



C.F.M.S. Newsletter

XLV #2

February 2009

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By C.J. Quitoriano



Happy New Year! Everybody have a good laugh at my picture last month? Jim and Bud are now on the short list, and I'm hoping Jim has a better pic this month, please? As you could see by the picture, we had a great time at the Clay Mine Road Thanksgiving field trip! This was our first year to spend Thanksgiving on a field trip, and we had a blast! If the kids decide to spend T-day with the other side of the family again, I think we'll do it again. Marion deep-fried two giant turkeys, and everyone chipped in with all the fixin's. The food was terrific and so was the company! We went hounding for petrified wood and travertine. Some people found pieces of wood and lots found large chunks of travertine. I found some wood, but it wasn't petrified, sigh.

I hope everybody is taking advantage of the great field trips Dave, Shep, and Adam are putting together. Should be a great year! Ray and I hope to make a few this year although what we would do with more rocks is beyond me! But we truly enjoyed being with our fellow rockhounds and just hanging out with good friends. The happy hours are pretty good, too!

By the time this comes out, Quartzsite should be well underway; hopefully, everyone will make the trip? If you've never gone, you're missing out. Everyone should try to make it as they have everything imaginable for our hobby. So if you're in need of materials or tools or equipment, Quartzsite is the place to go! Don't forget, they also have the Ye Old Timers auction. I've heard that it can get pretty crazy, and Ray and I are planning to make it this year. Maybe we'll see you there!

That's all for now. Please be safe and have fun!

- CJ

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NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS

CFMS Newsletter is published 11 times a year by the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc., PO Box 1657, Rialto, CA 92377-1657. Subscription: \$5.50 per year, January through December. Not prorated.

CFMS WEBSITE

CFMS on the Internet is accessible at www.cfmsinc.org. Web Master is Don Ogden. Editors are invited to download articles for their bulletins from this website.

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TO REPORT A CLAIM

Report claims as soon as possible to Patt McDaniel at 1-800-400-7288. If no one is immediately available, and/or during non-business and weekend hours, call 1-800-252-4670.

ARTICLES FOR YOUR NEWSLETTER DUE TO EDITOR BY 5th OF MONTH

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2009 CFMS Calendar through June

January 31 - All American Awards deadline (send entries to Dot Beachler)

March 1 - deadline to send Dues & Insurance form & Officer Change form for each club (to Pat LaRue)

March 2 - Audrey Harvey begins accepting applications to Zzyzx, which takes place Nov. 15-22; see application form in this month's newsletter.

March 21 - Field Trips-North seminar on filing claims, Pittsburg, CA

March 21 - Field Trips-South field trip to Ant Hill, near Bakersfield.

March 25 - deadline to submit Competitive Exhibit Entries for CFMS show (to Marion Roberts) & Non-Competitive Exhibit Entries (to Dean Welder)

March 31 - deadline to send Officer & Chairmen's reports to Pat LaRue for Directors Meeting at 2009 Show

April 1 - deadline to submit Advance Registration form for CFMS Show (to Ruth Bailey)

April 17-19, 2009 - CFMS Show and Convention, San Jose, CA

May 15 - due date for clubs on a calendar year to file tax Form 990, 990EZ, or 990N (for fiscal-year clubs, due date is 4.5 months after end of your fiscal year)

May 17-23 - Camp Paradise

May 20-25 - Inter-Regional Rockhound Rendezvous to Davis Creek/Lassen Creek, CA (see Dick Pankey)



Use the **ROCKHOUND STICKER** on your truck, car and RV to show that you are a Rockhound!



AFMS SCHOLARSHIP: Honoring Jeane & Bob Stultz

By Fred Ott

One of my most pleasant duties last year as 2nd Vice President was to chair the CFMS Jury of Awards of the AFMS Scholarship Foundation. (For background on the AFMS Scholarship, see Betty Pankey's related article in this month's newsletter.) It's with great pleasure that I announce this year's honorees: Jeane and Bob Stultz! Following is from the letter I sent to the AFMS, nominating Jeane and Bob for this honor.

"I'd like to nominate **Jeane and Bob Stultz** for AFMS Scholarship Honorees, 2009. I've known Jeane and Bob since the 1970s when Jeane was editor of her club's newsletter and we met at CFMS Editor's Breakfasts. She went on to the AFMS Bulletin Editor's Hall of Fame in 1995.

"Both Jeane and Bob have given time helping and representing the CFMS. Jeane is a CFMS Past President, 1990, but she didn't get there overnight. She went through the CFMS chairs, starting with Secretary and culminating with President. The year Jeane was Secretary, she stood with me to vote in our now famous Endowment Fund; it wasn't easy. We had three officers on the dais who voted against it, but it passed. Jeane also served on the CFMS Rules Committee, and as chair in 1990 and again in 2003, both AFMS shows. She also updated the Officers & Chairman's Manual. She has been on numerous CFMS Committee over the years.

"Bob has served the CFMS in one of the most important aspects of our society. He's been Show Chair for the following CFMS shows: 1985, Ventura, and 1990, CFMS/AFMS, Ventura. As the Ventura County Fair Mineral Chair, he arranged contracts for CFMS for 1997, 2003, and 2008, saving considerable money and time in negotiations, and all was done on our behalf. Bob also served as CFMS President in 2001. He's been the CFMS Show Consultant from Southern California for many years, driving to clubs to give them information on how to put on a CFMS show. All this on his own time and expense.

"Both Jeane and Bob together have received the Golden Bear (1997), the highest award given to people serving the CFMS. Together, they were named the CFMS Scholarship Honorees for

1992-93 and were given the honor of choosing students for scholarships. Both Bob and Jean have personal collections of minerals that they have graciously shown for more than 30 years at both club shows around the state and also as guest exhibitors at most of the CFMS shows. They were always there to assist officers and chairs of the CFMS. Please join me in selecting Jeane and Bob Stultz for this well-deserved honor of selecting them as AFMS 2009 Scholarship Honorees."



