

Lithosphere

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Fallbrook, California



Kermit Harrison, center and his wife Patricia look over their winnings at the Wheel of Fortune Saturday during the FGMS 49er Frolic at The Collector in Fallbrook.

Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.



June 2005

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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.

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

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Lithosphere

June 2005



June 9th Meeting

FGMS June Meeting Silent Auction And Pie Night



Sally Larsen photo

The June meeting of the Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society will feature a silent auction chaired by Erich Kern with Vanessa Jones.

The meeting will be topped off with a chance to sample the many pies that will be brought in by members. This is the last regular meeting of the summer and will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Alvarado Museum at 123 W. Alvarado Street in Fallbrook.

Members are asked to bring a pie to share. Guests are always welcome, come out and get a chance to bid on a wide variety of silent auction items.

A busy summer is ahead for FGMS and the Volunteers for Minerals as we get ready for the Del Mar Fair and man our both during the fair run. This is a major fund raiser for us, and your help is always needed with grab bag making and taking a shift at the fair.

Our next regular meeting will be September 8th, have a wonderful summer—see you then. *Sally Larsen Editor*

April Board Meeting Summary

Elizabeth Yamaguchi Secretary

Gina Palculich reported getting the books in order since the loss of Harold Day. She will be working with the accountant on the taxes. The plan is to set up the office to handle day-to-day business

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FGMS Club Calendar

June 2005

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

June 9: Regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. at 123 W. Alvarado St.

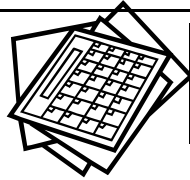
June 10-July 5: Volunteers for Minerals sales booth at County Fair.

June 11: Work day at Alvarado Museum 10 a.m.-1 p.m. with potluck.

June 24: Hot Summer Nights on Main Street in Fallbrook.

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.



FGMS Event Calendar 2005

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

Summary from page 1

with the Treasurer handling month-to-month business. Vanessa Jones was appointed Treasurer. There was \$27,892 in the checking account and \$15,185.77 in the CD account. The Board approved putting \$25,000 into an account with 3% interest. North County Realtors, who have been leasing the business office space, are leaving, so the Chamber was contacted giving them first notice. Ads will be placed also.

There were more than 100 visitors and \$140 in sales during the Flower Festival, and Mike Dawes had a well-attended booth on Alvarado Street. The Avocado Festival brought in \$1,677. According to Alec Conley, Chair, many children enjoyed the rock activity while visiting the FGMS station at Arts in the Park. Mike Evans described the FGMS display and activities at GIA's Sinkankas Beryl Symposium.

For the County Fair, Mike will be putting in the FGMS antique faceting equipment for Garth. Liz Yamguchi will be doing a fossil exhibit for Volunteers for Minerals. Forty-Niner Frolic invitations have gone out. Hot Summer Nights and the Fall Festival were planned.

The Fowler low bid on tenting for termites was accepted, the patio

Continued on page 10

Costa Mesa - Fall
WEST COAST GEM & MINERAL SHOW
Holiday Inn - Costa Mesa • Bristol Plaza • 3131 S. Bristol St. (exit Bristol So. from 405 fwy)

NOV. 11 - 12 - 13, 2005

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Garth's World

*Garth Bricker FGMS Member and
Museum Curator*

Our speaker for May was Bob Housley who has been going out into the hot country from Barstow to Baker and to the east into Good Springs, Nevada looking for minerals especially micro minerals. He brings minerals back to Cal Tech to put them on the machines that tell you what small specks are. He is a mineral scientist and I've had the great fortune to go with him on some trips into the desert and visits mines.

Bob Reynolds who was the curator of the San Bernardino Natural History museum's departments of paleontology and mineralogy has a lot to do with getting people out into California's eastern desert areas to look for new minerals not yet found in these areas. He and Bob Housley are responsible for a lot of the research going on in the eastern desert.

Bob Reynolds secured permission some years ago for the *Friends of Mineralogy* to go to the Blue Bell mine near the town of Baker, which is a stop on the way to Las Vegas. There are a lot of blue and green copper mineral species there like aurichalcite, brochantite, caledonite,

chrysocolla, linarite, malachite, rosasite and Tsumebite and other species that are not copper minerals like embolite, a silver mineral.

