

# ROCKONTUER

Volume 25, Issue 9

September 2015

## Words from the President:

Well! There were a lot of awards presented at last month's General Meeting in August. **Nancy Bodily** and **Jim Mills** won awards for articles in our Newsletter from the CFMS. Now these articles automatically are forwarded to the AFMS for the National Competition. Good luck and a big congratulations to everyone who won an award from the CFMS. The CFMS (California Federation Mineralogical Societies, Inc.) was created to bring a closer association to Clubs and Societies in California, and also to help promote the study of Earth Sciences, Lapidary Arts and Crafts in California. Our Club and 109 more Clubs are affiliated with the CFMS. Their link is [www.cfmsinc.org](http://www.cfmsinc.org).

The Hoover Award was presented to **Gene Bilyeu**. The Hoover Award is not just awarded to anyone. This person has a complete understanding of the mechanics and operations of a very complex piece of equipment. Thank You Gene for doing the job no one seems to gravitate to! If anyone is interested in learning how to operate this complex piece of equipment, Gene is a great instructor and would enjoy teaching someone everything he knows about this fascinating piece of equipment.

The Founders Award for 2015 was awarded to **Denise Halopoff** and **Michael Judy** by last year's Founders Award recipient **Galen Moyer**. Denise and I are honored to be recognized by the Club. Along with many others, we have been working hard to help improve an already successful Club. We enjoy the Club and its great Members and will continue to do our best for the Club. Thank you everyone.

Our Annual Lapidary Picnic was a great success. A special Thank You to **Galen Moyer** for hosting this event at his house. We had many demonstrators and they were busy all day. Also a big Thank You to **Everyone** who brought food for the potluck, **David Nelson** for doing an outstanding job cooking the hot dogs, and **Denise Halopoff** for supplying the drinks and chili.

**Galen Moyer** was doing demonstrations in his lapidary room with different types of equipment. **Bob Baker**

was doing hands on demonstrations with his Genie cabbing machine. **Kincy Scott** brought his Barranca hand polisher, showing that no rock is too big to be polished! **John McCabe** was teaching the trim saw and showing the **Jr. RockHounds** different lapidary equipment for their lapidary badges.

**Michael Judy** was demonstrating the Art of Panning and the steps of a rock tumbler from start to finish.

Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at 10am is our Annual Club Picnic at the Templeton Park in Templeton. This will also be our General Meeting as well. This picnic is all about having fun, fun, and more fun. The Club will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, and all the fixin's. **Dave Bender**, **David Nelson**, and **Michael Judy** will be cooking hot dogs and hamburgers for everyone. There will be a Club auction with Auctioneer **Pete Duckworth** auctioning off lapidary equipment, rough rocks, polished rocks, and much more. We are always accepting donations for the auction, please contact **Michael Judy** or **Barbara Bilyeu** if you have anything to donate or bring the donations to the picnic. With the introduction of the Metal Detecting contest last year, everyone had such a good time that we will be doing it again, so bring your detector!

There are also many more fun games for everyone to enjoy. Hope to see everyone at this event. A good time will be had by all!

Dues for membership renewal is coming up for the 2016 calendar year. Dues have to be in by December. What do dues do? Good question! Dues are \$20 dollars and \$8 dollars for addition family members. The Club pays \$8 dollars per person for Club insurance. This is not a money maker for the Club. This pays for the insurance for Club Members who partake in Club Activities and Club Events. New Members (only) to the Club who paid their dues after July 1<sup>st</sup>, will be credited \$10 dollars for their renewal for 2016.

Woo Hoo!! **Richard Wade** will be our guest speaker in October doing a presentation on **Astronomy**. This is a presentation you do not want to miss! And coming up soon is our **Annual Holiday Party** in December.~~Michael Judy~~

### Next Board Meeting

Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup>  
The Wellness Kitchen  
1255 Las Tablas Rd. Ste 102  
Templeton @ 7pm  
Everyone is invited

### Next General Meeting

Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>  
Annual Picnic  
Templeton Park  
Templeton @ 10am  
Everyone is invited

# **ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC**

## **Sunday, SEPTEMBER 20TH**

### **TEMPLETON PARK**

#### **10 AM**

#### **IRISES ARE COMING!**

I'm planning to have irises for sale again at our **Picnic in Templeton Park** at a-buck-a-bag, proceeds to go to the Club. If anyone else has plants they would like to bring to sell for the Club, bring them.

