



Livermore *Lithogram*

Volume XXXIII
Number 05
May, 2008

Livermore Lithophiles
Livermore, California
Member: CFMS

Next General Meeting:
Thursday, May 8, 2008
Carnegie Building, 4th and J Streets
7:30 p.m.

Next Board Meeting:
Thursday, May 22, 2008
The Shop, 7:30 p.m.

Refreshments: Larry Patzkowski
and Bill Snyder

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Program: The second part of the very interesting tape on the Tucson Show.

Please note there will be more \$2.00 specials in plastic boxes from the Mike Gorges collection.

Presidents Message:

Hello, Lithophiles!

We do have a small space reserved at the Children's Fair. We need to plan exactly what we will do - ideas on hands on activities are welcome. We will have the wheel set up, and a few items for sale, but the space is limited and we need to get the kids in and out. A work party to stuff bags for the wheel and a few people to serve on the Children's fair committee with Bob Whitehead is needed.

We also need to put a Farmers Market committee together to publicize the club and co-ordinate efforts on items to sell. The idea is to have a table at the Farmers Market every other Thursday with a revolving display of our members talents, perhaps demonstrating, literature on the club and sell a few items.

Bill Snyder, President

Gearing Up for 2008 CFMS Show!



By Jim Brace-Thompson

With the 2008 CFMS Show drawing ever closer, I wish to reiterate my call for help...

* Help by calling me to volunteer your time assisting in the Kids' Booth during the show. We'll have several on-going activities (the traditional spinning wheel and sand-sifting, along with Paint-a-Fossil, jewelry making, and more), all of which will need your help to conduct and oversee. Please call me today if you'll be attending the show and will be able to pitch in.

* Help by calling me with donations of rocky prizes. I'm especially in need of tumble-polished stone and any especially colorful and/or sparkly mineral specimens of small size. Please don't wait until the show itself opens. If you will be able to bring donations of rock or fossil prizes for the kids booth, please contact me in advance to let me know what you'll bring so I can make sure we'll have enough when we open the door to the show.

* Help by encouraging kids in your club to enter displays. Dick Pankey wants to make this the biggest show ever in terms of exhibits, so encourage and help your kids along in crafting either competitive or noncompetitive displays.

* Help by volunteering to become the CFMS Juniors Chair in 2009! In the January newsletter, I asked that we pave the way toward the future by having someone come forward to volunteer to be CFMS "Junior Chair in Training" this year, but to date, my phone has remained silent. Please break that silence today! A phone is a terrible thing to waste...

Here's how to get in touch. By mail: 7319 Eisenhower St, Ventura, CA 93003. By phone: (805) 659-3577. By email: jbraceth@roadrunner.com. Or stop by and see me in person. I welcome communication in any form I can get it!

Finally, I have news that is both sad and inspiring to convey. The sad news is that we lost a member of the South Bay Lapidary Club last fall when Bill Robards passed away. However, Bill's legacy lives on. His family asked that a donation in his name be made and directed toward our juniors program, and I wish to thank the South Bay Lapidary Club for the check they've sent. On behalf of the Federation, I express both condolences and gratitude for this gesture to help keep our efforts for kids vital and active!

SPEAKERS WANTED! CAN YOU HELP TEACHERS?

Would you like to share your enthusiasm and knowledge of rocks, minerals, fossils, and the earth sciences? Do you like kids? Do you want to *give back*? If so, we have a place for you, and we need you.

Teachers throughout Contra Costa County are anxious to have speakers - that's you - give a 30 to 60 minute presentation on the earth sciences. Teachers are not experts. They need help, and they have told me so. I have speaking requests now.

Never given a talk before? Don't know what to say? Still want to be a part of it all? I have curriculums for all grade levels, and can assist in preparation for any grade. Additionally, we will work together, share ideas and help each other.

Many members have asked me for a school program. Many teachers have asked me for speakers. Let's put it together.

It's time to help classroom teachers deliver a better curriculum. If you are interested in doing presentations in a classroom, please call or email me now. (925) 674-7055 or thereseclark@sprintmail.com

Therese Clark
CCMGS, Concord

California Shows And Events

May 17-18 Yucaipa, Yucaipa Valley Gem & Mineral Society
 Yucaipa Community Center, 34900 Oak Glen Road
 Hours: Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4
 Bill Jochimsen (909) 790-1475
 Email: bjim2285@aol.com
 Website: www.mysite.verizon.net/ucaipaGem/103.html

May 17 - 18 Newbury Park, Conejo Valley Gem & Mineral Club
 Bochart Park, 190 Reino Rd., Newbury Park,
 Hours: Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4:30
 Robert Sankovich (805) 494-7734
 Email: rmsorca@adelphia.net
 Website: www.cgmac.org

