

# Livermore

# Lithogram



**Volume XXXIV, Number 9**  
**September 2009**

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

Next General Meeting:  
 Thursday, **September 10, 2009**  
 Carnegie Building, 4th and 'J' Streets  
 7:30 PM

**Program:** Opals from Virgin Valley, Nevada  
 Presented by Don Neuschwander

Next Board Meeting:  
 Thursday, **September 24, 2009**  
 The SHOP, 7:30 PM  
 Members are welcome to attend!

**Refreshments:** Jim G. and Chris H.

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***Presidents Message:***

I hope everyone had a good summer. We had a nice turnout at the picnic. It was nice seeing some old members and eating really good food. Thank you, Bill B. for arranging this event.

The September meeting will feature the talk on Opals from Virgin Valley, NV. This will be interesting especially to those of us who actually hunted for opal at this location.

We are starting to gear up for Lithorama. A speaker from the USGS will be presenting a program at the Livermore Library at the end of October. We are using this event as an opening act and to help remind people that the show is just around the corner.

I have selected a nominations committee, they are diligently working on a slate of officers for 2010. Please consider a one year term if you are called on to serve, or step up and volunteer for an office.

- Chris Hunt, President

## Minutes of the General Meeting

### NO AUGUST MEETING, 2009

## Minutes of the Board Meeting

### August 27, 2009

Board Meeting August 27, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 p.m. by President Chris Hunt.

Speaker for the month of September: Don N. has confirmed he will be at the meeting. He has talked with Bill B. about showing slides from Virgin Valley, NV.

Lecture for Lithorama kick-off: The Livermore Library Community Room has been reserved for Thursday Oct. 29, 2009, between 7-9 p.m. We must pay for the use of this room. Seating will be on a first come first served basis. Someone from the USGS has been contacted.

Programs: Michelle, the student we helped, might be able to give a presentation at the October meeting. She will talk about the research she is doing. If Michelle is able to do the October meeting, Bill B. will move his show to the November meeting. Bob is ready to give a program next year with things acquired on his recent vacation.

Lithorama: Bill B. will work with Pat to get new sign numbers. Diane said it would cost in the neighborhood of \$390.00 to have a plane make eight loops pulling a banner advertising the show.

Bob T. said he might not be able to run an auction this year. We don't have enough material left from Mike's collection.

Schools: Bill B. has talked to a bookstore about books for the school science program. He will do more research. It was mentioned, perhaps, we could have the schools apply for a grant from the club. This way they could incorporate the money into a plan at the beginning of the year. We would also have a record of how much was given, what it was used for and who benefited. We could also use this information for community service type publicity.

Field trips: Bob T. talked about fossil leaves near Boomtown. This could possibly turn into a field trip.

Lithogram: Diane will put in a survey or call for interest about classes. She is trying to get something organized.

Barn: Jim G. has built some new shelving for the storage area. It is ready to go into the barn.

Meeting adjourned, 8:00 p.m.  
President Chris Hunt (acting secretary)

## STATE ROCKS, etc.

### North Carolina

State Rock - Granite

State Gemstone - Emerald

### North Dakota

NONE

### Ohio

State Gemstone - Flint

### Oklahoma

State Rock - Barite Rose

State Crystal - Hourglass Selenite

# California Shows And Events

## 2009

**September 19-20 2009**, Redwood City, CA

**Sequoia Gem & Mineral Society**

Redwood City Community Activities Bldg.

1400 Roosevelt Ave.

Hours: 10-5 daily

Carol Corden (650) 248-7155

Email: coorden@comcast.net

Website: www.sgms.driftdmine.com/home.htm

Show Flyer: click here.

**September 19-20 2009**, Stockton, CA

**Stockton Lapidary and Mineral Club**

Scottish Rite Masonic Center

33 West Alpine Ave.

Hours: 10 - 5 both days

(209) 946-0113

E-mail: footsey1@yahoo.com

Website: www.stocktonlapidary.com

**September 19-20 2009**, Paso Robles, CA

**Santa Lucia Rockhounds**

Pioneer Park & Museum

2010 Riverside Ave.

Hours: 10 - 5 both days

Richard Smith (805) 467-2966

E-mail: jonme2@wildblue.net

Show Flyer: click here.

