

# Lithosphere

Volume XIII, Number 4

Fallbrook, California

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## Uncovering the Ancient Past



Webelos Scouts from Camp Pendleton chip away with small wooden mallets and nails at the plaster matrix surrounding a fossilized whale head during a visit to the Rocky Crest Museum.

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## Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.



April 2005

**Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.**  
 123 W. Alvarado Street Suite B, Fallbrook, CA 92028  
 Telephone: 760-728-1130 and 760-723-1728  
<http://www.fgms.org/>

**2005 Officers**

President	Gina Palculich	(760) 728-2196
Vice President	Alec Conley	(760)451-1732
Secretary	Liz Yamaguchi	(760) 728-7233
Treasurer	Harold Day	(760) 728-7614
Director	Erich Kern	(951) 698-7950
Director	Laurie Kern	(951) 698-7950
Director	Bill Hollingsworth	(760) 726-5878
Director	Laura Coleman	(760) 723-0448
Director	Janice Bricker	(760) 728-1333

**Committee Chairpersons**

Museum Organizing		
Director	Cal Graeber	(760) 723-9292
Museum Curator	Garth Bricker	(760) 728-1333
Assistant Curator	Mike Evans	(760) 414-9722

**Editor/Historian**

Sally Larsen 760-728-9065

**Federation Dir.**

John Frey 909-677-4043

**Fund Raising Chair.**

Kerith Graeber 760-723-9292

**Programs**

Mike Evans 760-414-9722

**Refreshment**

Janice Bricker 760-728-1333

**Hosp./Membership**

Laura Coleman 760-723-0448

Meredith Coon 951-600-1184

**Publicity**

Helen Bancroft 760-728-6465

**Education**

Garth Bricker 760-728-1333

**Field Trips**

Lea Barton 760-728-8462

Sally Larsen 760-728-9065

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- Full page, 7"x4.5" = \$120.00 for 10 months, or \$14.00 per issue.
- Half-page, horizontal 3.5"x4.5" = \$60.00 for 10 months, or \$7.00 per issue
- Half-page, vertical 2.25"x7" = \$60 for 10 months, or \$7.00 per issue.
- Quarter-page horizontal 3.5"x2.25" = \$30 for 10 months, or \$3.50 per issue.
- Eighth-page horizontal 1.25"x4.5" = \$15 for 10 months, or \$1.75 per issue.

All display advertising must be paid for in advance. All advertising in the *Lithosphere* must be related to the educational focus of the Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society and its publication the *Lithosphere*.

Deadline for all advertising is the 20th of the month preceding the month of publication. The *Lithosphere* publishes monthly during the 10 month period between September and June.

Classified advertising is free and is limited to text only. Classified ads will be placed on the classified ad page and run until notification is received from advertiser to cancel ad, or at the editor's discretion based on space available. Editor reserves the right to edit all classified ads to fit the space available.

Contact the editor Sally Larsen for more information at 760-728-9065 or [slarsen@tfb.com](mailto:slarsen@tfb.com). Or write to the editor at 5415 Rainbow Hts. Rd., Fallbrook, CA 92028.

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# Lithosphere

April 2005



*April 14th Meeting*

## **“Bright Spots on the Dark Continent:**

*The Gem and Mineral Wealth of Zambia and Malawi”*  
An Illustrated Lecture by Brendan Laurs

On Thursday evening, April 14th, our regular meeting will feature the Editor of *Gems and Gemology* Magazine Brendan Laurs who will be sharing with us his experiences of his September 2004 expedition to gem deposits in Zambia and Malawi. His mission was to focus on the location, geology and gem production of the most commercially important gem sources in southern Africa. He will speak on the Kafubu emerald area, the gem pegmatites of Mkushi and Lundazi ("canary" tourmalines) and the Chimwadzulu Hill ruby and sapphire deposit. This promises to be a most informative and colorful presentation so mark your calendars and plan to attend!

Brendan, a native of San Diego County, gained an appreciation for the pegmatites of the county and the minerals and gems they produce at an early age. He has a BS degree in geology from UC Santa Barbara and earned his Masters in geology from Oregon State University in 1995 (his thesis: the tourmaline producing pegmatites of Stak Nala in Pakistan). He did field work for Kennecott at the Red Beryl claim in Utah and later at the Benitioite mine in California before joining the staff at the Gemological Institute of America. Starting in Education, he transferred to the staff of *Gems and Gemology*, the Quarterly Journal of the GIA. Since that time he has authored or co-authored several important articles on gem localities and their products.