There are mined out areas that are big holes in the side of the hill. There are connecting tunnels and openings in the side of the hills where miners went looking for ore. One tunnel in the side of the hill, quite a ways down the hill, met up with a mining area way up the hill, and is now inaccessible.

When Bob Housley and I were there we poked our bodies into all the holes and tunnels we could, looking for mainly microminerals like diopside, we found some unusual minerals. I was working further down slope in a tunnel entrance, and someone had been there before me, and exposed a very vuggy area full of voids. I dug here and pulled out more material and picked up the loose material around the area. I found what looked like leadhillite, which is a flattened hexagon. I looked at it and couldn't make up my mind. I brought all I could home and looked at it under the microscope and couldn't make up my mind. A lot of characteristics of this mineral fit leadhillite but

some didn't. Bob Housley put a piece into the electron microscope, and declared it to be a new mineral because it didn't fit any pattern of minerals found up to that time in the literature.

This new mineral was a silicate, my second new silicate. The first came from the Himalaya mine in Northern San Diego County. This first silicate went to Canada to be characterized and given a name, but it was too small, less than .05 of a millimeter so it was sent back to me. The mineralogist said when it grows bigger, send it back to me.

The new silicate was really big enough and the biggest one was about one 1/8 of an inch, plenty big. It sat in Canada for about a year or more and I found out it was twinned or was two crystals grown together to form one crystal but there was a boundary where the two crystals joined as if they were one crystal. Probably, when directing an x-ray through it, the ray would be deflected and not go straight through giving a wrong reading. There were other problems also so the mineral can't be characterized until the twinning is figured out. The mineral scientist up there said it is do-able but doing it takes a lot more time and knowledge. There are other minerals that don't have to be deciphered first so mine sits on the shelf while the easy ones are

done first. Since he first received it he has gotten married and had a baby and maybe two by now. These new events demand his time also. I send him an e-mail or letter once in a while to remind him of the mineral. All my other new minerals are just too small.

I was telling Erich Kern of the mines that Bob Housley and I went to and Erich got interested in going to see them. We first went to the War Eagle mine near Tecopa Hot Springs. This mine has a fantastic series of five levels below the main entrance. You walk in a long way passing rock sides and roof and finally you come to a doorway and then to some ore chutes from the worked out area above and going up at an angle to your left. You come to tunnels leading off to the sides and more ore areas that have been worked out going up at a 45-degree angle to where you used to be. Then some areas to the right starting at the floor level and go down at a steep pitch which meets the next level down but over a ways. This goes on for five levels.

You start this by turning off the main tunnel to the left and go to a landing where ore tracks start. There are two sets going down in a very wide tunnel at about 45 degrees. There are planks to the side with cleats nailed on them to walk down to each level. There is a pipe rail to

Continued on page 7

“I’ll Bite the Dust”

Editors Note: This poem, or ode, was written by Don Layton just before he died. It offers an insight into Don and his thinking on life—the soul—and how science strengthened his beliefs. Beyond that it is a plea from one smoker to another.

Some time in the near future
you’ll hear I’ve “passed away”
so right now, before that time,
I’d like to have my say—
I’ll not go bust, nor will I rust,
nor form a calcic dura crust.
When it’s time to leave this good life
(good, thanks to my friends,
family and wife)
I’ll not “pass away”—I’ll “bite-the dust”
There are no ashes in my makeup.
Just a braided rock.
Though my lungs are full of tar,
and will soon stop my clock
my dentures are ready,
though often cussed.
Don’t think of me as passed away
‘cause I will bite the dust.

My fluids will ascend to heaven
on a golden sunshine beam.
Memories (mostly good I hope)
will live on cause that is
what I dream.
I talked rocks in all
their forms, coming and going
with the help of storms.
The record in the rocks
helped solve problems,
and my belief in God evolve.

My protoplasmic substance
will dehydrate as it must.
Mingling with my old bones
as I bite the dust.

So my soul will head for
Heaven of that I have no doubt.
the ledger shows more good
than bad, forget the sauerkraut.

