



C.F.M.S. Newsletter

XLVIII #9

October 2010



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Grow the Federation!

By Fred Ott

As was mentioned at the Directors Meeting this past June in Whittier, a motion to change our CFMS bylaws will be made at the November meeting in Visalia to help improve the process of accepting new societies into the CFMS.

The proposed change (if approved by the Directors) will allow the members of the Executive Committee the opportunity to review and approve applications for membership in the CFMS without having to wait (oftentimes for many months) until the next Directors meeting. This will be a small, yet significant, change in the way we can continue to **Grow the Federation**. The presence of your Society's CFMS Director at that meeting would be greatly appreciated.

Speaking of appreciation, I'd like to take a moment to recognize the great contributions that are being made on a daily basis by the men and women who hold positions of trust and responsibility in our Federation as officers, directors and chairpersons. Without their diligence, the Federation could hardly function as well as it does in support of our individual societies.

I believe that many individuals would be amazed at the activities that occur 'behind the scenes'. When the question "What does the Federation do for me?" is asked, it indicates a lack of awareness of the contributions made daily by those who have volunteered to chair (or serve on) one of the many CFMS committees. Just by accessing our Federation's website, cfmsinc.org, I counted over 50 individuals who have been donating their time and effort throughout 2010 in their respective committees to help our Federation function. They each deserve our 'thanks'!

Recently, a California State Senator had submitted proposed legislation to have **serpentine** removed as the State Rock of California. A "call to action" was made to each CFMS society and the response was impressive. Happily, the bill was defeated (at least for this year's session). Without the initiative of so many individuals, it's likely that the result could have been far different. Thanks to everyone for 'being involved'.

Remember: rockhounding is MORE than a hobby; it's a PASSION!

- Fred Ott, President 2010

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NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS

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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 web site.

2010 CFMS Calendar

- Oct. 9 – Field Trip South – Cady Mountains**
- Oct. 31 – Report Deadline for Directors packets**
- Nov. 12 – 14 CFMS Meetings Holiday, Visalia**
- Nov. 12 - 7:30 p.m. Visalia Cracker Barrel**
- Nov. 13 – 9:00 a.m. Fall Directors' Meeting**
- Nov. 13 - Share the Wealth Forum (TBA)**
- Nov. 13 – ALAA & PLAC Meeting (TBA)**
- Nov. 14 – 8:30 a.m. 2011 Organizational Meeting**
- Nov. 14 – 21 Camp Zzyzx**

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REPORTING A CLAIM

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

***REMEMBER ***

ARTICLES FOR YOUR NEWSLETTER ARE DUE TO THE EDITOR BY THE 5th OF THE MONTH PRIOR TO THE MONTH OF PUBLICATION!



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Thank You to everyone submitting articles for this month's newsletter. Articles for the November Newsletter and important dates for the CFMS calendar should be submitted by October 5th.



Executive Secretary/Treasurer

**Fall Meeting
By Pat LaRue**

The annual Fall Business meeting and election of 2011 Officers will be held November 12 - 14, 2010 at the Holiday Inn Plaza Park, off Hwy 198 in Visalia, CA. For those who have not been to this location in the past, take Hwy 198 exit east from Hwy 99. You will see the hotel located just south of the first off ramp past the airport.

Room reservations at the Holiday Inn can be made by phone at **(559) 651-5000**. To receive the special CFMS rate of \$89 per night, tell them you are with CFMS. Cut-off date for this price is **November 11, 2010**. The first night's deposit or guarantee by credit card must accompany your reservation.

An informal **Cracker Barrel** will be held **Friday** evening at **7:30 p.m.** As in the past, the Holiday Inn policy forbids our bringing snack foods to any of the meetings. The **Business Meeting** will be called to order on Saturday, **November 13, at 9 a.m.** President-elect Jim Brace-Thompson will have a brief meeting of his 2011 committee chairpersons on Sunday at 8:30a.m.

Banquet Menu: Miner 49er Barbecue Dinner
Mixed Green Salad with Assorted Dressings & Vinaigrettes; Country Cole Slaw with a Cracked Pepper Sweet Vinaigrette; Country Style Ribs with Home Style Barbecue Sauce; Grilled Honey Glazed

Chicken Breasts & Natural Jus; Spicy BBQ Shoulder Tender; Country Baked Beans; Corn on the Cob and Chili con Carne; Cornbread with Honey Butter; Dessert; Coffee and iced tea service; price, \$36 (includes tax & gratuity).

Make banquet reservations by November 6, 2010.

Mail your check payable to CFMS to:

CFMS

PO Box 1657

Rialto, CA 92377-1657

-Pat

PS

Reports for the Directors packet must be received no later than 10/31. Chairmen unable to meet this deadline should bring 100 copies of their report to Visalia for distribution at that time.



Bylaws Committee
By Ruth Bailey & Theresa Kokinos



based on membership at the time of application, shall accompany the letter. The Executive Committee of the Federation shall vote upon the application, and a majority affirmative vote shall be sufficient to admit the applicant to membership. The Federation Secretary shall inform the Society of the result of the vote if the application is approved. If the application is denied, the check for the initial dues and insurance premium shall be returned at once to the applicant. The newly-approved Society shall be formally introduced at the next CFMS Directors meeting at which time a Certificate of Membership shall be presented to their Society Director.

This Operating Regulation addition is proposed by Fred Ott, CFMS President. The new Operating Regulation outlines the procedure for new societies joining the CFMS in regards to the proration of dues and insurance, and insurance application fee. Ruth and I have reviewed the new language and concur for approval.

