



Monthly Bulletin of the Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley

September 2010

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General Meeting:

Wednesday September 8, 7:30 P.M. at Mt. Eden Presbyterian Church, 26236 Adrian Ave, Hayward (Next to Chabot College, behind Burger King). See map on back cover.

Program:

- **September Refreshments: A - G**

New Members: Unless otherwise stated, General Meetings are on the second Wednesday of the month at the church at 7:30 p.m. You are invited and encouraged to attend! There is a silent action and door prizes at every meeting.

Next Board Meeting:

Monday, September 6, 7:00 p.m. at the shop.

CLEAN-UP TIME:

September 18, 9:00 a.m. at the shop

- **We Need a Sunday Supervisor, consider volunteering for 4 hours.**



MINERAL AND GEM SOCIETY OF CASTRO VALLEY, INC. PETROGRAPH

This is the bulletin of the Mineral and Gem Society of Castro Valley, Inc., a member of the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc., the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the North Bay Field Trip Association.

Bulletin Policy

Submission deadline is the second Friday following the General Meeting (normally the second Wednesday of the month). Anonymous contributions will not be considered for publication in the Petrograph; however, if requested, the contributor's name will be withheld from the published material. Members are encouraged to submit articles of various types that may be of interest to the general membership. The editor reserves the right to omit submissions from publication. Proper credit must be cited for material from any other source. Permission to reprint Petrograph articles is hereby granted provided all credit is given.

Please contact: INFO@MGSCV.ORG if you have any questions.

Publication Staff

Typists: Shirley Buschke and Sheryl Cooper

June Board Meeting

President Ron Miller called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. In attendance were **Ron Miller, Jim Ewing, Sheryl Cooper, Betty Milam, Mary Jane Holmes, Beth Farmer, Maggie Naylor, and Jane Panico.**

Board Meeting Minutes:

Mary Jane moved to accept the April minutes as printed. **Beth** seconded the motion, it was unanimously carried. There were no May minutes to approve.

Treasurer's Report: **Betty Milam**

The rent is going up on the shop. The common area maintenance fee will be \$377 per month. **Betty** presented the treasurer's reports for April and May, **Beth** moved to accept the treasurer's reports. **Jane** seconded the motion, it was unanimously carried.

Shop Manager: **Beth Farmer**

She got more items in and will be purchasing some Genie items. The timer on the crockpot has been fixed. The sphere machine is now up and running. Thank you **Ken Panico** for all of your work in the shop over the last month.

Show Chairman: **Larry Ham**

It was suggested that we advertise our show in the Village Profile. The cost is \$625 for two years. We are not prepared to do it right now and it needed to be turned in shortly. We decided not to advertise at this time.

Membership: **Tony Cooper**

We have 177 members at this time.

Old Business:

Beth wants to start putting together a classroom demonstration kit this summer. She will be talking with members who have done it in the past and looking for new volunteers.

New Business:

Jim Ewing has heard complaints from 6 – 8 people about not receiving the Petrograph in the mail anymore. They say there was no notification given before it was stopped and it should have been brought up at the general meetings. It was discussed at a board meeting and announced in the Petrograph in the minutes. It will be brought up at the September general meeting for suggestions. We will work up the cost of printing and mailing out the newsletter over the summer.

Should we set up a PAYPAL account for membership dues? There is a 3% fee on all

transactions. The fee may be less for non-profit organizations. We will need to look further into this.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.



June General Meeting

President Ron Miller called the meeting to order at 7:40 pm. We had two guests, **Roan McClure and Alberto Lens**, and 19 members present. This is the last meeting for the summer. The next one will be in September.

Ron welcomed the guests and new members in attendance. **Roan McClure** enjoys fossils. **David and Sandra Roe** are from Missouri. He enjoys gold prospecting and of course he just had to pick up rocks also.

March Meeting Minutes:

Mary Howell moved to accept the April and May minutes as printed. **Mark Montgomery** seconded the motion, it was unanimously carried.

