

Livermore



Lithogram

Volume XXXIX, Number 10 **Livermore Valley Lithophiles**
October 2014 **Livermore, California**

Next General Meeting:
 Thursday, Oct. 9, 2014
Livermore Library Community Room
 7:30 PM

Program:
Molly Alexander
Volcanoes of Nicaragua.

Next Board Meeting:
 Thursday, Oct. 23, 2014
At the Shop
 Members are welcome to attend!

Meeting Location: Livermore Library Community Room

Refreshments: Bill Beiriger & ???

Shop Cleanup and Wall Painting. *** Help Needed *** See Page 4. <i>Inside this issue:</i>	
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Presidents Message:
A Bit of a Sermon

When I was 7 years old my father, with much coaxing from my mother, loaded up 4 of his five children into his new station wagon and drove us for two days to Colorado. Growing up in the Midwest in flat terrain, Colorado was a treasure trove of specimens to add to my dismal rock collection at the time. On the drive home my father was disappointed in the station wagon's performance until he realized that I had stashed about 500 lbs of rocks in a trunk compartment beneath the back seat. Although he was not pleased, my greatly enhanced rock collection started a long-standing hobby that I generally practice now of collecting rocks with an accompanying story or memory.

It is likely that everyone in our club, or those that have shown interest in our club, have had a long-standing interest or passion in some aspect of rocks, minerals, or the lapidary arts as well. This is no doubt the reason why our club has monthly meetings, keeps a lapidary shop, and hosts the annual Lithorama. However, it is important for us as a club to nurture those interests and passions not only within ourselves, but also those that are part of, *or potentially part*, of our club community. This is why I think public

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Presidents Message - continued from pg. 1

outreach and education is such an important activity and a core value of our club.

Outreach and education requires time commitment. It can't be avoided. However, its benefit to us as a club as well as to us personally is the reason the club continues our outreach and education. For example, club member participation is always high during Lithorama because it is a fun and rewarding activity for members. Yet, I think we can always do more. Firstly, we need more participants in activities other than Lithorama. Less than 20% of our members are actually engaged in outreach on a regular basis, which include schools and Scout programs, 4H, Science Odyssey, and San Leandro Library. If you do not engage in any of these current activities, think about offering help. It is a minimal time commitment. However, here are some other suggestions on how to contribute: Show up to planning meetings for outreach efforts when they are announced, including Lithorama. Show up to a Board Meeting and offer your ideas or help shape those of others. Drop by on shop night (Tuesday 7-10pm) periodically and see if there are newer members looking for seasoned advice in lapidary. Or simply ask how you can help. I promise you will have fun and find reward in the effort.

Quiz Question:

What are the common colors of the natural gem Alexandrite?

First to provide a correct answer gets a prize.

Minutes of the Board Meeting

September 25, 2014

Present: Lee Davisson, Bill Bish, Bill Beiriger, Molly Alexander

No business transactions took place because the quorum was not met.

Bill Beiriger arranged with Channel 30 a 30-second advertisement of the Lithorama Show. The ad will run from October 17 to November 23, 2014.

Shop: Three new members were at the shop on Tuesday, September 23, 2014. Frank and Lee trained Tom Thompson to be a shop foreman.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Minutes of the General Meeting

September 11, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm by Vice President Lee Davisson at the Livermore Library Community Room A.

Two new members were present.

No corrections to the minutes of the Board Meeting on August 28, 2014.

Treasurer – No new money news.

Shop – Insurance has been paid. The shop has new switches, outlets, and lights. A new door and new exit sign will be installed by LARPD. The new lights created space for additional cabinets. LARPD will donate paint and Frank will coordinate a wall painting party.

A former member donated a small flat lap and offered to teach jewelry making.

Schools – Bill Beiriger met with science teachers and gave them sand sets and mineral sample sets.

4-H Club – next meeting is Wednesday, September 17, 2014

Junior Club – Lee Davisson needs adult volunteers for the Junior Club. He also wants location suggestions for two types of field trips.

