

# Lithosphere

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Fallbrook, California

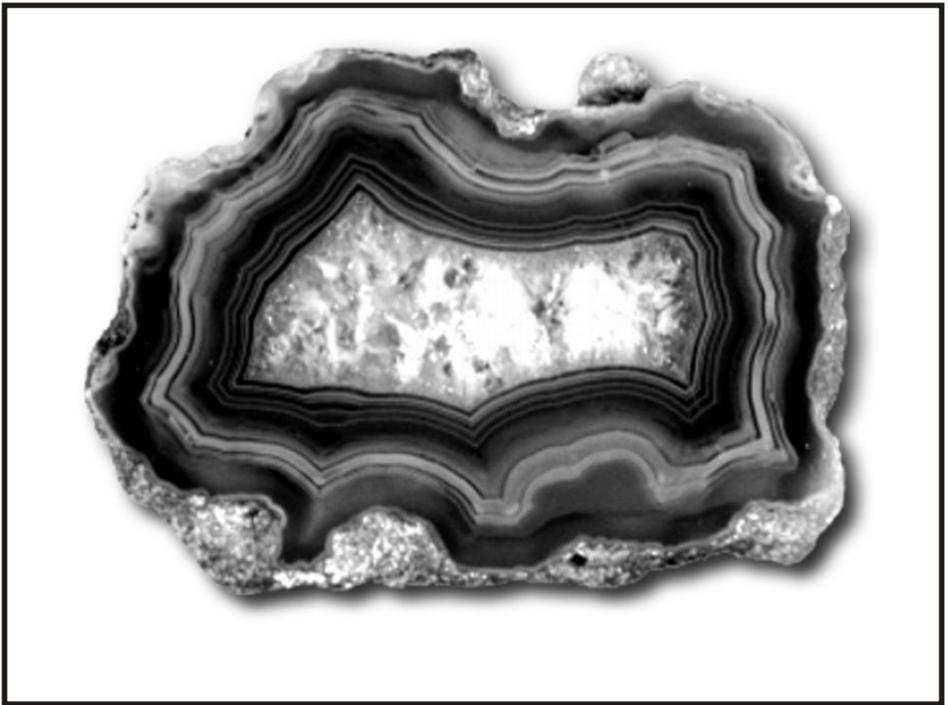


Photo Courtesy of Editor

**Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.**

June

2006



## Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.

123 W. Alvarado Street Suite B, Fallbrook, CA 92028

760-728-1130 and 760-723-1728 — fgms@sbcglobal.net

<http://www.fgms.org/>

President	Gina Palculich	(760) 728-2196
Vice President	Laurie Kern	(951) 698-7950
Secretary/Office	Liz Yamaguchi	(760) 728-7233
Treasurer/Director of Finance	Vanessa Jones	(760) 598-0152
Director of Facilities	Erich Kern	(951) 698-7950
Director of Publicity	Ann Ondraka	(760) 728-8004
Director of Public Programs	Bill Hollingsworth	(760) 726-5878
Director of Education	Lea Barton	(760)-728-8462
Director of Member Services	Janice Bricker	(760)-728-1333

### FGMS Museum

Museum Curator	Garth Bricker	(760) 728-1333
Assistant Curator	Mike Evans	(760)-414-9722
New Museum Org. Cttee.	Cal Graeber	(760) 723-9292

#### Lithosphere Editor and Webmaster

Patricia Hartman 760-723-6624

#### Calif. Federation Representative

John Frey 951-677-4043

#### Fund Raising Chair

John Watson 760-723-6539

#### Volunteers for Minerals Representative

Garth Bricker (760) 728-1333

#### Membership/Refreshments

Janice Bricker 760-728-1333

#### Hospitality

Laura Coleman 760-723-0448

#### Publicity

Anne Ondraka 760-728-8004

#### Programs

Mike Evans 760-414-9722

#### Scholarship

John Watson 760- 723-6539

#### Field Trips

Lea Barton 760-728-8462

#### Historian

Laura Coleman 760-723-0448

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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. Classified advertising is free and

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Contact the editor Patricia Hartman for more information at 760-723-6624 or email to [patricia@hitkdesigns.com](mailto:patricia@hitkdesigns.com). Or write to the editor at PO Box 1390, Bonsall, CA 92003.

