



Club Notes



General Meeting: Feb.16th 2016 7:30 PM at the Church of Christ. Those with the last with U-Z, please bring finger foods to the meeting. Unless otherwise stated General Meetings are the third 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 January 8th Board Meeting at the shop 7p.m.

Next Show Meeting: Thursday February 4th at 7p.m. at the shop



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MGSCV Petrograph February 2016
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	President@mgscv.org	
Vice President - Mike Cox	VP@mgscv.org	
Secretary - Sheryl Cooper	Secretary@mgscv.org	(510) 589-8858
Treasurer - Betty Milam	Treasurer@mgscv.org	
1 st Year Director - Michelle Bennette	Director1@mgscv.org	
2 nd Year Director - Jodi Minshall	Director2@mgscv.org	
3 rd Year Director - Norm Hodgson	Director3@mgscv.org	
Federation Director - Mike Mc Bride	Federation@mgscv.org	
Shop Manager - Beth Farmer	ShopManager@mgscv.org	
2014 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	925-348-3000
Past President - Ron Miller	pastpresident@mgscv.org	

Appointed

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

webmaster@MGSCV.org



Publication Staff



✧Contributors: Shirley Buschke, Betty Milam, Sheryl Cooper, Mike McBride, Beth Farmer

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BOARD MEETING

Submitted by **Sheryl Cooper**

January 11, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm. In attendance were **Bonnie Andrade, Betty Milam, Sheryl Cooper, Mike McBride, Norm Hodgson, Cathy Miller, Beth Farmer and Michelle Bennette**

Minutes: **Norm Hodgson** moved to accept the December board minutes as printed in the Petrograph. **Mike McBride** seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Treasurer: We looked over the December treasurer reports by **Betty Milam**. **Sheryl Cooper** moved to accept the reports as presented. **Beth Farmer** seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Federation: **Peggy Lew** is back from Camp Paradise for those who ever wanted to know what happens there. **Mike McBride** has information for CFMS scholarships and field trips. There is also information in the binders at the shop.

Shop: The place is filthy and people are not cleaning up after themselves. **Beth Farmer** says there are no saws out of commission. The shop is now also open Sunday afternoon from 1:00 - 4:00 pm and also Tuesday afternoon from 11:00 - 4:00 thanks to **Peggy Lew**. The saws need to be cleaned out. Anyone willing to help can contact **Beth Farmer**.

Show: **Cathy Miller** says there is nothing to report now but reminded us that the Pavilion Board elections are in January.

Membership: Applications are coming in and being processed.

Scholarship: **Mary Howell** has decided to step down from organizing the scholarships with CSU East Bay. Anyone willing to take over can contact **Mary Howell** or **Betty Milam**? We have a contact and they find the students. We just remind them that the presentation is in February.

New Business: **Arland and Marjorie Stokes** are moving and their son is working with club members to hold an estate sale in a few months. There will be equipment and rock for sale. Look for more information at the shop and in the Petrograph.

Old Business: We continued discussion on becoming a 501c3.

Announcement: The March board meeting has been moved to March 14th and the general meeting will still be on March 15th.

Our 2016 show is listed in the Fremont Focus Calendar of Cultural Events a publication of the Fremont Cultural Arts Council (FCAC), the next board meeting will be February 8, 2016

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Submitted by **Sheryl Cooper**

GENERAL MEETING

January 19, 2016

Bonnie Andrade called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm. There are 23 members present.

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Minutes: **Jodi Minshall** moved to accept the December minutes as printed in the Petrograph. **Mark Montgomery** seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Federation: Nothing to report at this time. Happy New Year!

