

Livermore

Lithogram



Volume XXXV, Number 4
April 2010

Livermore Valley Lithophiles
Livermore, California

Next General Meeting:
Thursday, April 8, 2010
Carnegie Building, 4th and 'J' Streets
7:30 PM

Program: We will have a video program.

Next Board Meeting:
Thursday, April 22, 2010
The SHOP, 7:30 PM
Members are welcome to attend!

Refreshments:
Jane Crone and Delores Colonna

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Presidents Message:

Hi, Again,

First, let me apologize to all of you who attended the last general meeting at Carnegie only to find that we had no program. Darwin's ship hadn't arrived at port. I will take the blame here for forgetting on of Murphy's laws: If anything can go wrong, it will. Anyway, "Darwin's Dilemma" (vidio program will entertain you at our April 8 meerting. Both Bill B. and I will have back-up programs just in case the H.M.S. Beagle runs aground.

The field trip to Agate Beach in Marin Co. is scheduled for April 17. Maps, schedules, car-pooling, etc. will be discussed at the next meeting (a map is on page 6). If you have any collectibles from the area (Bolinias) or alternate activities to discuss, please plan to attend.

Theme for the exhibits at the Alameda Co. Fair this year is "Have A Grape Time." Diane Day will have ideas, and will be looking for yours, for a club display with this theme.

Happy Easter, and see you soon.

Bob Trimmingham, President

Minutes of the General Meeting

March 11, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 7:36 PM by President Bob Trimmingham.

Guests: No guests were present.

Correspondence: Miscellaneous club newsletters and membership checks.

Sunshine: No announcements were made.

Minutes: The minutes were accepted as corrected after a motion to accept was made by Beth Myers and second by Bill Beiriger was passed. The correction involved the proper spelling of a member's name.

Treasure's Report: Diane Day gave the treasure's report. Income for the month was from the shop, meeting raffle, and some dues. CFMS dues for the Club's 78 members were paid (\$568). The subscription for Jewelry Artist was renewed.

Lithogram: Bill Beiriger stated that articles of interest from members are needed. Beth Myers' article in the CFMS newsletter on how to reach new and prospective members may be included in the Lithogram. Al Hess suggested that an article on the wire wrapping and carving classes, including photographs, be included in the Lithogram.

Shop Report: The shop has been busy. The Stockton club has a 24-inch slab saw for sale (about \$800). Contact Bill Beiriger if interested. Propane was purchased for the shop's heater.

CFMS Report: None.

Program: The program scheduled for the meeting was not presented because of logistical problems. It will be presented at a future meeting.

Field Trips: A field trip to Black Chasm Cavern was postponed to sometime in May, possibly Saturday May 15. The field trip to Agate Beach is scheduled for Saturday April 17. Details to follow.

Lithorama: All dealer invitations have been sent out. Bill Beiriger reported that fossils for the Kid's Corner will be of four types including specimens of shark's teeth, crinoid stems, brachiopod shells, and orthoceras guards.

Work Shops: Both Jan Watling's class on wire wrapping and Dick Friesen's class on carving are full.

Schools: Bill Beiriger reported that he has talked to 695 students in our local area this school year. The science fair at Junction School will be held March 18 from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM and will include a display on physical properties and an activity for the students. Set-up will be at about 5 PM. A couple of people are needed to help; please give Bill a call (443-5769). Bill Synder reported that he made a presentation to high school students on crystals, carvings, and collecting.

Fair Case: Diane Day will prepare the Fair case. A possible case theme dealing with local rocks, minerals, and Native American materials was discussed. A decision and details will be worked on at the next meeting.

Festivals: The Club will participate again at the San Leandro Library function.

Arts Council: Nancy Bankhead reported that the Arts Council is sponsoring the play “Rent” in the near future.

Old Business: It was realized that the North Bay Co-Op meeting had already taken place and we didn’t have a representative attend.

New Business: Lanny Thompson reported that Caratti Jewelers (Colin Bennett) has some equipment that may be available to the Club. She also initiated a brief discussion on local liquefaction potential and the availability of USGS maps/information. It was the group’s consensus that information may be available on the web and at the city of Livermore Engineering Department at City Hall.

Refreshments: Jane Crone and Delores Colonna will bring refreshments for the April 8 meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Larry Patzkowski, Secretary

Shop



Dick Friesen’s Freeform Carving Class on May 20, 2010

Minutes of the Board Meeting

March 25, 2010

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

March 25, 2010

The meeting was called to order at the Barn at 7.30 PM by President Bob Trimmingham.