~~Barbara Bilyeu~~

#### **Annual RockHound Club Picnic!**

**Sunday**, September 20, is the date for our **Annual Club Picnic** in Templeton Community Park, starting at 10:00. This is a great time to join your fellow club members in a day of food and merriment.

This year's fare to feast on will be hamburgers and hot dogs, grilled to perfection by our very own bar-b-que masters **Dave Bender, David Nelson, and Mike Judy!**

We ask that all club members bring a delicious dish to share with all; either an appetizer, salad, side dish, or dessert. The club will provide paper plates and plastic ware, condiments for the burgers & dogs, water, lemonade, punch, and some sodas. If you choose to drink something else, you can bring that, too.

There will be a live auction that will give you the opportunity to buy lapidary equipment, rocks for polishing, rocks for display, handmade jewelry, and many other fine items. Once again, **Pete Duckworth** will be our auctioneer, and if we are very lucky, **Joyce Baird** will be his "Vanna White"! If you have something rock related that you would like to donate to the auction, please bring it along with you.

We will once again be having our fun and fabulous **Metal Detecting Treasure Hunt!** Where else can you see many of your friends metal detecting without the benefit of a metal detector! It's fun for everyone! But if you *do* have a metal detector, bring it!

There will be a croquet set, dartless lawn darts (!?), and the rock toss. Bring along your "A" game, and if you have any other games that you would like to play, bring them along, too.

Don't forget your sunscreen and hat, lawn chairs, beach blanket or towel to sit on, maybe an umbrella or canopy, your sense of humor, your appetite, and your pic-i-nic basket, Boo Boo! See you here, Yogi!

#### **Refreshments:**

With the annual picnic taking place on Sunday September 20th, there will be no meeting on Monday September 21st. Bring an appetizer, salad, side dish, or dessert to share with the other members of the club.

#### **Dues are Due: (for 2016)**

**\*\*Don't Forget!\*\*** We will not be meeting on Monday September 21st. Our Club Picnic is the third Sunday, September 20th, at Templeton Community Park. We would prefer that you didn't bring your dues to the park. Dogs and dues are not allowed in the park. If you don't mail your dues, you can bring your dues to our next meeting, which will be Monday October 19th at the Templeton Community Center.

#### **New Members:**

**Leonard & Carol Johnson**  
**Judy Carlson**  
**Diane Brock**

**Rick Porterfield**  
**Pat & Casey O'Grady**  
**Tina, Dave, Karen & Amanda Clark**



**Galen Moyer**  
 Presented  
 The Santa Lucia  
 Rockhounds  
 2015 Founders Award  
 to  
**Denise Halopoff**  
 &  
**Michael Judy**  
 in Recognition  
 of Exceptional Service

## Did you know?

A look at earth science odds and ends by a geology geek (Jim Mills)



Have you visited Devils Postpile on the east side of the Sierra Nevada Mountains? It is a National Monument which is managed by the staff of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Park. It is basically a geologic formation of columnar basalt, formed because the basalt cooled slowly enough to allow the development of jointing cracks in the rock. Basalt is an ultramafic rock (translation: It contains a lot of iron and magnesium minerals but much less in the way silica). When molten magma contains a very high percentage of mafic minerals, it is generally less viscous (translation: it is soupy rather than syrupy) and thus flows much easier than other molten magma.

