

## From the President's Pen

Whenever I start writing the monthly President's Column, I review what I said the previous month. Starting off my second year as your President, I looked back at last January's column and had the urge to run the same column again since it is all pertinent and timely. I obviously wouldn't do such a thing...or would I?

The December Christmas dinner, election and installation of officers was one of the most memorable we've had. Starting with the dinner, everyone outdid themselves. There was an array of fabulous food created by our members, and the ham and turkey was still more than we could do away with. Master of Ceremonies Charlie Brown did a fantastic job installing the new and returning officers. Thank you very much, Charlie. There was only one downside to the evening. Some of you may have noticed that it was rather cold in the building. The fairgrounds personnel had turned on the heat in the afternoon and if systems were functioning as they should have, we would have been quite comfortable. Blame it on equipment malfunction; we did receive an apology from the fairgrounds.

Welcome to our new officers and chairpersons and thank you to our outgoing officers and chairs for a job well done. We kept our club's foundation officers, Florence Brady and Terry Yoschak. Their varied jobs are what keeps this club running on such an even keel. Nobody ran against them, and probably never would as long as they are willing to hang in there. My thanks to both of you!

Now as our new year starts, I challenge every club member to do something for the club. It naturally begins by attending our meetings, but getting involved in something that is going on within the club is the next step. All organizations function and survive with dedicated members who spare their time to keep things running. Statistically, they are a small percentage of the membership. Wouldn't it be great to break that mold and make the club top-heavy with leaders and doers? The rewards would certainly show.

We are looking for someone to assume the leadership position for the Rookie Rock Rollers. Cathy Hutchings has done a marvelous job for quite some time and wants to go on to other things. Would you like working with the juniors? There are lots of parents that already help with the program, but we need someone to run it... possibly one of the parents. I have been the class coordinator for a couple years and would like to let someone with more time on their hands to take it over. It involves maintaining the class signup sheets, lining up classes and attendees. It is not a hard job, just a little time consuming. If you have an interest in a particular activity in the club but wouldn't want to take it on by yourself, join in with the chairperson and learn the job. You may want to take over at a later time.

Anyway, I am really looking forward to a great 2010 with the Roseville Rock Rollers, and hope you are also. -- *Jon North*

## Educational Program for January 12, 2010

### "The Greatest DVD on ... Quartzsite"

Presenters: Jon North and Jim Hutchings



## Vice President's Viewpoint

Welcome to the New Year with the Roseville Rock Rollers! Since I was on state travel, I was fortunate enough to miss the freezing potluck night in December! As your new VP, I've been working hard to line up some great speakers for this year, beginning this month with our very own John North and Jim Hutchings, who will tell us all about the world famous Quartzsite rock show just in time for some of us to actually make it there! Arizona weather is usually wonderful this time of year, so if you're craving the sunshine, come and hear about a really fun place to do some shopping, and possibly some rockhounding along the way. (But don't spend too much - you'll want to save some money for our own fabulous rock show "The Golden Jubilee" in March). Happy New Year everyone! -- *Lindy Summers-Bair*

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## MINUTES FOR ROSEVILLE ROCK ROLLERS EDUCATIONAL MEETING DECEMBER 8, 2009

**Call to Order** at 6:30 by President Jon North.

**Flag Salute.**

**Invocation** – Charlie Brown gave the invocation.

**Present:** 60 Members, 7 Juniors and 6 Guests.

**Recess** for dinner

**Introductions** by guests and new members.

**Gift Exchange.**

**Treasurer** – Terry Yoschak had no report.

**Secretary** – Florence Brady reported we ended the membership year with 280 members.

**Vice President – Programs** – incoming VP was absent.

**Librarian** – Karla Shannon reported she brought materials for check out.

**Sunshine** – no report.

**Show** – Jim Hutchings, Chair, reported the next show committee meeting is Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m.

**Lapidary Shop** – Don Evans reported there will be no classes on Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> and Dec. 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Board Meeting** – incoming and outgoing board members are to meet on Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Election of Officers** – the slate of Officers for 2010 was reviewed. A motion was MSA to vote for the slate of officers, President, Jon North; Vice President, Lindy Summers-Bair; Secretary, Florence Brady; Treasurer, Terry Yoschak; Federation Director, Rolf Zschoernig; Bulletin Editor, Terry Yoschak; Librarian/Historian Karla Shannon; Field Trip Chair, Jim Hutchings; Show Chair, Jim Hutchings; Assistant Show Chair, Lindy Summers-Bair; 2 year Directors, Hugh Brady & Carole Lockhart; 1 year Directors, Jack Harris & Lisa Giampietro.

