



Livermore *Lithogram*

Volume XXXIII
Number 07
July, 2008

Livermore Lithophiles
Livermore, California
Member: CFMS

Next General Meeting:
Thursday, September 11, 2008
Carnegie Building, 4th and J Streets
7:30 p.m.

Next Board Meeting:
Thursday, September 25, 2008
The Shop, 7:30 p.m.
Members are welcome to attend!

Refreshments:
To be determined

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Thursday, July 10, 2008 - 7:00 p.m. meet at the Barn to pack grab bags.

Sunday, August 17, 2008 - Annual club picnic at Almond Avenue Park, Livermore (more details inside this issue).

Presidents Message:

Hello, Lithophiles!

Your help is needed to stuff grab bags on Thursday, July 10, 7:00 p.m. at the Barn for the Library Festival. The Library Festival in San Leandro will be held on Saturday, August 17.

Be aware we'll be talking about the Children's Faire. We don't have anyone in charge of the Children's Faire.

We have been invited to have a children's table at the Art in Carnegie Park event on Saturday, August 2. This will also be a topic for discussion at the grab bag stuffing.

Don't forget the club picnic at Almond Park on Sunday, August 17. Hope to see you there.

Bill Snyder, President

AFMS President's Message

This month I'd like to mention something important. I have been receiving reports from the Blue Ribbon Coalition regarding openings for the BLM RESOURCE ADVISORY COUNCIL in many of the western states. I have forwarded them to many individuals and clubs throughout the western regions hoping someone would step up and offer to make themselves available.

What a wonderful surprise when Glen R. Miller of the Shasta Gem & Mineral Society of Redding, CA offered to apply for the Northwest California BLM Resource Advisory Council. Letters were sent on his behalf from myself and John Wright, our AFMS Conservation and Legislation Chair. Then Norvie Enns of the Reno Gem & Mineral Society put in an application for the Northeast California BLM Resource Advisory Council and again John Wright and I sent letters of support for his nomination.

I contacted Hugh Brady of Fair Oaks CA, member Roseville Rock Rollers Gem and Mineral Society. Hugh promptly contacted the BLM in Folsom, CA and requested an application for the BLM Resource Advisory Council of Central California. Again, both John Wright our AFMS Conservation and Legislation Chair and I wrote letters of support.

There were also letters of support sent by Dick Pankey, CFMS Past President and others from the CFMS in support of the nominations on the above

people from California. I e-mailed our club in Bitterroot, Montana regarding an opening on the BLM Resource Advisory Committee of Western Montana and Wayne Farley stepped to the plate and made himself available.

Perhaps this doesn't seem much to many of you, BUT until these men stepped forward, the BLM had no idea who we were. Many of us assume "everyone knows who the rockhounds are" but this just isn't true. We may or may not get these people on the various advisory boards for the BLM, but at least the BLM knows who we are now.

All of the nominations above will have to go to the U.S. Secretary of Interior for confirmation later, but at least we got our foot in the door. Please go to the website, click on "Rockhound Information" then click on Bureau of Land Management, then for regional information click on the state. Current information on what the BLM is doing in your state will come up.

More thoughts next month,
Your AFMS President, Shirley [Leeson]
<shirleyleeson@msn.com> via AFMS Newsletter 6/08

Children's Fair

September 6 – 7, 2008

At the Livermore Community Center

Help will be needed to set-up, operate and tear-down.

Show Chairman Needed!

This will be Bill Beiriger's last year as Show Chairman for our annual gem & mineral show.

We need a volunteer to fill this position. It would be educational if the new Chair could work with Bill in preparing for our 2008 show in November. If you are the one, please call Bill Snyder (925) 443-5497 or Bill Beiriger (925) 443-5769.

California Shows And Events

July 12-13 Culver City

Culver City Rock & Mineral Club
Culver City Veteran's Memorial Auditorium
4117 Overland Avenue
Hours: Sat. 10 - 6; Sun. 10 - 5
Website: CulverCityRocks.org
Phone: (310) 391-8429
Email: maryellenandrick@aol.com

August 2 - 3 San Francisco

San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society
San Francisco County Fair Bldg
Ninth Ave. & Lincoln Way
Hours: Sat. 10-6 Sun 10-5
Ellen Nott (415) 564-4230

August 29 - Sept. 1 Fort Bragg

Mendocino Coast Gem & Mineral Society
Town Hall, Main & Lural
Hours: Sat. & Sun 10-6; Mon. 10-4
Don McDonell (707) 964-3116
E-mail ejwebb@mcn.org