Dee Holland, President of the AFMS Scholarship Foundation has confirmed and informed Jeane and Bob of their selection for this honor, and we look forward to congratulating them among their many, many friends within the Federation at the CFMS Convention Awards Banquet in San Jose. Congratulations, Jeane and Bob, and thank you for your fine example and service!

- Fred



ALL AMERICAN REPORT

By Dot Beachler

By this time, all of the club books entering in this year's **All American Awards Program** should have been received and are now being judged. Now is the time for all clubs to start preparations toward next year's All American Awards Program.

What does this mean to your club? There are three good reasons to consider:

1. This is a history of your club's activities.
2. Enthusiastic club members working together can demonstrate their enthusiasm for their hobby.

3. Here is an opportunity for regional and national recognition.

How is this done? Here are just a few of many possible ideas to get your club started. It's really very easy!

1. Collect pictures of club activities, displays, and demonstrations.
2. Work on and record your club's community involvement.
3. Check with the club's publicity committee.
4. Work with yours or other club shows.
5. Don't forget field trips.
6. Special interest groups.
7. Join ALAA or contact your representatives.

A committee working together could easily assemble this information. Give it a try!

- Dot



**EARTH SCIENCE STUDIES:
Camp Paradise & Zzyzx**

By Marion F. Roberts

I am writing this on Dec. 26, 2008, so already there could be changes. At this time we have over 40 paid for **Camp Paradise**, so I suggest those interested in attending act soon! The dates are May 17-23. Also in this newsletter, I am inserting the application for **Zzyzx**, which will be November 15-23.

Please check the applications carefully to be sure you have the correct one as they go to different people and different addresses. Camp Paradise applications go to Anna Christiansen, whereas Zzyzx applications go to Audrey Harvey. In an attempt to minimize confusion, we've made the applications distinctively different for each camp.

One note on Zzyzx. It always proves to be extremely popular and over-booked. To give everyone an equal chance at getting in, applications are not accepted until March 2, and then on a first-come, first-served basis.

Calls about the camps are coming to me on a regular basis, and I welcome these inquiries and interest in the camps. Please keep them coming!

- Marion



**MEMBER RECOGNITION
or EDUCATION
THROUGH SHARING**

By Loretta Ogden

Delters Gem & Mineral Society from Downey, California, would like to recognize **John Vincent** for his many years of service. John was born in Minnesota and lived his early years in Wisconsin. During World War II he worked in Security for the Army. He and his wife, Irene, joined the Delters in 1957. John taught Biological Sciences at Mt. Carmel and El Rancho high schools for 31 years, during which he founded Prospectors Clubs on both campuses. John became treasurer in 1959, President in 1960, and Show Chair in 1961. He has held various offices since. Presently he's our librarian. For many years he put his background in security to good use at our shows. He was an active field tripper and has a large collection of gems & minerals and fossils, including Lake Superior agates. (Submitted by Nancy Bird, DGMS Secretary and Federation Director.)



- Loretta



**FIELD TRIPS-NORTH:
Seminar: What Rockhounds
Need to Know About Claims**

By Dick Pankey

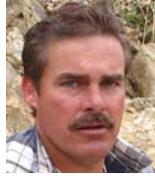
A seminar on claims will be hosted by the Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society on Sat., Mar. 21 at the Community Presbyterian Church in Pittsburg, CA. Dr. Gregg Wilkerson from the Bakersfield BLM District Office will present the seminar. An announcement flier with details and directions is available on the CFMS Web Site (www.cfmsinc.org). The seminar is for field trip leaders and every rockhound who enjoys collecting and using our public lands; all CFMS society members and guests are welcome! Call or email me for more information (925-439-7509; dickpankey@juno.com) and to sign up for this seminar and to sign up to help.

Be sure to reserve your spot - call or send me your reservation, **TODAY!!** Cost for the seminar and lunch is \$5.00 per person.

- Dick



**FIELD TRIPS-
SOUTH:
Field Trips Past
& Future**



By Shep Koss & Adam Dean

Greetings Fellow Rocknuts! No trips this month. Not for lack of places to go, but due to unreliable weather. For those who missed our last trips, please click on the Field Trips section of the website to see and read about those adventures. (And see the comments we received about the recent Calico trip, below.) Our next field trip will be a bit different. We'll be heading to Bakersfield and the richest Miocene marine fossil beds in the world to collect teeth from sharks and marine mammals, whale bone, and other rarities. (See Adam's write-up and directions at the end of this article.) For you lapidarists, fossil shark teeth can be worked into fine and unique jewelry. Other planned trips in coming months include the Ludlow area for Lavic jasper and southern Cady agates; the North Edwards area for the great onyx hunt for travertine, silver lace and honey onyx as well as agates, jaspers and palm wood. Stay tuned!

On another note, with the Omnibus Lands Bill on temporary hold, don't think we can relax our campaign to keep public lands open for collecting. This was just an umbrella bill, and the individual bills are very much alive. We must also keep working on our representatives to create California's first officially designated rock collecting park as other western states have. So many sites to choose from for this honor. We deserve a park for us, as well. Happy Hunting!

Field Trips Past: Calico Trip Report

From Adam Dean: I was first to arrive on Dec. 13, along with my better half, Teresa Felix. On stepping out of my truck, I was greeted by a cold breeze that kicked into a gale. Before I knew it, I was surrounded by 37 rockhounds itching to collect. Jim Hare of Diamond Pacific was guest speaker/guide. We started with an example of material that had been found at a silver lace onyx mine, as well as from a sagenite area. Jim showed us red onyx he collected at the mine; that really peaked interest! I also showed sagenite that excited many. We talked about how to find material at

the sites and how to stay safe. Now was the moment of truth. We dashed for our trucks and were off! The road was rough and tricky, maneuvering around old mine shafts; still, everyone stayed together as I led the group in, and we made it ok. Windy and cold, but I never heard one complaint; it was all positive. The wind was so strong it blew several of us to the ground. We got up, dusted ourselves off, and went back to collecting. I have to give it to you all: you're one tough group that never let anything get you down. We found rocks and more rocks! Several found nice onyx and pieces of sagenite. We met new friends and saw old-timers, which made my day. There's nothing better than collecting rocks with a bunch of friends while enjoying nature with a windy extreme. My pleasure comes not only from collecting rocks, but all the smiling faces. Without you, I wouldn't have the joy you gave me that day. We all went home with our sacks full. What a great day! Best Wishes & Better Agates.



