



Livermore *Lithogram*

Volume XXXIII
Number 01
January, 2008

Livermore Lithophiles
Livermore, California
Member: CFMS

Next General Meeting:
Thursday, January 10, 2008
Carnegie Building, 4th and J Streets
7:30 p.m.

Next Board Meeting:
Thursday, January 24, 2008
The Shop, 7:30 p.m.

Refreshments: Need volunteers to
bring a treat.

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Program:

Our January meeting is usually a "Town Meeting". We need to plan for the sale of **Mike Gorges'** material, rent the Barn?

Presidents Message:

Happy New Year All!

2008 is here and we as a club need to seriously look at where we're going. How active are our members in the club. We have an existing situation, actually for the past several years, where the same people are not necessarily running for but serving as officers. I would like every member to consider taking a more active role.

Really like to see more members attend the general meetings. Come and share your fresh ideas and new perspectives.

Bill Snyder, President



From: "The River Runs North" by Tom Harmon

Sometimes the beauty of nature is only seen if we don't touch it, sometimes only if we do. May you always have the wisdom to know the difference.

Happy Holidays!

--
Courtesy of Dick Friesen

After Show Dinner

I want to thank all the workers that showed up for the After Show Dinner at my house, I know people were tired. I didn't do a head count but there were about 28 people there. We had a very good Show which means that we didn't have too much food left over. I want give a special thank you to Gayla Langlois for cooking some extra lasagna and organizing the food, I don't think anyone left hungry. I also want to thank the people that helped setting up and taking down my large table, it is to big for me to handle alone.

Dick Friesen

Editor's Note: Please accept my apologies - this article from Dick should have been in the December 2007 newsletter. I didn't catch the omission until after I had sent the newsletter to the printers and everyone on the email list. Beth Myers

January Beading Class

This will be an enjoyable, relaxed "Inspiration" class. Like to learn or brush up on pearl & bead knotting? Or learn solderless wire techniques? We'll supply the beads, cord, wire, tools and a few findings such as clasps and ear wires. Or you can gather your beads and findings and join us for a fun few hours.

Date: **Sunday, January 27, 2008**

Time: **1:00 - 3:00 p.m.**

Place: **The Bankhead Ranch**

1340 Hartman Road

Livermore, CA

Cost: \$12.00 per person (includes a basic hand tool kit and a selection of beads, cord, findings, wire etc.)

Please contact Beth Myers at 408-897-3060 or eme2@wildblue.net if you plan to attend.

Sponsored by **Nancy Bankhead** and **Beth Myers.**



Montana Agate

California Shows And Events

January 19-20, Exeter

Tule Gem & Mineral Society Gemboree
Veteran's Memorial Bldg.
On Highway 65
Hours: Sat. 10 - 5, Sun. 10-4
Marshall Havner (559) 562-4133
Email: mdhavner@verizon.net

February 15-24, Indio

San Geronio Mineral & Gem Society
Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival
46-350 Arabia St.
Hours: 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Bert Grisham (951) 849-1674
Email: bert67@verizon.net

February 29 - March 1-2, Hayward

Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley
Centennial Hall. 22292 Foothill Blvd.
Hours: Fri. and Sat. 10 - 6, Sun. 10-5
Larry Ham (510) 887-9007
Email: mdhavner@verizon.net
Website: www.MGSCV.org

March 1-2, Arcadia

Monrovia Rockhounds
Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanical Garden
301 N. Baldwin Ave.
Hours: 9 - 4:30 both days
Jo Anna Ritchey
Email: j.ritchey@verizon.net
Website: www.moroks.com

March 1-2, Escondido

Palomar Gem & Mineral Club
Army National Guard Armory
304 Park Avenue
Hours: Saturday 9-5, Sunday 9-4
Michelle & Van Lynch (760) 949-4164
Email: michelleandvan@hotmail.com
Show Website: www.palomargem.org

