



# The Matrix

Official Newsletter of the  
Sacramento Mineral Society  
Sacramento, California

# SMS

January 2007  
Volume 67, No. 1



The 2007 SMS Board of Directors. Front Row L-R: Joy Fergoda, Secretary; Kevin Beguhl, President; Kris Jarusevicius, Bulletin Editor; Alma DeShazer, Federation Co-Director. Back Row: Les Clark, Past President; Sheldon Shuper, Treasurer; Dixie Christenson, Director; Linda Baglin, Director; Tarance Beguhl, Director; Carl Zimmerman, Director; Dan Brown, Federation Co-Director. Not pictured: Lana Paulhamus, Director; and Frank Fawcett, Vice President

## New Roster of Officers Step In: Meet the 2007 Board

At the SMS Christmas Dinner on Thursday, December 21, 2006, members of the 2007 Board of Directors were installed into office. The new roster includes some seasoned members, but also some first-timers – a display of the revitalized willingness of the membership to get more involved with the club and its future.

So, who are these people? Let's get to know a bit about them.

When approached by other members to run for office, President **Kevin Beguhl** had to think about it for a bit, but ultimately decided that he might be able to help the club maintain its current momentum and continue to move forward to explore some new areas. He has been a member of the SMS for approximately one and a half years and originally joined the club in order to work with stones, but truly enjoys associating with other club members to share knowledge, learn about rocks, and help others improve their skills and abilities. Kevin gives on-going workshops on wire-wrapping techniques and hopes to offer workshops in metal clay fabrication later this year. He is a member of the *Jewelry Board of Trade* and *The United States Jeweler's Association*, and the co-owner of *Katerina's Treasures* in Fair Oaks. In addition to the "rock habit", Kevin is interested in guns, woodworking, jewelry, and traveling. He hopes to see members get more involved in club activities, classes and field trips in the coming year.

Vice President, **Frank Fawcett**, has been a member of the Society for approximately two years. He joined the club mainly because of his geological interests, hoping to get to know the types of rocks found in the club's rock pile and acquire a few small samples. Now however, he feels the shop and the people are what make the SMS special, but he still admits to a fascination with the rock pile. He hopes to

*(Continued on page 4)*

## IN THIS ISSUE

Page 2	For Your Information: Recycling
Page 3	President's Message Shop Steward Meeting SMS Calendar
Page 5	Deserts
Page 6	Alternate Birthstone for January New Members
Page 7	December Business Meeting Minutes January Shop Schedule January Business Meeting Agenda
Page 8-9	Federation News
Page 10	CO-OP / Field Trips Unsolved Mystery of Blue Amber
Page 11	CO-OP Field Trips for 2007 Quartzsite & Tucson Shows
Page 12	Shows and Events
Page 13	Wanted: Creative Storytellers and Word Manipulators SMS Bulletin Board



**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:  
2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month, 7:00 p.m.
- Educational Meeting:  
3<sup>rd</sup> 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/Juniors \$1.00

Web Site: [www.sacmineralsociety.org](http://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.

**For Your Information: Recycling**

**Barbara Foskett** shared some of this information recently and we thought members might find it helpful.

Hazardous waste may be taken free of charge to one of two *Sacramento Recycling & Transfer Stations*. During a visit, Barbara shared they did not even need to get out of the car – in fact, they were told not to get out of the car, for the attendant will open the trunk or back of the vehicle and remove whatever is being disposed of.

The city has two Transfer Stations, one at 8491 Fruitridge Road and the other at 4450 Roseville Road. Both city stations are open Tuesday through Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for disposal of antifreeze, car batteries, used motor oil and filters, and latex paint. Other hazardous materials, including electronics, are accepted on Friday and Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The facilities are closed on Sundays, Mondays, and all major holidays. Note that a fee can be charged for attempting to deliver the incorrect material on the wrong day, for certain types of electronic devices, or for hauling excessive hazardous waste. It's wise to call (916) 379-0500 in advance for limitations, or check the City of Sacramento website in advance for more information at: [http://www.cityofsacramento.org/utilities/solidwaste/waste\\_pages/](http://www.cityofsacramento.org/utilities/solidwaste/waste_pages/).

As an alternative to the city Transfer Stations for disposal of electronic items, check out *California Electronic Asset Recovery (CEAR)* right across the street from our SMS clubhouse at 3678 LeMay Street. Computer monitors and TVs can be dropped off free of charge. A special program to encourage recycling was being offered where the company would also accept other electronic items such as computers and printers at no charge. As of this writing, this program is set to end at the end of 2006, however a telephone call to the facility hints that it may be extended. The regular price for disposal of these items is \$.25/pound (about \$5.00 for a standard computer CPU). The facility is open for drop-off of items Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Call (916) 388-1777 for more information.

A check of your local yellow pages telephone directory (yes, these books still exist) will lead you to additional listings for Sacramento County and numerous other private recycling facilities in the in the Sacramento area. Some of them will even arrange an appointment for curbside pick-up from your home of these unwanted items or larger bulky items such as refrigerators and stoves.

Let's continue to look out for Mother Nature and not dispose of hazardous items improperly. After all... where would we and the Society be without all the gifts she's given us?



The right to copy is freely granted to AFMS-affiliated clubs and its members with proper credit given to *The Matrix*. All articles by the editor unless otherwise noted.



**2007 Board Members**

President:	Kevin Beguhl	(916) 459-7556	<a href="mailto:webebeguhl@aol.com">webebeguhl@aol.com</a>
Vice President:	Frank Fawcett	(916) 967-5809	<a href="mailto:ffhawcett@aol.com">ffhawcett@aol.com</a>
Secretary:	Joy Fergoda	(530) 756-5857	<a href="mailto:jafergoda@yahoo.com">jafergoda@yahoo.com</a>
Treasurer:	Sheldon Shuper	(916) 383-9153	
Federation Directors:	Dan Brown	(209) 296-6466	<a href="mailto:danbrown666@msn.com">danbrown666@msn.com</a>
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Directors 2006-2007:	Linda Baglin	(916) 685-8132	<a href="mailto:LollieLinda@yahoo.com">LollieLinda@yahoo.com</a>
	Dixie Christenson	(916) 455-0421	<a href="mailto:gildedcat@sbcglobal.net">gildedcat@sbcglobal.net</a>
	Lana Paulhamus	(916) 372-5117	
Directors 2007-2008:	Carl Zimmerman	(916) 739-1279	<a href="mailto:cz4744@netzero.net">cz4744@netzero.net</a>
	Tarance Beguhl	(916) 519-2590	<a href="mailto:t1beagle@aol.com">t1beagle@aol.com</a>

**Committees and Chairs**

By-Laws:	Sheldon Shuper	Scholarship:	Lisa Hammersley
	Barbara Foskett		Sheldon Shuper
	Les Clark		OPEN
Display:	Carl Zimmerman	Shop Advisor:	OPEN
Field Trips:	Dan Brown	Membership:	Frank Fawcett (Temp)
Shop Foreman:	Stan Henneman	Webmasters:	Kris Jarusevicius
Groundskeeper:	Carl Zimmerman		Tarance Beguhl
2007 Show Coordinator:	OPEN		Kevin Beguhl
Librarian:	Frank Fawcett	Mailing:	OPEN
Custodian:	Joy Fergoda	Publicity:	Tarance Beguhl
Historian:	OPEN	Juniors:	Bill Elkins
Advertising:	OPEN		Amy Byrd

## President's Message

Hello. Most of the older members already know who I am and what my direction is. But some of you I have not had the privilege of meeting, or you may be so new to the club that we have not had the chance to meet. So let me take a moment to introduce myself and give a brief idea of my vision for the SMS.

