

# The Rock Bag

September 2010 Volume 48 Issue 8

**Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society**  
**Oxnard, California**



M. Tetreault

OGMS Editor

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**Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society**

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**Web address: [www.oxnardgem.com](http://www.oxnardgem.com)**

The Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society is a non-profit organization formed to increase our knowledge in geology, mineralogy and other such related fields in the earth sciences. We classify, cut, grind and polish rocks and minerals for our personal collections and to display at club shows. We learn from each other through club speakers, programs and monthly fieldtrips. We co-operate with other clubs to encourage others to participate in our activity.

The Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society is a member of the State of California Federation of Mineralogical Society and the National Federation of Mineralogical Society.

**Meeting held:** 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7:30 P.M. Potlucks: 6:30 P.M.  
**Place:** Performing Arts Center, 800 Hobson Way, Oxnard, CA (Thousand Oaks Room)  
**Dues:** \$15.00 per adult; \$2.00 per junior member (age 12 to 18 years)

**OGMS Officers for 2010**

President	Louisa Carey	<a href="mailto:big_L76@yahoo.com">big_L76@yahoo.com</a>	(503) 309-6147
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President (Programs)	Brett Johnson	<a href="mailto:bj9709@yahoo.com">bj9709@yahoo.com</a>	822-3836
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President (Show)	Norb Kinsler		644-6450
3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President (Field trips)	Ron Wise	<a href="mailto:clintwise@hotmail.com">clintwise@hotmail.com</a>	647-4393
Recording Secretary	Lee Leighton	<a href="mailto:ameritus@sbcglobal.net">ameritus@sbcglobal.net</a>	647-4594
Treasurer	Stephanie Hagiwara	<a href="mailto:purplehawk@hotmail.com">purplehawk@hotmail.com</a>	986-2006

**Appointed Standing Committee Chairs**

Corresponding Secretary	Louisa Carey	<a href="mailto:big_L76@yahoo.com">big_L76@yahoo.com</a>	(503) 309-6147
Displays/Exhibits	Brett Johnson	<a href="mailto:bj9709@yahoo.com">bj9709@yahoo.com</a>	822-3836
Editor	Miriam Tetreault	<a href="mailto:mtetreault@roadrunner.com">mtetreault@roadrunner.com</a>	642-5779
Education Director	Donna Knapton	<a href="mailto:dknaption@hotmail.com">dknaption@hotmail.com</a>	647-8762
Federation Director	Jim Brace-Thompson	<a href="mailto:jbraceth@roadrunner.com">jbraceth@roadrunner.com</a>	659-3577
Historian	Open		
Hospitality	Carol Drescher		
Librarian	Abe Bar-Shai		(818) 991-7735
Member at Large	Kay Hara	<a href="mailto:kharafdoc@aol.com">kharafdoc@aol.com</a>	W 525-5415, H 525-7634
Membership Secretary	Anne Lewis		485-6356
Public Relations	Norb Tackman	<a href="mailto:ntack@sbcglobal.net">ntack@sbcglobal.net</a>	647-2538
Parliamentarian	Lee Leighton	<a href="mailto:ameritus@sbcglobal.net">ameritus@sbcglobal.net</a>	647-4594
Refreshments	Laura Driskell	<a href="mailto:driskellmom@yahoo.com">driskellmom@yahoo.com</a>	485-2983
Sergeant at Arms	Larry Knapton	<a href="mailto:dknaption@hotmail.com">dknaption@hotmail.com</a>	647-8762
Ways & Means	Jean Wise		647-4393

**Classes:** Silversmithing & Casting: Nancy Bogart, Albert Rubio & Jean Smith  
Lapidary, Opal & Wirewrap: Kay Hara, Dan Gealy, Brett Johnson & Don Minster  
Location: Durley Park, 950 West Hill Street, Oxnard, CA 93030

**Editor:** All members are encouraged to offer an article of interest or any suggestions as to what their interests are and what they'd like to see in the Rock Bag. Remember it is your bulletin! Articles can be submitted by an e-mail attachment or in writing by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month. Thanks, Editor

## The Prez Sez...

Thank you everyone for a great Ventura County Fair and congratulations to all the ribbon and trophy winners. Our club did quite well, including a first place ribbon for the club's fluorite case. Sun! Finally! It has started to feel and look like summer around here. Even Jade Cove being a wonderful trip, was on the hazy side. But we have taken a turn for the better with the hot days, warm nights, good friends, and of course sparkling gems. I cannot wait to see that wall of rose quartz at Greenhorn Mt. shine. There is so much coming up. Saving the best for last, Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society's own Gem and Mineral fair will be the third week of November. Lots to do and volunteers are welcome and encouraged. I am aiming for the stars to make it the best show ever. Be there or be square. ~ Lousia, your prez

### SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

On Wed., September 1st, Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society Members will be Sponsoring a Silent Auction. This is open to everyone interested in getting something new to add to their collection and an opportunity for anyone wanting to get rid of some things from their collections. Everyone is requested to bring at least three items from their collections to donate to the Auction. We would like to see those extra minerals, spare cabochons, miscellaneous jewelry, assorted tools, various nonessential fossils, additional rough stones to be worked, surplus slabs ready for cabbing, and all other gems of plenty.