Next month: as of press, I do not have a speaker lined up but am following some leads. If you have any suggestions, please contact me.

The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. at 123 W. Alvarado Street, refreshments will be provided by Meredith Coon, and Christiane Toft.

*Michael T. Evans*

*Assistant Curator Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Museum, and Program Director*

# FGMS Club Calendar

**April 2005**

**First Saturday:** Board meets at 10:00 a.m. at 123 W. Alvarado St.

**April 14:** Regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. at 123 W. Alvarado St.

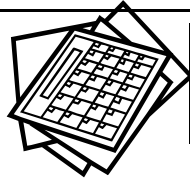
**April 17:** Avocado Festival

**April 24:** Arts in the Park at Live Oak Park.

**Thursdays:** Volunteers meet at 9:30 a.m. at Rocky Crest Museum to work on grab bags.

**Tues. & Thurs.:** Museum at 123 W. Alvarado open 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

**Thurs. & Sun.:** Rocky Crest Museum open 1-4 p.m.



## FGMS Event Calendar 2005

<b>February</b>  Tucson Show Display 10-13th.	<b>March</b>  Rummage Sale, 5th.	<b>April</b>  Avocado Festival 17th.  Arts in the Park 24th.	<b>May</b>  49er Frolic 22nd.	<b>June</b>  FGMS Pie Night-Silent Auction 9th  Del Mar Fair 10th-30th  Hot Summer Nights, 24th
<b>July/Aug.</b>  Del Mar Fair 7/1-7/5  Hot Summer Nights, Chili Cook off 26th.	<b>September</b>	<b>October</b>  Fall Festival of Gems 2nd.	<b>November</b>	<b>December</b>  Christmas Parade, 3rd.  Meeting, Silent Auction Dec. 8th.

## FGMS March Board Meeting Summary

*Elizabeth Yamaguchi Secretary*

Treasurer Harold Day, reported income beyond allocations was \$2,632.67; expenditures were \$3,176.94. The existing mortgage payment is \$1,353 per month. It will increase by about \$550 per month when the lot purchase is completed. There will also be additional expenses of escrow fees, insurance and property taxes. The Board will hold a special meeting on Saturday, March, 26 at 10:00 a.m. to discuss the Fallbrook Community Development Corporation's contract with respect to their purchase of half of the lot.

Mike Evans described arrangements for the display that FGMS will prepare for the April 23 GIA Symposium.

Kerith Graeber reported on museum improvements, including shelves and magazine racks. Plans for the 49er Frolic and Fall Festival raffle are advancing.

Garth Bricker conducted learning tours for students from the New School and was expecting more the following week. Peter Bancroft announced a grant of \$10,000 from the Fleet Fund at San Diego Foundation. A committee was appointed to develop priorities for spending the money.

*Continued on page 12*

**West Coast - Spring**  
**GEM & MINERAL SHOW**

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## Garth's World

*Garth Bricker FGMS Member and  
Museum Curator*

This is always a busy time for school kids coming to both museums. It is the last half of the school year and teachers feel they have time to get the kids educated in the area of rocks and minerals. It seems that Fallbrook is the place to go if you are anywhere reasonably close. We get kids and school classes from as far away as Valley Center and Scripps Ranch in San Diego. Some of the schools come each year.

We get Cub Scouts, home teaching groups, Junior high kids sent for mineral study, and college students assigned to photograph and write a report for their science class. Local colleges know we are here and people that know that the San Diego Natural History Museum has almost all its minerals locked away in air conditioned cupboards refer people to us because we are one of a very few mineral museums open for business (at least part time) in the county of San Diego.

I get classes and groups all year but not steadily. February 28th started the stampede with me going to teach 20 kids at Fallbrook Street School. I loaded my five tomato boxes onto a handcart

and headed to the schoolroom to do my teaching and then hauled it back. The next day 20 kids walked two blocks from a new school to our Alvarado building for mineral study.

On March 6th five Webelos from Camp Pendleton with five Marine dads came to the Rocky Crest museum. This group got to work on the fossil whale head also. On the eighth and ninth 120 kids walked down from Maie Ellis School. Fortunately Joe and Anne Ondraka along with Kerith Graeber volunteered to help teach the kids in the museum. On Friday the eleventh of March I was back at Fallbrook St. School teaching two more classes of second graders about the importance of minerals. I got these two classes because their teachers saw me there on Feb. 28th.

