. The truest form of wire art sculpture has only recently been seen.

Rockhound Rambling, 2005, via Fresno Chips 07/06

August CO-OP Meeting

The fall CO-OP meeting will be held on August 20th, 2006 at the *North Star Mining Museum* in Grass Valley. The museum has a picnic area, plenty of parking, and of course, the museum. The meeting will be a potluck along with a business meeting, both held in the picnic area.

Arrival and set-up begins at 10:30. The potluck lunch is at 11:30 to be followed by the Business Meeting at 12:30. If you are planning to attend, please RSVP to Florence Brady at fhbradyh@jps.net or (916) 961-6868, and indicate if you are planning to bring a guest. An estimate of the number of people attending is needed in order to plan the set up. Please bring food to share with others (Pat Breedlove is providing sausages), plate, drinking glass and silverware, folding chairs, and drinks if you wish to have something other than soda, coffee or water.

Before or after the meeting, participants can visit the museum which is open from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. it has a very good collection of mining artifacts and equipment and has the largest collection of Pelton Wheels around.

Directions: North on Hwy 49, take Hwy 20 exit and cross over Hwy 49. Take the first exit and at the stop sign, go right on Mill Street. After the next stop sign, continue straight across McCourtney Road and Mill Street becomes Allison Ranch Road. On the left, go to the second parking lot for the *North Star Mining Museum* (after the museum). Park and go to the picnic area.

A few web sites with some interesting information can be viewed at the following URLs: <http://www.planetware.com/grass-valley/north-star-mining-museum-us-ca-nsmms.htm> and http://www.asme.org/Communities/History/Landmarks/Pelton_Waterwheel_Collection.cfm.

Thanks go out to Jonathon North, President and Acting Field Trip Leader for the *Nevada County Gem Society*, and Pat Breedlove, former Field Trip Leader, for confirming the location for this meeting.

Florence Brady, CO-OP Secretary, via email

August Shop Steward Schedule

Wednesday		Saturday	
Aug 2	Stan H.	Aug 5	Craig M.
Aug 9	Ron S.	Aug 12	Tarance B.
Aug 16	Craig M.	Aug 19	Kevin B.
Aug 23	Carl Z.	Aug 26	Open House
Aug 30	OPEN		

Reminders:

Glasses are always required while working in the shop. Be sure to sign in before using shop equipment. Report any problems to the Shop Steward of the day. Rock cutting is to be performed by Shop Stewards only.

