



Club Notes



General Meeting: Tuesday June 19th, 7:30 P.M.
at Church of Christ, 22307 Montgomery Ave.,
Hayward, 94541; **No meeting in July & August**
Program: Open program

June Refreshments: Members with a last name
starting with **S-V** please bring snacks.

New Members: Unless otherwise stated, *General*
Meetings are on the third Tuesday 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, June 11th, 7:00 p.m. at the shop is the
next Board Meeting.

Don't forget Father's day June 17th



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MGSCV Petrograph -June 2012
Monthly Bulletin of the Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley, Inc.

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.

2012 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 - Mike McBride | 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 | |
| 2012 Show Chairman - Cathy Miller | ShowChair@mgscv.org">ShowChair@mgscv.org | |
| Membership - Tony Cooper | membership@mgscv.org | 510-589-5292 |
| Editor - Diana Cohoon | Editor@mgscv.org | |
| Past President - Bonnie Andrade | pastpresident@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, Jodi Minshall, Betty Milam, Sheryl Cooper, Mary Howell, Mike McBride

Meeting Minutes

BOARD MEETING -.May 7th, 2012 Submitted by Sheryl Cooper

Board Meeting - May 7, 2012

Ron Miller called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. In attendance were Ron Miller, Betty Milam, Sheryl Cooper, Bonnie Andrade, Mike McBride, and Cathy Miller.

Minutes: Betty Milam moved to accept the April board minutes as printed in the Petrograph. Bonnie Andrade seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Treasurer: We reviewed the April treasurer's report from Betty Milam. Sheryl Cooper moved to accept the report. Mike McBride seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Shop: The open house did well. We sold jade slabs and equipment. During the shop clean up some new genie wheels were put on and 80's on the arbor wheels.

Show: We need to talk to the Pavilion regarding the electrical receptacles in the ceilings. They are not to code according to the building inspector. We do not have a copy of the permit. There is a copy of the work order from Honest Electric. There is a request to purchase more security jackets. The Board decided we didn't need additional jackets and that some people should walk around without jackets on but still look out for problems. Betty got a name of a coordinator of the food trucks at Newpark Mall and will contact them regarding our 2013 show.

Membership: We have 157 current members.

Announcements: Betty Milam, Cathy Miller and Mark Montgomery worked for 4 hours at the Castro Valley Science Fair. There were several people asking about the club.

Mary Howell, Mark Montgomery and Ron Miller will be working at Palomares this year.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

GENERAL MEETING -MAY 15TH, 2012 Submitted by Sheryl Cooper

Ron Miller called the meeting to order at 7:40 pm. There were 27 members present.

Minutes: Diana Cohoon moved to accept the April minutes as printed in the Petrograph. Mark Montgomery seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Program: From our library "Wilensky Fine Minerals" on DVD.

Gems are raw material and you enhance it. Minerals are nature's jewelry.

Stuart Wilensky showed us many fantastic specimens of minerals from his collection. There were many high quality minerals with magnificent colors. Some of them were rare and one of a kind specimens. There were some very interesting and well defined pieces. The first piece was a Blue Cap Tourmaline from the Queen Mine. I didn't catch the names and places of all of the specimens but here are some of them. Apatite from Mexico, "Bowtie" Apophyllite from India, yellow Calcite and Stibnite from

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China, Cassiterite from China, Cobaltian Smithsonite, Galena from Russia, green Fluorite from China, green Tourmaline sticks from Brazil, Kesterite from China, pink Magnolite from China, pink Tourmaline from Afghanistan, orange Mimetite from China, Pyrite from Peru, Red Quartz with Hematite inclusions from Morocco, Sphalerite from China, "Spinel Twin" purple Fluorite from China, and Erythrite from Morocco.

Did you see some minerals that at you are not familiar with? Then check out the DVD from our library to get a good look at them.

Show: We are still checking into things with the Pavilion regarding the electrical situation. The idea of catering trucks for the 2013 show is looking good. We have a contact who represents 54 trucks.