**September 26-27 2009**, Carmel, CA

**Carmel Valey Gem & Mineral Society**

Monterey Fairgrounds

Hours: Sat. 10 - 6; Sun. 10-5

E-mail:

Website: www.cvgms.org

Show Flyer click here.

**October 10-11 2009**, Grass Valley, CA

**Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society**

"Earth's Treasurers"

Nevada County Fairgrounds

11228 McCourtney Road

Hours: 10-5 both days

Kim Moore (530) 470-0388

Email: kmoore160@comcast.net

Website: www.ncgms.org

**October 10-11 2009**, Trona, CA

**Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society**

Searles Gem & Mineral Show Building

13337 Mian Street

Hours: Sat. 7:30-5; Sun. 7:30-4

Jim & Bonnie Fairchild (760) 372-5356

Email: sigms@iwvisp.com

Website: www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub

**October 17-18 2009**, Placerville, CA

**El Dorado County Mineral & Gem Society**

El Dorado County Fairgrounds

100 Placerville Drive

Hours: 10-5 daily

Jackie Cerrato (530) 676-2472

Email: info@rockandgemshow.org

Website: http://www.eldoradomineralandgem.org

Show Website: http://www.rockandgemshow.org

Show Flyer: click here.

**October 17-18 2009**, Santa Rosa, CA

**Santa Rosa Gem & Mineral Society**

Santa Rosa Veterans Building

1351 Maple Ave. (Opposite Fairgrounds)

Hours: Sat. 10-6; Sun. 10-5

Website: www.gem-n-i.org

Show Flyer: click here.

**October 24-25 2009**, Los Altos, CA

**Peninsula Gem & Mineral Society**

Los Altos Civic Center Youth Center

One San Antonio Road

Hours: 10-5 daily

Dave Muster (408) 245-2180

Email: mustersgems@yahoo.com

**November 7-8 2009**, Concord, CA

**Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society**

Centre Concord

5298 Clayton Road (Cornern of Ygnacio & Clayton Rd)

Hours: 10 - 5 both days

Harry Nichandros

Email: show2009@ccmgs.org

Website: http://ccmgs.org

**November 21-22, 2009** Livermore

LITHORAMA 2009 Show and Sale,

**Livermore Valley Lithophiles Gem &**

**Mineral Society**; 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.

# *Sand of the Month*

## Foraminiferal (Forams) Sands William Beiriger

Foraminifera are single-celled amoeboid protists, protists can be animal, plant or fungus. Infact, scientists are not sure which kingdom they are in.

The test, shells, can be composed of calcium carbonate (calcareous), cemented foreign particles such as sediment grains (agglutinated), and one species is composed of silica.

They either live on the sea bottom (benthic) or float in the upper part of bodies of water (planktonic). Most forams live in a marine environment, but can also live in brackish water and few species in fresh waters.

Of the estimated 4000 species living today, 40 are planktonic. Even though the Planktonic Forams are very small they are food for fish and marine invertebrates.

Foraminifera typically range in size from 0.05mm to 0.5mm, although some may be as large as several centimeters with a recorded maximum size of 18cm (7 inches) in diameter.

Forams have been found in rocks of at least the Cambrian (~550 million years ago). Since then, forams have been found to make up approximately 40,000 species in the rock record. Planktonic forams appeared ~200 million years ago.

Along with Diatoms and Radiolaria, Foraminifer make-up some very interesting sand to collect and study.



230 x



230 x

150 x



200 x

230 x



# Alameda County Fair Exhibits

William Beiriger

First of all I wish to thank Diane Day for taking on the Lithophile's Club Case at the Alameda County Fair. Diane and Stephanie Goldsmith put a GREAT case together. The case won a 2nd Place.

