

## From the President's Pen

So have you been keeping busy this summer? There has to be something going on almost all the time. I haven't stopped doing things since I don't know when. Okay, not all of it has to do with rocks and lapidary, there is a whole lot more than that, but it is on my mind most of the time. If I am on a trip, I automatically check out what kinds of rocks are in the area or where the nearest lapidary store is or museums with rock exhibits, and the list goes on. Then what about Gold? Okay, I won't go there this time, but if I see any laying around, I wouldn't pass it by.

Those that made the trip to Duncan Canyon seem to have had a good time looking for that Yellow stuff. Maybe more next time!?! I would love to go down into the canyon also, but I am not too sure about the climb back out. Thanks to Jim Hutchings for leading the trips to his precious claim.

Speaking of Jim...he sure keeps busy too. Thanks Jim, for keeping the July Educational Potluck Meeting all together. I forgot to ask if we got the amount of leftover meat under control this time. Practice makes perfect and then more or less members show up. There can't be too much ice cream for our August Ice Cream Social. I am looking forward to it and plan on whipping up some of that homemade ice cream, just have to decide on the flavor. That is a major undertaking since there are so many good flavors when it comes to homemade.

Come on down to the lapidary shop and see what a great setup we have. If you still haven't learned to make a cabochon, you can get some great training on Mondays, Wednesdays or Thursdays. We have a few members that are taking the class, but it isn't very busy right now and that would be a perfect time to learn. Less students in the shop means more attention to each student. Once you learn to make a cab, your outlook changes when you are looking for rocks to turn into a finished treasure. The meaning of a "leave'er ite" has much more significance.

Have a great month...see you at the ice cream social. Oh, and don't forget to wear your name badge and sign in!

-- Jon North

## Vice President's Viewpoint

The July potluck was a hit! The food was delicious, the silent auction fabulous; and we finally had a chance to just sit down together and enjoy getting to know each other!

August promises to be equally relaxed and enjoyable. This is the month we get to see what everyone's been doing all year. We will have lots of tables for displaying your rocks, fossils, gems, and minerals. Bring your work and/or your favorite finds for the year to SHOW and TELL, and come prepared to be AWED!!"

Lindy Summers-Bair

## Educational Program for August 10, 2010

### SHOW AND TELL AND ICE CREAM !!

Please bring your best items for **Show and Tell**. Everyone will have a chance to get up and "Tell" for a few minutes. Talk about your items and give us the stories behind those great finds!



And August is always our **Annual Ice Cream Social**.

Members: please bring your **favorite ice cream, or other dessert item (pies, cakes, brownies, cookies), and/or toppings like sprinkles, syrup, fruit, whatever**. And don't forget your ice cream scoops!

**Please bring your items around 6:30** so that we can have everything on the tables and ready to go by 7:00!

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## MINUTES FOR ROSEVILLE ROCK ROLLERS EDUCATIONAL MEETING JULY 13, 2010

**Call to Order** by Jim Hutchings, Past President, at 6:35 p.m.

**Flag Salute**

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

**Present:** 61 members, 7 juniors and 7 guests.

**Introductions** by guests.

**Recess** for potluck dinner.

**Silent Auction** – Hugh Brady received materials from RRR Members for the silent auction.

**Field Trips** – Jim Hutchings reviewed the upcoming field trip to Duncan Canyon.

**Announcements** – Lisa Giampietro requested more volunteers to work in the kitchen during the show in Orangevale, August 21, 22.

**New Business** – a wooden sign which said “Rockhound Spoken Here” was presented to the Club by Lisa Giampietro, Gloria Marie and Cindy Hume.

**Adjournment** – meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

## MINUTES FOR ROSEVILLE ROCK ROLLERS BOARD MEETING JULY 13, 2010

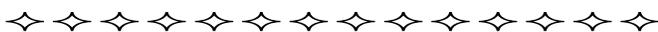
**Call to Order** by Jim Hutchings, Past President, at 8:05 p.m.

**Present:** 7 officers.

**Membership applications** – a motion was MSA to accept the membership applications from Ross, Anney, Galen (Jr.) and Quinn (Jr.) Wamsat.

