



## Club Notes



**General Meeting:** Dec.12<sup>th</sup> 2015 1:00PM at the Church of Christ. This is the Christmas party and December meeting. Anyone that can bring a dish please do.

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

**Next Board Meeting:** Monday December 7<sup>th</sup>  
Board Meeting at the shop 7p.m.

**Next Show Meeting:** Thursday December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7p.m. at the shop



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**MGSCV Petrograph December 2015**  
**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.

**2015 MGSCV Officers**

**Elected**

President - Bonnie Andrade	<a href="mailto:President@mgscv.org">President@mgscv.org</a>	
Vice President -	<a href="mailto:VP@mgscv.org">VP@mgscv.org</a>	
Secretary - Sheryl Cooper	<a href="mailto:Secretary@mgscv.org">Secretary@mgscv.org</a>	(510) 589-8858
Treasurer - Betty Milam	<a href="mailto:Treasurer@mgscv.org">Treasurer@mgscv.org</a>	
1 <sup>st</sup> Year Director - Jodi Minshall	<a href="mailto:Director1@mgscv.org">Director1@mgscv.org</a>	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Year Director - Norm Hodgson	<a href="mailto:Director2@mgscv.org">Director2@mgscv.org</a>	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Year Director - Mike Cox	<a href="mailto:Director3@mgscv.org">Director3@mgscv.org</a>	
Federation Director - Mike Mc Bride	<a href="mailto:Federation@mgscv.org">Federation@mgscv.org</a>	
Shop Manager - Beth Farmer	<a href="mailto:ShopManager@mgscv.org">ShopManager@mgscv.org</a>	
2014 Show Chairman - Cathy Miller	<a href="mailto&gt;ShowChair@mgscv.org">ShowChair@mgscv.org</a>	
Membership - Tony Cooper	<a href="mailto:membership@mgscv.org">membership@mgscv.org</a>	510-589-5292
Editor - Diana Cohoon	<a href="mailto:Editor@mgscv.org">Editor@mgscv.org</a>	925-348-3000
Past President - Ron Miller	<a href="mailto:pastpresident@mgscv.org">pastpresident@mgscv.org</a>	

**Appointed**

Scholarship Chair - Mary Howell  
Librarian - Mary Howell  
Historian - Jamie McDonald  
Purchasing Agent - Beth Farmer  
Education Coordinator - Shirley Buschke  
Field Trip Coordinator - Brian Gray  
Parliamentarian - Doc Buschke  
Reception/Host - Jim Ewing  
Sunshine Reporter - All members  
Door Prizes - Bonnie Andrade  
Web Master - Tony Cooper

[webmaster@MGSCV.org](mailto:webmaster@MGSCV.org)



**Publication Staff**



◇Contributors: Shirley Buschke, Betty Milam, Sheryl Cooper, Mike McBride

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### BOARD MEETING

Submitted by **Sheryl Cooper**

November 9, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. In attendance were **Bonnie Andrade, Betty Milam, Sheryl Cooper, Diana Cohoon, Jodi Minshall, Mike McBride and Beth Farmer**

**Minutes:** There is not a quorum to vote on the minutes.

**Treasurer:** We discussed the October treasurer's report by **Betty Milam**, but there is not a quorum to vote on it.

**Federation:** **Mike McBride** is heading to the CFMS business meeting with a list of questions and items.

Under what conditions can we cancel a membership?

Can we bar a member from the shop and how?

Can a non-profit take someone to small claims?

What is our coverage if we are sued?

What are the requirements to be 501c3 and does it affect the CFMS insurance?

Does society equipment go to the CFMS if it closes its doors?

Event insurance form needed for 2016.

How do we get the 50 year award?

Memorial announcements - **Jamie McDonald, Tom Ford and Dick Minor**.

**Shop:** **Beth Farmer** took care of repairs on three of the genies. The geysers will plug up if you do not change the water often

enough. It is also a safety issue if you breathe the chemicals being shot up through the geysers. We feel we need to show everyone the Genie procedures on how to use the machines. These machines are not made for the volume of use we give them. They are falling apart and if we are not careful the machines will not be able to be fixed anymore. The cab stands are being ground away. Watch what you are doing. She needs to order some more oil for the saws.

**Show:** **Beth Farmer** is mailing out the contracts.

**Editor:** Nothing to report.

**Membership:** There are 172 current members.

**Old Business:** The library letter has been emailed. **Jodi Minshall** hasn't heard anything back yet.

We should have a supervisor's meeting to discuss shop issues.