My name is Kevin Beguhl and I became interested in the SMS in a unique way. I've enjoyed rocks and minerals as long as I can remember, but was thrust back into it when my wife, Rosie, and I opened up a jewelry and gift shop 4 ½ years ago. We focused on sterling and unique gemstones from all over the world, so I was buying cabs and cut stones of all different stone types and was continually having the problem that they wouldn't fit into standard mountings or I would not be able to identify them.

While at the *Gem Faire* in the spring of 2005, I met **George Sterpka**, the president of the SMS at that time. He convinced me to stop by and check out the clubhouse and shop. Once I visited, I was convinced that I needed to get involved. I soon realized that I would be able to learn a lot from the senior members who had so much knowledge of stones and minerals. In the course of conversations and spending time with these members, I learned an even deeper respect for the knowledge that only time can give, and that the people that would share this knowledge were asking nothing in return. This made me look at what I could give to the club and decided that my wire-wrapping skills might be enjoyed; so I started donating time to teach classes. I was honored when some of the members asked me if I would run for club

president. After some thought, and assuring myself that I could fit the responsibilities into my busy life, I agreed. Now I have been voted in and the work begins.

I am following **Sheldon Shuper** in this position and I would like to take this opportunity to note and thank him for the great job he did at getting members involved in club activities, especially the November show. I see my job is to keep the excitement and involvement continuing, all at a time when we have an ever-growing membership (which is great) that places additional responsibility on the club and its board. We need to place more focus on the activities of the club, whether it's the continuing upkeep and maintenance of equipment in the shop, or the upkeep and organization of the yard and clubhouse. Along these lines, I may be asking members for their assistance in either committee positions or helping in some of these areas. By all working together, we can all have a great place to go to enjoy our time as well as our hobby or passion for rocks. **Frank Fawcett**, our new Vice President, is already working on some great educational subjects, but if any members have ideas, they are always appreciated. I will always look to the membership for ideas to increase club activities and hope that they will attend Board meetings and express their opinions and desires.

Again, thank you to all the outgoing board members of 2006. I look forward to the next year working with the new board. But in my mind, the utmost priority of the club must remain education, sharing, and association, while always keeping it enjoyable and fun.

—Kevin Beguhl

## Notice: Shop Steward Meeting

While our current shop stewards and chairs are already in the process of outlining the needs of the shop and the equipment, the first official 2007 meeting of the SMS Shop Stewards will be held on Saturday, January 13, 2007, at 10:00 a.m. in the clubhouse. We're asking all those who help out with the operation of the shop and saw room, with maintenance of the equipment, and/or with training new members be present to share and receive ideas on the continual upkeep and needs of the shop.

The club appreciates the time and dedication of those members who help out in shop operations and training new members on the proper use of shop equipment. However, we are always in search of others who are willing to help out. Being a Shop Steward requires a commitment of as little as six hours a month, usually on a Wednesday or a Saturday. You can volunteer to help in the shop only, to operate the slab saws during a session, or to help out with the maintenance and repair of machines.

This first meeting of the Stewards in 2007 is a great time to show your willingness to help out and volunteer. So if you've ever thought about lending your assistance to the SMS as a steward, please feel free to attend the meeting on January 13<sup>th</sup> and let your willingness be known.

## SMS Calendar

*All events held at the SMS clubhouse unless otherwise noted.*

### January

- 11<sup>th</sup>—Thursday *Business Meeting, 7:00 p.m.  
All members welcome!*
- 13<sup>th</sup>—Saturday *Shop Steward Meeting, 10:00 a.m.*
- 18<sup>th</sup>—Thursday *Educational Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Silent Auction  
Topic TBD*
- 20<sup>th</sup>—Saturday *Wire Wrap Study Group with Kevin Beguhl  
10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., \$7.00 + materials fee*

### February

- 8<sup>th</sup>—Thursday *Business Meeting, 7:00 p.m.  
All members welcome!*
- 10<sup>th</sup>—Saturday *Wire Wrap Study Group with Kevin Beguhl  
10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., \$7.00 + materials fee*
- 15<sup>th</sup>—Thursday *Educational Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Silent Auction  
Topic TBD*
- 24<sup>th</sup>—Saturday *Wire Wrap Study Group with Kevin Beguhl  
10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., \$7.00 + materials fee*

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

**Spread the word and bring a friend!**

(The 2007 Board, continued from page 1)

be able to give something back to the club this year by being more involved in the Shop Committee to help keep the equipment maintained, and help the club be better prepared to introduce new members to safe lapidary and machine work. His other interests include biking, hiking, music, and reading, and he is a member of the *Anthroposophical Society* and the *Geological Society of America*. He'd like to give thanks to the many people who have carried the club to its success over the years.

**Sheldon Shuper** spent 2006 acting as both Treasurer and President for the SMS. The success of the 2006 show was in many ways due to Sheldon's exuberance and dedication to the project; he managed to get more than two-thirds of the membership involved in the event in some way – more than ever before. Now ready to let go of a little of that responsibility, he's chosen to retain only the Treasurer position for 2007 (but has already committed to helping out in various aspects of our next show as well). In addition to actively participating in SMS functions, he is also a docent for the *Sacramento Railroad Museum*.

**Joy Fergoda** fills the Secretary position for 2007 and is "very enthusiastic about pretty rocks!" She joined the club approximately a year and a half ago to "learn from the more experienced" and participate in rockhounding trips, and hopes that by serving on the Board she can help make the club even better than it has been in the past. She feels she will be able to put her planning and training skills to use by helping to organize more field trips during the next year. She enjoys the new friendships she's made with knowledgeable rockhounds and hopes to meet many more. When not at the clubhouse or sawing rocks in the shop, Joy enjoys hiking and bicycling.

**Kris Jarusevicius** continues on as the Editor of the SMS club bulletin, *The Matrix*. In 2006, she won first place awards in the category of New Editor from both the CFMS and AFMS. She originally joined the club in fall of 2004 to learn a little something about shaping and carving rocks, but is ever-hopeful that the club will expand its offerings to more consistently present opportunities for silversmithing and casting. She enjoys the creative aspects of the club the most, but admits to making some good friends and learning a lot from other members. Originally volunteering to help out as the Editor, she never really had the intent of becoming a Board member, but because of the position, just somehow seems to get involved in a little bit of everything.

Federation Co-Director, **Dan Brown**, has been a member of the SMS for two years but has known several of the members for many years. He joined the club for the opportunity to "give back" to others and to the hobby, and feels the club has many good members and activities to offer. Dan is also a member of the *Fossils For Fun Society*, the *CO-OP Field Trip Leaders Association*, and is the founding President/Director of the *Kennedy Mine Foundation*. He hopes to see the club offer more field trips to new locations and educational classes in new topics, such as silversmithing. He'd also like to see more educational articles in *The Matrix*. Dan is also serving as the SMS Field Trip Chair in 2007.

Our other Federation Co-Director, **Alma DeShazer**, also joined the SMS approximately two years ago for the variety of hobby activities offered. She feels one of the best things about the club is the educational opportunities and the friendly people, but would like to see more cooperation between club members in the future. Alma is also a member of the *Fossils For Fun Society*, the *Shasta Gem & Mineral Society*, and the *Kennedy Mine Foundation*, where she serves as a docent. She also enjoys sewing and arts and crafts.

