

# Livermore

# Lithogram



**Volume XXXIV, Number 3**  
**March 2009**

**Livermore Valley Lithophiles**  
**Livermore, California**

Next General Meeting:  
 Thursday, March 12, 2009  
 Carnegie Building, 4th and 'J' Streets  
 7:30 PM

**Program:** There are two possible programs for the meeting. The first may be on making Niobium Jewelry and the second may be a DVD on Carlsbad Caverns.

Next Board Meeting:  
 Thursday, March 26, 2009  
 The SHOP, 7:30 PM  
 Members are welcome to attend!

## **Presidents Message:**

Marching along into March...

It was wonderful to see so many people at the February meeting. Thank you for attending the meeting and a special thanks to all the committee chairs for volunteering this year. Our newest addition is Rich Langlois, who will be the Wine Country Festival Chairman. He will need help, so please support him in any manner possible. We still have a few chairman positions open, so you, too, can chair a committee and get to know all the wonderful people who are Lithophiles.

Dues are due! Be sure to get your dues paid. We don't want to have to take you off the membership roster.

If you have an email account, please consider having the Lithogram delivered electronically. The pictures in Bill Bieriger's sand article were spectacular in color and you could help save a tree by reducing the number of paper copies we produce. Sounds like a win-win proposition to me.

Consider helping at the Pleasanton science fair on March 17, St. Patrick's Day. We will have a sign up sheet available at the meeting. It's limited to the first 10 to sign up.

We have a really interesting program planned for the March meeting. Lanny Thompson has arranged for someone to speak and demonstrate on making niobium jewelry.

- Chris Hunt, President



### **Inside this issue:**

General Meeting Minutes	<b>2</b>
California Shows & Events	<b>3</b>
Sand of the Month	<b>4</b>
Board Meeting Minutes	<b>5</b>
Other Information	<b>6</b>
Field Trips	<b>7</b>

## Minutes of the General Meeting

February 12, 2009

The General Meeting of February 12, 2009 was called to order at 7:30PM, by President Christ Hunt.

Minutes of the last meeting:

**Historian:** Should read, "Chris Hunt showed."

Rich Hunt moved to approve corrected minutes, Bill B. seconded. Approved.

**Treasurer's report:**

Diane Day reported on Beth's audit of the finances. Everything balanced wonderfully. Thanks, Deloris!

**Correspondence:**

Dianne: Some flyers for shows of other clubs.

Bill B. A thank you card from the Livermore schools \$250 we gave to the schools: They bought fossil kits.

**Lithorama Report:**

Pat said Nancy B. and Andrea R. are helping. Seem to have volunteers for most of the large topics.

**Library:**

Rich Hunt brought a sampling of the books from the Library at the shop. They're available to check out. There are lots of interesting books.

**Mike Gorges sale:**

Chris told us that for selling Mike Gorges, the barn rental price has increased substantially. Should we use a local park? Nancy offered that we could have it at her yard. Original date was May 9, or do we want to do it another day?

Nancy offered to find out whether we can publicize the sale at the Farmer's Market from a table for free, or what they'll charge.

Bill B. and Bob T. will make sure that flyers go out to the other clubs

**Science Fairs:**

Bill B. reported about our participation in the upcoming "Science Odyssey" at Junction Ave School. Bill B., Bob T. and Deloris will cover event.

Pleasanton Schools "Science Fun Fair" is at the Pleasanton fairgrounds Tuesday March 17, 6-9 PM. Bill will need help for. The kids will build little mineral cards, with identified rocks stuck to cards with hot glue. We may run that activity, and also have case about mineral properties and identification. They'll need lots of rocks (15K kids go through), so Bill B. suggested we donate \$250 from the Mike Georges fund to help. Bob T. moved that we donate \$350 for the science fair for the purchase of rocks and minerals. Bill S. seconded. Nancy expressed concern about lack of support for Livermore schools. The motion passed.

**New Business:**

NONE

**Old Business:**

Bill B. reported on his school activities. He's talked to ~110 kids this week.

Livermore High School Art class is doing caring with the rasps we gave them last year. They're working with alabaster. Perhaps we'll have some carvings at the Lithorama.

Program for next month, March 12, Lanny offered to try to find a person who can tell us about anodizing Niobium. We had some discussion about how much the honorarium might be. Lanny will pursue this for next month.

Bill S. and Patty will bring food for the March meeting.

We admired samples that people brought in, "My Favorite Crystal".

