

Livermore

Lithogram



**Volume XXXIV, Number 6
June 2009**

**Livermore Valley Lithophiles
Livermore, California**

Next General Meeting:
Thursday, June 11, 2009
Carnegie Building, 4th and 'J' Streets
7:30 PM

Program: Your editor will be on vacation before the Board Meeting, so I do not know what the program will be.
Come to the meeting and be surprised.

Next Board Meeting:
Thursday, May 28 and June 25, 2009
The SHOP, 7:30 PM
Members are welcome to attend!

Refreshments:
Diane Day and Bill Snyder



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Presidents Message:

The club can relax for a few months. We finished the Wine Country Festival and rock sale. We did all right, in spite of the weather. Those of us who showed up had a good time and enjoyed the company. The program in May was spectacular. It was a shame you missed it. Unfortunately, Bill B. has asked me to send the President's message before the board meeting. Therefore, I do not know what the program in June will be. Come and be surprised.

This is the last general meeting until September. We usually have a picnic in August. Would someone be interested in handling that? If we have no volunteers some lucky person might get a call to serve as the picnic chair or we can skip it this year.

Diane Day is putting together the club case for entry at the Fair. She needs your contributions of things that you've made at the shop or during a club-sponsored class - cabs, jewelry, silver, whatever...

If you can't be at the June meeting, have a safe summer.

Chris Hunt

- Chris Hunt, President

Minutes of the General Meeting

May 14, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 P.M. by: President Chris Hunt.

No Guests present

Treasurer's report:

The club made money on both the Wine Festival and on the rock sale at Nancy's.

Our CD is due for renewal on May 25th. We discussed whether to roll the CD over, move it to a new bank with a better interest rate, and how much of the money is from Mike's fund. Decided to make decision at the Board meeting.

Rich Hunt moved that the minutes of the April meeting in the Lithogram be approved. Seconded by Patty, and passed.

Correspondence:

Mail about the Wine fest, dues. Email about a field trip.

Programs:

Discussed getting someone from USGS to come talk about the earthquake maps. Need to act now to get the talk organized for Oct -- Nov. Seeking volunteer to organize. Rich H. volunteered.

Discussed the status of the club case for the Fair. Only 3 pieces in so far: need more. Entry forms are due soon, so we need to decide. Setup date is June 27 and 28, and pickup on July 20. We decided to send in the application and nag people to get items for the case.

Field trip:

Jade Cove trip is either May 23, or May 30. There's some confusion about whether the tide is low at a convenient time during the weekend of the 23rd

Wine Fest:

Rich L. reported a wet, but fun and productive weekend. Had good crowd on Sunday, thanks for all the help.

Rock Sale: Just a few people from Castro Valley Club and a few from our club attend. Still, had a good sale.

Old Business:

USGS Open House in Menlo Park this weekend: should be really interesting.

Rich L. got money from an earlier auction of some of Mike's fluorescent minerals, and gave it to Diane D.

New Business.

Bill B. proposed we purchase of a shop vacuum for use in the shop and for using in the storage upstairs. Bill thinks ~\$75. Sally moved that we buy one, seconded by Jim G. Passed.

Program:

Rich Hunt showed a very nice set of photos from the Federation show. Several members brought items for show & tell.



California Shows And Events

2009

August 1-2 2009, San Francisco, CA
San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society
 San Francisco County Fair Building
 Ninth Ave. at Lincoln Way
 Hours: Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5
 Website: www.sfgms.org

September 19-20 2009, Redwood City, CA
Sequoia Gem & Mineral Society
 Redwood City Community Activities Bldg.
 1400 Roosevelt Ave.
 Hours: 10-5 daily
 Carol Corden (650) 248-7155
 Email: coorden@comcast.net
 Website: www.sgms.driftdmine.com/home.htm

September 19-20 2009, Stockton, CA
Stockton Lapidary and Mineral Club
 Scottish Rite Masonic Center
 33 West Alpine Ave.
 Hours: 10 - 5 both days
 (209) 946-0113
 E-mail: footsey1@yahoo.com
 Website: www.stocktonlapidary.com

September 26-27 2009, Carmel, CA
Carmel Valey Gem & Mineral Society
 Monterey Fairgrounds
 Hours: Sat.10 - 6; Sun. 10-5
 E-mail:
 Website: www.cvgms.org

November 21-22, 2009 Livermore
LITHORAMA 2009 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.

Mike Gorges Rock Sale
 Bill Beiriger

Well another sale of Mike's material is over.