September 27-28 Monterey

Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Monterey Fairgrounds, 2004 Fairgrounds Rd.
Hours: Sat. 10 - 6; Sun. 10 - 5
Sky Paston (831) 417-7477
Email: sky@familystones.net
Website: www.cvgms.org

September 27-28 Stockton

Stockton Lapidary and Mineral Club
Scottish Rite Masonic Center
33 West Alpine Ave.
Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4
Nettie Meissner (209) 858-2263
Email: footsey1@yahoo.com

October 11-12 Grass Valley

Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society, "Earth's Treasures"
Nevada County Fairgrounds
11228 McCourtney Road
Hours: 10 - 5 both days
Kim Moore (530) 470-0388
Email: Kmoore160@comcast.net

October 18-19 Placerville

El Dorado County Mineral & Gem Society
El Dorado County Fairgrounds, 100 Placerville Dr.
Hours: 10 - 5 both days
Jackie Cerrato (530) 677-2975
Email: info@rockandgemshow.org
Show Website: <http://www.rockandgemshow.org>
Website: eldoradomineralandgem.org

November 22-23 Livermore

LITHORAMA 2008 Show and Sale,
Livermore Valley Lithophiles Gem &

Mineral Club; 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.

In Memory

Agnes Gorges passed on Tuesday morning, July 1, 2008 just five month's after her husband Mike. Her funeral was held on Thursday, July 3 at the Holy Spirit Church in Fremont.

This message was received by email from Mary Hicks:

Dear Friends,

If you have not learned of the sad news about Sam Woolsey, I am sorry to communicate to you that Sam passed on this last weekend. He was on a rock trip in northern California, doing what he loved to do and in beautiful surroundings. Hazel Woolsey has arranged Sam's memorial to be on July 11, Friday night at 7 PM at the Pleasanton Masonic Lodge at 3370 Hopyard Road, cross street is Valley Trails Drive. Watch for the obituary for updates or further information.

Call me if you have any questions or want to talk about Sam.

Sam was an active and energetic member of the Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society and he will be missed.

Cards can be sent to Hazel at 14 Creekwood Court, Danville, CA 94526

Sincerely,

Mary [Hicks]
925-779-0698

Field Trips

"CO-OP MEMBER" FIELD TRIPS

- All non-CFMS members must have proof of personal liability insurance (homeowners or renters)
- This trip is open to all rockhounds who agree to abide by the AFMS Code of Ethics, the directions of the field trip leader and practice safe rockhounding.
- Call the field trip leader beforehand to sign up and for further information.
- Remember to wear your name badge and sign in with the field trip leader.
- A Consent and Assumption of Risk Waiver of Liability form must be signed upon arrival at meeting site.
- The CO-OP website has information: www.ourfieldtrips.org (Password is needed)



Aug. 30, 31, Sept. 1 - Austin, NV. *El Dorado County Mineral & Gem Society*

Aug. 30, 31, Sept 1 - Cedarville, CA. *Fossils for Fun Society*

Oct. 4 Tahoe National Forest, west of Truckee, CA for Chinese Writing Rock (porphyry) *Sun City Lincoln Hills G & M Society*

Thanksgiving Week - Location to be Determined. Mother Lode Mineral Society

Annual Club Picnic Sunday, August 17, 2008

Place: Almond Park, Livermore, CA

Time: We will eat about 2:00 p.m.

Bring: Potluck dish to share, personal table service (plate and silverware) and refreshment. If you like, bring a game to share.

The club will provide hot dogs. Possible games, surprises.

Almond Park is located in east Livermore at 1525 Almond Avenue. Almond Avenue is located off East Avenue between Madison Avenue and Bueno Vista Avenue. We will try to get there early and secure tables near the front of the park. Hope to see you there!



CFMS President's Message



By Bural LaRue, CFMS President

I continue to hear "what does CFMS do for us? Why should we belong to CFMS?"

Sounds to me that some of us are falling down on our jobs. I hope you know what I mean when I say us. It begins with all CFMS officers, Committee persons and Directors who are not consistently telling our clubs and societies about what the Federation does to help. If you are already doing this, keep up the good work; if not, read on and pass along the information. Remember you are the HEART and the VOICE of this great Federation.

We have a great insurance plan overseen by Bud McMillin. Bud is an insurance professional who volunteers his time to help the clubs with insurance issues. He is the point of contact when your club has an insurance issue or question.