From Shep Koss: Morning started nicely with sunshine and mild breezes as 37 gathered at Calico exit to search for silver lace onyx and sagenite, but breezes became gale-force winds, kicking up massive dust storms. Storm clouds moved in, but it remained dry. We scattered up a steep hill, collecting silver lace plus vugs with druzi. Thanks to Jim Hare, our guide from Diamond Pacific. Soon, guided by Adam, we headed for an unmarked sagenite site, where high clearance 4wd was absolute. Even burros would think twice about that road through colorful hills, silver mine adits, and off-roading jeeps. Again, we scattered among hills, searching for sagenite agate, finding some and lots of green/clear fortification. The wind was cold and relentless, but it didn't deter us. Later, we packed gear and headed to civilization with

our finds, hoping to beat the coming storm, another adventure and more finds "notched" on our hammers. Until the next hunt!

From Jim Hare, Diamond Pacific: Adam & Shep, thank you for the chance to share this CFMS adventure as guest speaker and guide. Adam called me months ago and asked me to do this, as he was aware of my knowledge of the mine. The day was cold and windy; still, the rockhounds were ready to go. After a history of the mine, where to find the best material, and a talk about hazards, I passed around samples; then we where off! Everyone found material and seemed to have a great time. Weather wasn't great but the company was. Thanks for inviting me!

From Robert Burson, Searchers of Anaheim: I commend Adam, Teresa, and Shep bringing us a top-quality trip. I can't recall a more challenging road, requiring white knuckles, teamwork and a leap of faith. I now know my vehicle can do more than I thought possible. Breath-taking views of rock formations made this trip a 5-star adventure. My thanks to Jim, as well, for his contribution to a masterpiece.

From Sherm & Ricky: Thanks for your wealth of info and taking us to Calico for an enjoyable day. We think we got some great silver lace onyx and maybe a small piece or two of sagenite. That was one rough ride!! We stopped on the way to Quartzsite at Lavic Siding and picked up jasper. It makes the equipment red, but has nice pattern. We're now in Quartzsite for a month and will spend our time doing lapidary work and more field trips!

From Paul Kinney: What a blowout! A pleasure meeting you folks. This was my first time out with the local clubs; I look forward to many more. One of my pieces of sagenite is about 3" square and 1-1/2" thick. If this is what we were looking for, I got a great piece! Thanks again to all.

From Dennis Gibbs: Thank you for an exciting, memorable trip. My grandson and I thoroughly enjoyed it in spite of the cold wind. I was astonished to see how far my Toyota got on that jeep road before we had to abandon it. Paul Kinney was gracious to offer a ride, and we continued the adventure. I appreciate going and all the help you two gave me. I'm a new rockhound, and it's rewarding to be able to pick

up something and have someone there with the knowledge to identify it. The trip was especially exciting because every year I start my 3rd graders on a rock and mineral collection, and we spend time at Calico and Mule Canyon. What I learned with you fellows will be used next spring with my students. Thank you again for the adventure!

Field Trips Future: Ant Hill in March



Field Trips-South will sponsor a trip hosted by Conejo Valley Gem & Mineral Club to Ant Hill near Bakersfield in March. Come for a fun day digging fossil shark teeth! Weather should be nice. The site is a 500-yard walk over semi-flat ground, then 100 yards uphill. Once there, most of the time you'll dig in a small area. In March, there's always a chance of rain, so bring the necessary clothing. If it is raining, we won't be digging. Also, an obligatory warning: this area is known for valley fever, caused by fungi in the soil. It can cause fever, chest pain, and coughing and, in extreme cases, has even been fatal. We don't want to overstate the danger; in fact, most who inhale the fungi have few, if any symptoms, but be advised! You may wish to wear a facemask while stirring up the soil, and should you feel like you've caught a cold after the trip, see a doctor right away. Effective treatments are available.

When: Sat., March 21, 2009, 10AM-3PM.

Directions: 5 Freeway North, to the 99 Hwy North; off at 178 Hwy East, near Bakersfield; go 8.3 miles to Harrell Hwy; turn Left (North); 3.5 miles on Harrell Hwy from the 178 Hwy. Site is on the Left (South) side of Hwy, in hills across from a soccer field. Look for Rob Sankovich's black Toyota truck with CVGM sign in the window. We'll be about 2.5 miles east of Hart Park. If you see an asphalt bike path going between the hills, you're at the right spot!

Tools: Rock pick, gad pry bar, hand sledge, sifter (quarter-inch), large pry bar, shovel, eye protection, newspaper to wrap fossils, collecting bags, wide-brimmed hat, sunblock, lots of water, lunch. There's no shade in the morning, and while it will probably be cool, it can get hot there, so dress in layers. After 1:00 PM, the dig

site will be in the shade. I recommend a daypack to put your tools in. It's a bit of a walk, and it'll be easier to carry gear.

Material to Collect: Fossil shark teeth of many types and sizes from the Miocene Epoch, 10-15 million years ago. There are other fossils (marine mammal bone and teeth). This is part of the richest Miocene marine fossil bed in the world. Fossils are found in a 3-foot layer of semi-soft clay; you'll see exposed holes from previous digs. You'll dig out the biggest pieces you can, then carefully break apart to find fossils. I usually use a gad pry bar to dig out bigger pieces of clay (golf ball to baseball size). If I see any sign of a shark tooth or fossil, I'll wrap it in newspaper, and later I'll use dental tools or Dremel motor tools to remove clay and reveal the tooth. To make a nice display, I'll often keep some teeth in matrix. The main thing when working with fossils is patience.

