

Lithosphere

Volume XIII, Number 7

Fallbrook, California

FGMS Fall Festival October 2nd



In this picture from the Fall Festival 2004 kids enjoy a chance to pan for gold. Gold panning is one of many activities offered during this year's festival, for more information see page 7.

Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.



September 2005

Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.
 123 W. Alvarado Street Suite B, Fallbrook, CA 92028
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Display Advertising rates for the *Lithosphere* a publication of the Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society:

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. Or write to the editor at 5415 Rainbow Hts. Rd., Fallbrook, CA 92028.

Inside the Lithosphere

Sept. Meeting	1
Club Calendars	2
Summaries	3
Garth's World	4
Field Trip News	6
Fall Festival	7
CFMS News	9
Show Dates	11
Classified	12

Lithosphere

September 2005

September 8th Meeting

The Tucson Gem and Mineral Show: *The Greatest Show on Earth*

By John & Claudia Watson

The September 8th meeting of the FGMS will feature a program by members John and Claudia Watson. Their program will give highlights of the Tucson 2005 Gem and Mineral Show and will include notes on the history of the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society and its annual show.

There will be stunning digital images taken by Claudia during the show with narration by John. Both Claudia and John are local collectors.

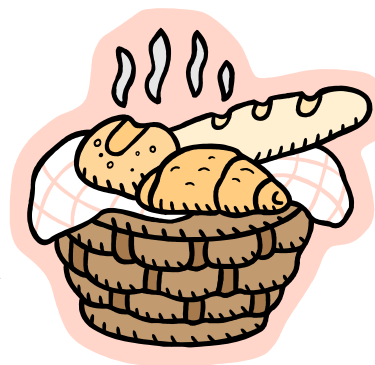
John has master degrees in geology from Cal Tech and the University of Oklahoma and is a space systems scientist/engineer. Claudia graduated from San Diego State with a degree in fine arts, and is currently president of the Fallbrook PC Users Group.

Both speakers maintain a strong interest in geosciences. This presentation debuted on April 1st to the mineral club and the Fersman Museum in Moscow.

September Meeting Opens with Potluck Dinner

The meeting will begin with a potluck and will start at 6:30 p.m. at 123 W. Alvarado Street in Fallbrook. Members are asked to please bring a dish to share.

The program will follow the potluck and a business meeting. Newcomers are always welcome to attend FGMS meetings. For more information call 728-1130.



FGMS Club Calendar

September 2005

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

Second Saturday: Work party 10 a.m., 123 W. Alvarado St.

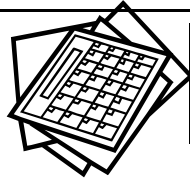
Sept. 8: Potluck starts at 6:30 p.m. with program following.

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

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

FGMS Looking for Webmaster

FGMS webmaster Laurie Kern is leaving her post after several years as our webmaster and getting us off to a good start on the web, our heartfelt thanks to her. The Society is looking for a replacement for Laurie. Please contact the Museum at 728-1130 for more information.



FGMS Event Calendar 2005

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

FGMS June Meeting Summary

Elizabeth Yamaguchi Secretary

Sally Larsen was made an Honorary Member, and thanked for her faithful service as *Lithosphere* editor and helping us with publicity. She also maintained the history scrapbooks and chaired the Field Trip Committee with Lea Barton. She was Volunteer of the Year in 2004. Sally will continue to do the *Lithosphere* from Bakersfield until a new editor can be found. Speaker, Dr. Robert Housley, spoke about finding rare minerals in Southern California.

FGMS Board Meeting Summary

Elizabeth Yamaguchi Secretary

Preparations continue for our October Street Festival. Committees are in place and flyers and posters have been printed. Anne Ondraka is new publicity chair for the Festival. Twenty two dealers have been signed up.

We are now open on Fridays in addition to Tuesdays and Thursdays. A docent schedule and sign-in have been established. Jan Stromsoe is our new Chair of the Docent Committee.