Show: **Cathy Miller** tells us we are now 7 weeks away from setting up our 2016 show. Show opens on Friday, March 4th at 9:00 am for the school tours and 10:00 am for the general public. Dealers start setting up Thursday, March 3rd at noon. We start Monday, February 29th at 9:00 am setting up. Monday and Wednesday are the busiest days for setting up. Don't forget to bring your gloves and electric screwdrivers. **Jim Ewing** can no longer climb up and down the ladder to plug the electrical cables into and out of the ceiling. The raffle tickets are printed and ready for members to sell. **Sheryl Cooper** is wearing the pendent tonight. The tickets are \$1 each and bundled into packets of 20 tickets for \$20. The magnetic signs for your vehicle are available at the shop. The signup book is available tonight and kept at the shop. The next show meeting is Thursday, February 4th at 7:00 pm at the shop.

Scholarship: The Earth Science Department at CSU East Bay picks two deserving students each year to receive scholarship money from MGSCV. At the February meeting we present the money to the students and they tell us about themselves and their plans. Someone from the department also gives a presentation.

Editor: Reminder kids can write articles also. Submit all articles to editor@mgscv.org

Membership: We ended 2015 with 174 members. I have received 22 membership applications for 2016 and given an envelope with some more tonight.

Reminder - We increased the membership dues. Membership without shop privileges will stay at \$35 per person and \$60 per couple and receive white membership cards. Membership with shop privileges for 2016 went 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 went from \$5 to \$10.

Juniors: **Mark Montgomery** is not working with any at the moment.

Education: **Shirley Buschke** tells us there are no serious requests for classes right now. **Lee Chavez** isn't feeling well right now but will hold an advanced soldering class later. **Beth Farmer** will work with beginners in soldering. **Ed Rigor** is willing to do a lost wax class.

Sunshine: Neither **Arland** nor **Marjorie Stokes** are doing very well and have moved to St. Regis in Hayward for anyone wanting to visit them. **Beth Farmer**, **Mike McBride** and **Norm Hodgson** are working with their son to hold an estate sale later this year.

Shortly after our December meeting, **John Caudill** had a stroke and will be in the hospital for some time. He just started talking again two days ago.

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New Business: The 2016 Budget was prepared by **Betty Milam** and discussed. **Jodi Minshall** moved to accept the 2016 budget as proposed. **Cathy Miller** seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. A copy will be emailed to all members. If there are no majority objections the budget it will stand.

We need a new person to handle the casting room. See **Jim Ewing** if you are interested.

Money Drawing: The name drawn tonight for \$105 is **Betty Milam**. Congratulations **Betty!** At the February meeting the amount starts over at \$100

Ticket Drawing: **Doc Buschke, Shirley Buschke, Greg Ordonez, Stephen Caudill-Merida, Jodi Minshall, Mark Montgomery, George, Kozakura, Stephen Caudill-Merida, Sheryl Cooper, Larry Pytlik, Luke ?, Lily Pate, Danny ?, Cathy Miller, Lily Pate, Pete Bergeron and Katrina Ordonez**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CFMS NEWS - Anyone interested in CFMS scholarships, Camp Zzyzx or Camp Paradise please contact Mike McBride, e-mail Federation@mgscv.org or phone/message 510/456-5252.

SHOW VOLUNTEERS - Now is the time to meet your obligation to the club and show your support. The sign-up logbook is in the shop and at the General Meetings. If you have not signed up in the logbook you will soon get a volunteer form in the mail. Please return this form to the club ASAP to help us plan the operation of the show. Four

hours is a minimum. Some club members work all year on the show. Some work all week of the show. Now is the time to give back.

The MGSCV Gem and Mineral show will be held March 4, 5 & 6, 2016. Mark your calander.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm after the silent auction wrapped up.

The next general meeting will be on February 16, 2015.



ROCK RUMBLES 2016

By Shirley Buschke

We are so happy when members donate to our club, whether it is 3 cents to round off the cost of coffee or if it is a donation for "Doc;s" shop. Every penny counts. Recently we received an anonymous donation that we could not believe. And the check did not bounce. This couple has enjoyed the use of the shop and the many friendships they made here. **A GREAT BIG** thank you to them.