First of all I want to thank Jim Gruver for storing the material and also for helping me with loading most of the material for the move to Nancy's. I also want to thank Chris and Rich Hunt for helping load and unload the material.

Helping on the day of the sale were Chris and Rich Hunt, Nancy Bankhead, Jim Gruver, Bob Whiteside, Joan Beiriger, Bob Trimmingham, Diane Day. Also to help with support was Jane Crone and Deloris Colonna. A big thank you goes to Nancy for letting us use her ranch for the sale.

The only problem was that we picked Saturday of Mother's Day weekend. We had several people from Castro Valley Club and I think one from another club came for the sale. Ben Knot came from Fremont and helped give us an idea of what some of the material was and what was a fair price for it, Ben also bought a large portion of the rock. We had several members from our club come and buy.

We sold 386 pounds of rocks, mostly at 50 cents a pound plus a few tools and books. We sold 16 hot dog meals plus a few extra sodas. The total amount was \$304.25 for rocks and \$48.00 for food, bringing in \$352.25. There was a couple of more dollars because some people gave us extra money above what they owed by the pound.

We have a lot of material left plus we still have a lot of material from Joe Iannucci that is being stored at Jim's ranch. That means we need another sale in the future.

Sand of the Month

Gypsum Sands
William Beiriger

This month we look at sands formed by evaporation to form $\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ which is the mineral Gypsum.

Gypsum is desolved from the playa floors of old lake beds. As the solution of calcium sulfate losses its water by evaporation crystals of gypsum grow in the form of selenite. The freezing and thawing and the wetting and drying cause the selenite crystals to break down into sand size particles. Wind can then carry this sand over a long distance. When the crystals formed they have a pseudocubic shape with sharp edges, as the wind blows them around they begin to get rounded off. The shorelines were these sands form have high salinity and high summer temperatures.

I have samples of gypsum sands from two locations: one near the Great Salt Lake, Utah and the second outside White Sands N. P. in New Mexico. As I said outside White Sands N. P., there is an area where the gypsum sand collects along the highway just west of the park entrance. **DO NOT COLLECT IN THE PARK.**

The New Mexico crystals have a much better shape then the crystals from Utah.



Knolls, Utah



White Sands, New Mexico



Summer Fun In The Sand

Minutes of the Board Meeting

April 23, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 P.M. by: President Chris Hunt.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer absent.

Correspondence:

Michelle Newcomer, student at SFSU agreed to come give a presentation. We sent a check for \$300 to her professor for rock samples for her research project. Don't know when Michelle might be able to come and give a presentation on her project but, probably after summer.

Programs:

May: Rich Hunt will give a program of photos he took at the Federation show, this seems like a timely, interesting program. We'll also have a show & tell: bring a rock to show.

Chris talked with USGS folks at the Federation show, and they were agreeable to giving a presentation to the club. Further, they're having an Open house in May in Menlo Park, which would be of considerable interest to us.

Old Business:

Wine Country Festival May 2 & 3. We're in space 182. Bags for the wheel were stuffed on April 16th.

We will have a Rock Sale At Nancy's on May 9th. Tentatively we will move the rock move from Jim's ranch to Nancy's on May 7. Chris will check with Jim and Nancy. Bill B. will deal with the food.

New Business:

Bill B bought 20 specimens of amber with insects for \$3 each for the Livermore Elementary Schools science rooms. Dick moved that we buy the amber for the schools out of the Mike Georges fund.
Dolores seconded.
Passed.

There's a tax form we need to fill out by May 15.

Bob T. donated a book, "The John F. Barlow Mineral Collection" to the library.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 P.M.

STATE ROCKS, etc.

Missouri

State Mineral - Galena
State Rock - Mozarkite

Montana

State Rock - Montana Agate
State Gemstone - Sapphire

Nebraska

State Rock - Prairie Agate
State Gemstone - Blue Agate

Nevada

State Precious Gemstone - Virgin Valley Fire Opal
State Semiprecious Gemstone - Turquoise
State Rock - Sandstone



Livermore Valley Lithophiles

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



Elected Officers and Club Information

Elected Officers:

President Chris Hunt (925) 443-5525
V. President Bill Snyder (925) 443-5497
Secretary Bob Whiteside (925) 455-1540
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:
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email: info@lithophiles.com

Shop open every Tuesday at 7:00 PM
General Meeting June 11th at 7:30 PM
Board Meeting May 28th & June 28th at
7:30 PM