Coming up: on April seventh at Rocky Crest Rd. 17 fifth graders from the new school will be brought by car for mineral study, gold panning and whale display preparation. On the 14th forty four 5th graders from Vista will learn arrowhead making and museum study, new activities we offer, and on the 19th forty four more fifth graders from Vista

will be coming to Rocky Crest Road. There is a strong likelihood that this won't be the last for this school year.

I have a group of helpers from the FGMS, retired teachers, an artist, the county archeology personnel at San Pasqual and anybody else that has the time and desires to work with kids. Volunteers accepted. Our newest activity is arrowhead making taught by Harry Finch, a member. Training films are being developed to teach others ways of working with the kids. Without these great teaching volunteers we wouldn't have much of an impact on kids.

These kids are our future.

#### **INESITE Part Five:**

The Hale Creek mine originally started as a collection of small spots of manganese that drew other manganese molecules to them and they built up into potato sized somewhat rounded balls. A fellow that helped design the deep sea scooping equipment used in the Pacific gave us a talk about the operations and gave us a nodule of manganese from the ocean floor.

These nodules are concentrated on the floor of the Pacific Ocean. Eventually they were covered with sand and encircled with chert, a quartz material, and were shoved up with the ocean bottom in Jurassic times. Somewhere during this time the man-

ganese had been subjected to heat and certainly pressure, and the manganese was reorganized into something new, inosite. The rearrangement of the molecules formed the inosite in this chert capsule.

This rising ocean floor formed the Coast Range, which included more manganese locations than anywhere else in Northern California. This is called the Franciscan Formation. The land was fractured and let manganese rich inosite fluids rise up forming inosite crystals.

The Hale Creek mine has had unreported crystals found that were up to two inches in length with both ends terminated. One specimen was a complete circle almost one-inch wide, with deep pink crystals, like a barite rose.


The Van Pelts took a photograph of this specimen but it hasn't appeared on a magazine cover yet. This mine has probably the largest crystals that are well terminated, and has had unreported crystal faces not found on other inosites anywhere else in the world.

Being a unique deposit (*Inosite*, pgs. 341-347, v. 18, 1987, *Mineralogical Record*), Tony Kampf x-rayed a specimen from the mine that turned out to be a new mica mineral. It finally went to the Smithsonian Museum, but they couldn't get a place polished on it due to the mi-

*Continued on page 7*

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aceous nature of the surface. It came back to the LA County museum and Tony sent it back to me. A piece was given to Bob Housley years later who x-rayed it again and found the same elements, calcium silicate. It is extremely small and some day it will be characterized and given the name of its finder I hope.

When the fellow sent by the claimant came by the mine site he intimated that there was another in-site location somewhere near the Hale Creek mine. When the road collapsed, and I had to use the bulldozer trail I didn't explore the new ground for signs of outcrops. That was probably a mistake.

One day I was using my big five-foot bar and I wanted to send it down to the creek bed. So, I sent it down the steep slope heading for the bottom. I got down to the bottom and there was no bar waiting for me. I spent two years looking for it. I had no idea that it hit a rock and stopped halfway down. One day I was looking for in-site chunks and there it was. I still have it.

I still have five more things to say, and I might think of more that should be said. Be patient.

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**AFMS NEWS**

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### **Truth and Some Consequences**

*Jon Spunaugle, AFMS Legislation & Conservation Chair*

The U.S. Congress in the 108th Second Session did very little in passing laws that remove lands from hobby collecting. Only one wilderness bill has been passed by Congress in the last two years. Public Law 108-424 was passed and created 768,274 acres of new wilderness in southeastern Nevada. The only other bills that affected public lands were small acreages of land transfers and land exchanges in various parts of the country. However, the "dead" wilderness bills will undoubtedly be reintroduced early in the 109th Congress.

Also significant is the fact that Congress did not pass the Paleontological Resources Preservation Act, which "died in committee" in the House after an identical bill had passed the Senate. Our thanks to Congressman Richard Pombo, R-California, and other House Resources Committee members who prevented what had been called a bad bill from advancing in the House. Your many letters to your representatives were effective. However, the sponsors of this bill remain in the 109th Congress, so I feel certain that your letters and emails will very likely be needed again.