**Officers for 2009** received their CFMS bar or triangle.

**Installation of Officers for 2010** – Charlie Brown installed the officers for 2010.

**Adjournment** – meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Florence Brady, RRR Secretary

## MINUTES FOR ROSEVILLE ROCK ROLLERS BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 15, 2009

**Call to Order** by President Jon North at 7:00 p.m.

**Present:** 10 officers and 2 guests, Don Evans and Frank Yoschak.

**Minutes** – a motion was MSA to approve the minutes as published for the Board Meeting on November 24, 2009 and for the Educational Meeting on December 8, 2009.

**Treasurer** – Terry Yoschak reported she received two bills, one for copying (\$26.29) from Secretary Florence Brady and one from Jon North for shop equipment (\$396.34).

**Membership** – a motion was MSA to approve applications for membership from Dan McCormick, Cindy Hume and Spera and Barrie Asimos.

**Correspondence** – a letter was received from Ethel Scott and Jim and Cathy Hutchings received a thank you note.

## MINUTES FOR ROSEVILLE ROCK ROLLERS BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 15, 2009 (cont'd)

**Vice President** – Lindy Summers-Bair reviewed programs scheduled for the Educational Meetings in 2010.

**Librarian-Historian** – Karla Shannon reported she will contact the members who have library books/magazines checked out.

**Website** – Terry Yoschak reported she is working on establishing links for the motels which could be used by show attendees/vendors. She will update and revise the website.

**Field Trips** – Jim Hutchings reported he will be doing a program with the Boy Scouts on January 9<sup>th</sup> and there is a CO-OP “field trip” to Stories in Stones” on Jan. 24<sup>th</sup>.

**CFMS Director** – Rolf Zschoernig is the new CFMS Director. It was determined who would receive the CFMS newsletters and the AFMS newsletters.

**Lapidary Classes** – Jon North reported he hopes to schedule some classes after Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>. He would like to have someone take over as coordinator.

**Show** – Jim Hutchings reported 64 tables have been sold (27 inside vendors and 1 outside vendor). Bob Stoltz, associated with the Shasta Co. club, would like a list of our vendors, for use for the 2011 CFMS show in Anderson (Redding, CA). An article regarding our show and workers needed, will be published in the January RRR bulletin. A person is needed to take signups for workers during the meeting.

**Shop** – Don Evans reported on the nights there will be no orientation classes, an e-mail will be sent out. Discussed the possibility of the Sutter Buttes club using the shop, holding classes during the day (weekend) and Jerry Wilkerson was thanked for all his work done in the shop.

**Directors** – Carole Lockhart reported she will be gone during January and February.

**Old Business** –

**Gem Faire** – signups will be taken during the Jan. Ed. Mtg. Florence has prepared a packet of information for use during the Gem Faire. Jim Barton will coordinate.

**Raffle Tickets** for the Show – it was decided to use the gold colored paper, do not have dates on the tickets and do not number the tickets. Remove “opens at 10 a.m. and free parking”. 3,000 will be printed.

**New Business** –

**Tumbling Book** – Modern Rock Tumbling by Steve Hart. It was decided to order 20 books and to sell each book for \$20. (We will pay \$14.97 for each book.) Jim Hutchings will handle.

**Gift Exchange** – (at holiday dinner) will continue this optional activity.

**Chairpersons** – discussion regarding having a bar made that can be worn hanging from their name badge, stating their chair job. Jon will contact the chairs to see if they wish to continue their job in 2010.

**Adjournment** – meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Florence Brady, RRR Secretary

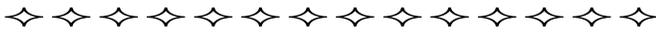
## Gem Faire Workers Needed



The annual Gem Faire at the Roseville Fairgrounds will be on February 5, 6 & 7.

We are given a space to display show flyers and information regarding our club.

