



Livermore *Lithogram*

Volume XXXIII
Number 03
March, 2008

Livermore Lithophiles
Livermore, California
Member: CFMS

Next General Meeting:
Thursday, March 13, 2008
Carnegie Building, 4th and J Streets
7:30 p.m.

Next Board Meeting:
Thursday, March 27, 2008
The Shop, 7:30 p.m.

Refreshments: Rich Langlois and
Beth Myers

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Program: Presented by Bob Trimmingham. Hands-on methods of identifying and distinguishing common minerals. What works and what doesn't. Bob will have several common minerals available for the audience participation.

Presidents Message:

Hello, Lithophiles!

The Thursday, March 13 meeting is sure to be fun and informative. Bob Trimmingham will share methods of identifying common minerals. This is a hands-on demonstration you will not want to miss!

The Pleasanton-Dublin Science Fair is fast approaching, Wednesday, March 19. If you can, please help Bill Beiriger with this event. Bill has put in so much effort on our behalf with the schools, let's not let him stand alone at this event.

Remember, the sale of Mike Gorges' material is on Saturday, March 29. Your help is needed to get the material set up and assure the sale goes smoothly. If we rent the Barn for the day, we can do some much needed attic cleaning. This will give us a head start on the Wine Festival preparations.

See you at the general meeting!

Bill Snyder, President

You are needed at the Science Fair

Below is the info for the remaining science fair. I will need help giving out info to the students at this event. This is a very simple project and it would be great to have members that have not helped in past years. We have had some of these students and their parents attend LITHORAMA in past years. Thank you **Bob Trimmingham** and **Deloris Colonna** for your help at the Livermore Science Fair.

Please call Bill Beiriger if you can help 443-5769. I will need three or four members to handout material to the students, you will also be able to look at the displays.

Pleasanton/Dublin Science Fair:

Date: March 19, 2008 - Wednesday

Time: 6 - 9 PM

Location: Pleasanton Fair Grounds

Mineral – Fossils– Lapidary

Donated material from the **Mike Gorges** collection. (Proceeds for the Livermore Valley Lithophile Education Fund)

Fluorescents (including Franklin fluorescents), Rare Earth, Other Minerals, Fossils, Petrified Wood, Slabs, Books

Miniature to Cabinet Size Specimens

Saturday, March 29, 2008

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

At the “Barn”

Pacific Avenue at South Livermore Avenue
Livermore, CA

Info @lithophiles.com //// www.lithophiles.com

Sunshine

Agnes Gorges is recovering from a recent bout with pneumonia. She is currently at an assisted living facility in Fremont.

Examples of Bricks in Front of the Bankhead Theater Entrance in Livermore.



- 24 x 24” Logo, art or text on granite tile \$1500
- 12 x 12 “ (16) characters/spaces x (8) lines \$1000
- 6 x 12” New! Logo & Art Brick \$ 500
- 6 x 12” (16) characters/spaces x (4) lines \$ 375
- 6 x 9” (12) characters/spaces x (4) lines \$ 150

California Shows And Events

March 8-9, San Marino

Pasadena Lapidary Society
San Marino Masonic Temple
3130 Huntington Dr.
Hours: Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5
Drew Wilson (626) 449-4910
Email: TODREW@sbcglobal.net

March 8-9, Spreckles

Salinas Valley Rock & Gem Club
Spreckles Veteran's Memorial Hall
5th and Llano St. Hwy 68 Spreckels
Exit
Hours: 10-5 both days
Jim Bassett (831) 758-5830
Karin Salomon (831) 375-5233
Email: jbmssc@sbcglobal.net
Email: kcbakes27@yahoo.com

March 8-9, Turlock

Mother Lode Mineral Society
Stanislaus County Fairgrounds
Hours: Sat. 10 - 6 , Sun 10-5
Bud & Terry McMillin (209) 524-3494
Email: terry.mcmillin@yahoo.com
Website: www.motherlodemineralsociety.com

