

# Livermore

# Lithogram



**Volume XXXV, Number 12  
December 2010**

**Livermore Valley Lithophiles  
Livermore, California**

Next General Meeting:  
Thursday, Dec. 9, 2010  
Carnegie Building, 4th and 'J' Streets  
**6:00 PM 6:00 PM 6:00 PM**

**Program:** Christmas Potluck Dinner Meeting  
Carnegie Building 4th and 'J' St. 6:00 PM  
Dinner at 6:30. See page 3.

Next Board Meeting:  
Thursday, Dec. 23, 2010  
7:30 at 'The Shop'  
Members are welcome to attend!

**Refreshments:**  
  
Members - Potluck



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**Presidents Message:**

As we slide into the heart of the Holiday Season we have much for which to be thankful.

The BIG EVENT of the year, Lithorama, was a huge success. The reasons for this will be discussed at the January meeting if not sooner. The Barn was teeming with kids, parents and teachers due primarily to the extraordinary efforts of **Bill Beiriger** all year long. Bill was not a chairperson (there was none), but he was one super facilitator. Most of the sturdy elder elves showed up again to do all the big and little things that have to be done. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

Our next event is the annual holiday party Thursday evening, Dec. 9, at the Carnegie Building. Remember to bring a potluck dish, utensils, a white elephant gift, your Bingo luck. Door opens at 6:00 pm., food flows at 6:30 pm. It will be our regular meeting night but earlier.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR and look for details elsewhere on this page.

I hope to see all of you there.

Yes, Bob Trimmingham, President

Lithorama Report  
Bill Beiriger

I would like to thank all of the Lithophiles who helped make the Lithorama a great success. First on my list of thank you's goes to Gayla and Rich Langlois for all the food, this included the set-up dinner and the food for sale for everyone who attended the show. The Hunt's made chicken vegetable soup and I made ham & bean soup. I want to thank all who brought in pies and cakes.

We had two articles in the local newspapers, with thanks going to Stephanie Goldsmith for doing one for the Independent and Rich Hunt for the article in the Tri-Valley Herald. Diane Day redesigned the postcard that we had last year. It was passed out at the Concord show and given to many of the stores and restaurants in Livermore. Chris and Rich Hunt mailed the cards to a list of people who got raffle tickets at the 2009 show. The cards were also sent to 25 clubs and Nancy Bankhead got them into many of the Livermore Schools. As in the past I was able to put a display into the Main Livermore Library. We also got the banner put up on fourth street for the two weeks before the show.

Last year when the science teachers from the Livermore schools saw how busy we were in the children's area they told me they would like to help at the table. This year I had help from eight of the science teachers who's classes I give presentations to. Pam Farruci set up a schedule for the teachers to help at the show; this is the first time in several years that I had some free time to see the show. This year the children made a collection of four fossils to take home, the teachers enjoyed helping their students and the students enjoyed having their teachers help them with their project. Most of the teachers will be giving their students extra credit for attending the show. The schools gave us a lot of support on all fronts and as with last years show the student attendance was about 400.

Thanks to all who helped with set-up and breakdown. A big thanks to Jim Gruver for taking care of the electrical, there were no problems with any of the electrical power for the entire show. Deloris Colonna spent most of the show as cashier in the food area. Bob Trimmingham and Albert Hess spent their time at the show taking care of the rock and mineral sales area. Diane, Shana, and Jimmy did the night time security watch.

I wish to thank my wife for doing a great job with the decorations. Rich Langlois for getting the displays for the Glow Room. I also want to thank Ellen Placas' son for loaning us some of Ellen's Minerals and Jewelry for her memorial case.

We only had three demonstration stations set up. Dian Gardner - Faceting, Preston Bingham - Lamp Work Beads, and the Team of Shana Scott, Jimmy Bonilla, and Beverly Castillo - Freeform Carving.

We had extra help with the breakdown. Pat Iannucci got her son David and his friend to help and we also had the help of Shana's friends Jimmy Bonilla, Jacob Montana, and the Langlois grandson Nick. Many of our longtime members and many of our new members helped with set-up, during, and breakdown for the show. Other members that I would like to thank are: Joe Bruns, Diana Carey, Jane Crone, Lee & David Davisson, Stephanie Goldsmith, Pat Iannucci, Marilyn Janzen, Ernie and Beth Myers, Larry Patzhowski, Jay Springam, Lanny Thompson, Bob & Debbie Whiteside and if I have not thanked you in this newsletter, Please Let Me Know for next months newsletter.