RRR volunteers are needed. We have shifts for 2 ½ – 3 hrs. long, each of the 3 days. Signups will be taken during the January Educational Meeting, or contact Jim Barton at (916) 847-7321 for more information and to sign up for a shift.



## January Show Meeting

The next Show meeting will be at 6:30 PM, Tuesday, January 19, 2010, in our club Lapidary Workshop at the Roseville Fairgrounds. All members are welcome to attend.

## January Board Meeting

The meeting will be held Tuesday, January 26, 2010, at 7:00 pm, in the club Lapidary Shop at the fairgrounds.



## January Refreshments



Refreshments for the January 12 Educational meeting are to be provided by Ron Riebeek, Doude Bos, Robert Scott, Nola

Haggerty, Don Evans and Kymberly Andrews. Thank you all in advance!

**We would appreciate if each family would sign up and bring a refreshment once in 2010.**



## Correspondence

Florence,

We are not planning to renew our membership - just thought I would let you know. We are preparing to leave Congress (AZ) next week and begin our travels east through Texas and along the Gulf Coast. We plan to be in Florida by the end of January. Sorry we will miss seeing the Quartzsite and Tucson folks this year. Tell everyone we said hi!

Diane and Harvey Lister

## Welcome New Members

Spera & Barrie Asimos  
Cindy Hume  
Dan McCormick

Thanks for joining our club! We hope you will find many rewards and many friends among those who share our wonderful hobby!

## Rookie Rock Roller News



The Rookie Rock Rollers will hold their next meeting at 5:30 January 12 at the RRR shop on the Roseville fairgrounds. We look forward to our mineral of the month presentation on sulfur, which will be presented by Charles Holmes.

We will discuss our upcoming presentations at the general meeting in March and what we would like to do for the RRR annual show. If members have done any other activities for FRA badges, please bring your books so we can get caught up. We will work on other rock related activities as time allows and hope to see you there!

*Cathy Hutchings 530-367-5108*



## Sunshine

When you know of any member who is ill or has been hospitalized, please contact Margarita & Marietta at 916-723-8773.



**Hint:** Good old Elmer's Glue mixed 50/50 with warm water works wonders at maintaining that "wet look" on all types of materials, including most shells. Just brush it on and let it dry- if it gets dusty or dulled simply soak it in warm water and reapply. I learned this technique from one of my mentors when I wanted to display some petrified wood that looked great when wet but looked like a plain old rock when dry.

*From Clyde Gilbert Oct 24, 2007  
Rock\_Collecting\_and\_Field\_Trips@yahoo.com,  
via Rockhound Rambling 11-12/07*

## SHOW TIME !



Once a year, Club members are asked to **volunteer** their time to help with our annual show. Won't you step forward and volunteer for a shift?

**Your help is needed!** It's fun, you get to meet other club members, vendors, and show attendees and the "work" can hardly be called work! **Signups will be taken at the January Educational Meeting.**

**This is our big fundraiser for the year!** Our membership dues do not cover all the expenses incurred by the club. One of the largest of these expenses is our Lapidary Shop - the rental of the land, supplies and equipment maintenance in the shop and shed. The profits from the show are used to pay for the Shop's expenses and for the other expenses incurred by the Club's operation, such as the Garden Room rental, speakers and the Rookie Rock Rollers program.

This is a **large show**, using 2 large buildings plus the Garden Room. The entrance is the door in the Garden Room. Inside this room are the Admission Tables, Club Information Table and 36 exhibit cases. Raffle Ticket sales area is in the kitchen area. Jones Hall, which is accessed through the hallway from the Garden Room, will have vendors. Across the driveway, is Johnson Hall where more vendors, the Fluorescent Tent (4 exhibits), Kitchen, Silent Auction and Kids Junction are located.

A large amount of **publicity** is being done, including information on TV, newspaper ads, Rock and Gem magazine, and 1500+ postcards will be mailed. Flyers are being distributed also; \$1 off admission coupons are on the show flyers and on our website: [www.rockrollers.com](http://www.rockrollers.com).

**Grand Prize Raffle Tickets** are sold and the proceeds are pure profit for the club. Please buy some and also sell some to your friends and relatives. (Will be available at the February & March Educational Meetings.) Cost: \$1.00 or 6 for \$5.00. Donations are also needed, for the Grand Prizes and for the **Hourly Prizes**. Gift cards, purchased at most grocery stores, make a wonderful prize.