In the case of Devils Postpile, there was a lot of it and it flowed into a basin and created a "pool" almost 400 feet thick. When the pool is large enough the periphery of hot rock tends to insulate the center and keep it hot. As a result, the magma at the center takes considerable time to cool and solidify. But in the process of cooling slowly, the center mass of magma begins to develop vertical joints in the rock -- because hot rock will tend to shrink as it cools. If it is in a very large body (in this case, up to 400 feet deep and a mile across) it will simply begin to crack on a regular interval. Notice the top of the Devils Postpile in the following photo:



The basalt tends to break into roughly hexagonal columns and, while there are exceptions (some are five sided rather than six), the top gives a very good impression of what is happening all the way down through the joints. Because the basalt erupted during one of the interglacial episodes of the recent Ice Ages, it was eventually followed by a glacial covering of ice which accounts for the nice smooth surface on the top of the postpile. All of this took place in the last 100,000 years -- it is interesting to contemplate all of that volcanic activity in the middle of the ice ages.

The National Park Service brochure on the Devils Postpile calls this kind of rock formation "rare," however a much better term might be "not common." Why? Because there are lots of other examples of columnar basalts in other places in the world. The Devil's Tower in Wyoming is one of them. It is also an area in the National Park System. It is a single, stand-alone geographic feature which makes it an impressive sight from a distance.



Another example a little closer to California is the entire Columbia Plateau in Washington and Oregon. While not nearly as impressive as the single stand-alone features like Devils Postpile and Devil's Tower, you can drive for miles and miles and see frequent outcrops of columnar basalt -- thinner perhaps and not so striking as to be named "Devil's" anything, but nevertheless geologically interesting. Here's a photo I snapped outside a campsite on the South Fork Crooked River in Oregon. It is not impressive enough to become a National Park, and it is only one of literally thousands of spots just like it on the Columbia Plateau.



Perhaps best of all, you could, if desired, pick up a length of columnar basalt for your rock collection (or garden) on the Columbia Plateau. The National Park Rangers would frown on taking home a souvenir from Devils Postpile National Monument! Hmmm, perhaps "frown" is not nearly strong enough wording.

Note: The Monument was created in 1911 as *Devil Postpile National Monument*, and then was known as *Devil's Postpile National Monument* by many people for years. But, since the 1930s, the Park Service has officially used the plural without the apostrophe; it is officially called *Devils Postpile*.

*Just thought you would like to know...*

# Santa Lucia RockHounds Annual Lapidary Picnic



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## Annual Club Picnic

Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>

Please bring your Donations to support the  
Club Auction

Good Humor: By Doren Strane

The winning pastry chef always made her PYRITE.

**Mother Jade**  
By Nancy Bodily

More and more these days I embrace my alone time, and this was my Mother's Day gift: Geoff in Florida for his cousin's college graduation; Cass working at the Cayucos Candy Counter for the day; dogs fed and happy; and me, top down on the Z, music (of course), my long, hippie hair flowing free, headed out in search of elusive jade on the wild and powerful Big Sur coast.

This was a day made for driving, mid-morning blue sky dusted with clouds and out my windshield Highway 1! This the road of West Coast legend. A road at the whim of an age-old battle between water and land.

Curves, ocean, music, coffee, horsepower, jade.

My destination Willow Creek. Its craggy shoreline sidles up to Jade Cove where the savage go in search of green stones the size of boulders, but I am neither savage nor interested in underwater excavation. I search the little jewels from shore, these gifts from mother ocean who has rocked and held and shaped her ancient stones into perfection, only to leave them for the picking for those of us willing to search.

Following the contours of the coast, I climb slowly up from the flats of San Simeon where Hearst Castle stands as a reminder that while the rich may enjoy a good view they have terrible taste in home décor.

Past the bellowing and ripe Sea Lions, past the hillside carpets of periwinkle lupine and native grass I climb higher as the Monterey Pine and tightening road hasten the heart and steal my breath.

I have been to the Big Sur coast only twice, and found the experience overwhelming. At no point does the ocean seem as incomprehensibly massive in its expanse, and yet the lumbering North American land mass is doing its mighty best to push back, and to be present at this point where these two energies collide with such force is to be moved in strange and mysterious ways.

Henry Miller, who lived in Big Sur, said it best "...One feels exposed — not only to the elements, but to the sight of God."

And this time I was going in alone, in a fierce, driving machine.