Work Parties enjoyed food and fellowship and accomplished many tasks recently. We have a new tenant, a fitness program called Curves.

Continued on page 10

Costa Mesa - Fall

WEST COAST GEM & MINERAL SHOW

Holiday Inn - Costa Mesa • Bristol Plaza • 3131 S. Bristol St.
"Just south of 405 Fwy at Bristol St."


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Garth's World

*Garth Bricker FGMS Member and
Museum Curator*

October second our Fall Festival with open house and street closing with vendors. Come and help set up at 8 a.m. or tear down at 4 p.m.. There will be more activity this year than last year. We are listed in the Chamber's yearly program as one of the big closed street affairs along with the Avocado Festival. Reserve a table next year and sell some of your minerals or fossils. We need people to set up signs in the early evening that come from the Chamber office. A truck is a must for the driver and the helpers will stack the signs so the first off will be at the back of the truck. Some of the signs will be located at the corner of our new lot.

From Alvarado you can see the lot we bought which also borders Pico St. We had a very shaky start getting the lot. We spent a lot of time trying to think of ways to purchase the lot and the owners told us they had another buyer but would sell to us if we signed on the dotted line within a certain time limit.

The Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Board didn't want to buy the lot. They felt it might jeopardize the Museum building. The Vol-

unteers took on the buying of the lot and we had to ask the sellers for a short time extension.

At this time we had been in contact with a well-known civic-minded person who organized the buying of property in the center of Fallbrook. His group had started the nonprofit Arts Center, the Village Square (devoted to servicemen of our past wars and a gathering place for the town and the location for a farmers market on Friday), and an arts teaching center on Alvarado St. All this is nonprofit to help the community just as our museum would help the community.

A group called the Fallbrook Community Development Corp. was organized to buy the lot and sell us half. They had the money. The Volunteers had no big funds and the bank said the FCDC had no track record of paying their bills since they were just organized. At this point, and with a small change in the FGMS Board, along with Mick Palculich's telling the Board that our building has gone up in value along with the lot so we would have nothing to worry about even if everything went bad so the Board voted to take on the re-

sponsibility of buying the lot with the stipulation that we sell half of the lot to the FCDC. Without the FCDC buying half of the lot, the FGMS would never have wound up with any of the lot.

We needed access to the back of our museum, which would have been gone forever if it was sold to a buyer for a store. A buyer would have to build a parking area somehow on the lot in order to build. The FCDC will have to use some of our half to provide handicapped parking for their proposed building to satisfy the county requirements for parking. We won't pay for this land so our share of the cost will go down.

There is an existing easement given to the county years ago when the county thought it might widen Pico St. The easement is 11 ft next to Pico and FCDC is negotiating with the county to get back this 11 ft. This is an unknown at this time. FCDC needs 40 ft to build their building, which will reduce our lot size to about 33 feet wide without the 11 ft. There are a number of areas to discuss, when we know about the 11 ft. that will take give and take to make the two halves closer in value.

One very important project is fixing a persistent leak in the new roof where water leaves one half of the roof through an eight-inch hole where it combines with the

water from the other half to leave the roof on the low southeast side. Water on the west side creates a lake before it enters the hole so we are thinking of putting a drain there to run the water under the roof to exit through the outside wall. This has to be cured because it also comes down the wall in the room we rent to the Curves people. This has to be done before the rains come and it will have to be a board decision.

An activity that comes each year that doesn't present new problems is the San Diego County Fair where the Volunteers sell grab bags, necklaces, cabs, and spoonfuls. This year turned out about the same as years past and we will use a good portion of the money we earned to donate to the Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society for upgrading projects like the roof.

Our new problem will be in the future and it won't be selling grab bags but getting them made. We are in a transition from having volunteers who come regularly to having very few volunteers come to make grab bags. We will have to devise new ways to shift some of the work to the new museum.