- 1) Hike on trails to collect samples
- 2) Drive to see a feature or monument

Lithorama – Dick Friesen is in charge. Two exhibit cases need to be filled. All dealer spots are taken. Nancy will be in charge of the beading table. Bill Beiriger has 2500 postcard ads printed. He meets with a representative from Channel 30 next week. He also spoke with someone at KKIQ radio station about advertising the Lithorama. Stephanie will take care of advertising on Craigslist and Rich will do the Patch.

Nancy purchased 10+ boxes of books, jewelry, and other related items for \$1200. All members voted in favor of reimbursing her. Some of the books will be sold at the Lithorama.

The beading buddies will meet this Saturday, September 13, 1:00-4:00 pm.

Bill Beiriger presented fascinating photos of “Chihuly Seattle 2014-Garden and Glass”

Shop Report

Frank Gouveia

There will be a shop cleanup and the walls will be painted on October 11 at 9:00 AM. We need some members with strong backs for moving rocks, boxes and some of the equipment. The three sets of grinding wheels will stay in place. LARPD supplied the paint we do the work.

Tom Thompson has been trained to be one of our new Shop Forepersons.

Summer is here and attendance at the shop has been a bit light with most of our members enjoying the season. This means it's a perfect time to stop by the shop and enjoy a not so crowded facility. We have had some new members come by as well as our regulars. If you haven't been by lately let me tell you what's been happening.

The last note here is that we really need some more shop foremen to come down one Tuesday per month. Lee has been filling in for the vacancies and I think it's time he got a break. It's not a hard job and I would be willing to coach anyone who steps forward. Please help!!!

That's all from the shop...Rock on!

The Shop is open from 7pm to 10pm every Tuesday.

Shop Forepersons:

1st Tuesday – Stephanie Goldsmith

2nd Tuesday – Frank Gouveia

3rd Tuesday – OPEN POSITION PLEASE HELP US OUT!

The Volcanoes of Alaska.

Compiled by Bill Beiriger

Information and Photos from the Global Volcanism Program - Smithsonian Institution.



Great Sitkin - Alaska Aleutian Islands

Last Eruption - 1974

5,709 feet

52.076° N 176.130° W

Constructed within the caldera of an older shield volcano forming the northern half of Great Sitkin Island, 1740-m-high Great Sitkin volcano contains a small, 0.8 x 1.2 km ice-filled summit caldera. Deep glacial valleys radiate from the summit, which lies at the eastern rim of the caldera, which was formed by massive edifice failure that produced a submarine debris avalanche that traveled more than 40 km to the north. The entire island is blanketed with a light-brown to black pumice layer up to 6 m thick. This deposit is overlain over much of the NW side of the island by ash deposits from a subsidiary vent NW of the caldera. Hot springs, mud pots, and fumaroles occur near the head of Big Fox Creek, south of the volcano. Historical eruptions have been recorded since the late-19th century. In 1945, a 400-600 m wide, flat-topped lava dome was emplaced through a glacier filling the steep-sided, 180-m-deep summit caldera.

Photo by Fred Zeillemaker, 1982 (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, courtesy of Alaska Volcano Observatory).

<http://www.volcano.si.edu/world/volcano>

Beading Buddies Pat Iannucci



A 60-Million-Year Debate on Grand Canyon's Age

New research on the Grand Canyon's underlying rocks concludes that it is more than 60 million old — more than ten times as old as previously thought.

By JOHN NOBLE WILFORD

Published: November 29, 2012 New York Times

How old is the Grand Canyon? Old enough to be gazed on by actual dinosaurs, which died out 65 million years ago, or more like 6 million years old, formed about when the earliest human ancestors began walking upright?

This bitter controversy among geologists edged into the open on Thursday when a report published in the journal *Science* offered new support for the old-canyon hypothesis, which is not the prevailing one. In the report, Rebecca M. Flowers of the University of Colorado and Kenneth A. Farley of the California Institute of Technology used an improved dating technique based on the radioactive decay of uranium and thorium atoms into helium atoms in a mineral known as apatite. They said this yielded a thermal record of these rocks under the canyon floor, hot at great depths but cooler the closer they were to the surface.