Caster **Jim Ewing** needs help. His hip is acting up so he has trouble standing. This is necessary for casting. So, please, he needs an apprentice.

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Did you buy or sell your raffle tickets? The proceeds go to the Cal State scholarship. This year we are adding a special treat. There will be two prizes and therefore 2 winners. We will have our special Ethiopian opal pendant and in addition a carved opal piece set in gold -- both of high value.

Thanks to **Norm Hodgson** and **Ed Rigor** for pricing at retail value our auction items. The public is really getting a deal on our auction items. I bet few of you know Norm, is a certified appraiser. He knows his stuff.

Two nice Christmas cards were on the lobby desk wishing the members a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. One was from **Cheryl Gullak** and the other from the Newark Pavilion, and a note from **Evelyn Gillespy**. Her husband used to be our gold plater and caster. It is so nice to hear from our friends. Also received treats from our landlord.

A new form of carbon has been discovered. So what does that have to do with the lapidary industry? It seems it glows in the dark and is stronger than a diamond. It is called Q- carbon. Its properties make it ideal for many applications from electronic displays to abrasive coatings on instruments and tools to biomedical sensors. It may also offer a quick inexpensive easy way to manufacture diamonds. Scientists from North Carolina State zapped carbon with a laser, then let it melt. As it cooled, it became a new material. Using it may be tricky.

Carlos Castillo found a way to simplify the task of inlays. He uses a piece of a Styrofoam cup to fit into the inlay spot, pulls it out and he then has a pattern for the inlay. We learn something every day.

Check out our display at the Fremont Library advertising our show. Display courtesy of **Doc Buschke**. Did anyone do the Castro Valley Library? That was **Jamie's** job.

Lee Chavez said he is ready to start teaching. Please contact me if you are interested. He said he would do a beginner's class, and to make a ring, for about \$20.

We need every one of you helping at the show, starting on Sunday and repacking after the show on the next Sunday. Work goes on all week. Show up about 9 AM during the week. This show's success means we have a shop. That generous donation mentioned above, helps, but does not keep the doors open



SHOW SCHEDULES

ANTIOCH GEM CLUB

Antioch, Ca

Feb. 20-21st; 10-5pm daily

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Contra Costa County fairgrounds, 1201 W.
10th st.

Brenda Miguel 925-301-6957

Brenda.miguel@yahoo.com

www.antiochlapidaryclub.com

VALLEJO GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

Vallejo, Ca

Feb. 27-28th; 10-5pm daily

Dan Wolke 707-334-2950

dncwolke@sbcglobal.net

[wApril 29th - www.vjgems.org](http://www.vjgems.org)

MINERAL & GEM SOCIETY OF CASTRO VALLEY

Newark, Ca

March 4-6th; Fri.& Sat. 10-6pm, Sun. 10-5pm

Newark Pavilion, 6430 Thornton ave

Cathy Miller 510-887-9007

www.mgscv.org

MOTHER LODE MINERAL SOCIETY, MODESTO

Turlock, Ca

March 12-13;10-5pm daily

Stanislaus County Fairgrounds,

900 N. Broadway

Bud & Terry McMillin 209-524-3494

Bud.mcmillin.b7yj@statefarm.com

www.turlockgemshow.com

CALAVERAS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

Angels Camp, Ca

March 26th-27th; Sat. 10-5pm. Sun. 10-4pm

Calaveras County Fairgrounds,

101 Frogtown Rd.

Robin Williams 209-728-8277

robinski@yahoo.com

www.calaverasgemandmineral.org

ROSEVILLE ROCK ROLLERS

Roseville, Ca

March 26-27th; Sat. 10-5 & Sun. 10-4pm

Roseville(Placer County) fairgrounds

800 All America City Blvd.

Gloria Marie 916-216-1114

gloriarosevillerockrollers@gmail.com

www.rockrollers@gmail.com



GEM OF THE MONTH

Feb 2016

He loves petrified wood, if you belong to the MGSCV of course you love petrified wood.