Program: The second part of the DVD "What's Hot in Tucson"

The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 PM

# California Shows And Events

## 2009

### March 6, 7 & 8, Hayward Mineral and Gem Society of Castro Valley

Centennial Hall  
22292 Foothill Blvd.  
Hours: Fri. & Sat. 10 - 6, Sun. 10-5  
Larry Ham (510) 887-9007  
E-mail: showchair@mgscv.org  
Website: <http://www.mgscv.org>

### March 14-15, Turlock Mother Lode Mineral Society

Stanislaus County Fairgrounds  
900 N. Broadway, Turlock  
Hours: Sat. 10 -6 , Sun 10-5  
Bud & Terry McMillin (209) 524-3494  
Email: [terry.mcmillin@yahoo.com](mailto:terry.mcmillin@yahoo.com)  
Website: [www.motherlodemineralsociety.com](http://www.motherlodemineralsociety.com)  
Show Website: [www.turlockgemshow.com](http://www.turlockgemshow.com)

### March 21-22, Vallejo Vallejo Gem & Mineral Society

Vallejo Elks Lodge  
2850 Redwood Parkway  
Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-5  
Phyllis Malicki (707) 745-3255

**March 28-29, Calaveras  
Calaveras Gem & Mineral Society**  
Calaveras Frog Town USA Fairgrounds  
Highway 49 in Angels Camp  
Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4  
Tak Iwata (209) 928-5579  
Website: [Calaverasgemandmineral.org](http://Calaverasgemandmineral.org)

### March 28-29, Roseville Roseville Rock Rollers

Placer County Fairgrounds  
800 All America City Blvd., Roseville  
Hours: Sat.10-5; Sun.10-4  
Gloria Marie (530) 367-2262  
Email: [Gloria.Marie@Conservation.ca.gov](mailto:Gloria.Marie@Conservation.ca.gov)  
Website: [www.rockrollers.com](http://www.rockrollers.com)

### April 4-5, Mariposa Mariposa Gem & Mineral Club

Mariposa County Fairgrounds  
Highway 49 (S.of Historic Mariposa)  
Hours: Sat.10-6; Sun.10-4  
Diane Vereschagin  
Email: [mineralmuseum@sti.net](mailto:mineralmuseum@sti.net)  
Website: [www.thematrixmariposagem-mineralclub.info/events.html](http://www.thematrixmariposagem-mineralclub.info/events.html)

### April 17, 18, 19, San Jose 54th Annual CFMS Show, Nature's Showcase

Hosted by the **Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society**  
Santa Clara County Fairgrounds  
334 Tully Road  
Hours: 10-5 Daily  
Email: [info@scvgms.org](mailto:info@scvgms.org)  
Website: [www.scvgms.org](http://www.scvgms.org)

November 21-22 Livermore  
LITHORAMA 2009 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](http://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)**

## DUES ARE DUE!

**Send to Diane Day or bring to the next meeting. Please place in an envelope marked dues.**

**We don't want to have to take you off the membership roster.**

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

# *Sand of the Month*

## **Volcanic Sands William Beiriger**

This month we look at sands from volcanoes.

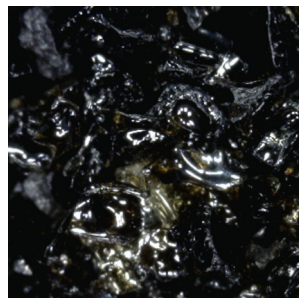
Volcanic sands can be of two major types, from ash or from weathered lavas.

Many of the volcanoes of the world produce ash when they erupt: Saint Helens, Washington; Pinatubo, Philippines; Etna, Italy; Merapi, Java and hundreds of others around the world. These types of volcanoes explode with the release of large clouds of ash. Sometimes the ash is from fresh melted rock from within the volcano and other times it is the mountain being blown into smithereens forming the ash, this is what happened at Mt. St. Helens and Mt. Pinatubo.

If you ever visit South Point on the big island of Hawaii you will find the beach is composed of three major materials; shells & coral, black lava and green olivine. The green olivine is there because the black volcanic lava has been broken up due to the wave action of the ocean. The black basaltic lava is more friable than the olivine, as the lava breaks down the olivine is left on the beach. An unimaginable site can be found about one mile east of South Point where there are pure green olivine beaches.

The black sand beaches near Kilauea are formed from the molten lava dropping into the cold water and exploding (shattering) into very small grains.

Volcanic sands can come from obsidian type material as at Kilauea or they can be from scoria and be colored black, red or tan. In some parts of the world there are beaches composed of pumice that float on the water. There are also sands formed from the weathering of many other types of volcanic rocks including rhyolites, tuffs, etc.



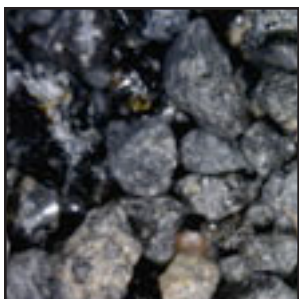
Fresh Glassy Lava



Olivine Sand Beach



Water Tumbled Scoria



Water Tumbled Lava



Olivine Sand



Mt. St. Helens Ash

## Minutes of the Board Meeting

January 26, 2009

Minutes of the board meeting – February 26, 2009

President Chris Hunt called the board meeting of 2/26/2009 to order at 7:30 PM.

**Members present:** Bill Beiriger, Diane Day, Dick Friesen, Andrea Rodriguez, Pat Iannucci, Rich Langlois and Chris Hunt.

**Membership list:** Diane Day is working on a new membership list. Be sure to pay your dues by March or you will be dropped from the roster. A new roster will be sent out in April.