The General Meeting will start at 7:30pm in the Thousand Oaks room of the Oxnard Performing Arts Center on September 1st. After some brief announcements and guest greetings, the Auction will start at 7:45pm. Refreshments will be available all evening. This will be fun for all ages and a great way to start a collection for your junior rockhounds. Bring the kids and show them all about this exciting hobby. So, bring as many of your donations as you can carry and do not forget plenty of cash (small bills, please), because you never know what might be on the Auction tables that you can not live without. ~Brett VP-OGMS

**\*\*\* Welcome new member! Jennifer Flatten**

**\*\*\* Our thanks to Mary Pfeiler for her donation of wax molds for the silver classes. It's nice to know our former members keep us in mind. ~ Editor**

### Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society General Meeting Minutes August 4, 2010

**Call to order:** 7:30pm, Louisa Carey, presiding.

**Flag Salute:** led by Brett Johnson.

**Hospitality:** Louisa welcomed all present; 17 members and 3 guests. (Note: due to VC Fair, several members were absent.)

**Ways & Means:** Not present. Next month, raffle tickets will be available.

**PROGRAM:** Brett Johnson, "The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Rockhound". Brett showed us with a laptop how to use the Internet and a computer to check locales, conditions, permissions required, etc. Always check directions and closures before you leave on a trip. Brett took us through Google Maps, Ebay, ERocks, BLM (Bureau of Land Management) site, LARocks, which is a part of Yahoo! Groups, and our club website, [www.oxnardgem.com](http://www.oxnardgem.com).

**Break and refreshments:** Refreshments provided by Norb Kinsler, Jen Flatten, and Laura Driskell.

**MINUTES:** President asked for approval of last general meeting minutes as printed in the Rockbag. Norb Kinsler moved to approve, motion was seconded and carried.

**Treasurer report:** We are solvent.

**Correspondence report:** Info on back table for shows coming up, including Gem Shows in Santa Barbara and Nipomo.

**Old Business:** Tabled to next meeting.

**New Business:** Board meetings have centered on safety procedures in the classes. Instructors have discussed being certified in CPR and First Aid. Safety Data sheets will be provided for each class on materials used, solvents, fluids, etc. Documentation will be provided for any incidents or accidents, for insurance and City requirements.

**Business from the floor:** Discussion regarding serpentine, California's state rock, being removed by the State Senate, due to asbestos being present. Write your congressman or senator regarding your opinion.

**Officer and Chair reports:**

**1<sup>st</sup> VP – Programs** – September meeting will be member-sponsored Silent Auction. Hope to have Walt Wright speak on petrified wood for October meeting.

**2<sup>nd</sup> VP – Show** – Louisa gave show highlights for guests, duties of show chair and volunteers. Norb has put together a comprehensive plan for the layout of the November 2010 show, and lists for volunteers are ready for sign-ups. The show runs Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup> and Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, with set up starting at 9am Friday, 11/20. Posts are for security, refreshments, display, general store, books, plants, silent auction. Anne Lewis noted that she needs small plant pots for the plant store. Kay Hara needs gifts for raffle prizes.

**3<sup>rd</sup> VP – Field Trips** – Greenhorn Mountains, last weekend of August (Rose quartz). Camping available (dry camp), motor homes and tents. See information posted in RockBag.

**Federation** – Jim Brace-Thompson reports there is a write-in campaign regarding serpentine debate. Xxyzx class in November still has openings. Raffle for tickets to Camp Paradise 2011 will take place during the November show.

**Education** – Larry and Donna Knapton are at the Fairgrounds tonight. Brett Johnson states that the Education Committee and any other willing helpers are to gather at Larry and Donna's home, 1 p.m., Saturday, August 21, 2010, to assist with placing brass plaques, donated by API, inside each "Fossils" and "Earth Science" book that will be donated by OGMS to all schools in the Tri-County districts.

**Librarian** – President Carey states that the Board is looking into installing bookshelves in the cubby or getting a rolling bookshelf arrangement, so that the Librarian can work on checking out the selections without struggling to get them out of the closet.