## 2010 Show – Friday through Sunday, March 26, 27, 28

The show needs club members to help on Friday for setup, during the show hours on Saturday and Sunday, and also with the takedown procedure on Sunday. For our new members, don't hesitate to help, as you will be working with other club members who can provide any needed assistance to you. Remember, once it was all new to us, too!

Areas where help is needed are: Setup on Friday, starts at 9 a.m. and Takedown, starts at 4 p.m. on Sunday. Kitchen, Admissions Tables, Raffle Table, Silent Auction, Kids Junction, Security, Shop Tours and Club Information Table. Each Show Day, the shifts are: 9:30 – 1:30 and 1-5 (4:30-5 on Sunday). We ask that you sign up for a complete shift. Each volunteer will receive a ticket for the "Workers Raffle" for each shift.

**(Workers working on Setup and Takedown shifts, receive double raffle tickets.)**

Signups will be taken at our Educational Meetings, starting with January's meeting. We will have a list of job descriptions available.



## Faceting Terms

by Shirley Buschke

Ever wonder what your friend who is taking faceting is talking about? Maybe some of these definitions will help you understand.

**Girdle**-- the "waistline" of the stone: The edge that creates the shape of the stone

**Facet**--small flat polished area of the stone

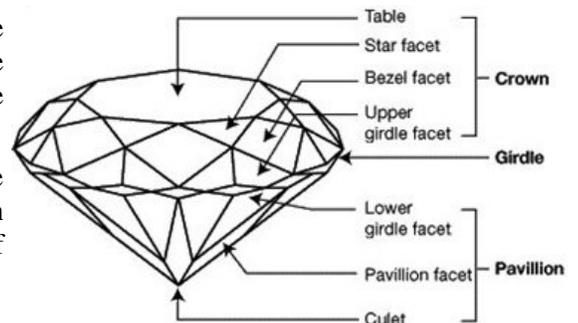
**Crown**--the top or the part above the girdle

**Table**--The large facet in the center of the crown

**Pavilion**--the part of the stone below the girdle

**Culet**--point on the bottom of stone

**Transfer**--after one half of stone is faceted it is necessary to reposition the stone so the other half can be faceted; this is often a difficult procedure.



*from MGSCV Petrograph 11/08*

## A "CO-OP MEMBER" FIELD TRIP TO "STORIES IN STONE" - ANGELS CAMP, CA

- This trip is open to all rockhounds who agree to abide by the AFMS Code of Ethics, the directions of the field trip leader and practice safe rockhounding.
- Call the field trip leader beforehand to sign up and for further information.
- Remember to wear your name badge and sign in with the field trip leader.
- CO-OP website has information: [www.ourfieldtrips.org](http://www.ourfieldtrips.org) (Password is needed).
- A Consent and Assumption of Risk Waiver of Liability form must be signed upon arrival at meeting site.

**TRIP LOCATION** – Angels Camp, California

### TRIP DIFFICULTY RATING SCALE

Vehicle Access & Parking - 3 small parking lots in vicinity, front of business parking on Highway 49

**WHEN** – Sunday, January 24, 2010

**SPONSOR CLUB** – Calaveras Gem and Mineral Society

**MEMBER'S GUESTS:** Allowed

**COLLECTION MATERIAL** – none-informational lecture

**LEADER & CONTACT INFO** – Robert Young.

**PROPOSED SCHEDULE** – arrive 9:30ish, presentation starts 10:00, lasts 1-2 hours

**MEET** – Parking lot at junction of Hwy. 4 and 49, on the right side coming from San Andreas, on the left side coming from Sonora.

**DIRECTIONS TO STORE** -1249 Main Street, Angels Camp, CA - "Stories in Stones" store.

**VEHICLE REQ'S** – any

**TOOLS** – notebook, writing material, money (this place has all manner of neat stuff at decent prices)

**SAFETY CONCERNS** – none

**CLIMATE/WEATHER** – will have regardless of weather

**CLOTHING** -may be cool inside, bring heavy shirt, sweater

**OTHER REMARKS** – There is seating for 50 in a private room in the rear of building. Further information can be found on the Stories in Stones website.