Of course, this Operating Regulation is contingent on the approval of the proposed Bylaws change to rectify the existing system of accepting applications for membership in the CFMS.

“PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGE”

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

This proposed bylaw amendment will provide immediate liability insurance coverage for new member societies. The existing bylaw provision does not provide the new societies any CFMS benefits until approved at a subsequent Director's meeting.

Section 2: General Membership

(a) Membership in the Federation shall be open to all duly organized nonprofit mineralogical, lapidary or other earth science societies or clubs.

(b) Any Society desiring to join the Federation shall apply in writing to the Secretary of the Federation, giving its name, a copy of its bylaws, the names and addresses of its officers, the number of members, and the month in which officers are elected. A check for the initial dues and insurance premium,

MEMBER SOCIETIES

S. New Member Societies Initial Dues & Insurance

The amount of money that must accompany an application for CFMS membership shall be determined as follows:

1. A \$250.00 insurance application fee plus.
2. A prorated amount of dues plus insurance premium times the number of members in the applying society. Proration shall be determined on a monthly basis based upon the number of months (following the month of submission) remaining in the calendar year. However, any application received during the month of November need only be accompanied by a check for the full annual dues and insurance premium for the following calendar year.

-Ruth and Theresa



**Sharing the Wealth!
Forum on how to
Increasing Membership!
By Fred Ott**

Following the CFMS Directors meeting in Visalia on Saturday, November 13th, members of several 'growth' societies have agreed to host a forum at which many ideas and suggestions for increasing membership will be presented. The location at time will be announced during the Directors meeting. Be sure to join us!

-Fred

- 7. A cheat + the total =
 - 8. A fountain drink + illumination =
 - 9. A small citrus fruit + sculptor's material
 - 10. 15th letter of the alphabet + a buddy =
 - 11. Front of the head + a small sharp sound =
 - 12. Race length + myself + milk depo =
- From the Breccia April 1987 and *Chris Whittier - Ghost Sheet 9/10*
Answers on page #11



ALL AMERICAN REPORT

By Dot Beachler

It is not too early to be working on your 2010 entry. Forms are not expected to change from the 2009 form available on our website (www.cfmsinc.org). These can be downloaded to be used as working drafts.

It is probably a very good idea to begin assembling data now. A recent comment received suggested that the annual changing of club officers and committee chairs, with the new people not much interested in last year's activities, might explain why the number of club entries is down. Perhaps there should be an "intern" or assistant to the person in charge of entering, so that the necessary information would be easily passed along.

I encourage ALL clubs to enter the 2010 awards program!
-Dot

**** QUIZ ****

Add 'em up. Put together the words to form the names of gems, minerals & other words associated with rockhounding:

- 1. A flower + a liquid measure =
- 2. What a rolling stone won't gather + an exit=
- 3. A chopped own tree + a ship's mast =
- 4. The source of all energy + another name for a rock=
- 5. A jungle beast + ego =
- 6. A cooking utensil + residue for fire =



**CFMS Earth Science Studies
2011 Camp Zzyzx
By Marion Roberts**

Here we go again with our schedule for camps. Bural La Rue and I spent two days in the San Bernardino mountains looking at possible new sites, but came up a bit short as the area is very steep making walking a bit more tricky than I feel is safe. I want to thank Pat and Bural for putting up with me for the two days and serving some great game meals.

I am writing this on Aug 30th and am a little surprised that there is still at least room for six singles at Zzyzx. I do know that the dates are bad in a number of ways but the program is still a good value. Come and join us on our 25th year at this facility and of the program. The November dates are the 14th to 21st 2010.

Now here comes the good new!!!

On March 27, 2011, we start the return to the spring at Zzyzx. After a discussion with Dr. Bill Presth at U.C. Irvine who is in charge of scheduling the participation at Zzyzx, where our situation and long time schedule has led to the November timing, being a serious detriment to this program, he decided to return us to our spring timing. For this my heart felt and sincere thanks goes out to Dr. Bill and his people for their consideration. He has scheduled us for the Earth Science program to start on the last weekend of March in 2011 and 2012.

This being affected we will also be moving Camp Paradise back to the fall. The time for Camp Paradise will be close to Labor Day weekend to be definitely determined at their discretion due to other commitment for that time period.

I am including the applications for Zzyzx 2011 in this issue and will have the applications for Camp Paradise ready after Camp Zzyzx is in session.

It is my sincere hope that this schedule will better serve more people as I know it already serves all of us as a committee and instructors.

-Marion



**CFMS Electronic Newsletter
and Correspondence
Ad Hoc Committee**
By CJ Quitariano

Also, just a reminder...I am going to send another email blast to all Presidents, Editors, Directors, and alternates, for whom I have an email address for, to join the CFMS Yahoo! email group that I started. I sent one out a couple times before but did not get a very good response, so I am going to start sending one every month or so until I get as many of you to join as possible! Please respond and join. You will be able to get early news, and a link for the newsletter to send to your club members. It's much easier to pass along information to your club members via email, and we are hoping to go paperless in this century!! This is a project that was voted on last year to begin sending the newsletter by email and by joining the group you can get that and so much more! All you need to do is follow the link and join. You don't need to set up a Yahoo! account, and you won't get SPAM. No one is really allowed to send out emails except the executive board, unless it's pertinent news, so you won't be getting a lot of emails from this group, unless it's important! Okay, that's all we've got, so have a great October!!

-CJ

you can send us you check and request for tickets, and we will mail you your stub for the drawing. Just put your name and phone number in the ticket request, and we'll even fill the ticket out for you! Or...you can check us out at the numerous club shows that we are going to be at between now and the CFMS show, and either buy your individual tickets or obtain your club tickets for sale. Any club that sells \$200 worth of tickets will be entered into another drawing for another ticket to do with as your club sees fit!