Contacts: Shep, freudonetoo@yahoo.com 661-248-0411; Adam theagatehunter@verizon.net; Rob, rmsorca@adelphia.net, (805) 494-7734. If interested, please call in advance. Weather can change; without knowing if you're going, we won't be able to give you updates or notify you if the trip gets cancelled.

- Shep & Adam



GOLDEN BEAR AWARD: Send Your Nominations!

By Isabella Burns

Attention CFMS Executive Committee, Federation Directors, and Golden Bear Committee! Each of you has an opportunity to make a nomination for the Golden Bear Award, which will be presented at the CFMS Show Banquet on April 15. This award is presented to a CFMS member who has given outstanding service to the CFMS. Send your candidate with your recommendation about their services to a Golden Bear Committee member (see list in the Roster at the back of the newsletter).

The **Golden Bear Award** was started in 1960 for members who had contributed many hours of their time and their finances to help build the great programs that have made the CFMS such a great organization. We enjoy many projects and opportunities, just a few of which include the Earth Science Camps, CFMS



Scholarship Awards, Education Through Sharing, All American Awards, and many more.

Please send names of members of CFMS who you know deserve an award and explain how their efforts have gone above and beyond their committee job description. Send this information to me or other members of the CFMS Golden Bear Committee.

- Izzie



CFMS INSURANCE: Insurance Question of the Month

By Bud McMillin

Our question for the month was the very first question asked at the Insurance Q&A Session held in Visalia. It was asked by our (then) CFMS President Burl LaRue: *"I am a member of four different clubs within the CFMS. How come each club I belong to has to pay insurance for me?"*

That really is a good question and needs some background to explain. When Chubb Insurance underwrites our policy, they ask for the total number of clubs/societies in the Federation. They have no interest in the number of members because one of the factors inherent with our type of organization/federation is that members are often members in more than one club within that Federation. Let us say our insurance premium is \$55,000 for the year and we have 110 clubs. If the Federation were to charge by the club, it would cost each club \$500 a year for insurance. Years ago, the Executive Board made a decision that a club with, let us say, 30 members, would not join the Federation with a \$500 insurance premium because they would not be able to afford the cost. The decision was made to do what most federations do instead and charge each club by the number of members. With our \$55,000 insurance premium and approximately 9500 members in the Federation, the premium per member would be \$5.79 per member. Therefore, a club with 30 members would only pay the \$6.00 premium for 30 members for a total cost for insurance of only \$180 instead of \$500.

So, back to Burl's question. It would be almost impossible for the Federation to attempt to keep track of which member belongs to which club and what other clubs they belonged to if they belonged to more than one club. Think of

trying to do that for 9,500 members. If there was a process for the CFMS to keep track of that information, which one of the four clubs should pay the premium? This seems like a simple question, but it does get a little bit complicated. If you have any more questions on how the Federation charges for insurance, please do not hesitate to give me a call. Thanks!

- Bud



JUNIOR ACTIVITIES: Introducing Your Junior Activities Committee!

By Jim Brace-Thompson

Last October, I issued an invitation for others who like working with kids to join me on the CFMS Juniors Activities Committee. With me now in my eleventh year as Juniors Activities Chair, the goal was to keep from becoming stale by tapping a fresh supply of experience and suggestions that we can pass along to our fellow CFMS clubs via the newsletter, the CFMS web site, the annual show, etc.

Starting at the Visalia Director's meeting, I approached several individuals, and this month I'm pleased to introduce the committee to you. They are **Terry McMillin** (Mother Lode Mineral Society), **Ismael Sanchez** (Kern County Mineral Society), **Susan Chaisson-Walblom** (Palmdale Gem & Mineral Club), and **June Harris** (Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society). All show high enthusiasm and have done some great things for kids. For instance, June has developed a kids activities program for her local club show that last year attracted over 2,000 school children and Scout groups, and Ismael runs one of the biggest kids program in the Federation with his Mineral Mites. Some of these Mineral Mites have earned every single badge in the AFMS Future Rockhounds of America badge program, Ismael gets them exhibiting in the county fair, they enjoy field trips and workshops, etc. The four of us will discuss ways to attract kids to our clubs, show ideas for kids, educational outreach to kids outside your club, and other kid-related activities and topics. I look forward to working with each of them and, in the pages of this column, to sharing the fun!

- Jim

ALAA:

Subscribe to the Newsletter

**By Dick Pankey
Vice President, ALAA**



The American Lands Access Association (ALAA) was established by a 1992 vote of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. It serves as a separate 501(c)(4) organization and works to promote and ensure rights of amateur fossil and mineral collecting, recreational prospecting and mining, and use of public and private lands for educational and recreational purposes. It carries the voice of amateur collectors and hobbyists to elected officials, government regulators and public land managers.

ALAA just mailed out its first newsletter in a year. If you didn't get one, it's because you didn't pay 2008 dues and thus aren't a member. (Note that membership in and donations to ALAA are not tax deductible.) The main reason for no newsletter this year was the lack of an editor, but that has been remedied. This past year, there were major legislative initiatives affecting access to public lands from several wilderness bills, a new entity to be established known as the "National Landscape Conservation System," and the Paleontological Resources Preservation Act. While these bills were pulled at the last minute, we expect them to be re-introduced in the next session of Congress.

Every society in every Federation of the AFMS should consider ALAA membership, as well as individual members. Check out the ALAA web site (www.amlands.org) to learn more and to get an application. Your support and your involvement is critical in maintaining access to public lands and collecting rights. Do it today so that you will receive the next issue of the ALAA Newsletter in March!