Upcoming Shows & Events

- Aug. 4-6 **Nipomo, CA.** *Orcutt Mineral Society's "Earth's Treasures"*. St. Joseph's Church, 298 South Thompson Avenue. Hours: 10-5 daily. Wes Lingerfelt, (805) 929-3788.
- Aug. 5-6 **San Francisco, CA.** *San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society*. San Francisco County Fair Building, Ninth Ave & Lincoln Way. Hours: Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5. Ellen Nott, (415) 564-4230.
- Sept. 16-17 **Paso Robles, CA.** *Santa Lucia Rockhounds*. Pioneer Park and Museum, 2010 Riverside Avenue. Hours: 10-5 both days. Joyce Baird, (805) 462-9544, liloysee@charter.net.
- Sept. 16-17 **Jackson, CA.** *Fossils For Fun Society's 6th Annual "Tailgate Gemboree"*. Kennedy Gold Mine, Hwy. 49 & Kennedy Mine Rd. Hours: 9-5. Free admission, \$2 parking. Show, dealers and tailgaters, bargain fossil table, live rock and fossil auction. www.geocities.com/fossilsforfunociety/index.html. Dan Brown, (209) 296-6466, fossilsforfun@hotmail.com.
- Sept. 22-24 **San Bernardino, CA.** *Orange Belt Mineralogical Society's 6th Annual Rock, Gem & Jewelry Tailgate*. Ball park 6707, Little League Drive. Hours: Fri/Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-4. Mike Woolery, (909) 882-6806, Al Carrell, (961) 961-5988.
- Sept. 23-24 **Carmel, CA.** *Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society*. Monterey Fairgrounds, 2004 Fairgrounds Road. Hours: Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5. Sky Paxton, (831-755-7741, sky@familystones.net. Website: www.cvgms.org.
- Sept. 23-34 **San Diego, CA.** *San Diego Lapidary Society*. Bernardo Winery, 13330 Paseo Del Verano Norte. Hours: 10-4. Gems, fossils, minerals, beads, jewelry, gemstone identification, lapidary & jewelry demos, silver & gold jewelry. Kim Hutsell, (619) 294-3914, info@sandiegolapidarysociety.org.
- Sept. 23-24 **Downey, CA.** *Delvers Gem & Mineral Society*. Woman's Club of Downey, 9813 Paramount Blvd. Hours: Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4. Teresa Widdison, (562) 867-1521, email: twiddison72@aol.com.
- Sept. 23-24 **Monterey, CA.** *Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society*. Monterey Fairgrounds, 2004 Fairgrounds Road. Hours: Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5. Sky Paxton, (831) 755-7741, sky@familystones.net.
- Oct. 1 **Fallbrook, CA.** *Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Society*. 123 W. Alva (FGMS Headquarters). Hours: 10-4. Web site: www.fgms.org; there is a map on web site. Janice Bricker, (760) 728-1333.
- Oct. 6-8 **Big Sur, CA.** 15th Annual Big Sur Jade Festival. Highway One, opposite Sand Dollar Beach. Sponsored by the *South Coast Community Land Trust* and *Pacific Valley School PTO*. Free Admission. Hours: Fri. 12-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5. Information: (831) 659-3857 or (831) 402-1143.
- Oct. 14 **West Hills, CA.** *Woodland Hills Rock Chippers 8th Annual Gem & Mineral Show*. 22700 Sherman Way. Hours: 10-5, Virginia Rotramel, (818) 790-7598, show@rockchippers.org.
- Oct. 14-15 **Grass Valley, CA.** *Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society's "Earth's Treasures"*. Nevada County Fairgrounds, 11228 McCourtney Road. Hours: 10-4 both days. Cliff Swenson, (530) 272-3752.
- Oct. 14-15 **Trona, CA.** *Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society's "Gem-o-Rama"*. Searles Lake Gem & Mineral, 13337 Main Street. Hours: Sat. 7:30-5, Sun. 7:30-4. Bonnie Fairchild, ((760) 372-5356, email: jbfairchild@verizon.net.
- Oct. 21-22 **Anderson, CA.** *Shasta Gem & Mineral Society*. Shasta District Fairgrounds. Hours: Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4. Alex Stoltz, (530) 474-4400.
- Oct. 21-22 **Whittier, CA.** *Whittier Gem & Mineral Society*, Whittier Community Center, 7630 Washington Avenue. Hours: 10-5 both days. Jay Valle, (626) 934-9764, email: res19pnb@verizon.net.
- Oct. 28-29 **Vista, CA.** *Vista Gem & Mineral Society*. 1200 Vale Terrace. Hrs: Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4. Mary Anne Mital, (760) 758-4599.
- Oct. 28-29 **Stockton, CA.** *Stockton Lapidary & Mineral Club*. San Joaquin County Fairgrounds, 1658 Airport Way. Hours: Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4. Jim Dunlap, (209) 478-0747. Show website: www.Stocktonlapidary.com.
- Nov. 4-5 **Concord, CA.** *Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society*. Centre Concord, 5298 Clayton Road. Hours: 10-5 both days. Bill McKay (925) 439-8195 Email: williamrmckay@hotmail.com.
- Nov. 4-5 **Ridgecrest, CA.** *Indian Wells Gem & Mineral Society*. Desert Empire Fairgrounds, 520 S. Richmond Road. Hours: 9-5 both days. Call (760) 375-8000 for RV parking. John De Rosa (760) 375-7905.
- Nov. 4-5 **Lancaster, CA.** *Palmdale Gem & Mineral Club's "Rock n Gem Roundup"*. Antelope Valley Fairgrounds, 2551 West Avenue H. Hours: 9-5 both days. Susan Walblom, (661) 943-1861, pgmc@antelecom.net.
- Nov. 4-5 **San Diego, CA.** *San Diego Mineral & Gem Society*. Al Bahr Shrine Center (behind Hampton Inn), 4550 Kearny Mesa Road. Hours: Sat. 9:30-5, Sun. 10-4. Wayne Moporhead, (858) 586-1637.
- Nov. 10-12 **★★★ Sacramento, CA.** *Sacramento Mineral Society's 64th Annual Gem, Jewelry and Mineral Show*. Scottish Rite **★★★**
Temple, 6151 H Street. Hours: Fri. 9-5, Sat. 10-6, Sun 10-4. Sheldon Shuper, (916) 383-9153.
- Nov. 11-12 **Yuba City, CA.** *Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society*. Yuba Sutter Fairgrounds, Franklin Hall, 442 Franklin Ave. Hours: 9-4 both days. Cliff Swenson, (530) 272-3752.