May 31 - June 1 Glendora, Glendora Gems
 859 E. Sierra Madre
 Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4
 Bonnie Bidwell (626) 963-4638
 Email: YBidwell2@aol.com

May 31 - June 1 Woodland Hills, Rockatomics Gem & Mineral Society
 Pierce College
 Victory and Mason
 Hours: 10 - 5 both days
 Louise Gerik (818) 347-1234
 Website: rockatomics.com

June 7-8 La Habra, North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society
 La Habra Community Center
 101 W. La Habra Blvd.
 Hours: 9 - 5 both days
 Don Warthen (626) 330-8974
 Email: warthen@earthlink.net
 Website: noccgms.com

June 27, 28, 29 Ventura, California Federation of Mineralogical Societies
 Ventura County Fairgrounds
 Hours: 10-5 Daily
 Bural LaRue (909) 874-5664
 Email: blparue@earthlink.net

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

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.

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.

P.S. If you are getting tired of reading this - I'll pull it as soon as someone responds!

Sunshine

Ellen Placas is suffering from a very bad bronchial infection. Hope she will be able to participate in her passion for bridge.

Evelyn Bankhead has experienced some trying times recently. Hope these are soon behind her.

Deloris Colonna is slowly recovering from her recent illness. She sounds better but tires easily. It's gonna take some time to get back to her fiery self.

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)

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

June 6 - 7 Virgin Valley, NV for opal (fee dig) and **Oregon** for sunstones. El Dorado Mineral & Gem Society

June 6-7 Virgin Valley, NV, for precious opal, petrified wood, occasionally other fossils as opal (fee dig). NBFT Organization, Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society and Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society

June 7 -19 Fallon, NV; McDermitt, NV; Lake View, OR; Davis Creek, CA for rhyolite, agate, petrified wood, fossils, picture jasper, rainbow obsidian, sunstone and other. Mother Lode Mineral Society

June 14 Spider Mine west of Red Bluff, CA, for rhodonite. NBFT Organization, San Francisco Gem and Mineral Society

June 16-19 Virgin Valley, NV for opal (fee dig). Stockton Lapidary & Mineral Society

Tri-Federation Rockhound Rendezvous and Field Trip May 21 - 26, 2008, Texas Springs, Nevada

The Northwest, Rocky Mountain and California Federations of Mineralogical Societies are hosting a Tri-Federation Rockhound Rendezvous and Field Trip to Texas Springs, NV, over Memorial Day Weekend 2008 and all AFMS members are invited. The Texas Springs area is well known for spectacular pink agate limb casts, as well as, other agate and petrified wood. Texas Springs Canyon is located approximately 25 miles southeast of the town of Jackpot in the northeast corner of Nevada. In addition to the collecting trips we will have potluck dinners, happy hours, speakers, evening campfires, tailgate displays, map exchange, and a great rockhound get-together.

Directions: The Texas Springs area is located about half way between Wells, NV and Twin Falls, ID, south of Jackpot, NV, and east of Hwy 93. From the south, take I-80 to Wells and go north on Hwy 93. From the north take Hwy 93 south out of Twin Falls. About 2.5 miles south of Jackpot turn east on to the California National Historic Trail and follow the orange plates to camp.

Camp: Our camp will be located about 6 miles from Hwy 93 on Trout Creek. Roads to campgrounds and collecting sites are typical desert roads. OK for motorhomes and trailers to campgrounds. This is a dry camping area:

no services, no hook-ups. We will set up camp starting Tuesday afternoon, May 20. Please try not to arrive before Wednesday, May 21; this is due to our BLM camp permit.

Plan on several potluck dinners, and daily happy hours. Bring firewood for evening campfires. We plan on having a good time and collecting some good material. *Please notify your respective Federation leader early, but no later than May 16, if you plan to attend.* E-mail (or call) if you have questions or need more information. This will be a great opportunity for rockhounds from all over the west to meet one another, to share stories, and information about collecting in their home areas. Be sure to bring material from your favorite collecting sites to show and share.

Come join us for a great Tri-Federation Rendezvous of collecting, fun and fellowship.

Contact information:

Dick Parks, Northwest Federation, packrats2@msn.com, 360-892-3716

Yonis Lone Eagle, Rocky Mt. Federation, rockymountainrockhounds@yahoo.com, 505-860-2455

Richard Pankey, California Federation, dickpankey@juno.com, 925-439-7509

Minutes of the General Meeting

April 10, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by president **Bill Snyder**. Sixteen club members were present. There was no correspondence. Deloris Colonna thanked everyone for the flowers delivered to her while she was recovering at Kaiser Hospital in Walnut Creek. She needed all the good thoughts and tender care she could get.

