

Club Notes



General Meeting: The next general meeting is on September 18th at 7:30 PM

Sept. Refreshments: Members with a last name starting with W-Z 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, Sept.9th, 7:00 p.m. at the shop is the next Board Meeting.

LABOR DAY



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MGSCV Petrograph -September 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

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Meeting Minutes

BOARD MEETING - August 13th, 2012
Submitted by Sheryl Cooper

In attendance were **Ron Miller, Mike McBride, Diana Cohoon, Beth Farmer, Betty Milam, and Sheryl Cooper.**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by **Ron Miller**, but we did not have a quorum.

Mike McBride picked up a lot of books, from the **Leslie DeGross** estate. We also received some fossils, jade, other various rock, and tumblers.

A few members attended the SF show at Treasure Island this year. It was noted they had 3 food trucks out in the parking lot and it looked like it was working.

The building inspector of Newark is busy and didn't have time to meet with us. He stated the Electrical Code is hard wired, flush mount in the ceiling. It is State Code, and actually National Electrical Code. So we will be talking at the Pavilion's board meeting in September.

Diana Cohoon and **Mark Montgomery** have agreed to open the shop on Monday nights. **Beth Farmer** has agreed to open the shop on Thursday nights. Check the board at the shop and the calendar for updates.

The next Board meeting will be September 10th.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.



ROCK RUMBLES Sept. 2012

By Diana Cohoon

The summer is coming to an end, and the shop has been kind of quiet with people on vacation and some out of the country like our shop manager Beth Farmer who is in Australia for a month. She went to an Orchid convention. She goes to a different place every year. She went to Vietnam last year or the year before. They have orchids of many varieties growing at home in their greenhouse. I hope they have a lot of fun, and maybe get in some rock hounding if time permits.

Shirley Buschke had arthroscopic surgery on her knee a couple of weeks ago and she is doing fine. She has physical therapy everyday and seems to be doing fine. The first few days were rough for her but she is a trooper. We miss her on Wednesdays and Saturdays at the shop and Doc too. He is staying home to take care of Shirley.

We had a successful Silver Smithing class given by **Lee Chavez** on Sunday. I have talked to all five of the participants from our shop and they all said the class was wonderful. Everyone made a wire bracelet with a stone. The class began at 8:30 AM on Sunday and lasted to almost

4PM in the afternoon. Lee mentioned that everyone brought snacks for the morning coffee, and sandwich roll ups for lunch. He said everyone was great! I was told that Lee took time to work with everyone individually, and made sure that everyone had a piece to take home. The next class signup sheet is full, and the class will be given in early October. The cost of the class is \$45.00 each, bring tools such as metal files and shears for metal would be advisable. The silver required is 8 gauge $\frac{1}{2}$ round wire 12" for small wrist, 13" for larger, silver bezel 28 gauge $\frac{1}{8}$ x 3-4", 26 gauge sheet 2x2". The stone should be $\frac{3}{16}$ thick by $\frac{3}{4}$ "- 1" tall, he uses soft and medium wire solder. Lee recommends that items be purchased from Rio Grand (we have a catalog at the shop). They seem to have a good quality silver for the purposes of the class.

Ed Rigor and **Pat Rigor** had Cataract surgery on their eye, and they were back at the shop on Wednesday the 22nd, they let no moss grow under their feet!

The Badge lady, **Joyce Baherkemp** is going out of business in December and I have written the info under announcements for those that would like to order one. It is nice to wear one to our show and to other clubs shows, it lets people know who we are.