**Editor** – Miriam is out of town, but Louisa reminds all to submit articles as they find them.

**Website** – We saw some the website tonight during the presentation and the webmaster encourages all to explore further. Our site won 2<sup>nd</sup> place at the Federation competition.

**Ways and Means** – Not present.

**Displays & Exhibits** – OGMS Club case won first prize at the VC Fair today. Brett will need to unlock the case in order to display the ribbon. On a side note, Kay Hara says he will be bringing our scholarship candidate to the meeting next month so the members can meet her. It was noted that there are openings for volunteers at the VC Fair, so call Laura Grayson or Louisa Carey to sign up.

**CLASSES: Silversmith** – Classes updating on website.

**Lapidary** – Adult - Class has room for a few more. Next class starts in September, 8 weeks long. Junior – Class starts on Labor Day, September 6<sup>th</sup>. This was an unfortunate schedule, but if people show up, the class will begin.

**Opal** – Class is continuing, there is no class this weekend, due to the Nipomo show.

**Wire-Wrap** – Classes updating on website.

**Enameling** – Starts again mid-September.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Refreshments next meeting: Jane Stowe and Louisa Carey.

Next general meeting: Wednesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, 7:30pm.

Next Board meeting: Wednesday, August 11, 7pm start for Show Meeting.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laura Driskell, Acting Recording Secretary

**Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**August 11, 2010**

**Present:** Brett Johnson, Laura Driskell, Norb Kinsler, Anne Lewis, Kay Hara, Miriam Tetreault, Louisa Carey, Stephanie Hagiwara, Jim Brace-Thompson.

**SHOW MEETING:** Chaired by Norb Kinsler. Called to order 7:10PM. Norb needs to know how many demonstrators will be invited to the education booth. Larry and Donna are at VC Fair, so Norb will call them. Stations at Gem Show are chaired already, for the most part. Norb commented that he put the volunteer sign-up sheets out on the table at the General Meeting, and only saw Kay looking them over. He will put them out again next month. Anne Lewis is growing plants, and reiterated her need for pots. Kay needs prizes for the raffle. Miriam stated that she will pick up the raffle tickets at the printer, and bring them for Kay to start selling. Laura Driskell asked if it would be possible to serve rotisserie or broasted chicken at the Friday night dinner, rather than deep-fried chicken, as it would be healthier and possibly cost less. There was discussion on the cost, how many servings per chicken, and possible vendors, such as Costco, Sam's Club, and El Pollo Loco, for chicken pieces. Laura will consult with Karen Bialobreski and Cynthia Baumgartner for their input. There being no further business to discuss, meeting adjourned at 7:24PM.

**BOARD MEETING:** Chaired by Louisa Carey. Called to order 7:25PM.

Request to approve Board Meeting Minutes for July, as printed in the RockBag. Stephanie Hagiwara motioned to approve, Kay Hara seconded, motion carried.

**Treasurer Report:** Deposits last month total \$360. Bills to be paid include \$16.23 for lapidary supplies, \$76.13 for welding machine knobs, and \$8 and change for a receipt book. Kay Hara motioned for approval to pay bills, Miriam seconded, motion carried. Stephanie brought Kay's attention to a check that had been written to refund a student for "Lapidary Journal" which is no longer carried by the club. Kay says he thinks he still has the check and will get it to the student.

**Membership:** Anne presented a new member application for Jennifer Flatten, who has attended several meetings as a guest of Louisa Carey, and who has always loved rocks. Laura Driskell motioned to approve Jennifer as a new member, Stephanie seconded, motion carried. Anne also questioned a notation in the minutes from July which stated that the club paid a certain amount for a member's subscription to "Gem & Mineral" magazine, which she thought was incorrect. After some discussion, the issue was finalized, as a one-time payment to clear up an underpayment.

**Education:** Brett reiterated the invitation from last week for Education Members and others to come to Donna and Larry's home on Saturday, August 21, at 1PM, to help place labels in the books to be donated to schools. Donna and Larry are also looking for helpers this Saturday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, to go to Boron and collect ulexite and other stones for the teacher's boxes at the Gem Show. Collection will be at the Visitor's Center.

**Library:** Louisa stated that she is still looking for the right type of bookcase to store the library in. She saw shelves at IKEA that are not expensive, but they are too tall. Jim said he has built shelves before, and could help with them. Norb has built shelves, and drew up a sketch, which he said he would make into a model for the next meeting. Louisa will continue shopping.