- Dick

NOTES FROM JOHN

**By John Martin, AFMS
Conservation & Legislation
Committee**



Southern Inyo Wilderness Proposals

The following is reprinted from Newsbytes, Issue 363, BLM California: *Wilderness Hearing*

Brings Out the Boos for New Proposal (Inyo Register, 12/20/08) "Forty people from Bishop to Keeler, and even Southern California and Utah, signed up Tuesday evening to weigh in on five new wilderness designations proposed for Southern Inyo...No one came forward at the extended Board of Supervisors session in Lone Pine to voice support for the wilderness proposals...Discussion was in reference to a proposal from the California Wilderness Coalition to Senator Dianne Feinstein to add five new wilderness designations to areas of Southern Inyo Co....Most speakers expressed concerns about the struggling mining industry, and how the wilderness proposals, if passed into law, could drive the industry out of the county." Some proposals involve lands managed by BLM. www.inyoregister.com/content/view/120553/1/.

Off-Highway Vehicle Travel & BLM Lands in Riverside County

If collecting in Riverside Co., don't drive cross-country or drive on private property. There are no BLM-designated open OHV areas in the county where riding off existing routes is permitted. Agencies within Riverside Co. are working toward identifying an open OHV area. Meanwhile, info on BLM OHV areas in California is available on the BLM-California website. No recreational OHV opportunities are in Coachella Valley given that nearly all BLM lands in the valley are small and scattered parcels lacking legal access. Also, OHV riders easily enter adjacent private lands where riding is not legal. "Billboards over Coachella Valley freeways...will serve as reminders that off-road riding in the open desert is against the law...Desert bighorn sheep, migratory birds, fringe-toed lizards and milk vetch are some critical animal and plant species being affected by riders who trespass on public protected land. Trespassing and public safety also are concerns...BLM technically has about 70 miles of dirt roads sprinkled across the Coachella Valley...But the trails are not conducive to traditional off-road riders who trailer their vehicles, bring the whole family, set up a camp for day and grill outside." (Reprinted from: Newsbytes, Issue 362 - BLM California) For More Information see the link below: www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/palmsprings/ohv_riding_opportunity.html

Rockhounding in Red Rock Canyon

In younger days, I spent many a weekend at Red Rock Canyon for primitive camping and

rock collecting, with study of the Ricardo Formation for which the canyon is famous. There is volcanic ash; copper minerals; fossils (petrified wood, camel, 3-toed horse, etc.). Opal Canyon has opal in a hard volcanic matrix from which I have yet to extract opal without breaking it. Last Chance Canyon Road passes remains of the Dutch Cleanser Mine.

Red Rock Canyon is now a 27,000-acre state park with Hwy 14 running the western edge. Inside park boundaries, no collecting is allowed. On private property in the park, collecting is allowed with written permission from legal owners (on file at the park office). If collecting is done in park boundaries and you receive a visit from Park Rangers, they will confiscate rocks and you'll be lucky if you do not receive a ticket or worse. (See the CFMS website under fieldtrips.) Opal Canyon is now part of the park; that area is closed to collecting. The park seems to expand year after year.

It's been 25 years since a general management plan was established for the original 9,000-acre park. Now California Parks Service is required to revise the General Management Plan. The new general plan will provide direction for the entire 27,000 acres for the next 20-30 years, and public input is being solicited.

Several groups wish to ban vehicular travel inside park boundaries. There are a lot of dirt roads that make a visit to the park an enjoyable adventure with many geological sights to see. Write to park management to convey your feelings. More can be found on Red Rock Canyon State Park General Plan Revision website: www.park.ca.gov/?page_id=25064. Email or mail comments to RedRock@edaw.com or Russ Dingman California State Parks Tehachapi District, 43779 15th St., W. Lancaster, CA 93534-4754.

-John



AFMS SCHOLARSHIP: A Brief Backgrounder

By Betty Pankey

I am the new AFMS Scholarship chairperson for 2009 and would like to remind everyone what this is all about. The following information was given to me by Dee Holland and Shirley Leeson. Donations to the scholarship fund have been

down, but so is everything else. I believe 2009 will be a better year, but only with your help!

Here is the info from Dee and Shirley: "Regarding what the **AFMS Scholarship** is all about, it was started in 1964 with a \$20.00 donation from Howell Lovell, CFMS representative at that time. Currently the CFMS has donated \$186,810.00 to the Foundation. Since 1964, it has grown close to a million dollars in restricted funds. The first scholarship was \$300 to Honoree Dr. Richard Pearl of Colorado Springs, Colorado. Since that time, the AFMS Scholarship Foundation has given more than one million dollars to deserving geoscience students.



Six regional federations participate: California, Eastern, Midwest, Northwest, Rocky Mountain, and South-Central. The Southeast Federation has its own scholarship program. Currently, each regional federation chooses an honoree each year who, in turn, chooses a university and participates in choosing two geoscience students who receive \$2,000 each year for two years, with a total of \$4,000 for each student. It must be at the graduate level, with the student either in a Master's or Ph.D. program. In past years, clubs were very generous with contributions, but with many additional requests for money and scholarship funds by both the CFMS and individual clubs, the AFMS Scholarship Foundation has received little support. We would like to see the scholarship be increased, but at this time it isn't going to happen. We have a long list of distinguished honoree, many from the CFMS instead of academia. Who else would appreciate earth sciences and geology but a rockhound who knows where the money came from for this honor? We are delighted with the honorees chosen for 2009. They epitomize what a rockhound is all about."

- Betty



CFMS SCHOLARSHIP

**By Jennifer Haley, CFMS
Scholarship Committee Chair**

Our 54th Annual CFMS Show and Awards Banquet is just around the corner. As rock clubs,

we are all very fortunate that we belong to an organization like CFMS and fortunate that we have kept the integrity and the fun of the lore of our hobby with the love of the earth sciences alive and well. It is for this reason that it is an honor for the Scholarship Committee as a part of CFMS to continue our outward reach into the Universities through the nominated Honoree's each year. Please contact me any time with your questions, and always we look forward to your donations that make the CFMS Scholarship Fund not just a possibility but possible.

- Jennifer



SHOW DATES: Advertising Your Show

By Susan Chaisson-Walblom

When it comes time to publicize your local show, check out your local newspapers. Each section has an editor, usually listed in fine print in a lower or upper corner somewhere on the paper. These people are looking for interesting local events. Our newspaper has a Community Calendar, Daily Activities, and Weekly Activities list. All are free to publicize events sponsored by nonprofits. You probably have to turn in the information a ways in advance, but they will run it for no fee. Check for your paper's policy.