We have had quite an interest in our club by way of our website. We have over 5 new members, **Simon Chen** of Fremont joined in July, **Gerard DeMiguel** joined in July, as well as **Michael Cox**. Michael Cox used to shop manager of the Vallejo Club, and has moved to Hayward now. In August we have

Zania Shea of Alameda, **James Sonksen** of Burlingame. We had another person on Monday night come in for a tour of the shop, and he took an application. There was another newer member at the shop Monday night, and her name is **Endeliza Hampton** from San Leandro, she has been a member since May. We had a renewal this month of a prior member, **Deb Stevens** of Castro Valley. Deb has an interest in wire wrap and does beautiful beading. We are very glad to see her at the shop again. She has worked at our show many times.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Going out of Business

Joyce Baherkemp of 5 B's Engraving has been making the blue and yellow plastic name tags for members of the Mineral and Gem Society of Castro Valley for many years. The members wear these name tags during our show and for identification while attending other shows. Joyce has announced she will be closing the business in December 2012. If you'd also like a name tag, order one soon. Phone number: 510-582-5477 Address: 4138 David Street, Castro Valley 94546.

KLAMATH FALLS - OR:

Great Grandpa, Grandpa & Grandma, Dad & Mom did all the hard work; by bringing it all up to the mountain from all over the world. We have so much to learn to do and play with. We have more than our share and would like to share it with fellow rockhounds. More items and buildings not shown. This is by APPOINTMENT ONLY

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please. Call to make an appointment with Jim Witsoe at 541-205-8857, or e-mail me at: <syndigardner@bendbroadband.com>. Please leave a detail message - Name, Company, Phone, Date and Time you would like to visit the Rock-E-Points Rock Shop, located in Klamath Falls, OR. I will return your call so we can set up a Date.

SHOW SCHEDULES

Valley Springs Pow-Wow

Snyders' Ranch Aug.31st-Sept.3rd
1290 Paloma Rd., Valley Springs,
All day; camping \$10.00
Betty 209-772-9977

<http://www.valleyspringspowwow.com>

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.driftdmine.com>

Feather River Lapidary & Mineral Society

Chico, Ca Sept 22nd-23
Silver Dollar Fairgrounds

2357 Fair St. Sat.-10-5; Sun. 10-4
John Scott 530-321-6331

jweazel@sbcglobal.net
www.orivllrocks.com

Carmel Valley Gem and Mineral society

Sept. 29 & 30th Sat. 10-6; Sun. 10-5
Monterey Fairgrounds, 2004 Fairgrounds
Rd. Janis Rovetti 831-372-1311

Janis12@sbcglobal.net
www.cvgms.org

Santa Rosa Gem and Mineral Society

Santa Rosa, Ca
Sept. 29th & 30th Sat. 10-6pm, Sun. 10-5pm
Wells Fargo Center for the Art
50 Mark West Springs Rd.
Jolene Coon 707-849-9551

coons@sonic.net

Stockton Lapidary and Mineral club

Stockton, Ca
Sept. 29th & 30th, 10-5pm Sat. & Sun.
Scottish Rite Masonic Center
33Alpine Ave

<http://www.stocktonlapidary.com>

Field Trips

Sept.7-9th
Jade Cove, Ca for Nephrite jade
Robert Sankovich [805-494-7734](tel:805-494-7734)
rmsorca@adelphia.net or Adam Dean 909-489-4899 thegatehunter@verizon.net

Details on CFMS website

www.cfmsinc.org/fieldtrp/y2012/tr0912_ja_decove.htm

Garage Grinders Club

Sept 14-17th

Black Rock Desert , Nv. For Agates, Jasper, obsidian, and Petrified Wood.

Scott Paradis 707-330-1038 or

wizo@wildblue.net



GEM OF THE MONTH

By Diana Cohoon

Our Gem is from Audubon, Iowa. He went to the University of Northern Iowa and got his Masters in Special Ed teaching at Cedar Falls Iowa.

He later came to California in 1980, because he just wanted to go west and see the sights. He taught Special Ed in the Hayward school district at Calaroga , Sunset, and Tennyson, while living in San Mateo.

He later changed professions, and became a Real Estate Appraiser for Cal Fed, Glendale, and Provident, the later being a private lender, and moved to Burlingame.

He is currently retired, and keeps very busy doing a variety of projects. He made a

king size bed out of a large dining table, used Maple and carved the headboard for the bed with leaves and flowers. He made a queen size bed for himself.