The BMW Z3M Roadster was made for driving Highway 1, and with a few bold moves around motor homes and gawking lovebirds, the Z and I became one with road, curve and sky.

Willow Creek is one of the few places a road winds down to the sea, where I found the ocean in ferment, and a field of boulders on either side of the creek to welcome me.

I chose a direction, crossed the boulder field and rounded the point to a magnificent beach laden with possibilities. I spent hours on that beach, mindful of the tide. My hands in the earth and sea, sifting through stone worn of the ages, at times the ocean sounding like a jet fighter, and at times my connection to the earth so strong I hardly noticed the sound. And ocean polished jewels of agate, quartz, serpentine and jasper winked and whispered to my sensibilities.

Did I find jade? Not until Mike and his dog Cocoa, came by in that friendly, surf warrior way, asking if I'd had any luck. He and a few other beachcombers shared the beach with me, though they didn't stay for long. I laughed and explained that I didn't know if I'd found what I was looking for because I wasn't sure what I was looking for. He said he had only found one small piece and he dug it out of his pocket, and then held it up to the sun to show its translucence. And then in a sweet Mother's Day offering, he gave me that little piece of jade and wished me luck.

Jade. Once you've found it, you know what you are looking for. At once translucent and cloudy, it offers a deep, dull hue, rich and smooth to the touch. On a beach filled with history, it is elusive, and requires one slow down, take in the mighty ocean, the sun, and filter the earth through your hands.

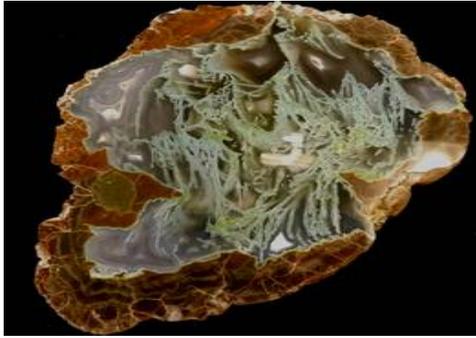


**C.F.M.S.**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Place Award**  
**Article**  
**From our June 2014**  
**Newsletter**

**Santa Lucia RockHounds**  
**HOLIDAY Party**

**DECEMBER**

### THUNDEREGGS - Part 3 By Barbara Bilyue



Let's continue our Thunderegg Tour and swing a bit north of Madras, Oregon, where we have been visiting the Richardson Ranch. We only touched on some of the variety of thundereggs that come from that location, but I want to acquaint you with another wonderful variety of moss-filled thundereggs that were found at a location we know as "Frieda", on the Deschutes River outside of a tiny town named Maupin. If you want to learn more about the early collecting days at this location (no longer accessible), our friend Ralph Bishop has written an account of collecting there with Paul Colburn, the "Geode Kid" back in "the days", which we may reprint in a future edition of the "Rockonteur". Meanwhile, these thundereggs are known for occasional specimens of incredible sea-green moss, and rare, perfect biconoid cores. Other thundereggs from this location aren't bad, either!

The Frieda beds are located very near to the Warm Springs Indian Reservation, which also has some amazing thunderegg beds. Because the thundereggs are a tribal resource, collecting is not permitted, and even purchasing them from a tribal member has been illegal until just recently. Here are some examples of thundereggs from some of the many thunderegg beds on the Warm Springs Reservation, with names such as Eagle Creek, Petroglyph, Happy Valley, Bear Hole, and Sasquatch!