Cover Photo of courtesy Editor.

# June FGMS Meeting

JUNE 8TH, 7 PM

## PIE NIGHT/SILENT AUCTION/OPEN HOUSE/BRING A FRIEND

Thursday, June 8th, will be our last meeting before our summer break. Mark your calendar now, as it's shaping up to be a very special evening! This meeting is traditionally known as "Pie Night". Everyone is asked to bring their favorite. Is yours apple, pumpkin, blueberry, banana crème, lemon meringue or avocado (yes, there is avocado pie)? Bring a selection to share and enjoy a slice or two from the communal table!



The other tradition on "Pie Night" is the fabulous member's "Silent Auction" which is held in lieu of a guest speaker.

Erich Kern has been collecting some wonderful items just for this event. Two exceptional offerings are an 18 kt. pearl and diamond pendant (donated by Vanessa Jones, valued at \$200) and a \$300 gift certificate from the artist Gamini Ratnavira. Bring your cash, checkbook or credit cards and select something for yourself or pick up some unique gifts for upcoming birthdays, graduations, anniversaries, or even the holidays!

Since we've been doing so many new things at the club, this meeting will be an "Open House". The Museum and Gift Shop will be open to see the new layout, new mineral bin displays, and new jewelry creations. Yes, everything will be for sale! In the auditorium, in between bids, you can inspect the museum cabinets moved from Rocky Crest and view the new museum curator storage built along the north wall.

This evening will provide the perfect opportunity for you to personally introduce someone to the Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Society. "Bring a Friend"... a neighbor, someone from work or church, or even a relative... someone who likes rocks, minerals, fossils, gems, jewelry ... someone who'd become another great member! We need to increase our membership. FGMS is in transition – we are growing in our scope and involvement in our community and more able hands are needed to fulfill our objectives. So look around, get out your phonebook and make a date with that special someone and come with dessert and \$\$\$\$ in hand for a fabulous evening at FGMS's "Pie Night/Silent Auction/Open House/Bring a Friend" on Thursday, June 8th at

7 p.m. We are going to have a great evening — mark your calendar NOW!

# **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FALLBROOK GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY**

**May 6 at 10.00 AM**

After the Minutes were approved and the Treasurer reported, the grants received this month were listed: \$1,100 from the Angel Society for a poster rack to enhance our children's educational program in the Auditorium; \$1,000 from the Rotary Club of Fallbrook for security; \$8,200 from Supervisor Horn's Community Projects Fund to be used for security fence, security gates, waterproofing the back of the building and moving costs. The Society also made \$700 during the Flower Festival and \$1,543 during the Avocado Festival.

New member, Lyn Huettle, has begun work as our new Historian. New member, Mike DiVerde, presented the work he has done organizing and making a computer listing of the books in our library.

Display cases from Rocky Crest have been moved into the Auditorium and wired and members have displayed their collections, thanks to Dave LaMarr and other volunteers. Rick Rumsey is building lofts in the storage sheds. Garth is removing the shrubs from the front planter so the other mine car and boulder can be placed there. The Rummage Sale will be Saturday, August 19.

Lea announced Erich's Mineral Cleaning Class to be held Saturday, May 20 from 1-4 PM in the Auditorium.

Anne reported good publicity and reminded everyone that information must go to the newspapers four weeks prior to publication. Save your clippings so Anne can make a permanent record of publicity. For the Flower Festival the flower-shaped minerals and carved mineral flowers displayed, and the B.J. Cheatham/Oscar Warren bulletin board panel on malachite (the legend of the stone flower) were outstanding.

John Watson is our new Endow San Diego representative

B.J. Cheatham, Chair of the Museum Gift Shop, talked about her excitement as a new volunteer and presented two concepts "Own Your Membership" and "Pie Night/Silent Auction/Bring a Friend" (see elsewhere in this Lithosphere).

Anne read a paper detailing some problems.