CO-OP

www.coop.5u.com

Field Trips

Reminder: Call the field trip leader in advance to verify details – climate and weather, tools, safety concerns, clothing, vehicle requirements, etc. Wear your name badge and sign in with the leader. All participants must sign a *Consent and Assumption of Risk Waiver of Liability* form upon arriving at the meeting site and non-CFMS members must show proof of personal liability insurance. Obey the AFMS Code of Ethics, Land Use Policy, and safety rules. Always use common sense. Additional information may be obtained on the CO-OP web site.

- Sunday, August 20 **Red Bluff, CA** for rhodonite, some with clear or white quartz. Sponsored by the *San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society* and NBFT. **Spider Mine**, named after the spidery manganese patterns in the rhodonite, is owned by SFGMS and is located about 1.5 hours from Red Bluff. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the *Wildwood Store*, Hwy 36 approximately 55 miles west of Red Bluff. No facilities at the mine. Camping available at *Basin Gulch Campground*. From Harrison Gulch Ranger Station on Hwy 36, drive west ¼-mile, turn left on Stuart Gap then left on White Rock Road about one mile. Vault toilets, no water, no hookups. Potluck supper at camp Saturday night. Motels available in Red Bluff. Expensive gas and limited groceries available at Wildwood and Platina. Bring heavy-duty sledges and chisels, pry bar; a power drill will be provided. Fee is \$5.00 per person to collect up to 30 pounds of material, then .50 cents per pound up to a maximum of 100 pounds. Bring water, lunch and sunscreen; wear long sleeves to protect against ticks, scorpions and poison oak. For more information and to reserve your spot, contact Robert Campbell at (415) 577-6448 or rbcampbell@earthlink.net.
- Monday, Tuesday & Thursday August 21, 22 & 24 **Virgin Valley, NV** for precious opal, petrified wood. Sponsored by the *Stockton Lapidary and Mineral Club*, members' guests are allowed with proof of liability insurance. Schedule includes digging for opal all three days at the *Rainbow Ridge Mine*. Led by Jim Dunlap, (209) 478-0747, jimsopals@comcast.net; sign-up in advance is required. Fees: \$40 for a day of tailings digging (recommended for beginners); \$300 for a virgin load of material fresh from the mine. It usually takes two strong adults to go through an entire load in a day and reservations for virgin material must be made well in advance; call (775) 941-0270 IMMEDIATELY to reserve. Gravel road; 4x4 recommended. Water, showers, pit toilets and a geo-thermal pool available at the campground; little to no shade. Normal desert precautions necessary including sun protection and warm clothes for the nighttime hours. Scorpions, rattlesnakes and wild burros in the area. Bring tools, gloves, first aid kit and several buckets without holes. Directions: 80 to Winnemucca, north on 95 to 140; turn left at Denio Junction onto 140 west. Get gas if available in Denio Junction and possibly dinner. Head west on 140 and look for the Virgin Valley signs on the left; turn into campground and set up camp. Leader will be in a 20' trailer with a white Toyota truck. Additional information is available from the leader or see the CO-OP website at www.coop.5u.com. Information on the *Rainbow Ridge Mine* can be obtained at www.nevadaopal.com.
- Saturday to Monday, Sept. 2-4 **Cedarville, CA**, for petrified wood, agate, maybe other fossils and obsidian. Sponsored by the *Fossils For Fun Society*, any member of a CFMS club or anyone willing to join the FFF is welcome. Meet each morning at 8:00 a.m. at the Sunrise Motel in Cedarville. Group will caravan to Deep Creek on Saturday (serious hike – 4 mountains to go over to get to the good stuff), and caravan to Devaney, NV, and other areas on Sunday to explore a new wood site. Street cars okay for most sites; will carpool to some sites. Potluck both Saturday and Sunday at the Sunrise Motel at 6:00 p.m. Motel rooms, RV and tent sites available at Sunrise Motel, (530) 279-2161; reservations required. Budget camping available in nearby national forest. Other motels available in Alturas. Please call trip leader, Debbie Bunn at (916) 929-6665 to let her know you are coming. Additional information and map available on the CO-OP website or by contacting the trip leader.

Diamond Pacific Tool Corporation

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Barstow, CA 92312

Tel. 760-255-1030 Fax 760-255-1077

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Eleven Ways to Become a Fossil

