

# Livermore

# Lithogram



**Volume XXXV, Number 1  
January 2010**

**Livermore Valley Lithophiles  
Livermore, California**

Next General Meeting:  
Thursday, January 14, 2010  
Carnegie Building, 4th and 'J' Streets  
7:30 PM

**Program:** Michelle Newcomer - Presentation on her graduate project we helped her fund. **PLEASE ATTEND**

Next Board Meeting:  
Thursday, January 28, 2010  
The SHOP, 7:30 PM  
Members are welcome to attend!

**Refreshments:**  
Bill Beiriger



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**Presidents Message:**

Well here we go again, into a new year and a new decade. Ten years ago many of us welcomed in a new year, decade and millennium seated around a campfire on the original Bankhead property a few miles west of Nancy's present ranch. Were you there?

As I begin my duties as Lithophile president for 2010 I look forward to being a facilitator. Our society exists for its members, and the more members active in various activities the better. Member involvement is the very successful Lithorama '09 was a key to what was accomplished. Now we need the same level of participation and number of fresh faces in both regular and board meetings. To insure a quorum at the latter I will be appointing three official "directors," with voting privileges, to the Board. Interested? Let me know.

**Presidents Message continued on page 2**

**Minutes of the General Meeting**

December 10, 2009

The minutes from the Christmas Party / Meeting. The info will be in the February Newsletter.

**Minutes of the Board Meeting**

December 24, 2009

There was no Board Meeting in December because it would have been December 24.

**President's Message**

Continued from page 1.

Our January general meeting traditionally has been a "town hall" type meeting open to discussion, planning, and filling of positions. This year we will lead off with a program with a guest speaker, Michelle Newcomer, a graduate student in geology at San Francisco State. You will recall that the Lithophiles provided \$300.00 in scholarship money to Michelle to help her purchase rock samples she needed for her project. She will discuss her work with us and where it is leading. Should be interesting, informative and fun.

Many volunteer projects need to be filled. If you already are filling one (or more) of these and wish to continue – GREAT! If you want to try something else, or get your feet wet, step forward. Have fun, work with great people and learn by doing. Help is all around you. Please consider:

- Shop Foreman
- Programs
- Field Trips
- CFMS Rep.
- Coffee
- Historian
- Guest Book, Greeter
- Club Case at Fair

(YES, you may start as an apprentice)

I hope you had a "Happy New Year" and are ready to do great rock-hound things before the 900 foot asteroid closes in on 2029.

Bob Trimmingham, President

***DUES ARE DUE!***

**Send Dues to Diane Day or bring to the next meeting.**

**Please place in an envelope marked dues.**

**Don't just throw cash on the table.**

# *Sand of the Month*

## **A Sand Story William Beiriger**

There are several families of 'Sand Collectors'.

The first of these families are the individuals that do not belong to an established group. They have learned the names of other collectors from their friends and from other collectors, with Email as their major contact media.

The second group belongs to societies of sand collectors or mineral collecting groups. These include the International Sand Collectors Society (ISCS) and Sand Collectors International (SCI). ISCS is very active, while SCI just went out of business when the President of the group retired.

The third group wants to sell samples over the Internet. Most collectors do not want our hobby to become, a money making group. So very few participate in this form of collecting.

This idea of selling sand to make money is not new. If you have ever read Mark Twain's – Tom Sawyer Abroad, published in 1894, you will find Tom and his group thinking about making money by selling sand.

In chapter 10 of the story Tom, Jim and Huck end up in a sand storm in the Sahara Desert. Their boat fills-up with sand and they have decided to sell some of the sand.

Tom says:

"Well, the minute people knows it's genuwyne sand from the genuwyne Desert of Sahara, they'll just be in a perfect state of mind to git hold of some of it to keep on the what-not in a vial with a label on it for a curiosity. All we got to do is to put it up in vials and float around all over the United States and peddle them out at ten cents apiece. We've got all of ten thousand dollars' worth of sand in this boat."