His hobbies include; collecting Lake Superior Agate, Montana Agate (for carving), has done Bonsai, and collects Suisekis, and makes Bolo Ties. He does oil painting, wood carving as well. He also made a bookcase out of an old redwood staircase, and put stained glass doors on the bookcase. The glass had different Jades and agates for the design on the doors.

He met his wife at church, and she is a writer/editor retired from the State of California Workers comp. He has been looking for a club where he can expand his knowledge in the artistic fields, and his wife found our website on the internet.

Can you guess who our gem is? He Jim Sonksen, and if you come to the shop on Mondays, you are likely to see him as well as many other new people.

BENCH TIPS BY BRAD SMITH

CLEANING SOLDER OUT OF A BEZEL



Sometimes when you solder a bezel to a base plate you end up with excess solder that needs to be removed before setting the stone. My choice of tool for this is called an "Inverse Cone" burused in a rotary tool or flexshaft. It cuts on both the bottom and the side and is shaped so

that there's less chance of cutting into the bezel wall than if you used the more common cylinder bur shape. The 2 mm size is useful for most any bezel.

More BenchTips by Brad Smith can be found at [facebook.com/BenchTips](https://www.facebook.com/BenchTips) or groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/

KIDS KORNER

WHAT IS A "MINERAL"?

A mineral, by definition, is . . .

1. Inorganic, which means that it is not made by a living organism.
2. A Solid. There is one unusual exception. Native mercury is a mineral and is the only metal that is a liquid at normal temperatures.
3. Has a regular crystal structure. The crystal structures are described as crystal systems.
4. Made by nature which means minerals are not made, directly or indirectly, from human activity.
5. Has a predictable chemical formula.

Which of the following are minerals?

Pyrite ("Fool's Gold")

Snow

Galena

Ice Cubes

Graphite

Ruby

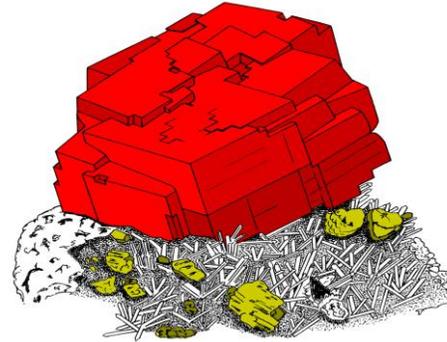
Cubic Zirconia

Diamond

Fluorite

For each of these, make a checklist

Of the 5 points of a mineral's definition. If it meets all 5 points, it is a mineral ... by definition.



Color Match

Color is not the best physical property to use to identify minerals. This is because some minerals occur in many different colors while others occur in only a single color. Draw a line from the mineral drawing and name on the left to the correct color on the right. If a mineral can be found in many different colors, draw lines to all of its different colors.

Quartz	pink
Sulfur	blue
Galena	black
Malachite	green
Feldspar	red
Gypsum	white
Corundum	purple
Fluorite	yellow
Azurite	grey
Calcite	brown

Kids Korner continued

Hardness

The hardness of a mineral is a way of describing how easy or difficult it is to scratch the mineral. It is used, in combination with the other physical properties, to

help identify a mineral specimen. In mineral books, hardness is shown using the letter "H." An example of this is "Talc, H1".

Mineralogists realized that a way to measure the hardness of minerals was

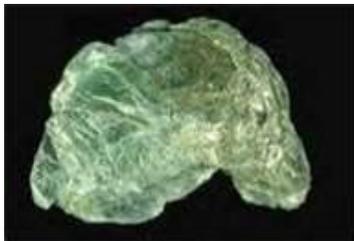
needed. In 1824, a mineralogist from Austria named Friederich Mohs chose 10 common

minerals and arranged them in order from softest to hardest. This is called the Mohs

Scale of Hardness and today is used by mineralogists all over the world. The scale of

hardness is as follows:

1. Talc



2. Gypsum



3. Calcite



4. Fluorite



5. Apatite



6. Orthoclase Feldspar



7. Quartz



8. Topaz



9. Corundum



10. Diamond Crystal



What Do I Do With the Hardness Scale?