1. **Freezing** - This rare creature has suffered a minimum of change. His arteries may still contain dried blood, his stomach undigested food. Most common is the Ice-Age mammoth of Siberia and Alaska.
2. **Drying or Dessication** - If these organisms were thoroughly dried, they can be of high quality. Best known are the camels and sloths found in our Southwest caves.
3. **Wax and Asphalt** - Natural paraffin makes an excellent preservative, as proved by specimens found in Polish mines. The most famous asphalt fossils are still embedded in the La Brea Tar Pits in California.
4. **Simple Burial** - English bogs are famous for their buried forests. Sand dollars, sea urchins, and mollusks have been preserved by this method for up to 75 million years.
5. **Carbonization** - Incomplete decay of volatile substances leaves carbon behind, sometimes reducing organisms to paper-thin layers of shiny black film that reveal much detail.
6. **Petrification** - Our common stony fossils got that way by permineralization, the replacement of the structure by dissolved minerals, or secondary replacement, such as when limey fossils are dissolved and replaced by silica.
7. **Molds and Casts** - Natural molds in sediment remain after organisms decay. Sandstone beds reveal molds of shells and trees, and the finest molds are Northern European amber, which has perfectly preserved the forms of insects.
8. **Imprints** - Sandstone, shale and tuff reveal external molds of very thin objects such as leaves. Best known of these are the Illinois Coal-Age plant imprints.
9. **Tracks, Trails, Burrows** - Dinosaur prints are the most famous of these. But Nebraska's "Devil's Corkscrew" once housed a beaver who dug an eight foot spiral hole.
10. **Castings and Coprolites** - Ancient worms swallowed sand to help digest small organisms; they regurgitated these casings. Coprolite is a polite word for petrified "dung".
11. **Gastroliths** - Many ancient reptiles ground their food with these stones (as do our modern fowl). The stones are rounded, smooth, and even polished at times. Also known as "Gizzard Stones".

Author Unknown. From *Paleo Newsletter*, April 2001; via *Breccia* 07/06

Attention SMS Members: Help Advertise the November 2006 SMS Show

If you will be traveling to different lapidary shows in California, Oregon or Nevada, pick up a handful of our November 2006 Show Flyers from the on-duty Shop Steward (Wednesday or Saturday) for distribution at the shows you attend.

Fluorescent Mineral Society

The Fluorescent Mineral Society, Inc. (FMS) is an international organization of professional mineralogists, gemologists, amateur collectors, and others who study and collect fluorescent minerals. The society was founded in 1971 and incorporated in 1993.

The purpose of the Society is to share knowledge and experience in collecting, identifying, and displaying of fluorescent minerals as well as minerals displaying other forms of luminescence such as phosphorescence, triboluminescence, and thermoluminescence. The Society helps organize seminars, research, displays, and exchanges of luminescent minerals, and disseminate information about luminescent minerals. They also encourage interests related to fluorescent minerals such as the photography of fluorescent minerals, the study of other luminescent minerals, and the various uses of ultraviolet lights.

The FMS publishes a newsletter, the *UV Waves*, several times a year and the *Journal of the Fluorescent Mineral Society*, a technical publication, annually or biennially. In 1993 they also published the initial FMS Advertising Supplement with ads from UV light manufacturers and dealers in fluorescent minerals.

The FMS promotes displays of fluorescent minerals, and sponsors projects related to ultraviolet lights and fluorescent minerals. In 1996 the FM organized the 76-case fluorescent mineral display at the Tucson Gem & Mineral Show. This was by far the largest exhibit of fluorescent minerals ever in one place.

The FMS has 450 members in 46 states of the U.S.A. and 19 other countries. It has regional vice presidents in the Northeast, Northwest, Northern California, Southern California, Desert (Southwest), South Central, Southeast, Midwest, New England, and Rocky Mountain sections of the U.S.A., as well as Canada, Europe and South Africa.

The registration fee for new FMS members is \$5.00, plus yearly dues of \$20.00 for members in the U.S.A., and US \$23 for addresses outside the U.S.A.. Payments may be made by mail or via *PayPal* from the FMS website.

Most interaction takes place through publications, letters, and e-mail. Informal meetings are held periodically by the different regional groups in the USA and abroad, and include meetings at mineral shows such as those at Denver, Tucson, and Franklin, NJ. Monthly meetings are held in Pasadena, CA by the officers to conduct the society's business.

For further information about the FMS, contact Fluorescent Mineral Society, P.O. Box 572694, Tarzana, CA 91357, USA; or by Internet mail: president@uvminerals.org. See our web site at: www.uvminerals.org.

Information from the FMS Fact Sheet via www.uvminerals.org, 07/05

Tip: Need somewhere to store your 6" sanding and polishing discs? Use an inexpensive music CD case. They fit in the pockets perfectly, and you can label each pocket with a different grit number.

Source: www.rocks4u.com



Sacramento Mineral Society
P.O. Box 160544
Sacramento, CA 95816

The Matrix

August 2006



Sacramento Mineral Society's

Open House, BBQ & Tailgate

**Saturday, August 26, 2006
10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

**Delicious BBQ
\$3.00 Donation**



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