An analysis of the data, the geologists said, revealed where surface erosion had gouged out canyons and how much time had passed since there was significant natural excavation in the Grand Canyon region. They thus concluded in the report that the western segment of the canyon was carved to within a few hundred meters of modern depths by about 70 million years ago.

The more ancient origin would put much of the canyon in place in the last epoch of the dinosaurs. Publicity for the journal report duly noted that one of nature's wonders, dinosaurs, might well have stood and gawked at another wonder, one of today's most majestic tourist attractions.

This was only one of the immediate objections to the findings raised by geologists favoring the young-canyon school of thought. They complained that the research results had been hyped. One critic, Karl E. Karlstrom of the University of New Mexico, noted that the early-canyon model had been proposed before and was "now in what I think will be a short-lived revival."

If the interpretation of the findings proves to be correct, it contradicts the prevailing hypothesis that the entire canyon was formed as recently as five million to six million years ago, advocated by many of the notable authorities on Grand Canyon geology. These dates were drawn from the examination of pebbles and other sediments from upstream reaches of the Colorado River system that washed up at the western exit of the canyon.

Dr. Flowers said that when she started this research seven years ago, she had not expected to find the canyon's presumed age to be so ancient. But the first set of experiments with the radioactive helium technique in 2008 was followed up with a new round of tests and more sophisticated levels of analysis.

In their paper, Dr. Flowers and Dr. Farley wrote that their findings implied a dichotomy in the late eastern and early western canyon origins. This history, they said, "supports a model in which much of Grand Canyon incision was accomplished by an ancient Cretaceous river that flowed eastward from western highlands," not from west to northeast, as today's Colorado River does. This was followed by a "reversal of the river's course as topography rose in the east and collapsed in the west," in consequence of the upthrusting Rocky Mountains.

Dr. Flowers said in an interview that the findings supported the opposing ancient-origin hypothesis advanced in recent years by Brian P. Wernicke, a Caltech geologist, who had proposed such a chain of events. It is still not clear when the eastern and western canyons merged into the canyon as it is seen today.

She also foresaw “a fair amount of controversy” over the research results. That turned out to be an understatement, even before the official publication date.

Dr. Karlstrom of the University of New Mexico is a leader among geologists who have devoted much of their careers to Grand Canyon studies. When reporters called this week, he was prepared with four pages of criticism of the new research. He pointed out that at a meeting two years ago of the most active Grand Canyon researchers, “a near consensus view was expressed” in support of the young-canyon hypothesis.

As a rule of thumb, he defined the Grand Canyon as “the canyon you see from the rim today.” How fragments of paleocanyons and paleorivers contributed to the Grand Canyon’s origin is not established, he said.

Dr. Karlstrom was not entirely negative in his assessment of the research. He praised the thermochronology method the researchers used, saying it “offers one of the few ways we may be able to reconstruct past landscapes in rocks that have long since been eroded away.” The Flowers-Farley team, he added, “is pushing welcome new advances” in this dating technology.

“Less welcome to me,” he continued, “is their attempt to push the interpretation of their new data to their limits without consideration of the whole range of other geologic data sets.”

Election of New Officers
Yes! Members it is that Time.
Editors Note.

We should Nominate our New Officers at the October General Meeting and Elect them at the November General Meeting and Install them at the December General Meeting.

As far as I know there has not been anyone stepping forward to be President and Vice President in the Lithophiles for the 2015 calendar year; WE NEED YOUR HELP. Remember this coming year our Treasurer and Secretary have said they will remain for 2015. Unless we change our By-Laws we will need three new officers in 2016; officers can only serve for two consecutive years.

2014 has found us with only THREE of the FOUR Officers we need to conduct business. When Lee, Vice President, was on travel there was no President to take his place. We could not conduct official business at three of our Board Meetings during 2014 because we did not have a quorum present at the meeting.

There is not a lot of time needed to be President or Vice President when you have members stepping forward and helping run this organization.

