



Club Notes



General Meeting: Wednesday Oct. 12th, 7:30 P.M. at Mt. Eden Presbyterian Church, 26236 Adrian Ave, Hayward (Next to Chabot College, behind Burger King). See map on back page.

Program: President's Choice.

October Refreshments: Members with a last name starting with E-H please bring snacks.

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

Next Board Meeting:

Monday, October 10th, 7:00 p.m. at the shop is the next Board Meeting.

Show Meeting: Thursday, October 17, 7:00 pm at the shop

MGSCV Annual Rock and Gem Show: March 2, 3, and 4, 2012

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MGSCV Petrograph - October 2011
Monthly Bulletin of the Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley, Inc.

General Information

This publication 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 Submission 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 at the time of submission, the contributor's name can be withheld. Members are encouraged to submit articles that may be of interest to the general membership. The bulletin editor reserves the right to edit any submitted articles or omit any submission from publication. Source must be cited for material quoted from other authors. Permission to reprint Petrograph articles is hereby granted provided properly cited.

2011 MGSCV Officers

Elected

President - Ron Miller	President@mgscv.org	
Vice President - Jim Ewing	VP@mgscv.org	
Secretary - Sheryl Cooper	Secretary@mgscv.org	(510) 589-8858
Treasurer - Betty Milam	Treasurer@mgscv.org	
1 st Year Director - Unappointed	Director1@mgscv.org	
2 nd Year Director - Norm Hodgson	Director2@mgscv.org	
3 rd Year Director - Mary Jane Holmes	Director3@mgscv.org	
Federation Director - Ron Hasemeyer	Federation@mgscv.org	
Shop Manager - Beth Farmer	ShopManager@mgscv.org	
2011 Show Chairman - Ron Miller	ShowChair@mgscv.org	
Membership - Tony Cooper	membership@mgscv.org	(510) 589-5292
Editor - Jodi Minshall	Editor@mgscv.org	

Appointed

Scholarship Chair - Mary Howell
Librarian - Mary Howell
Historian - Jamie McDonald
Purchasing Agent - Beth Farmer
Education Coordinator - Shirley Buschke
Field Trip Coordinator - Ron Hasemeyer
Parliamentarian - Doc Buschke
Reception/Hostess - Ann Vargas/Dan Gilson
Sunshine Reporter - All members
Door Prizes - Bonnie Andrade
Web Master - Tony Cooper

webmaster@mgscv.org



Publication Staff



◇Contributors: Shirley Buschke, Diana Adams-Cphoon, Betty Milam, Sheryl Cooper, Members

Meeting Minutes:

Board and General Meeting minutes were not available at the time of publication. Please see the November issue for minutes.

Announcements -

Join us at the next **Show Meeting: Tuesday, October 18th, 2011 at 7 p.m. at the shop.** Rock and Gem Show March 2, 3 & 4, 2012

General Meeting on October 12, 2011 at 7:30 pm at the Mt. Eden Presbyterian Church, 26236 Adrian Ave, Hayward, CA. Refreshments: Last name starting with E-H. Come hear what is happening at your club and join in the discussions.

We will be discussing and voting on changing our meeting location and night for financial considerations.

At the September meeting we proposed moving to the Hayward Church of Christ on the second Tuesday night of the month. It is located at 22307 Montgomery Street, Hayward, CA 94541 and the Hayward BART station is just a few blocks away. The fellowship hall can seat 100 and it has a large kitchen available.

We also discussed holding the annual Christmas Party here. We would have to clean up after ourselves and alcoholic beverages would not be allowed.

If you can't make it to the meeting you can email Sheryl Cooper at sheryl@coopers.org and I will convey your thoughts, opinions, and/or vote on your behalf.

Rock Rumbles -

By Shirley Buschke

If you went to the Alameda County Fair this past summer you may have noticed that our own Diana Cohoon won Best of Show. Doc and Shirley Buschke also won ribbons. There were very few lapidary exhibits. Please consider putting in a case next year. This is a good way to advertise our club.

This is old news, but many were surprised at how talented an auctioneer our president Ron Miller was. And we thought he was just a stuffy engineer. Our club sure pulled together for that show. The show committee has broken jobs into small segments, so please volunteer.