If your local paper has a Children's or Senior's section, contact that editor. Ask if they would like to run a story about one of your club's junior or senior members and their activities with your club's show. It never hurts to ask!

If you have an idea for bettering a club show you would like to share, please let me know!

- Susan



SLIDE & VIDEO LIBRARY: Call for Entries!

By Bill Gissler

*I'M PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT CFMS HAS A NEW PROGRAM LIBRARIAN! **Kathlyn Duncan**, 13586 Andover Dr., Magalia, CA 95954; (530) 327-7927, email, kathlynduncan@comcast.net.*

2008 Program Competition Winner

Would you and fellow Club members like to take a virtual trip to Franklin, New Jersey and learn

something about fluorescent minerals? There is only one winner in the 2008 AFMS Program Competition, but it answers many questions about fluorescent minerals. Andreas Rubin, a member of the Miami Valley Mineral and Gem Club produced this entry which earned First Place, with Highest Honors.

"Franklin, NJ - Fluorescent Mineral Capital of the World" takes viewers to the Franklin area and shows some of the minerals found there, a brief overview of the geology and history, and the conclusion lists some online resources for more images and information. The Power Point presentation has been transferred to VHS and DVD formats. These are listed below along with other new programs added to the Program Library during the past month.

In VHS format:

V-143. FRANKLIN, NJ - FLUORESCENT MINERAL CAPITAL. 23 minutes, 2008. Overview of the area geology and tour of mines and museums.

In DVD format:

DVD-30. FRANKLIN, NJ - FLUORESCENT MINERAL CAPITAL. 23 minutes, 2008. Overview of the area geology and tour of mines and museums.

DVD-31. SILVER IN NO TIME, PRECIOUS METAL CLAY. 50 minutes, 2006. Lessons by Linda Bernstein on bead shapes, rings, stone setting in dried clay and hidden barrel clasp.

DVD-32. HEART OF CANYON COUNTRY. 61 minutes, 2008. Views of Canyonlands - Natural Bridges, Capitol Reef; Bryce, Zion and Arches parks.

DVD-33. TUMBLING ROCKS. 64 minutes, 2008. Presented by Mike Wendt, it includes an agates gallery, tumbling process, tumbler running and construction.

DVD-34. GEOAMERICA. 53 minutes, 2008. Geology and history of oil in East Texas; exploration of Permian Reef and Mississippi River Delta deposits.

DVD-35. LIVING ROCK. 57 minutes, 2002. An educational program about Earth's geology, introduces a number of geologic concepts.

In CD-Rom format:

CD-11 CUSTOM WIRE WRAP JEWELRY. 60 minutes, 2008. Lessons by Alice Turner on making adjustable rings, bracelets, cabochon pendants, and earrings.

- Bill

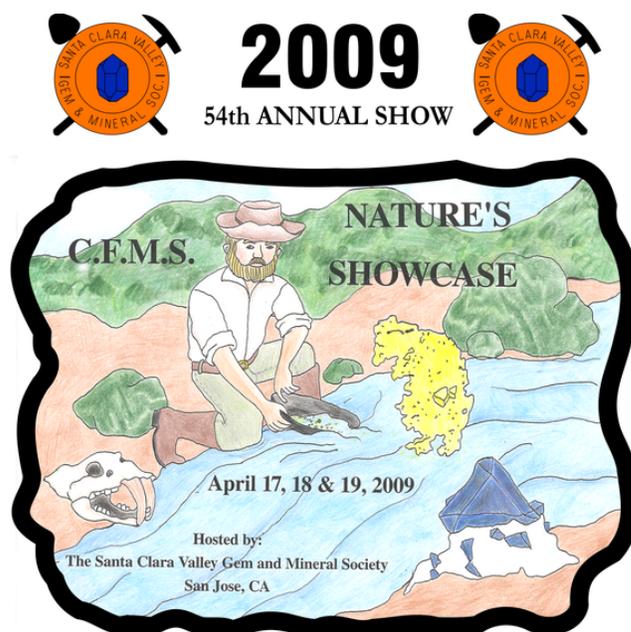


2009 CFMS SHOW: Camping Registration

By Frank Mullaney, Show
Chair

I've been alerted that the packet of show information passed out during our November Directors' Meeting in Visalia was missing a way to sign up for camping. Please use the form included in this issue of the Newsletter, or download one from the websites of the CFMS (www.cfmsinc.org) or the Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society (www.scvgms.org).

Both websites hold additional applications, forms, and information about the upcoming 2009 CFMS Show and Convention in San Jose. If, as Federation Director, you didn't pick up a show packet in Visalia to share with the members of your club, I urge you to download and share the forms and info from the websites. April is just around the corner and the show is coming sooner than you think, so now is the time to start getting your ducks lined up in a row. Thank you!



- Frank

2009 CFMS Officers, Chairmen and Committee Roster

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7968 Elder Avenue
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cj_q_62@yahoo.com
Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society

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CJ Quitoriano (see Pres)
Fred Ott (see 1st VP)

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Jim Brace-Thompson, Chair (see 2nd VP)
CJ Quitoriano (see Pres)
Bural Larue (see Long Range Plan.)