#### FIELD TRIP: TRONA!!

For a really unique collecting experience in a unique area for unique minerals, plan to head east to Trona and Searles Lake on Oct. 10-11 for the annual Searles Lake Gem and Mineral Society's Gem-O-Rama. This is an experience every rockhounds should enjoy at least once, and rumor has it that this will be the last opportunity because the club will no longer be allowed to have their field trips on Searles "dry" Lake for borate minerals. This lake is mined heavily for these minerals by the Searles Valley Mineral Company, a new owner for this enterprise, and field trips are at their discretion. Hopefully this rumor isn't true, but it's an opportunity you should not miss. The Gem-O-Rama has been increasingly popular over the years, and attendance is amazing. Shoot, the experience is amazing!! It's suitable for all ages, and if you want to learn more, check out their extensive online information. There's even a cute YouTube video by a private party, documenting their 2013 trip when they camped at the Trona Pinnacles. One phrase that I thought was delightful was "gem pinata"! That's pretty much what one of the field trips is -- an unforgettable experience! ~~Barbara Bilyue~~

#### FIELD TRIP: JADE FESTIVAL!!

If you don't want to drive quite so far (or get quite so dirty), the Big Sur Jade Festival is happening the same weekend (Oct. 9 - 11) up the coast on Hwy. 1 at Pacific Valley School, across the road from Jade Cove. And this is truly a "festival", celebrating our beautiful California jade (as well as jade from a few other worldwide locations). Vendors fill the grounds with rocks and interesting merchandise, and there is live music all weekend, as well as really great food (proceeds benefit the Pacific Valley School). Whether or not you buy or eat or listen, the real star of the show is the incredible JADE that will be present. Jade in amazing colors, forms, and -- well, you just HAVE to touch it, stroke it, get lost in its translucent depths....! If you like jade, this is a "must". ~~Barbara Bilyue~~

**PIONEER DAY** Oct. 10th

**We have a Badge Machine:**

**Brett Weathersbee, Michael Judy, and Denise Halopoff** will be working hard to get Badges ready for the following people. They will be at the Club Picnic. Get your Badge and enjoy the picnic at the same time. If you don't have a Badge and are not on this list, please call Michael Judy at 805-238-4469.

<b>S. Allen</b>	<b>D. Brooke</b>	<b>K. Clark</b>	<b>O. Daulton</b>	<b>N. Hoopes</b>	<b>D. McIntosh</b>	<b>P. O'Grady</b>
<b>C. Allen</b>	<b>J. Carlson</b>	<b>A. Clark</b>	<b>W. Dow</b>	<b>J. Hoopes</b>	<b>C. McIntosh</b>	<b>H. Wilson</b>
<b>M. Beatty</b>	<b>C. Chambers</b>	<b>M. Coggin</b>	<b>D. Dow</b>	<b>S. Jacobs</b>	<b>P. Murphy</b>	
<b>B. Bingaman</b>	<b>T. Clark</b>	<b>K. Daulton</b>	<b>J. Dow</b>	<b>L. Johnson</b>	<b>C. Murphy</b>	
<b>G. Bingaman</b>	<b>D. Clark</b>	<b>C. Daulton</b>	<b>C. Dow</b>	<b>K. Johnson</b>	<b>C. O'Grady</b>	

# GEM & MINERAL SHOW

October 17-18  
Cayucos Vet's Hall  
Presented By  
SLO Gem & Mineral Club

# CALEDONIA DAYS

September 26  
10am-3pm  
San Miguel

Dutchoven Demos  
Artists  
Arrowhead Knapping  
Rock Collectors

Blacksmith Demos  
Quilters  
Small Engine Demos  
Live Music

**Nominating Committee For October**

The Nominating Committee consists of three members: The President appoints one, the Board elects one from the board, and one from the general membership. We will be asking someone from the general membership at the next meeting in October to volunteer. The Nominating Committee will get together and ask other members of the general membership to run for board and director positions.

Voting Officers: Preside at most Board Meeting

**President:** It is the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the club. As the Executive Officer, he performs such duties as may be necessary for the proper conduct of the affairs of the club, and/or as directed by the Board. The President is automatically an ex-official member of all committees.

**Vice President/Programs:** It is the duty of the Vice President/Programs are to obtain appropriate programs for the continuing education of the membership. In the absence or disability of the President, The Vice President/Programs performs the duties of the President.

**Vice President/Education:** Vice President/Education is responsible for planning and execution of educational activities of the club.

**Vice President/Communications:** Vice President/Communications is responsible for such communication duties as bulletin publication, publicity, and other publications preparation, with approval of and at the direction of the President, and perform such other duties as are necessary and appropriate at the discretion of the club President or the Board.

