

Livermore



Lithogram

Livermore Valley Lithophiles

Livermore, CA

Next General Meeting

May 12, 2016

7:30pm

Community Room
Civic Center Library

Program: Machu Picchu trip
by Rich & Chris Hunt

Refreshments: Bill Beiriger

Next Board Meeting

Thursday, TBA

7:30pm at the Shop

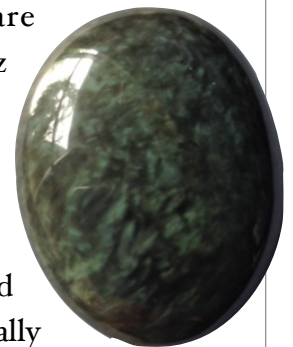
All Members are welcome
to attend!

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President's Message: Some Things about Obsidian

As club members we all admire obsidian for its ideal qualities as a lapidary material and the ease in which it takes on a high polish. Obsidian is not a crystalline material. It is instead volcanic glass that solidified from magma so rapidly that it had no time to form a crystalline structure, much like our modern day plate glass is formed for our homes and car windows. Obsidian is also very high in silica, or silicon dioxide, which is the composition of quartz. Obsidian forms in volcanoes that are silica rich, which are the volcano types that are explosive as opposed to the more passive Hawaiian style volcanoes. The other thing about obsidian that is not intuitive is that it is not stable in nature and is easily attacked by water once formed. There is no obsidian older than the Cretaceous age, or about 145 million years old because of its instability. When obsidian is attacked by water it forms perlite, an amorphous form of quartz that has industrial applications. Obsidian is also found in different colors or varieties. For instance, many of us are familiar with snowflake obsidian. The "snowflakes" are actually a high temperature form of quartz known as cristobalite. Also common is rainbow obsidian, with its color imparted by inclusion of very small magnetite particles (iron oxide). Brown obsidian, often with streaks, is caused by higher iron and magnesium content. Sheen obsidian is actually caused by tiny gas bubbles aligned in layers. Many different varieties have provide a rich source of obsidian for our lapidary pleasures derived from a high variety of natural volcanic occurrences.



State Fossils

Colorado State Fossil

Bill Beiriger

Stegosaurus stenops, narrow-faced roof lizard was found in 1876. The animal lived during the, Mid-Jurassic to Late Cretaceous Period, 156 - 146 million years ago, and were first discovered at Morrison, Colorado where they are found in the Morrison Formation.

Adults were 30 feet long with a height of about 10 feet and weighed in at 3,000 pounds and had a brain a little larger than a walnut. Some have noted a large canal in the hip region of the spinal cord, which could have accommodated a structure up to 20 times larger than the brain, which may have been responsible for controlling reflexes in the rear portion of the body.

It had a toothless beak like a bird, and had 17 triangular bony plates on its back, of which the tallest was 2-1/2 feet in height. The plates were either to intimidate enemies or to impress other members of the same species. The animal also had four spiked spines on its tail.

In 1992 the first skeleton with its plates in place, giving paleontologist proof that the animal had two rows of armored plates on its back.

They were a quadruped herbivore and were heavily built.

It became the State Fossil in 1982.



Adult and Juvenile Stegosaurus
with Allosaurus at left.
Denver Museum

Beading Buddies



Next meeting is **Saturday May 28**, 1-4 PM at Dick and Andrea's, 787 Joyce Street, Livermore. We will have a new bracelet project (see photo below right). Cost will be \$10 for the kit. Bring your beading mat and needle. Please print out instructions that will be sent by email and bring them with you.

Pat



Chainon



Minutes of General Meeting

April 14, 2016

The next meeting on May 12 will feature Rich Hunt presenting his travels to Machu Picchu and the Galapagos Islands. Bill Beiriger will provide the refreshments.

At the June 9 meeting, the scholarships and Bruntons will be given to their recipients. Two Bruntons will go to Cal State East Bay. Northern California Geological Society will match the Lithophile donation. Chris will provide the refreshments.

Shop got flooded a few weeks ago from the ground up = water from underneath the floor. The floor is directly on soil so need to raise it. Repair floor after rainy season. Need insulation in the shop walls if we purchase a gas heater. Stephanie suggested that we inventory the objects that are in the loft. In addition, the cases need to be repaired.

Schools and Scouts – There will be a Science Fair at Croce Elementary School on April 22.

Suggested field trips: 1) Modesto Junior College Museum, 2) Paleo Museum in Chowchilla.

Presentation: Morenci Mine, southeast Arizona.

Minutes of Board Meeting

April 28, 2016

Present: Lee Davisson, Bill Bish, Bill Beiriger, Molly Alexander, Dick Friesen, Andrea Rodriguez

We debated on using PayPal for membership dues. No decision was made.

Treasurer: paid taxes and federation dues. Gave a \$500 deposit to LARPD to reserve the Barn for Lithorama 2016. Auditing is required this year. Bill Bish will ask Beth Meyers if she will do it again.

Mike Gorges Fund – money to go to Livermore elementary schools. Money from silent auction should go to Gorges fund. Use some money for shop because the 4-H Club and homeschoolers use the shop.

Shop: Bill Beiriger and Lee Davisson will meet with Livermore city officials about the shop heater because the city issues permits. Phil the Foreman put two new shields on the grinders.

Schools: Bill Beiriger did sand science at Croce Elementary School. Bill Bish presented the characteristics of dry ice at Arroyo Seco Elementary School.

School & Scout Report

Bill Beiriger & Bill Bish

Bill Beiriger had a session with Cub Scouts from Pleasanton on March 29.