Most of the other gem and mineral societies have a lot more of their Chairpersons and Directors as officers. Included in this list are Show, Shop, Federation, Field trip, Newsletter, Website Manager and many other positions.

I spend about 60 hours a year with my school & scout presentations and at least another 30 hours with the Lithogram and the Website; so I do not have time to step in to be an officer. PLEASE HELP LEE.

California Shows And Events

2014

October 10 - 12: RENO, NV
Reno Gem & Mineral Society Craft Show
 Reno Town Hall
 Corner of Peckham & So. Virginia Street
 Hours: Fri 10 - 6; Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 3
 Contact: Theresa Langhans, (775) 475-0842
 Email: theresalanghans@yahoo.com
 Website: www.renorockhounds.com

October 11 - 12: ANDERSON, CA, Shasta Gem & Mineral Society
 Shasta County Fairgrounds, Briggs Street,
 Hours: Sat 9 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
 Steve Puderbaugh, (530) 604-2951, Email: steve@applyaline.com
 Website: www.shastagemandmineral.com

October 11 - 12: GRASS VALLEY, CA
Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society
 Nevada County Fairgrounds, 11228 McCourtney Road
 Hours: 10 - 5 daily
 Contact: Todd Lawson
 Email: ncgms@hotmail.com
 Website: www.ncgms.org

October 18 - 19: PLACERVILLE, CA
El Dorado County Mineral & Gem Society
 El Dorado County Fairgrounds, 100 Placerville Drive
 Hours: 10 - 5 daily
 Contact: Bob Graton, (530) 676-2472
 Email: info@rockandgemshow.org
 Show Website: www.rockandgemshow.org
 Club Website: www.eldoradorocks.org

November 1 - 2: CONCORD, CA
Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society
 Centre Concord
 5298 Clayton Road (near Ygnacio Valley Rd.)
 Hours: 10 - 5 daily
 Contact: Harry Nichandros, (925) 289-0454
 Email: show-c@ccmgs.org
 Website: www.ccmgs.org/gem_show

November 8 - 9: SACRAMENTO, CA
Sacramento Mineral Society
 Scottish Rite Temple, 6151 H Street
 Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
 Contact: Alyssa Meszinger, (916) 205-4441
 Email: gemshow@sacramentomineralsociety.org
 Website: sacgemshow.com

November 8 - 9: YUBA CITY, CA
Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society
 Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds - 442 Franklin Avenue
 Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
 Contact: Katie Slightam, (530) 673-9649
 Email: mktalternatives@comcast.net
 Website: www.sutterbuttes.net

November 14 - 16: EUREKA, CA
Humboldt Gem & Mineral Society
 Redwood Acres Fairgrounds
 3750 Harris Street
 Hours: Fri 9 - 6, Sat 10 - 6, Sun 10 - 5
 Contact: Diana Reed, (707) 839-2079

November 22 - 23: SANTA CRUZ, CA
Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society
 Winter Sale
 Live Oak Grange Hall
 1900 - 17th Avenue
 Hours: 10 - 5 daily
 Contact: Julia Cornblatt, (831) 687-0509
 Email: julia.cornblatt@gmail.com
 Website: www.scmgs.org

November 22-23: LIVERMORE, CA
Livermore Valley Lithophiles
 Lithorama 2014 is a Gem and Mineral Show and Sale & will be held at the 'BARN' in Livermore, 3131 Pacific Ave., off South Livermore Ave.
 Saturday 10:00 to 5:00
 Sunday 10:00 to 4:00
 info@lithophiles.com
 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

Field Trips

Livermore Valley Lithophiles

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



Elected Officers and Club Information

Elected Officers:

President OPEN
V. President Lee Davisson (leedavisson@sbcglobal.net)
Secretary Molly Alexander (925) 606-6977
Treasurer Bill Bish (bcbish@att.net)

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. Civic Center Livermore Library Community Room (**Locations change goto Lithophiles WEB-SITE**). 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. Shop Foreman, Stephanie Goldsmith (925) 447-1722.

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 Oct. 9th, at 7:30 PM
Board Meeting Oct. 23rd 7:30, At the SHOP