-Ray



**CFMS FIELD TRIPS
- NORTH**
By Jonathan North

I wanted discuss some of the things you should consider before going on a field trip and things to keep in mind while on a trip. Field trips offered by your club or other clubs aren't always intended for everyone. Learn about a trip before deciding if it is what you really want to do.

When learning about a particular trip, be sure to find out what kind of terrain you will be entering. When a trip write-up says that vehicles with 4-wheel drive are required, don't even think about driving your low-to-the-ground 2-wheel drive vehicle. Requirements for a 4-wheel drive vehicle usually means the terrain may be steep, rocky, deep ruts, loose material and otherwise impassable by other kinds of vehicles. That doesn't necessarily mean you can't go on the trip, you may find someone to carpool with in the rough areas. Another consideration is whether you would be returning to where you left your vehicle.

When learning about a field trip, you need to see what kind of material you will be hunting. You may be able to collect rocks right on the surface while other material may need digging and in some cases, hard rock mining. A person's physical capability can be a major factor in this area. Make sure you have the correct tools to do the job. Often a rock pick and shovel are sufficient, while in some cases you may need picks, pry bars and heavy hammers. Can you



**CFMS Endowment Fund
Camp Paradise Raffle Tickets**
By Ray Quitariano

Hi everybody!
CJ just spoke with Marion today and he informed her of the changes to ZZYX and Camp Paradise! So, I am informing you that the drawing for the free trip to Camp Paradise will be held at the Director's meeting during the CFMS Show next year, instead of the Director's meeting in Visalia. So, that means that you have a whole lotta time to buy and/or sell tickets! Remember, you only have to email us for tickets, and then you sell the tickets and send the money to us along with the ticket stubs before the drawing! No money up front for club sales!! If you would like to buy individual tickets,

drive up to the collecting site or must you hike in, and what about carrying your material back out?

Some field trips can be completed in a single day or may take longer. On overnight trips, the most important thing to consider is how you intend on spending your nights. Some areas are not far from a town and you can stay in a motel but there aren't always those kinds of accommodations. Do you have some way of camping out in the wild? The field trip leader should find a good location where attendees can camp, usually called a base camp. How you camp is your choice. An RV, camping trailer, a camper shell or a tent will work. Just have whatever you need to survive. Plenty food and water are a necessity. Clothing to survive any kind of weather is critical. In some areas, the weather can change abruptly. Remember that first aid kit too.

When you do go on that field trip, remember getting there is dependent upon your preparation. Be sure your vehicle is in good condition including tires. Spare parts like a spare tire, fan belts, oil and sufficient fuel are a must. Don't forget tools to fix problems.

Going on a field trip can be a lot of fun and rewarding. Just take care of the details before you head out and you will enjoy your trip and look forward to many more field trips in the future.

- Jonathan



CFMS FIELD TRIP - SOUTH CHRISTMAS TREE AGATE.

By Adam Dean

DO NOT MISS THIS ONE DAY EVENT YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO COLLECT SOME OF THE FAMOUS CHRISTMAS TREE AGATE JUST IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS.

WHEN: October 9th 2010 @ 7:30 sign in - depart at 8:00 AM

WHERE: Cady Mountains

MEET: Dairy Queens in Ludlow (North Side of 40 FWY)

WHAT TO BRING: collecting bags/buckets, rock hammer, spray bottles, digging equipment gloves and goggles.

This is the heart of the Mojave Desert and the weather can be unpredictable this time of year

so dress accordingly. We will be collecting the Christmas Tree Agate.

From the meeting spot we will caravan North to the collecting location (4X4) is highly recommended.

Bring lunch. This widespread field offers no shade. Gas and food available in Ludlow.

Waiver of liability will be signed at the meeting spot. Other materials at this site may include agates and jaspers with sections of multi-shaded pink opal and some very nice agate that looks like pink Mexican lace Agate.

Stayovers may camp at a number of undeveloped sites or at the hotel in Ludlow. Treat the desert with respect - tread lightly and pack it in / pack it out.

For more info contact:

Adam Dean

theagatehunter@verizon.net

(909) 489-4899

-Adam



CFMS INSURANCE

It's Insurance Renewal Time. What's New This Year? By Patt McDaniels

- A New Company for the Director's and Officer's policy

This year's policy will be underwritten by the Old Republic Insurance Company, an admitted, A+ rated carrier. The policy was designed to include all the excellent features of the Arch policy plus some additional improvements in coverages. See the new flyer online for more information.

- Simplified D&O Questionnaire

We hope you find it so much easier that you answer all the questions the first time and have it signed by your president or executive director. You will get an A+ and keep a discount!

- Stable Price for D&O and a Resubmission Fee

The price of coverage actually went up this year by about \$15 per club due to losses ~ but we want to give you the chance to take a discount by taking the increase out of our servicing costs. How can that work? Each year we receive about 65 applications from clubs. And each year only one or two are correctly completed the first time and we return about 63 applications and follow up with clubs as needed, sometimes returning

applications two, three, or even four times. That takes a lot of personnel time and resources. This year's questionnaire is so much simpler that we are hoping you can all complete it easily the first time and never have to redo it. As an incentive, we are holding back the increase and only charging it in the form of a resubmission fee of \$25 for those clubs that must redo the questionnaire. We are always ready to answer questions if you are not sure how to complete the questionnaire and we are cheering you on to a fee-free renewal!

As I am writing this, I see we have received the first five questionnaires and they are all 100% complete!! I hope the trend continues!