**FEES** – no charge



## Book: "Modern Rock Tumbling"



RRR is offering its members a chance to buy this book at a discount. It is sold online for \$24.95 plus shipping, but we have obtained 20 copies at a discount rate.

Two copies will go to our club Library, and the others will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis, to members for \$20 per copy. -- *Editor*

*Note from Jim Hutchings:* The Roseville Rock Rollers Board reviewed a new book on tumbling that was sent to us by the author. While we don't usually endorse a product, this one was worthy of our support. Steve Hart has explored the science of rock tumbling and has documented the science and detailed the practical steps in tumbling. I personally have read numerous books on the subject and have never been satisfied with the information provided, until this book. If you would like a copy, contact me directly, and I will provide them to you at our next meeting in January at

\$20.00 a copy. I'll have a copy there for you to review. If you ever wondered what is in the various polishes we use, and what grit sizes are and how they compare with other grits, this is the book with the answers.

Excerpts from a book review in *Rock & Gem* magazine:

In nearly 14 years of writing the Shop Talk column, I have probably had more questions about rock tumbling than anything else. I jumped at the chance to review *Modern Rock Tumbling* by Steve Hart (Little Red Store, 2008), because I really am fascinated by tumbled stones, and the books that I have read on the subject didn't really excite me.

Steve Hart has given us an outstanding book that will be valuable for everyone from novice to master. It is well written, easy to understand, and well illustrated with nice color photos and charts where necessary. When I first took it out of the package, I thought the \$24.95 price tag was a little high, but after I finished reading it, I realized that it is worth every penny. --William A. Kappel

*Reference:* <http://www.littleredstore.com/index.php>

# DO YOU CARE??

Article by Dan Brown – Northern California ALAA Representative

Your Federal government has (and is) rapidly taking away your collecting rights and access to your Public Lands. The US Forest Service (USFS), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the Army Corps of Engineers, and your elected Representatives (Congressmen and Senators) are rapidly closing roads to collecting areas, designating Conservation Areas (removal of access roads), designating more Wilderness Areas, and adding more land to National Parks and Monuments. When will they stop? I submit that they will not stop until all Federal lands have been swallowed up. Together BLM & USFS control over 500 Million acres of Public Lands. It is already a Federal Crime to collect artifacts, arrow heads, and vertebrate fossils. The BLM and USFS have imposed restrictions on what and how much can be collected on Public Lands.

I have been a Rockbound for 62+ years and I care about this situation. I want my grandchildren and their children and so on to have the same rights and access that I have enjoyed over the years. If you say or do nothing to protest the actions of your government, then they assume Consent.

How big is this problem? Consider the following recent and present actions of your government.

HR 1925 and S799 (America's Red Rock Wilderness Bills of 2009) were introduced in the House and Senate. These bills would remove 9.4 Million acres in Utah from our rock hunting destinations.

The BLM has closed the Clear Creek Management Area in San Benito Co. This 30,000 acre area is a favorite collecting site for many rockhounds. There have been over 500 different mineral species found in this area. Nephrite & Jadeite, Benitoite, Neptunite, Joaquineite, Uvarovite, Chromite, Cinnabar, Agate, Aragonite, Selenite, Galena, Pyrite, Calcite, and Spessartite Garnet are just a few varieties to be found there.

The USFS re-designation of ML-3 roads in the Shasta – Trinity National Forest to “Highway” status removes the

right of OHV's to be used on these roads. Many rockhounds and Seniors use ATV's for access into remote areas of the forest.

Every National Forest in the USA is now reviewing and Revising Travel Management Plans. Our access to collecting sites has been cut-off in many of our National Forests.

Senator Diane Feinstein has introduced Bill S 2921 - The California Desert Conservation and Recreation Act of 2010. This will set aside another 1.6 Million acres from rock collecting. This area has many collecting sites and will be closed-off forever if this bill is passed.

There are many more examples too numerous for me to mention here.

For those of you who care about this situation, there are several things I would suggest you do. First, if you are not a registered voter, then Register and Vote.

Find out who your elected Representatives are and what their views are with regard to Land Use and Management of Public Lands. Email or write your Representatives regarding adverse road and land closures, regulations, and pending Legislation.

Support organizations such as ALAA (American Lands Access Association), PLAC (CFMS Public Lands Advisory Committee), the Blue Ribbon Coalition, and Friends of the West by joining one or more of them. The main purpose of these organizations is to influence Legislation and Public Land Managers such as the BLM and USFS.