Editor: We can still use articles, so keep sending them in.

Library: Mary Howell wishes we used the library more.

Membership: We have 158 current members.

Juniors: He sees a few here and there. A previous junior is graduating from Sonoma State with a degree in mathematics.

Field Trips: These are now being published in the Petrograph. Also look in the binder at the shop.

Education: We are working on another opal class with Ed Rigor. We have a new member that is making wire wrap scorpions and spiders. There will be a copper enameling

class coming soon. The Castro Valley High School Science Festival was wonderful. A lot of people came through and a few asked about the club.

Announcements:

John Gullak turned 93 on May 16th.

MGSCV turns 64 this year. We had a cake to celebrate our birthday, and John's

Drawings: The name pulled for \$100 member drawing was **Marjorie Stokes**, but he was not present to collect the money.

Attending Member Tickets - Mike McBride, Linda Davenport, Mary Jane Holmes, Bev Ewing, Diana Cohoon, George Kozakura, Bill Hadley, John Gullak, Doc Buschke, Katrina Ordonez, Greg Ordonez, Sheryl Cooper, Dee Hadley and Mark Montgomery

The meeting adjourned at 9:00pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The petrograph will continue to be printed thru the summer months regardless of the fact that there will be **no general meeting or board meeting in July and August**. We usually don't have one in the summer, but many people don't go anywhere in the summer months, and there is still shows to report and field trips to write about, as well as gossip with the rock rumbles, and articles from members and Bench tips from **Brad Smith**.

Anyone with information about any kids activities going on anywhere, or other

activities, please send them to me to publish. **Diana Cohoon, Editor**



ROCK RUMBLES June 2012 By Shirley Buschke

Teresa Tamaguchi won an award for a sterling silver pendant set with a cultured pearl. She entered the 50th Anniversary Juried show at Cal State University of the East Bay (that's Cal State Hayward to you old timers) and she won. Congratulations.

Our sick list this month included two of our members. **Dolores Barnes** who moved to Montana broke her ankle. She said she misses her senior citizen group. She called to thank us for her card and tell us the cast is off. And **Jamie Mac Donald** found **Clara Minor** in the emergency department at Eden Hospital. Clara said she is home and doing fine and thanks for the card from the club. **Mary Jane Holmes** was at the May meeting and said she is doing fine as is **Bev Ewing**. Our members are tough.

Ron Hassemeyer is still waiting for his bride to arrive from Nicaragua.

If you missed the article on fluorescent rocks by **Dr. Mark Isaac**, we have a copy of *Rock and Gem* in our library.

A safety reminder from **Getta Stedefor** (she moved away, too)--Leave your car keys near the bed at night. If you hear strange sounds, sound the alarm. My college order was "always leave your shoes and a coat or robe close by in case of fire." And they used to check up on us, too.

As a result of last month's gem of the month article **Mike MacBride** and **Austin McThorn** have connected with each other.

Hope you remembered your entry to the Alameda County Fair.

We attended the Kennedy Mine show in Jackson. Smaller this year; lots of slabs and fossils. The weather was great. If you go, be sure to see all the exhibits of the mine. There was interesting info on legal problems in mineral ownership. On Labor Day weekend Snyder's Ranch is at it again. It's still in the cow pasture. We hear the show is smaller than in the past. Still fun but awfully HOT in San Andreas at that time of year.

The minerals shown by film at our recent club meeting were fantastic. The CD is available from our library; it is very definitely worth viewing.

At the cleanup, someone volunteered to paint. Beth has paint so let her know who you are.

On Saturday May 19 **Jody Minshall** brought a cake and we celebrated **John Gullak's** 39th (oops, **93rd**) birthday. And a surprise visitor was **Norm Hodges**, who looked great; he's the guy that had a stroke about 5 months ago. He said he does

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therapy daily and tires easily but feels great. The paralysis has disappeared. I said above, our members are tough.