Program Chairman: **Karl Churchill**

The program tonight was **Agate Uber Alles – German Agate, Baumholder location, Museum Idar-Oberstein**. It was a power point presentation that is available in our library. We saw beautiful pictures of agates from around the world.

Shop Manager: **Beth Farmer**

She reports all equipment is in operation. There is a new muffle for the oven in the casting room. She has found a new source for genie belts. The trim saw blades for the last two years have been purchased from a supplier in China. She is looking for someone local to buy grit from. If you know of anybody please let **Beth** know.

Show Chairman: **Larry Ham**

The show meetings will start over the summer.

Editor: **Maggie Naylor**

She is looking for articles on what you did over the summer?

Maggie will be stepping down at the end of the year, so we are looking for a new editor to start in January.

Librarian: **Mary Howell**

Mary is looking at what magazine subscriptions we can drop and if there any we want to add.

Membership: Tony Cooper

We have a total of 177 members.

Junior Mentor: Mark Montgomery

The juniors are doing fine. He has a new junior.

Field Trip Coordinator\Federation: Ron Hasemeyer

Look in the Petrograph and in the binder at the shop. The CFMS website lists field trips. There are other club newsletters near the calendar at the shop.

New Business:

We need items for the auction case for the next show.

There have been complaints about no longer mailing out the Petrograph. We will look for a new printer and discuss the cost at the September meeting.

Drawing Winners:

Membership Drawing: **Snooky Flowers** was not present.

Guest Tickets: **Roan McClure and Alberto Lens**

Members Tickets: **Mark Montgomery, Sheryl Cooper, Peggy Cooper, Beth Farmer, Sandra Roe, Lisa Lafferty, Mary Howell, and Mary Lens**



OBITUARIES –*Shirley Buschke*

Ellen Placas

Ellen Placas passed on this summer. We remember her as the gal with the beautiful BIG necklaces. **Ellen** was a member of the Livermore club and also ours. She often exhibited those necklaces and turquoise collection at both Livermore and our show. She was always an active worker at both shows. She loved to collect rocks and gem stones and did so during her extensive travels. **Ellen** was one of the first female engineers to work at Lawrence Livermore lab. We don't know where he went to school to study engineering.

Bill Huberick

Bill Huberick was an active member of our club. He was a knowledgeable and active member for many years. **Bill** was born in Toledo, Ohio, served in the Navy during WW II, attended and graduated from the California School of Fine Arts where he met his wife **Elizabeth** and then attended and graduated from UC Berkeley. **Bill** was blessed with a keen mind and held several challenging jobs, electronics teacher at Laney College, electronic technician at UC Berkeley Physics Department and worked on the cyclotron. He was always interested in identifying rocks and minerals and enjoyed instructing shop members in rock identification. He practiced lapidary, metalsmithing, jewelry making and enameling. He was an active member of Art Inc and had many watercolor painting exhibited at local galleries. A memorial was held August 15.

EDUCATION –*Shirley Buschke*

Learning has gone on all summer and more to come. We are looking for a wire wrap instructor. **Bill Jeans** must retire for health reasons. None of our instructors are paid. We do not expect you to be an expert--just share your knowledge with fellow members. We will be happy to recommend an expert, just be ready to pay for your lessons. Our charges are for materials used.

If you wish to facet, you must commit to at least 6 weeks IN A ROW. You tie up the use of a specific machine. Wire wrap also needs a commitment for a few weeks but attendance is not as mandatory. We understand family needs. With the exception of faceting and the opal class, you must contact the instructor. Sign up sheets are on the door to the faceting room. We could use a chain making teacher; also soldering. Any volunteers?

Beading group meets Wednesday AM with **Pat Rigor** in charge. Call **Betty Milam** for enameling.

ROCK RUMBLES

–*Shirley Buschke*
Sept 2010



Our members did very well at the Alameda County Fair. **Doc Buschke** got a blue ribbon; **Shirley** got a red and guess how well **Diane Cahoon** did. She won Best of Show. And another of our members, **Jim Walker**, won in the wood carving group.