Our gem this month was born in Watford City, North Dakota. He attended South Dakota School of Mines so naturally he became a Metallist Engineer. He has a wife and two children, a son that is a college freshman at UC Davis and his daughter is a

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freshman in high School. Our gem found us on the internet. He said he checked out Antioch and ours. I think the big saw to cut petrified wood sold him on us. Our gem lives in San Ramon. His career through the years has been extensive, a consultant for 17 years, work with the state of Montana on regulations and for the past ten years he has worked on environmental affairs for chevron in San Ramon.

To date he has been working on cabochons, discovered that his favorite piece of petrified wood had lots of cracks when he cut his first slab. He also has a collection of Australian opals he hopes to work on soon. He should check with our opal expert, **Ed Rigor**. He said he plans to do so soon.

So—who is our gem this month? **Pete Bergeron**. He is usually at the shop on Saturdays.

BRAD SMITH BENCH TIPS

SHARP KNIVES FOR CUTTING MOLDS

Cutting molds is easier and more precise with a sharp blade. A new Xacto blade is sufficient for cutting RTV molds but is usually not sharp enough for vulcanized rubber. For that it's best to use scalpel blades available from most jewelry supply companies.

The #11 blade is triangle shaped, and the #12 is hawksbill shaped. I find the hawksbill is particularly nice for cutting the registration keys of the mold.



USE YOUR THUMB

When using multiple bits in a Foredom, we often have to deal with several different shaft sizes - the usual 3/32 inch burs, the larger 1/8 inch shafts sizes and of course the many different sizes of drills. For some reason I really dislike having to turn the key multiple times to open or close the jaws of the handpiece chuck.

So I have two ways to speed up that task. For opening up the jaws, I just remember "four" the number of turns I have to make to open the chuck just enough from the 3/32 bur shaft size to the larger 1/8 bur shaft size.

For closing the jaws around a smaller shaft, there's a neat trick. Hold the new bit in the center of the open jaws of the chuck, put your thumb lightly onto the outer toothed collar of the chuck, and gently start up the Foredom. As the chuck turns, it will naturally tighten the jaws around the bur shaft or the drill bit. Then all you have to do is a final tightening with the key.



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By the way, we editors do a lot of writing and often never realize how many people are reading and appreciating the effort. Today I was surprised by some feedback.

Way back in 2007, I wrote an article for the inaugural issue of Interweave's Jewelry Artist magazine about broom casting. Last year, a portion of it was reprinted in the company's huge Jewelry Making Daily blog. That was definitely neat, but yesterday I was blown away by their announcement.

My post was named the most popular one of 2015, eight years after the original. Who would have guessed that so many people get a kick out of pouring molten silver into a floor broom. My book on the entire process is available on Amazon at <http://amzn.to/1Z6hYws>

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

SHOP TUTORIAL

By Beth Farmer, Shop Manager

Wax work in the workshop.

We have a complete lost wax casting system in our shop. You can buy wax in all the forms (carving, sprue, sticky wax, casting wax in stick form and pre shaped) by the each piece (no need to buy a box full when you only need a few pieces) from Docs store.

You can make your own rubber casting molds if you want to copy a piece you have already. Doc sells the raw materials, and the few items you need to make a proper mold.

The shop has a wax injector, and a vulcanizer for making molds. Just ask for instructions, and read the flyer that comes with the raw rubber.

There is a library of rubber molds in a marked cabinet on the second floor. The molds are matched by number and letters to a catalog of wax examples. Please don't take the example, but you are welcomed to make as many copies of waxes you need!

There is a locker (marked on the door) in the shop that has wax tools to help you make sized rings, and wax pens for intricate patterns. Just ask the Shop Supervisor for the key.