We are starting to plan for the removal of the three containers that have been on the Historical property because they are in the spot where their new barn project will go. The containers still

COMING UP IN OCTOBER: Trona, October 8-9, the *Searles Lake Gem and Mineral Society's 64th Gem-O-Rama*. A partial schedule includes: Saturday 2:30 p.m. trip for Hanksite, halite, borax, sulfahalite - dry surface Cost is **\$8 per car**. Sunday departure 9AM- **Pink Halite** in brine, beneath hard surface —Cost is **\$10 per car**. Other points of interest are: **Pinnacles National Natural Landmark** - Self guided, info at show - **FREE**, and **Searles Valley Minerals' Plants** - Sat: 11,12, 1 and 2; Sun: 12 and 1 - in bus - **FREE**. For more information log on to <http://www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub/Whats-new.htm> or contact FGMS field trip leader Lea Barton at 728-8462.

Trona is located in the Mojave desert off of Highway 395 on Highway 178 in Kern County. Driving distance from Fallbrook is approximately 197 miles, driving time about three and a half hours. There is camping at the Valley Wells Recreation Area of Searles Valley Minerals, Inc. Although it is dry camping, there are restroom and portable toilets, fresh water at 3 faucets, an outdoor shower to wash the salt and mud off after field trips, and a trash receptacle. There are also tennis and volleyball courts and a horseshoes pit (bring your own equipment, and a play ground for young kids, and you will be camping with several hundred other enthusiastic mineral collectors. All this for just \$5 per night. Registration will either be as you drive in or someone will stop by your camp. Valley Wells is located about 5.3 miles north of the show building.

Motel accommodations are available in the town of Ridgecrest, about 25 miles north of Trona.

FGMS Members Tour La Brea Tar Pits in May

Sally Larsen editor

On May 28 17 FGMS members, and two guests, toured the La Brea Tar Pits in Los Angeles. This was a gratifying number of members that turned out and it was the first time that our group has visited the tar pits and Page Museum.

Our docent guide walked us through the Page Museum where the finds from the pits are on display.

The animals found here are ice age animals that lived around 10,000 years ago. The most commonly found bones belong to the dire wolf, next is the saber tooth cat and third the coyote. Other contemporary remains have been found in the pits including the golden eagle.

Continued on page 8

FGMS FALL FESTIVAL OCTOBER 2ND

FGMS Fall Festival plans are well underway and with 23 vendors signed up this promises to be the biggest year yet.

The event is being chaired by your FGMS board, and they can use help making this year a success. Contact the museum office or sign up at the September meeting for the many jobs waiting for you. We need your help.

Prizes for this year's raffle include the



Fossil Ammonite, Baja California Sur, Mexico. 70 million years old. Six inch diameter. Donated by Cal Graeber.

Continued on page 12

Erich Kern Wins CFMS Writing Award

Sally Larsen editor

Erich Kern has won a sixth place in the California Federation of Mineralogical Society's bulletin contest for 2004. His piece that appeared in the September 2004 *Lithosphere* is entitled "Why Volunteer". Read it again, reprinted below. Congratulations Erich.

Why Volunteer?

Erich Kern FGMS director

The short answer is that it's good for you, and FGMS could use some help. When my wife Laurie and I joined FGMS two years ago, I had no intention of volunteering for anything. It was just not something I usually do. I wanted to learn more about mineralogy and go on field trips, but it didn't occur to me at the time that both these activities involve other people. Really! So, which people should I learn about minerals from and which people are good at field trips and finding minerals? The general meetings once a month are both educational and social, but really getting to know other members isn't something one does in two or three hours once a month.

By accident, someone found out that I

used to be an electrician, so I was asked to wire the lights and outlets in the museum. One thing led to another and I dropped by Rocky Crest for the Thursday morning grab bag assembly and rock sorting fest. There across the table from me was Don Layton, retired geologist and sharp wit, and at the end of the table was Garth Bricker, field tripper extraordinaire and mineral hunter of many years. So, there you have it; two people among the many others at FGMS from which I've learned much about collecting, cleaning, and displaying minerals.