Those also in attendance included Delores Colonna, Bill Beiriger, Diane Day, Dick Friesen, Chris Hunt, Pat Iannucci, Andrea Rodriguez, and Bob Whiteside.

Announcements: - None.

Correspondence: None.

Treasure's Report: Diane Day gave an update of the treasure's report. Income was from memberships and expenses were related to this year's Lithorama.

Lithogram: A photo from Dick Friesen's carving class; the balance of the article on disposing of rock and mineral collections; and, Beth Myers' CFMS article may be included in the next issue.

Work Shops: Jan Watling presented her work shop on square wire wrapping to 3 people on March 13. Dick Friesen conducted his carving class to 5 people on March 20. Both classes were initially full with 10 signed up for the wire wrapping class and 6 for the carving class. For some reason, 7 of the people who signed up for the wire wrapping class did not attend. One person had surgery and could not make the carving class. The Board discussed the problem on no-shows and decided to adopt a policy of a non-refundable deposit for classes to be paid by a certain date prior to a scheduled class. Details will be developed by those presenting classes.

Lee Chavez, one of our recent dealers, may present a workshop on silversmithing. Dianne Day has been in contact with him.

Shop Report: Nothing new but there has been a fair crowd.

CFMS Report: Bob Whiteside reported that combined AFMS/CFMS show will be in Whittier in mid-June. Also, there was a brief discussion on the contents of the Camp Paradise classes to be held in May.

Program: Bob Trimmingham will contact Lanny Thompson to see if her video, entitled "Darwin's Dilemma" will be available for the April meeting.. Bob Trimmingham has a large number of photographs on the effects of the 1980 earthquake along the Greenville fault which may be converted to a DVD for a future program (June?). Bill Beiriger is looking into this conversion.

Field Trips: The field trip to Agate Beach will be on Saturday April 17. Those going should anticipate arriving at the site around 9 to 9:30 am. A map to the site will be contained in the Lithogram. Bill Beiriger attended the North Bay Group and paid our dues. A field trip to Mt. Diablo to view geologic features is being planned. A cost of \$10 per car will be charged.

Lithorama: Pat Iannucci will prepare a show flyer while Diane Day will prepare a colored, post-card sized show announcement. Fossils for the Kid's Corner collection project are on-hand.

Schools: Bill Beiriger reported that his final presentations for this school year will be given to classes in Tracy in the next couple of weeks. Eight of the black lights the Club has will be given to the 8 Livermore schools. A motion to this effect was made by Bill Beiriger and second by Bob Whiteside and passed by voice vote. A couple of the black lights will be retained for possible sale to Club members. Bill Beiriger discussed a list of books he has been reviewing for school use. The books range in price from about \$25 to \$30 and consist of two suites of several books each. After a motion, the Club's Board decided to purchase 9 copies of 2 books from each suite (total of 19 books) and donate them to the schools. Bob Whiteside made the motion and Delores Colonna second and passed by voice vote.

Fair Case: As this year's fair theme is "Wine," Dianne Day will bring some proposals for the case incorporating this theme to the next General Meeting in April.

Festivals: Although we have not been invited yet, we anticipate that The Club will participate at the San Leandro library function again this year.

Old Business: None

New Business: The membership brochure passed out at the Lithorama needs an up date so that spaces for e-mail information and meeting times can be incorporated. Bill Beiriger mentioned that he has a 3-fold format that may be suitable. Dianne day passed out copies of the new Club roster. Several names on the roster were printed in red type as their dues had not been paid. Bob Trimmingham will contact these individuals regarding their membership status.

Refreshments: Jane Crone and Delores Colonna will bring refreshments for the April 8 meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM

