

April 2005

PRESIDENT'S RATTER

Well, here it is almost April. Time for April Fool's Day again (watch out for Baisie...ha!). I was in contact with the head of another rockhound club just recently, and he asked me about our shop.



Well, I went through the story of the shop, how it had to be moved, and then finally closed. He asked what we do now when someone wants to join to learn lapidary arts. I told him some of our members have referred people on to other clubs who still have a club lapidary facility. He thought that was terrible, and said that surely several of our members have their own equipment at home, so why don't they invite new people over and show them how it's done? I couldn't answer him right offhand.

I know that many of you do have your own cutting and polishing equipment at home. Would you be willing to take a new member "under your wing" to teach him/her the basics? Just a thought.

Jerry Lohmann

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING



President, Jerry Lohmann, called the March 1, 2005 meeting of the Rockhounds to order at 6:40 p.m.

Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written by Secretary, Lynda Lohmann and printed in the Tektite.

Hospitality: In the absence of the Hospitality Chairman, Jerry Lohmann read a letter from Virginia Dzialowy who has recently broken her humerus. As she will be out of commission for a while she would enjoy any calls, cards etc. Phyllis Bulick said that Gloria Alameda is having surgery on her shoulder.

Membership: Phyllis Mahoney reported we had 24 members in attendance.

County Council: Jerry reported that the County Council meets the 1st Wednesday of every other month at Cathy Davises home. Next meeting will be April 6th and Jerry has asked for volunteers to attend. No one spoke up again. The CFMS dues need to be paid for both 2004 and 2005. Jim Claypool said he would take care of that.

Field Trip: No field trips. Jerry reported on one that he took with the "Diehard Rockhounds", an Internet rockhound group, to the Thursday mine East of Julian. He and his grandson Mike went and got some purple lepidolite, quartz, beryl and tourmaline crystals.

Old Business: No Old Business.

New Business: Bob Plunkett had noted that we were not listed in the clubs section of the Rock and Gem Magazine.

Gladys Walker of the Islanders Club is handling Fair sign-ups. She contacted President Jerry Lohmann and asked if he would head the sign-ups for our Club.

Jerry said we have raffle tickets to the Roseville show in June if anyone would like them.

Door Prizes: Basie Garcia, Bob Bullick, Jim Claypool, Phyllis Mahoney, Lynda Lohmann, Betty Schneider, Bobbie Plunkett, Mary Otto, Al Thompson and Elaine Thompson.

Raffle: Jean Kreutzer, Mary Otto, Phyllis Bulick, Phyllis Mahoney, Phyllis Bulick (again), Al Thompson, Jean Kreutzer, and Jim Claypool.

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Program: The program this month was a video about the Searles Lake Gem and Mineral Show provided by Jim Claypool.

Meeting ended about 7:45

Lynda Lohmann, Secretary

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

The schedule for the future Board Meetings is as follows -- Mar 8 - May 10 - July 12 (picnic planning meeting)

Board Meeting of March 8, 2005. Those attending were: Al Thompson, Jim Claypool, Lynne Cadman, Bob Cadman, Linda Clark, Gary Clark, Jerry Lohmann and Lynda Lohmann.

Treasurer: Jim Claypool reported that the January balance was \$9400.00 and the February balance is \$9000.00. He paid the insurance fees and also the \$6.80 to County Council.

Discussion was held regarding costs. We are spending about \$17.00 per year for each person to belong to the Club. Jim Claypool made a motion that we make the annual dues (\$15.00 per single, or \$20 per family or 2 or more persons at the same address). This would be payable **across the board for everyone**, beginning in September. Gary Clark seconded the motion and it was approved with one opposed.

Picnic: The annual picnic will be Saturday August 13th.

Lynne Cadman reported that she and Linda **will not** be making decorations for the Christmas party this year. Everyone should bring a decoration ... this will be planned more towards Christmas.

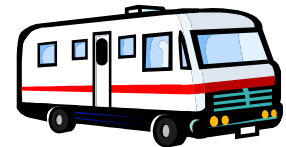
Jerry Lohmann brought up a proposal by Betty Schneider that we should make the lady in Jamaica, Kathleen Mahfood, who has organized five clubs of juniors on the Island of Jamaica with about 90 kids in them, for Rockhound of the Year. Lynne Cadman then made a motion that the Jamaican leader be named Rockhound of the Year for all the work she does with children. Linda Clark seconded the motion and it was passed. After discussion was maybe we could send them a subscription to Rock and Gem, or some rocks for their club etc.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30

[Editor' s note: See article about our "Sister Club" on page ____.]