**Programs:** Brett reminds everyone that next month is the member-generated silent auction.

**Field Trips:** Greenhorn Mountain trip coming up August 27-29. October, Trona, & the Jade Cove Jade Festival.

**Federation:** Jim states there is still chat about the serpentine issue in the state senate. No new stone is to be selected for a state rock, which makes the resolution more likely to pass. The state is encouraging use of public lands, but closing or restricting access as well. Next two meetings, raffle tickets will be sold for Camp Paradise next year.

**Website:** Classes have been following their scheduled dates all year, except for Kay's wire-wrapping and junior lapidary classes which are scheduled to begin on Labor Day. Brett and Laura mentioned that an e-mail tree would be helpful to remind members about meeting times and programs, and pass information on in the event that the RockBag cannot cover it. Stephanie said she would look into the website generating reminders from its calendar, and Brett has the list of all members which he can generate reminders to. Also, invitations from Facebook are helpful.

**Hospitality / Refreshments:** Laura stated that the "kitty" has gotten somewhat full and asked what to do with the money. Stephanie stated that money left over at the end of the year, was to be used for refreshments for the Christmas potluck. Miriam turned over to Laura the money she has been collecting from the "kitty", to buy supplies for the refreshment cubby.

**Classes:** Instructors want to replace some grinding wheels that wear out rapidly, and the way the shop is laid out. Shelving needs to go in, and making machines and tables more mobile would be helpful. Louisa recommended that the Board meet at the classroom soon to work out the layout and other details. She gave Brett a notebook with Accident / Incident report forms, and safety readouts for the instructors. Stephanie asked for a copy of the Cab Safety Tips to post on the website.

**RockBag:** Needs more articles. Noted that all items for the November issue will be included in the October issue, as Miriam will be out of the country and unable to publish a separate issue. Get items in ASAP.

**Miscellaneous:** Anne presented Kay with some wax castings for silversmithing. These will not be re-usable, but

Kay said Albert (instructor) will probably enjoy making some castings from them. A letter of thanks will be sent to Mary Pfeiler, who donated them.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:31PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laura Driskell, Acting Recording Secretary

**Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society**

Invites you to display at our 2010 Galaxy of Gems Show

Our theme this year is "FLUORITE - The Most Colorful Mineral in the World", and the Show will be held on November 20th & 21st at the Oxnard Performing Arts Center (800 Hobson Way, Oxnard). Set-up times for your case will be Friday, Nov. 19th between 1:00 pm and 9:30 pm and on Saturday before 9:00 am. Camp space is available at no cost to exhibitors (sorry, no hook-ups). Society guards will be on duty around the clock for security and members will be on hand to assist you in loading / unloading or in any other way that will make your stay enjoyable. A complimentary dinner will be served to exhibitors at 6:00 pm on Friday.

We would be honored to have you take part in our Show and would appreciate hearing from you as soon as possible. Please fill out and return the below entry form to:

OGMS c/o Brett Johnson  
5138 Cobina Way  
Oxnard, CA. 93035  
or email your information to: bj9709@yahoo.com

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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TEL: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

I WILL EXHIBIT A TOTAL OF \_\_\_\_\_ CASES.  
I WISH TO BORROW \_\_\_\_\_ CLUB CASES. (OGMS CASES ARE 48"x24"x24")  
I HAVE \_\_\_\_\_ OF MY OWN CASES, WHICH ARE \_\_\_\_\_ " WIDE \_\_\_\_\_ " HIGH, & \_\_\_\_\_ " DEEP.  
MY OWN CASES WILL BE: UPRIGHT \_\_\_\_\_ FLAT \_\_\_\_\_  
A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF MY EXHIBITS: \_\_\_\_\_

CAMPING? \_\_\_\_\_ FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER? \_\_\_\_\_ HOW MANY IN YOUR PARTY? \_\_\_\_\_

**Minutes**  
**Of the Thirtieth Meeting of the Tri-County Educational Committee**  
**Purpose---**to create a set of rocks/minerals to present to each school in Ventura County wishing to have one, which would be useful in the classes related to earth sciences.  
June 8, 2010