Once you have your wax item, prepare the casting thimble as instructed by many other members (ask around, it only takes a few minutes to learn how to set up your wax pattern for a successful casting)! Be sure to label with your name.

Weigh your pattern and use the conversion charts to determine how much metal (sterling and yellow gold only) you need to send to the caster. This will be locked up until casting is completed. Don't forget to enter your name, and pay the nominal fee while depositing your thimble in the blue cabinet! Now look forward to finishing your cast mounting!

We need to train a new Caster! Jim Ewing

FEBRUARY BIRTHSTONE

Amethyst, the gemstone believed by ancient Greeks and Romans to ward off the intoxicating powers of Bacchus, also is said to keep the wearer clear-headed and quick-witted. Throughout history, the gemstone

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has been associated with many myths, legends, religions, and numerous cultures. English regalia were even decorated with amethysts during the Middle Ages to symbolize royalty. It has been associated with many myths, legends, religions, and numerous cultures. Amethyst is purple quartz, a beautiful blend of violet and red that can be found in every corner of the earth. Historically, the finest amethyst was found in Russia and was featured in much royal European jewelry. Today, while Brazil is the primary source of this gemstone, fine material can be found elsewhere, especially in Zambia. (Reprinted from the American Gem Society website)

Amethyst Crystal



Amethyst Stalactite eye



A faceted Amethyst



Perhaps our club faceters could try and duplicate these cuts

Roseville Rock Rollers www.rockrollers.com

TAILGATOR ROCK SWAP

SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2016
9:00 AM - 2:30 PM at the Lapidary Shop
Placer County Fairgrounds

Come to buy, trade, swap, & show
Equipment, rocks & rock related items,
Lapidary, fossils, crystals
Meteorites, turquoise,
Rock art, gems, jewelry 

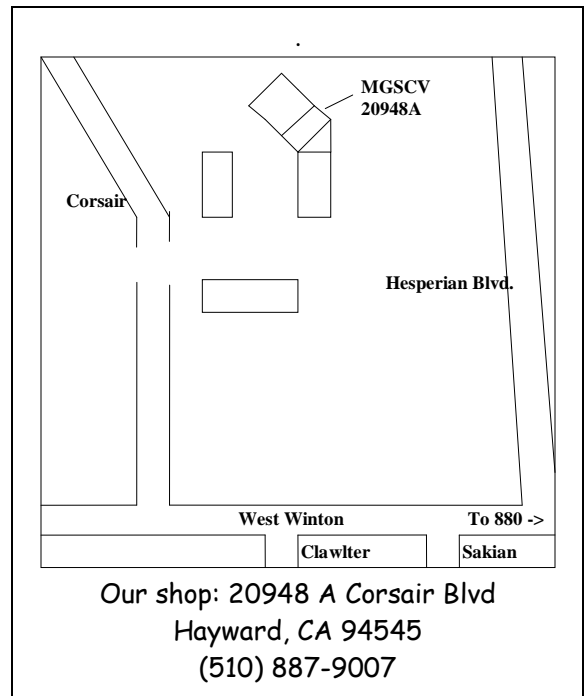
KIDS & FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENT! Free admission to public
Rocks sold BY THE POUND in our large ROCK PILE !



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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

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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.

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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

at the shop 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.

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 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

Type of Membership(s): _____ new membership _____ renewal membership _____ Lifetime (voted in by the board)

* With Shop privileges Junior Membership NO Shop Privileges

_____ Single - \$45 _____ Junior (11-17 with adult) - \$1 _____ Single - \$35

_____ Couple - \$80 _____ Junior (11-17 without adult) - \$5 _____ Couple - \$60

After July 1st all new membership dues are half (1/2)

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 _____ phone _____ email printed in the roster at the shop.

I agree with the By-laws and rules of the Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley (MGSCV).