You are looking at a glassy, blue, perfectly clear mineral you won at a mineral club meeting. (See, you have already identified its color and luster!) Now you want to determine its hardness. You will need the minerals in the Mohs Scale of Hardness (see the previous page). Scratch your unknown mineral against Calcite which is number 3 on the hardness scale. Look at the calcite. Did it leave a scratch? Yes! Now rub it against Fluorite, number 4 on the hardness scale. Did

it leave a scratch? Yes. Rub it against the next highest, Apatite, number 5 on the hardness scale. Did it leave a scratch? Yes. Keep going! Rub it against orthoclase feldspar. Did it leave a scratch? Yes. Keep going! Rub it against quartz, number 7. Did it leave a scratch? Yes. (Will this ever end???) Rub it against topaz, number 8. Did it leave a scratch? NO! So....You have discovered that your unknown mineral has a hardness that is between 7 and 8.

Record that on your physical properties record sheet for future reference.

By the way, NEVER do the hardness test on a really fine mineral specimen. You will damage

it! Actually performing the hardness test should be done on a scrap or rough piece of a mineral that is ok to damage a bit.

Some hints:

1. A mineral of a specific hardness will scratch another mineral of the same species. In other words, calcite scratches calcite, fluorite scratches fluorite, etc.

2. You will probably have to practice to recognize the difference between a true scratch

and a line of powdered mineral from a mineral in the hardness kit that is too soft to scratch the unknown specimen.

Determining Hardness with Common Items

If you do not have a hardness test kit available, hardness can be estimated using common items that are easy to find in the home.

A finger nail = approximately 2.5

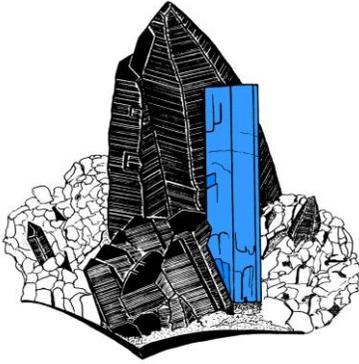
A Copper coin = approximately 3.5

A Piece of Glass or a Knife = approximately 5.5

Tool Steel (like a metal file) = approximately 6.5

In other words, if your fingernail scratches an unknown mineral specimen, then its hardness is less than 2.5. If an unknown specimen scratches a piece of glass, its hardness is greater

than 5.5, and so on.



Luster

The luster of a mineral is a description of the way light bounces off of the surface of a mineral.

The words used to describe luster are pretty easy to understand. There are two main

groups: **metallic minerals** (those minerals that look like shiny metal) and

nonmetallic

minerals. The lusters for non-metallic minerals are

- A. Vitreous. Also called glassy.
- B. Resinous. Minerals that look like resin (a little bit like the look of plastic).
- C. Pearly. Minerals with a pearl-like, iridescent luster.
- D. Greasy. Some minerals look like they have a thin layer of oil on them.
- E. Silky. Minerals that look like fibers of silk. Fibrous gypsum and malachite have this luster.
- F. Adamantine. This describes minerals with a brilliant luster, sometimes with colors flashing in the mineral. Diamond is the best example. Some clear lead minerals, like cerussite and anglesite, also have adamantine luster.

CLEAVAGE & FRACTURE

Cleavage and fracture are descriptions of how a mineral breaks into pieces.

Cleavage describes how a mineral breaks into flat surfaces (usually one, two, three or four surfaces). Fracture describes how a mineral breaks into forms or shapes other than flat surfaces. Cleavage is determined by the crystal structure of the mineral.

