

# Livermore

# Lithogram



**Volume XXXVI, Number 6** **Livermore Valley Lithophiles**  
**June 2011** **Livermore, California**

Next General Meeting:  
 Thursday, June 9, 2011  
**Livermore Library Community Room**  
 7:30 PM

**Program:** **Dr. Luther Strayer Associate Professor of Geology at CSUEB - A 5-day field trip across Taiwan.**  
**"Taiwans Amazing Geology and Landscapes"**

Next Board Meeting:  
 Thursday, June 23, 2011  
 7:30 at 'The Shop'  
 Members are welcome to attend!

**Meeting Location: Community Room - Civic Center Library**

**Refreshments:** Andrea Rodrigues and Bill Beiriger

*Inside this issue:*

<b>General Meeting Minutes 5-12</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2nd Calif. Geo. Survey - part 3</b>	<b>3-4</b>
<b>Fair Case Material Needed</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Board Meeting Minutes 5-26</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>eBooks - Lapidary &amp; Jewelry</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Castro Valley Science Fair Report</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Field Trips</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Shows &amp; Events</b>	<b>7</b>

**Presidents Message:**

Howdy Everyone;

As the days get longer my messages should get shorter, So here goes. Taiwan, bags, and fun.

Our speaker at the May 9 meeting is Luther Strayer, a geology instructor at Cal State East Bay. Taiwan geology will be his subject. He has been there. Have you?

Bag stuffing time is approaching again. We have the material, but we need people power to get it done. Leave Thursday evening, July 14 (tentative) open on your calendars.

Finally, the fun. Bring your photographs and samples of what you do to have **fun** as a Lithophile. Diane will have only a few days to put a club case together for the Fair, see her message in this Lithogram. **NO STUFF, NO CASE!**

Many thanks, see you soon.  
 Bob Trimmingham - President

## Minutes of the General Meeting

May 12, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 7.40 PM by President Bob Trimingham at the Livermore Library Community Room.

**Dues:** Bob Trimingham reported that had called several people regarding their dues. Apparently, the Club doesn't have a process whereby payment of dues can be ascertained. In the future, payment by check and/or a receipt book will be used.

**Correspondence:** None.

**Minutes:** The April minutes were approved as printed.

**Shop Report:** Chris Hunt reported that she has not had people attending the Shop on the nights she was the Shop Foreman. Dues were mentioned again since without dues payment, people may not use the Shop as they would not be covered by insurance.

**Treasure's Report:** There was no Treasure's Report.

**CFMS Report:** No report. Bob Whiteside and Bill Beiriger are attending the CFMS show in Anderson.

**Workshops:** - Currently, there are no workshops planned. It is possible that a workshop on knapping could be organized. Bill Snyder apparently has some experience knapping and Ernie Myers has a DVD on the subject (future program?). The Antioch club has had a person demonstrating knapping; Beth Meyers will check this out.

**Fair Case:** - Diane Day indicated that she would like people to donate items (photos, something made, etc.) relating to how we have fun doing Club activities for the Fair case. She hopes to collect things by the June meeting. More details to follow.

**Lithorama:** A meeting was held to discuss the Lithorama at Nancy Bankhead's home on April 30.

**Schools:** No report. Bill Beiriger will speak to second graders at Valley View Elementary School on May 24.

**Old Business:** Albert Hess has been keeping in contact with Colin of Caratti Jewelers regarding possible items he may wish to donate to the Club, probably steam and ultrasonic cleaners. Bob Trimingham indicated that we need to stuff bags soon for the San Leandro Library function.

**New Business:** No new business.

**Program:** Bob Trimingham presented a very interesting slide show on mineral collecting sites in San Benito County. The slides were vintage being taken in the 70's and 80's. A number of current Club members were shown in their "younger" days, including Jane Crone, Chris Hunt, and Rich Langlois. The slides showed mercury mineral collecting sites in the New Idria mine area and areas along Clear Creek where a number of minerals including jade and garnets, and, and farther south towards Fresno County, benitoite and associated minerals.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM, after the slide show.