- **VENDORS PROGRAM**

The group vendors program is available again and promises to be very stable. The cost is \$50 per vendor with a minimum premium of \$200. The new forms are being posted on both the CFMS website and the McDaniel Insurance website and you will find complete information about the company and coverages there.

What Has Stayed the Same This Year?

- **Stable General Liability premium**
The General Liability premium for the entire organization is stable this year so the insurance costs will not trigger any increases in dues for you.
- **Stable premiums for workshops and lands**
Those of you who insure workshops, clubhouses, mining claim lands, etc. or equipment or other contents or property of your club, will see no increases in costs or changes in coverage.
- **Signed Coverages and Responsibilities form**

As every year, each club needs to have a representative who knows what is going on with insurance! If your club has not yet sent a signed Coverages and Responsibilities form to us, please do that now. It is the only way we can know we are doing the best we can for you!

And, please, always feel free to call with any insurance questions: 800-400-7288. The needed forms for all coverages and changes can be found at www.cfmsinc.org. You will also find them at www.mcdanielinsuranceservices.com/CFMSI (User name: **CFMSI**, Password: **rocks** [all case sensitive!]). This site needs to be viewed with Firefox at this time.

**-Patt Wilson McDaniel
McDaniel Insurance Services**



JUNIORS ACTIVITIES Educational Resources for Kids

By Jim Brace-Thompson

On occasion in the past, I've pointed out educational resources for kids, namely, sources for things such as posters, books, rock collections, and pre-packaged activities. Most often, these have been companies that sometimes have high price tags for their materials and supplies—companies such as Wards or Edmund Scientifics. But I've also pointed out more affordable sources, such as Diamond Dan, Mineral of the Month Club, or the Mineral Information Institute. My visit to the annual show of the Orcutt Mineral Society in Nipomo in August reminded me that there's another resource that is not only affordable but that has the advantage of being local—and being one of us!

I'm talking about **Rocks in a Hardplace**, a company run by Mike and Chris Whittier of Modesto. Both are members of the Mother Lode Mineral Society. Mike and Chris have assembled a variety of rock and fossil kits that range in pricing from as little as \$5 to \$30. At the lower end of the price scale are an igneous set, metamorphic set, sedimentary set, rock-forming mineral set, mineral cleavage set, mineral streak set, and basic long- and short-wave mineral sets. At the upper end of the price scale are a variety of collections: 20 basic minerals, 21 basic rocks, 12 basic fossils, a hardness kit with 10 minerals, and fluorescent mineral kits with 10 specimens each. Most of the collections come with an ID booklet and a 10x loupe. They also supply loupes, display stands and mounts, UV lamps, posters and rock charts, books, a Junior Rockhound Backpack filled with rockhounding essentials, and "Fun Stuff," such as rock candy (jawbreakers, pebble jelly beans, chocorocks), soap rocks, and solar beads that turn colors under the sun.

Check out their website at www.rocksinahardplace.com. If you see something of interest, Mike and Chris can be reached by phone (209-524-1973) or email (mcgotrx@rocksinahardplace.com). So if you're looking for materials and activities for your club's juniors, look for Rocks in a Hardplace for materials that are educational and fun!

-Jim



CFMS PLAC South
The Serpentine War
By John Martin

For now, the battle over the California State Rock, Serpentine, is over. The bill, SB 624, to remove Serpentine as The State Rock of California has died in committee. The original bill was introduced in February of 2009, voted on in the senate with 36 for and 0 against. It was amended in April of 2009 and again in May of 2010. The original bill was not about Serpentine, but was an act to amend Section 49120 of the Public Resources Code, relating to solid waste (Garbage Collection and Disposal) and would remove the requirement that the city represented in this provision be incorporated. Then how did this bill get to be “The removal of Serpentine as our State Rock? Well, after the bill was introduced, voted on and passed in the senate, the bill was amended again in June of 2010 or should be correctly stated, completely re-written to change the content from garbage collection to Removal of Serpentine as the California State Rock. (The original vote of 36-0 did not change through all of the amendments) So in the dark of night and behind closed doors the entire text and purpose of the bill changed and the vote remained the same. That brings the bill to the War of The Rock. The bill as amended declares the rock “Serpentine” is asbestos and can cause cancer and should not be the state rock and must be removed. There is one last amendment to the bill which removes the reference to asbestos and cancer, all that remains in the bill is to remove Serpentine as the State Rock of California from Section 425.2 of the Government Code. There is no reason given in the bill as to why the repeal of Serpentine as the California State rock needed. It is the fifth revision of SB 642 that has died in committee and saved our State Rock. Part of the reason that this bill failed is because of the contacts made to State Officials by the Rockhound community. The voicing of outrage and concern over SB 642 helped to kill this bill. All of those who contacted their representatives and

spoke out over this piece of bad and unnecessary legislation deserve congratulations and a very big Thank You for their support. With out the letters, emails and phone calls that were placed, we may not have a State Rock today. Even though it died in committee, comments that were received from State Senators and Assembly Members stated they were not going to support or vote for the bill if and when it came to the floor for final approval. Again, for all of those who helped in this noble campaign to save Serpentine, another big Thank You. Your support effort does show that the system can and does work. For more information on the bill and its amendments go to the ALAA Website www.amlands.org/6652/67112.html and see all the history on SB 642.

-John



Safety
Part 2 Rattlesnakes Friend or Enemy—or just a primal fear?
By Peter Kilkus
Submitted by Bural LaRue

SAFETY

Rattlesnakes: Friend or Enemy – or just a primal fear?