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Jim Brace-Thompson (see 2nd VP)

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Debbie Bunn (see Museum)
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Ted MaGee (see Program Aids)
John Martin, Alternate

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Fred Ott (see 1st VP)
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Marion Roberts (see Earth Science Studies)

SHOW COORDINATOR-10

Pat & Bural LaRue (see Executive Sec/Treas)

SHOW COORDINATOR-11

Ruth Bailey (see Parliamentarian)
Jack Williams (see Show Consultant-North)

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Fred Ott (see 1st VP)

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CFMS SHOWS AND EVENTS

We will put in all shows and events sponsored by a CFMS Club or Society. Please let me know as soon as you have a date.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE IN WRITING

Email or mail to:

Susan Chaisson-Walblom,
Show Dates

42122 52nd St. West,

Quartz Hill, CA 93536

Email: slchaisson@yahoo.com

2009

FEBRUARY 13 - 22: INDIO, CA

San Gorgonio Mineral & Gem Society
Riverside County Fair (Date Festival)
46350 Arabia Street, Indio
Hours: 10 am – 10 pm Daily
Bert Grisham (951) 849-1674
bert67@verizon.net

FEBRUARY 27 & 28: NORTHRIDGE

Del Air Rockhounds Club
United Methodist Church
9650 Reseda Blvd. (at Superior Street)
Fri. 3p.m.-9:30 p.m. & Sat. 10a.m.-5p.m.
Julie Marin (818) 886-7190
http://delairrockhounds.blogspot.com

FEBRUARY 27 – MARCH 8: IMPERIAL

Imperial Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Gem & Mineral Building on Fairgrounds
Hours: Fri., Sat. & Sun. Noon – 10 pm
Monday thru Thursday 4 pm – 10 pm
Jim Strain (760) 356-2361

MARCH 6, 7 & 8: HAYWARD, CA

Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley
Centennial Hall
22292 Foothill Blvd.
Hours: Fri. & Sat. 10 – 6; Sun. 10 – 5
Larry Ham (510) 887-9007
E-mail: showchair@mgscv.org
Webpage: www.mgscv.org

MARCH 7 & 8: ARCADIA, CA

Monrovia Rock Hounds Inc.
L.A. Co. Arboretum
301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. daily
JoAnna Ritchie (626) 359-1624
joannaritchie@gmail.com
www.moroks.com

MARCH 7 & 8: VENTURA, CA

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society Ventura
County Fairgrounds
10 West Harbor Blvd., Ventura
Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4
Andy Anderson (805) 987-0043
E-mail: vgms_editor@roadrunner.com
Webpage: www.vgms.org

MARCH 13, 14 & 15: VICTORVILLE, CA

Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club
Tailgate Show & Fieldtrips
Stoddard Wells Road, Victorville, Ca
Hours: 9 am – 5 pm daily
Gil Gilbert (760) 868-6900
http://fosse.schema-root.org/vvgmc

MARCH 14 & 15: SAN MARINO, CA

Pasadena Lapidary Society
San Marino Masonic Center
3130 Huntington Drive, San Marino
Hours: Sat. 10 – 6; Sun. 10 – 5
Drew Wilson (626) 298-1534
E-mail: todrew@sbcglobal.net

MARCH 14 & 15: TURLOCK, CA

Mother Lode Mineral Society
Stanislaus County Fairgrounds
900 N. Broadway, Turlock
Hours: Sat. 10 - 6; Sun. 10 – 5
Bud & Terry McMillin (209) 524-3494
E-mail: terry.mcmillin@yahoo.com
Webpage: www.turlockgemshow.com

MARCH 14 & 15: SPRECKELS, CA

Salinas Valley Rock & Gem Club
Veteran's Memorial Hall
5th & Llano Streets
Hours: 10 am – 5 pm Daily
Teri Beck (831) 679-2896
E-mail: taitani@centric.net
Webpage: salinasrockandgem.com

MARCH 21 & 22: ESCONDIDO, CA

Palomar Gem & Mineral Club
Army National Guard Armory
304 Park Avenue, Escondido
Hours: Sat. 9am-5pm; Sun. 9am-4pm
Van Lynch (760) 749-4164
E-mail: michelleandvan@hotmail.com
Webpage: www.palomargem.org

MARCH 28 & 29: ROSEVILLE, CA

Roseville Rock Rollers
Placer County Fairgrounds
800 All America City Blvd., Roseville
Hours: Sat. 10am-5pm; Sun. 10am-4pm
Gloria Marie (530) 367-2262
E-mail
gloriarosevillerockrollers@gmail.com
Webpage: www.rockrollers.com

MARCH 28 & 29: ANGELS CAMP, CA

Calaveras Gem & Mineral Society
Calaveras "Frog Town USA" fairgrounds
Highway 49 in Angels Camp
Hours: Sat. 10am-5pm; Sun. 10am-4pm
Tak Iwata (209) 928-5579
Webpage: Calaverasgemandmineral.org

APRIL 3, 4 & 5: BAKERSFIELD, CA

San Joaquin Valley Lapidary Society
Kern County Fairgrounds
1142 South P Street (corner Bell Terrace)
Hours: Fri. – Sun. 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. daily
Lewis Helfrich Home (661) 323-2663
Cell (661) 378-4450
E-mail: lewsrocks@bak.rr.com

APRIL 11 & 12: PARADISE, CA

Paradise Gem & Mineral Club
Paradise Elks Lodge
6309 Clark Road, Paradise
Hours: Sat. 10 – 5; Sun. 10 – 4
Carol Eggleston (530) 343-0894
cjeggy@chico.com C(530)321-6941
www.godnuggetwebs.com/PGMC

CFMS SHOW and CONVENTION

APRIL 17, 18 & 19, 2009: SAN JOSE
Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Soc.
Santa Clara County Fairgrounds
344 Tully Road, San Jose
Hours: Fri. 9-5, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5
Frank Mullaney (408) 265-1422
E-mail: info@scvgms.org
Webpage: www.scvgms.org

APRIL 18 & 19: LANCASTER, CA

Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral Club
Lancaster High School
44701-32nd St. West
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. daily
Vivian Watts (760) 373-1309
vivlea22@yahoo.com
www.geocities.com.av.gem

APRIL 25 & 26: SANTA CRUZ, CA

Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society
Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium
Corner of Center St. & Church St.
Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. daily
Dean Welder (408) 353-2675
wdeanwelder@yahoo.com
Webpage: www.scmgs.org/newsite/
shows/index.html

MAY 9 & 10: RENO, NV

Reno Gem & Mineral Society
Livestock Events Center Exhibit Hall
1350 Wells Avenue, Reno, NV
Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 – 4
Ann Johnson (775) 544-4937
E-mail: ann.johnson.e@gmail.com
Webpage: www.renorockclub.com