March 15-16, Vallejo

Vallejo Gem & Mineal Society
Solano County Fairgrounds County
Building
Hours: 10-5 both days
Ed Austin (707) 373-5639
Email: edhen@ips.net

March 22-23 2008, Calaveras

Calaveras Gem & Mineal Society
Calaveras "Frogtown" Fairgrounds
Hwy 49 Angles Camp
Hours: Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4
Tom Reeves (209) 754-4863
\$3.00 per adult, children free

March 22-23 2008, Roseville

Roseville Rock Rollers
Roseville (Placer) County Fairgrounds
800 All America City Blvd.
Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4
Jim Hutchings (530) 367-5108
Email: rockrollers@hotmail.com
Website: www.rockrollers.com

April 4, 5, & 6, Bakersfield

San Joaquin Valley Lapidary Society
6th Annual Rock & Gem Rendezvous
Indoor Show/Outdoor Tail Gate
Kern County Fairgrounds
1142 South P Street
Hours: Fri. 9 - 8; Sat. & Sun. 9 - 5
Lewis Helfrich (661) 872-8230 or 323-2663
Email: lewsrocks@bak.rr.com

April 12-13, Mariposa

Mariposa Gem & Mineral Club
Mariposa County Fairgrounds
Hours: 10 - 5 both days
Peggy Ronning (209) 742-7625
Email: mineralmuseum@sti.net

April 4, 5, & 6, San Jose

Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Santa Clara County Fairgrounds
334 Tully Road
Hours: Fri. 9-5, Sat. & Sun. 10 - 5
both days
Email: info@scvgms.org
Website: www.scvgms.org

April 26-27 2008, Santa Cruz

Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society
Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium at Corner
of Center & Church Streets
Hours: 10 - 5 both days
Eleanor & Hubert Drake (831-8086)
Email: hm Drake@pacbell.net

May 3-4 2008, Bakersfield

Kern County Mineral Society
Ming Ave and P Street
Kern County Fairgrounds
Hours: 10-5 both days
Ismael Sanchez (661) 301-4609

June 27, 28, 29 2008, Ventura

California Federation of Mineralogical
Societies
Ventura County Fairgrounds
Hours: 10-5 Daily
Bural LaRue (909) 874-5664
Email: bplarue@earthlink.net

November 22-23 2008, 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 Min-
eralogical Societies website:
www.cfmsinc.org*

Additional Resources:

American Federation of Minera-
logical Societies website: www.amfed.org

American Lands Access Association
website: www.amerlands.org

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

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



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.

Trip Location: **Lovelock, NV** (93 miles east of Reno)

When: April 5, 2008 (inclement weather could cancel)
April 6, 2008 another side trip might be possible, depending on interest and availability.

Sponsor Club: Fossils For Fun

Member's Guests: Allowed but they must bring a copy of their home owner's liability insurance policy to give to us, or belong to another CFMS club.

Collection Material: ammonites.

Leader & Contact Info: Must Contact by Wednesday, April 2nd if planning on attending. Debbie Bunn, (916) 929-6665

Proposed Schedule: Meet at Sturgeons Casino parking lot in Lovelock at 9:00 a.m. 1420 Cornell Avenue.

Directions to Meeting Site: Take I-80 to Lovelock, NV. Proceed thru town. Sturgeons is at the eastern end of town on the main street.

Vehicle Req's: The road is not so good. Recommend high clearance. 4-wheel drive needed for final hill. We can try to car pool a few people.

Facilities: Camping Lazy K Campground, 1550 Cornell Ave. or at Rye Patch Reservoir 15 minutes east of town. Motels in Lovelock. Sturgeons accepts dogs. Phone # (775) 273-2971.

Tools: containers, paper for wrapping ammonites very important. Rock hammer, small shovel, chisels for splitting, pry bars, small rake, safety goggles. Mostly you have to dig these days.