Larry Patzkowski, Secretary

Lithophiles Fieldtrip

Location: Agate Beach, Bolinas Bay

April 17, 2010

Map on Page 6

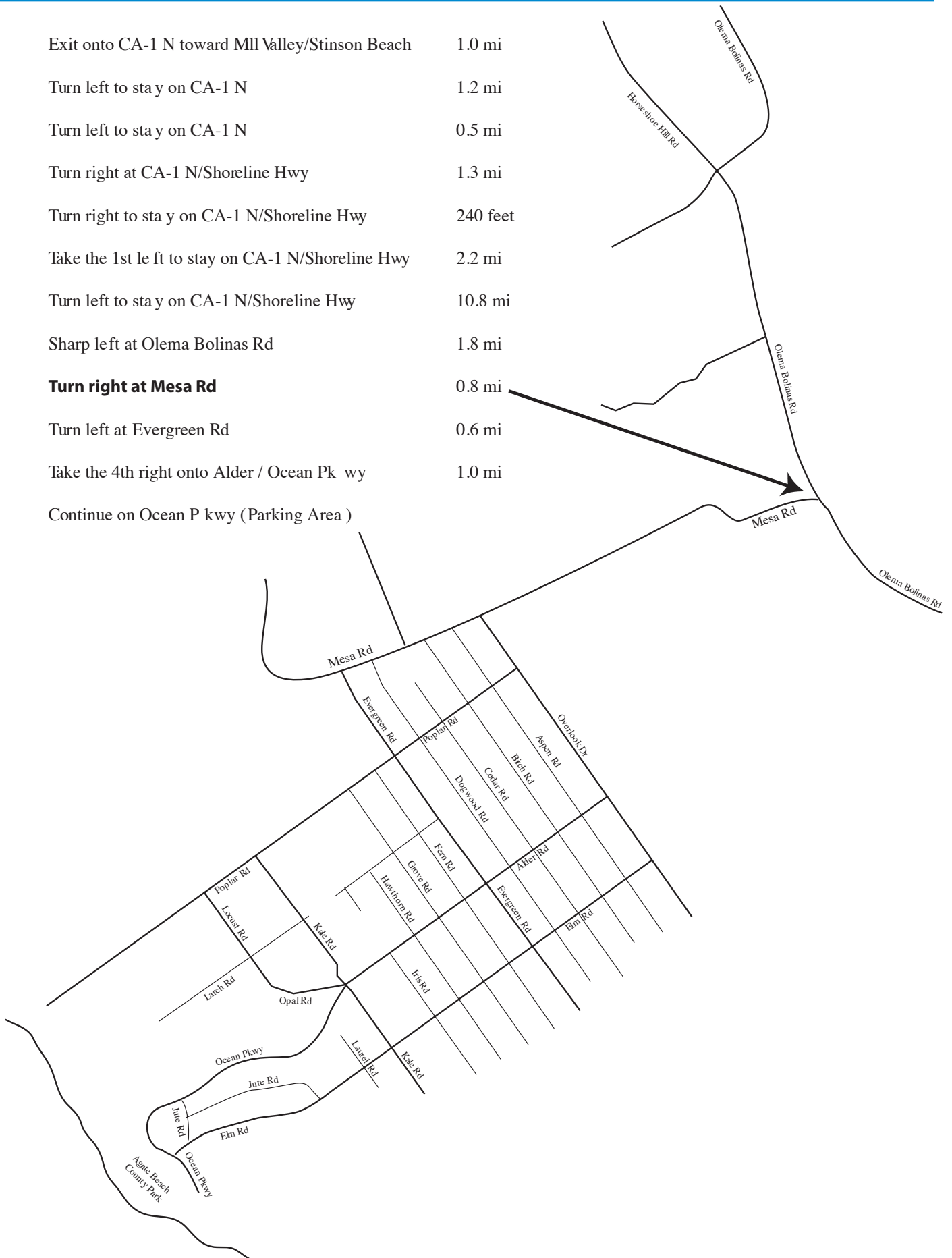
Allow about 2-1/2 hours to get to the beach.

Low tide will be 8:43 AM

High tide will be 3:16 PM

Contact Diane Day at 510-277-2711.

- Exit onto CA-1 N toward Mil Valley/Stinson Beach 1.0 mi
- Turn left to stay on CA-1 N 1.2 mi
- Turn left to stay on CA-1 N 0.5 mi
- Turn right at CA-1 N/Shoreline Hwy 1.3 mi
- Turn right to stay on CA-1 N/Shoreline Hwy 240 feet
- Take the 1st left to stay on CA-1 N/Shoreline Hwy 2.2 mi
- Turn left to stay on CA-1 N/Shoreline Hwy 10.8 mi
- Sharp left at Olema Bolinas Rd 1.8 mi
- Turn right at Mesa Rd 0.8 mi**
- Turn left at Evergreen Rd 0.6 mi
- Take the 4th right onto Alder / Ocean Pkwy 1.0 mi
- Continue on Ocean Pkwy (Parking Area)