## APRIL-MAY SHOW CALENDAR

- Apr. 1-3, Indian Wells, CA - 3rd Annual Indian Wells Arts Festival.** East Plaza, Indian Wells Tennis Garden, 78-200 Miles Ave.
- Apr. 1-3, Sacramento, CA - Gem Faire.** Cal Expo, Bldg. A, 1600 Exposition Blvd.
- Apr. 1-3, Santa Monica, CA - The International Gem & Jewelry Show.** Santa Monica Civic Auditorium.
- Apr. 2-4, San Jose, CA - Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society.** Gemstones of Green, 48th Annual Show, and rock, jewelry, and fossil show Santa Clara County Fairgrounds, 344 Tully Rd.
- Apr. 2-3, Torrance, CA - South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society.** 56th Annual Nature's Treasures Show. Torrance Recreation Center, 3341 Torrance Blvd.
- Apr. 8-10, San Mateo, CA - International Gem & Jewelry Show.** San Mateo County Expo Center.
- Apr. 9-10, Hacienda Heights, CA - Puente Hills Gem & Mineral Club,** Steinmetz County Park Rec. Building, 1545 S. Stimson Ave.
- Apr. 9-10, Mariposa, CA - California State Mining & Mineral Museum.** Mountains of Minerals. Mariposa County Fairgrounds, Highway 49 South.
- Apr. 9-10, Paradise, CA - Paradise Gem & Mineral Club.** Annual gem & mineral show/sale. Veteran's Memorial Hall, Skyway & Elliott.
- Apr. 13-16, Hollywood, CA--American Gem Society Conclave.** Renaissance Hollywood Hotel.
- Apr. 15-17, Reno, NV - Gem Faire.** Reno Hilton, 2500 E. 2nd St.
- Apr. 22-24, San Diego, CA - Gem Faire.** Scottish Rite Center, 1895 Camino del Rio S.
- Apr. 23-24, Lancaster, CA - Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral Show.** 36th Annual. Antelope Valley Fairgrounds, 2551 W. Ave.
- Apr. 23-24, Bakersfield, CA - Kern County Mineral Society.** 47th year, "Art in Stone." Kern County Fairgrounds, Ming Ave. & S. P St.
- Apr. 29-May 1, Santa Rosa, CA - Gem Faire.** Sonoma County Fairgrounds, 1350 Bennett Valley Rd.
- Apr. 30, San Bernardino, CA - Rings & Things.** [www.rings-things.com](http://www.rings-things.com).

### **You Don't Mean It!**

*Tumble Rumble 3/05 via the Trilobite, via Pegmatite, 1/92*

Paul Revere's apprentices, during the cold winter days working in an unheated shop, donned their winter underwear with the first chill of winter and didn't remove it until the weather improved. During this time the daily dust of silver accumulated in the fibers of the material. In the spring the heavy underwear was burned for many reasons, and the silver reclaimed. So it is said, this is how we got the term: **Long John Silver.**

**NEWS & NOTES  
FROM THE CFMS  
APRIL 2005**

*John Fry Director*

The 2005 CFMS/Roseville Show is coming!!! Are you ready? We have made plans, and are expecting you! Hotel reservations made? Show and Banquet forms sent in? Exhibitor/Demonstrator forms submitted?

The show will be held from June 10-12, 2005 at the Roseville Fairgrounds in Placer County (800 All American City Blvd.). The show website is [www.rockrollers.com/show.html](http://www.rockrollers.com/show.html).

The next CFMS field trip south will be to northeast side of the Cady Mountains (Afton Canyon Area) April 29th - May 1st 2005. Bob Fitzpatrick CFMS Field Trip Chair South will lead the trip. They will set up camp early Friday and at 1 p.m. will be going on the first field trip. Material to collect will include red and yellow agate, jasper, calcite rhombs, chalcedony roses, green fluorite, onyx and much more. For more detailed information check the CFMS website or contact Bob at [RUROCKY2@aol.com](mailto:RUROCKY2@aol.com) or call him at (951) 845-3051.

Once again a Paleontological Resources Preservation Act has been introduced into the U. S. Senate (we are watching for reintroduction in the U. S. House as

well). The number of the Senate bill is S 263 and was sponsored by the same senators as the bill introduced in the 108th Session of Congress with Prime Sponsor being Daniel Akaka of Hawaii. It has been referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and has already passed out of committee without amendment, for action on the floor.