Congratulations. How about a few more entering next year? It is a great way to advertise our hobby.

AnnMarie Korchendof brought in more slabs from her late husband, **Willy's hoard**, for the beginner members.

She said **Willy** would want our members to enjoy his collection as it is broken up. She also brought in a collection of slag glass **Willy** had collected. **Doc Buschke** and **Ed Rigor** said they would like to try some carving and **Jim Eweing** thought he would try a faceting project. There should be some more pieces at the shop. One piece per member, please. And as before, **Ed Rigor** taught his opal class, collected the fee and promptly donated it back to the club. Thank you **Ed**.

Sadly we report the death of two of our gems. **Big Bill Huberich** and **Ellen Placas** passed on this summer.

We just found out **Cathy Paonessa** has been under the weather. Hope she is on the road to recovery. **John Gullak** has had his ups and downs, **Diane Cahoon** has been his chauffer for his many trips to the hospital. **Bev Ewing** is doing fine and wants to thank members for their kind thoughts and cards. All her lab test are not back yet. Just heard **David Howell** has also been a hospital patient.

Mary Howell enjoyed a few days in Yosemite with her grand daughter.

She said the Ahawahnee Hotel is as gorgeous as ever. **Beth Farmer**, our resident gypsy, flew to Europe and then wondered is she would get home. Seems the Iceland volcano grounded her for a few days. An "act of God" so she was stuck with the extra cost. She says the only reason she had no trouble getting hotel reservations is that the incoming tourists couldn't get in so there were vacancies.

We still have a little space in the auction case for your donation.

September is here and that means clean up time. Twice a year, the shop is washed down and then the next day we have a potluck. We sure miss **Willy K.** who used to paint periodically. Any painters in the crowd? If everyone cleans as we go along, the clean up doesn't take too much time. Remember how many times you came in and found the table dirty, or someone left a mess on the genies? Well, do your part and clean up and remind the dirty pigs to do the same. Try to be polite when doing so. We also will have a swap meet on Sunday. So you can bring your goodies and swap. We can't call it tail gating. Something about tax laws.

We are also reminded that some of our members have forgotten to pay for sawing. Even if you do it yourself, pay up. The trim saw use is free; otherwise, 10 cents per square inch for most rocks, 20 cents per square inch for jade. Put the money in the safe with a note. There are envelopes near the safe. The money is used to buy more blades. There is a grid on the wall to help you figure the cost.

Ed Rigor recently had some heart repair. Seems it was a surprise but he is doing well and said he would be back at the shop very soon.

The recent "Rock and Gem" magazine is filled with excellent articles on petrified wood. You may read it at the shop. It is not for circulation.

Lots of fall rock shows coming up. Monterey is very good and our sister show in Contra Costa County is excellent. They always have a great silent auction and even home made jelly. Small but worth attending is the Livermore show. See you there.

And speaking of shows, it is time to start planning on ours. The workers we get the easier it is. We need to have a successful show to support the show. One of the obligations of membership is to work at the show. And if you can help with preliminaries, please attend the show meeting. Shows don't just happen.

What do you think of a guy who had 4 surprise birthday parties? The first one he suspected was to be a surprise when his son asked him to save a day for a visit. Just happened to be his birthday. Then they surprised him at the shop, at church and another group he assists. **Happy Birthday Horace**.

Diane Cahoon should be commended for all her good deeds. She has been chauffer for many of our members, especially **John Gullak**; she has helped **Ed Rigor** clean up his yard. And she found a source of a sale of a rock collection and ferried members over to the sale. Where does she get all that energy? Plus she has helped **Doc Buschke** replenish our club store supplies.

VINTAGE GEM OF THE MONTH

—*Shirley Buschke*



You have seen him at the shop testing the smoke alarms, sawing, etc. He is always ready to help. He was born in Texas where his family had a farm. But the

depression did them in and after losing the farm they moved in with his grandparents in Gatesville.