California Shows And Events

2010

April 16, 17, 18, 2010, San Jose, CA
Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society

Santa Clara County Fairgrounds
 334 Tully Road
 Hours: Fri 9-5, Sat & Sun 10-5
 Frank Mullaney (408) 265-1422
 Email: info@scvgms.org
 Website: www.scvgms.org

June 18, 19, 20, 2010, Whittier, CA
CFMS / AFMS / NOCGMS SHOW
North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society
 website www.nocgms.com/show/index.htm

November 20-21, 2010 Livermore
LITHORAMA 2010 Show and Sale,
Livermore Valley Lithophiles Gem & Mineral Society; The 'BARN' 3131 Pacific Ave. east of Livermore Ave.
 Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4. Visit us at our website www.lithophiles.org

Show information is available at the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies website: www.cfmsinc.org

Additional Resources:

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies website: www.amfed.org

American Lands Access Association website: www.amerlands.org

CO-OP website: www.coop.freeservers.com

The California Federation of Mineralogical Societies web page www.cfmsinc.org gives everyone access to the CFMS Newsletter.

Field Trips

April 17, 2010 Agate Beach County Park, Bolinas, sponsored by Livermore Valley Lithophiles

April 17-18, 2010 Fallon, NV, for leaves in rhyolite, sponsored by Fossils For Fun (CO-OP)

May 15-16, 2010 Majuba Mtn, NV, for various minerals, sponsored by Nevada County GMS (CO-OP)

May 22-23, 2010 Talapoosa Mtn, NV, for agate, sponsored by El Dorado MGS (CO-OP)

May 29-30, 2010 Petersen Pk, Virginia City, NV, for quartz crystals, sponsored by Sutter Buttes (CO-OP)

Dispensing the Collection
What to Do When You Inherit a Collection
By Bruce Siegfried for The Mountain Gem
via January-March S.C.R.I.B.E. Bulletin - vol 34 #1

Continued from the March LITHOGRAM

I have seen people selling such a collection at the local flea market, or at a gem and mineral show. However, the problem arises that the prices of many of the specimens are either too low, or too high. This results in the 'good stuff' that is priced too low rapidly disappearing.

Now the best part is gone without much money in return. The rest may now be hard to sell.

To avert such a disastrous outcome, could you invite one or two longtime club members/experienced collectors, to help out; a neutral third party to aid in pricing. Remember though, prices are not arbitrary for rocks and minerals. They are not set, at fixed rates or standardized prices. Proof of this is soon seen at shows. You often see a mineral or gem for sale at one price, but a few tables later you will see the same stone for a much different price. The price a mineral brings today often is not the price it will sell for tomorrow. Ten different collectors would value a stone at ten different prices. Values are subjective.

To make matters more complex, it is likely that twenty different varieties of amethyst, from twenty different countries, in twenty different grades will fetch twenty different prices.

So get those suggested prices from someone knowledgeable to begin with, then you can adjust them up or down according to what you think. Selling at a show may not be your ideal or practical solution. Here are some alternatives, along with their strong and weak points for consideration.

1. A dealer—He has an idea about what price specimens are currently bringing. However, because he deals in minerals and gems to make a profit, he may only offer you a fraction of their worth. To cover his expenses and make a profit, at most he might offer you a third of their worth. Probably less.

2. A collector—He might not know the exact worth of rocks, but he will usually pay a bit more because he usually buys at the retail level, and he wants the collection for his own enjoyment. You likely know several collectors in your area.

3. The Internet—sell it on eBay® if you want to, if you can do all the work. You must measure, describe and picture each item, and then post it. It's good to tell what it is and where it is from, and you should have an ideal of its value. You must know exactly what you have and post it properly. You should get good prices for the really good specimens. The more common material may be harder to sell. You can sell miscellaneous boxes, but the Internet is probably not practical for large collections.

4. Ads placed in one of our hobby magazines or club bulletins—here you will find those interested in the very thing you have. You must prepare mailing information describing the material you have, and list it in accurate detail. You will deal with distant people over a period of many weeks to several months.

5. Estate Sale—try inviting hobbyists through several clubs, those within a few hours travel distance from your home. Invite them to come over for a 'special day'. You must be ready for them. Price the material and put it out in the open. Select a day when the weather might be nice, and there are no local shows or field trips in progress. It must be advertised sufficiently, so let the clubs announce it at a couple of their meetings and put it in their newsletters. Give good descriptions and accurate directions to your place. The material must be clearly labeled and presented in an orderly fashion.