By Peter Kilkus

The first part of Mr. Kilkus’s article was printed in the September CFMS Newsletter. This part will conclude his statements. The original article in its entirety can be accessed at <http://www.lakeberryessanews.com/062310/Rattlesnake%20story.htm>

Dogs vs. Snakes

Most bites to dogs occur on the face or extremities. The rattlesnake bite is generally “hemotoxic” which means that it exerts its toxin by disrupting the integrity of the blood vessels. The swelling is often dramatic with up to 1/3 of the total blood circulation being lost into the tissues in a matter of hours. The toxin further disrupts normal blood clotting mechanisms leading to uncontrolled bleeding. This kind of blood loss induces shock and finally death. Facial bites are

often more lethal as the swelling may occlude the throat or impair ability to breathe.

Effects depend on the amount of venom injected. Approximately 20 – 25% of bites are “dry” meaning no venom has been injected, 30% of bites are mild meaning they cause local pain and swelling in the bite area and no systemic symptoms, 40% of bites are severe with approximately 5% actually being fatal.

Rattlers tend to bask near an escape hole – a rocky crevice or animal burrow – to which they can go when they feel threatened. Their other methods of defense, in order of general preference, includes oprocrypsis (their protective coloring enables them to blend into the background especially when the snake is absolutely motionless); rattling; flight – escaping down its bolt hole or just away from the disturbance; withdrawing its body into a flat (along the ground) coil, hissing and rattling; drawing up into a striking coil, hissing rattling; striking.

Spring is the period of greatest activity. Emerging from winter hibernation, they are hungry and looking for mates, as this is also the breeding season. During this time they will eat prodigiously, look for females to court, and will battle competing males. During these times of stress, and when trying to eat and when in their opaque stage several days before they are ready to shed, they are most likely to act in an aggressive manner when disturbed.

Snakes migrate to and from their winter denning site, so aggregations of them may be found during a short period of time during the spring and fall. Dens are usually in rocky outcroppings in the hills, or in deep animal burrows.

It is mistakenly believed that rattlers are active only during the heat of the day. Not only do they rest during the heat of the day, sheltered from the sun, they are adept hunters in the dark, their heat pits and sense of smell guiding them to prey. During periods of excessive heat during the day, many diurnal animals become crepuscular (active at dawn and dusk) or partially nocturnal. Thus rattlers are more nocturnal in summer than during the spring or fall, and adults are more nocturnal than juveniles.

When out walking, hiking or camping, precautions should be taken from early morning to late evening, as temperature, season and humidity can all affect just when rattlers will be active.

Rattlers cannot move fast enough to overtake a person who wants to get out of its way. The only danger is that the person falls or trips in getting away, thus disturbing another, or falls towards the rattler rather than away.

Permission to reprint article in this publication granted by author.

From Lake Berryessa News, 6/23/2010.

-Bural



CFMS SCHOLARSHIP

By Jennifer Haley

The full month of October is the last month your club can submit someone's name as a Honoree for the year 2011. I have never heard of a year going by when our committee didn't receive a request for this wonderful honor so this may be a first time. I know there are some very deserving people in your clubs and communities but our committee doesn't know who they are unless you tell us who they are and what wonderful things they have done over the years to help your club or your community further the goals of the earth sciences we adore and CFMS. This is the fun part that we leave to all of you.

As always, any size donation you send is well received. The interest earned on what is in our fund is what we use to gift student scholarships each year.

-Jennifer



New Club Members

By Shep Koss

A few weeks ago Fred Ott had an article on the CFMS email site about what clubs can do for new members. I told him what our club does and our results. He asked me to put it in the newsletter.

Not only is each new member introduced at the general meeting but each new member receives a membership packet containing, among other things, a nametag, membership card, slab of the club rock but each new member is also added to both the mailing list and email list. Since we have no lapidary shop each new member is invited to partake in the use of club equipment which is stored at various member's homes for slabbing, cabbing, tumbling, etc. Some members also offer their skills at silversmithing and wire-wrapping. At first, we held a number of open field trips inviting any other club to join us. At the least, this made other clubs aware of us. In the last three years our club went from near extinction to a 400% increase in membership. It was a multi-pronged effort by a number of dedicated club members. The first prong was obvious, make the community aware of your existence. This was done in primarily three ways; get involved in community events such as nature centers, have a booth at community fairs, get involved with scouts and/or schools. We did all three but especially involving scouts on rock and fossil field trips for their badges. We expanded this with jewelry classes showing what they can create with their finds. It is imperative that these events get publicized in the local paper to show what YOUR club does. Our local paper gave nearly full page write ups on these events complete with photos. The result? Many inquiries about our club and how to join! We created a Public Relations chair to make sure media was aware of our efforts and our results. Our website was updated and kept up to date. Untold numbers of club business cards and publicity fliers were handed out. The result? Over a 400% increase in membership in under three years! Of course not everyone remained members but with each drop-out new members joined resulting in a slow but steady continued increase. We hope that the above gives YOUR

club some ideas on expanding beyond the rockhound community.

Shep Koss - Sierra Pelona Rock Club Director

PLAC/ALAA Joint Meeting

By Norvie Enns, John Martin & Dick Pankey

PLAC-North, PLAC-South, ALAA!! Do you know what these letters stand for? Do you know what these groups do? Do you know what these people do for rockhounds and users of our public lands? You can get the answers on Saturday afternoon following the Directors' Meeting in Visalia on November 13th.

The PLAC committees and ALAA will hold a joint meeting to answer these questions and more. Everyone who is interested in and uses our public lands is welcome and encouraged to attend. Agenda items will include: current PLAC activities and projects; details of the ALAA meeting at La Habra; and some proposed ALAA projects.