March 1-2, Ventura

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society
Seaside Park
10 W. Harbor Blvd.
Hours: Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4
Abe-Bar-Shai (818) 991-7735
Email: Barshai3@aol.com
Web Site: www.vgms.org

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 & Mineral 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 & Mineral Society
Calaveras "Frog town" 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

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 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

The Appeal of Fluorescent Minerals

By Gilbert Orozco

In November 2006, my son **Thomas** and I saw our first fluorescent mineral display at the Livermore Gem & Mineral show. We were amazed, to say the least and hooked from that point forward. Since that time, we have attended various Gem & Mineral shows in Northern California to acquire material for our collection.



Thomas Orozco, age 7, chose fluorescent minerals as his project for the science faire at his school in Union City, CA.

Gilbert built a display case to exhibit the fluorescent minerals from Franklin, New Jersey.

Photo courtesy of Gilbert Orozco.

Our goal was to collect and display fluorescent minerals at the 2007 Livermore *Lithorama*. That goal was accomplished as a father and son project.

Thomas Orozco with our first fluorescent display at *Lithorama* 2007.

Photo courtesy of Gilbert Orozco.



Field Trips

A NORTH BAY FIELD TRIP ORGANIZATION FIELD TRIP TO MORGAN HILL, CA (CO-OP MEMBERS MAY ATTEND)

Date: March 8, 2008, 8 a.m.

Host Club: Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society & Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society

Contact: Dean or Karen Welder, wdeanwelder@yahoo.com (408) 353-2675

Meeting Location: A parking lot in Morgan Hill; for complete details please contact trip leader to register and get final details.

Site: A private ranch with Poppy Jasper outcrop.

Material: "Poppy" jasper with various shades of background ranging from deep red to orange to yellow and clear/white agate streaks. Orbs with similar colors and various sizes from pin-head to quarter.


Tools: Digging tools, bucket, spray bottle.

Camping / Lodging: Many lodging possibilities in Morgan Hill. "Nearby" camping includes Henry Coe State Park (approx 20 miles), Thousand Trails campground, and Coyote Lake County Park.

Facilities: None at the mine; there may be a port-a-potty.

Special Notes: Fee \$10 per person (this will help pay for the tractor that will be brought in earlier in the week), plus per-pound fees (approximately \$2-5 depending upon where material is gathered). There will be direct mine access digging available. There will also be material that has come directly from the mine and been "pre-processed" by several methods. The poundage fee depends upon how much pre-processing has been performed (lowest price for direct dig, highest for cleanest processed).

SPECIAL NOTE: The property where the mine is located is currently for sale. Should an offer be accepted, chances are high that this dig will be cancelled. All efforts will be made by trip organizers to contact attendees should this occur.



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.

Jan. 19 Santa Barbara State Beaches for fossil whale bone, fossil horse teeth, chert, agate, jasper. Contact: Jon Meredith, Meredith@flashercrew.net or Lew Helfrich, lewsrocks@bak.rr.com or call (661)323- 2663

Jan. 23-27 Quartzsite Roadrunners G & M Club. Quartzsite, AZ. Various locations, 2 selections each day. See Florence Brady for more information.

Jan. 27- Wiley Well, CA District for geodes, agate, petrified "ironwood" and other minerals. Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society, Dick Pankey

March 8 Morgan Hill, CA for "Poppy Jasper". Santa Cruz and Santa Clara Valley G & M Societies. Contact: Dean or Karen Welder, (408) 353-2675 wdeanwelder@yahoo.com

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

President's Message

By Bural LaRue
CFMS President, 2008



Happy New Year!

Let's make 2008 a really fun year. How do we do that?

Start by sharing your particular skills with everyone you meet. Force yourself to BE FRIENDLY! My dad told me once "a stranger is just a friend I haven't met yet". I have tried to think that way all my life and I've been truly blessed with friends from coast to coast.