## **SUMMARY OF FGMS CLUB MEETING OF MAY 11, 2006**

Treasurer, Vanessa Jones, conducted the meeting in the absence of the President, Gina Palculich, who will be with us in June. Guest, Jonathan Sorci, was introduced, along with his mother, Nancy, who was visiting from New York.

Festivals since our last meeting have been profitable. We netted more than \$1,500 on the Avocado Festival and \$750 on the Wildlife Festival selling jewelry and minerals. Many people visited the gift shop and Museum and Auditorium displays. Our participation in Fallbrook's festivals has been enhanced this year with signage and artwork by Oscar Warren, and

wonderful displays and labels by B.J. Cheatham. Display cases were moved from Rocky Crest to the Auditorium by Dave LaMarr and crew, and members have placed on exhibit some of their own collections until the museum displays can be unpacked. Please take time to look at them and the photo and festival topic boards.

The Wildlife Festival featured Vanessa's collection of Gamini Ratnavira's hummingbird prints and paintings. Bill Larson loaned us his painting of extinct wildlife, a family of dinosaurs, done by Ratnavira. Gamini has also donated a \$300 gift certificate for our Silent Auction.

Alec Conley described the children's activity of matching rocks and labels at the Arts in the Park (Live Oak Park). Lea Barton and Garth Bricker assisted and Alec put his carved masks and dinosaur bones and poop on display. He offered to Chair the event again next year.

Erich Kern showed before and after pictures of minerals he had cleaned as a way of announcing his class on May 20 that will emphasize ultrasonic cleaning and removing unwanted deposits from mineral specimens.

Anne Ondraka announced that refreshments included a birthday cake for Pete Bancroft. Pete praised the progress being made by FGMS and reported that his 90th was celebrated with two games of tennis!

Announcements included the Vista Gem & Mineral Society's May 18 meeting on Caves & Spelunking; the GIA Alumni Field Trip to the Stewart Mine, May 20 & 21; the regular GIA monthly event in Carlsbad on May 24; and the GIA's

Research Conference, August 26 & 27 and International Symposium, August 27-29 in San Diego (more info in office).

Mike Evans introduced Meg Berry, who has her own gem cutting company and has cut for Bill Larson of the Collector. She gave a very interesting PowerPoint presentation on cutting moonstone, opal and beryl.  
Respectfully submitted,

*Liz Yamaguchi*

## **OWN YOUR MEMBERSHIP – A PROPOSITION”**

By Elizabeth ('B.J.') Cheatham

**Q:** Have you paid your annual FGMS membership dues?

**A:** Of course I have!

**Q:** Do you regularly attend FGMS monthly meetings?

**A:** I try to...except when I had a cold last fall, and the time relatives were visiting (they think I'm kind of nuts for liking rocks and minerals), and once I really forgot and was mad at myself because I wanted to hear about the latest finds in Madagascar!

**Q:** Do you read the Lithosphere? Do you feel it keeps you connected with FGMS?

**A:** Of course I read it! I look forward to sitting down with a cup of coffee and read it cover to cover! Yes, I feel it keeps me informed about the speakers, the club's activities, the Board meetings, and most especially, I enjoy Garth Bricker's fascinating accounts in his column, "Garth's World".

**Q:** Have you ever volunteered for any of those events announced at the meetings?

(i.e. Art of the Flower Festival, Avocado Festival, Arts in the Park, Wildlife Festival, Del Mar Fair, Fall Festival of Gems, grab bags, work parties)

**A:** Well, to tell the truth, no, but I've always been tempted and they sound interesting. I have attended some of the events and it seems like everybody's having a great time. But when they pass around those sign up boards I never have my calendar with me and I'm never sure of exactly when the dates are and what I might already have planned. Anyway, there always seems to be enough other members involved, so I guess that I just haven't taken the initiative to push myself to volunteer, but I'm certainly not against helping out!

The member described about profiles me "to a tee"... until Gina Palculich, FGMS's President, "propositioned" me last fall to volunteer one Saturday a month in the Museum & Gift Shop. In fact, Gina propositioned me and my friend, January Gaul. We were classmates at the GIA in 2003 and she lives and works in Carlsbad, so I figured that committing to that one day would ensure that we'd keep in touch! Another thing I must admit is that I had never done any volunteer work before Gina's proposition. I was a "VOLUNTEER VIRGIN"!!