For sale, the best bathroom book for mineral collectors. 100 pgs of puzzles, word searches, mineral pics to color, fun articles, mineral brain challenges and more.,for \$9.95 postage pd. Order by web site www.diamondpublications.net, or email diamonddan@rochester.rr.com

SHOW SCHEDULES

RockAtomics Gem & Mineral Society

Woodland Hills, Ca

June 1st-3rd 10-5pm daily

Pierce College Farm

20800 Victory Blvd. **FREE ADMISSION**

William Rucker 818-428-7834

rockhound@rockatomics.com

Pacific Crystal Guild

June 16-17th, Sat. 10-6pm, Sun. 10-4pm

San Francisco, Ca Fort Mason Center

99 Marina Blvd.

Jerry Thomlinson 415-383-7837

www.crystalfair.com

Culver City Rock & Mineral Club

June 30th & July 1st

Sat. 10-6PM, Sun.10-5PM

Culver City Veterans Memorial Auditorium

4117 Overland Ave.

Robert Thirlaway 310-462-2269

fiestaofgems@gmail.com

www.culvercityrocks.org

CFMS GOLD & GEM SHOW

Riverside, Ca

July 13th -15th

Fri & Sat. 10-5PM, Sun. 10-4PM

Riverside Municipal Auditorium

3485 Mission Inn Ave

Steve Schubert 951-943-0535

meschubert@hotmail.com

Orcutt Mineral Society

Nipomo, Ca

August 3rd, 4th & 5th

10-5pm daily

Nipomo High school

525 N. Thompson ave.

Wes Lingerfelt 805-929-3788

<http://www.omsinc.org>

Mendocino Coast Gem and Mineral Society

Fort Bragg, Ca

August 31, - Sept. 3rd, Fri - Sun. 10-6pm,
Mon. 10-4pm

Town Hall, corner of Main and Laurel Sts.

Jerry Sommer 707-937-1833

Delvers Gem & Mineral Society

Downey, Ca

September 8th & 9th

10-5pm daily

Jon Fults 714-856-7548

jhfults@verizon.net

Sequoia Gem and Mineral Society

Redwood City, Ca

Sept. 15th & 16th 10-5pm daily

Community Activities Bldg.

1400 Roosevelt Ave.

Mary Lou Froese 650-755-8753

<http://sgms.driftmine.com>

Field Trips

June 9 - ?

Virgin Valley, NV for opal. (Total dates to be determined) El Dorado M & G Society, Fred Ott

June 13th -16th

Tri-federation to Vale area, Oregon for petrified wood, plume Agates, Jaspers

AFMS/CFMS/NFMS

Contact Doug True,
dtruefossils@yahoo.com

June 16

Malakoff Diggins SHP for a guided tour, gold panning. Roseville Rock Rollers, CO-OP, CFMS North, Gordon Standlee and Jim Barton, or contact Jim Barton for sign ups @geologist@surewest.net; 916-847-7321

June 23

Monitor Pass for crystals in rhyolite. Calaveras G & M Society, Bob Young. (Alt. date, July 7,2012.)

Aug. 4, 5

Monitor Valley, Pete's Summit near Austin, NV for fossils. Fossils for Fun Society, Vicki Blackand Terry Bartels.

Rock Sale Announcements

June 2nd, Los Gatos, Ca

wdeanwelder@yahoo.com

From Dean and Karen Welder: On June 2, 2012, there will be another major rockhound estate sale/auction. This sale is a continuation from the last sale on Feb 25th. There will literally be tons of material: agates, jaspers, obsidian, petrified wood, minerals, thundereggs, individual specimens, etc. The format will be silent auction. We are working on photos of some of the materials. To get further information (link to photos, directions, etc.) please contact Dean Welder via email at 'wdeanwelder@yahoo.com' and make sure to put a useful subject line in your message! For those who attended the sale/auction hosted by Dean & Karen Welder on Feb 25th 2012 or in 2010, expect a similar format with A LOT MORE material.