The CFMS and all rockhounds need informed members. We need involved members. Join us at this joint PLAC/ALAA meeting and learn what is going on, how you can become informed and how you can be involved.

-Dick-Norvie-John

2011 AFMS Web Site Contest

By Phyllis George

AFMS Web Site Contest Chair

This is the third year for the AFMS Web Site Contest. I hope that word about the contest is growing and that we'll have even more entries in the 2011 contest. The primary value of this contest lies in the comments that each judge writes as he or she goes through the Web site looking for the items listed on the Score Sheet. The judges are instructed to identify what the site does well as well as to comment on what can be done better. The goal of the contest is to help the Web sites better serve their clubs.

All the Web Site Contest Committee Members (one for each regional federation) are busy working on their third year of running the Web Site Contest for their regional federation. So far, the position of Contest Committee Chair for the

Rocky Mountain Federation Web Site Contest is still open, so I will serve in that capacity for the duration until someone volunteers to take it over. (*Committee Chairs do not need to be from the regional federation that they chair since the contest is handled entirely by e-mail. If you would like to volunteer as the RMFMS Committee Chair, please contact me at pgeorge4@comcast.net*)

The Committee Members set the due dates for their contest and receive the entries. They forward the entries to the two judges assigned to that region, they receive from the judges the completed score sheets, and they rank the results and award the first-place plaque and the certificates (places one through ten and honorable mention) at the Breakfast with the Editors and Webmasters during their regional federation's annual show. The first-place entry from each federation is then forwarded to Wes Lingerfelt (the AFMS-level judge). Currently the Committee Members are notifying webmasters, editors, and club presidents in their region and their regional newsletter editor about the details of the contest, the due date for entries, and the rest of the schedule for their regional contest.

Contact your regional federation Committee Member (listed below) by e-mail for information about the contest and the deadlines. The deadlines all vary by region and are determined by when their annual show is scheduled.

Webmasters wishing to enter their Web sites into the contest should download the **2011 AFMS Web Site Contest Entry Form**, the **2011 AFMS Web Site Contest Score Sheet**, and the **2011 AFMS Web Site Contest Score Sheet Guidelines** from the AFMS Web site (or from their regional federation's Web site). (*The 2011 versions of these forms MUST be used—NOT the forms from 2009 or 2010.*) These forms are in PDF format, and they can be opened with Adobe Acrobat Reader®. Free Adobe Reader software is available at www.adobe.com/products/reader/. The contest information on the AFMS Web site can be found at www.amfed.org/web/website_contest.htm or at <http://www.amfed.org/downloads.htm>. Download the three 2011 Web Site Contest documents and read the 2011 AFMS Web Site Contest Score Sheet Guidelines very carefully. It thoroughly explains what makes a good Web site and what the judges will be looking for.

Members of the Web Site Contest Committee:

California Federation (CFMS)	Merryan O'Neill mvoneill@comcast.net
Eastern Federation (EFMLS)	Dan Imell lapidry@aol.com
Midwest Federation (MWFMS)	Cindy Root d-root@sbcglobal.net
Northwest Federation (NFMS)	Cheri George lizardwoman3@yahoo.com
Rocky Mnt. Federation (RMFMS)	Phyllis George pgeorge4@comcast.net
South Central Federation (SCFMS)	Don Shurtz don.shurtz@gmail.com

To enter the contest, the webmaster needs to fill out the 2011 Entry Form completely and fill out the information requested in the top part of the 2011 Score sheet. These forms can be filled-in on your computer and saved to your hard drive. *Important: You need Adobe Reader version 8 or 9 (or Acrobat v. 8 or 9) to be able to save the filled-in forms to your hard drive and to modify them later if necessary.* Send the two completed forms as e-mail attachments to your regional Web Site Contest Committee Member **before the due date in your region.**

Two judges will be assigned to each regional competition (their scores for each contestant will be averaged) and one judge (Wes Lingerfelt) is assigned for the AFMS level. Each judge probably will be judging two different regions, but no judge will judge his or her own region. Right now I have a total of eight regional judges. If I can get another six judges, each judge will judge only one regional federation.

If you are a current (or former) webmaster or are very Web-site savvy, please help make the contest a success by volunteering a little of your time to act as a judge. Read the 2011 Score Sheet Guidelines to see what the judges will be looking for on the sites that they judge, and if you would like to be an important part of this contest, please contact me at pgeorge4@comcast.net. Help this contest be an even bigger success in its third year.

Answers to Quiz on page #4:

1. Rose quartz; 2. Moss agate; 3. Feldspar; 4. Sunstone; 5. Tigereye; 6. Potash; 7. Gypsum; 8. Sodalite; 9. Limestone; 10. Opal; 11. Faceting; 12. Lapidary

2011 CFMS
Show and Convention

By Kelly O'Leary

May 13-15, 2011, is the date for the next CFMS Show and Convention.

The show is being hosted by Superior California Gem and Mineral Association, Inc. (SCGMA) (www.superiorcal.com). SCGMA is a combination of clubs, the Shasta Gem & Mineral Society (www.shastagemandmineral.com) of Redding, CA, and the Paradise Gem & Mineral Club, Inc. of Paradise, CA (website being revised).

The show, convention and awards will all be held one location, the Shasta District Fairgrounds, 1890 Briggs Street, Anderson, CA (just 8 miles south of Redding, CA). Field trips and self guided field trips are being planned. We are very fortunate to have Walt Wright and Bob Jones on board as our first class speakers!