Me and Jim went all to pieces with joy, and begun to shout whoopjamboreehoo, and Tom says:

"And we can keep on coming back and fetching sand, and coming back and fetching more sand, and just keep it a-going till we've carted this whole Desert over there and sold it out; and there ain't ever going to be any opposition, either, because we'll take out a patent."

And the story goes on about the cost of the vials and a few other problems.

Tom says:

"Boys, it won't work; we got to give it up." "On account of the duties."

And just like today there was Import Taxes on that 'Sahara Sand'.

And now you now know how the selling of sand was born. And for that matter there is a good chance that is how selling rocks and minerals was also born.

This is my twelfth and last article for 'Sand of the Month' I hope you have enjoyed reading them as much as I have enjoyed writing them.

# California Shows And Events

## 2010

**March 5-6-7 2010**, Newark, CA  
**Mineral and Gem Society of Castro Valley**  
**Newark Pavilion - NEW LOCATION**  
 6430 Thornton Avenue, Newark, CA 94560  
 Hours: Fri & Sat. 10-6; Sun. 10-5  
 Lary Ham (510) 887-9007  
 Email: showchair@mgscv.org  
 Website: www.mgscv.org

**March 13-14 2010**, Turlock, CA  
**Mother Load Mineral Society**  
 Stanislaus Co. Fairgrounds  
 900 N Broadway  
 Hours: Sat. 10-6 Sun. 10-5  
 Bud & Terry McMillin (209) 524-3494  
 Email: terry.mcmillin@yahoo.com  
 Website: www.turlockgemshow.com

**March 20-21 2010**, Vallejo, CA  
**Vallejo Gem & Mineral Society**  
 Vallejo Elks Lodge  
 2850 Redwood Parkway  
 Hours: 10 - 5 daily  
 Phylis Malacki (707) 745-3255  
 Email: Vgms01@yahoo.com  
 Website: www.iwired.org

**March 27-28 2010**, Roseville, CA  
**Roseville Rock Rollers**  
 Roseville (Placer Co.) Fairgrounds  
 800 All American City Blvd.  
 Hours: Sat. 10-5 Sun. 10-4  
 Glori Marie (916) 216-1114  
 Email: gloriarosevillerockrollers@gmail.com  
 Website: www.rockrollers.com

**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](http://www.cfmsinc.org)

### Additional Resources:

**American Federation of Mineralogical Societies** website: [www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org)

**American Lands Access Association** website: [www.amerlands.org](http://www.amerlands.org)

**CO-OP website:** [www.coop.freeservers.com](http://www.coop.freeservers.com)

The California Federation of Mineralogical Societies web page [www.cfmsinc.org](http://www.cfmsinc.org) gives everyone access to the CFMS Newsletter.

## OUR WEB PAGE!

Please visit the Lithophile's web page and goto the 'Exchange Newsletters Page. We have newsletters from several other clubs.

Shop open every Tuesday at 7:00 PM

General Meeting Jan 14th at 7:30 PM

Board Meeting Jan 28th at 7:30 PM

## *Field Trips*

**April 2-4, 2010** Black Butte Reservoir, CA, for jasper, sponsored by Mother Lode Mineral Society (CO-OP)

**April 9-10, 2010** Stoneyford, CA, for various jaspers and agates, sponsored by Sutter Buttes (CO-OP)

**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)

## *Announcements*

### **Square-Wire Jewelry Class**

**The Lithophiles will offer a Square-Wire Jewelry Class in March. The date will be decided on by the individuals that are going to take the class.**

**The class will be limited to about six people.**

**Jan Watling will be the instructor.**

**The class will be about four hours long.**

**It will most likely offered on a Saturday.**

**Please see Diane Day or Bob Trimmingham at the January meeting.**

**Now I need the help of the members of this society to submit new articles, stories, how to's or field trips / vacations you have taken.**

Bill Beiriger - Editor

## Livermore Valley Lithophiles

Bill Beiriger, Editor  
P.O. Box 626  
Livermore, CA 94551-0626  
info@lithophiles.com

We're on the Web at [www.lithophiles.org](http://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 Jan. 14th at 6:00 PM**  
**Board Meeting Jan. 28th at 7:30 PM**