Encourage your local club(s) to join ALAA. Membership in this organization will not jeopardize their non-profit status.

*(RRR is already a member of ALAA -- Editor)*

**American Lands Access Association website:  
[www.amlands.org](http://www.amlands.org)**



**Shop Hint:** The secret or the art of healing fractures in a cab with epoxy is to shape your stone and semi-polish it. To get rid of that nasty crack, heat the stone to 200 degrees in the oven. Mix the epoxy and apply it to one edge of the crack. Gradually apply the epoxy, working from one end of the crack to the other. This is very important. You will notice that the epoxy becomes very

liquid when it touches the hot stone and it flows right into the crack. By applying the epoxy at one end and working toward the outside edge of the cab the air is driven out. Put the stone back in the oven for 20 minutes. The epoxy will harden. Scrape off the surplus and finish polish. If done right the fracture will be difficult to detect.

*via The Rockcollector 1/06, Strata Gem 5/06*

# Dinosaur Is Dead Ringer For Potter Dragon

A new species of dinosaur has been named in honor of J.K. Rowling and her Harry Potter books. The 66-million-year-old dragon-like monster has been given the title *Dracorex hogwartsia* because it resembles the kind of fantastical creature encountered by the teenage wizard. The nearly complete skull of the previously unknown dinosaur was found by three friends during a fossil-collecting trip in South Dakota. The dinosaur was little more than a box of parts when it was found and it took two years of painstaking research to piece it together.

The dinosaur's name comes from the Latin words Draco, meaning dragon, Rex, meaning king and hogwartsia for the fictional Hogwarts school created by Rowling, who said that the honor had brought her new credibility with her children who are passionate about dinosaurs. "The naming of *Dracorex hogwartsia* is easily the most unexpected honor to have come my way since the publication of the Harry Potter books." She added that the dinosaur reminded her of one of her own creations, "a slightly less pyromaniac Hungarian Horntail."

Robert Bakker, a well-known paleontologist, agreed that the new beast would not look out of place in a Potter book. "Honoring an author is rare but it should be done more often," he said. "The creature was a plant-eater, about as heavy as a warhorse of a medieval knight. It carried an armor-plated head of almost magical configuration, covered with knobs and spikes, horns and crests. I was staring at the skull last summer and the name just popped into my head, hogwartsia."

The name *Dracorex hogwartsia* will remain as a permanent addition to paleontological records unless scientists prove that it belongs to the same species as a previously identified specimen. The specimen has been donated to the Children's Museum of Indianapolis.



*Edited for space from Jack Malvern, www.timesonline.co.uk/article/ from Rocky Trails, via The Agatizer, 09/06 via Strata Gem 12/06*



## January Calendar

Birthstone: Garnet					1		2
3	4 Lapidary Shop 5:00-9:00 pm	5	6 Lapidary Shop 5:00-9:00 pm	7 Lapidary Shop 5:00-9:00 pm	8		9
10	11 Lapidary Shop 5:00-9:00 pm	12 Meetings: Rookies 5:30 pm Club 7:00 pm	13 Lapidary Shop 5:00-9:00 pm	14 Lapidary Shop 5:00-9:00 pm	15		16
17	18  <b>NO CLASSES</b>	19 SHOW Meeting 6:30 pm	20 Lapidary Shop 5:00-9:00 pm	21 Lapidary Shop 5:00-9:00 pm	22		23
24 / 31	25 Lapidary Shop 5:00-9:00 pm	26 Board Meeting: 7:00 pm	27 Lapidary Shop 5:00-9:00 pm	28 Lapidary Shop 5:00-9:00 pm	29 Bulletin Deadline		30

## Upcoming CO-OP Member and Other Field Trips

(Contact your club's field trip leader for further information and revisions. CO-OP website also has information: [www.ourfieldtrips.org](http://www.ourfieldtrips.org)). All non-CFMS members must have proof of personal liability insurance (renters or homeowners policy). These trips are open to all rockhounds who agree to abide by the AFMS Code of Ethics, the directions of the field trip leader and practice safe rockhounding.