We had about 700 adults and 400 children which was equal to last years show. We also had a moderate number of the adults return on Sunday who paid on Saturday and had their hand stamped.

Lastly I wish to thanks Chris and Rich Hunt for letting us use their house for the get-together and meeting after the show was over.

I have reserved the Barn and Banner on 4th street for next year. The next big item for Lithorama 2011 is that we need a chairperson.

**A B I G T H A N K Y O U T O E V E R Y O N E W H O H E L P E D**

**NOTE:  
ANNUAL MEETING AND HOLIDAY/CHRISTMAS POT-LUCK  
Start Time 6:00 PM - Eat 6:30 PM**

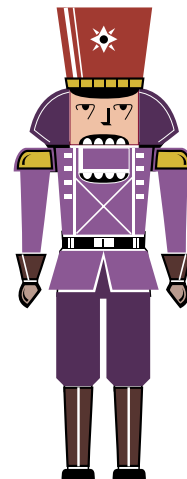
**IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR WHEN  
THE LITHOPHILES HAVE THEIR  
ANNUAL MEETING AND HOLIDAY/  
CHRISTMAS POT-LUCK**

**TIME - 6:00 PM  
EAT - 6:30 PM  
DATE - THURSDAY - DEC. 9  
PLACE - CARNEGIE BUILDING  
(OUR NORMAL MEETING AREA)**

**NOTE:  
THIS YEAR THE LITHOPHILES WILL  
SUPPLY A BEANS AND FRANKS  
CASSEROLE**

**BRING - A FOOD ITEM TO SHARE  
YOUR OWN PLATES, GLASSES AND  
SILVERWARE**

**AN EXCHANGE GIFT  
(White Elephant)  
(MARK IT - MALE / FEMALE / EITHER)**



***Sunshine***

Our condolences go out to Nancy Bankhead for the loss of her brother that lived in Montana. That is why we did not see her at the show this year.

For those who have not heard Bill Snyder had major damage to his knee we hope he will be back on his feet in the not to distant future.

## Minutes of the General Meeting

November 11, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 7.32 PM by President Bob Trimmingham.

**Guests:** None.

**Correspondence:** A copy of the CFMS newsletter, a flyer of a faceting contest (Prettyrock.com) and a thank you card from the Livermore schools, shown by Bill Beiriger.

**Sunshine:** Jay Spingam and Dianne Merlone announced their marriage of a couple months ago.

**Minutes:** The October General Meeting and Board Meeting minutes were approved as printed.

**Treasure's Report:** Diane Day gave the Treasurer's report. Limited income was from the Shop and expenditures were for the Show, Shop wheels, and postage stamps for the show flyers.

**Election of Officers:** The election of Club officers for 2011 was held after the Treasure's report. The slate of Bob Trimmingham for Club President; Larry Patzkowski for Club Secretary; and, Diane Day for Club Treasure was presented. Bill Beiriger made a motion to accept the slate with a second by Bill Snyder; the motion passed by acclamation. The Vice President's office was determined by a ballot election between Chris Hunt and Bill Snyder with Bill Snyder winning.

**Lithogram:** Bill Beiriger stated that articles are needed. He also corrected his statement in the Lithogram that Jim Gruver was a Life Member rather than a Charter Member as stated. Bob Trimmingham congratulated Lanny Thompson for her archeology field trip article.

**Shop Report:** Bill Beiriger reported that the two new wheels (#280 and #600) for the shop have been installed. There is a need for either Dick Friesen or Lynn Zirkle to train the new Shop team in the use of the larger saws.

**CFMS Report:** No report. Bob Whiteside is attending the semi-annual meeting on November 13 in Visalia, California and will vote affirmatively on a proposal to change the Bye-Laws in order to streamline insurance provisions for new clubs entering the federation as opposed to the present rather long waiting period.

**Schools:** Bill Beiriger presented to 5 classes at Mitchell School and will present to 3 more schools soon. He indicated that two teachers will help at the Lithorama.

**Field Trips:** The field trip to Black Chasm Cavern held on Sunday October 17 was described by Albert Hess and Rich Hunt. The site was described as a "vertical cave" with marble host rock, and a seasonally fluctuating groundwater table. The cave tour was about one hour long with many steep steps. The site now has National Landmark status. Future field trips could include the paleontology museum in Chowchilla, the Chabot Science Center, and paleontology and anthropology museums at UC Berkeley.

**Lithorama:** Show set-up will be on Friday November 19 starting at 8:30 AM. A set-up dinner will be after set-up. The Old Timers breakfast will be held at Emil Villas on Sunday morning, November 21 and an after show dinner will be held at the Hunt's. Stephanie Goldsmith posted show information on Craig's List.