Forms for non-competitive and competitive displays are located on our website at www.superiorcal.com. Please help support us by putting in your first class displays. This website will be updated monthly.

Check on regional attractions surrounding the first ever CFMS show in Shasta County by going to Shasta Cascade Wonderland (www.shastacascade.com/vq).

-Kelly

*MARK YOUR CALENDARS
NOW
FOR THE*

*2011 CFMS SHOW
&
CONVENTION*

ANDERSON, CA

MAY 13, 14 & 15

**Northern California Treasures
2011
C.F.M.S. Show and Convention**

May 13, 14, and 15, 2011
Located in
Anderson, CA (Near Redding, CA)
Sponsored by California Federation of Mineralogical
Societies, Inc. and Hosted by
Superior California Gem and Mineral Society

Redding, CA - Shasta Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. - www.shastagemandmineral.com
Paradise, CA - Paradise Gem and Mineral Club
visit us at: www.superiorcal.com

CFMS SHOW DATES

Shows and Events
sponsored by
CFMS Clubs & Societies!

Please submit your
Show or Event information
as soon as you have a date.
Email or mail to:

SHOW DATES
Susan Chaisson-Walblom
42122 52nd St. West,
Quartz Hill, CA 93536
Email: slchaisson@yahoo.com

2010

September 24, 25 & 26: SAN BERNARDINO, CA

Orange Belt Mineralogical Society
Little League Baseball Park
6707 Little League Drive
Hours: 9 am – Dusk
Chris Phillips (909) 570-5817
likearoq@msn.com
obmsrocks@yolasite.com

September 25 & 26: MONTEREY, CA

Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Monterey Fairgrounds
2004 Fairgrounds Road
Hours: Sat. 10am – 6pm; Sun. 10am – 5pm
Susie Harlow
Susie@tghcpa.com
www.cvgms.org

October 2 & 3: OROVILLE, CA

Feather River Lapidary & Mineral Society
Oroville Municipal Auditorium
1200 Meyers Street
Hours: 10 am – 5 pm Daily
Connie Rossetto (530) 589-1840
crossetto@aol.com
Oroville.rocks.com

October 3: FALLBROOK, CA

Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Society
Fallbrook G & M Facility
123 West Alvarado Street
Hours: 10 am – 4 pm
Mary Fong-Walker (760) 728-1130
ikonmiming@gmail.com

October 9 & 10: GRASS VALLEY, CA

Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society
Nevada County Fairgrounds
11228 McCourtney Road
Hours: 10 am – 5 pm Daily
Kim Moore (530) 470-0388
Kmoore160@comcast.net
www.ncgms.org

October 9 & 10: TRONA, CA

Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society
Searles Gem & Mineral Show Building
13337 Main Street
Sat. 7:30am-5pm; Sun. 7:30am-4pm
Jim & Bonnie Fairchild (760) 372-5356
sigms@iwvisp.com
http://www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub/

October 9 & 10: VISTA, CA

Vista Gem & Mineral Society
Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum
2040 N. Sante Fe Avenue
Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4
Fred Wilson (760) 433-8446
Lois Harr (760) 724-0395

October 16: WEST HILLS, CA

Woodland Hills Rock Chippers
First United Methodist Church
22700 Sherman Way
Hours: 10am – 5pm
Loraine Taneja xyz123@linkline.com
info@rockchippers.org
www.rockchippers.org

October 16 & 17: ANDERSON, CA

Shasta Gem & Mineral Society
Shasta District Fairgrounds
Briggs Street, Anderson, Ca
Hours: Sat. 9 am–5 pm; Sun. 10 am–4 pm
Kelly O'Leary or Steve (530) 722-7133
steve@applyaline.com
shastagemandmineral.com

October 16 & 17: PLACERVILLE, CA

El Dorado County Mineral & Gem Society
El Dorado County Fairgrounds
100 Placerville Drive
Hours: 10 am – 5 pm daily
Karen Newlin (530) 676-1643
www.rockandgemshow.org

October 16 & 17: CAYUCOS, CA

San Luis Obispo Gem & Mineral Club
Cayucos Vets Hall (next to Cayucos Pier)
10 Cayucos Drive
Hours: 9 am – 5 pm Daily
Mike Lyons (805) 610-0757
jadestar@charter.net
slogem.org

October 16 & 17: WHITTIER, CA

Whittier Community Center
7630 Washington Avenue
Hours: 10 am – 5 pm Daily
Jay Valle (626) 934-9764
Res19pnb@verizon.net

October 16 & 17: SANTA ROSA, CA

Santa Rosa Mineral & Gem Society
Veterans' Memorial Auditorium
1351 Maple Avenue
Hours: Sat. 10 am-6 pm; Sun. 10 am-5 pm
Debbie Granat (707) 542-1651
Erica Tanner srmgs-
membership@comcast.net
santarosarockshow@hotmail.com

October 23 & 24: LOS ALTOS, CA

Peninsula Gem & Geology Society
Los Altos Youth Center
1 North San Antonio Road
Hours: 10 am – 5 pm Daily
Colleen McGann (831) 212-1951
Colleen.Mcgann@hds.com
http://pggs.org/

October 30 & 31: LAKESIDE, CA

El Cajon Valley Gem & Mineral
Lakeside Rodeo Grounds
12584 Mapleview Street
Hours: 10 am – 4 pm Daily
Carolyn Boland (619) 561-7498
carolynboland@juno.com
ecvgms.com

November 6 & 7: CONCORD, CA

Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society
Centre Concord (Clayton Fair Shopping Center)
5298 Clayton Road (near Ygnacio Valley Rd.)
Hours: 10 am – 5 pm daily
Harry Nichandros (925) 289-0454
Show09@ccmgs.org ccmgs.org