Larry Patzkowski, Secretary

## The Second California Geological Survey - Part III

By Elizabeth K. Myers

“What astronomy has done for space, geology has done for time; the one gives us the idea of infinite distance and magnitude in the starry heavens – the other, of almost infinite duration of time in the immense cycles of changes which our own planet has undergone.” – J.D. Whitney, March 12, 1861

The first year of the survey, 1861, was devoted almost exclusively to the Coast Ranges. The fieldwork was carried out under the direction of William H. Brewer, described from various sources as the surveys Party Chief, First Assistant or Chief Botanist. The work was begun in Los Angeles and San Bernardino counties proceeding northward to the San Francisco Bay. The survey was designed to be both topographical and geological in character – furnishing the essential basis for a logically conducted investigation. This process was innovative for the time and would be duplicated in future surveys conducted throughout the country.

The second year, 1862, was devoted to continued examinations of Coast Ranges and of the Sierra Nevada. The work was begun in the Diablo Range and later extended to the Sierra Nevada and to the Coast Ranges north of San Francisco Bay. Excursions were made into Nevada and Oregon to advance the scientific study. The work of the survey extended from San Diego on the south to Oregon on the north and from the seaboard to the crests of the Sierra Nevada.

In 1864 Paleontology Vol. I appeared a beautiful leather bound, gold embossed volume dealt with the Paleozoic and Mesozoic paleontology of California. Some sources list William M. Gabb as contributing on the Triassic and Cretaceous while F.B. Meek wrote on the Paleozoic and Jurassic. This treatise was considered incomplete but offered great advances in the development of geologic and geographic knowledge.

The second published volume, Geology, Vol. I, 1865, on the tertiary paleontology of California contained the observations of William H. Brewer and his party. It extended to all parts of California where work had been done and contains the most valuable and enduring work of the survey. Paleontology, Vol. II was published in 1869 and was almost entirely the work of William M. Gabb.

Geology Vol. II was published at Cambridge, 1882 and was financed chiefly by Whitney. It contains contributions by W.A. Goodyear on the coal mines about Mt. Diablo and the quicksilver mines throughout the state. There is a chapter by S.F. Peckman on the bituminous substances of the Coast ranges and an article by William M. Gabb on the geology of lower California.

The state Legislature was not impressed. Funding for the survey was withheld and the survey expired in April of 1864. It was re-established the same year, retaining Whitney, although appropriations for its support were much reduced. Whitney quote after the legislature cut the survey funding: “It is not the business of a geological surveying corps to act... as a prospecting party. We have escaped the perils by flood and field, have evaded the friendly embrace of the grizzly, and now find ourselves in the jaws of the Legislature.” The legislature continued to cut his budget until there was no money allocated in 1867. Whitney continued to make his annual reports to the legislature and retained the title of State Geologist until 1874. Funding from the state ceased in 1867 and all work was suspended in 1868. It is interesting to note that after the formation of the State Mining Bureau (later to become the California Division of Mines and Geology) the legislature refused to allow them to hire a geologist until 1928, 60 years after the demise of the California Geological survey!

Finds from the survey were deposited at the California State University Berkely by virtue of the Organic Act of 1873. When Whitney left California in 1874 to take up his position as Professor of Geology at Harvard, an appointment he received in 1865 to establish a school of mining, he took with him some of his finds. The school of mines he founded at Harvard merged a year later into the Lawrence Scientific School. He held his position with Harvard for the rest of his life.

Some sources say J. D. Whitney compiled an extensive geological map of California that was never published. I found three maps listed at [www.raremaps.com](http://www.raremaps.com) attributed to Whitney for the years 1872 (topographical), 1873 and 1874. The map shown here is dated 1873 and is for the region adjacent to the Bay of San Francisco.

Courtesy of [www.raremaps.com](http://www.raremaps.com).

We owe a great debt to these pioneers of our state, exploring and documenting their finds with an enthusiasm born of delight!

Perhaps we'll take a closer look at these historical figures in future articles.