**Sunshine:** Ken Panico has pneumonia.

**New Business:** PG&E will be installing equipment so we are on our own meter.

The 2016 budget was discussed. We are not covering our costs so we discussed increasing the membership dues. We have some members who just like to support the club but never come in to use the shop. For these people the membership fees will remain the same. \$35 per person and \$60 per couple but they will not have shop privileges. Their membership cards will be white. For people wanting shop privileges the fees

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for 2016 will go to \$45 per person and \$80 per couple. These membership cards will be the color of the year. Juniors will stay at \$5 or \$1 with an adult membership. Locker fees for 2016 will go from \$5 to \$10.

The next board meeting will be December 7, 2015

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.



### GENERAL MEETING -

Submitted by Sheryl Cooper

November 19, 2015

**Bonnie Andrade** called the meeting to order at 7:40 pm. There are 20 members present and 2 guests.

Welcome **Pete Bergerom** and **Crystal Hoffmann**. **Pete** found us online and had to check us out. **Crystal** moved back into the area and started looking around for a faceting class.

**Minutes:** **Mark Montgomery** moved to accept the October minutes as printed in the Petrograph. **John Caudill** seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**Reminder:** The Potluck Christmas Party is Saturday, December 12th. Doors open at noon and food at 1:00 pm.

**Show:** The show is March 4 - 6, 2016. **Cathy Miller** says things are progressing. Dealers are asking for contracts. The live auctions case is filling up at the shop but there is

still room for more and door prize items. The raffle item this year is a faceted Ethiopian opal by **Jim Ewing**. It is set in a gold plated pendent with a Peridot accent. **Norm Hodgson** is organizing the exhibit cases again this year. Anything is welcome - facets, cabochons, rough rock, minerals, educational, fossils, carvings and more. Labels are a great to educate each other and the public. He encourages you to display what you have and tell your story. In January we will start repairing and working on the lighting for the cases. If you want to exhibit at the Alameda County Fair contact **Norm Hodgson**. It is pretty important to show what we have and our quality of workmanship. From here you can jump right into judged cases. The society's show started out at the Castro Valley High School gym. We had rows and rows of exhibit cases with only a hand full of dealers. Then we moved to Centennial Hall where the dealers were down the middles and the cases all the way around the outside edge. The volunteer book for our show will be ready soon at the shop and meetings. Remember we tear down in one night and set up over four days. Demonstrators will be scheduled to make sure the slots are covered. The next meeting is December 3rd at 7:00 pm at the shop.



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**Shop:** **Beth Farmer** ordered a new blade for the 14" saw because it was bent. If the rock is not tight enough it will slip and then damage the blade. Be careful with the machinery.

**Federation:** **Mike McBride** attended the 2015 annual Fall Business meeting for the CFMS. He asked about the clubs 50 year certificate and the president gave him a hand written one on hotel stationery - the real one is coming. We are one of two clubs that have been around for over 50 years out of the approximately 130 societies in the CFMS. He brought back a copy of the budget for those who are interested. The Death Valley and Davis Creek sites will be closing to collecting soon. They will become federally protected sites. There are scholarships available to anyone in the Earth Science Studies. Nominate someone to our board and then the board sends it on to the CFMS scholarship committee. Have you ever wanted to judge cases but do not know how to begin? Well the CFMS is offering certification training for being a judge. Ask **Mike McBride** for details. The 2016 CFMS show is in conjunction with the World Gold Panning Championship. There are some flyers at that shop.

**Membership:** There are currently 172 members. Don't forget to sign in when you use the shop.

**Education:** There are new signup sheets for classes on the faceting room door because the names on the lists were no longer current members. **Lee Chavez** will be holding an advanced soldering class once enough people signup. The cost is between

\$50 and \$60. He will teach a beginner soldering class for \$20. Typically, once 3 or 4 people signup then a class will be set up. The enameling class is limited to two people at a time.

**Sunshine:** **Cathy Miller** has torn the soft tissue in her knee but is getting around better now.

**Horace Robertson's wife Betty** is doing good.

**Charles** and **Sue Meyer** celebrated their 50th anniversary.

**Announcement:** **Charles Meyer** brought in what he is working on and wants you to share your items at the general meetings also.

**New Business:** The turquoise tree by **Doc Buschke** is ready to be raffled at the Christmas Party. See **Doc** to get your tickets.