**Adjournment** – meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Florence Brady, RRR Secretary



### Lapidary Shop Family Membership Rates (per month)

First family member: \$20.00

Second family member: \$15.00

Third family member: \$10.00

All other family members: \$5.00

The daily shop fee remains \$5.00 per person.

Cabochon class: \$45.00 per person

## Field Trip Chair Report

Great trip to Duncan Canyon. We had about 25 crazy people who made the trip in, not sure how many made it out??? The biggest piece found was a picker, about 1/10 of a penny weight. It takes 20 penny weight to make an ounce. John Smith hooked about 20 fish after 4 PM and kept three for eating. My dog or a bear got one, however, John reports the remaining two were very fine. Adrianna, Hugh and Florence's Granddaughter is a wilderness girl! No fear and no central nervous system. She spent more time in that cold water than anybody, and took on every snake, newt, and bug with a short stick.

For those who are total loons, and want to go back in, or those who's schedule did not permit them to make it in with us in July, we will be going back on Saturday August 14th. We have a friend who has some visitors that have asked to go and so we may as well make it a party! You can check the July newsletter for the previous write up for times, directions, and other information relative to the physical requirements and equipment required. Check the back of the bulletin for current field trips hosted by other societies. Please contact the field trip leader prior to those trips. Keep in mind, the dates for the October "Big" Co-op trip to Hawthorn and Mina, Nevada, hosted by Roseville Rock Rollers. Please remember to bring the year's finds and fabrications to the Ice Cream Social in August, (bring ice cream or other desserts too!).

-- Jim Hutchings



## Silent Auction

We did very well on the July auction. Thank you to everyone who brought donations and to all the bidders.

Let's try it again at the August ice cream social. **Club members who can contribute one or two spare items should bring them along.** I will bring the bid forms for you to fill out and we can have the auction before and during our calorie intake. Again I will bring a few pieces from Wilbur Scott's and other collections to form the core but will rely on you members to fill out the balance.

Again, I am putting out a call for some assistance for the silent auction. You don't have to be an expert in rock identification. Contact me if you would be willing to help. (916) 961-6868.

-- Hugh Brady

## August Board Meeting

No regular Board meeting is scheduled for August.



Sunshine

Sympathy cards were sent to Janis Marzolf, Nola Haggerty and Lucille Lange.

When you know of any member who is ill or has been hospitalized, please contact our Sunshine Chair, Cyndy Burchard, at 530-346-9481, or [cyned0523@yahoo.com](mailto:cyned0523@yahoo.com).

Our sympathy goes out to Janis Marzolf and family in the loss of her Mother.

Roseville Rock Roller member Richard Lange recently passed away. Richard was an avid collector of fossils, rocks and gems, and barbed wire. Our condolences go out to his wife Lucille and family.

## GEMS FROM THE KITCHEN

by Barbara Snook

### Vanilla Sour Cream Pie (quick, easy, and delicious)

8-inch Graham Cracker Crust (ready-made)  
1 cup dairy sour cream  
1 cup milk  
1 package (about 3 1/2 oz) vanilla instant pudding  
1 can prepared fruit pie filling  
Canned whipping cream or Cool Whip

Beat sour cream and milk with hand beater until smooth. Blend in pudding (dry) until smooth and slightly thickened. Pour into crust. Chill at least one hour or until set.

When set, pour the can of prepared fruit pie filling over it. Top with whipped cream or Cool Whip.

Other variations:

1. Substitute chocolate instant pudding for the vanilla.
2. Top chilled pie with sliced strawberries or peaches or drained, crushed pineapple.
3. Slice bananas onto graham cracker crust, pour filling over bananas and add more slices to the top.

*from Napa Gems 3/02*

## Welcome New Members

Ross & Anney Wamsat  
Mimi Adell

## Welcome New Junior Members

Galen Wamsat  
Quinn Wamsat

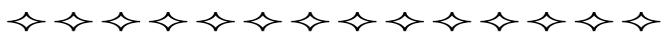
## Rookie Rock Roller News



The Rookie Rock Rollers will meet at the shop on the Roseville fairgrounds at 5:30 on August 10, 2010. We look forward to hearing from our members who attended the Duncan Creek fieldtrip. Our

Mineral of the Month will be selenite. We are excited to learn all about it from Timothy Bacon who is six! As always, all Rookies in attendance will get a selenite specimen for his or her mineral collection. We will dismiss at 6:35 so we can clean up and be the general meeting in time to get settled for the ice cream social. See you there!