2010 TRIPS	
Jan. 24	Stories in Stone - Educational Lecture, <i>Calaveras Co. Club</i> , Bob Young
Apr. 2-4	Black Butte Reservoir, CA for various jaspers. <i>Mother Lode MS</i> , Al Troglin
Apr. 9-10	Stonyford, CA for jaspers, agates. <i>Sutter Buttes</i> , Gerry Hill
Apr. 17-18	Fallon, NV for leaves in rhyolite. <i>Fossils for Fun</i> , Debbie Bunn
Apr. 24	Claims Seminar, "How to File a Mining Claim," hosted by <i>Mother Lode MS &amp; CFMS</i>
May 15-16	Majuba Mtn, NV for minerals. <i>Nevada Co. GMS</i> , Vicki Black
May 22-23	Talapoosa Mtn, NV for agate. <i>El Dorado MGS</i> , Ron Stone
May 29-31	Blue Forest, Wyoming for petrified wood. <i>AFMS Inter-Regional</i> , Doug True
July 3, 4, 5	Petersen Pk., Virginia City for quartz crystals. <i>Sutter Buttes</i> , Gerry Hill
Oct. 2	Griffith Quarry, Penryn, CA for Quarry Tour. <i>Lincoln Hills GMS</i> , Ron Clawson
Oct. 9-10	Fernley, NV for various minerals. <i>Sutter Buttes</i> , Gerry Hill
Oct. 23-24	New York Canyon, NV for epidote, copper minerals, microcline. <i>Roseville Rock Rollers</i> , Jim Hutchings
Nov. 7	Black Butte Reservoir for jasper. <i>El Dorado MGS</i> , Ron Stone
Nov. 24-28 TG week	To Be Announced. <i>Mother Lode Mineral Club</i> , Al Troglin
<b>Check this page in the bulletin each month for more trips &amp; updated information.</b>	

## Upcoming Northern California Shows

### January 16-17 2010, Exeter, CA

Tule Gem & Mineral Society  
Exeter Memorial Bldg. , 420 N Kaweah  
Hours: Sat. 10 - 5, Sun. 10-4  
Pepper Okada (559) 733-5842,  
Don Vieira (550) 733-7739  
Webpage: [tulegem.org](http://tulegem.org)

### March 5-6-7 2010, Newark, CA

Mineral and Gem Society of Castro Valley  
Newark Pavilion, 6430 Thornton Avenue  
Hours: Fri & Sat. 10-6; Sun. 10-5  
Larry Ham (510) 887-9007  
Email: [showchair@mgscv.org](mailto:showchair@mgscv.org)  
Website: [www.mgscv.org](http://www.mgscv.org)

### March 13-14 2010, Spreckels, CA

Salinas Valley Rock & Gem Club  
Veteran's Memorial Hall, 5th & Liano Streets  
Hours: 10-5 daily  
Ernie DeFever (831) 422-3422  
Email: [minimad64@comcast.net](mailto:minimad64@comcast.net)  
Website: [salinasrockandgem.com](http://salinasrockandgem.com)

### March 13-14 2010, Turlock, CA

Mother Lode Mineral Society  
Stanislaus Co. Fairgrounds, 900 N Broadway  
Hours: Sat. 10-6 Sun. 10-5  
Bud & Terry McMillin (209) 524-3494  
Email: [terry.mcmillin@yahoo.com](mailto:terry.mcmillin@yahoo.com)  
Website: [www.turlockgemshow.com](http://www.turlockgemshow.com)

### March 20-21 2010, Vallejo, CA

Vallejo Gem & Mineral Society  
Vallejo Elks Lodge, 2850 Redwood Parkway  
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### March 27-28 2010, Roseville, CA

Roseville Rock Rollers  
Roseville (Placer Co.) Fairgrounds  
800 All American City Blvd.  
Hours: Sat. 10-5 Sun. 10-4  
Gloria Marie (916) 216-1114  
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(First in a Series)

In honor of our club's 50th anniversary, we are reprinting articles which appeared in very early issues of *The Rollin' Rock*. They are reprinted exactly as they first appeared, with only typos corrected. Some articles have been condensed because of space considerations. **Keep in mind that information in these articles may be outdated.** -- Editor

### How To "Etc" by Gene Baker, appeared in January 1964

I am here to talk and you are here to listen. In case any of you get through before I do, please raise your hands.