We have decided to increase the membership dues. Membership without shop privileges will be \$35 per person and \$60 per couple and receive white membership cards. Membership with shop privileges for 2016 will go to \$45 per person and \$80 per couple. These membership cards will be the color of the year. Juniors will stay at \$5 or \$1 with an adult membership.

Locker fees for 2016 will go from \$5 to \$10.

**Money Drawing:** The name drawn tonight for \$105 is **Mike McBride**. Congratulations **Mike!** At the next meeting the amount goes to \$100

## MGSCV Petrograph December 2015

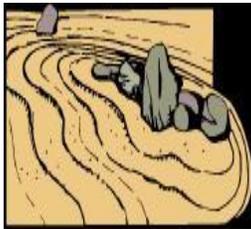
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**Guest Drawing: Pete Bergerom and Crystal Hoffman**

**Ticket Drawing: Charles Meyer, George Kozakura, Stephen Caudill-Merida, Stephen Caudill-Merida, Maya Caudill-Merida, Mike McBride, Sue Meyer, Maya Caudill-Merida, Maya Caudill-Merida, Sheryl Cooper, Toni Crotti, Maya Caudill-Merida, Mark Montgomery, Stephen Caudill-Merida, Stephen Caudill-Merida, Doc Buschke, Jodi Minshall and Betty Milam**

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm after the silent auction wrapped up.

The next general meeting is the Christmas Party on December 12, 2015 at noon.



### ROCK RUMBLES

By Shirley Buschke

It is time for that Christmas pot luck. It's a lunch this time, Saturday Dec 12. On the cover there is a list of what to bring based on your last name. And don't forget to bring you address labels so you can save time when you buy your tickets for the

Christmas raffle of the turquoise tree. All the proceeds go to the club and as you will see upon reading farther, the club needs it.

A review of finances indicates we need more money. Everything seems to cost more. Coffee will now be 47 cents, still cheaper than McDonalds. Investment went up so the cost there will be \$2 small, \$4 medium, \$6 large. Although we have a couple wonderful mechanics keeping our equipment in shape, years of wear are beginning to show. Replacement parts cost money and some are not available. Some who are sawing are forgetting to pay. There is a "square" hanging by the blue case so you can figure out the cost. No cost on trim saw but don't slab on it. So what do we do do? Raise dues, have a shop fee, any suggestions?

**Naomi Morgan** is busy with her intarsia birds. Come by, she comes many Wednesday mornings and she or **Horace Robertson** can get you started.

**Sub Nishimoto** just returned from a trip to the Trinity National Forest area . He was looking for suitable suiseki rocks. Ask him about them. He sees things in rocks much like **Mark Montgomery** sees cabs in rocks. Takes imagination Received **Sub's** contribution for the door prize case. Turn yours in to me.

Livermore show, great, as usual. it is a small show but full of enthusiasm and good eats, too. Nice to see dealer **Lee Chavez** there. He has been sick; that is why he has not been to the shop.

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Our best wishes to **Horace Robertson's** wife as she convalesces.

Wondered where **Baer Dean** has been. She has been out for about 3 weeks. Finally she shows up and tells us she was in the hospital with asthma. Doesn't she know you are supposed to outgrow that? Nice to see her back. And hopefully we will also see **Ken Panico** one of these days. I think he has been nurse at home.

On Wednesday before Thanksgiving our shop supervisor opened the coffee money bank. Instead of the usual 47 cents, someone had enclosed a foil wrapped chocolate. Yes, coffee is now 47 cents. Most people make it 50 cents. Except the chocolate donor. Hope he also put in real money. Who was it? It happened on Wednesday. Any guesses?

Our Librarian **Mary Howell** will have about 4 or 5 books on the silent auction at the Christmas lunch, real bargains. She said there is already a copy of each in the library so maybe 5 members would like to own one. See you there.



### ANNOUNCEMENTS

The MGSCV Gem and Mineral show will be held March 4, 5 & 6, 2016. Mark your calendars. All club members are required

to donate at least 4 hours of time to work the show. The 2016 show will be held at the Newark Pavilion again. The same weekend as MGSCV has its show, the Bay Area Faceters will be holding a Faceters Frolic at the Math-Science Nucleus in Fremont. This additional venue will offer to the public Dealers, Vendors, Presentations, and Education.

Every member of the club is on the Publicity Committee. Show flyers are available at the shop to pass out. Spread the word about our show. Encourage all to attend. MGSCV's purpose is to educate the public. We have much to offer. Attend the Show Committee meetings. Your help - suggestions - criticism is welcome.