-- Cathy Hutchings



## Proposed Adjustment in Membership Dues

With the increasing cost of printing and postage to mail out the club bulletin, and increases in CFMS dues and insurance, the Board of Directors has proposed some changes to the membership dues structure starting next year (2011). Dues paid by members should be more in line with the actual cost the club has to put out per member. Considerable saving are realized when members receive their bulletins via email. To cover the added cost of US mailing bulletins, the membership dues must increase. For individual members, the current annual dues of \$20.00 will increase to \$25.00. Family annual dues (2 adults at the same address) of \$28.00 will increase to \$33.00. Members receiving the bulletin via email will not have an increase in their dues. That means, compared to the increase in dues for members receiving the bulletin via US mail, their dues will be \$10.00 less. This is on the agenda for the August Educational Meeting. Please be prepared to offer your input.

# A CO-OP "MEMBER FIELD TRIP" TO AUSTIN, NEVADA

TRIP LOCATION - Austin, Nevada

## TRIP DIFFICULTY RATING SCALE

**Vehicle Access & Parking** - # 8/9 4x4 or high clearance w/posi-traction or all wheel slip prevention...4x4 required due to unknown & possible difficult roads & trails. Road quality varies each year due to winter weather.

**Collection or View Site** - #5/6/7 - collecting can be ¼ to 1 mile from parking area, moderate difficulty with hills, brush, creeks & ravines.

**WHEN** - September 4, 5, 6, Saturday through Monday (Labor Day Weekend - Holiday)

**SPONSOR CLUB** - El Dorado County Mineral & Gem Society & the Amador County Mineral & Gem Society.

**MEMBER'S GUESTS** -Restricted to 26 people -**Members of a gem & mineral club only** - sorry, no guests this time!

**Sorry! Guest list is filled...maybe next time!**

**COLLECTION MATERIAL** - Snakeskin Agate, Fluorite, Daisy Agate, Leaf Fossils - maybe something new!

**LEADER & CONTACT INFO** - Barbara Terrill (530) 676-2375 or [membership@edcar.org](mailto:membership@edcar.org) - Marty Carswell at [martcars@hotmail.net](mailto:martcars@hotmail.net) or (209) 296-3156. You can call Florence Brady also at (916) 961-6888.

**PROPOSED SCHEDULE** - Some locations still to be scheduled. First day fluorite & daisy quartz.

- **THIS IS NOT THE COMPLETE FIELD TRIP WRITE-UP. CONTACT THE LEADER IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN THIS TRIP.**



## Tumbling Tip - Selecting Stones

Putting it simply, it is important that you select stones that will polish in order to be successful at tumble polishing. The looks of rocks can be deceiving, but in general those with a hard surface and sometimes shiny look to them are likely to polish best. Stones with hardness of around 5 to 7.5 on the Mohs Scale of Hardness are best. This includes the agates and jaspers, which are the easiest to polish. Softer and harder stones and certain stones, such as Apache Tears and jade, are special challenges and require special procedures. Batching stones of the same hardness gives you the best outcome.

*from Diamond Pacific website  
[www.diamondpacific.com/selectingstones.html](http://www.diamondpacific.com/selectingstones.html)  
Via Petroglyphs 4/09 and Amador Nugget 4/09*

## Bounce--Tips for in the Field and More

*Source: from various received e-mails  
via Rock chips 4/05 and The Roadrunner 11/05,  
via The Backbender's Gazette 1/06*

A mail carrier told me that the US Postal service sent out a message to all letter carriers to put a sheet of Bounce in their uniform pockets to **keep yellow jackets away**.

I use them all the time when rockhounding and working outside. It really works. The yellow jackets just veer around you. Golfers put a Bounce sheet in their back pocket to **keep the bees away**. And all this time you've just been putting Bounce in the dryer!