Safety Concerns: Be careful when hiking the hilly terrains.

Climate/Weather/Clothing: Extremely changeable weather. Dress for warm, cool, cold and precipitation. Even snow. Sunscreen, hats, work gloves.

Other Remarks: A snow storm could mean hazardous or even stopped travel over the Sierra via I-80. Trip will be cancelled even if snow is just forecasted as a possibility.

Trip Location: **Stonyford, CA** Area

When: April 19, 2008 10 a.m. check-in. (Raindate May 17)

Sponsor Club: Sutter Buttes GMS

Members Guests: Not Allowed

Collection Material: Jasper occurs in many vivid color combinations and patterns including orbicular and poppy. Agate nodules (some with fortification), small pieces of seam agate (some colored green) and a green jasper/ chert like material (emerald green colored) which has green translucent agate areas. Hematite veining occurs in some canary yellow jasper which you can "see into" when worked up into cabs. There is potential to find minerals here especially if you are willing to cross Stony Creek and do some hiking on the ridges.

Leader & Contact Info: Must Contact Gerald (Gerry) Hill, Jr. Phone (530) 695-1595 email: jrhill1@4xtreme.org

Meet/Directions: Meet 10 a.m. at the Stonyford OHV site. From North or South recommend I-5 to Maxwell, CA. (approx. 80mi. North of Sacramento). Travel West on Maxwell Sites Rd. Make a right turn on Ladoga/Stonyford Rd. and continue on to Stonyford proper. In Stonyford find Fouts Springs Rd. and travel west approximately six miles to the OHV (Off Highway Vehicle Area). Park in the lot West of the restroom. We will travel from there a short distance by road some of which is gravel but passenger vehicle appropriate.

Vehicle Req's: Passenger vehicles no problem but BRING PLENTY OF GAS! Always carry chains.

Camp/Facilities: RV (with dump station) and tent camping with restrooms and potable water is available at Fouts Springs approximately 6mi. West of OHV area on Fouts Springs Rd. There are a couple of rough places in the road but it is passenger car appropriate as long as you take it easy. Decent Motel lodging can be obtained in Williams, CA. and Colusa Casino (superb dining). There is a Basque Restaurant in Maxwell and additional dining in Williams. Stonyford has a small market which might be on "winter" hours.

(Continued on page 5)

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Tools: Broad-brimmed hat, goggles, high-top boots, plenty of water, gloves, rock hammer, sledge, chisels, day sack or bucket for collectibles, etc. are all advised. Packframe and rope?

Safety Concerns: This area is very snaky (rattlesnakes) during the spring and summer months. You will want to exercise caution especially in thick grass or while in brushy ravines. Terrain is mixed and some is steep. A ski pole/walking stick is quite useful. A creek crossing will greatly increase our potential for accessing one orbicular jasper/mineral area (there are two) but we will only attempt this if the water level is knee deep or less. Mosquito repellent is advisable. We strongly recommend long sleeve shirts due to brush and dead burned over manzanita that often has an "attitude".

Climate/Weather : In April anything goes! Evenings can be quite cold and damp if camping in. Days might be downright hot.

Clothing: Team members will need to bring sturdy clothes, extra dry clothing, (including shoes), as a creek crossing could be appropriate if creek is low enough to do so safely. Warm clothing and raingear is a must to bring even if we do not need it.

Other Remarks: Remember to bring plenty of snack foods and drinking water. We will burn some carbs out there!

Large boulders of decent jasper exist in addition to plentiful smaller pieces. You might plan accordingly if you desire the larger slabbing material.

The CO-OP website also has information: www.ourfieldtrips.org. All non-CFMS members must have proof of personal liability insurance (renters or homeowners policy.) These trips are 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.

March 8 The Morgan Hill field Trip for Poppy Jasper was cancelled.