When Bill Hearst asked me to make a talk on opals, I assumed he meant how to cut and polish them. When I assume something real strong for 4 or 5 months, it becomes known as Baker's Law. So that is what you are going to hear.

There are 3 types of opals for the rockhound. Common opal which comes in a variety of colors and when cut and polished properly is a beautiful stone. A precious opal: any opal with a play of colors. The Australian opal is the best example of this. The fire opal: to my knowledge is found only in Mexico, is a red stone with a play of colors that seem to be tongues or fingers of flame shooting out of it. I have only seen 3 in my life. The first when I was about 10 years old. The other two were in Globe, Arizona, in 1954 or '55. I tried to buy them, but the lady wouldn't sell them, and as she had them locked in a case I couldn't steal them. If any of you have a chance to get one, grab it.

Opal is a translucent gem form of hydrated silica???. Now that you know that, everything is easier, I think.

Select an opal. The color or fire is usually best right below the matrix. (This is Australian opal.) Hold in the fingers and grind on the side of the wheel. The side of the wheel is smoother and doesn't have the sharp cutting edge as the face of the wheel. Use a light touch and plenty of water. Inspect frequently. After grinding awhile, you will decide which side you want for the top and which for the base. I always grind and polish the base of the stone first, so dop accordingly.

This brings up a pet peeve of mine. I never dop any stone over an open flame. I tried it once and burned my fingers, dropped the stone and broke it. We have a gas range at home with a small plate called a temper plate, and a small flame called a simmer burner. Place the stone on the plate and turn the simmer burner on. Place your finger alongside the stone on the plate. When the plate is too hot for your fingers, turn off the flame and the plate will remain hot enough to warm the stone so you can dop it.

This method can be considered dangerous, however, if your wife comes in and catches you smearing dopping wax over the top of the stove. Try arguing with her, (it won't do any good). Then point out the fact that California is a community property state, so that makes the stove half yours. Don't let her get too close to you and try to keep some object, such as a table or heavy chair, between you while you are talking. This is important.

After the stone is dopped, shape the bottom of the stone -- remember, a light touch. From the grinder, I go to a 220 drum sander. Wet the sander and start sanding, have a jar of warm water and dip the stone every few seconds. From the 220 I go to a well-worn 220, also wet, and continue the same way. Last I go to a worn 320 dry. Instead of dipping in the water, I touch my face with the stone to tell if it is warm. Everyone who has ever picked a polished agate or other polished stone up in your fingers, know that they leave a smear. This is caused by oil on the skin. Your face also has this oil on it, so when you touch the stone to your cheek, you leave a smear of oil on the stone. Sand the stone until the oil no longer shows. Touch your cheek again and again and repeat the process. A few times like this and the stone will have a semi-polished look. Wash the stone and dop stick in warm water to wash off any grit and you are ready to polish. Any fine polish and any kind of buff may be used. Be sure the polishing buff is wet.

If the stone has been sanded properly, it should polish in a matter of seconds. After polishing, place dop stick in freezer of your refrigerator. When the dop becomes cold it gets brittle and the stone will fall off. Repeat the operation for the other side. Some people will tell you not to grind an opal, but more stones are cracked while sanding than by grinding.

**I have been asked a lot of questions about opal and some of them leave me baffled.** About a year ago, a man looked at one of my opals, admired it, and then asked, "Has it been weaned?" "Certainly," I replied. After all it was 5 years old. How long do you nurse an opal? I am still trying to figure out what he meant.

I don't see how you can possibly learn anything from this, but you're welcome to try.

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Send exchange bulletins to  
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MEMBER, AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES  
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**EDUCATIONAL MEETING 2<sup>ND</sup> TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH, 7:00 PM  
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING 4<sup>TH</sup> TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH, 7:00 PM**

**EDUCATIONAL MEETING LOCATION: ROSEVILLE FAIRGROUNDS,  
GARDEN ROOM, 800 ALL AMERICA CITY BLVD., ROSEVILLE, CA**

**BOARD MEETING LOCATION: ROSEVILLE FAIRGROUNDS,  
LAPIDARY SHOP TRAILER BEYOND GATE "C" PARKING LOT**

*Changes and exceptions will be published in the bulletin.*  
**GUESTS AND VISITORS ALWAYS WELCOME**