**Repel mosquitoes**. Tie a sheet of Bounce through a belt loop when outdoors during mosquito season. It will **chase ants away** when you lay a sheet near them.

It also **repels mice**. Spread them around foundation areas or in RVs, or in cars that are sitting, and it keeps mice from entering your vehicle.

**Freshen the air in your car**. Place a sheet of Bounce under the front seat. Eliminate more odors by placing a sheet of Bounce at the bottom of the wastebasket and in the vacuum cleaner.

**Eliminates static electricity from your TV** (or computer) screen. Since Bounce is designed to help eliminate static cling, wipe the screen with a used sheet of Bounce to keep dust from resettling.

**Eliminate static electricity from Venetian blinds**. Wipe the blinds with a sheet of Bounce to prevent dust from resettling.

**Dissolve soap scum** from shower doors. Clean with a sheet of Bounce.

**Prevent thread from tangling**. Run a threaded needle through sheet of Bounce before beginning to sew.

**Collect cat hair**. Rubbing the area with a sheet of Bounce will magnetically attract all the loose hairs.

**Wipe up sawdust** from drilling or sand papering. A used sheet of Bounce will collect sawdust like a tack cloth.

**Deodorize shoes or sneakers**. Place a sheet of Bounce in your shoes or sneakers overnight.

Put a Bounce sheet **in your sleeping bag and tent before folding and storing them**. Keeps them smelling fresh.

## The Hindin Peridot

By Dr. Anthony Kampf

For millennia people have combed the earth in search of its elusive treasures; rarely have they succeeded. Yet even today, when it seems as though virtually every square inch of our globe has been explored, great gem discoveries remain to be made. The most remote and inhospitable regions hold the greatest promise, the greatest allure, and the greatest hardships.

Pakistan's North West Frontier Province, lying within the great Himalaya Mountain Range, is one of the most rugged and isolated regions of the world. A deposit of magnesite—a non-descript white mineral with some industrial uses—is found here at Sapat in the upper Jalkot Valley, at an elevation of about 15,000 feet. The same incredible forces that built the Himalayas were responsible for pushing the magnesite source rock up from the depths of the earth's mantle.

A small band of Pakistanis had been eking out a modest existence from the deposit using very primitive methods. Then in the early 1990s, the miners began to find occasional glassy yellowish-green fragments. Their excitement grew as they contemplated the possibility that they had found emeralds, and they were encouraged by the reaction of the gem dealers in Peshawar (with its population of more than 500,000, the largest city in the region). Eventually some of the yellowish-green material made its way to the German gem center Idar-Oberstein where it was pronounced to be peridot.

Word spread quickly after that, both in the world gem market and in the outreaches of Pakistan. Thousands of local people descended on Sapat, each digging frantic-

ally to secure their personal dream of instant wealth. In a short time this wonderfully rich deposit has yielded some of the finest and largest peridot crystals ever found. But even though the deposit is only accessible for a few months each year, the flurry of mining is threatening to exhaust its reserves (some say that already there is little left). It would not be the first time that a gem locale of apparently vast richness disappeared virtually overnight.

Many of the more attractive crystals from Sapat have been offered for sale to mineral collectors, but the economics of the gem market dictate that crystals of top color and clarity be cut into gems. Fortunately, the largest well-formed crystal from the deposit (which is also the largest found to date anywhere) was saved from the cutter. This extraordinary 6-inch-tall crystal, weighing 4795 carats and containing between 300 and 400 carats of fine gem material, was purchased for the

Natural History Museum by Melvin S. Hindin.

Realizing that the crystal told only part of the story, Mr. Hindin acquired a matching faceted gem for the museum's collection. The cut stone, which weighs 231 carats, is itself among the biggest and best in the world. It shares a place of honor beside the crystal, which has been dubbed "The Hindin Peridot," on display in the Gallery of Gem Crystals at the rear of the museum's Hall of Gems and Minerals.

*From the Bulletin of the Mineralogical Society of Southern California 12/04*



The Hindin Peridot

©Photo by Harold and Erika Van Felt. Used with permission.