Earth Science Studies is overseen by Marion Roberts. He organizes three fun filled weeks of

Continued on page 7

Iron, Iron Everywhere

By **Clay Williams**, El Dorado County Mineral & Gem Society

Just look at any sedimentary, igneous, or metamorphic formation, and there is a good chance that it will be stained some shade of red by this metal. So it is no surprise this material is the fourth most common element and the most pervasive metal, next to aluminum, in the Earth's crust. When the entire Earth is considered, the iron-nickel core makes this material even more pervasive; due to that core, iron accounts for about 35 percent of the Planet's weight.

Our world has a disproportionate amount of this element, as it is estimated to be only the 10th most abundant throughout the universe. Our large reserves are fortunate, as iron has proven to be very useful. The most extensive is the structural use of steel and its alloys in cars, buildings, ships, etc. It, and its alloys, have also been used in armor plate; two highly successful early examples, the Monitor and the Merrimac, gave birth to the term iron-clad. Life, as we know it, requires a supplement of iron.

The Old English name for this metal was *iren*. The chemical symbol for iron, Fe, comes from the Latin *ferum*. Iron's most widely known alloy, steel, comes from Germanic, which appropriately means that which stands firm. This became *stahle* in Old English. It is one of a group of three elemental metals that are strongly magnetic. Besides iron, this group includes nickel and cobalt. The magnetic core of this Planet is the reason why a compass works. Magnetic storage in computers is generally made possible by compounds of the first.

Terrestrial sources of this metal are mostly in minerals such as hematite, magnetite and pyrite. However, some native metal is found in the basalts of Greenland and Germany, and associated with nickel in the gold placers of New Zealand, Oregon, and British Columbia. A non terrestrial source is iron-nickel meteorites; these occasionally have some cobalt in them.

The iron used by man initially came from these meteorites. The smelting of its ores was accomplished sometime round or soon after 2,000 BC by a poorly defined group who passed it on to the Hittites; the Hittites were the first to be renowned for the manufacture and use of iron implements. The use of iron in weaponry is often given as the reason for the end of the bronze age, but in reality it probably just boiled down to the degradation of tin trade routes; tin was required to make bronze. Casting iron, a step upward from the old heat and pound method of forming, was first done by the Chinese around 550 BC, but this technology did not make its way to Europe until the Middle Ages. Steel was first made, probably by accident, in the early years of smelting; but a process for mass producing that alloy, though devised in the 1600s, would not be widely used until the industrial revolution.

References:

Wikimedia-Iron: website <http://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iron>

American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language,
Houghton & Mifflin

Peterson Field Guide to Rocks and Minerals, Fredrick H.
Pough, Houghton & Mifflin

via Petroglyphs 3/08, via Rollin-Rock 7/08



Minutes of the General Meeting June 12, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 7:39 p.m. by president **Bill Snyder**. **Bill S.** encouraged everyone to attend meetings and seriously consider becoming an officer or chairperson. **Beth Myers** (bulletin editor), **Deloris Colonna** (treasurer), **Bill Snyder** (president) and **Bill Beiriger** (Lithorama chairman) would like to be relieved of their duties next year.

Minutes: Were approved as printed in the June, 2008 bulletin.

Shop: In **Lynn Zirkle's** absence **Dick Friesen** reported a good crowd present last Tuesday.

Treasurer's Report: **Deloris C.** noted that to date five dealers have paid for space at the Lithorama. **Bill B.** will help with the tax payment form. The cd matures in September.

CFMS: **Bob Whiteside** reminded everyone that the state show will be June 27-29 in Ventura, CA. The Camp Paradise workshop takes place August 31 to September 6 and **Bob** and **Debbie W.** will attend.

Lithorama: **Bill B.** has contacted potential exhibitors with no response to date.

San Leandro Library Festival: Will pack bags on Thursday, July 10 at 7:00 p.m. at the Barn. **Bill B.** will repack the remaining bags from last year to reduce the number of items in each bag. **Bob Trimmingham** will buy small plastic trays to contain the items resting on the numbered cloth.

Picnic: Will be moved to August 23 or 24 to avoid conflict with the August 16 Library festival. A picnic date of Sunday, August 17 at Almond Avenue Park is a possibility. Decision will be made at the board meeting.

Children's Fair: September 6-7 at the Livermore Community Center. **Bob W.** (chairperson) has a schedule conflict, but **Bill B.** will be there. Help is needed to set-up, man the booth and tear-down.

Field Trips: **Bill S.** mentioned that a teacher at Livermore High School has offered to take the club to a hydraulic mine area near Auburn, CA. Can keep what you find except for gold and artifacts. Spring months or October would be best.