FIELD TRIPS

????????????? Chairperson



Date: Thu, 3 Mar 2005 00:32:26 EST
From: rurocky2@aol.com
Subject: CFMS Field Trip to the Cady Mountains April 29th, - May1st, 2005 *

CFMS Field Trip to The Cady Mountains

April 29th, - May 1st, 2005

by Bob Fitzpatrick

CFMS Field Trip Chair South

TRIP LOCATION -

Northeast side of the Cady Mountains (Afton Canyon area)

WHEN -

April 29th, - May 1st, 2005

SPONSOR -

CFMS Field Trip South

ORGANIZATION -

CFMS

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MATERIAL TO COLLECT -

Red and yellow agate, jasper, (plume & sagenite) opalite, calcite rhombs, chalcedony roses, amygdules, green fluorite, onyx and much more.

LEADER -

Bob Fitzpatrick

PROPOSED SCHEDULE -

Early Friday will be for setting up camp. Friday around 1 p.m. I will be leading a field trip. Each day around 8 a.m. we will be going to a different area to collect. There will be a potluck Saturday around 5 p.m.

DIRECTIONS TO CAMP SITE -

I-15 Freeway East past Barstow for about 45 miles to Basin Road. Exit off ramp to the right and follow signs to campsite area.

The road to the camping site should be okay for 2-wheel drive cars, trailers & motor homes. We will be camping just on the other side of railroad tracks.

VEHICLE -

Four-wheel drive from camp to collecting areas. The desert road is sandy and in some areas has large rocks in it.

CAMP & FACILITIES -

This will be dry camping, no water, no picnic tables, no toilets, no firewood to be gathered and no fees.

TOOLS -

Collecting bags, rock hammer, eye gear, flashlights, spray water bottle, etc. camp chair (to sit in **at night around the fire.**)

SAFETY CONCERNS -

Do not lick the rocks, use sun screen, stay away from rattlesnakes, use bug spray, be aware of flash floods, be extra careful and don't get lost

CLIMATE & WEATHER -

It can be hot during the day and cold at night, it could rain.

CLOTHING -

Appropriate for this time of the year.

OTHER REMARKS -

All club members and their guests are welcome to join us. Come for the day or camp out with us. Bring food, lots of water, a camera and lots of firewood for the campfire at night. If you need a motel or supplies they are available in Baker or Barstow. Don't forget we will have a potluck on Saturday night, so bring a dish to share and your own place setting. Each night after dark we will have a campfire where we can all join together and have a good time roasting marshmallows, telling jokes or just talking about the good OLE times.

I should be arriving at campsite around 11 a.m. on Friday. Saturday and Sunday we will be leaving the camp at around 8 a.m. and drive to the collecting areas. You must observe the AFMS Code of Ethics and sign a consent and assumption of risk waiver of liability form. Hope to see you there.

For additional information --

Email me at RUROCKY2@aol.com

or call me at (951) 845-3051.

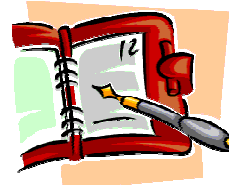
Bob Fitzpatrick

CFMS Field Trip Chair - South, 2005

MEMBERSHIP

Phyllis Mahoney and Gary Draper, Chairpersons

Please let us know if there have been any changes to your name, address, phone numbers or e-mail addresses.



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HOSPITALITY CORNER

Emmeline Ellis, Chairperson



Please notify Emmeline if you or your loved ones are ill, having surgery or recuperating.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR APRIL CELEBRANTS



Dorie Bailey	4/02
Jim Schneider	4/03
Ralph Davis	4/14
Lee Smith	4/17
Bob Kreutzer	4/20

PROGRAM

Bob Cadman, Chairperson



The program this month will be a surprise so please join us to find out what it is.

Our Sister Club " The Rock My World" Juniors of Jamaica



You may or may not remember about a zillion years ago I received an e-mail from a mother of

a 5 year-old boy in Jamaica. He wanted to learn about rocks and his mother did not know where to turn for help. She was trained as a designer not a geologist.