Treasurer's Report: **Deloris C.** noted that the gross receipts for the sale of Mike Gorges' material totaled \$5,760.26. The current balance is \$11,875.84. Sales tax will be paid at the end of the year.

Shop: **Lynn Zirkles** reported that the oil has been replaced and about 25 gallons of old oil remain to be recycled. Anyone going to hazardous waste site (open Tuesdays) is encouraged to take some oil.

CFMS: **Bob & Debbie Whiteside** attended the ZZYX camp, which featured silversmithing, bead-making, cab making, field trips, etc. Camp Paradise (forms on the website, **Bob W.** has one copy) is coming u. Article in CFMS Newsletter warns that you can be fined \$125.00 for driving off road to mine dumps, etc. in the Las Vegas basin even though no posted signs remain. The problem exists because "the EPA is trying to improve air quality in the basin and has apparently required the BLM to prevent traffic on dirt or gravel roads in the area..." If you go to the Las Vegas area and wish to collect, you should go to the BLM office and check current conditions and regulations. **Bob W.** will attend an ALAA pep rally conference. The CFMS state show will be in Ventura, CA this June 27 - 29.

Wine Country Festival: We are not signed up to participate this year. The entry form was not acted upon for some unexplained reason. The need for a chairperson for each club event was expressed. **Bob W.** volunteered to chair the festival in 2009.

Childrens Fair: Will plan to participate in the fall. **Bob W.** volunteered to chair this event.

Raffle and Door Prizes: None this meeting since the Myers' were not able to attend. A flat of Mike Gorges' material, \$2.00 items, was available.

Field Trips: Snyder Ranch pow wow first week in May. If interested in Napa area obsidian, contact **Diane Day**. Santa Rosa Club suggested as a contact for trips in that area.

Shop Storage: We have a lot of rough. Might sell by the pound, inviting other clubs at our show. Storage area is not overloaded if heavy material is placed correctly.

Library Sale: About 180 bags remain from last year. Will need to prepare about 300 more.

Lithorama: **Bill Beiriger** reported as follows:

- ★ Dealer Mary Ann has dropped out. Area will become Kid's Corner. Dinosaur puzzles, games, buttons (lower price) will be available.
- ★ People have requested grinding compounds for tumblers. Should look into getting compounds for sale.
- ★ All dealers have been notified.

Old Business:

- ★ **Bill B.** showed a carving tool set that would be useful for teachers as discussed at previous meeting(s). About 10 kits would be needed, at about \$20.00 each.
- ★ **Bill B.** urged club members to collect a supply of common rock types for use in the Rock Cycle Kits. About 25 + specimens, approximately 2-inches in size will be needed.
- ★ **Bill B.** gave a talk to a scout group of six youngsters (grades 1 -2) and three parents at the shop. Shop equipment was explained and fliers were passed out.

Refreshments: **Larry Patzkowski** and **Bill Snyder** for the May 8 meeting.

- *Bob Trimmingham*, Secretary

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 wonderful 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.

Minutes of the Board Meeting April 24, 2008

Very sorry, I did not make the last board meeting and so did not have the board meeting minutes before I needed to send this newsletter to the printer. I'll include the minutes in the May newsletter.

Beth Myers, editor



Mother's Day

Bankhead Tesla Road Field Trip

Date: Sunday, April 20, 2008

Diane Day, Lanny Thompson with her friend **Helen Burke** and **Jim Gruver** joined **Nancy Bankhead** at her Tesla road ranch. Several enjoyable hours were spent exploring the terrain for a new found treasure.

Nancy said they did find an interesting jasper like rock that put her in mind of orbital jasper.

LET'S GET BIRTHSTONES ON STAMPS!

by Wendell Mohr, Commemorative Stamp Committee

Have you taken the time to write the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee requesting that birthstones be used on our US stamps? There are over 50,000 members of our AFMS affiliated clubs and if every one of us wrote to the CSAC we believe our requests would be hard to ignore. Involve your friends and non-rockhounding friends too. Pictured below is the poster that was displayed at the Tucson show this year. Although these images are photos of gemstones in the Smithsonian Institution collection, imagine how attractive stamps featuring ruby, topaz, peridot, garnet, pearl, amethyst, aquamarine, emerald, sapphire, turquoise, diamond and opal would be!

Address your letters (no petitions please as these get counted as only one letter regardless of how many signers there are) to:

Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee
Stamp Development
US Postal Service
1735 N. Lynn St, Room 5013
Arlington, VA 22209-6432

Courtesy of the AFMS Newsletter - May, 2008