And so I began this new adventure, uncertain as to what I had to contribute, yet willing to try. What has happened in these few months has been truly amazing for me personally. My enthusiasm for the gift shop led Gina and Vanessa Jones (FGMS's Treasurer is responsible for the gift shop) to invite me to take over the store operations. Due to my prior retail jewelry experience and the support of numerous FGMS members, we are reorganizing and revitalizing the gift shop's set up and inventory. When I inquired about obtaining jewelry inventory, a handful of wonderful members immediately stepped forward with jewelry-making expertise and donated beads and findings. After several jewelry-making work parties, we have now formed "The Beading Brigade" to create stock for the store. We began selling our custom creations at the Avocado Festival!

Being willing to volunteer, getting to know the members of this club, learning new skills (I'd never made jewelry before), sharing my skills... the bottom line is that I'm having the most fun, rewarding experience, all thanks to a "proposition"!

There is an extraordinary core of long-term members in this organization who are dedicated, hardworking, fun-loving, nice, talented, and generous. They have welcomed me with open arms and I have been blessed at every opportunity. But I would never have come to this point without “OWNING MY MEMBERSHIP”! Paying your dues, attending meetings and reading the Lithosphere constitutes a membership on the fringes. It pales in comparison to what I have experienced since I started volunteering. Upon reflection, I can only say that sometimes a proposition is necessary in order to bring new friends, fun, laughter, learning and richer experiences into your life.

And so, my fellow FGMS members who have never (or infrequently) volunteered, I proposition you to “OWN

YOUR MEMBERSHIP”! Get involved! You, too, can put your “Volunteer Virginity” behind you and experience the joy of “OWNING YOUR MEMBERSHIP”! There are many levels of effort to fit your talents, time and curiosity. Select just one thing and do it. I promise that you won’t regret a moment! As my friend, January, says “We’re having a non-stop party”! You’re invited! Just call or show up or put your autograph on one of those boards being passed around at the next meeting.

Here is a list of current activities and opportunities and the contact person who’s just waiting to enjoy your company, support and talent. OWN YOUR MEMBERSHIP, ACCEPT THE PROPOSITION ... we look forward to seeing you! Thank you!

<b>Museum/Gift Shop (volunteers)</b>	<b>Vanessa Jones</b>	<b>(760)598-0152</b>
<b>The Beading Brigade</b>	<b>Elizabeth (B.J.)Cheathem</b>	<b>(760)731-0436</b>
<b>Grab Bags Del Mar Fair (volunteers) Work Parties</b>	<b>Garth Bricker</b>	<b>(760)728-1333</b>
<b>Membership</b>	<b>Janice Bricker</b>	<b>(760)728-1333</b>
<b>Mineral Specimens</b>	<b>Mike Evans</b>	<b>(760)414-9722</b>
<b>Building Facilities</b>	<b>Erich Kern</b>	<b>(951)698-7950</b>
<b>Field Trips</b>	<b>Lea Barton</b>	<b>(760)728-8462</b>
<b>Library Inventory Project</b>	<b>Mike DiVerde</b>	<b>(949)412-3540</b>

# Garth's World

Garth Bricker,

FGMS Member and Museum Curator

Lithosphere, June, 2006



## JUNE 06

Later on I'll tell you more about the White Mountains rutile diggings but first a news flash. I was talking to Dave LaMarr and he said that he had been to the White Mountains

looking for rutile also. He told the same story I told you last month about getting stuck on the steep slope leading up to the rutile. He also didn't see the mule trail sloping up this natural amphitheater so where it started getting really steep he sat back and put his feet out and tried not to start sliding down and down and down. This was a sweating time for him also. He finally managed to inch his way out of this. I wonder how many more have been in that predicament on their first trip to the rutile diggings?