Let's invite new friends to our meetings. Have programs for your meetings. If you don't have a guest speaker, use our slide and video library. We have numerous great programs available.

Field trips and workshops are very important. Encourage your field trip chairman to bring rough and polished samples of the material you plan to collect on your next field trip to the meeting.

Our Federation needs your help. The recent Fall Business meeting was not well attended. We barely had a quorum. This is your Federation and we need each club to have a representative there. If your Director can't attend, please send someone in his/her place. Our next meeting will be at the Ventura show in June. I would love to see every club have a representative at the Director's meeting. Start getting ready for the show and let's have a safe and fun-filled 2008.

Reprinted from the January 2008 CFMS newsletter.



Long Range Planning, CFMS

By Dick Pankey



I got an e-mail today from a new Federation Director of a fairly large club today. She had been a member there for over 10 years and had heard little about the Federation and none of the members were familiar with what the Federation is all about. At the Friday evening Cracker Barrel at Visalia in November, I presented some objectives that I was going to work on this coming year in my new capacity as the Chairman of the Long Range Planning Committee. One of which was "Why CFMS?" And this e-mail is the perfect example of why we need to address the subject.

Those of us that are "active" in the Federation - directors (who attend meetings), committee people, and officers, - see first hand what the Federation does, "what it is all about." But in recent years, less than half of our clubs have directors attending and representing them at our Directors' Meetings. The CFMS Newsletter is sent to 3 members of each society, each month. But based on feedback and questions that I have received over the last few years the Newsletters and the information in them often do not get beyond the people that receive the Newsletter.

So, instead of bombarding you with a massive list of all that the Federation is and does, I want to find out what you, the clubs, the people of the Federation, know about and how you perceive the CFMS. I would like to hear from every club and any member. My request, please respond to the following questions:

* How has your club benefited by being a member of the Federation?

* What Federation services, programs, activities, etc. has your club received/participated in this year or in recent years?

Be as detailed as you wish; list all that you think of. To help you get started, look at the officers and committee roster in the back of the CFMS Newsletter. Please e-mail your responses to me at dickpankey@juno.com or mail them to me. This is the first in a planned series of articles. Over the next year I hope that we can improve the perception of the Federation and increase the understanding of "what the Federation is all about."

Reprinted from the January 2008 CFMS newsletter.

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

8th Annual Petrified Wood Identification Seminar

By Debbie Bunn



The Fossils for Fun Society, in cooperation with Sierra College, will present the 8th Annual Petrified Wood Identification Seminar, featuring Walt Wright, Paleobotanist, as lecturer.

Mark your calendars for March 14th through 19th, 2008 for this extremely popular seminar which will be held at Sierra College, Room 101, Sewell Hall, in Rocklin, CA.

This is your opportunity to learn about the complex and beautiful world of petrified wood. Become more knowledgeable about the woods in your own collection and about what and where to collect and buy. Learn about fossilization of wood: its age, origin, and occurrence, and how to identify kinds of petrified wood with simple tools.

Seminar Schedule:

Friday, March 14	6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Saturday, March 15	8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Sunday, March 16	8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

On Monday, March 17th, Walt will lead an optional field trip which will be open to seminar attendees only.

For more information, contact:

Debbie Bunn at (916) 929-6665 or
Carole Lockhart at (916) 638-2314.

Reprinted from the January 2008 CFMS newsletter.

Earth Science Seminar to be held at Soda Springs (Zzyzx) March 23 - 30, 2008

Applications are available online at the CFMS website: cfmsinc.org or contact Beth Myers (408) 897-3060 for a copy of the application. Registration form deadline is March 1, 2008.

Subject to change, the following classes will be offered:

Lapidary, Silver Fabrication, Soft Stone Carving, Wire Art, Enameling and Field Trips.