Over the years, **Les Clark** has been a member of at least seven different gem and mineral clubs and held the presidential position in at least four of them. He joined the *Sacramento Mineral Society* in the mid-90's and was almost instantly involved in Society business. Previously the club's President, he's also guided us as the club Field Trip leader; he ends his 2006 term as the Field Trip Chair after deciding it was time to relax a bit. With the help of a few other members, Les was instrumental in setting up the SMS clubhouse and shop in 1996. Always a source of information, experience and a great smile, Les will continue to share his advice in club business by once again filling the Past President board position for 2007.

Long-time member **Carl Zimmerman** won't admit to how long he's been with the Club, but seems to be quite taken with rocks.

Q: Why did you originally join the club, Carl? A: Rocks. Q: What's the best thing about the SMS? A: Rocks. Q: Why did you decide to become a member of the Board? A: Because of rocks. Q: Outside interests and hobbies? A: Rocks. Q: What SMS offerings interest you the most? A: Rocks. Think he's trying to tell us something? Actually, Carl has helped the club in multiple ways and always seems to be involved somewhere. Last year's Vice President, he also keeps the club's displays up to date and helps maintain the SMS grounds. He always seems to work in the background to keep things moving during our shows, open house events and other club activities, and seems to know where everything is located – "Ask Carl," is a common statement heard around the clubhouse. He has (of course) been a member of other rock clubs in the past and creates some very unique Native American-style crafts from natural material. Carl fills a Director's position for the next two years.

Continuing into her second year in a two-year Director position, **Dixie Christenson** has been with the SMS for eleven years. When she originally joined, she wasn't really sure what the club was about, but just thought it would be about rocks in general. She's discovered that the club offers good friendships, people willing to help, and good learning experiences – and of course, rocks. Dixie firmly believes that if you belong to an organization you need to participate and give back to the club; thus she's previously held the position of Treasurer for three years and has helped the club with publicity for another five years. She enjoys gardening, music, reading, travel and jewelry making; she has created some beautiful items of her own unique style through the use of metalsmithing, wire-wrap, precious metal clay, enameling, glass fusion and glass bead making. Dixie is also a member of the *Descendants of the Mayflower*, the *Genealogical Association of Sacra-*

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

mento, and the *Daughters of the American Revolution*, where she has recently won awards for her creative jewelry.

**Linda Baglin** also began a two-year term as a Director in 2006. Linda has previously been the club's Vice President and Secretary and did a great job running the kitchen for the 2006 show. She was attracted to the SMS because she loved rocks and enjoyed geology and jewelry making; when she originally joined the club about five years ago, her first visit to the clubhouse ended in the purchase of 81 pounds of rocks! Ever since then, she enjoys social chats while wandering through the rock pile and still can't resist taking a few rocks home with her. Linda enjoys traveling and has some wonderful stories to share; she also loves animals and shares her home with a large assortment of critters. She'd like to see the SMS offer more classes in 2007, as well as see a bit more organization and help in the shop. She also feels that after the success of the 2006 show, we might be able to expand future shows a bit more and include more dealers.

**Lana Paulhamus** originally joined the SMS over 20 years ago to support her son when he started working with rocks, and watched as he won multiple awards as a junior lapidary. When his interests began to change and he grew less involved in the club, she stayed on, feeling a certain attachment to the SMS and its members. "The people are warm and welcoming," she says. "People have fun and that's what clubs are all about." Lana has always been attracted to rocks in their natural state as specimens, enjoying their colors and shapes and truly believing that "rocks ground you and give you a feeling of foundation." Having previously served as the club's librarian for five years, she began a two-year term as SMS Director in 2006; she's also a busy volunteer director for the *West Sacramento Historical Society*. She'd like the SMS to have a chance to grow and would especially like to see junior members take on a more active role with their own shows and competitions.

Having been a member now for approximately two years, **Tarance Beguhl** begins a two-year term as a Director with the club. He originally joined the club because of his interest in geology, lapidary, and the opportunity for field trips, but admits that he now especially enjoys the camaraderie and family-like atmosphere the SMS offers; he feels that by stepping in to help out and do his part he might be able to help things run smoother. He'd like to see the SMS open up more to new ideas and techniques so it might expand as much as possible and become more up-to-date and well-known to the Sacramento Community. When not working in or doing maintenance on the machines in the club shop, Tarance also enjoys paintball competitions and tinkering with automobiles, machinery and computers.

Thanks go out to each one of these people for honoring the *Sacramento Mineral Society* by volunteering their time, talents and expertise to the operations of the club.

**Always remember that you are unique. Just like everyone else.**



## 2007 SMS MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE NOW PAST DUE

Dues for 2007 should have been paid by December 31, 2006. Dues must be current in order to use the shop facilities. Those who have not paid by January 31, 2007, may be omitted from the 2007 SMS Roster and will be dropped from the mailing list for *The Matrix*.

Renewal forms are available in the clubhouse.

**\$30.00 adults/\$1.00 juniors.**

Mail your dues to: SMS, P.O. Box 160544, Sacramento, CA 95816.

### Deserts

Whenever we think of deserts, we usually picture a really hot place where the sun is blazing down and there is no water. In reality, there are four different kinds of deserts ranging from the blazing hot Sahara to the frozen wasteland of Antarctica. Deserts are found on every continent. The only thing they have in common is that they receive less than ten inches of rain a year.

Four factors influence the formation of deserts. The most important one is high pressure. This type of desert is usually found between 15 degrees and 30 degrees latitude. Back at the equator, the air is heated and rises. Then it cools, condenses and rains before it sinks back down toward the Earth. Because the air mass has already lost its moisture, no clouds form and no rain falls. The Sahara is an example of a high-pressure desert. Another high-pressure desert, but very different from the Sahara, is found at the South Pole. Antarctica is the driest place in the world. It is even drier than the Sahara. It is so cold there that the air is unable to hold any moisture.

Cold, upwelling ocean currents along the western coasts of continents cause the second type of desert. Here the air is so cool that it won't hold much moisture and no rain reaches the land.

The third cause of a desert is the rain shadow effect. The Mojave and Death Valley are in the rain shadow of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. As the air tries to rise and get over the mountains, it cools, condenses and rains on the western side of the mountain. By the time the air gets over, no moisture is left.

The fourth and last type is found in the middle of continents. By the time air masses reach here, most of its moisture has already been lost so a desert forms. The Gobi desert in China and the Australian deserts form this way.

Wind and water are the main forces that sculpt the deserts. During the few storms that do occur in the deserts, water, moving with great force, carries soil, rocks and other debris and dumps it in cone-shaped alluvial fans. This is a great place to go rock hunting.

Wind is responsible for the beautiful sand dunes found in most deserts. Bryce Canyon in Utah was formed from huge dunes piled up by the wind 200 million years ago. Wind has since eroded the sandstone layers into dramatic forms. Many of our beautiful land formations out west were formed this way.