More old news Bonnie Andrade, Doc and Shirley Buschke exhibited at the Santa Clara Club Show. Very few exhibits so we were honored. Bonnie's case was also on display at the Stockton show.

Dolores Barnes reports she has found a friend in Montana to attend senior events with. She says it is very hot but "I am adjusting".

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Check out our auction case at the shop. Sheryl Cooper is in charge. Donations are for the auction or door prizes. So far we have donations from Barbara Genetin, Doc and Shirley Buschke, Ann Marie and Willy Kochendorfer, Pam Ausmus. Ed and Pat Rigor, Ken Panico, John Gullak, Betty Milam, estate of Leo Gauthier, Bill Luna, Jessie Jeans, Patricia and Wayne Cooper, and Mary Howell.

We are very grateful to the Gauthier family who has donated their father's equipment that will be on sale to club members.

It is with sadness we report the passing of Vern McCullough. Vern was one of those persons who could do everything, and do it well. He built our sphere machine and most of the equipment still in use at the shop. Vern was generous with his knowledge by teaching classes. He designed and built many cases used at the show. He also found time to win ribbons at national shows.

We also received news that the owner of Jade and More, a dealer at our show, passed away in November. We remember them as the Bergstroms.

Carlos Castillo found his way back from a 30 day trip to China. His pictures are great.

Jim Ewing's wife is undergoing medical treatment as is Charlie Minshall. We wish them both well as they go through their treatments.

Charlie Minshall and his wife Georgia celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary in July.

Ed and Pat Rigor's granddaughter Sally underwent back surgery. Sally and her mother come in from Livermore on Wednesday and bring Pat and Ed to the shop.

Our Annual Show will be held March 2, 3 & 4, 2012 at Newark Pavilion. Block your calendar so that you'll be free to Volunteer.

There is a very nice article in the Benicia Patch about John Gullak's artistically talented granddaughter Greta. <http://benicia.patch.com/articles/artist-profile-greta-gullak?ncid=M255>

John would also like to inform all members that there is currently space available in his Saturday morning faceting classes. Classes are every Saturday from 9AM to noon. Please add your name to the signup sheet on the

door of the faceting room if you are interested in learning how to facet.

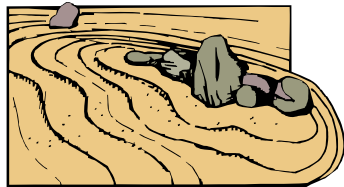
We may be trying something new at the show. We are working with the Boy Scouts to set up an area to help them with their Geology Merit Badge. If any club member would be interested in helping to co-ordinate this activity, please contact Betty Milam at solidcedar@comcast.net.

For any and all positions, sign up early at the shop or at the Christmas Party to fill the many Volunteer positions.



Shop Notice

By Gerry Perko



I have been opening the shop on Tuesday mornings for over a year now and attendance has been low. There have been at most, three folks one day and usually only one or no one but me.

So, in the hope that more members will attend, I am going to shift my time to Sunday mornings. I will open the shop Sundays through the end of the year from 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM. At the end of

this test time, I will re-evaluate based on attendance.

Two facts which may affect your decision to come in on Sunday mornings:

1. I am not proficient in many of the uses of the shop. One should come prepared to work independently. If you do not know how to use certain equipment, find out how before attending Sunday mornings.

2. There is currently no backup for me, so occasionally (rarely), I will be unable to open up as promised due to family obligations, mini-crises, etc. I suggest that you call the shop at [510-887-9007](tel:510-887-9007) and make sure I will be there before coming in. Watch the board in the office and check the calendar on-line for all shop hours and planned events.

Hope to see you some Sunday morning!

Gerry Perko

gperko@yahoo.com



Letter To the Editor

From Ms. Kimberly Knight

I hope its ok that I'm contacting you, but I wanted to tell you that your resource selections are great on:

<http://mgscv.org/links.html> . I do group tutoring and they really seem to enjoy it too. I am actually writing to you on their behalf! They have decided that they would like to send you a suggestion of

another resource that they really like:
http://www.highschooliplomaonline.net/earth_science.html - great information about rocks and activities.