April 5 Lovelock, NV for fossils & petrified wood. Fossils for Fun Society

April 19 (Rain Date May 17) Stonyford, CA for solid orbicular jasper. Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society

April 26 Pulga, CA (N. of Oroville) for Idocrase ("Pulga Jade"). Paradise Gem & Mineral Society

May 3 Carson Hill, CA for Minerals. Sacramento Mineral Society

May 17- 18 Fairview, NV for agate, geodes, wonderstone. Nevada Co. Gem & Mineral Society

May 21 - 26 Texas Springs, NV for pink agate limb casts, agate, petrified wood. Tri-Federation, Dick Pankey

LITHOGRAM EDITOR NEEDED!

The time has come for another Lithophile member to have some fun editing and publishing *The Lithogram*.

Please contact **Bill Snyder** (925) 443-5497 or **Beth Myers** (408) 897-3060 if you are interested.

*Welcome New Member
Stephanie Goldsmith,
Livermore*

Stephanie's interests are jewelry making, wire wrapping, silversmithing and collecting.

My apologies to Stephanie Goldsmith. I listed her last name as Gilmore in both the Welcome New Member and in the text of the beading class description. Sorry, Stephanie.

Minutes of the General Meeting February 14, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m. by president **Bill Snyder**.

Correspondence: Some show fliers and application for the XYZXX earth science seminar.

Announcements: none

Minutes of the January general meeting were approved as printed.

Correction to Lithogram: **Beth Myers** corrected the name of **Stephanie Goldsmith** (not Gilmore) who attended last month's beading class

Treasurer report: Report given by **Beth M.** for **Bill Beiriger** for **Deloris Colonna**.

Shop: **Lynn Zirkle** stated **Stephanie Goldsmith**, a new member came.

CFMS meeting report: by **Bob Whiteside**. He got the dues and insurance forms to **Deloris C.** He brought back a list of library items, Federation show fliers, forms for competitive and noncompetitive exhibits, and a list of speakers. If we need vendor insurance CFMS has a source for it.

Lithorama: No report. **Albert Hess** will be bringing his case to the Turlock show. He was invited after his case was seen at the Lithorama.

Livermore High School purchased alabaster for a carving class. **Bill S.** thought we might help with purchase of rasps for the school since school doesn't have much money. Sets are \$25 per set, ten sets will be purchased. Harbor Freight was recommended by **Albert H.** for tool purchase.

Wine Festival: First weekend in May. There are probably still quite a few cloth grab bags. **Bill S.** and **Lynn Z.** will check on the supply. **Jane Crone** will make more if needed.

Tucson Report: **Pat Iannucci** reported on purchases made in Tucson for the wine festival and club raffle. She will submit a detailed report on purchases.

Speakers: **Beth M.** and **Bob W.** will discuss possible speakers from the CFMS Podium People list. Suggestions will be made at the next meeting. **Bob Trimmingham** will do a mineral identification program.

Field Trip: North Bay field trip for poppy jasper on March 8. **Beth M.** asked who was interested in going. Several members want to go.

New Business: **Bill B.** suggested (via an email to

Beth M.) that we donate \$250 to CFMS Scholarship fund in memory of **Mike Gorges**. **Beth M.** made the motion, it was seconded and passed.

Bill B. also reminded members that he needs help with the science fairs: Feb 26 Junction Middle School, Livermore and March 19 at Alameda County Fairgrounds for Pleasanton/Dublin schools. **Bill B.** gave talks to eight third grade classes and will give talks to three fourth grade classes next week. **Bill** and **Joan Beiriger** will put **Mike's** fluorescent case in the Castro Valley show as a memorial to him.

March 29 sale of Mike's stuff at the Barn. Sale is only a half day. **Refreshments** for next meeting: **Rich Langlois** and **Beth M.**

Door prize and raffle drawings were held.

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 PM.

Minutes submitted by **Pat Iannucci**.