Author unknown, via *The Slate*, 09/06

## Rose Quartz

### An "Alternate" Birthstone for Those Born in January

*Birthstones are a fun way to celebrate one's birth. The list of modern birthstones currently accepted in the U.S. was developed in 1912 by the American National Association of Jewelers; however the gems now associated with each month have only a slight relationship to ancient beliefs. Throughout history, different lists have reflected a variety of stones connected to ancient lore and different cultures. This monthly article is an attempt to share some of the old beliefs and will hopefully give us a chance to learn about a few more of the "gems" that catch our fancy. I hope you enjoy it. —Ed.*



Rose quartz, the "other" birthstone for January and the anniversary gemstone for the second year of marriage, is one of the most desirable varieties of quartz. The pale pink or peach color is unique and unlike any other pink mineral species. Despite the popularity of quartz gems, many people in the jewelry industry take quartz for granted because of its affordable price. Historically, quartz has been the common chameleon of gemstones, standing in for more expensive gemstones ranging from diamond to jade. But the incredible variety of quartz is now being appreciated in its own right. It's grown in popularity with the growing appreciation for carved gemstones and artistic cutting and carving.

Rose quartz has a hardness of 7 on the *Mohs Scale* and its chemical composition is primarily silicon dioxide (SiO<sub>2</sub>). The pink color in rose quartz is photosensitive and subject to fading, thus purchased stones are often dyed. The pink is caused by trace amounts of iron, titanium or manganese, and recent x-ray diffraction studies suggest that the color is due to thin, microscopic fibers of dumortierite. Rose quartz can range from transparent to translucent. Transparent varieties are very rare and usually so pale that they do not show much color except in large sizes. Translucent rose quartz is more readily available, being used for beads, cabochons, carvings and architectural purposes.

Rose quartz is rarely found in crystal form. When it is, the color is usually due to trace amounts of phosphate or aluminum. This rarity of crystals is somewhat of a curiosity because quartz crystallizes into well-formed crystals in all its other macroscopic varieties. Crystals are so rare that when the first ones were found, they were dismissed as fakes by mineralogists from around the world. Most crystals on the market today come from Minas Gerais, Brazil. Otherwise, rose quartz is found in masses in Madagascar, India, Scotland, Spain, Germany, and several localities in the USA; a great quantity of rose quartz was extracted from a famous site near Custer, South Dakota.

Rose quartz is regularly used as an ornamental stone and as a gemstone. Although it is usually too cloudy to be used as a cut gemstone, a few exceptional pieces are found with enough clarity and color to make fine gems. Most rose quartz is used as cabochons where the clarity is not as important as the color. It is also a very attractive ornamental stone and is carved into popular spheres, pyramids, obelisks, figurines and ornate statues, but caution must be used as it can chip and crack rather easily.

Some rose quartz contains microscopic rutile needles that produce a star effect, or *asterism*, in transmitted light. The star is best seen when light is viewed through the quartz. This is different from asterisms in most other gemstones such as ruby and sapphire, where the stars are seen when light is shown on the gems.

Rose quartz is known as the "stone of gentle love". Its pink color signifies the more gentle feminine emotions – friendship, love and romance, compassion and relaxation. It has a calming, cooling energy that feels soft and silky, and can help to dissolve stress and tension. It's been used to remove negativity and reinstate self-love, balancing the emotions and healing emotional wounds. It has also been used to treat vertigo, diminish disorders of the kidneys and adrenal glands, and stimulate proper function of the heart. Lore also suggests that an elixir can decrease coughs and soothe the lungs, relieve blistering due to the heat, and reduce wrinkles.

### A New Year—And Five New Members

Five new members were voted in during the December Business Meeting. Since they applied so near the end of the year, they were allowed to begin using the club facilities, however were voted in as new members beginning in January 2007. All will be receiving their new membership packets at the January Educational Meeting.

**Chris Kammerer** has been interested in lapidary and geology since childhood, but currently has no collection. He feels he can help the club with membership and social activities, and can possibly offer the club assistance through his screen-printing and embroidery business. Chris resides in Sacramento and heard about the club through *Sac Bee Online*.

**Frank Zbierski** of Rancho Cordova is self-employed/retired and is most interested in field trips. He's had an interest in mineralogy and geology his entire life, but doesn't currently retain a collection. He discovered the club on the internet.

Hearing about the club from another member, **Christopher Lynch**, has acquired a small collection of crystals, geodes, fossils and gold, and joined the club to further his interest in lapidary and geology and attend field trips. Chris is employed by the *Volunteers of America* and resides in Sacramento.

**John Lien** of Sacramento indicates that he has a collection that "looks a lot like your rock yard". He's had an interest in lapidary for years and joined the club to further that interest and join field trips. He is willing to help with the annual show and heard about the club at the 2006 show and via information on the club website.

Employed by the *Folsom-Cordova Unified School District*, **Maryanne Steurer** heard about the SMS through another member. She's interested in mineralogy, geology, field trips and education, and has a collection of various rocks in piles. She's willing to help the club with membership functions and resides in Rancho Cordova.

Welcome to all five new members. We hope to see you at our January Educational Meeting on the 18th and during activities in the clubhouse and shop.

## December Business Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by **Sheldon Shuper** and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. A quorum of members was present. The previous month's minutes were approved as read.

Sheldon reviewed the financial results for the year and reviewed the budget. We had losses in both the shop and the administrative part of the club. We made a net of \$9,461.45 from the show. That gives us a total of \$6,709.22 at the end of the year in addition to the amount that we started the year with. Sheldon suggested that we consider putting this money into a new CD. There was some discussion as to whether a CD should be liquid or fixed. It was MSA that Sheldon will put \$6000.00 into a CD; Sheldon will decide on whether it will be a 12-month fixed rate or a liquid account depending on the rate. Sheldon will submit the final yearly report at the January meeting.

Under old business, the subject of a microphone was again discussed. **Kevin Beguhl** indicated that *Radio Shack* has various models running from \$99.00-250.00. **Becky Moreland** (not present) shared with Sheldon that she found a model at *Amazon.com* on the Internet for \$75.00. It was decided that we will try using a microphone Kevin currently owns at the Christmas dinner and defer a decision on a club purchase until the new year.

Under new business, **Barbara Foskett** shared a letter from the *Palmdale Gem & Mineral Society* regarding the CFMS show. It will be held at the fairgrounds in Lancaster on June 14-17, 2007. The facility is air-conditioned. The show is looking for both competitive and non-competitive exhibits. The deadline for exhibit entry is May 15<sup>th</sup>.

We have some new members who submitted applications in December. Due to it being the end of the year, they were voted in as members beginning in January, however may use the shop facilities during the month of December. They will receive their new member packets at the January Educational Meeting. Members are reminded to pay their dues for 2007 to Sheldon.

One of the owners of the *Rockhound Saloon* in Fiddletown was present to share her thoughts on how we might improve areas of our show, particularly with regard to juniors.

We agreed that we needed to do an outreach with children. We now have two people organizing our juniors: **Bill Elkins** and **Amy Byrd**. Bill has agreed to visit schools as long as he is compensated for his gas. It was motioned that Bill be compensated for his travel costs on a monthly basis pending review by the board of his intended monthly agenda and pre-approval of funds; the motion was seconded and approved. Sheldon also suggested that Bill and Amy manage the spinning wheel and rock auction for the 2007 show. Amy, being present this evening, agreed and indicated that she has plans to expand the offerings for children at next year's show.

Sheldon brought up the subject of the show. He feels that we need to appoint a show chairman in January. He feels that we need to make improvements to the show and that it must be done well as it is the major source of income for our club.