Our annual show is the club's main source of income. Besides donating your hours during the show, help is also needed during the week before to set up the show and to take down the show on Sunday evening. Do not shy away from this responsibility. This is a big event for a small membership.



### SHOW SCHEDULES

#### MOJAVE DESERT GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

Barstow, Ca

Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>; 10-5pm daily

Cora Harper Community Center

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841 S. Barstow Rd.

Danny Watts 760-373-1309

[dwatts@msn.com](mailto:dwatts@msn.com)

[www.mdgms.net](http://www.mdgms.net)

### EL CAJON VALLEY GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY

Lakeside, Ca.

Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>; Sat.9-5, Sun. 9-4pm

Lakeside Rodeo Grounds

12584 Maple View St.

Mary Ness 619-449-0759

[ecvgms@gmail.com](mailto:ecvgms@gmail.com)

### ORANGE BELT MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY

Rialto, Ca

Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup>; 9-dusk daily

Across from Rialto City Hall

105 S. Palm Ave

Jessica Pierson 909-381-0089

<http://obmsrocks.yolasite.com>

### FIELD TRIPS CO-OP

### STOCKTON LAPIDARY & MINERAL CLUB

Panoche Hills , Ca for Jasper, Agate, Jade, Serpentine, Blue G, and Chocolate Magnesite

Phyllis Kyle, [boomakyle@yahoo.com](mailto:boomakyle@yahoo.com).

### CALAVERAS GMS

Coaldale, Nv for Moss Agate, Agates, Jaspers, Petrified Wood

Robert Young cell- 530-545-0932, home- 209-728-8454 [ryoung1738@aol.com](mailto:ryoung1738@aol.com)



### GEM OF THE MONTH

This month we have a retread as gem of the month. He was born in York Nebraska and went to high school in Lincoln. He made his way to California and became a computer programmer. On the 23rd of this month he and his wife celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at dinner in San Francisco. He and his wife have 2 children and 4 grand children.

Our gem liked to pick up rocks but soon wondered what to do with them. Someone told him he might get some ideas if he joined the Mineral and Gem Society of Castro Valley and he did. But he did not stick around very long. Too busy commuting to work and too busy at work. Two years ago he rejoined us. He likes Jasper and Agate the most and back during his first membership he enjoyed making cabs. Now he likes to make free forms and letting his tumbler put the polish on them. His wife is not fond of jewelry but she enjoys our meetings. Our gem has done lots of

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traveling. They liked to rent a car and wander around Europe. They also have had lots of fun cruising and have traveled by boat from Amsterdam to Budapest; from St. Petersburg to Moscow; a cruise in China ending in Hong Kong. They also have enjoyed several cruises on the Delta Queen and Mississippi River. The Delta Queen no longer cruises but other paddle boats still cruise our rivers. Last year they crossed the Panama Canal. Their next trip? Haven't decided yet. Australia is on the list. I forgot to ask if they made it to Alaska. I guess they cut back on auto trips when they discovered you don't have to pack and unpack on a cruise.

Who is our gem this month? **Chuck Meyers**



### BRAD SMITH BENCH TIPS

#### FOREDOM STAND

A quick and easy way to suspend a flexshaft over your jewelry bench is to use some steel pipe components from your local hardware store. It attaches with a couple screws and only costs about \$10 I use 1/2 inch galvanized pipe and fittings. To build a stand that attaches to the top of your bench, all you'll need is a flange and a thirty inch length of the pipe. If you prefer a stand that attaches to the side of your bench, you'll need a little longer pipe, three foot, a flange, and a 90 degree "street elle".

Finally, make a hook that goes into the top of the pipe to hang the motor from. You can use heavy coat hanger wire or 1/8 steel rod from the hardware store.

#### BROKEN DRILLS

Have you ever broken a drill bit off in a hole? Sometimes you can grab it with pliers, but other times the steel piece is below the surface in the hole. If this happens, a quick fix is to dissolve the steel in a solution of alum or fresh pickle. The solution will not affect your silver or gold piece.

Alum is typically available from a food store. It's used to preserve some foods. Use about a tablespoon per cup of warm water. Submerge your piece so that the partially drilled hole is facing up to let the bubbles float free and not block the hole.

Please include the following attribution with each publica

"Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" and "Broom Casting for Creative Jewelry" are available on Amazon.