**Time to pay your annual
membership!**



If you haven't already paid your 2008 membership dues, please do so now. Dues can be paid to Deloris Colonna our treasurer or mailed to Livermore Lithophiles, PO Box 626, Livermore, CA 94551-0626. Annual dues are \$25.00 per family, \$20.00 per individual and \$10.00 for Juniors (twelve and older.) Please make checks payable to **Livermore Lithophiles**.

Minutes of the Board Meeting February 28, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 7:28 p.m. by president **Bill Snyder**. Also present were **Bob Trimmingham**, **Deloris Colonna**, **Beth** and **Ernie Myers**, **Bill Beireger** and **Jim Gruver**.

Science Fair: The Pleasanton-Dublin Science Fair will be held in the Young America Building at the Alameda County Fairgrounds from 6 - 9 p.m. on Wednesday, March 19, 2008. **Bill B.** will set up his case displaying rocks, minerals and fossils. Two helpers are needed. **Joan Beiriger** will assist if needed.

Treasurer's Report: **Deloris C.** covered receipts and expenditures since the last report.

Audit of the Lithorama Financial Records: **Beth M.** has completed the audit and reported on the printed results she brought to the meeting. **Beth M.** found everything in order and complimented **Deloris C.** for her fine work. **Beth M.** in turn was commended for her professional handling of the audit. **Bill B.** suggested having a treasurer and a financial secretary as many other organizations do. A different person might be assigned to each major 'financial' event (Wine Festival, Lithorama, Rock Sale, etc.). Discussion on this matter was tabled.

Junction Avenue School Science Fair: **Bill B.** reported that all went well and many dinosaur puzzle sheets with information about the club and the Lithorama were passed out. **Bob T.** and **Deloris C.** helped **Bill B.** at the event on February 28, 2008.

Interaction With Schools: **Bill B.** gave a check for \$250.00 to the Elementary School Science Departments for them to divide up and use as they see fit. The schools indicated they most need sets of good rocks and minerals plus magnifying glasses. Second graders study fossils, fourth graders rocks and minerals and sixth graders the rock cycle.

Wine Festival: Need to upgrade what we sell, buy wholesale if we can. *Stories in Stone* is a possible source. **Bill B.** showed items (dinosaur models, etc.) that would be interesting for kids and inexpensive. He will bring examples to the next meeting. **Ernie M.** recommended the larger models for ease in handling and assembly.

Rock Sale March 29, 2008: **Bill B.** suggested renting the Barn for all day and using the extra time to organize and clear the attic. Will discuss at the regular meeting.

Field Trip: The Poppy Jasper trip scheduled for March 8, 2008 has been canceled.

Program: **Bob T.** will help Lithophiles learn how to identify common minerals "hands-on".

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Bob Trimmingham, secretary

POLISHING RHODONITE

By Dick Friesen

Rhodonite has a structure commonly called *sugary*, the material has small openings that will give an orange peel polish similar to jade. But it is not the same, the orange peel in jade comes from directional dissimilar hardness in grain structure, the voids in rhodonite will not polish out. You can probably fill them with one of the epoxies that are used to stabilize turquoise but the epoxy won't polish as well as the rhodonite and the results I have seen were not satisfactory.

I have been able to improve the polish (not completely fix it) using chrome oxide on hard leather. I use a 5-to-1 oxide to water ratio then add about 10% Linde A, a common jade polish. Another option is to dry sand on 1200 grit silicon carbide after sanding through 1200 on diamond, then polishing with aluminum oxide. But the best answer I know of is to find better material. Like most lapidary material, rhodonite comes in a wide range of quality and in some the voids are small enough not to show in the final polish, well, they still show under magnification but most people don't care.

There used to be a rhodonite from Australia sold as "Royal Rhodonite". It was some of the best rhodonite I have ever seen, but I have not seen any for several years. Maybe you will get lucky and find some old stash in a show.

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*.

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: Beth Myers, 35705 San Antonio Valley Road, Livermore, CA 94550-8402, email: eme2@wildblue.net



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