Member **Robert Hall** gave a presentation to the members pre-

sent proposing a new club web site housed with *GoDaddy.com*. The cost for a year of hosting is \$51.07. Further information about this may be obtained from the submitted proposal. Rob envisions a larger site that is more than just information; he would like to see it more user friendly and interactive.

Shop Foreman, **Stan Henneman** indicated that he wanted to purchase a diamond drill bit and new wheels for a small (6") flat lap in the shop (actually a faceting machine) at an approximate cost is \$200.00. We also need to replace two 60-grit hex wheels for the *Crystallite* machine at an approximate cost of \$500.00. Motion was made to approve funds for the two hex wheels up to a maximum of \$500.00; the motion was MSA. Further discussion will take place at the January meeting.

The meeting was officially adjourned at 9:20 p.m. however some members remained to take a look at a proposed revision of the club website created by Robert Hall.

Happy Holidays, Carolyn Davis

### January Shop Steward Schedule

Wednesday		Saturday	
Jan. 3	Ron S.	Jan. 6	Craig M.
Jan. 10	Craig M.	Jan. 13	Sam L.
Jan. 17	Stan H.	Jan. 20	Tarance B.
Jan. 24	Carl Z.	Jan. 27	Kevin B.
Jan. 31	Stan H.		

#### Reminders:

- 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.**

## Business Meeting Agendas

Beginning this month, we plan to include a copy of the agenda for the next Business Meeting in each edition of *The Matrix*. We hope that preview of the topics will help each meeting run more smoothly, allowing attendees to be more prepared. We hope that posting of the agenda in advance will encourage more members to attend the meeting to add their input and new ideas.

### Business Meeting Agenda for January 11, 2007

Committee Reports – Treasurer's Report, CFMS, Membership, Field Trip, Correspondence, Shop

#### Old Business

- Microphone/Speaker
- Website Housing/Modification of SMS Website

#### New Business

- Chair/Committee Appointments and Responsibilities – Show, Advertising, Audit, By-Laws...
- Shop – Maintenance Schedule, Promoting/Rewarding Shop Stewards, Educating New Members
- Quarterly Club Functions – Set Dates
- Clubhouse Phone/Internet Connection
- Other



AFMS [www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org)

### Gems of Enchantment

By Diane Weir, President,  
*Chaparral Rockhounds*



As President of the *Chaparral Rockhounds*, I wish to extend an invitation to every rockhound in these grand United States to come and join us for the AFMS Convention and our "Gems of Enchantment" 2007 Gem and Mineral Show!!! It is going to be a 4-day fun-filled extravaganza with a great 3-day field trip scheduled after the show.

This show is not something you're going to want to miss!! Not to mention the chance for hobnobbing with old friends and the opportunity for gathering up new ones!! Among the many special events planned will be the celebration of the AFMS 60th Anniversary.

For complete information, including motel information and exhibitor forms, go to the [www.amfed.org/show2007.htm](http://www.amfed.org/show2007.htm).

We can't promise to keep the Genies and Aliens roped in, but we'll try!! Come one – come all. We expect you'll have a ball!!!!

AFMS Newsletter, 12/06

### Murphy's Other Laws....

- Light travels faster than sound. That is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
- He who laughs last, thinks slowest.
- No matter which line you get into, the other line moves faster.
- Those who live by the sword get shot by those who don't.
- Nothing is foolproof to a sufficiently talented fool.
- The 50-50-90 rule: Anytime you have a 50-50 chance of getting something right, there's a 90% probability you'll get it wrong.
- If you lined up all the cars in the world end to end, someone would be stupid enough to try to pass them, five or six at a time, on a hill in the fog.
- The things that come to those who wait will be the things left by those who got there first.
- Flashlight: A container for dead batteries.
- The shinbone is designed for the special purpose of finding furniture in a dark room
- A fine is a tax for doing wrong. A tax is a fine for doing well.

Original Source Unknown, via AFMS Newsletter, 12/06

### Amazing Math Puzzle—It'll Stump You!

1. Grab a calculator (tough to do this in your head) and enter the first 3 digits of your phone number (not the area code).
2. Multiply by 80 and add 1 to your answer.
3. Multiply by 250.
4. Add the last 4 digits of your phone number.
5. Add the last 4 digits of your phone number again.
6. Subtract 250.
7. Divide the number by 2. Do you recognize the answer?

Original source unknown; via *Yuba Sutter Gems* 12/06

### Federation News

CFMS [www.cfmsinc.org](http://www.cfmsinc.org)



### Juniors Activities:

#### Rockhounding Books for Kids

By Jim Brace-Thompson, Juniors Activities Chair

Despite the Internet, where the answer to every question supposedly resides at the click of a button (or so the folks at Google or Microsoft would have us believe), good old-fashioned books still are a valuable and primary source of information and likely will be for a long time to come. A large number of books directed specifically to children and youth have been published on our hobby, but a problem is getting info on the variety of available books at one place to glean good titles to recommend to kids in your club.

A first stop ought to be your local library. Talk with the librarian at the reference desk to see what books, videos, and DVDs are on the shelves and available to borrow for free. You might work with the librarian to compile an annotated list that you could distribute to kids in your club and their parents, a list broken down by topics such as rocks and minerals, fossils, dinosaurs, field guides, lapidary arts and gemstones, etc. In addition to what's on their own shelves, most libraries have cooperative arrangements with other nearby libraries and, via online catalogs, can tell you about still more books you might be able to see through interlibrary loan. In promoting my own club's annual show last year, we set up a display in a lobby window case of the Ventura library and one of its branches, and the librarian on her own initiative set up a shelf and table of relevant books from their collection, and I was greatly impressed by the range.

You can also visit local bookstores and check out the kids, science and nature, guidebooks, and crafts sections. Bookstore managers might be willing to help you compile a list of available books in hopes of seeing some sales. In addition to general bookstores, check your yellow pages for specialty stores that cater to teachers. Such teacher supply stores are especially helpful in that the books they stock are usually activity-based and are labeled to indicate specific age and grade levels. Other good stops are the gift shops at natural history and science museums.

Finally, there are distributors who specialize in particular subjects and/or books just for kids. For instance, check out the web site of the Gem Guides Book Company ([www.gemguidebooks.com](http://www.gemguidebooks.com)). They have a section labeled "Junior Rockhound" that groups nearly 30 titles from a variety of publishers of kids' books with topics ranging from rock and mineral identification to gold rush history, dinosaurs and fossils, volcanoes, gem stones, and more.

The best things about such kids' books are that they're written in clear language even I can understand and nearly always are filled with large colorful diagrams and suggestions for activities that make learning interesting and, of course, fun!

CFMS Newsletter, 01/06

## Safety: Tips On Staying Safe... For Women

By Chuck McKie, CFMS Safety Chairman 2007

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

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

This man has seen it all, and knows a lot. He focused his teachings on *How to Avoid Being the Victim of a Violent Crime*. He gave some statistics about how much occurrences of random violence have escalated over the recent years, and it's terrible. Something like 99% of us (?) will be exposed to, or become a victim of, a violent crime.