1. The Minutes were amended- Brett and Mitty were reviewing websites, not Stephanie.

2. We reviewed Mission Statements and selected one by committee vote. Steve, Donna, and Brett read the statements that had been suggested. Brett's statement was accepted as the new Mission Statement.
3. Progress on Boxes- Larry's Report.
  - a. Progress is slow on the next 30 boxes. Wendy will talk after returning from Canada.
  - b. Rock Report: We need shale and conglomerate. Brett discussed small pebble size conglomerate near Ojai. The shale in boxes from Topanga is OK for 30 more boxes.
4. Boxes delivered to Simi Valley- Brett's Report
  - a. Brett has had some trouble delivering the boxes. 11 were delivered. Hillcrest hasn't called back yet. Conejo is the next big delivery coming up. Moorpark will be later. \$2000 from API now. \$2,450 in Dec. API is our sole provider.
5. Extra boxes or trays needed at the clubs?
  - a. 9 have been taken to Durley. 7 have been sold @ \$7.00. 19 are left to sell.
  - b. How much has been raised so far? Stephanie-
6. Stephanie's Financial Report
  - a. Rock Boxes- \$1517.21
  - b. Sage Monies- \$475.32
  - c. Books for Schools-
    - i. \$1992.54 is in the Education Acct.
    - ii. Our tax ID was discussed. A Fed ID was discussed for non-profit purposes. Our checks go to the Oxnard club. We need our own status. Research needs to be done on this.
7. Books for Schools 2010
  - a. API Funding Letter- 2011 prospects- Funded. API is our sole provider.
  - b. They want to know our needs.
  - c. Venoco Application - Withdrawn.
  - d. Volunteers to deliver books to schools. Patty retired. We are getting less co- operation from the County Superintendent of Schools. Individual deliveries to the schools help also. Stephanie volunteered to help also.
  - e. Work day schedule- A day is needed to sort, label, and stack books. The Borders book bags will be used.
8. Teacher Guide-
  - a. Brett's are done. Mitty's are to be done.
  - b. Checking for valid references is done
  - c. CD's in back-CD holders were discussed. The uses for CD's was also discussed.
9. County Fossil Boxes are coming together. The boxes were passed around to look at and ideas to make them better were discussed.
  - a. Boxes found and foam forms put in. Trimming the foam for the best presentation was discussed.
  - b. We still need Brittle Stars and a method to put labels in permanently.
10. We need to start on Practical Use Boxes. MMI has a lot of suggestions. Kits are needed.
  - a. Steve's report. Rocks available for incorporation into the boxes- Rock, finished products. Donna suggested multiple uses- minerals and products. Brett suggested a cluster of three.
  - b. Have posters and some of the outline. 2 posters from Venoco.
11. We need to start on school checks for boxes ASAP. As soon as school is out, box maintenance needs to be done. Occasionally this conflicts with summer school.
  - a. The Oxnard show will have packets like Jim's but on one subject-volcanoes.
  - b. Hopefully they will have the CD included.
  - c. USGS resources and new posters from Venoco.
12. A workday is needed in Mid-September. Volunteers are needed to take books.
13. The next meeting is on Sept 21<sup>st</sup>.

~ Lee Leighton, Recording Secretary

### Mineral Uses

Match the mineral names on the left with the uses on the right;

Gypsum	Used in sandpapers and grinding wheels.
Feldspar	Mostly used to make sulfuric acid which is used to make other important chemicals.
Halite	Used to make electrical wire and water pipes.
Mica	Crushed and added to paint, plastics and roofing materials.
Copper	Ingredient in plaster and cement.
Garnet	An important ingredient in glass, ceramics, fertilizer and papers.
Talc	A lubricant on machine parts so they can turn easily.
Graphite	Crushed into a powder and used to make baby powder.
Sulfur	A seasoning for food, used in soaps, source of the element chlorine, used in nuclear reactors and in mouthwash.

~Via Mini Miner 4/10

### 2011 – OGMS Members We need you!

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate ( x ) those areas in which you would be willing to serve and/or share your talents with the Club. All members are expected to serve in some capacity.

#### Elected Officers (Board Members)

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> President                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President (Programs) | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President (Show) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President (Field trips) | <input type="checkbox"/> Recording Secretary                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer                             |

#### Club Business Chairpersons

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corresponding Secretary | <input type="checkbox"/> Displays & Exhibits | <input type="checkbox"/> Education Director |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Federation Director     | <input type="checkbox"/> Librarian           | <input type="checkbox"/> Member at Large    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership Secretary    | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations    | <input type="checkbox"/> Parliamentarian    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Refreshments            | <input type="checkbox"/> Sergeant at Arms    | <input type="checkbox"/> Ways & Means       |

Please list any talents or ideas you may have that are related to our hobby and you would be willing to share or give a presentation on to the Club.