**Treasurer:** Treasurer collects all dues and moneys payable to the club, pays all bills, is responsible for funds of the club, and shall submit a report at each meeting of the membership and annual report at the Annual Meeting of the club. All checks are to be signed by the Treasurer and another elected officer. (The Treasurer's records are subject to mandatory annual audit.)

**Secretary:** Secretary, with approval of and under the direction of the President, keeps the minutes of all meetings, and keeps records of the club, which records shall be open to inspection of the membership at all times. The Secretary performs other duties as appropriate for club Secretary, and at the direction of the club President and/or the Board.

**Senior Director:** Senior Director is a voting member from the membership. Before you can hold the Senior Director position, you must first be a Junior Director at one time.

**Junior Director:** Junior Director is a voting member from the membership.

**Past President:** Past President helps the current President and the Board with current and past issues.

## Events:

## SEPTEMBER 2015

**September 20: TEMPLETON, CA**

Club Picnic

**September 19 - 20: CHICO, CA**

Feather River Lapidary &amp; Mineral Society

**September 19 - 20: REDWOOD CITY, CA**

Sequoia Gem &amp; Mineral Society

**September 26: SAN MIGUEL, CA**

Caledonia Days

**September 26 - 27: DOWNEY, CA**

Delvers Gem &amp; Mineral Society

**September 26 - 27: LODI, CA**

Stockton Lapidary &amp; Mineral Club

**September 26 - 27: MONTEREY, CA**

Carmel Valley Gem &amp; Mineral Society

**September 26 - 27: SANTA ROSA, CA**

Santa Rosa Mineral &amp; Gem Society

**September 30 - October 4: YUCCA VALLEY, CA**

Hi-Desert Rockhounds

## OCTOBER 2015

**October 3 - 4: BORON, CA**

Mojave Mineralogical Society

**October 3 - 4: VISTA, CA**

Vista Gem &amp; Mineral Society

**October 9 - 11: BIG SUR, CA**

Jade Festival

**October 10: PASO ROBLES, CA**

Pioneer Day

**October 10: MARIPOSA, CA**

Mariposa Gem &amp; Mineral Club

**October 10 - 11: ANDERSON, CA**

Shasta Gem &amp; Mineral Society

**October 10 - 11: GRASS VALLEY, CA**

Nevada County Gem &amp; Mineral Society

**October 10 - 11: TRONA, CA**

Searles Lake Gem &amp; Mineral Society

**October 11: FALLBROOK, CA**

Fallbrook Gem &amp; Mineral Facility

**October 17: WEST HILLS, CA**

Woodland Hills Rock Chippers

**October 17 - 18: CAYUCOS, CA**

San Luis Obispo Gem &amp; Mineral Club

**October 17 - 18: PLACERVILLE, CA**

El Dorado County Mineral &amp; Gem Society

**October 17 -18: WHITTIER, CA**

Whittier Gem &amp; Mineral Society

**October 24 - 25: LOS ALTOS, CA**

Peninsula Gem &amp; Geology Society

**The Rockontuer** is the official monthly newsletter of the **Santa Lucia Rockhounds**. It is an independent publication containing news and information consistent with the mission of SLR and of interest to its members.

Circulation is approximately 90 copies per issue.

**Interim Editor – Denise Halopoff**

**Interim Publisher – Michael Judy**

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**Member submissions** are encouraged and may be made by email or snail mail. We reserve the right to accept or refuse submissions and advertising that, in our opinion, do not reflect the standards of this newsletter, or are inconsistent with the objectives and purpose of the Santa Lucia Rockhounds. Submissions may be edited for content, grammar, spelling, punctuation and length without consent.

**Rockontuer** is not a creative writing outlet. However, all submissions that may be of interest to its readers and reflect the standards of the newsletter, will be considered for publication at the discretion of the editor or publisher.

**Deadline:** All submissions are due by midnight of the last day of the month but early submissions are highly appreciated and strongly encouraged. The publisher reserves the right to accept, reject or hold-over late submissions.