Again, I am sorry if I am out of line, but I didn't want them to contact you on their own. I just think that it would make their day if you could set it up on your site with your other resources. It really is a useful article with great information. That's why I have agreed to write to you. Maybe it will even encourage the others to bring in their own resources. I can hope! Anyway, I hope you don't mind the suggestion and I would really appreciate a response as soon as you get a chance.

Thanks so much!

Sincerely

Ms McKnight's Class

Editor's Response:

Dear Ms. McKnight & Class,

We would like to thank you and your students for contacting us and taking the time to help us improve our web site's offerings. I will ask our webmaster to take a look at the link your students have suggested with an eye towards adding a new link to our website. Feel free to contact us anytime, we enjoy the feedback.

Warm Regards,

Jodi Minshall, Editor

MGSCV Petrograph



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Bench Tips

By Brad Smith, Culver City Rock & Gem

PICKLE TIPS:

Dropping a hot item into the pickle after soldering causes a hiss and sends small droplets of the acid pickle into the air. This can rust your nearby tools and probably isn't all that good to breathe either. My solution is to use a coffee cup of water next to my solder block to quench the piece before dropping it in the pickle. Also, a hot pickle pot gives off fumes that bother me in my home workshop. I get around that by using my pickle cold. I mix it a little stronger than for a hot pot so that it works about as quickly. I cap it off whenever I'm done using it.

PRONG SETTING TOOLS TIPS:

When setting stones in a prong mount you can prevent the tools from slipping by grinding a groove in the face of your prong pusher or in one jaw of your flat-nose pliers. The easiest way to cut the

slot on the pusher is with a file, and the easiest way to cut the slot on your pliers is with a cutoff wheel and the Foredom.

More Bench Tips by Brad Smith are posted at:
Yahogroups.com/group/BenchTips/
or on Facebook.com/BenchTips/



Benitoite

By Mark Nelson, Editor
Pasadena Lapidary Society

Benitoite (beh-NEE-toe-ite) is a rare gem that was first discovered in 1906 along the headwaters of the San Benito River in San Benito County, California. This small region is the only source in the world for gem quality Benitoite. Because of its rarity and beauty, Benitoite was adopted as California's state gemstone in 1985.

Benitoites have often been mistaken for fine blue sapphires and spinels due to their rich blue-violet colors. Benitoites tend to be found in smaller sizes with gems larger than one carat being the exception. Larger gems with rich color and exceptional quality are greatly prized by collectors. The one pictured here is described as a "Fancy Trillium" cut with rich blue-violet hue and dark tone of moderate saturation.



It weighs 1.83 carats and is 6.9 millimeters in diameter. Scott Forrest of WSF Gems, who gave us the photo and permission to use it in this article, describes it as "very well cut with nice dispersion and high lustre".

W. Scott Forrest is a second-generation in the mining and gemstone business. His father and his father's partner owned the "Benitoite Gem Mine". After faceting Benitoite and other precious stones for them Scott began to sell his own and opened WSF Gems in Old Town Clovis. He still facets most of them to maximize beauty and value. He invites jewelry and lapidary hobbyists to visit his store or to shop his web site. You can see this gem and others at:

www.wsfgems.com .

Article contributed by Mark Nelson,
Editor - Rockhound Ramblings, Pasadena
Lapidary Society Feb 2011



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Shop Schedule (For members only)

- Monday **10AM to 1PM**, Lapidary
7PM to 9PM, Beginners only
in lapidary
- Tuesday -Need Daytime Supervisor!
7PM to 9PM, Lapidary,
lost wax & beading.
- Wednesday **-9AM to 1:30PM**, Lapidary,
intarsia & beading.
Library open 10AM to noon.
6PM to 9PM, Lapidary
- Thursday Need Daytime Supervisor!
4PM to 9PM, Lapidary
- Friday Need Daytime and Night Supervisors!
Temporarily closed
- Saturday **9AM to 5PM**, Juniors, adults
w/supervisor's approval
Library open 10AM to noon.
- Sunday **9AM to 2 PM**, Lapidary

Website: www.mgscv.org

Email us at info@mgscv.org



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