Sacramento Mineral Society

June 23, 10-3pm

5467 Ballentine St. #6, Sacramento, 95826

Contact President Joe Shook 916-224-7248, to reserve tables for sales

From the Sacramento Mineral Society: Sacramento Mineral Society's Open House/Tailgate/BBQ/Rock Swap, We welcome other Rock and Mineral Club members to set up tables to swap, sell, show or trade with fellow rock hounds. Cost is \$10.00 for a booth. We will have: Kids' Spinning Wheel, **Geode Cutting, Minerals, Cabs, Slabs & Jewelry. Lapidary Equipment for sale: Flat Lap, 12 inch**

Drop Saw, 4 Wheel Grinder and Diamond Pacific Genie.

Delicious Hamburger/Hotdogs/Veggie burgers will be served- \$5.00 donation. Contact **President Joe Shook 916-224-7248** as soon as possible to reserve your space and let us know how many tables are needed. You will have to provide your own shade pop-up and chairs. Items for sale should relate in some way to the material and equipment used in lapidary, jewelry making, fossils, beading, rockhounding and related pursuits.



GEM OF THE MONTH

If you watch Home and Garden TV, you may have noticed today's young families feel they need to have about three thousand square feet, at least two bathrooms and three bedrooms to raise a family. How did our gem and her husband raise three girls in a 1100 square foot house with one bedroom?, very successfully is the answer. They will feel like they are in a mansion come September when two of the girls are off to college and the third is preparing to leave the fold.

Our gem was born in Castro Valley and was among the last class to graduate from

Canyon High School. She headed off to college in Portland, and after a year got married. Off and on she has worked in many jobs and also homeschooled her brood, she also taught in a private school.

When asked how she got started in lapidary she said they liked to camp, and on one of their trips her dad found a lovely piece of petrified wood which they brought home. She wanted to know what they could do with it. They learned about the Castro Valley Gem and Mineral club and joined in 1971. The whole family got interested and her dad was president one year and he is still active. Her grandfather joined after she joined and he too, was president, show chairman, and caster for the club. Our gem's favorite activity is faceting and when the girls leave she hopes to activate her other skills. She has tons of beading supplies to use up, her favorite stone is lapis.

Every summer the family travels to Mexico and brings used clothing and usable appliances to an orphanage there, and help with minor repairs that are needed.

Our gem said she isn't sure how she got into her present job at the club but she has enjoyed it. Her philosophy as show chairman is get a good committee, give each a job to do and let them do it. Have you figured out who our gem is? **Jim Ewing's** daughter, **Cathy Miller**. She is counting on everyone's help for our next show and expects to make a few changes are planned. There is always room for improvement.

KIDS KORNER

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On Tue, Apr 3, 2012 at 8:01 AM, Bonnie McVey <bonnie@mrsmcvey.com> wrote:

Hi There!!

My class and I just wanted to send you a quick note about your page (<http://www.mgscv.org/links.html>) !!! We've been going over Volcanoes and have been using your resources quite a bit!

As a Thank You, a couple of my students and Classroom Helper also found and wanted to pass along this page all about Volcanoes for Kids: (<http://www.larsonjewelers.com/tungsten-resources-a-kids-guide-to-volcanoes.aspx>) We've actually been using it just as much as your page and thought that maybe you would want to include it on your Links page! I was hesitant to email you at first but the kids keep asking if I've talked to you about it yet haha! (they're so cute!)

Would possibly consider adding it for them? I would love to surprise them before we finish the unit next week, that their research find has actually benefited someone else! They would be so excited!...and I may even surprise them with a pizza party to reward their hard work
Thanks again! -Bonnie

From: "Mike.Farbarik(CastroValleyCA)" <Mike.Farbarik@att.net>

Sent: Monday, May 7, 2012 8:26:15 PM

Subject: Science Festival 2012: Thank You!
Betty;

Thank you very much for bringing your collection to our yearly event. This year's turnout was fantastic, in that we had many

great exhibits, we kept the kids and families engaged, we showed Castro Valley a wide breadth of exhibits, and that there was no drop-off in attendance after 1pm; the families kept coming. This was great to see. I have received comments from many visitors and contributors that we had a great festival this year. I reply that it's due to contributors like you, who engage the students, and share the things that you enjoy. Thank you, and we hope to have you back next year.