Santa Lucia Rockhounds Website: [www.slrockhounds.org](http://www.slrockhounds.org)

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**Santa Lucia Rockhounds, Inc.** is a charitable group organized as a California non-profit public benefit corporation. The specific purpose of the group is to promote the study of mineralogy, including (but not limited to) the fields of lapidary, metal working, jewelry design & fabrication, geology and field trips for collecting and related history. We encourage learning and good citizenship in a congenial atmosphere. We respect both private and public property and we strive to protect natural resources.

**Annual Dues** are \$20 for the first adult and \$8 each for every additional member in the same household. Dues are payable between 1 September and 31 December, in person at the meetings or by mail. Members in good standing receive the Rockontuer by mail or email.

We are a member of the **California Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CFMS)** and affiliated with the **American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS)**. **Santa Lucia Rockhounds, Inc.** is also a member of the **American Lands Access Association (ALAA)**.



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**Santa Lucia Rockhounds  
General Meeting Minutes  
August 2015**

President Mike Judy opened the meeting at 7:02 and led the pledge of allegiance. Eva Rodriguez represented the sunshine committee in singing happy birthday and happy anniversary to several members.

Lisa King read off a list of new members and presented them with their membership packets as they introduced themselves to the general meeting. Mike Judy announced the club purchase of a button machine that will be delivered in the near future. That will eliminate the previous problems of long delays in receiving buttons. See attached notes for new members names.

Mike also announced clarification of member dues policy. New members joining the club on or after July 1 of each year will pay only \$10 dues and \$8 insurance plus the \$8 insurance fee for each additional member.

John McCabe said that there are several new members of the Jr. Rockhounds and awarded badges of achievement to several of them.

Galen Moyer, last year's recipient of the founders award was pleased to award this year's honor on Mike Judy and Denise Halopoff for going above and beyond serving the club membership. Barbara Bilyeu also awarded Mike Judy the "Rockhound to go award" for his work with a local Boy Scout troop.

Mike Judy expressed the club's gratitude to Dave and Karen Bender for being an enormous help with show logistics this year. We couldn't have done it without you!

Gene Bilyeu received the prestigious Hoover Award from Mike Judy for his dedication and tireless efforts helping to set up and tear down the meeting venue each month. Thank you for talking on that responsibility!

Gen presented CFMS bulletin awards to two members in attendance. Jim Mills won two 4th place awards for articles written in our newsletter and Nancy Bodily received 1<sup>st</sup> place in the State of California for her article entitled "Mother Jade". Her article can be found on the members only page at [srockhounds.org](http://srockhounds.org) in the June 2014 club bulletin.

Barbara Bilyeu will be scheduling another trip to the Ralph Bishop Museum. Saturday August 22<sup>nd</sup> is lapidary demonstration day at Galen Moyers. See galen or call Mike Judy for directions. Bring chairs. The club will provide hot dogs.

The club picnic September 20 at Templeton Park will be held in lieu of the club meeting. The picnic starts at 10:00 and again the club will supply hamburgers and hot dogs. Please bring side dishes.

Octobers guest speaker will be Richard Wade. He will give a presentation on astronomy.

Mike announced an open voting position on the board and asked if anyone was interested in being Jr. Director. As there was no interest, Barbara Bilyeu nominated Doren Strane, the nomination received a second from Jim Mills and he was elected.

Mike announced the formation of a new page on the website for lapidary mentors. If you have a modicum of skill at any facet of lapidary, please feel free to volunteer your phone number and be listed as a mentor in case anyone has questions about your realm of lapidary expertise.

David Nelson announced that T-shirts are in so please pick them up if you ordered one.

Tonight's guest speaker Mike Judy gave an outstanding presentation about the basics of finding gold and gold panning.

The brag table was full tonight with biconoid specimens from Bret Weathersbee, spheres by Cliff Brewen, Petrified wood by Ernie Perlich and local agate specimens from Chris Driesbach.