He graduated from high school and joined the Navy. He started in San Diego and then was stationed in Fallon, Nevada where he learned how to fix airplanes. He also learned not to gamble. Ask him about this sometime.

While in Reno our gem saw a cute young lady in a yellow dress. He tried to pick her up. She was waiting for her parents. Remember it was all right to talk to sailors during the war. Her parents invited him home for dinner and he spent a lot of time there. After discharge, he married her. Since he wasn't sold on Texas they headed for Alameda. Where he found work with Ma Bell. His last job was installing PBX set-ups.

At church they met the Ashleys who suggested they go on a field trip with them and our gem was hooked. He joined our club. His favorites are picture rocks. He and his wife operated a bookshop and sadly his wife was killed in an armed robbery. We are so glad years later he found Betty. He and Betty do lots of things for their church and for the hospice. Until recent years he visited schools with his vast collection, especially the picture rocks. He still fixes things at the shop. By now you know who we are writing about--**Horace Robertson**.

HISTORY—*Shirley Buschke*

Recently our librarian, **Mary Howell**, received a collection of old lapidary magazines. She spotted this one from the February 1959 issue of "Gems and Minerals". The article was written by MGSCV member, **Beatrice Engbeck**. The story told of a society, ours, that was very new but wanted a shop. Voices bemoaned the troubles of owning property, equipment, clean up. Every excuse in the book. Oh, how we wish they had bought property when they might have. Anyway one member whose cabs ranked above the rest, **Gus Mollin**, presented a plan. He offered to take on the headaches of management and instructions. The members decided maybe the idea was not too bad. They formed a committee, developed a budget based on the plan that members would pay a shop fee. The plan was for 6 working spots, open 5 evenings a week and the charge would be 65 cents per evening. The potential income was figured at \$78. At the time there were 150 members. The executive board approved a capital outlay of \$150 for basic equipment with the expectation that fee a successful shop was in operations would cover running expenses. By the second year the things were off and running.

The assets included a stucco building, no insulation, 4 rooms utilized as a small reception area, an area for gas, water and sanitary facilities, a storage area and a large room for classes. Because the building was behind a house, no directional signs could be used.

In March the society put on its 11th show. They built 8 show cases for the show and we are probably still using them. There were pictures of some members accompanying the article. We know that much of the equipment was made by members because much was beyond the financial ability at the time. We also know much of the equipment we are still using was made by members.

It is the sheer determination of a handful of stalwarts that we continue to exist as a club some 60 years later. Volunteers are wonderful. And each of us expected to be one to keep us going.

UPCOMING EVENTS & SHOWS

Website: <http://www.cfmsinc.org/>

September 3-6 2010, Fort Bragg, CA
Mendocino Coast Gem & Mineral Society
Town Hall
Corner of Main & Laurel
Hours: Fri-Sun 10-6 - Mon 10-4
Don McDonell (707) 964-3116

September 18-19 2010, Redwood City, CA
Sequoia Gem & Mineral Society
Community Activities Building
1400 Roosevelt Ave.
Website: <http://sgms.driftmine.com>

September 18-19 2010, Stockton, CA
Stockton Lapidary & Mineral Club
Scottish Rite Masonic Center
33 W. Alpine Ave.
Hours: 10-5 Daily
Website: <http://www.stocktonlapidary.com>

September 25-26 2010, Monterey, CA
Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Monterey Fairgrounds
2004 Fairgrounds Road
Hours: Sat 10-6; Sun 10-5
Website: <http://www.cvgms.org>

October 2-3 2010, Oroville, CA
Feather River Lapidary & Mineral Society
Oroville Municipal Auditorium
1200 Meyers Street
Hours: 10 - 5 Daily
Website: <http://www.Oroville.rocks.com>

Petrograph Subscription Form

If you are receiving the September Petrograph by Mail it is for one time only. This is to notify you that the Board has decided it must charge for the printed newsletter.