Back to what's happening to the museum in Fallbrook. Mary Walker was the expert at the necklace making classes started several weeks ago. Mary brought a lot of beads, her tools, and beading string. Others brought their supplies, which made a table's worth of material to make necklaces. Vanessa Jones was going to start a beading business at one time but

donated all her supplies for the students to use. Janice Bricker and Kerith Graeber also brought beads for all to use. Mary showed the group the art of making necklaces and earrings and the group made quite a few of each with the earrings matching the necklaces for the next few weeks which were put into the store and are being sold to happy customers.

Knotting was a big lesson to learn and the right tools really help to make the knots. The classes were advertised in the Lithosphere and were announced at the meeting beforehand. I'm hoping this class will be repeated in the future, and other classes will be started for mineral study.

You might have noticed that our lot between our museum and Pico St. had a healthy growth of weeds until recently when Dave LaMarr used a riding weed whacker to flatten the whole field and got at odd spots with his hand held whacker. We have a group of people who do jobs that need to be done and work well together. It's quite a treat to work at the museum where individuals take on a job and enjoy doing it.

Mike DiVeredi, a new member, really enjoys books and started organizing our Pete Bancroft Library next to the office. He's got the books rearranged by similar subject and given them their Dewey Decimal Number, photographed them and put them on the computer by name and

author and subject. This area was just waiting for someone with a great interest to get in and do it. Mike is thinking about shelves and other improvements that can be made.

BJ Cheatham and January Gaul are often working in the mineral museum room arranging the store to better display the items for sale which includes filling the holes where things were sold, finding things we have that can be added, arranging the room furniture to add more useable space, and thinking about cutting off a foot of the desk-table to let the person on duty get to the lights behind. It's fun to watch these two members go at their tasks with such enthusiasm and that's probably why the store-museum is inviting to more and more people.

In Kerith Graeber's garage a lot of fossil grab bags are being made by Kerith and Anne Ondraka to add to the ones being made at the museum destined to be sold at the Del Mar Fair. The Volunteers for Minerals rents the 20-foot booth in the Gems and Minerals Building at the fair to make money for the Volunteer, who in turn pay for things the Museum needs. One of the things this year were two 10 x 12 foot sheds that were erected in back of the museum, and some money went for cement and gravel. In the past the Volunteers have bought high-end minerals or helped pay for them to upgrade our display in the museum.

This has been a difficult year for the volunteer's grab bag making due to closing out the old museum at the Historical Society property. We are a number of months behind in making grab bags. We just recently got organized by putting all of our supplies in the new sheds

instead of having them under the tables, in cupboards and at the old museum. We still need people to come and help make grab bags on Thursdays at one o'clock. I'm working on getting retired teachers to come and help us. Sally Whitlock has been helping us and I've taught with her for many years.

Rick Rumsey finished the second shed's upper storage. All these finished tasks bring the building closer to being the way we want it to be. The plants in the front of the building along Alvarado could have been there since 1940 when the building was first built. There were roots up to six inches across that traveled the whole length. One root came to a cement barrier half way down the planter. This smart root simply went up out of the ground, went straight up the cement and over the top and down the other side and continued on as a four-inch diameter root.

All this is coming out and will be replaced with another ore car and some large mineral specimens with flowers and plants in between. We'll paint the wall facing Alvarado St. Another project will be the window facing Alvarado St. We'll list the other projects to be worked on in September.

Back to the rutile diggings near Bishop- Once you find the trail or on the second trip you know where it is and you head up round the bend to see an opening in the peak with a 4 x 4 plank going across the top of the opening. This timber means something. People have dug under the timber and made the hole deeper going in and there is less holding up the roof. Years before there was no timber and only a little hole. When you tap on the timber, a little rubble falls down, a warning sign but

under I go after testing some more because that's where the good stuff is.

Above the good stuff is now a talc layer that has no structural stability at all except it's held together by the rock surrounding it. You want under this because that layer is pyrophyllite, which are little parallel needle crystals that surround the rutile crystals. This mineral is very soft and can be scratched or scraped away easily. The rutile breaks away from pyrophyllite leaving an impression of the rutile crystal. A harder mineral is diasporite which is brown to light tan. I only found one crystal of rutile that you could see into a little and the view was red, red. My biggest crystal was about an inch and a quarter on matrix but many crystals came out of that area.