I hope that you had a healthy flow of students through your area. If there is anything we can do for next year, in regards to the event as a whole, or for your exhibit, then please let me know.

I'm curious as to your opinion of whether this event was worthwhile (or not), and why. I ask now, while the event experience is still "fresh". Again, Thank You Very Much.

Regards,

Mike Farbarik

Science Expo at Palomares Elementary school by Mary Howell

Friday May 18th, **Mary Howell, Ron Miller** and **Mark Montgomery**, bravely set off to represent the MGSCV at **Palomares school** in Castro Valley. It was delightful, 800-1000 kids who loved Crystals, Pyrite, Dino bone, fossils and cabs showed up with their usual enthusiasm. **Mary Jane Holmes'** Dino foot print, and Octopus tentacle filled with coal was a great hit. We were treated like Royalty; we had a great breakfast, and lunch.

We have been going to this affair for six years, and will continue as long as we are needed.

METEORITE RING Do you want to make your own special "out of this world" ring? Take a chunk of Gibeon meteorite, forge it into a thin strip, and cut the strip into several short lengths. Then forge weld the lengths together, twist the resulting ingot, and finally form it into a ring shape. See pics of this special wedding ring at <http://imgur.com/a/ZjCaW/all#0>

DRAGON'S BREATH Here be dragons. And then here be the steam machine of the Dragon's Breath. If you like small working steam engines, you'll be impressed by this one created by **Hans Meevis** from Saint Martin. It's made entirely from silver, gold and hand carved gemstones. Runs on steam or compressed

Air.<http://ganoskin.com/blog/meevis/2012/0408/dragonsbreath/>

STRAIGHTENING WIRE Have you ever pulled out your silver wire and found that it's all bent up. The easiest way I've found to straighten it out is to stretch it a bit. Simply put one end in the vise and grab the other end with a pair of serrated tip pliers. Then pull just enough to feel the wire stretch like a rubber band. This works best on smaller wire diameters, up to about 16 ga. If you're working on thick wires and pulling hard, be sure to brace yourself in case the wire breaks or pulls out of the pliers.

DO BEZELS SHRINK? The engineer in me says there's no reason a bezel should shrink when I solder it onto a base plate, but I

sometimes find that the stone won't quite fit into the bezel that was perfect just before soldering. If that ever happens to you, here's a fix that usually works for those times when there's just a minor problem. I file or sand the stone down a little around its base. For soft cabs like **Turquoise, Lapis, Jet** or **Howelite**, you can use a sanding stick. But for harder cabs like **Jasper** or **Agates**, you have to use a diamond file or one of the ruby nail files from the drugstore. There are two important things to remember when doing this. First, you can only make a minor adjustment in the stone size. All filing or sanding has to be hidden by the bezel because it takes the polish off the stone. Secondly, remember to round off all sharp edges on the bottom of the stone. A sharp edge here might sit on a little extra solder that's in the bottom joint of your bezel. Just a little bump here can put enough stress the stone to risk breakage when you burnish the bezel down over onto the stone. More **BenchTips** by **Brad Smith** can be found at [facebook.com/BenchTipsorgroups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/](https://www.facebook.com/BenchTipsorgroups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/)

Part I: What is Opal?

by Jodi Minshall

Opal Basics

Gem quality opal is one of the most beautiful and attractive of gemstones. An opal can flash every color of the spectrum with such intensity that it can actually rival the "fire" of diamonds. The finest opals can

also command a per carat price akin to that of the most expensive diamonds.