For information only, contact Marion Roberts (209) 538-0197

POLISHING OBSIDIAN

By Dick Friesen

My experience when people are having problems polishing obsidian is that they almost never get the sanding done adequately. Obsidian seems to show the fine sanding scratches, especially 600 grit, as a haze that won't polish out. A ten power glass will usually show the problem, although many people won't see it until it is pointed out to them. Obsidian is one of the materials that are subject to "subsurface fracturing". When you grind on most materials, fractures will extend down from the surface for a short distance. With obsidian this distance may be deeper than you are removing with the next sanding step. The most critical steps seem to be 600 and 1200, try spending more time there and see if it makes a difference.

For the best results I like to add some time on 3000 grit and then polish. I have used cerium oxide and aluminum oxide to polish obsidian, both work. I like aluminum oxide better.

If you want a real treat, polish a piece of obsidian with cerium oxide, then polish again with Reynolds .2 micron or Fitzcorp .2micron. I usually have trouble finding the surface with a ten power loop.



Imagine this many pearls in one place! J-ME Lynn selecting pearls in Hong Kong. Photo courtesy of J-ME and Guy Lynn. 2007

Minutes of the General & Board Meeting December 13, 2007

Before the holiday meal, the meeting was called to order at 6:22 p.m. at the Carnegie Building by vice-president **Nancy Bankhead**. President **Bill Snyder** was not feeling well and missed the meeting.

Minutes: the minutes were accepted as printed in the December Lithogram.

Treasurer's Report: **Deloris Colonna** thanked everyone for their hard work with the Lithorama 2007, particularly **Bill Beiriger** and **Gayla Langlois**.

Lithorama:

Attendance: Saturday: 258 adults, 107 children
Sunday: 248 adults, 98 children

Food: Sales were slightly better on Saturday.

Auction: Did very well using the material donated by **Mike Gorges**. Thank you, **Mike**.

Raffle: A profit, but lower than last year.

LARPD: Returned a day's rent for the Barn to compensate for kitchen appliances which did not work. We were charged for 12 hours of security, not 36.

Old Business: **Bill B.** thanked everyone again for their efforts with the show. He was at Sunset School for five hours yesterday [December 12, 2007] and other schools have asked him to present a program. Discussion followed regarding how much money to give to the schools - to the chief science technician. **Bill B.** proposed \$250.00. **Beth Myers** seconded the motion, which was passed. **Bill B.** has received the 11 x 17 inch Rock Cycle Boards. Need to add the rocks and frame the boards.

Adjournment: **Deloris C.** thanked **Bill** and **Joan Beiriger** for the decorations for the Holiday Party. The meeting concluded at 6:35 p.m.

Robert Trimmingham, Secretary

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

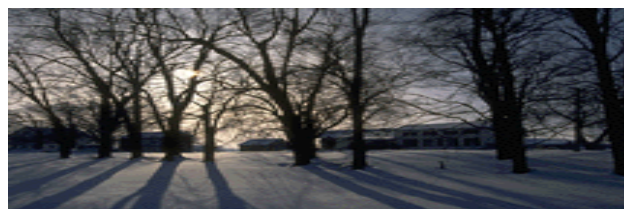
Membership: The Livermore Valley Lithophiles invites to its membership anyone genuinely interested in minerals, gems, lapidary, geology or any of the other earth sciences, and who desires association with others of like interests. Membership in our club consists of three classes: Senior, anyone eighteen 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, (408) 897-3060, email: eme2@wildblue.net



Two of the saws appear to be 10" diameter blades and one is smaller with a 4" diameter blade. The larger machines are free for pickup in Castro Valley. The smaller machine is for sale for a small fee.

All rock saws are in working order and include motors. **Andy Kochendorfer**,

Tel: +1 (415) 369-8079 Office

+1 (415) 760-0508 Cell



Livermore Valley Lithophiles

Beth Myers, Editor
P.O. Box 626
Livermore, CA 94551-0626
eme2@wildblue.net



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

We hope the New Year is kind to you.