## KIDS KORNER

The International Gem and Jewelry Show  
**Rebirth**

By: **Isabelle Bennette, 11 years old**

The last time, I went to the club, **Mark**, my mentor, showed me pieces of fossilized dinosaur bones that had been polished. Unlike the plain white and gray dinosaur bones that I had seen on school field trips to museums, these bones looked amazing. The polishing process allowed you to see the small, red blood cells, frozen in place. Even though millions of years had passed, the blood cells retained their dark red color. They looked like tiny little strands of webs all connected together, branching off in different directions. The process of polishing made the bones into pieces of artwork.

Fossilization is a very long and confusing process. For an object or decaying organism to fossilize, the circumstances have to be precise. The most common fossilization process is called permineralization. Water seeps into the bones of a decayed animal and forms crystals. This happens after the organism's tissue has completely decayed. These newly-formed crystals cause the bone to harden with the sediment surrounding it.

Most fossilized bone can be made into rings, pendants, watch dials, or brooches. In The South China Morning Post article "Creative Jewelry Makers Turn to Ancient, Fossilized Materials," the author describes how world famous jewelers are using fossilized dinosaur bones in their creations. Robert Tateossian, a British jewelry designer, has created cufflinks which are made of dinosaur bone framed with gold. Famous designer Monique Péan adds gold and jade to fossilized walrus and mammoth ivory to enhance the natural color of the bones. Fossilized mammoth and walrus teeth are also used to make rings by other designers.

Unlike the stones we use in most of our jewelry making, fossils were once living, breathing organisms. A fossilized bone could have been part of a woolly mammoth or an ancient walrus or some other extinct creature who lived hundreds of millions of years ago. I hope one day that I will be able to have the chance to work with a fossil and create a piece of jewelry that will live for millions of more years to come.



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**Shop Schedule**  
**(All shop session's members only)**

**MAP**

- 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.  
 5:30 - 8:00 PM Lapidary
- Thursday** 10:00AM to 1:00 PM, Lapidary  
 7PM to 9 PM, Lapidary
- Friday** 9-1 PM Lapidary, Faceting (experienced only)
- Saturday** 9AM to 3PM, Faceting Class 9-12, Juniors,  
 w/supervisor's approval, lapidary  
 Library open 10AM to noon.
- Sunday** 9:30AM to 12:30PM, Lapidary