Thanks to Michael Duniven (drawing table), Lisa King (membership), Denise Halopoff (refreshments), Pete Duckworth (silent auction) and David Nelson (merchandise)

The meeting adjourned at 8:22



**THE Wellness Kitchen**  
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**JADE  
FESTIVAL  
Oct. 9-11**

**Santa Lucia Rockhounds  
Business Meeting Minutes  
August 2015**

The meeting opened at 7:02 P.M.

with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Mike Judy, Brett Weathersbee, Vince Pellerin, Rachel Miller, David Nelson, Barbara Bilyeu, Lisa King, Mike Doherty, Denise Halopoff, Alice Pellerin, Gen Bilyeu, John McCabe and Dorin Strane.

Mike Judy moved to approve the minutes of last month's meetings. Brett seconded the motion and it was passed.

In correspondence, the Club received an invitation to participate in Digging Production's Gem and Mineral Show in Hanford on September 12th, and 13<sup>th</sup>. We also received the latest CFMS newsletter.

Mike Judy will pick up the keys for the general meeting next week.

Treasurer Rachel miller reported: The last general meeting generated \$334 in revenue. The breakdown was silent auction \$22, drawing \$88 and new membership dues \$224. Mike Judy passed around certificate of deposit rates from local banks. He will stop the rollover of the current CD next month until the board has had time to discuss what to do with our funds.

Mike Judy will have a presentation for the August general meeting. He will be followed in October by another presentation by Richard Wade regarding astronomy.

Brett Weathersbee filled in for Lisa King at the last meeting and was very busy accepting applications for eleven prospective new members. Lisa reported that we currently have 131 members not counting the prospective applicants. The new applicants, Leonard and Carol Johnson, Judy Carlson, Tina, Dave, Karen and Amanda Clark, Diane Brock, Rick Porterfield, and Pat and Casey O'grady were all approved by the board. Mike Judy passed out 1992 suggested guidelines for the membership committee. The board had a general discussion of each point in the guidelines. Decisions were made to include the website password in the packet handed to new members and possibly have a list of mentor names on the website that have specific lapidary skills to answer new member questions. The board also decided that starting July one of each year new joining members will only have to pay \$10 for dues plus \$8 for each additional family member. Regular dues will be assessed January 1 of the following year. Lisa King stated that she will no longer be able to fulfill membership duties next year and agreed that two or more people on the membership committee is a great idea.

Mike Judy broached the Idea of purchasing a machine that makes buttons due to the lengthy delays the club has had in the past getting buttons to new members. The cost would be approximately \$319. The board approved the purchase unanimously after a motion by Bret Weathersbee and a second by Barbara Bilyeu. John McCabe suggested that new members be introduced at the next general meeting. Mike Judy agreed. They will be presented with their club button by the membership chairperson at the introduction. Lisa Gave Vince Pellerin a copy of the Membership application to include on the website.

The next field trip will be at galen Moyer's house on August 22. Barbara Bilyeu will arrange another tour of Ralph Bishop's museum for club members that were unable to attend the last outing.

John McCabe stated that ther are lots of Jr. Rockhounds now and the room is getting crowded during the meetings.

Denise Halopoff wanted Mike to announce that she and other committee chairs would happily mentor prospective new committee people during the remainder of their terms this year. Mikie will anoonce this at the next meeting.

Although he was unable to attend this meeting, Mike Judy and the Board announced great appreciation for the job James King has done with the newsletter during the past two years.

Barbara Bilyeu proposed to give \$2,400 to the McElwain's for handling the sale of the property for the club. After discussion, Barbara moved to give them \$500 as a token of the club's appreciation and Bret seconded the motion. The motion passed without objection.

Potential fairground show dates for next year are the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in April or the 4<sup>th</sup> weekend in October. Templeton high school was also mentioned as a possibility.

The meeting adjourned at 8:44

**ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC**  
**Sunday, September 20th**  
**Templeton Park**  
**10 AM**

**Santa Lucia RockHounds**  
**P.O. Box 1672**  
**Paso Robles, CA 93447**

Address Correction Requested