The chemical makeup of opal is hydrous silicon dioxide ($\text{SiO}_2 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$) and since silicon dioxide, the primary component of sand is common worldwide, varieties of opal can also be found throughout the world. Most of the world's opal is "common opal" or "potch" and has a milky or pearly luster known as "opalescence". Rarer are the specimens of opal that exhibit brilliant color flashes which is caused by the diffraction of the ambient light the opal is viewed under. These color flashes are known as "play of color" and are what separates precious opal from common opal, and also help to identify its variety or classification. If the play of color is of sufficient quality, the material can be used to produce very valuable gemstones.

Play of Color

Areas within an opal that produce the play of color are made up of microscopic spheres of silica arranged in an orderly array. As the light passes through this array of spheres it is diffracted into the colors of the spectrum. The size of the spheres and their geometric arrangement determine the color and intensity of the diffracted light.

A play of color in opal can be observed when the stone is moved, when the light source is moved, or when the angle of observation is changed. The video at this link illustrates "play of color" in an Ethiopian Welo opal.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xin2kgZ8VUU&feature=player_embedded

The illustration below contains pictures of some of the many varieties of precious opal.



SPECIAL THANK YOU

To **Jerry Win** and his wife who are former members of our club, for their fine donation of their collection of rough and tumbled stones. **Beth Farmer**, **Mark Montgomery**, and **Diana Cohoon**, (with the help of **Terry Goesch's** truck) picked up a whole truck load of rocks last week and deposited them at the back of the shop for our members to discover and purchase at a very reasonable price. They are in blue bins, and larger rocks are on the back table, ready for the big saw.



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Shop Schedule (All shop sessions members only)

- Monday** 10AM to 1PM, Lapidary
6PM to 9PM, Beginners only
in lapidary, Faceting (no beginners)
- Tuesday** 9:30AM to 12:30PM, need daytime supervisor
6PM to 9:00 PM, Lapidary,
- Wednesday** 9AM to 12:00PM, Lapidary
Library open 10AM to noon.
6PM to 9PM, Lapidary
- Thursday** 10:00AM to 1:00PM, Lapidary
5PM to 9PM, Lapidary, faceting (no beginners)
- Friday** Need Daytime and Night Supervisors!
Temporarily closed
- Saturday** 9AM to 3PM, Faceting Class 9-12, Juniors,
Adults w/supervisor's approval
Library open 10AM to noon.
- Sunday** 9:30AM to 12:30PM, Lapidary

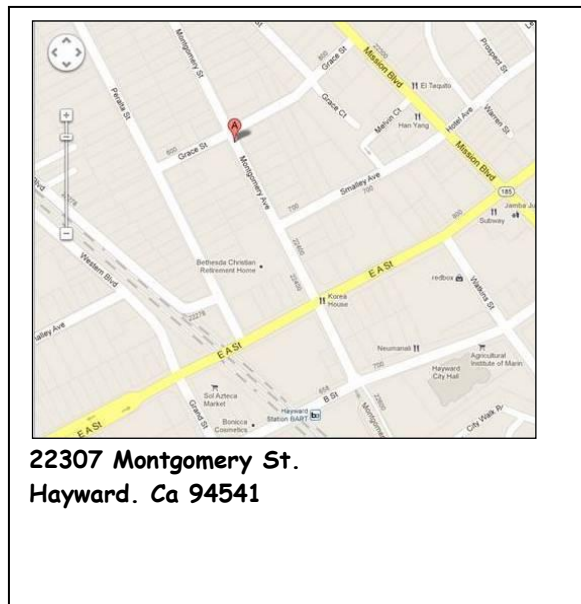
MAPS



SHOP NOTICES:

There are only a few people who are authorized to invest in the casting room. If You are interested in learning how to invest, Contact **Jim Ewing**, or **Diana Cohoon**

Website: www.mgscv.org
Email us at info@mgscv.org



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From I 580: Take the A Street exit and go west, turn right on Montgomery Street and go to 22307 Montgomery Street.

From I 880: Take the A Street exit and go East. Turn left on Montgomery Street and go to 22307 Montgomery.

From Jackson Street: Go north on Mission Boulevard, turn left onto A Street, then right on Montgomery Street and go to 22307 Montgomery Street.