The best defense at this time is to immediately (today) alert the Senators from your state to watch for this strategy and request their help in blocking any passage by voice vote on the floor of the Senate.

Sponsors of this bill are: Feinstein of California, Durbin of Illinois, Roberts of Kansas, Baucus of Montana, and Inouye of Hawaii. As you can see Diane Feinstein is a sponsor. I would suggest that not only should people send emails but also make calls to the nearest Congressional Field Office of Senator Feinstein. and ask those staff people to inform Ms. Feinstein of their concerns about S 263 as well as request her support in ensuring that this bill be returned to committee for open hearings with testimony from those in the amateur fossil collecting community before any further action is taken. Senator Feinstein has field offices in Los Angeles (ph: 310-914-7300) and San Diego (ph: 619-231-9712).

## Visiting the London Natural History Museum

*Erich Kern, FGMS director*



*It was a dark and stormy night. Looking at the map of the London Underground, beads of sweat stood on his forehead as he wondered if he could make it from Paddington station to the South Kensington station near the Natural History museum without the embarrassment of getting himself hopelessly lost.*

I made it! Destination—the London Natural History Museum! Specifically the gem and mineral displays that occupy the wing of the three story building called “Earth Galleries”.

I did a quick walk through the “Life Gallery” with fossil displays of unusually large size and quality—some slabs as large as 10’ x 6’, mounted on the wall, covered with glass. The fossils share the room with displays of stuffed animals, insects and plant life.

This museum contains world class specimens, and are well displayed. That said, the tourmalines in the FGMS museums are as good or better than the ones I saw at the LNHM. We have a more varied collection of gem pegmatite minerals as well. One of my goals was to see a display of British minerals, but the floor plan provided as you enter the museum did not show where they were located. They were on the mezzanine in an area labeled “earth lab” on the floor plan. I uncovered this secret by asking the young lady behind the counter of the shop maintained by the British Geological Survey. There are three other museum shops in the building, the main museum shop, the dino shop, and the earth shop, which sells specimens from around the world at four to 10 times the price we would pay at Mike Evans’ table on Thursday nights.

The gem & mineral display cases are arranged by category, and two by donor identification. These two contain part of the collections donated by Sir Arthur Russell and Frederick Ashcroft. One item in the Russell collection is a bright green fluorite with clear gemmy twins, which I assumed might be from the Rogerley mine. Reading the card, I found it was from the Heights mine in Cumbria. One display case contained minerals from Tsumeb. A poster on the wall showed how the unusual quantity and quality of fine specimens from this locale were formed. Several other cases display gem minerals, both the mineral on matrix and a selection of cut stones. Another case was devoted to metal ores; I found this an exceptionally good display.

When you visit London, you have to spend a half day at least, at the LNHM. I was there four hours, and wish I had time on this trip to go back a day or two later for another few hours. But then, this rambling account would be twice as long.

## FGMS Awarded Ruben H. Fleet Award

*Helen Bancroft publicity chairwoman*

The Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society has received a grant from the Ruben H. Fleet Foundation Fund at The San Diego Foundation in the amount of \$10,000.00. The purpose of the grant is to develop multimedia resources for educational and scientific projects to be used by students, researchers and educators.

The FGMS has long been an advocate for educational programs for area schools. On going projects include visitations for classes at both our museums.

On exhibit are gems and minerals from several of the mines in North

County as well as many specimens from mines throughout the world. One of the most popular exhibits among the children features ordinary looking minerals that fluoresce under black light. Also exhibited are meteorites and preserved specimens from the age of dinosaurs such as dinosaur eggs, trilobites, shark teeth and bones from prehistoric creatures.

The current program is unique to North San Diego County, and is under the direction of Garth Bricker, a former teacher in the Fallbrook School district, now FGMS curator. More exciting programs and exhibits are planned for the future education and enjoyment of students.

The Ruben H. Fleet grant will provide the means to purchase such things as display cabinets and monitors for the learning center, materials for dioramas, mineral and fossil specimens and other necessary supplies to supplement new programs scheduled for the proposed new children's building to be located on recently purchased land adjacent to the present museum.