The following members loaned their material for the display: Joe Bruns, Diane Day, Sue Fernandez, Dick Friesen, Stephanie Goldsmith, Albert Hess, Andrea Rodrigues and Junior Members Shana Scott, Jacob Carnes and Soapstone Carvings from Students at Livermore High School Art Class.



Lithophile's Case

### Other exhibits from club members:

Chris Hunt - Cabochons - 2nd Place

Bill Beiriger - Educational "The Physical Properties of Minerals" - 2nd Place

Bill Beiriger - "Fool's Gold" - 1st Place



Chris Hunt



Bill Beiriger

## What Does an Editor Do in Times of Disaster?

by Brenda Johnson

bdwj\_57@hotmail.com

Editor - Ozark Earth Science News

via S.C.R.I.B.E.



On January 27, when our power went dead due to an ice storm, little did we know that the upper half of the state of Arkansas would be left in the dark for a month in some places. My husband and I, knowing it was coming, had the foresight to fill the bath tub with water to use for the commode, thinking that the outage would only last a few hours. And, we have a hot tub on our back deck that was full for back up, thank goodness. It wasn't until the following day that we realized that the weight of the ice not only took out the tops of all the trees and broke limbs, leaving the entire areas looking like a war zone where cluster bombs had been released, but had also snapped all the power poles between us and the main line. So we knew we were in it for the long haul.

I had a deadline to meet in getting the February bulletin for the Ozark Earth Science Gem, Mineral & Fossil Club to the webmaster, who always calls and reminds me that we have a contract with them, if I am only hours late. Our meeting is always the second Tuesday of each month, and my deadline is the first Tuesday. With just generator power, I had no way of knowing whether I could even boot up my computer or not, and besides, many phone lines were down all around me. What was I to do?

I'm no procrastinator so I had the bulletin completed except for one aspect. I had never converted it to a PDF. After three days without power, we were told that we would probably be so for at least four weeks. So I decided to try to get the bulletin downloaded and taken to the webmaster. After four unsuccessful tries, I was finally able to convert it and put it on a thumb

drive. I met my deadline the morning it was due.

It was posted on the webpage and I sent those members I have in my address book a notice that they would have to go to the webpage to download it if they wanted a copy, and to inform those who still get hard copies that they would just have to wait.

Then I began wondering what I would do for a bulletin the following month. I like to have my bulletins ready before our meetings so that club members know what is being planned, and with power not being restored for weeks, I knew that would be hard to do. WHAT is an editor to do in times of disaster?

This has given me a time to read several books that I had not had time to read before. I read a book on basic geology first, to refresh myself. In doing so I took notes on some things that are well worth researching for articles in the future.

I also reread several exchange bulletins that I have and chose articles that I can use, and articles that mentioned some things that I want to research also.

Some of our club members sent me photos via email, and as I have a laptop, I worked on an article for the upcoming bulletin, showing how others were coping with the ice and outages also. I like to include as much about our juniors as possible as an encouragement, and have also found some interesting articles that will be good for them.

As I write, it may be another two weeks before we are recovered from this. But when we are, I will be ready with articles, and ideas that will help me to put together the bulletin to get it out on time, as usual.

To all editors, I would like to say one thing....**do not procrastinate**. Do not think that you can leave something until last and hurriedly put together a bulletin. One never knows what nature holds in store. If one commits themselves to a job, they should do their best. Editorship of a club paper should be viewed with the same perspective as the editorship of a large newspaper. One should strive to put together, large or small, a bulletin that each club member will be proud to receive. The idea of "it's only a club bulletin!" never crosses my mind.

What is an editor to do in times of disaster? Make the best of it by utilizing the time on their hands to the best of their ability, always looking to better themselves. This time has made me much wiser, and with the help of **S.C.R.I.B.E.**, and time well spent, I hope to improve in my editorship for future issues.

## Livermore Valley Lithophiles

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

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

**General Meeting Sept. 10th at 7:30 PM**  
**Board Meeting Sept. 24th at 7:30 PM**