# Chrysanthemum Stone

by Art Smith, Houston Gem & Mineral Society Member

A couple of months ago a fellow member of the Society asked what I knew about chrysanthemum stone from China. I replied, "Not much, but I found an article a couple of years ago when I bought a chrysanthemum stone frog for my lapidary stone frog collection." For those who are not sure what I am writing about, the chrysanthemum flower stone (or just chrysanthemum stone) consists of a two-dimensional radiating mineral "frozen" in matrix that looks like a flower, in particular, a chrysanthemum.

The stone may naturally expose the "flower," or more frequently it is carved or sand blasted to expose the "flowers" and to form the rock into irregular but somewhat artistic shapes. The rock with the "flowers" may be smoothed or polished to give it a finished look. Such products are very popular in the Far East. In recent years, small rocks with chrysanthemums have been fairly common in mineral shows in other countries.

In China many of the chrysanthemum stones are found in Hunan Province, Kiuyan County along the Yung River (Li 1990). Here the matrix is Permian age Quixia Limestone. The chrysanthemum petals are blades of white to pale bluish gray, rarely transparent, bladed celestine crystals that radiate from a small chert nodule center (Li 1990). In some specimens the blades of celestine have been replaced by white calcite, and the matrix may be dyed a dark color to give a nice contrast between matrix and "flower." When radiating celestine blades have a diameter of one inch or less, they can be more equal in width and length. Frequently in the larger radiations, the blades of celestine may be variable in width and length. Some blades dominate, being much longer and wider than the others, and so the radiation has less of a chrysanthemum appearance.

Li (1990) also mentions similar stones from Hunan but in Luxi County. Also he mentions andalusite chrysanthemums that probably occur in a metamorphic rock from near Beijing.

Chrysanthemum stone called "Kiku-ishi" comes from a Hill called Maru-Yama just north of Mount Funabas in Gifu Prefecture Japan (Webster and Anderson 1983). The chrysanthemum petals are phenocrysts of zircon and xenotime in basalt, an igneous rock. A similar rock occurs on Vancouver Island in British Columbia, Canada. Zeitner (1996) mentions white phenocrysts forming chrysanthemums in a gray-green basaltic matrix and green flowers in a charcoal gray basalt matrix also from British Columbia. It is obvious that the matrix rock is not important. It can be igneous, metamorphic,

or sedimentary. It is the overall aesthetics of the flowers and the appearance of the finished product that is important to the Oriental buyer.

## References:

- Li, J. 1990 Chrysanthemums. *Lapidary Journal* 44(4):41.
- Webster, R. and B. W. Anderson 1983 *Gems, Descriptions and Identification*. 4th. Butterworths, London, 1006p.
- Zeitner, J. C. 1996 *Gem and Lapidary Materials for Cutters, Collectors, and Jewelers*. Geoscience Press, Tucson, AZ. 347p.

*From The Backbender's Gazette 6/05*



Chrysanthemum Stone of Yangzi River Valley, Hunan Province, China, from <http://www.gemologyonline.com/>

"The chrysanthemum stone is approximately 270 million years old. It is a dark gray to black limestone matrix with andalusite crystals taking on the appearance of a chrysanthemum and contains more than 10 kinds of trace elements, such as selenium, strontium, gold, silver, & bismuth." (<http://www.kristauphe-gems.com/>)

"The stone's availability will be limited because mining will only be able to continue until the waters behind the Hunan Dam are released in the year 2009, which will then flood the Yangtzi River Valley. The stone will then be under water." (<http://www.kristauphe-gems.com/>)

"Marketed specimens are often highlighted by selective painting of the matrix with a black dye to over-emphasise the crystal pattern, which in the process obliterates some of it." (<http://www.mindat.org>)

## Volunteers Needed for Gem Show

The RRR has been invited to run the kitchen for the Treasure Trove of Gems show in Orangevale on August 21-22. We will receive a portion of the kitchen profits from this effort. If you would like to volunteer to help out, please contact Lisa Giampietro at (916) 652-3542.

### Treasure Trove of Gems



### Gem, Jewelry & Mineral Show

**August 21 - 22, 2010**  
 Saturday 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
 Sunday 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

The Treasure Trove of Gems Show is conveniently located in Orangevale and easily accessed from the Greater Sacramento and other Northern California locations.