**Work Shops:** None.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** Bill Snyder indicated that some special education high school students would like a tour of the shop.

**Refreshments:** Ample dessert refreshments were served.

**Program:** The program consisted of a “show and tell.” Nancy Bankhead showed a large quartz crystal point she found near Placerville along with larger quartz crystal, “Babe.” She also had four flat, polished pieces of agate (?) which she uses to press piles of dollar bills flat. Dianne Merlone brought in a large piece of ammolite rough. She also showed a rock comprised of a mass of fine-grained olivine crystals enclosed by a “xenolithic” groundmass as well as olivine crystals and jewelry (peridot). Lanny Thompson showed a basket full of dark green rocks with “bumps”; the rocks were from Washington state. Chris Hunt showed a 28-year old wedding gift which was a polished “Rose Stone” set on a carved wooden base. It was speculated that the rock may be rhodonite. Bob Trimmingham showed us a small, sandstone slab which had been painted with the Four Corners states Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah shown.

The meeting adjourned at 9:03 PM after the program.

Larry Patzkowski, Secretary

Photos from Lithorama 2010



In The Beginning there was a Barn



The Barn after Transformation



Al Hess and Rich Langlois Rock & Mineral Sales



Teresa Paden & Bill Beiriger - Childrens Area

Photos from Lithorama 2010

All photos (pg. 5 & 6) by Bob T. except In The Beginning by Bill B.



Diane Day - Lithophiles County Fair Case



Beth & Ernie Myers - Making a Box Ring



Bob Trimingham - Minerals of Northern California



Bob Trimingham - Minerals of Southern California



Al Hess - Petrified Wood



Joe Bruns, Jim Grover, Chris & Jessica Hunt

**Ellen Placas**  
**Dec. 18, 1920 - July 16, 2010**



As you can tell by this display Ellen liked everything she collected to be BIG. A couple of her mineral specimens are large enough that just one of them would fill this case with very little room for anything else. When you look at several of these photos you also see that she even liked BIG jewelry.

Ellen worked at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory as a non-destructive testing engineer.

She was an active member of St. Michaels Catholic Church and volunteered many years with the St. Vincent de Paul Society helping the needy.

She was also an active member of the Livermore Valley Lithophiles and spent much of her free time searching the globe for rocks and gemstones.

Ellen lived a full and wonderful life and the large star shaped geode tells it all. She was a STAR that will be missed by her family, friends and all whose lives she touched.



**Minutes of the Board Meeting**

November 21, 2010

The meeting was called to order about 7:15 pm at the home of Rich and Chris Hunt

After cleanup for Lithorama '10 and an informal but tasty dinner. A quorum was present including all officers but secretary Larry Patzkowski.

Bill Beiriger suggested that the society present a cash gift of \$25.00 each to three non-member teens, Jimmy, Jacob and Nick, who helped greatly with the show teardown. This was readily approved by all present.

Show attendance for the two days saw 400 adults on Saturday and 286 on Sunday. We don't know how many returnees we had on Sunday; a machine count might provide this information in the future. The children's counts were 193 and 182 respectively.

The remainder of the meeting continued discussion of the show, with points made as follows:

\*Should up the amount given to each school from the Mike Gorges fund.

Three schools participated in the crystal growing. Project. Six teachers helped Bill Beiriger on Saturday preparing fossil boards with the kids and four assisted on Sunday.. The teachers and students had fun interacting, and Bill finally found free time to see other parts of the show.

\*Bill Beiriger suggested that the Lithophiles spend about \$550.00 to buy the other five sets of DVDs for the schools. Rich Langlois so moved, Deloris Colonna seconded the motion, and the motion was passed

\*Bob Trimingham noted that the Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society was interested in the Lithophiles bringing silent auction material to their next show in November 2011. This proposal will be discussed at our January meeting with an arrangement of mutual benefit in mind.

\*Jim Gruver noted that the dividers we use at the show are very worn.

\*It will cost \$295.00 to put up the banner next year. After discussion it was decided to cover the cost. Bill B. figures the banner has one to two more years of life in it.

\*Stephanie Goldsmith saw to it that an article about the Lithorama appeared in *The Independent* just before the show and Rich Hunt did the same for the Tri-Valley Herald.

\*Show postcards should go to dealers six months in advance, should possibly have a map on the back, might be confused with Commercial Gem Show mailers and may require translation into Spanish language and mail delivery problems at specific schools.

The meeting was adjourned about 8:00 pm.