She found the Convair Rockhounds web page via an Internet search. She wrote to me asking where the nearest club might be to her as there were none on the whole Island.

I searched for one on other islands and in Florida. Nothing much was found. She decided to help her son and that was the beginning. She had no idea what she was getting into.

Jim and I sent her a large box of identified rocks with plenty for all five of her initial members. We also sent books about rockhounding, collecting and identifying rocks. Problem is that Jamaica has shells not rocks so collecting them became another obstacle. Most of the children in the groups leave the Island in the summer and head for the continental USA. While they are traveling around or visiting stateside relatives they would collect rocks, all kinds of rocks.

Upon their return to the Island, school and the rockhound groups the real fun began, trying to identify what they had found. Kathleen Mahfood, the brave mother, made an appointment with the geology professor at the local University. He helped in the identification and offered the club a display case at the main entrance of the University. I believe they are still maintaining that case.

Kathleen's father has a job where he travels between San Diego, Jamaica and Norway. Jim and I invited him over on one of his trips. He left our home with even more boxes of rocks including rocks that we had just obtained from the Searles Lake Gem Show and Field Trips. We in turn received some of the absolute best coffee I have ever tasted -- Jamaican Blue Mountain Coffee. (Sadly much of the coffee area was devastated

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by recent hurricanes.) Back to the "Rock My World" Jamaican rockhounds.

When Jerry brought some of the coloring books used by Ann Ludlam for her in-school teaching, to the meeting in February I immediately thought of Kathleen and her "kids". I sent her an e-mail and this is what she wrote back.

Date: Wed, 2 Feb 2005 07:41:13 -0800 (PST)

From: "Kandace J. KittyKat"

<kandykittykat@yahoo.com>

Subject: Re: Rock Club

To: Betty Aron Schneider

<bettyaron.schneider@verizon.net>

Betty.

It's so good to hear from you. I think about you every time I hold a rock club meeting. And yes we still have a club!!!! Five groups now.

Group 1 is ages 4 to 5 has 17 members
group 2 is grade k to 1 has 22 members
group 3 is grade 2 to 3 has 16 members
group 4 is grades 4 to 6 has 24 members
and group 5 in High school has 15 members.
I have lost my marbles!!!!

I had to break up the groups because there were too many kids. I do get parents to help so it's not too bad. Any way all is great. The rock club three weeks ago had a coin drive for the victims of the tsunami and we raised \$73,000 Jamaican dollars that's about \$1,100 to you, not bad for coins.

I never imagined this club being so popular, but even the parents are surprised when they hear that the club exists. Well I hope all is good with you and your family. We are well, the boys are as tall as I am and growing too fast !!!

Any way I am very interested in your books.

My sister is in California this week, if you can give me a phone number I'll have her call you.

It was so great to get your E.

Nuff -respect

KMM

Kathleen Mahfood

Well her sister was in San Francisco so that did not work out but Jim and I mailed them off to her mother in Florida and Kathleen will get them from her.

It is simply amazing what has happened because one little boy wanted to learn about rocks and his mother was determined to help give him what he wanted.

My hat goes off to her and that is why I suggested that she be our next "CRA Rockhound of the Year".

BTW - The books were sent and received. Kathleen is thrilled to have them for her "Rockhounds".

F Y I

A couple of months ago Bob Plunkett gave a talk on how to fabricate his special buckles and here it is in print for those of us that were not present or couldn't take notes fast enough.

Bob's Buckle Fabrication

1. . Buy the Buckles - last seen at Quartzsite outside the north door of the Center
2. . Polish the Buckles!

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3. Cut your "scraps" - the good rock and ironwood or other wood.
4. Use every sanding device known to man to get the buckle ready and fit cut pieces - power, hand, the works!!!!
5. Get some brass shim stock and brazing rod for separation and decoration - Cut these materials as needed.
6. Always use a "brad point" bit to drill in the wood - this leaves a nice clean hole!!
7. When everything is sanded and polished to fit, assemble the buckle and glue everything with 5-minute Epoxy!!
8. Finish polishing and sanding to insure wood, stone and all brass fittings are level!!
9. Finally, polish finished buckle on work bench by hand and on polishing buffs by machine!! Use care not to overheat in this final phase!! Epoxy will let go if the buckle gets too hot!!
10. HAVE FUN!!!



Dolores, you are our "Gem" every month. Thank you.