6. An auction—similar to last one, invite most clubs and collectors in your area and get a decent auctioneer. You must live in an area that has favorable numbers in

the hobby. You must reach them with the news. Flyers sent to clubs for their meetings and at region shows work well for this purpose.

7. One man put all he had on a huge set of tables and said you could have your choice for eight dollars for any specimen. He sold all those worth that much and more real quickly. What he did with the rest I never heard.

8. Another person put an ad for a Yard Rock Sale—by appointment in club bulletin of a large club.

9. I am thinking of making up a series of Riker Mount Boxes that are several inches high. While still alive I can choose attractive specimens as gifts for my close friends and relatives.

Any way you choose, be sure to properly promote what you have; specimens and equipment need clear and complete descriptions, or at least as much as you know, so buyers can be confident in what they are buying. Let people know way ahead of the planned event.

I know of an older couple from Canada that sells minerals every year in Quartzite and a few other shows. They are steadily disposing of their huge Canadian collection. The children did not want it. To empty their backyard will take a while, they have already been selling for more than twelve years. They figured it would take twenty years to sell out their entire collection.

My wish is for shows to allow collections to be sold on a “Consignment Table.” Maybe even a rock shop or dealer would be willing to do this, splitting the revenue with the collector’s family. Remember, it is good to team up with someone who knows rocks and minerals and the hobby. Make sure specimens are clean and orderly, displayed in boxes or trays. If only there was a book to look up how many were made, in what year, and the value, like so many other hobbies.

So, whether you are disposing of a collection due to old age, ill health, financial need, quitting of the hobby, or inheriting it through the death of a family mem-

ber, HOW are you going to do it? For many, the best course will be one of those mentioned or a mixture of these approaches. Remember that old rock hounds are sharp and limit their spending.

Remember the simple plan: keep a few, give family members a few, sell the best, donate some, and get rid of the rest cheaply and quickly. Parts of this formula should work well for you.

My wife always says that she’ll have jewelry made out of her favorite gemstones when she inherits my collection. I personally hope my two daughters will take something that is special to them. I brought them up around rocks and they know a good deal about them. Maybe one will want the amethyst crystals, and the other will take the azurite and malachite specimens she has always admired.

May you live long and keep your collection for many more years. At this moment you at least have the beginning of a plan, as I have endeavored to answer the question: How to dispense of a collection?

Livermore Valley Lithophiles

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We're on the Web at www.lithophiles.org



Elected Officers and Club Information

Elected Officers:

President **Bob Trimmingham (925) 443-5983**
V. President **Chris Hunt (925) 443-5525**
Secretary **Larry Patzkowski (925) 426-7768**
Treasurer **Diane Day (925) 606-0888**

Membership: The Livermore Valley Lithophiles invites to its membership anyone genuinely interested in minerals, gems, lapidary, geology or any of the other earth sciences, and who desires association with others of like interests. Membership in our club consists of three classes: Senior, anyone eighteen years or older; Junior, anyone under eighteen; and Honorary. Dues are for the calendar year and are as prescribed in the by-laws, Article III. \$25.00 per family, \$20.00 per individual and \$10.00 for Juniors (twelve and older.)

Meetings: General Meeting – Second Thursday of each month, 7:30 p.m. at the Carnegie Building, 4th and J Streets, Livermore. Board Meeting – Fourth Thursday of each month, 7:30 p.m. at the Club Shop or to be announced in the *Lithogram*. Any special meetings or places will be published in the *Lithogram*.

Club Shop: The shop at the Barn is open to club members 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.. on Tuesday nights. If no one arrives by 7:30 p.m.. or if the Shop Foreman has not been informed a member will arrive late, then the shop will close at 7:30 p.m. Call Lynn Zirkle, Shop Foreman, at (925) 443-2920.

Field Trips: Location and date will be published in the *Lithogram*.

Bulletin: *Livermore Lithogram*. Published monthly and mailed or emailed to active members and guests. News of interest, reports and articles must be received by the first Tuesday of the month. Articles may be reprinted by giving proper credit.

Editor:
Bill Beiriger,
Livermore, CA 94551-0626,
email: info@lithophiles.com

Shop open every Tuesday at 7:00 PM

General Meeting April 8th at 7:30 PM
Board Meeting April 22nd at 7:30 PM