I was a smoker
addicted ‘till death.
Saying “Hang on a moment
‘till I catch my breath.”
Partial glossectomy was
performed twice, and for a
teacher that’s not nice.
Huffing and puffing and
coughing my head off.
Gasping for breath
for another cough.
Stinking breath
heads turned in disgust
my clothes would smell
better if full of rust.

Stop your smoking
It’s a terrible sin
you’re always stepping outside
looking in.
As an example, use me,
Please—you must!
while turning to ashes
I bit the dust.
Only a pack a day habit
money up in smoke.
Three hours a day wasted
fouling lungs till I choke
in fifty years it’s quite a crime
\$18,000 dollars and oodles of time.

carry water, and for holding onto. There is a four inch twisted pipe for sending down air for the compressors that used to be used to operate the drills. This is a wide rectangular tunnel going down and down.

Ore cars would drop over the edge and head down the steep slope. When they came to the next level workmen used to lower a length of track so the ore car would run up onto the next level. If the ore car was going down to the third level the workmen lifted up the short length of track and the ore car passed on down the incline all the way to the bottom if all the short lengths of track were raised up. When the ore was being pulled up the track all the short lengths of track were raised on each level so the ore car could get to the top and be dumped or taken out to the entrance and dumped over the edge of the waste rock. If it was lead and silver ore it was dumped into a carrier to a mill to be processed. I've never seen anything like this method of taking out the waste rock or bringing up the ore. Tremendously interesting. Pictures in September.

Erich was taking pictures of the ore car track starting down the incline to the second level. Erich searched "War Eagle mine" on the web, and came across another groups pictures of the mine, but these website pictures were of a poorer quality, maybe due to being on the web. They showed a lot of the mine and are worth looking at.

I took some mine pictures when Bob Housely planned a trip to the area. I was alone, and taking pictures as I took them at the Himalaya and the Red Cloud. You can see one of the Himalaya photos in the Alvarado meeting room and one in the museum/shop. It is one of the very best methods for photographing mines. They are spectacular.

You set the camera on bulb on a tripod with a locking cable release and walk down the mine or along the tunnel. With the lens held open, you flash the first time and walk a distance and flash again. It is dark so you have to feel the wall to "see" where you are and keep flashing the electronic flash. The farther you walk, the more often you flash, and you need good fresh batteries if the mine is 700 feet long like the Himalaya mine. Once you come to the end you return the same way feeling the wall. At the camera you release the cable so the shutter closes. Now you can turn on your light.

I left Erich in the dark with the camera on a tripod and started DOWN. It's really simple, as simple as it can get. That is, UNLESS the shaft goes down or has openings that would drop you down to the next level as at the War Eagle. Then you get on your hands and knees

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FGMS Work Party Cleans Up



Sally Larsen photo

Working hard in the mid-day sun Mick Palculich, left, Mike Evans and Dave Mitchell were among the many that helped cleanup our lot next to the museum. The once a month work parties have accomplished a lot, and thanks to Gina Palculich for organizing them. See story below for all who helped.

Our Work Party on May 15 was a great success. We accomplished much in our building that day. We prepared the building for termite fumigation. One group made 458 necklaces for sale at the San Diego County Fair.

Thank you to; **Janice Bricker, Lea Barton, Liz Yamaguchi, Sally Larsen, Virginia Strikwerd, Erich Kern, Jase Pollard, and Mark Hansen.**

A very Special Thank You to; **David and Veryl Mitchell, Billy Zakarian, Garth Bricker, Vanessa Jones, Mike Evans, Rick Rumsey, Mick and Gina Palculich.** This group of workers cleaned our entire lot next door including tree trimming and weed cutting.

Our Work Parties are a great way to get projects completed around our building and a great way to meet our members. The next one will Be June 11, 2005, 9:00 a.m to 1:00 p.m. A pot-luck lunch follows at 1:00 p.m.

Gina Palculich President

**NEWS & NOTES
FROM THE CFMS**

June 2005

John Fry Director

Eighteen months after the Roseville Rock Rollers initial inquiry about hosting the Federation show, D-DAY is upon us. Opening day, June 10th is only days away, and they sincerely hope that all of you reading this will be part of this fantastic show.