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Modified from Del Air 10/09

### Suggestions on Competitive Exhibiting By Jim Brace-Thompson

Having served as a judge the past few years at both the Ventura and Kern County Fairs and at this year's AFMS/CFMS show, I want to pass along suggestions to improve everyone's chances heading into next year's fair. Following are some of the pitfalls where most of the points seem to get deducted:

- **Appearances count.** "Showmanship" is a big aspect of a public display. You may have the rarest, best specimen in the world, but if it's poorly presented, you can lose as many as 10 to 25 points. In a display

case for a whole collection, give thought to a balanced layout, effective use of stands or risers, and liners that are free of smudges and wrinkles. If laying specimens out in rows, make sure the rows are straight, with specimens evenly spaced. If you have a couple large specimens along with many smaller ones, use the larger ones as “anchor pieces,” either to provide a central focal point in the middle back of the case, or at the edges, to “bracket” your smaller specimens. In entering an individual item, rather than rely on the ragged felt the fairgrounds offers, bring your own stand or background material that best highlights your specimen. If everyone else in your category is using fairgrounds felt, but you’ve taken the time to craft and bring your own stand, guess which item gets most points for showmanship...

- **Be selective.** If the category you’re entering calls for including 10 to 25 specimens, it’s best to aim for the lower number and to pick out your absolute best specimens rather than going for the highest number and mixing in a few mediocre specimens. A display with 10 stunning specimens is going to win over a display with 10 stunning specimens intermingled with 15 so-so specimens. *Give the judge as few opportunities as possible to get picky.* Also, having fewer specimens leads to a less crowded, less cluttered case and gives you more opportunities to get creative with showmanship.
- **Follow the rules** - particularly in regards to required info for labels, and make sure labels are accurate and neat and contain just the minimum info required. With collections, labeling is worth 5 points in lapidary categories but as many as 15 points in mineral and fossil collections, and it’s probably the one area where the most points get deducted. There are many reasons for this: required info wasn’t included, exhibitors didn’t do the homework to fully and accurately identify what they had, typos reared their ugly heads, or the labels were hand-written or cut jaggedly with scissors rather than printed with more-or-less uniform sizing and straight edges. It’s also best to use stiff cardstock rather than paper, which curls under hot lights in a display case. Also, look back to my previous point: Be selective. The fewer specimens you exhibit, the fewer labels you need to prepare and the fewer opportunities for errors or typos. *Again, always give the judges the fewest opportunities to get picky!*
- **Finally, practice before you compete!** Olympic athletes don’t just show up on the day of the race and win a gold medal. They practice, train, and participate in previous races before the big event. Start thinking today about what you’d like to enter in next year’s fair, then begin preparing a display and take it out for a trial spin at our local club shows. Put something together for our Oxnard show this November and at the show, ask friends for suggestions. Then put an improved version into the Ventura show in March. Repeat the process. Enter it into the Conejo show. Repeat the process. When it’s time for next year’s fair, you’ll have a spectacular display ready to go!

Start practicing with an exhibit for the Oxnard club show November 20-21. To enter a display there, contact Brett Johnson at (805) 822-3836 or [bj9709@yahoo.com](mailto:bj9709@yahoo.com).

## FEDERATION NEWS

### Camp Paradise Raffle to Support CFMS Endowment Fund

*The following is an adapted version of an article appeared in the CFMS Newsletter.*

Hi, everybody! It’s that time again! The CFMS Endowment Fund is once again raffling off spots for a week-long session at Camp Paradise for next year. Camp Paradise is an annual workshop sponsored by the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies where you can learn and practice all sorts of lapidary arts, from basic cabbing to faceting, wire-wrapping, stone carving, silversmithing, copper enameling, dichroic glass fusion, beading, and more. It typically takes place in mid-May in northern California at rustic Camp Paradise, about 50 miles east of Maryville. Rooms are assigned, with housekeeping the responsibility of each attendee and communal bathrooms and showers. RV space is also available. For further info, go to the CFMS web site, [www.cfmsinc.org](http://www.cfmsinc.org), and click on “Camp Paradise” on the left-hand menu bar. There will be two week-long sessions in 2011. One will run May 22-28; the other will run May 29-June 6.

Each raffle ticket is \$5, or you can get 5 for \$20. Any club that sells \$200 worth of tickets will be entered into a separate drawing for a second spot at Camp Paradise. (Note that the usual cost to attend a one-week Camp Paradise session is \$350 for an individual.) Last year, we didn’t have very many clubs entered in the

second drawing, so the odds were very good to win! Jim Brace-Thompson has a supply of tickets for any OGMS members wishing to purchase some. He'll have them at the next three club meetings, or you can call or email him with your request (805-659-3577, jbraceth@roadrunner.com). The deadline to purchase tickets is November 10. Jim will then take them to the annual CFMS Director's meeting later that month in Visalia, where the drawing will take place. So support your CFMS Endowment Fund, and get a chance to go to Paradise for practically free!!!