**ORANGEVALE COMMUNITY CENTER**  
 6826 Hazel Avenue, Orangevale, CA 95662

**Over 20 World Class Dealers and Exhibitors**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Custom Gold &amp; Silver Jewelry</li> <li>● Beads &amp; Findings</li> <li>● Mineral Specimens</li> <li>● Faceted Gems</li> <li>● Rough &amp; Polished Gemstones</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Fossils</li> <li>● Petrified Wood</li> <li>● Carvings</li> <li>● Display Supplies</li> <li>● Lapidary Material &amp; Equipment</li> </ul>
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*Fossils For Fun Society Invites You To*

**The 10th Annual Tailgate Gemboree**

**September 11 & 12, 2010**  
**Saturday and Sunday**  
**9 to 5**



*Join us at the Kennedy Mine in Jackson for*

- Free Admission (\$2 parking)
- Fossil and Rock Exhibits & Dealers
- Teacher Specials on Fossils
- Saturday Evening Potluck and Live Auction
- Kennedy Mine Tours Available

## August Calendar

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

## 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.

Sep. 4, 5, 6	Austin, NV for fluorite, snakeskin agate, other minerals <i>El Dorado Co. Club</i> , Barbara Terrill
Date TBA	Minnesota Mine for minerals, <i>Sacramento Mineral Society</i> , Joe Shook
Sep. 11	Tuledad Canyon CA/NV for Tuledad agate, <i>Paradise G&amp;M Club</i> , Mike Eggleston
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	TBA. <i>Mother Lode MS</i> , Al Troglin
Jan. 5-22, 2011	Tanzania, East Africa for sapphires, other gems & minerals. North Bay Field Trips, <i>Contra Costa Mineral &amp; Gem Society</i> , Dennis Freiburger. (For contact information, contact your club's field trip leader).
<b>Check this page in the bulletin each month for more trips &amp; updated information.</b>	

## Minerals 'R' Us

by Millie Heym

I looked at the label of my vitamin jar  
 And got a glimpse of what we are:  
 Calcium, magnesium, manganese, and more,  
 In all those bottles at the health food store.  
 The same minerals that make our pretty rocks  
 Are the human body's building blocks;  
 No wonder we are drawn to stones—  
 They're literally in our very bones!

*from Coral Geode, 3/00, via BEMS Tumbler 6/04*

## Upcoming Northern California Shows

### August 7 & 8 2010, San Francisco, CA

San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society  
 San Francisco Co. Fair Bldg. (Hall of Flowers)  
 9th Ave. & Lincoln Way, Golden Gate Park  
 Hours: Sat 10-6 Sun 10-5  
 Carleen Mont-Eton (415)564-4230  
 Email: [publicity@show.sfgms.org](mailto:publicity@show.sfgms.org)  
 Website: [www.sfgms.org](http://www.sfgms.org)

### August 21 & 22 2010, Orangevale, CA

Treasure Trove of Gems  
 Orangevale Community Center  
 6826 Hazel Ave.  
 Hours: Sat 10-6 Sun 10-5  
 Email: [Info@TreasureTroveofGems.com](mailto:Info@TreasureTroveofGems.com)  
 Website: [www.TreasureTroveofGems.com](http://www.TreasureTroveofGems.com)

### September 3-6 2010, Fort Bragg, CA

Mendocino Coast Gem & Mineral Society  
 Town Hall, Corner of Main & Laurel  
 Hours: Fri-Sun 10-6 -- Mon 10-4  
 Don McDonell (707) 964-3116  
 Email: [ejwebb@mcn.org](mailto:ejwebb@mcn.org)

### September 18-19 2010, Redwood City, CA

Sequoia Gem & Mineral Society  
 Community Activities Building  
 1400 Roosevelt Ave.  
 Carol Corden (650) 248-7155  
 Email: [ccorden@comcast.net](mailto:ccorden@comcast.net)  
 Website: <http://sgms.drifmine.com>