November 6 & 7: LANCASTER, CA

Palmdale Gem & Mineral Club
Antelope Valley Fairgrounds
2551 West Ave. H & Hwy 14
Hours: 9am – 5pm daily
SusanChaisson-Walblom(661) 406-0143
slchaisson@yahoo.com
www.palmdalegemandmineral.com

November 6 & 7: RIDGECREST, CA

Indian Wells Gem & Mineral Society
Desert Empire Fairgrounds
520 South Richmond Road
Hours: 9 am – 5 pm daily
John DeRosa (760) 375-7905

November 12, 13 & 14: SACRAMENTO, CA

Sacramento Mineral Society
Scottish Rite Center
6151 H Street
Hours: Fri. & Sat.10-6; Sun. 10-5
Bob Johnson (916) 339-7007
www.Sacramentomineralsociety.org

November 13 & 14: YUBA CITY, CA

Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society
Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds (Franklin Hall)
442 Franklin Avenue
Hours:
Erik Anspaugh (916) 567-9750
inez_brg@yahoo.com

November 13 & 14: VICTORVILLE, CA

Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club
San Bernardino Co. Fairgrounds
14800 – 7th Street
Hours: Sat. 9-5; Sun. 9-4
Cyndy Mandell (760) 508-1080
cymandell@yahoo.com

November 21 & 21: OXNARD, CA

Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society
Oxnard Performing Arts Center
800 Hobson Way
Hours: Sat. 9-5; Sun. 10-4
Frank Boulch (805) 271-0538
Show_info@oxnardgem.com
www.oxnardgem.com

2011

January 15 & 16: EXETER, CA
Tule Gem & Mineral Society
Exeter Veteran's Memorial Building
324 N. Kaweah (Highway 65)
Hours: Sat 10 - 5 ; Sun 10 - 4
Marshall Havner (559) 562-4133
Charles Reed (559) 784-6394

February 18-27: INDIO, CA
San Gorgonio Mineral & Gem Society
Riverside Co. Fair & National Date Festival
Gem & Mineral Bldg, Bldg #1
46-350 Arabia Street
Hours: 10 am - 10 pm Daily
Bert Grisham (951) 849-1674
Bert67@verizon.net

February 25, 26 & 27: NEWARK, CA
Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley
Newark Pavilion
6430 Thornton Ave.
Hours: Fri. & Sat. 10-6; Sun. 10-5
Larry Ham (510) 887-9007
showchair@mgscv.org
www.mgscv.org

February 25 & 26: NORTHRIDGE, CA
Del-Air Rockhounds
Northridge United Methodist Church
9650 Reseda Boulevard
Hours: Fri. 3 pm-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-5 pm
Chris Ward
Chris_ward678@yahoo.com
Delairrockhounds.blogspot.com

March 5 & 6: ARCADIA, CA
Monrovia Rockhounds, Inc.
L. A. Co. Arboretum & Botanical Gardens
301 Baldwin Avenue
Hours: 9 am - 4:30 pm Daily
Jo Anna Ritchey (626) 359-1624
joannaritchey@gmail.com
www.Moroks.com

March 5 & 6: VENTURA, CA
Ventura Gem & Mineral Society
Ventura County Fairgrounds
10 West Harbor Boulevard
Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4
Andy Anderson (805) 987-0043
lilliananderson@juno.com
www.vgms.org

March 12 & 13: SALINAS, CA
Salinas Valley Rock & Gem Club
Veteran's Hall Spreckels, Ca
5th & Llano Streets
Hours: 10 am - 5 pm Daily
Karen Jones (831) 678-0337
KenKAren0337@att.net

March 26 & 27: ANGELS CAMP, CA
Calaveras Gem & Mineral Society
Calaveras County Fairgrounds
101 Frogtown Road
Hours: Sat. 9-5; Sun. 9-4
Tak Iwata (209) 928-5579
Tak2me@msn.com
www.calaverasgemandmineral.org

***YOUR 2011 SHOW
COULD BE LISTED
HERE!***

2010 Federation Shows

**South Central Federation
November 13 & 14, 2010
DeRidder, Louisiana**

2011 Federation Shows

**California Federation
May 13 - 15, 2011
Anderson, California**

**Eastern Federation/AFMS Show
July 7 -10, 2011
Syracuse, New York**

2012 Federation Shows

**Midwest Federation/AFMS Show
Minnesota**

**Eastern Federation
September 16 & 17, 2011
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania**

**2011 CFMS
SHOW
&
CONVENTION!
MAY 13, 14 & 15
ANDERSON, CA**

**ADVERTISING
OPPORTUNITIES!**

**Lapidary Journal Calendar
60 Chestnut Ave., Suite #201
Devon, PA 19333-1312
eric.vanosten@primedia.com
ljeditor@aol.com**

**Rocks & Minerals
Coming Events
rm@heldref.org**

**Rock & Gem
Rock & Gem Show Dates
290 Maple Ct. Suite #232
Ventura, CA 93003-3517
editor@rockngem.com**

**You can also enter your Show Date
Information for Rock & Gem
Magazine via the CFMS website!**

***IS YOUR CLUB/SOCIETY
HOSTING A SHOW IN
2010 or 2011?***

***IS YOUR SHOW
LISTED HERE?
IF NOT!
PLEASE TURN IN
YOUR SHOW INFORMATION
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!***

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Redding, CA - Shasta Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. - www.shastagemandmineral.com
Paradise, CA - Paradise Gem and Mineral Club
visit us at: www.superiorcal.com