~Ray Quitoriano, Endowment Fund Chair, & CJ Quitoriano, CFMS Past-President

### Attention Rockhounds!

Are you aware that the *White House Conference on the Great Outdoors of April 16*, has resulted in our government creating an online conversation about conservation of America's Great Outdoors? People can vote on ideas, comments submitted. There seems to be off roaders and other groups represented but my search of the site reveals rockhounds have not joined the conversation! We need to get the word out and let our voice be heard.

The purpose of the America's Great Outdoors dialogue is to hear from the public about the places you love, your community's efforts to protect them, and how we can better support modern-day land conservation efforts happening in communities across the country. This discussion is based around the following key discussion questions:

- What are your ideas for helping Americans get outdoors and reconnect with the nation's land, water, wildlife, culture, and history?
- How can the United States better support the voluntary efforts of farmers, ranchers, and private landowners to conserve their land, water, and wildlife?
- Which open spaces, watersheds, historic or cultural sites, wildlife habitat, or **other public lands are most important to you, and what can be done at the local, state, or federal level to improve their management.**

Here is the link. <http://www.doi.gov/americasgreatoutdoors/Join-the-Conversation.cfm>

### H.R. 699: Hardrock Mining and Reclamation Act of 2009

To modify the requirements to locatable minerals on public lands, consistent with the principles of self-initiation of mining claims, and for other purposes.

January 27, 2009 Introduced

February 26, 2009 the bill has been referred to the following committees:

House Natural Resources, Subcommittee on

House Natural, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources – Hearings held

April 9, 2010 Still in committee

**Hardrock Mining and Reclamation Act of 2009** – Applies this Act to any mining claim, millsite claim, or tunnel site claim located under the general mining laws or used for beneficiation or mineral processing activities, regardless of whether legal and beneficial title to the mineral is held by the United States. Conditions federal issuance of a patent for any such mining or millsite claim upon specified determinations by the Secretary of the Interior. Subjects production of locatable minerals to a royalty of 8% of the gross income from mining. Imposes a 4% royalty upon federal lands subject to an existing permit, and specified royalties on certain federal land added to an existing operations permit. Prescribes a hardrock mining claim maintenance fee for each unpatented mining claim, mill, or tunnel site on federally owned lands. Designates certain wilderness study areas, areas of critical environmental concern, and related areas as not open to location of mining claims. Permits a state or local government or Indian tribe to petition the Secretary of the Interior for withdrawal of specific federal land from operation of the general mining laws in order to protect specific values. Instructs the Secretary of the Interior to ensure that mineral activities on federal land subject to a claim are carefully controlled to prevent undue degradation of public lands and resources. Prescribes requirements for the exploration permit process and for operations permits, including financial assurances. Requires restoration

of lands to a condition capable of supporting prior uses or other beneficial uses. Establishes the Locatable Minerals Fund composed of: (1) penalties, fees, and royalties; (2) the Hardrock Reclamation Account, and (3) the Hardrock Community Impact Assistance Account. Amends the National Materials and Minerals Policy, Research and Development Act of 1980 to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to initiate prompt actions to improve the availability and analysis of mineral data in the public land use decision –making with respect to National Forest System lands. Amends the Energy Policy Act of 1992 to subject certain oil shale claims to the reclamation requirements of the Act. Repeals the Building Stone Act and Saline Placer Act.

**Support**  
Earthworks

**Oppose**  
National Mining Association  
Northwest Mining Association

Rockhounds should oppose this legislation act because if passed it will make filing and maintaining small claims such as club, society or federations may have or trying to establish nearly impossible and if filing is allowed the filing fees will be expensive with recurring annual fees and royalty fees based on annual material removal.

**Via ALAA 4/10**

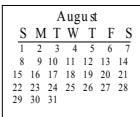

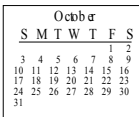
**HOW DO YOU MEASURE AN OUNCE OF GRIT?**

Use a standard measure teaspoon, fill with grit of any size (course, medium, or fine), scrape with a flat surface, such as a knife blade or ruler, so that the spoon is filled flat from rim to rim, and Voila! You have 1/4 ounce of grit in the spoon. In general, it takes eight (8) teaspoonfuls level for (an ounce of) polishing powder.