Here are some of the most important points:

- The three reasons women are easy targets for random acts of violence are:
  1. Lack of Awareness: You MUST know where you are & what's going on around you.
  2. Body Language: Keep your head up, swing your arms, stand straight up.
  3. Wrong Place, Wrong Time: DON'T walk alone in an alley, or drive in a bad neighborhood at night.
- Women have a tendency to get into their cars after shopping, eating, working, etc., and just sit (doing their checkbook, or making a list, etc.) DON'T DO THIS! The predator will be watching you, and this is the perfect opportunity for him to get in the passenger side, put a gun to your head, and tell you where to go. AS SOON AS YOU GET INTO YOUR CAR, LOCK THE DOORS AND DRIVE AWAY.
  - A few notes about getting into your car in a parking lot, or parking garage: Be aware: look around you, look into your car, at the passenger side floor, and in the back seat.
  - If you are parked next to a big van, enter your car from the passenger door -- lock the doors before sliding across the seat! Most serial killers attack their victims by pulling them into their vans while the women are attempting to get into their cars.
  - Look at the car parked on the driver's side of your vehicle, and the passenger side. If a male is sitting alone in the seat nearest your car, you may want to walk back into the mall, or work, and get a guard/policeman to walk you back out. IT IS ALWAYS BETTER TO BE SAFE THAN SORRY. (And better paranoid than dead.)
- ALWAYS take the elevator instead of the stairs. (Stairwells are horrible places to be alone and the perfect crime spot).
- If the predator has a gun and you are not under his control, ALWAYS RUN!
  - The predator will only hit you (a running target) 4 in 100 times. And even then, it most likely WILL NOT be a vital organ. RUN!
- As women, we are always trying to be sympathetic: STOP IT! It may get you raped, or killed.
  - Ted Bundy, the serial killer, was a good looking, well educated man, who played on the sympathies of unsuspecting women. He walked with a cane, or a limp, and often asked "for help" into his vehicle, or with his vehicle, which is when he abducted his next victim.
  - Pat Malone told the story of his daughter, who came out of the mall and was walking to her car when she noticed two older ladies in front of her. Then she saw a police car come towards her with cops who said hello. She also noticed that all eight handicap spots in the area were empty. As she neared her car she saw a man a few rows over calling to her for help. He wanted her to close his passenger side door. He was sitting in the back on the driver's side, and said he was handicapped. He continued calling, until she turned and headed back to the mall, and then he began cursing at her. In the meantime, she wondered why he didn't ask the two older ladies, or the policeman for help, and why he was not parked in any of the empty handicap spots. As she got back to the mall, two male friends of hers were exiting, and as she told them the story, and turned to point at the car, the man was getting out of the back seat into the front and the car sped away. DON'T GET CAUGHT IN THIS TRAP! ALWAYS BE AWARE OF WHAT IS GOING ON AROUND YOU!

Tell your friends about this. It may save a life. A candle is not dimmed by lighting another candle.

PLEASE BE SAFE AND NOT SORRY! JUST A WARNING TO ALWAYS BE ALERT AND USE YOUR HEAD!!!

Pass this along to every woman you have access to.

Never let your guard down!!!!!!!!!!!!

CFMS Newsletter, 01/07

*"Each one of you has something no one else has, or has ever had: your fingerprints, your brain, your heart. Be an individual. Be unique. Stand out. Make noise. Make someone notice. That's the power of individuals."*

*~ John Bon Jovi ~*

## CO-OP

[www.coop.5u.com](http://www.coop.5u.com)

### Field Trips

Reminders: 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.

Thursday to Monday, January 11-15 **Burro Creek, Wickieup, AZ** for purple agate. Also available is jasper, opalite, apache tears and more. This trip will focus on the purple agate and opalite/jasper, in addition to exploring some new sites in the area. The trip is a transition from the *Cloud's Gemboree* at Avi to Quartzsite. Hosted by the *Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society*, CO-OP members may attend. Schedule: Leave Avi on January 11 and drive to Burro Creek campground. Collecting trips on January 12, 13 and 14. Depart for Quartzsite on January 15. Group camping has been reserved at the *Burro Creek BLM Campground*; water, RV dump and restrooms available. Contact the group leader or visit the CO-OP website for directions. Potluck dinner on Saturday night and daily happy hours. Bring firewood. Some heavy digging. Bring collecting containers, hard hats, gloves, goggles, and be prepared for changeable winter weather in the desert, elevation 2800-4000 ft. Contact the trip leader, Dick Pankey, by 1/5/07 if you plan to attend or if in need of further information. Phone: (925) 439-7509 or email, [dickpankey@juno.com](mailto:dickpankey@juno.com).

### The Unsolved Mystery of Blue Amber

By Hermann Dittrich [hdittrich@ambarazul.com](mailto:hdittrich@ambarazul.com)

Blue amber is only found in one country: the Dominican Republic in the Caribbean. There are several theories about the origin of the color and it is not fully understood what causes the blue color. We know that it is a result of fluorescence and no solid color.

Ultra-violet or violet light is re-emitted as blue or green light attributed to the presence of poly-nuclear aromatic molecules. (*Gemology*, Cornelius S. Hurlbut, Jr., Robert C. Kammerling) This makes a lot of sense, because the best way to test blue amber is holding it under an ultra-violet lamp where even the darkest space-blue amber changes its color to a radiant cobalt-blue. And we have noticed that blue amber can be recognized by a very agreeable smell, which is different from regular amber when it is being cut and polished.

One theory links the color in blue amber to the occurrence of volcanic ash or dust which was present when the resin was first pressed out from *hymenaea protera* millions of years ago. Another suggests that due to volcanic activity, hot lava must have flowed over these areas where regular amber was buried under ground. Due to extreme heat, the amber changed its color first to green and then to blue. Experiments have shown that a change of color occurs when normal amber is heated up.

Another detail seems to fit this theory: there are virtually no animal or plant inclusions to be found in blue amber. Dr. G. Bechly of the *Naturkunde Museum* in Tübingen, Germany, writes: "The large absence of inclusions could fit very well into the hypothesis, that the blue amber was secondarily warmed up and melted, since this way such inclusions were destroyed (cooked) as it is also in the case with the Sarawak amber." (G. Bechly, [bechly.smns@naturkundemuseum-bw.de](mailto:bechly.smns@naturkundemuseum-bw.de))

While the mystery around the origin of its color has not been cleared, one thing is sure: blue amber is beautiful and it is extremely rare.

<http://www.ambarazul.com> via Breccia 03/06

**To clean pyrite** and try to make it look nice and brassy, first wash it carefully in water. Put it in a plastic bowl, dish, etc., and pour vinegar over the specimen making sure all of the pyrite is covered. Turn the specimens over several times. When they look clean and shiny, rinse with water. Put on paper to dry. Children can use this method.

Original source unknown, via Breccia 04/06

## KATERINA'S TREASURES

FINE JEWELRY & GIFTS



SILVER & GOLD JEWELRY

SCREAM BODY JEWELRY ~ LOOSE GEMS  
MONTANA SILVERSMITHS ~ CANDLES  
CELTIC JEWELRY ~ BEADS ~ MOUNTINGS  
WIRE WRAPPING SUPPLIES ~ TOOLS  
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**Preliminary List of CO-OP Member & Other Field Trips for 2007**

(Information correct as of 12/27/06)

Start making your vacation plans for the year with a few rockhound-related trip ideas from the CO-OP. Please note that this is only a preliminary list and more field trips will likely be added. Specific details of trips are usually announced approximately a month in advance.