MAY 30 & 31: GLENDORA, CA

Glendora GEMS
859 E. Sierra Madre Ave., Glendora
Hours: Sat. 10 – 5; Sun. 10 – 4
Bonnie Bidwell (626) 963-4638
Ybidwell2@aol.com

JUNE 5, 6, & 7: WOODLAND HILLS

Rockatomics Gem & Mineral Society
Pierce College
Victory & Mason (enter via Mason)
Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Gary Levitt (818) 993-3802
E-mail: Show@Rockatomics.org
Webpage: www.Rockatomics.org

OCTOBER 3 & 4: Oroville, CA

Feather River Lapidary & Mineral Club
Oroville Municipal Auditorium
1200 Myers Street, Oroville
Hours: Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 9 - 4
Connie Rossetto (530) 589-1840
E-mail: crossetto@aol.com
Webpage: www.orovillerocks.com

NOVEMBER 7 & 8: LANCASTER, CA

Palmdale Gem & Mineral Club
Antelope Valley Fairgrounds
2551 West Ave. H & Hwy 14, Lancaster
Hours: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm Daily
Susan Chaisson-Walblom(661)943-1861
E-mail: slchaisson@yahoo.com
Webpage: www.palmdalegems.org

Southeast Federation of Mineralogical
Societies
Info not yet posted
www.amfed.org/sfms

NOVEMBER 7 & 8: RIDGECREST, CA

Indian Wells Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.
Desert Empire Fairgrounds
520 S. Richmond Rd., Ridgecrest
Hours: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm Daily
John DeRosa (760) 375-7905
E-mail: schiller@ridgecrest.ca.us

***Don't forget to turn your Show
information in as soon as it is
available!!!***

CFMS SHOW & CONVENTION

APRIL 17, 18 & 19, 2009

SAN JOSE

Santa Clara Valley

Gem & Mineral Society

Santa Clara County

Fairgrounds

344 Tully Road, San Jose

Hours: Friday 9-5

Saturday & Sunday 10-5

Frank Mullaney (408) 265-1422

E-mail: info@scvgms.org

Webpage: www.scvgms.org

***Note: I've had requests to post other
regional federation shows. Thus, the
following info currently available:***

MAY 16-17, 2009: BEREIA, OHIO

Midwest Federation of Mineralogical &
Geological Societies
Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds
Bagley Road, Berea, OH
www.amfed.org/mwf

JULY 30-AUG 2, 2009: BILLINGS, MT

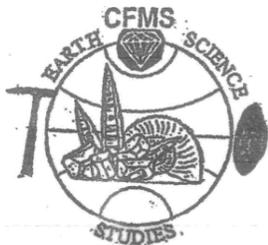
Northwest Fed / AFMS Combined Show
Hosted by Billings Gem & Mineral Club
Holiday Inn Grand Montana
5500 Midland Rd, Billings, MT
Hours: 10-5 daily
Doug True, (406) 670-0506
Society Website: www.amfed.org/nfms
Show Website:
www.amfed.org/nfms/nfmsshow.htm

OCTOBER 16-18, 2009: BRISTOL, CT

Eastern Federation of Mineralogical &
Lapidary Societies
Beals Community Center, Bristol, CT
www.amfed.org.efms

Rocky Mountain Federation of
Mineralogical Societies
Info not yet posted
www.rmfmms.org

South Central Federation of Mineral
Societies
Info not yet posted
www.scfms.net



THE CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES, INC.

DEDICATED TO THE ADVANCEMENT AND ENJOYMENT OF THE EARTH SCIENCES



We invite you to join us at the Earth Science Seminar to be held at Soda Springs (**Zzyzx**) located approximately 50 miles northeast of Barstow, CA, off I-15 at Zzyzx Rd. Facilities are rustic, dormitory style rooms with bed, mattress, and desk. Cleaning responsibilities lie with occupants. You must bring bed linen or sleeping bag and any creature comforts you may desire, i.e., lamp, throw rug, ice chest. RV parking is approximately 1/4 mile from the center and has no facilities of any kind. All restrooms and showers are located in separate buildings at the center and are communal. The Earth Science Committee retains the right to accept or deny applications as they deem appropriate. This area is designated by the Government as a Desert Studies Center; consequently, **NO PETS ARE ALLOWED**. A limited number of reservations are available and early application is recommended. Subject to change, these classes will be offered:

Lapidary – Tom Burchard
Silver Fabrication – Mary Anderson & Patty Tostenson
Soft Stone Carving – Margaret Kolazcyk

Wire Wrap – Anna Christiansen
Field Trips – Francis Pedneau
Enameling – Betty Egger

The fee for the week is \$300.00 per person and includes quarters or RV space, three meals per day, and classes. Additional charges may be assessed for material furnished by instructors.

No cancellations after **NOVEMBER 15, 2009**, *UNLESS A REPLACEMENT IS PROVIDED*.
A \$25.00 Administration Fee will be assessed for cancellations made prior to November 15, 2009.

Please complete the Registration Form and mail it with full payment, payable to CFMS.

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

Zzyzx Dates This Year:
NOVEMBER 15 – 22, 2009

Mail application to:
Audrey Harvey
3363 Tuxford Place
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
(805) 492-2253

REGISTRATION FORM - DEADLINE OCTOBER 15, 2009

Applications received after this date will be placed on a stand-by list and considered only when a vacancy exists.

Please use block printing:

Mr. Mrs. Ms _____

Mr. Mrs. Ms _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

ROOM ASSIGNMENT FOR SINGLE APPLICANTS ONLY. R.V. _____ DORM _____

ARE YOU AN EARLY RISER OR A NIGHT OWL: _____

ROOM REQUEST FOR MEDICAL OR PHYSICAL REASONS; PLEASE DESCRIBE: _____

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS: ___ DIABETIC ___ OTHER ___ EXPLAIN _____

Please fill in classes desired:

First Choice

Second Choice

Third Choice

A _____

B _____