**Via Skagit Gems, 9/05; via the Rockcollector, 9/03; via Quarry Quips, 4/03; from The Show Me Geode, 2/03; BEMS Tumbler8/10; via Golden Spike G & M, 8/10**

**September 2010**

*Monthly Planner*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7:30 PM Club Meeting	2	3 6:30 PM Junior Lapidary starts	4 9:00 AM Opal Class 9:30 AM Wire wrap Class
5	6 Labor Day 	7	8 7:00 PM Show & Bd. Meeting	9	10 6:30 PM Junior Lapidary Class	11 9:00 AM Opal Class 9:30 AM Wire wrap Class
12	13 9:00 AM Silver Class starts	14 7:00 PM Silver Class starts	15 9:00 AM Silver Class starts	16	17 6:30 PM Junior Lapidary Class	18 9:00 AM Opal Class 9:30 AM Wire wrap Class
19	20 9:00 AM Silver Class	21 7:00 PM Silver Class	22 9:00 AM Silver Class	23 7:00 PM Adult Lapidary Class	24 6:30 PM Junior Lapidary Class	25 9:00 AM Opal Class 9:30 AM Wire wrap Class
26	27 9:00 AM Silver Class	28 7:00 PM Silver Class	29 9:00 AM Silver Class	30 7:00 PM Adult Lapidary Class		

## Upcoming Shows

### September 11-12 2010, Downey, CA

Delvers Gem & Mineral Society  
 Woman's Club of Downey  
 9813 Paramount Blvd.  
 Hours: Sat 10-6; Sun 10-4  
 Nancy Bird (562) 697-0636  
 Email: [nancyjbird@verizon.net](mailto:nancyjbird@verizon.net)  
 Guynell Miller (562) 633-0614  
 Email: [guynellallen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:guynellallen@sbcglobal.net)

### September 18-19 2010, Paso Robles, CA

Santa Lucia Rockhounds  
 Pioneer Park  
 2010 Riverside Drive  
 Hours: 10-5 Daily  
 Kim Patrick Noyes (805) 610-0603  
 Email: [kimnoyes@gmail.com](mailto:kimnoyes@gmail.com)  
 Website: <http://slrockounds.org>

### October 9-10 2010, Trona, CA

Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society  
 Searles Gem & Mineral Show Building  
 13337 Main Street  
 Hours: Sat; 7:30-5; Sun. 7:30-4  
 Jim & Bonnie Fairchild (760) 372-5356  
 Email: [iwvisp.com](mailto:iwvisp.com)  
 Website: [www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub](http://www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub)

### October 9-10 2010, Vista, CA

Vista Gem & Mineral Society  
 Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum  
 2040 N. Sante Fe Avenue  
 Hours: Sat; 20-5; Sun. 10-4  
 Fred Wilson (760) 433-8446  
 Lois Harr (760) 724-0395

### October 16 2010, West Hills, CA

Woodland Hills Rock Chippers  
 First United Methodist Church  
 22700 Sherman Way  
 Hours: 10-5  
 Loraine Taneja xyz123@linkline.com  
 Email: [info@rockchippers.org](mailto:info@rockchippers.org)  
 Website: <http://wwwrockchippers.org>

### October 16-17 2010, Cayucos, CA

San Luis Obispo Gem & Mineral Club  
 Cayucos Vets Hall (next to Cayucos Pier)  
 100 Placerville Drive  
 Hours: 9-5 daily  
 Mike Lyons (805)610-0757  
 Email: [jadestar@charter.net](mailto:jadestar@charter.net)  
 Website: <http://www.slogem.org>

### October 16-17 2010, Whittier, CA

Whittier Gem & Mineral Society  
 Whittier Community Center  
 7630 Washington  
 Hours: 10-5 both days  
 Jay Valle (626) 934-9764  
 Email: [res19pnb@verizon.net](mailto:res19pnb@verizon.net)

### November 6-7 2010, Lancaster, CA

Palmdale Gem & Mineral Club  
 Antelope Valley Fairgrounds  
 2551 West Ave. H & Hwy 14  
 Hours: 9-5 both days  
 Susan Chaisson-Walblom (661) 406-0143  
 Email: [sichaisson@yahoo.com](mailto:sichaisson@yahoo.com)  
 Website:  
[www.palmdalegemandmineral.com](http://www.palmdalegemandmineral.com)

### November 6-7 2010, Ridgecrest, CA

Indian Wells Gem & Mineral Society  
 Desert Empire Fairgrounds  
 520 south Richmond Road  
 Hours: 9-5 both days  
 John DeRosa (760) 375-7905

### November 13-14 2010, Victorville, CA

Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club  
 San Bernardino Co. Fairgrounds  
 14800 – 7th Street  
 Hours: Sat. 9-5 Sun. 9-4  
 Cyndy Mandell (760) 508-1080  
 Email: [cynmandell@yahoo.com](mailto:cynmandell@yahoo.com)