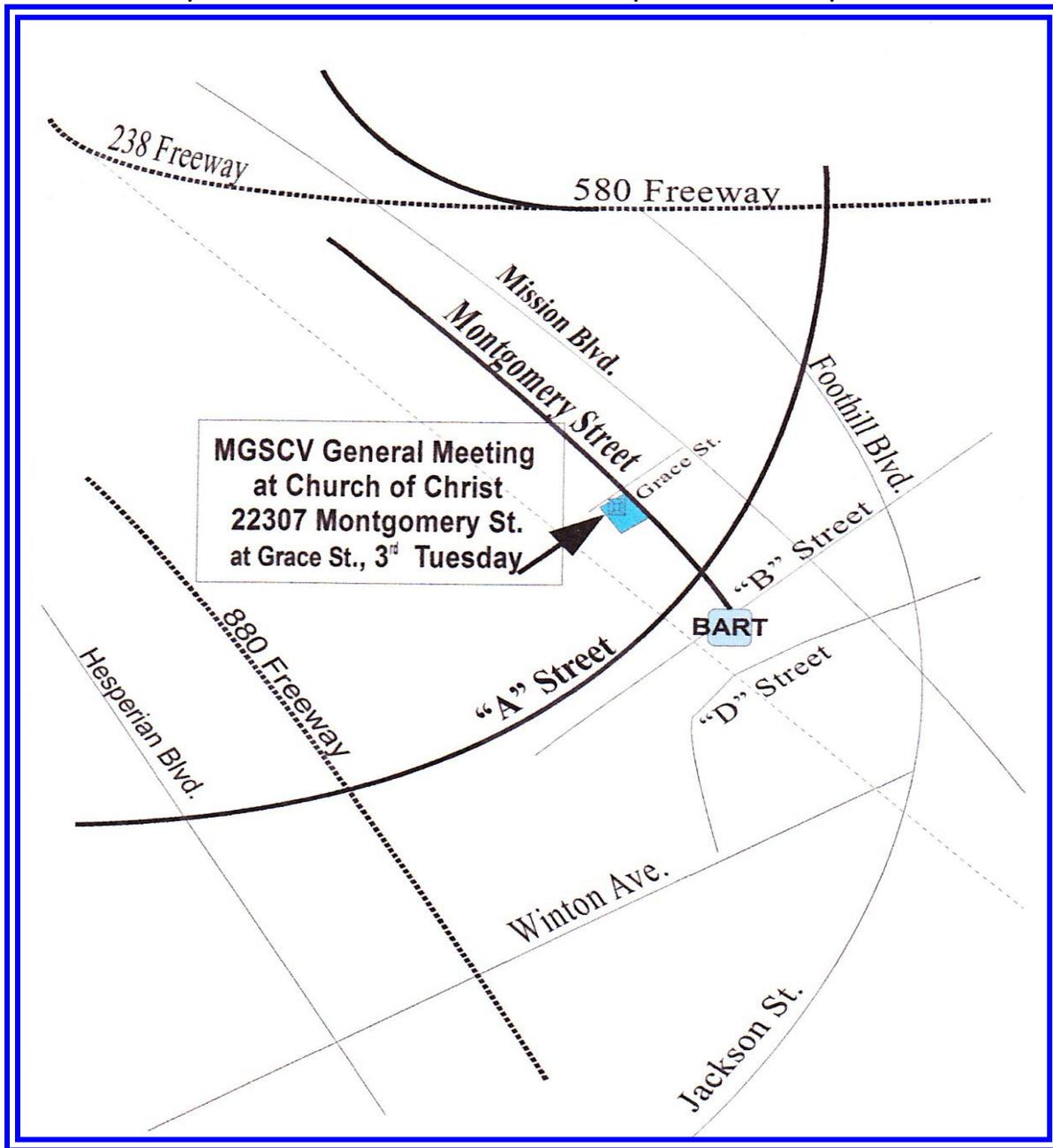
**SHOP NOTICES:**

Email us at [info@mgs](mailto:info@mgs)



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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.**

# MGSCV Petrograph December 2015

## Monthly Bulletin of the Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley, inc. Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley (MGSCV) Membership Application and Information



Membership is good for one calendar year from January 1st through December 31st. Please fill out and sign the application. Mail the completed form, a check for the dues **payable to MGSCV**, and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to - **MGSCV, Attn: Membership Chair, P.O. Box 2145, Castro Valley, CA 94546.**

Your membership is active upon receipt of your check and application. It will be processed and membership cards will be mailed to you within 4 weeks. Your email will be added to the list for the Petrograph, our newsletter. Your name will be added to the roster in the lobby at the workshop and in the drawing at the general meetings for cash prizes, if present.

We are a non-profit club whose sole purpose is the education of lapidary arts and geological sciences for all who are interested. **No products produced in the shop can be sold for profit.** All members should have or be familiar with the MGSCV Handbook. A copy is available for review in the club's lobby or one can be emailed to you by sending a request to [info@mgscv.org](mailto:info@mgscv.org).

Before any member may operate any equipment or take any class they must have completed an orientation and their first cabochon. **To schedule an orientation send an email to [WorkShopManager@mgscv.org](mailto:WorkShopManager@mgscv.org) with your name, phone number, and a good time to call you.** During the orientation you will learn about the club and get a tour of the workshop. Monday evenings are reserved for beginners only.

Membership dues cover less than 10% of our annual operating costs. It is our annual show that funds the club, workshop and all activities. **A requirement of membership is that every member must work at the show for a minimum of 4 hours.** The show is always held the first full weekend of March, so mark your calendars. The show is fun to work and is the reason we have the best workshop/club in Northern California. Shop services such as rock sawing, casting, special classes (faceting, wire wrap, metal work, etc...) will not be available to members who do not work at the show.

Membership Chairperson LOOK FOR THE NEW PRICES FOR 2016 IN THIS ISSUE UNDER GENERAL MEETING

Type of Membership(s): (check all that apply)       new membership       renewal membership  
 Single - \$35     Couple - \$60     Junior (11-17 with adult) - \$1     Junior (11-17 without adult) - \$5  
 Associate - \$17.50 (former member living more than 100 miles away)     Lifetime (voted in by the board)

After July 1st all new membership dues are half (½)

Name(s) (Please print all the names.)

Adults: \_\_\_\_\_

Juniors: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(Our monthly newsletter, the Petrograph, will be emailed to this address.)

Occupational Skills: \_\_\_\_\_

(Sometimes we are in need of advice and/or help in regards to electrical, plumbing, mechanical, clerical or other skills.)

Confidentiality: (check all that apply)

I do not want my address printed in the roster at the shop.

I do not want my phone number printed in the roster at the shop.

I do not want my email address printed in the roster at the shop. I agree with the By-laws and rules of the Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley (MGSCV).

Members Signatures: \_\_\_\_\_