FIELD TRIPS: they will be offering field trips on Saturday and Sunday to the "Original 16-1" working underground gold mine. Please call Jim Barton for reservations at: 916-773-0458. Also on Saturday, another field trip to "Sierra College Natural History Museum." Be sure to check out their website at: www.rockrollers.com

On Sunday, June 12, 2005 at a time and location to be announced at the show, there will be an informal meeting of the CFMS Rules Committee and interested exhibitors, both competitive and non-competitive. At that time the CFMS suggests you consider becoming a clerk or a learning judge in your respective areas of expertise. The ranks of judges and clerks are becoming lean and they'd like to see new faces emerging. That said, unless there is an outpouring of competitive exhibitors, perhaps this sugges-

tion will become moot. If you'd like to speak to this subject, they're all ears, and await your thoughts. Competitive exhibiting has been going downward for many years.

The CFMS has suggested this year that non-competitive exhibitors who would like their exhibit evaluated, contact the CFMS Rules Committee and they will have someone go over your case with you and offer suggestions.

Some of you coming up to the CFMS show in Roseville this June, may want to take a side trip to the nearby Napa Valley wineries. If you do, plan to spend a couple of hours at the Calistoga Petrified Forest.

The .4-mile trail is mostly paved or compacted dirt. Only the last .1 of a mile has any elevation gain worth mentioning. Guided tours are offered periodically, or you can take the self-guided trail that includes information about present day vegetation as well as eleven stops to show off the petrified wood in situ.

Most of the petrified trees are redwood. There is some pine, too. Most of the redwoods were over 2000 years old when they were buried 3 million years ago. The longest tree excavated is 105 feet in length and 6 feet in diameter. As you walk along the path, watch for unmarked chunks of wood--but remember--no collecting!

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work was planned and a meeting was set to discuss the lot agreement.

Garth reported providing more than 100 school kids and Scouts with tours and activities, assisted by Sally Larsen, Harry Finch, Sally Whitlock and Sandy & Mel Grossman. FGMS name and activities came up eleven times in newspapers this month with four being feature articles.

The Strategic Planning Committee has set five primary goals and each will be worked on at a future meeting. Then a draft will be presented to the Board.

Board Summary for May 4 Special Meeting

The Board discussed the Property Acquisition Agreement with Fallbrook Community Development Corporation, which will be buying half of the lot after we do a boundary adjustment. The concerns were: maintenance, design and parking, and the lack of Exhibits. Letters will be written to Attorney Crawford about our concerns and to FCDC to set up a meeting. In other business, a letter will be written to the Historical Society stating that the Rocky Crest Museum will be closed during June

May Club Meeting Summary

Garth Bricker led the flag salute, Meredith Snieder introduced guests, Brett Strickwerda, Allen Nicola and Eric Snieder. President, Gina Palculich introduced newly appointed Treasurer, Vanessa Jones. Club activities were presented and the sign-up sheet to work the Information Table in the Gem and Mineral Building at the Del Mar County Fair was sent around. La Brea Tar Pit Field Trip details were announced. The final count for dinner for the '49er was extended until Monday, May 16 and all were encouraged to attend (at no charge for those who just want to join in the activities).

All who are attending the Costa Mesa Show were encouraged to sign in so FGMS could collect a \$500 donation. After describing the GIA symposium and pleading for more volunteers to help with FGMS activities, Mike Evans introduced the guest lecturer, Dr. Robert Housley.

He reminisced about the days when they served as president of the Mineral Society of Southern California. Dr. Housley used slides to present information on new species and rare mineral discoveries. After adjourning, all enjoyed the raffle and refreshments.