Years ago we brought up a cobra drill but spent a day trying to start the drill, a total waste of time. Later I was told to open the spark plug gap and it would run. Wouldn't you know it, a Champion Spark Plug from andalusite mined at the Champion mine and the spark plug gap was the problem. The porcelain would stand the very high heat and not fail but the gap failed to be wide enough.

At this rutile digging spot a rock was rolled down and broke a young boy's leg, who was coming up with his dad.

The path that goes up to the rutile branches off and goes off to the right to the peak with the "eye" and eventually gets to about 10,000 ft. Each year the trail loses part of its visibility and you just have to hike up to find the next switch back. At the beginning the trail was all there and not flushed down each gully. On my last trip we went up to the upper camp at 10,000 ft. and I led Pat, Mike, and Marcus Origlieri on this disappearing trail. I had to grab

Pat's hand and pull her up and along much of the way but in the end it was worth it. Here you are looking down at the lower camp you came from, past it to the mule trail where the trucks and jeeps stop and on down to the White Mt. Ranch where you started up the grade, a 6,000ft. view.

There's more to come of this rock hound paradise.

## **THE BEADING BRIGADE"**

**by Elizabeth Cheatham**

After our March meeting I asked several members about attending a jewelry show at the Del Mar Fairgrounds to buy inventory for the Museum Gift Shop. Immediately, Mary Fong Walker informed me that this wasn't the best way to go, saying that she had excess beads and findings she'd willingly donate to make some jewelry. Vanessa Jones, who has made and donated many beautiful necklaces and bracelets to the Gift Shop, said she also had items she'd gladly donate. Janice Bricker and Lea Barton, both experienced "beaders", also volunteered to participate. With everyone checking their calendars, the dates of April 20th and 21st were chosen for "jewelry-making work parties".

What has happened has been amazing! Anne Ondraka, an experienced professional jeweler, and Janice's daughter, Michelle Murphy, who has experience in craft beading, have also joined us. I was the only novice, but with everyone's encouragement I jumped right

in and have made my first necklace and pair of earrings! Mary is an excellent and very patient teacher! Thanks to Mary's charming, persuasive manner, we've received multiple donations from members Valerie and Joseph Lieberz ("4 The Ear"). Lea Barton, Liz Yamaguchi and Kerith Graeber have also donated beads and old jewelry treasures. We began selling our custom creations at the Avocado Festival on April 23rd, and as of May 11th we've sold \$335.00 of our new inventory! Many thanks to everyone who contributed to our success.

On May 9th, our President, Gina Palculich, was able to join us. It was so great to have her back after her 3-month recuperation from a broken leg! Gina remembered that FGMS had some inventory of cabs and findings in storage and with Mary's help, bin after bin emerged from storage. We found a nice supply of cabs suitable for jewelry that we've started to make for both the Gift Shop and FGMS's booth at the San Diego County Fair.

At our 4th work party it was decided we'd be known as, "THE BEADING BRIGADE". We'll meet on "Volunteer Thursdays", at 10:00 a.m. in the Auditorium. If you're a beader, a crafter, or just want a creative endeavor on Thursdays, please come and join us. No experience necessary! If you've got old jewelry, jewelry parts (like that one earring you lost the mate to), beads and findings to donate, just drop them off at the office. If you don't have anything to contribute, but would like to support our efforts, then come by the Museum Gift Shop and select something special from our custom creations. We're open Thursdays, Fridays

and Saturdays, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. And when you're at the San Diego County Fair, be sure and stop by FGMS's booth, June 10th - July 4th.

*"THE BEADING BRIGADE" THANKS EVERYONE FOR YOUR SUPPORT!*

## NOTICE TO ALL VOLUNTEERS!!

There is a volunteer's calendar in the "President's Office" next to Janice Bricker's desk (first desk through the door). Please be sure and sign in with your total hours each time you volunteer ... this includes time you spend at home, etc. on a project, too! These hours are totaled annually and are a necessary component when FGMS applies for grants. We must prove that we don't just have our hand out, but that our membership actively participates in maintaining, promoting and improving our organization and its involvement in the community.