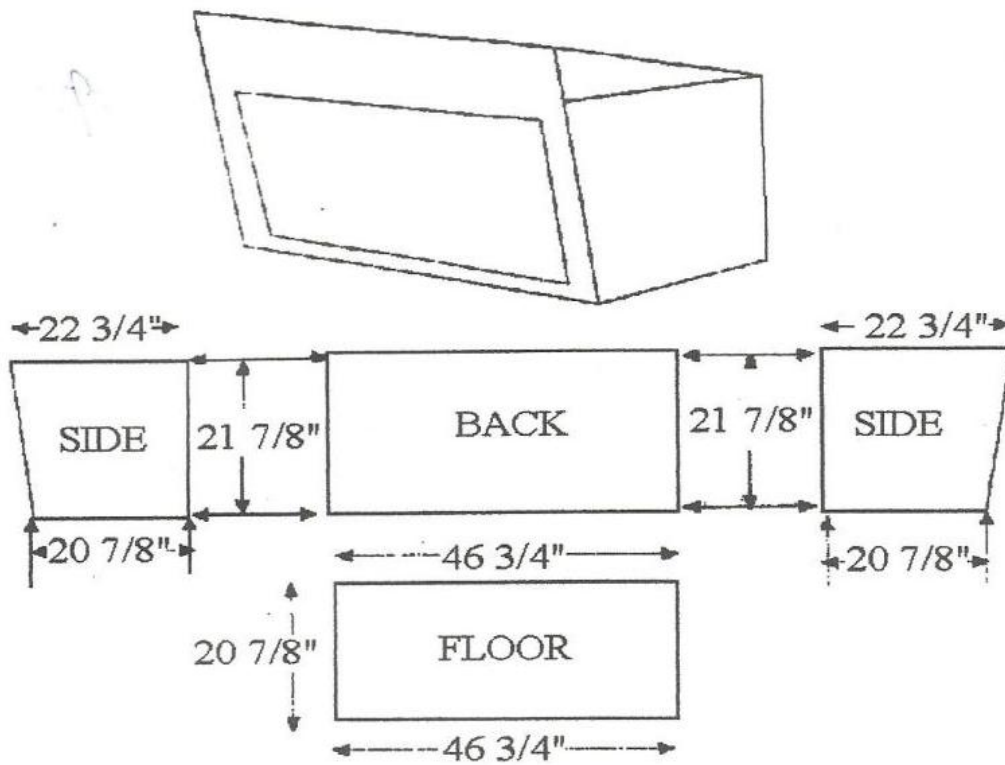
Members Signatures: _____

Mail to – MGSCV, Attn: Membership Chair, P.O. Box 2145, Castro Valley, CA 94546

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For those of you that are interested in putting in a display case at our show, call Norm Hodgson at 510-744-1564. You must set the case up on Thursday afternoon or early evening. The dimensions for the case are below. Following on the next page is the application for a case to be turned into Norm Hodgson

CLUB SHOW CASE



Dimensions Shown are Inside Dimensions

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An Invitation to Members & Friends of MGSCV
SHOW EXHIBIT APPLICATION

Business cards or mention of personal businesses are not acceptable for display in any case at the show

Your

Name: _____

Your

Address: _____

City: _____

Phone Number: _____

Member of _____

I will exhibit _____ cases _____

Please indicate whether you will be entering this case in competition.

Exhibit only _____ Competition _____

I have a case. _____ Slant front _____ Upright _____ Dimensions
H _____ W _____ D _____

Or; I want to borrow a club case (4ft.) Upright, no liners or risers)

Describe contents to be exhibited (carvings, fossils, jewelry & minerals etc) _____

24 hour security will be provided: however MGSCV assumes no responsibility for any loss or damage to exhibitor's property. This form must be on file for all exhibitors for each individual each year.

Your co-operation in returning this form AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, indicating whether or not you will exhibit, will be greatly appreciated.

Please return this form to the address below.

Norm Hodgson

P.O. Box 2665, Fremont, Ca 94536

If you have any questions call Norm directly: 510-744-1564