SUMMER SHOW CALENDAR

- May 28-29, Show Low, AZ - White Mountain Gem & Mineral Club.** Ridge Junior High School, 1200 White Mt. Blvd..
- May 31-June 1, Las Vegas, NV - GLDA.** Vegas 2005 Gem & Jewelry Show. The Mirage.
- June 2-6, Las Vegas, NV - American Gem Trade Association GemFair at JCK**
- June 3-5, Las Vegas, NV - International Gem & Jewelry Show.** Las Vegas Convention Center.
- June 4-5, Glendora, CA - Glendora Gems.** Goddard Middle School, 859 E. Sierra Madre
- June 4-5, La Habra, CA - North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society.** Don Warthen, 626-330-8974, warthen@earthlink.net.
- June 10-12, Roseville, CA - Roseville Gem & Mineral Blast 2005.** Roseville (Placer County) Fairgrounds, 800 All American City Blvd.
- June 10-12, San Mateo, CA - International Gem & Jewelry Show.** San Mateo County Expo Center.
- June 17-19, San Diego, CA - Gem Faire.** Scottish Rite Center, 1895 Camino del Rio S.
- June 17-19, Santa Monica, CA - The International Gem & Jewelry Show.** Santa Monica Civic Auditorium.
- June 25-26, Culver City, CA - Culver City Rock & Mineral Club.** 4117 Overland Ave.
- July 1-3, Pasadena, CA - The International Gem & Jewelry Show.** Pasadena Convention Center.
- July 1-3, San Mateo, CA - International Gift & Fashion Expo, Inc.** Gem & Jewelry Show. San Mateo Expo Center.
- July 22-24, San Francisco, CA - The Whole Bead Show.** San Francisco War Memorial and Performing Arts Center, 401 Van Ness Ave.
- July 22-24, San Rafael, CA - Gemfaire.** Marin Center, 10 Ave. of the Flags.
- July 23-24, Santa Monica, CA - The Bead Faire.** Santa Monica Civic Auditorium, 1855 Main St.
- July 29-31, Santa Clara, CA - Gem Faire.** Santa Clara Convention Center, 5001 Great American Pky.
- Aug. 5-7, Costa Mesa, CA - Gem Faire.** Orange County Fairgrounds, Building 10, 88 Fair Dr.
- Aug. 6-7, San Francisco, CA - San Francisco Gem and Mineral Society.** "The Best" San Francisco Gem Show. San Francisco County Fair Bldg., Ninth Ave. & Lincoln Way.
- Aug. 12-14, Santa Barbara, CA - Gem Faire.** Earl Warren Showgrounds, 3400 Calle Real.
- Aug. 12-14, Seaside, CA - Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies.** 9th Annual Gem Show. Seaside Convention Center.
- Aug. 13-14, Walnut Creek, CA - Contra Costa Crystal Fair.** Civic Dr. & Broadway. 13th, **Aug. 19-21, Sacramento, CA - Gem Faire.** Scottish Rite Center, 6151 H St.
- Aug. 26-28, San Diego, CA - Gem Faire.** Sheraton Hotel Mission Valley, 2nd Fl.
- Aug. 26-28, San Diego, CA - Gem Faire.** Scottish Rite Center, 1895 Camino del Rio S.
- Sept. 3-4, Virgin Valley, NV - Virgin Valley Rock, Gem, Jewelry & Mineral Show.** Opal Negra Mine millsite.

CLASSIFIED ADS

BUY—SELL—TRADE—WANTED—GIVEAWAYS



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-

Editor Wanted

It is with sadness and regret that I make this announcement that the editorship of the *Lithosphere* is open. I have sold my home here in Rainbow and am planning a move to Bakersfield in mid-July. How I will miss the creative process of putting together your newsletter, and the wonderful people who write for it. So, if you enjoy putting together pieces and making a whole, have a computer, willing spirit, (some knowledge of pagination helps). I will teach! The *Lithosphere* will be back in September, with a new editor and new ideas.

Contact the Museum office, 728-1130, or me at 728-9065, or email at slarsen@tfb.com., if you are interested.

Garth's World from page 7

and crawl down the cleated timbers and feel for the edge that would drop you down to the next level. The next level is a series of boards covering the walkway over to the new level with big holes where there are no boards. With your light on, no problem. With no light...

With your hands and knees you check for places with no boards and finally feel the wall again and stand up. Besides crawling you are flashing ahead of you and also under you where the incline goes on down to give the photo depth. You want contrast of dark and light areas just like a good artist would want. Well, you feel your way along since you are now going on the level but with cables hanging down, big rocks to stumble over, pipes crossing your path and you keep flashing every few feet now. This is always hit or miss as to how much light you need along the way. You have to plan your trip with some care. It took me twice as long to crawl back because in the dark you can't retrace your steps and you don't know where you are.

With Erich there the coming back was quick. I yelled, "Release the cable release knob." I turned on my light and walked back up. Easy.

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.**

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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.

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