November Guest Speaker: The gem carver has agreed to speak at the Livermore Library the evening of Wednesday, November 5. He will need power point projection equipment, which the library will furnish.

Sunshine: **Ellen Placas** is continuing on strong antibiotics to battle a bronchial infection.

New Business: **Bill B.** mentioned several items:

- ♦ The club this year will present two Brunton compasses to geology students at Cal State East Bay
- ♦ The Alameda County Fair will use 14 of our cases this year and wants to pay \$30.00 to cover this. **Bill B.** figures the amount should be \$3.00 per case. He will check into this.
- ♦ **Joan Beiriger** has found at least 15 more 5-gallon buckets of rocks at the home of **Mike** and **Agnes Gorges**. Auction pending.
- ♦ **Bob T.** and **Deloris C.** visited the Math/Science Nucleus facility in Fremont, CA. Of interest to the club would be fossils and historic information regarding the efforts of the "Boy Paleontologists of Hayward" to unearth and preserve fossils from deposits southeast of Irvington in the 1940's and 1950's. The facility has a staff geologist and **Bill B.** will contact her regarding a possible presentation.

Program: After a break for refreshments, door prizes and raffle, a DVD program on "Petrified Forest National Park, Arizona" was presented in its entirety. Several members brought petrified wood for others to examine.

The meeting was adjourned about 10:00 p.m.

- *Bob Trimmingham*, Secretary

**San Leandro Library
Festival
Saturday, August 16, 2008**

Minutes of the Board Meeting June 26, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 7:39 p.m. by president **Bill Snyder**. Also present were **Bill Beiriger**, **Jim Gruver**, **Deloris Colonna** and **Bob Trimmingham**. **Lanny Thompson** dropped by later.

Treasurer's report: Deloris C. reported income and outgo. CD matures in September.

Rock Tumbling Books and Grit: Questions as to demand for this and whether or not club should make quantity purchases. Tabled for now.

Children's Fair: Bill B. will show others how to set up the special display rack since he won't arrive until Sunday.

Picnic: Will try to get the front area (near the street) at Almond Avenue school site in Livermore. The club will furnish hot dogs and buns; otherwise potluck. Will eat at 2:00 p.m.

Brunton Compass Award: Bill B. has ordered two Brunton compasses.

Other: Bill B. gave his talk on sand to the club at Concord. It was well received.

Lanny Thompson has spoken with **Beth Myers** about assisting her with the Lithogram. More on this later.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

-Bob Trimmingham, secretary

Sunshine

Ellen Placas continues her antibiotic therapy in her battle against a bronchial infection.

CFMS President's Message *continued from page 4...*

educational activity each year at Zzyzx and Camp Paradise. Over 200 students of all ages participate—you can be one of them. If you haven't been to one of our camps yet, you're overdue. Come join us at Camp Paradise in September.

Another of our great volunteers who never receives enough recognition is Don Ogden. Don chairs the Internet committee and is responsible for that wonderful website we've become accustomed to visiting on a regular basis.

Do you have juniors in your club? Talk to Jim Brace-Thompson about starting a junior program. He will help you with suggestions on how to get started. Be sure to visit the Kids Booth at the show in June. Jim has all sorts of exciting activities lined up.

Concerned about the public lands? We have 5 volunteers who are eager to help—Norvie Enns, Frank Monez, Glen Miller, John Martin and Jim Strain. I can remember Jim leading a field trip into Mexico back when I still had black hair—that was a long time ago.

Looking for a nearby show to visit? Check out the newsletter for the listing compiled by Susan Chaisson-Walblom. Don also lists the shows on the website.

I could go on and on listing the names of all those volunteers who work hard on your behalf. I am but one voice—you Directors are many. I need your help. Take a newsletter to your next meeting. When time comes for your report, read your officers and chairmen's roster to your club. These are the people who work for you. All are volunteers who give their time and talents freely so you can enjoy the fruits of the Federation. I will continue this message in the August newsletter.

Have a great day and a better tomorrow. Remember, have fun!

Livermore Valley Lithophiles

Beth Myers, Editor
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Livermore, CA 94551-0626
eme2@wildblue.net



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

Elected Officers and Club Information

Elected Officers:

President	Bill Snyder	(925) 443-5497
Vice President	Beth Myers	(408) 897-3060
Secretary	Bob Trimmingham	(925) 443-5983
Treasurer	Deloris Colonna	(925) 447-5041

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*.

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