*Bob Trimingham, president, secretary pro tem*

# California Shows And Events

## 2011

### A Lot To Do & See In Arizona

#### QUARTZITE

Jan 1 - Feb 28 Desert Gardens Gem & Mineral Show  
 Jan 8 - Jan 23 Main Event  
 Jan 1 - Jan 10 Tyson Wells Rock & Gem Show  
 Jan 21 - Jan 30 Tyson Wells Sell-A-Rama  
 Feb 4 - Feb 13 Tyson Wells Arts & Craft Fair

#### TUCSON

Jan 29 - Feb 13 Tucson Electric Park - Kino Complex  
 Jan 29 - Feb 13 La Quinta Group  
 Jan 29 - Feb 13 Glob-X Days Inn  
 Jan 29 - Feb 11 Pueblo Gem & Mineral at Riverpark Inn  
 Feb 10 - Feb 13 TUCSON GEM & MINERAL SHOW  
 Feb 6 - Feb 9 Rio Grande Catalog in Motion  
 Jan 29 - Feb 12 AZ Min & Foss Show - Ramada Inn Suites,  
 Clarion & Marketplace  
 Feb 5 - Feb 7 The Tucson Bead Show - Doubletree  
 Feb 2 - Feb 7 The Whole Bead Show - Windmill Inn  
 Feb 2 - Feb 6 The Bead Renaissance - Sabbar Shrine  
 Feb 2 - Feb 6 The Best Bead Show  
 Jan 29 - Feb 12 Mineral and Fossil Co-Op  
 Jan 28 - Feb 13 Tucson Show Place  
 Jan 28 - Feb 13 Rapa River Gem & Mineral Show

November 19 & 20, 2011 Livermore  
 LITHORAMA 2011 Show and Sale,  
**Livermore Valley Lithophiles Gem &  
 Mineral Society**; The 'BARN' 3131 Pacific  
 Ave. east of Livermore Ave.  
 Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4. Visit us  
 at our website [www.lithophiles.org](http://www.lithophiles.org)

The California Federation of Mineralogical Societies web page  
[www.cfmsinc.org](http://www.cfmsinc.org) gives everyone  
 access to the CFMS Newsletter.

Show information is available at  
 the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies website: [www.cfmsinc.org](http://www.cfmsinc.org)

#### Additional Resources:

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies website: [www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org)

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

CO-OP website: [www.coop.freeservers.com](http://www.coop.freeservers.com)



SHALOM  
 Happy Hanukkah



Winter is Here



Merry Christmas

## Field Trips

No Field Trips

## Livermore Valley Lithophiles

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We're on the Web at [www.lithophiles.org](http://www.lithophiles.org)



## Elected Officers and Club Information

### Elected Officers:

**President**     **Bob Trimmingham (925) 443-5983**  
**V. President**   **Chris Hunt (925) 443-5525**  
**Secretary**     **Larry Patzkowski (925) 426-7768**  
**Treasurer**     **Diane Day (925) 606-0888**

**Membership:** The Livermore Valley Lithophiles invites to its membership anyone genuinely interested in minerals, gems, lapidary, geology or any of the other earth sciences, and who desires association with others of like interests. Membership in our club consists of three classes: Senior, anyone eighteen years or older; Junior, anyone under eighteen; and Honorary. Dues are for the calendar year and are as prescribed in the by-laws, Article III. \$25.00 per family, \$20.00 per individual and \$10.00 for Juniors (twelve and older.)

**Meetings:** General Meeting – Second Thursday of each month, 7:30 p.m. at the Carnegie Building, 4th and J Streets, Livermore. Board Meeting – Fourth Thursday of each month, 7:30 p.m. at the Club Shop or to be announced in the *Lithogram*. Any special meetings or places will be published in the *Lithogram*.

**Club Shop:** The shop at the Barn is open to club members 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.. on Tuesday nights. If no one arrives by 7:30 p.m.. or if the Shop Foreman has not been informed a member will arrive late, then the shop will close at 7:30 p.m. Call Lynn Zirkle, Shop Foreman, at (925) 443-2920.

**Field Trips:** Location and date will be published in the *Lithogram*.

**Bulletin:** *Livermore Lithogram*. Published monthly and mailed or emailed to active members and guests. News of interest, reports and articles must be received by the first Tuesday of the month. Articles may be reprinted by giving proper credit.

**Editor:**  
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email: info@lithophiles.com

**Shop open every Tuesday at 7:00 PM**

**General Meeting Dec. 9th at 6:00 PM**  
**Board Meeting Dec. 23rd 7:30 PM -The Shop**