*Sally Larsen photo*

The Center for Charitable Giving Foundation director Kari Breitweiser, left, makes a formal presentation at the Fallbrook Museum to Elizabeth Yamaguchi FGMS secretary, center and Gina Palculich, FGMS president.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

### BUY—SELL—TRADE—WANTED—GIVEAWAYS



FGMS needs Silent Auction and Wheel of Fortune Donations. We need \$10, and \$20 items for the Wheel of Fortune and Silent Auctions—Bring them to the April Meeting, or drop off at the Alvarado Museum on Tues., Thurs. between 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Highland Park 16” slab saw \$450.00, and a Covington 18” slab saw, needs top for cabinet, \$350.00. Call 951-763-0126 ask for Daron.

**YOUR AD HERE:** email the editor Sally Larsen at slarsen@tfb.com, write to Sally Larsen at 5415 Rainbow Hts. Rd., Fallbrook, CA 92028, or call 760-728-9065.

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#### *Summaries from page 3*

Board motions and resolutions included: approving the request for County funds to install our ore cart and purchase exhibit cases and a fossil model; continuing membership in Friends of Library; giving the Chamber of Commerce permission to use our share in the parking lot during the Avocado Festival; and granting \$500 to support the pegmatite research of the Smithsonian’s Michael Wise, with the stipulation that he talk to the Club about the results.

### **FGMS March Meeting Summary**

*Elizabeth Yamaguchi secretary*

President, Gina Palculich, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., Janice Bricker led the Flag Salute and Laura Coleman introduced guests; Greg Anderson, Louis Mercado, January Gaul, Raoul Mills, Helene Gauthier, Francoise Duranleau, Randy Smithson, Marisa Zachovay and Ric Taylor. Harold Day called attention to the Treasurer’s report posted on the bulletin board by the door. Greg Anderson brought information regarding the County Fair at Del Mar, June 10 through July 4. Greg provided entry information (deadline: April 25) and encouraged participation.

Gina reported on Board actions. She thanked Pete Bancroft for directing us to the Fleet Fund that resulted in the grant of \$10,000. Sally Larsen and Shogo Yamaguchi staffed the Dog Walk booth. The Rumage Sale brought in over \$700. Kerith Graeber described the scholarship award, and plans for the Forty-niner and Fall Festival raffle.

Jim Clanin was introduced by Mike Evans and gave an informative lecture on Madagascar geology and mining.

The Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society is a §501(c)(3), non-profit, educational and recreational organization dedicated to promote the study of mineralogy and allied earth sciences; to study and practice the art of lapidary; and to promote good fellowship. Regular meetings are held at 7:30 pm on the second Thursday of each month, except February (generally the third Thursday) and July and August (no meetings), at 123 W. Alvarado St. The public is invited to attend our museum located at the corner of Rocky Crest Road and Hill Avenue in Fallbrook. Rocky Crest Museum hours are 1-4 p.m. Thursdays and Sundays, and by appointment with our curator. Museum at Alvarado is open Tues. and Thurs., 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Annual dues are \$25 for adults, \$20 for each additional adult in the same household; \$6 per child to age 17. The initiation fee is \$6 per person. Membership fees must be submitted along with an application, obtainable from the Society or its web site.

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**Exchanges:** Free reciprocal exchanges for the bulletins of other gem and mineral societies are welcomed. **Please send all exchange bulletins to the Editor.**

**Disclaimer:** The opinions and conclusions expressed in *Lithosphere* are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of the Officers, Editor, or members of the Society.

**Contributions:** Submissions (articles, letters, notes, announcements, photographs, etc.) are **actively** solicited from FGMS members. Submissions from non-members may be included at the discretion of the Editor. Copyrighted material submitted for publication must be accompanied with a written release from the copyright holder. Original, personally-written articles will be published with a copyright notice in the author's name *if requested*; otherwise all submissions will be published without individual copyright. No anonymous submissions will be considered; however, the submitter's name may be withheld, or a pseudonym used, upon request. All material is subject to editing. Unless previously arranged, all submissions become the property of the Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society. Send all submissions to the Editors.

**Deadline:** The deadline for all submitted material is the 20th of the month prior to publication. Allow extra time if line drawings or photographs are submitted.

**Editor:** Sally Larsen; 5415 Rainbow Heights Road, Fallbrook, CA, 92028. Email address: slarsen@tfb.com

**Lithosphere Staff:** Garth Bricker, Don Layton

**World Wide Web Site:** <http://www.fgms.org/>—Webmaster Laurie Kern  
Webmaster@fgms.org

**Affiliations:** California Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies.



*Lithosphere*

**Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society**

Sally Larsen Editor

123 W. Alvarado St. Suite B

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