- April 14-15 Lovelock, NV, for ammonites. *Fossils For Fun.*
- May 12-18 Glendive, MT (eastern), for fossils, petrified wood, Montana moss agate. *Fossils For Fun.*
- June 9 Babcock Mt., Taylorsville, CA, for rose quartz. *Paradise Club.*
- June 23-24 Elko, NV, for fossils, petrified wood, brachiopods, crinoids, horn coral. *Fossils For Fun.*  
(Alternate dates: June 30-July 1.)
- July 7 16-1 Mine, Forrest City, CA, for tour of gold mine, ghost town. *Carmichael Club.*
- July 18 Edward's Crossing, Yuba River, North San Juan/North Bloomfield area for gold panning. *Sutter Buttes Club.*
- August 11 Sutter Gold Mine and wine tasting. Tours. *Carmichael Club.*
- September 1-3 New location to be determined. *El Dorado Club.*
- September 1-3 Cedarville, CA, for petrified wood. *Fossils For Fun.*
- Sept. 24-Oct. 1 Southern Utah for petrified wood. *Fossils For Fun.*
- Nov. 18-24 Southern CA. *Mother Lode Club.*



Information via the CO-OP, 12/27/06

**The Desert in Winter**

It's that time of year again... Time to break a bit of the north wind chill and seek out a bit of adventure in the warmth of the Arizona desert searching out that perfect item that you just can't live without. The Arizona shows feature not only rocks, minerals, and fossils, but a wide assortment of jewelry products, beads, crafts, Native American pow wows, and even an RV show or two. Below are lists of only some of the offerings in Quartzsite and Tucson to tempt you into a bit of a winter warm-up.

**Quartzsite, Arizona, 2007 Shows**

Quartzsite is 125 miles west of Phoenix at the junction of interstate 10 and US 95. The community is in a desert setting and is only 879 feet above sea level; the Colorado River is only 17 miles away. A rock hunter's paradise surrounds the area; agates, limonite cubes, gold, and quartz are especially good finds. Dates of only some of the "rock-related" shows are noted below. Visit the website at <http://www.ci.quartzsite.az.us/shows.htm> for more information and additional listings.

- Jan. 1-Feb. 28 Desert Gardens Gem & Mineral Show
- Jan. 5-Jan. 31 The Main Event
- Jan. 5-Jan. 14 Tyson Wells Rock, Gem & Mineral Show
- Jan. 19-Jan. 28 Tyson Wells Sell-A-Rama
- Jan. 24-Jan. 28 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Pow Wow
- Jan. 31-Feb. 4 Hobby, Craft & Gem Show

**Tucson, Arizona, 2007 Show Calendar**

Enjoy the sunshine and numerous shows and attractions offered in January and February. Only a selection of shows presented is related below. For helpful tips about lodging, exploring the Tucson area, recreation, and a more extensive listings of shows, visit the website at [http://www.tucsonshowguide.com/tsg/show\\_index.cfm](http://www.tucsonshowguide.com/tsg/show_index.cfm).

- Jan. 26-Feb. 11 Tucson Showplace
- Jan. 27-Feb. 4 Beaudry Gem & Mineral Show
- Jan. 27-Feb. 8 Pueblo Gem & Mineral Show
- Jan. 27-Feb. 10 AKS Gem Show
- Jan. 27-Feb. 10 Arizona Mineral & Fossil Show
- Jan. 27-Feb. 10 Granada Avenue Mineral Show
- Jan. 27-Feb. 10 Mineral & Fossil Co-op
- Jan. 27-Feb. 10 Spectrum of Stones
- Jan. 27-Feb. 10 T Rex Museum Show
- Jan. 27-Feb. 11 Rapa River Gem & Mineral Show
- Jan. 28-Feb. 10 American Indian Exposition
- Jan. 28-Feb. 10 Fine Minerals International Forum
- Feb. 8-Feb. 11 Tucson Gem & Mineral Show