If you volunteered in prior months and forgot to enter your hours, please take the time to go back and tally the hours to the best of your recollection and enter them on the calendar!



Pete Bancroft celebrates a very important birthday at the May FGMS meeting.

# NEWS & NOTES FROM THE CFMS FOR June 2006

A reminder that the Calaveras G&MS will host the annual Federation Show and Directors' Meeting on June 9th to 11th. For more info. on the show and the forms for entries or reservations go to <http://www.calaverasgemandmineral.org>. The proposed speaker schedule is as follows:

Time Period	Friday 9 June	Saturday 10 June	Sunday 11 June
11 a.m.		Bob Watters - Geologic Hazards; Death & Destruction if we get it wrong	Jeffrey Post - National Gem Collection
1 p.m.	Bob Jones - Agates	Jeffrey Post - Smithsonian Mineral Highlights	Bob Watters - Volcanoes: How to recognition, assess & minimize hazards
3 p.m.	Anthony Kampf - Mineral Fakes	Anthony Kampf - Gem Mines of Brazil	Bob Jones - Crystallized Gold
5 p.m.	Russ Shoemaker - World of Fossils	Russ Shoemaker - World of Fossils	

Camp Paradise is scheduled for September 3 - 9 and 10 - 16, 2006. Jack Williams, the northern coordinator, is well on the way with plans for 2006 edition of Camp Paradise. Marion Roberts is coordinating the catering so that everyone gets to eat. As it presently stands they will have Lorre Snyder run the kitchen. She worked the last two years with the Bartons, so is aware of our requirements. Anna Christiansen will again handle registration and room assignments. Jack is contacting instructors to confirm their willingness to teach classes. We should have our program set by the Convention & Show at Angel's Camp. They have been able to maintain the \$250 fee for this year, but are unable to predict the future. A sign up sheet can be downloaded from the CFMS website.

## CFMS (Continued)

This is the time of year we start going on field trips. Often we or our guest do have small injuries, which may require some first aid. Following is the current recommendation of the HSA for a first aid kit.

Contents	1 - 5 Persons	6 - 25 Persons	26 - 50 Persons
Adhesive plaster	12	20	40
Sterile-eye-pads (Bandage attached)	-	2	4
Individually wrapped triangular bandages	2	6	6
Safety pins	2	6	6
Medium individually wrapped unmedicated wound dressing (approx. 10 X 8 cm)	-	6	8
Large individually wrapped sterile-unmedicated wound dressing (approx. 13 X 9 cm)	1	2	4
Extra large individually wrapped sterile-unmedicated wound dressing (approx. 28 X 17.5 cm)	12	20	40
Individually wrapped wipes	8	8	10
Paramedic shears	1	1	1
Pair of latex gloves	1	2	2
Sterile eye wash	1	2	2

# Fall Festival

## Gems, Minerals and Fossils

AT THE FALLBROOK GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY  
MUSEUM

123 WEST ALVARADO STREET (760) 728-1130  
HTTP://WWW.FGMS.ORG

*Sunday, October 1, 10 - 4*

*Come join us for a day of Family Fun  
in downtown Fallbrook*

**STREET FAIR ON ALVARADO STREET FREE  
PARKING FREE ADMISSION**

- Panning for Gold      Geode Cracking
- Exciting museum exhibits and mining history
- Colorful fluorescent mineral display
- Wheel of Fortune      Silent Auction
- Major Raffle with Fabulous Grand Prizes
- Food Booth by Fallbrook Kiwanis Club

NOTE!

**WEST ALVARADO STREET FROM MAIN TO PICO WILL BE  
CLOSED FOR THIS EVENT!!**

## Legal Information

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 7:00 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 123 W. Alvarado. The museum is open Thurs., Fri., and Sat. 11am to 3pm and during special events in the downtown area or by appointment. 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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**Lithosphere Staff:** Garth Bricker. Website: <http://www.fgms.org/>—Webmaster Patricia Hartman: [Webmaster@fgms.org](mailto:Webmaster@fgms.org)

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*Lithosphere*

**Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society**

Patricia Hartman Editor

123 W. Alvarado St. Suite B

Fallbrook, CA 92028

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