Common Cleavage Descriptions

1. **Cubic:** When a mineral breaks in three directions and the cleavage planes form right angles (90 degrees to each other). Results in pieces in the shape of a cube.
2. **Octahedral:** When a mineral breaks in the form of a diamond, resulting in 8 nearly equal faces.
3. **Rhombohedral:** When a mineral breaks in three directions and the cleavage planes form angles that are other than 90 degrees. The shape formed is called a rhombohedron.

4. **Pinacoidal:** When a mineral breaks in one direction, leaving a single flat surface (cleavage plane). When a mineral breaks into very thin sheets, like mica minerals, the pinacoidal cleavage is called micaceous.

Common Fracture Descriptions

1. **Conchoidal:** describes a curved, nearly rounded, smooth fracture that looks like the inside of a shell. This is seen best in the igneous rock, obsidian, but also in massive pieces of the mineral quartz.
2. **Fibrous:** describes minerals (like **chrysotile asbestos**) that break into fibers.
3. **Splintery:** describes minerals that break into stiff, sharp, needle-like pieces.

4. **Hackly:** describes fractures that have rough edges.

5. **Uneven or irregular:** describes minerals that break into rough, uneven surfaces.

Sometimes one person might identify a fracture as hackly and another would describe the same specimen as irregular because they are fairly close to each other in appearance. With more experience, a mineralogist can easily tell the difference between these two fractures.

Not all minerals have cleavage. All minerals will have some form of fracture.

Sparks

The mineral pyrite is named after the Greek word *pur* which means fire.

You will learn why in this experiment.

What you will need:

Safety goggles, a piece of pyrite (not a good display specimen), a steel hammer.

Step 1: Put on the safety goggles to protect your eyes.

Step 2: Hold a piece of pyrite firmly in one hand.

Step 3: Hit the pyrite with the edge of a hammer (or any other item made of steel). Turn the lights down (or off) and do this again. The results will be more dramatic.

What do you see? _____. You will see the flash of sparks.

(You will also smell something. This is the smell of the sulfur that is in the pyrite crystal.)

A long time ago, this was a way people could start campfires in the wilderness.

The preceding information was copied from the Mini Miners monthly vol. 6 #8 www.diamonddanpublications.net We appreciate websites dedicated to the younger crowd in our clubs.

We will have more articles from the "Back to School Edition" of the Mini Miners Monthly in next month's Kids Korner.

I hope our younger generation enjoyed these excerpts from the Mini Miners Monthly, you can also go their website and become a subscriber to their magazine.

There is one more place I have discovered thru facebook, "Lapidary Swap Shop" All things are traded for another. I found this site full of wonderful stuff, take a look!



It is that time again for the kids, enjoy the holiday weekend.

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Shop Schedule (All shop sessions members only)

- Monday** 10AM to 1PM, Lapidary
6PM to 9PM, Beginners only in lapidary
- 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(closed until 9/27)
- 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

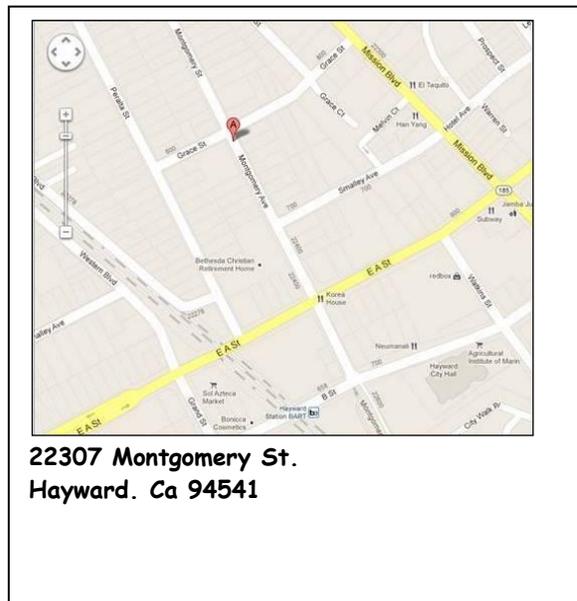
MAPS



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.