## *Club Fair Case*

**The Display for the Alameda County Fair is being put together by Diane Day.**

**Diane did a great job the past several years.  
But! Diane needs the help of the members to make this case work.**

**Please bring photos of the Lithophiles on field trips and bring some of the material you collected on the trip. You can bring rough material and or a piece of the material cut and polished and if possible some mounted in a finding.**

**Please bring the material to the June 9th meeting or contact Diane to make arrangements to get the material to her. Diane must set up the case on June 17th, so she needs the material in time to put it all together.**

**PLEASE HELP - - - THANK YOU**

## Minutes of the Board Meeting

May 26, 2011

The meeting was called to order at the Barn at 7:30 PM by President Bob Trimmingham.

Those also in attendance included Bill Beiriger, Diane Day, Deloris Colonna, Bob Whiteside, Andrea Rodrigues, and Dick Friesen.

**Correspondence:** Correspondence included our business license, our Fair case confirmation, and, a thank you letter from a Mike Fairbank for Bill Beiriger's sand exhibit at the Castro Valley Science Fair this month.

**Treasure's Report:** Diane Day gave her Treasure's Report which included income from memberships, the Shop, and expenses including the purchase of a Quicken software program (\$60). Envelopes have been purchased for the Shop moneys. The audit is nearly finished with some details to be worked out.

**Lithogram:** Bob Whiteside indicated that he will prepare a report on the Federation show for the Lithogram. The Lithogram will also include information on the Fair case needs.

**Shop Report:** Dick Friesen has been at the Shop the last couple of Tuesdays.

**Federation Report:** As mentioned, Bob Whiteside will prepare a written report for inclusion in the Lithogram. Bob also gave the Federation our membership dues while at the show.

**Schools:** Bill Beiriger spook to about 100 second graders at Valley View Elementary School in Pleasanton on May 24. Next week he plans to speak to 15 to 18 Cub Scouts at St. Michaels School.

**Program:** The June program is set with a talk by Professor Luther of California State University East Bay (CSUEB) on geologic aspects of Taiwan.

**Field Trips:** Bob Trimmingham stressed the fact that the Club needs a "Field Trip Chairperson" The chairperson is needed to provide liaison between published field trip sponsors so that Club members can get field trip contact information. Generally, field trip sponsors list their contact persons but do not publish their contact information. Any volunteer would be welcome.

**Fair Case:** Bill Beiriger has been repairing cases needed for the Fair. As mentioned, see the Lithogram for Fair case news.

**Lithorama:** In order to expedite the preparation of the Lithorama show post cards, as there has already been a need for them, the Board decided to issue last year's card with its date changed for this year's show. The decision was made by a verbally passed motion by Bill Beiriger with a second by Dick Friesen. Bill Beiriger suggested that we have a workshop very soon after the show to sort out the show materials and tidy the loft. Apparently, in the rush to vacate the Barn by the required time, there is not enough time to put things away in an orderly fashion.

**Old Business** No old business.

**New Business:** The use of receipt books has been initiated In order to keep better track of cash, checks, and invoice payments. One book will be in the control of the Treasure, another kept at the Shop, and a third with the Club President.

A secure shelf/cabinet will be installed at the Shop for equipment storage.

**Refreshments:** Andrea Rodrigues and Bill Beiriger volunteered to bring refreshments for the June 9 meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM

Larry Patzkowski, Secretary

## **Castro Valley Science Festival Bill Beiriger**

I spent Saturday May 8th at Castro Valley High School for the 3rd Annual CVUSD Science Festival.

I set-up my 'Sand Terminology Display' and many of the people that attend the event enjoyed the case and were surprised at how much of a difference there were in sand samples.

This event is put on by the Castro Valley Educational Foundation. There were displays and activities from groups from this area of California. Included were LLNL, LBNL, CSUEB, U.C. Davis, Chabot College, Chabot Space & Science Museum and CV High School Science Club. We were the only 'Geology' type display and group at the event.

Gary Howard with The J. David Gladstone Institutes from UCSF has invited our society back next year. I told them that I would bring the sand display back and would bring my Digital Microscope with so people can see what some of the sand looks like up close.

Next year we must have some of our postcards with to advertise Lithorama. This may bring a few people from out side our local area to attend or show.