It wouldn't have happened had I not volunteered. Be a volunteer—it will enrich your life! It really is satisfying, and we could benefit from your knowledge and effort.

Field Trip News from page 6

The museum has 3,000 dire wolf skulls in storage, and one large wall in the museum contains a display of dire wolf skulls. The Museum has a collection of 3.5 million bones and is still actively recovering material from pit 91 during the summer months.

Our guide took us past the large lake pit in front of the museum where methane gas bubbles up. It was once an asphalt mine, and in the late 1800s asphalt from here



FGMS members watch archaeologists as they sort through saber tooth cat neck bones at the Page Museum during their tour in May.



FGMS members tour the grounds of the La Brea Tar Pits.

was sent to San Francisco for use in building the opera house.

The pits are conically shaped, tapering toward the bottom and can be as deep as 1300 feet. The bones found here are remarkably preserved due to sand washing down from the nearby Santa Monica mountains and layering in the pits and protecting the bones from weathering.

Following the tour we had lunch in a picnic area at the museum and had a chance to look around the gift shop and museum before heading for home.

For many of us this was a first-time visit to the Tar Pits. I had not been there since the 1950s, long before the current museum was built.

If you have suggestions for other tours or field trips please contact Lea Barton or the FGMS office.

**NEWS & NOTES
FROM THE CFMS**

Sept. 2005

John Fry Director

*Richard Pankey, Chairman,
Jury of Awards*

Each year the California Federation selects one individual to be honored by giving that individual, the privilege of selecting the university of his or her choice for the selection of two students to receive the American Federation Scholarship for that year. The individual, California Federation's Award Honoree, assists in the selection of the students who are studying for their Masters or Doctors Degree, and in need of financial assistance of this scholarship. These are \$2,000 scholarships that are given to each student for two years.

HOW IS THE HONOREE SELECTED? From the names of individuals submitted to the Jury of Awards Committee by our member societies. Your society could have that privilege and honor!

HOW DOES A SOCIETY SUBMIT THE NAME OF AN INDIVIDUAL? First, the person whose name is to be submitted **never** should be advised that his or her name is being presented for consideration. Second, the individual should be one well versed in the Earth Science education, and should have, over the

years, extended services to individuals, societies, etc., in matters relating to our hobby and its various facets. The person need not be a member of a CFMS Society.

WHAT DOES A SOCIETY PRESENT? Documentation of the individual's background - the more, the better. This is tough sometimes, as some of our very worthy individuals are very closemouthed about their efforts, and their endeavors. Newspaper clippings, family or friends who can be depended upon to be discreet. Libraries are good sources of information "Men of the West", "Who's Who", and a number of other like publications. There are a good number of people within our Federation boundaries worthy of this honor.

TO WHOM DOES THIS MATERIAL AND INFORMATION GO? Send the name of the nominated honoree and all supporting information to the CFMS Jury of Awards Committee. The material submitted by our Societies is never discarded. So if your nominee is not chosen one year, there is always a chance he or she will be considered another year. But it never hurts to re-submit a nomination. November 9, 2005 is the due date for this year's nominations. There are many people who are deserving of this award and the committee would like to have several names to consider when making their selection, so don't delay.

Summary from page 3

Owner, John Stanley and his wife, remodeled the space and sound-proofed the wall between their space and our auditorium.

Laura Coleman will be doing the Chili Cook-off for Hot Summer Nights, Friday, August 26. Sunrize Café of Bonsall will cook.

Our museum software networking program, funded by the Angel Society, has been installed. Vince Ross of the Village Association and FCDC (Fallbrook Community Development Corporation) spoke to the board about Fallbrook zoning that affects the development of our lot next door. Joe Ondraka was authorized to obtain copies of documents pertaining to our property, including the alley, easements and the parking lot. Laura Coleman's husband will survey the lot and mark the corners.