### September 25-26 2010, Monterey, CA

Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society  
 Monterey Fairgrounds, 2004 Fairgrounds Road  
 Hours: Sat 10-6; Sun 10-5  
 Susie Harlow  
 Email: [Susie@tghcpa.com](mailto:Susie@tghcpa.com)  
 Website: <http://www.cvgms.org>

### October 2-3 2010, Oroville, CA

Feather River Lapidary & Mineral Society  
 Oroville Municipal Auditorium  
 1200 Meyers street  
 Hours: 10 - 4  
 Mary Fong-Walker (760) 728-1130  
 Email: [ikonmiming@gmail.com](mailto:ikonmiming@gmail.com)  
 Website: <http://www.OrovilleRocks.com>

(Eighth 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

## HAPPY CAMP JADE

*appeared in June 1975*

Our Fourth of July trip this year is to Happy Camp for jade, so I decided to do a little research on the area for those interested in going. With the help of literature from Anna Bennett, the following is what I found out.

Happy Camp is located in Northern Siskiyou County, northwest of Mount Shasta, on the Klamath River. It was founded in 1852 as a mining town. Gold, copper and lumber have been its industries in the past, and it is one of the centers of the Klamath Indian population.

The Wong Chan mine is the biggest source of jade in the area. It is located on a steep bluff about 75 feet above the boulder-strewn bed of Indian Creek's south fork. A good foot trail leads from the road to the mine. The old tunnels are unsafe, but fragments, cobbles, and even boulders of jade, and near-jade materials are scattered down the bluff and along the creek.

The jade found at the Wong Chan is nephrite, a compact, usually dark green mineral often containing small specks of native gold. More common in the area is a light green variety of the mineral idocrase, a near-jade material which most collectors call vesuvianite or californite. Most of the green-colored rock you'll see on your hike up the creek is serpentine. The secret of successful collecting at the Wong Chan lies in distinguishing the gem-quality jade and near-jade from the common serpentine.

Although the rough field specimens of jade, vesuvianite, and serpentine may look very much alike to the novice, the practiced rockhound will look for the respective definitive properties that help distinguish each of the three materials. Because they all have a similar color range, color is not of much help; but the degree of hardness, the type of fracture, the specific gravity, and the feel of the material offer some excellent clues, for field identification.

Serpentine is much softer than either jade or vesuvianite, and can usually be scratched by scraping the point of a knife blade across a freshly broken surface. Nephrite jade and vesuvianite are too hard to be scratched by a knife.

Certain minerals often fracture in a characteristic man-

ner. Break off a small corner of the suspected gem material and study the fractured surface. Nephrite has a rough, hackly fracture while vesuvianite usually breaks with a clean, even surface.

The feel of a mineral also offers clues to identification. Serpentine is almost greasy to the touch, as though its surface were coated with talcum powder. Nephrite and vesuvianite both have a smooth, glass-like texture, but nephrite is usually a uniform green while vesuvianite is often streaked with pale green and yellow.

Although you may find good specimens of pure nephrite or vesuvianite, you should also search pieces of serpentine for small nodules, pods, or lenses of the two gem-quality materials. It is not uncommon, to find small amounts of nephrite and vesuvianite closely associated with serpentine in a single specimen. A mineral found in the area is a white variety of grossularite garnet. Most of the vesuvianite you'll find will contain lenses of the white grossularite.

Like many of the old Western mines, the Wong Chan mine is reputedly haunted. According to legend, the original owner, a Chinese prospector named Wong Chan, fell or was pushed into an open mine shaft during a rowdy party celebrating his discovery of the jade deposit. Wong's body was never recovered, but a skull, believed to be the last remains of the unfortunate prospector, was found years later along nearby Dead Man's Gulch.

On the warm evenings of late summer (at the stroke of midnight and by the light of the full moon!) the ghost of Wong Chan is said to prowl the vicinity of the old mine. The jade mine is also on the periphery of the alleged territory of Big Foot, so who knows what we'll see there!

The July 4th trip to the Happy Camp area promises to be an interesting and productive trip. The jade from there is known around the world. Much of it has been sent to China for carving. There is also rhodonite to be collected in the area.

*Article not signed, but could be by Imogene Haynes, RRR Editor*

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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**