**CD:** New names will be put on the signature cards for the CD. It will be Diane and Chris. They will work out a time to get the paperwork completed.

**Library:** It was asked if money could be spent to purchase new books for the library. It was decided that there is money for the librarian to get some new books.

**Science Fairs:** Bill and Bob will work at the Livermore science fair on March 12. Bill needs some volunteers to help at the Pleasanton science fair on March 17, 2009. The hours will be from 6pm to 9pm. We will have a sign up sheet at the March meeting. Bill will ask for 10 tickets, so up to 10 people can sign up to help. Tentatively, the volunteers would help hot glue rocks, to create a collection that the student can take home. Bill has broken seven different specimens into small pieces, so the students will have a variety.

**Lithorama:** Pat Iannucci, Andrea Rodriguez and Nancy Bankhead are co-chairs for the Lithorama this year. Nancy has contacted LARPD about some problems that occurred at last years Lithorama. We are waiting to hear what they have to say. Nancy also spoke with an LARPD board member who didn't think we would have a problem making the arrangements we need for the show.

Pat has the flyers ready to go to the printers. The dealers' rate will be raised this year because the cost for renting the barn has increased greatly. Dick will see most of the dealers at the Castro Valley show,

the first weekend of March. He will hand out the contracts at that time. The contract will change to allow set-up to begin at 2pm rather than 3pm.

**Sale of Gorges material:** The rock sale is planned for May 9, 2009, from 9am to noon. We will need help getting things moved to and setup at the Bankhead ranch for the sale.

**Wine Country Festival:** Rich Langlois has volunteered to chair this committee. He has planned a bag filling party on April 23 at the Barn. He would like to have a good mix of things for the wheel, perhaps adding some shells or slabs. Bill thinks we have enough jewelry and carved animals to sell. We will need to bring our tables and canopy.

**Programs:** A program for the March meeting is not finalized at this time. If the speaker can't make it, we will opt for a DVD or show and tell from our members

**Education:** Bill talked to 96 fourth graders at Sunset school recently and 120 second graders a few weeks ago. He has a talk planned soon at a school in Tracy.

Bill is considering purchasing another 10 books for the schools science programs. He is planning to show his camera to Mrs. Boyle and one of the teachers, so they can compare it to what the school has available.

**Treasurer's report:** Diane showed the current standings. She said she forgot to mention January's items, but will do so at the next meeting.

**New business:** Rich Langlois will try to sell some of Mike Gorges's fluorescent minerals during the Castro Valley show at a special fluorescent mineral meeting Saturday night. He is going to try, but they might not have room for him. He has a price list and Bill will get the six boxes out of storage for him.

Bill moved we adjourn the meeting and Pat seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

President Chris Hunt

## *Other Information*

### Work in progress from the FIMO clay bead class



**Chris and Jane hard at work**

### **STATE ROCKS, etc.**

#### **Florida**

State Stone - Agatized Coral  
State Gemstone - Moonstone  
State Soil - Myakka Fine Sand

#### **Georgia**

State Mineral - Staurolite  
State Gemstone - Quartz

#### **Hawaii**

State Gemstone - Black Coral  
State Rock - Lava

#### **Idaho**

State Gemstone - Star Garnet  
State Fossil - Hagerman Horse Fossil

## *Field Trips*

### **Upcoming CO-OP Member and Other Field Trips**

**April 4** Calistoga, CA – tour petrified forest. Fossils for Fun, Debbie Bunn

**April 4-12** Topaz Mt. and Dugway – for topaz, red beryl and geodes. Roseville Rock Rollers, Jim Hutchings

**April 10, 11, 12** Black Butte Reservoir for various jaspers. Mother Lode Mineral Club, Al Troglin

**April 17-19** CFMS Show in San Jose – Santa Clara GMS

**May 23-25** Monte Cristo Mts., NV for rhyolite, agate, apache tears and petrified wood. Nevada Co. GMS, Vicki Black

**May 23-25** Davis Creek, Lassen Creek & Adin CA for obsidian and dolomite. Sutter Buttes GMS, Gerry Hill

**May 20-25** Davis Creek/Lassen Creek for obsidian. AFMS Inter-Regional, Dick Pankey

**June 6** Virgin Valley for Opals, opalized petrified wood. El Dorado Co. M & G Club, Fred Ott

**June 13 or 27** (rain date) Babcock Peak for rose quartz & tour of Taylorsville Museum. Paradise GMS, Mike Eggleston

**July 4, 5** Buffalo Canyon (Middlegate, NV) for fossils. Fossils for Fun, Hugh Brady

**Sept. 19 or 26** Hanksville, UT for petrified wood, fossils and agate. Fossils for Fun, Keith Lindholm

**October 3** Empire Mine Tour. Sun City Lincoln Hills Gem and Mineral Club, Ron Clawson

**Nov. Thanksgiving week** Southern CA – annual Thanksgiving week trips. Mother Lode Mineral Club, Al Troglin

**Shop open every Tuesday at 7:00 PM**

**General Meeting February 12th at 7:30 PM**

**Board Meeting February 26th at 7:30 PM**

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