Just before going to press with this Lithogram the Lithophiles received a letter of thanks from Mike Farbarik the Chairman of Science Festival 2011.

### **Passing this wonderful info along ~ I received it from someone in another rock club!!**

Being dually interested in both Lapidary and jewelry, I have long been a member of several forums online, one of which is Ganoksin's Orchid.

Very recently Ed Aspler, (Hanuman) founder of Orchid has digitized rare books related to Jewelry, Metals, Alloys, Engraving, etc.

For the first time in history, these ancient metal tricks and recipes will be made available to the contemporary community of curious artists and metalsmiths. This information will allow the reader to apply the simple and ingenious procedures used by the jewelers of the past, long dead masters of the art of metalsmithing. Many of the tricks and recipes described will save the maker money, as older approaches can sometimes replace modern tools.

Each pdf is a full digital book of searchable text and images, with an easy access through an interactive table of contents.

The cost is 1.35 US\$ per eBook for a single user license which allows you to install, read and print the material on a single computer.

Learn More

<http://www.ganoksin.com/gnkurl/db>

I am sharing this for those who may have an interest. This is information only, not a plug for me.

Terrie

Teresa Masters [www.metalsmith.co](http://www.metalsmith.co)

## California Shows And Events

### 2011

**August 6-7, 2011** - SAN FRANCISCO, CA

**San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society**  
Golden Gate Club 136 Fisher Loop, The Presidio of San Francisco

Hours: Sat. 10-6; Sun. 10-5 Carleen

Mont-Eton (415)564-4230

Email: publicity@show.sfgms.org Website: www.sfgms.org

**September 2-5, 2011** VALLEY SPRINGS, CA

**SNYDER'S POW WOW \*\*NEW DATE\*\***

10-5 daily – New 4 day show Free parking

http://www.valleyspringspowwow.com/

**September 17-18, 2011** - STOCKTON, CA

**Stockton Lapidary & Mineral Club**

Scottish Rite Masonic Center 33 W.

Alpine Avenue. Hours: 10-5 Daily Jan

Bradley or Dorothy Tonnacliff

(209) 629-3837 / (209) 603-4539 : slmc-show@juno.com

Website: http://www.stocktonlapidary.com

**September 24-25, 2011** - MONTEREY, CA

**Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society**  
Monterey Fairgrounds 2004 Fairgrounds Road

Hours: Sat 10-6; Sun 10-5 Matt Biewer (831) 659-4156

Email: mattbiewer@aol.com Website: http://www.cvngms.org

**Show information is available at the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies website: www.cfmsinc.org**

#### Additional Resources:

**American Federation of Mineralogical Societies website: www.amfed.org**

**American Lands Access Association website: www.amerlands.org**

**CO-OP website: www.coop.freeservers.com**

**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

The California Federation of Mineralogical Societies web page **www.cfmsinc.org** gives everyone access to the CFMS Newsletter.

## Field Trips

June 17 - 20 Black Rock Desert, NV for limb casts, petrified wood, jaspers, opal, calcite. Calaveras Co. Society, Bob Young

June 25 & 26 Meadow Lake, (Truckee area) CA for chalco & arsenopyrite, viewing petroglyphs. El Dorado Co. Society, FT Leader TBD

June 29 - July 4 Madras, OR for annual Pow Wow for various collecting trips. Sacramento Mineral Society, Joe Shook

July 23, 24 Sump and Monte Cristo, NV for minerals. Sacramento Mineral Society, Joe Shook

July 29th-31st Covello, CA – for Jade - Vallejo Gem and Mineral Society, Lori Palacio

August 13 Jade Cove, CA – for Jade – San Francisco Gem and Mineral Society, Barb Matz

## Livermore Valley Lithophiles

Bill Beiriger, Editor  
P.O. Box 626  
Livermore, CA 94551-0626  
info@lithophiles.com

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** Bill Snyder (925) 443-5497  
**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. Shop Foreman, OPEN.

**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:**  
Bill Beiriger,  
Livermore, CA 94551-0626,  
email: info@lithophiles.com

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

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