Bill Beiriger brought his educational display on the 'Terminology of Sand' for Earth Day at Leo Croce School. He also had a PowerPoint program with magnified photos of sand.

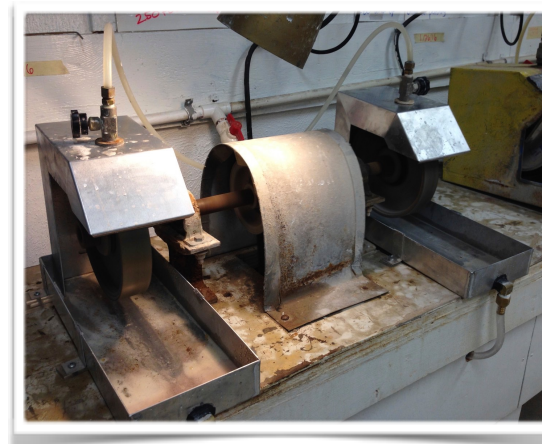
At the Earth Day event many of the school children and a few of the teachers had outfits made from recycled items to stay in the idea of Earth Day; some were very creative.

Bill Bish did four 40 minute demonstrations using dry ice at Arroyo Seco School.



4-H member, Jake Vanderzanden at work in the shop with 4-H leader Richard Ochoa supervising.

New covers for grinding wheels are being installed in the shop.



FOSSIL DISCOVERY CENTER OF MADERA COUNTY

Bill Beiriger

After attending the Mother Lode Gem and Mineral Show at the Turlock Co. Fairgrounds Molly Alexander and I proceeded south to Chowchilla to the Discovery Center.

I had hoped that we would have more Lithophiles on the trip, but that never happened. Stephanie Goldsmith and Katie Herrmann had to cancel at the last minute, but they did make it to the show.

The museum was started in 1993 when workers at the Fairmead Landfill discovered a mammoth tusk. That site has now provided the museum with 39 species of fossils.

You start your tour of the museum with a short video that tells about the paleontological history of the area and the history the landfill site.

Another museum in the area is the Science Community Center – Great Valley Museum at Modesto Junior College. I have not personally been there, but I have seen photos of some of the exhibits and had a chance to speak with the museums director while at the Turlock show.

These two museums should give us a chance for a good field trip. We can stop at the museum in Chowchilla first, then head up to Modesto for lunch and then stop at the Junior College museum before heading back home. It takes two hours to get to Chowchilla from Livermore, then one hour back up to Modesto and another hour back to Livermore.

Top photos Fossil Discovery Center, Chowchilla; Bottom photos Great Valley Museum, Modesto.



Lithophiles Out and About!



Photos taken from the
Valley View Loop Trail in
Sycamore Grove by Bill Bish



California Shows & Events

May 7 - 8: JACKSON, CA
Amador County Gem & Mineral Society
 Kennedy Mine
 12594 Kennedy Mine Rd (off Hwys 49/88)
 Hours: 10 - 4 daily
 Contact: Gaylene Lichty, (209) 245-5388
 Email: mountaingirl@volcano.net
 Website: www.amadorgemandmineral.org

August 13 - 14: SAN FRANCISCO, CA
 San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society
 San Francisco County Fair Building
 9th Avenue & Lincoln Way
 Hours: Sat. 10 - 6; Sun. 10 - 5
 Contact: Ellen Nott, (415) 564-4230
 Email: ellen_nott@yahoo.com
 Website: www.sfgemshow.org

September 16 - 18: PLACERVILLE, CA
 77th CFMS Show & Convention
 Hosted by El Dorado County Mineral & Gem Society
 El Dorado County Fairgrounds
 100 Placerville Drive
 Hours: Fri - Sun 10 - 5 daily
 Contact: Barbara Terrill, 530 676-2375
 Website: www.cfms2016show.com

September 24 - 25: MONTEREY, CA
 Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society
 Monterey Fairgrounds
 2004 Fairgrounds Road
 Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5
 Contact: Janis Rovetti, (831) 372-1311
 Email: janisr12@sbcglobal.net
 Website: www.cvgms.org

September 24 - 25: SANTA ROSA, CA
 Santa Rosa Mineral & Gem Society
 Wells Fargo Center for the Art
 50 Mark West Springs Road
 Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5
 Contact: Jolene Coon
 Website: www.srmgs.org

September 24 - 25: LODI, CA
 Stockton Lapidary & Mineral Club
 Lodi Grape & Harvest Festival Grounds
 413 East Lockford Street
 Hours: 10 - 5 daily
 Contact: Jerold Kyle, (209) 368-9411
 Email: jeroldkyle@yahoo.com
 Website: www.stocktonlapidary.com

October 8 - 9: GRASS VALLEY, CA
 Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society
 Nevada County Fairgrounds (Main Building)
 11228 McCourtney Road
 Hours: 10 - 5 daily
 Contact: Todd Lawson, (530) 305-9212
 Email: webmaster@ncgms.org
 Website: www.ncgms.org

October 22 - 23: LOS ALTOS, CA
 Peninsula Gem & Geology Society
 Los Altos Youth Center
 One No. San Antonio Road
 Hours: 10 - 5 daily
 Contact: Steve Jobe, (408) 834-5384
 Email: steve_jobe@sbcglobal.net
 Website: www.pggs.org

Livermore Valley Lithophiles

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We're on the Web at www.lithophiles.org & www.facebook.com/Lithophiles/

Elected Officers & Club Information

Elected Officers:

President Lee Davisson
leedavisson@sbcglobal.net
V. President Stephanie Goldsmith
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 younger.)

Meetings: General Meeting – Second Thursday of each month, 7:30 p.m. Civic Center Livermore Library Community Room (**Locations change go to 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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