## Upcoming Shows & Events

- Jan. 20-21 **Exter, CA.** *Tule Gem & Mineral Society.* Exter Veteran's Memorial Bldg., Hwy 65. Hours: Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4. Steve Hayward (559) 734-3843, email: [smhay734@aol.com](mailto:smhay734@aol.com).
- Jan. 20-28 **Redlands, CA.** *The Mineralogical Society of Southern California's 42<sup>nd</sup> Pacific Micromount Conference.* San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane. Hours: Fri. 7-10, Sat. 10-10, Sun. 9-12.
- Feb. 16-25 **Indio, CA.** *San Gorgonio Mineral & Gem Society.* Riverside County Fair and National Date Festival. Gem & Mineral Building, Bldg #1, 46-350 Arabia Street. Hours: 10-10. Bert Grisham (916) 849-1674.
- Feb. 24-25 **Antioch, CA.** *Antioch Lapidary Club.* Contra Costa County Fairgrounds, Flower Building. West 106<sup>th</sup> and L Streets. Hours: 10-5 both days. Ellen Bauer (925) 458-2539, [ebaur\\_lapidary@yahoo.com](mailto:ebaur_lapidary@yahoo.com). [www.antiochlapidary.tripod.com](http://www.antiochlapidary.tripod.com).
- March 2-4 **Hayward, CA.** *Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley.* Centennial Hall, 22292 Foothill Blvd. Hours: Fri. & Sat 10-6, Sun. 10-5. Larry Ham (510) 887-9007, email: [info@mgs cv.org](mailto:info@mgs cv.org).
- March 2-11 **Imperial, CA.** *Imperial Valley Gem & Mineral Society's "60<sup>th</sup> Annual Gem & Mineral Show".* California Mid-Winter Fairgrounds. Hours: Fri-Sun. 12-10, Mon-Fri. 4-10. Paul Steward (760) 355-1888.
- March 3-4 **Ventura, CA.** *Ventura Gem & Mineral Society's "The Ventura Gem Show".* Gems, minerals, lapidary arts and fossils. Seaside Park – Ventura County Fairgrounds, 10 W. Harbor Blvd. Hours: Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4. Ed Clark (805) 983-0028, email: [clarkoe@adelphia.net](mailto:clarkoe@adelphia.net).
- March 3-4 **Arcadia, CA.** *Monrovia Rockhounds.* Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanical Garden, 301 N. Baldwin Ave. Hours: 9-4:30. Jo Anna Ritchey [j.ritchey@verizon.net](mailto:j.ritchey@verizon.net). Website: [www.moroks.com](http://www.moroks.com).
- March 10-11 **Escondido, CA.** *Palomar Gem & Mineral Club.* Army National Guard Armory, 304 Park Avenue. Hours: Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4. Matt Boeck (760) 216-8971. Email: [mkboeck@hotmail.com](mailto:mkboeck@hotmail.com). Website: [www.palomargem.org](http://www.palomargem.org).
- March 10-11 **Spreckles, CA.** *Salinas Valley Rock & Gem.* Veteran's Memorial Hall, 5<sup>th</sup> and Llano Streets. Jim Bassett (831) 758-5830. Email: [jbmsc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jbmsc@sbcglobal.net).
- March 10-11 **Turlock, CA.** *Mother Lode Mineral Society.* Stanislaus County Fairgrounds. Hours: 10-5. Bud & Terry McMillin (209) 524-3494, email: [terry.mcmillin@yahoo.com](mailto:terry.mcmillin@yahoo.com).
- March 10-11 **Vallejo, CA.** *Vallejo Gem & Mineral Society.* Solano County Fairgrounds, I-80 at Hwy 37, County Bldg. Hours: 10-5 both days. Phyllis Malicki (707) 745-3255.
- March 16-18 **San Bernardino, CA.** *Orange Belt Mineralogical Society.* Western Regional League Ballpark, 6707 Little League Drive. Hours: Fri. & Sat. 9-dusk, Sun. 9-4. Al Carrell (951) 961-5988, Emma Rose (951) 288-6182, Lyle (909) 887-3394.
- March 23-25 **Bakersfield, CA.** *San Joaquin Valley Lapidary Society's 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Rock & Mineral Rendezvous.* Indoor/outdoor tailgate. Kern County Fairgrounds, Hours: Fri. 9-8, Sat. & Sun. 9-5. Lewis Helfrich (661) 872-8230 or 323-2663.
- March 24-25 **Angels Camp, CA.** *Calaveras Gem & Mineral Society's Jump for the Gold Gem & Jewelry Show.* Hwy 49. Hours: Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4. Tom Reeves (209) 754-4863. Email: [star@volcano.net](mailto:star@volcano.net).
- March 24-25 **Roseville, CA.** *Roseville Rock Rollers.* Placer Country Fairgrounds, 800 All America City Blvd. Hours: Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4. Jim Hutchings (530) 367-5108. Email: [rockrollers@hotmail.com](mailto:rockrollers@hotmail.com). Website: [www.rockrollers.com](http://www.rockrollers.com).
- March 31 – April 1 **Torrance, CA.** *South Bay Lapidary Mineral Society.* Ken Miller Recreation Center, 3341 Torrance Blvd. Hours: Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4. Leslie Neff (310) 318-2170. Email: [lesneff@aol.com](mailto:lesneff@aol.com). Website: [www.palosverdes.com/sblap](http://www.palosverdes.com/sblap).
- April 14-15 **Mariposa, CA.** *Mariposa Gem & Mineral Club.* Mariposa County Fairgrounds. Hours: 10-5 both days. Peggy Ronning (209) 742-7625. Email: [mineralmuseum@sti.net](mailto:mineralmuseum@sti.net).
- April 14-15 **San Jose, CA.** *Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society.* Santa Clara County Fairgrounds, 344 Tully Rd. Hours: 10-5 both days. Marc Mullaney (408) 691-1584, email: [info@scvgms.org](mailto:info@scvgms.org). Club website: [www.scvgms.org](http://www.scvgms.org).
- April 28-29 **Santa Cruz, CA.** *Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society.* Civic Auditorium, Center and Church Streets. Hours 10-5 both days. Eleanor & Hubert Drake (408) 831-80876. Email: [hmdrake@pacbell.net](mailto:hmdrake@pacbell.net).
- May 4-6 **Valley Spring, CA.** *Snyder's Valley Springs Pow Wow.* 1290 Paloma Road, Valley Springs. Gems, minerals, jewelry, crafts, field trips, Native American dancing, mountain men demonstrations, radio controlled airplanes, antique steam engines. Camping available for a small fee (check in at the registration tent). Betty (209) 772-1265 or Diana (209) 772-1777. Email: [snyderspowwow@sbcglobal.net](mailto:snyderspowwow@sbcglobal.net). Website: [www.valleyspringspowwow.com](http://www.valleyspringspowwow.com).
- May 12-13 **Reno, NV.** *Reno Gem & Mineral Society's "Jackpot of Gems".* Reno Livestock Events Center, Exhibit Hall. 1350 N. Wells Ave. Hours: Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4. (775) 356-8820. Website: [www.renorockclub.com](http://www.renorockclub.com).
- June 2-3 **Glendora, CA.** *Glendora Gems.* 859 E. Sierra Madre. Hours: Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4. Bonnie Bidwell (626) 963-4638, email: [Ybidwell2@aol.com](mailto:Ybidwell2@aol.com).
- June 2-3 **La Habra, CA.** *North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society.* La Habra Community Center, 101 W. La Habra Blvd. Hours 9-5 both days. Don Warthen.

## Creative Storytellers and Word Manipulators Wanted

**Editor (éddítar):** *Somebody who is in overall charge of the publication of a book, newspaper, or magazine; someone who is in charge of a particular part of a newspaper or magazine; someone who prepares text for publication by correcting errors and improving accuracy and clarity.*

**Writer (ríter):** *Somebody who writes books or articles; a person who wrote a particular text or document; somebody who is able to write, who writes well, or who enjoys writing; a scribe.*

Notice something about the definitions above? *Encarta's On-line North American Dictionary* defines these two words in completely different ways; the two words are quite distinct and in no way imply being synonymous. Unfortunately, as Editor of *The Matrix*, I end up doing a lot of the writing myself. Its rare for an article in the bulletin to have a by-line attached to it, but I'd really like to start typing more by-lines of our own SMS club members.

So once again I'm putting out the call to members of the SMS (or anyone else who reads this bulletin) to help fill the pages of this monthly newsletter. Sharing your fascination or excitement about a particular stone or gem can get others hooked on it, too. Stories relating travel adventures are always enjoyable to read and can get people excited about field trips. Sharing a special technique you use in a how-to article can be very inspiring and help to improve another person's skill. As an educational organization we should be sharing our knowledge and experience with others. We're all in the club together and share many interests and fascinations; if you're interested in a certain topic, you can be certain there are others interested as well. So why not put pen to paper (or fingers to keyboard) and share a few of those interests? And you just may earn an award through the CFMS and/or AFMS in their annual bulletin contests. If a nobody like me can win an award, I'm sure you can, too!

So please take a little time to jot down your experiences, describe your talents, or share some knowledge. I'm more than willing to help you write your item or just tidy up spelling. Even if you only have an idea for an article, please feel free to contact me at any time at [sms-editor@pacbell.net](mailto:sms-editor@pacbell.net) or (916) 451-4806. It would be wonderful to see more members involved in determining the content of the newsletter. I'm sure everyone would enjoy the read and I'd really appreciate the help. —Ed.



## SMS Bulletin Board

Have something to sell or trade? Eager to make a connection with others of like mind or with specific interests or talents? Do you just want to pass on a little piece of information? Let others know! Messages from SMS members or members of other area societies are free of charge. Email the information to [sms-editor@pacbell.net](mailto:sms-editor@pacbell.net) by the 25th of the month for display in the next issue of *The Matrix*.

**Needed for the 2007 Show:** Plastic, wood, clay, or other beads for use by children at the show to make necklaces and bracelets. Beads should be large enough that they can be held by small hands and can easily be strung onto heavier string or cord. Contributions may be dropped off at the clubhouse at any time.

**Estate Sale**— Approximately thirty western-style belt buckles and fifteen bolo ties plus bags of assorted gem-making items and carvings. All in new condition. The previous owner was a lapidary and rockhound. Contact Bess Minger by email at [bingobess@comcast.net](mailto:bingobess@comcast.net).

Via the CO-OP 12/22/06

**Share a Little Color?** The Society received a letter in December seeking individuals with fluorescent minerals or a fluorescent collection for sale. If you have any items you might be willing to part with, please contact: Gilbert D. Orozco, 33642 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Union City, CA 94587. Phone: (510) 461-0885; email: [gdo55@aol.com](mailto:gdo55@aol.com). The letter is posted on the bulletin board at the clubhouse.

*Our eyes are always the same size from birth, but our nose and ears never stop growing. Scary!!*

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

# The Matrix

January 2007



From your friends at the  
Sacramento Mineral Society...



*"In the New Year, may your right  
hand always be stretched out in  
friendship, but never in want."*

--Traditional Irish Toast