In an effort to respect your preference for the monthly Petrograph, please indicate how you would like to receive the newsletter.

Petrograph Mail E-mail

Fee: 10 annual issues for \$12

Name: _____

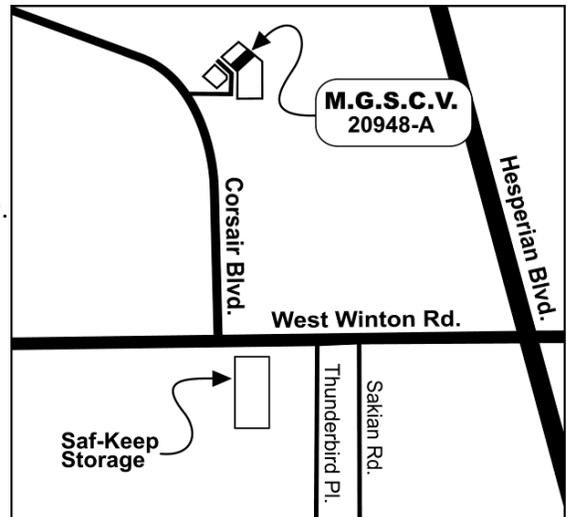
Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Please return this form to Membership Chair, P.O. Box 2145, Castro Valley, CA 94546

Shop Schedule (For members only)

- Monday **10AM to 1PM**, Lapidary
7PM to 9PM, Beginners only in lapidary
- Tuesday Need Daytime Supervisor
6:30PM to 8:30PM, Lapidary
- Wednesday **9AM to 1:30PM**, Lapidary, intarsia & beading.
Library open 10AM to noon.
6PM to 9PM, Lapidary
- Thursday **10AM to 1PM**, Lapidary
5PM to 9PM, Lapidary
- Friday Need Daytime and Night Supervisors!
Temporarily closed
- Saturday **9AM to 5PM**, adults,
juniors w/supervisor's approval,
Library open 10AM to noon.
- Sunday Need Daytime and Night Supervisors!
Temporarily closed

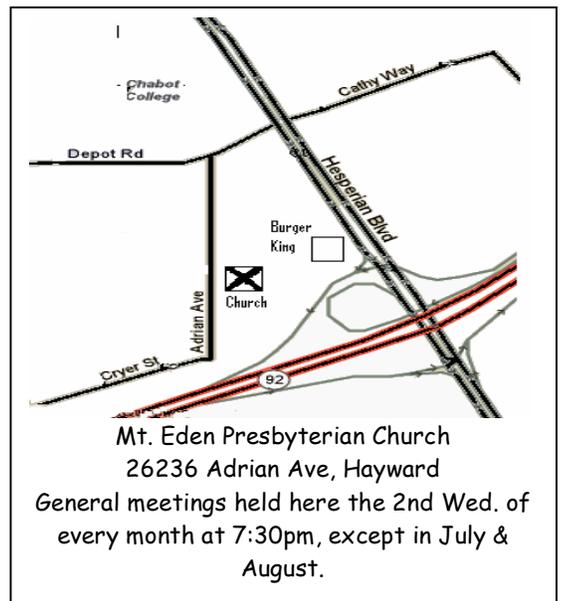
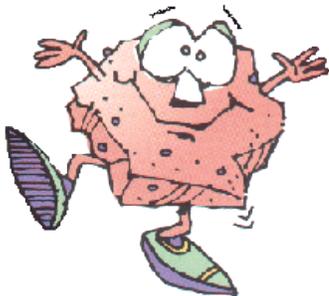


Our shop: 20948 A Corsair Blvd
Hayward, CA 94545
(510) 887-9007

We are in need of Shop Supervisors for Tuesday Day and Friday Day and Night. If interested, please see Beth!

Website: www.mgscv.org

Email us at info@mgscv.org



Mt. Eden Presbyterian Church
26236 Adrian Ave, Hayward
General meetings held here the 2nd Wed. of every month at 7:30pm, except in July & August.