Henry Vogt is leveling the area behind the building and Richard Mayer will do the cement work. Half the space will be for storage that will make educational supplies available, and half will be used as a station for children to work on the fossil whale. Mike Evans is purchasing the laptop and PowerPoint for educational presentations.

Continued on page 12

FGMS Members Take Awards

Sally Larsen Editor

Summertime was not an idle time for some FGMS members who prepared cases for the San Diego County Fair at Del Mar, and came back with awards. Among the winners are FGMS members: Pete Bancroft, two cases, first; Meg Berry, two cases, first & second; Garth Bricker, one specimen, second; Irv Brown (non-competitive); FGMS, educational exhibit, very old faceting machines, Award of Merit; Daron Fisler, two entries; Mary Fong/Walker, 14 entries, two cases, first, second, third, educational exhibit, Award of Merit; Cal Graeber, 23 specimens, four firsts, three seconds; Kerith Graeber, one case, first; Bob Lowrie, 11 specimens, one case, first & second; Malmquist family, 12 specimens, one entry, seven cases, three firsts, two seconds, two thirds; Dick Mayer, one specimen; Sam Nasser, seven specimens, one case, three thirds; Joe Ondraka, one specimen, third; Don & Bonnie Parsley, one entry, one case; Rose Family, one case, first; Volunteers for Minerals, educational exhibit, fossils, Award of Merit; Jim Walker, 22 specimens, two firsts, second, third; former member Janie Chesney, educational exhibit, volcanoes, Award of Merit.

AUG.-SEPT. SHOW CALENDAR

Aug. 19-21, Sacramento, CA - Gem Faire. Scottish Rite Center, 6151 H St.

Aug. 20-21, Sonoma, CA - Sonoma Wine Country Glass Art & Bead Festival.
The Lodge at Sonoma, 1325 Broadway.

Aug. 26-28, San Diego, CA - Gem Faire. Sheraton Hotel Mission Valley, 2nd Fl. 26th, noon-7; 27th, 10-7; 28th, 10-5. Free shuttle b/w this show and Scottish Rite Center show. 503-252-8300, info@gemfaire.com, www.gemfaire.com.

Aug. 26-28, San Diego, CA - Gem Faire. Scottish Rite Center, 1895 Camino del Rio S. 26th

Sept. 8-11, Tucson, AZ - A.B.C. Direct. A.B.C. Direct, 355 E. Ft. Lowell Rd., between First & Stone Aves. Tomas Smith, 520-696-9490, fax 520-696-0039, info@beadholiday.com, www.beadholiday.com.

***Sept. 8-11, Tucson, AZ - Gem & Lapidary Wholesalers, Inc.** Business to Business Gem Trade Show. Holiday Inn Palo Verde/Holidome, 4550 S. Palo Verde Rd.

Sept. 17-18, Jackson, CA - Fossils for Fun Society. 5th Annual Tailgate Gemboree. Kennedy Gold Mine.

Sept. 17-18, Paso Robles, CA - Santa Lucia Rockhounds. 14th Annual Rockhound Roundup. Pioneer Park & Museum, 2010 Riverside Ave.

Sept. 17-18, Redwood City, CA - Sequoia Gem & Mineral Society. 40th Annual "Harvest of Gems" Gem and Mineral Show. Community Activities Bldg., 1400 Roosevelt Ave.

Sept. 23-25, San Bernardino, CA - Orange Belt Mineralogical Society. Gem and Mineral Tailgate. Western Regional Little League Park, 6707 Little League Dr.

Sept. 23-25, San Rafael, CA - Gem Faire. Marin Center, 10 Ave. of the Flags.

Sept. 24-25, San Diego, CA - San Diego Lapidary Society. Annual Gem Show. Bernardo Winery, 13330 Paseo Del Verano Norte.

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FGMS Has a New Email Address:

Write us at fgms@sbcglobal.net

We Want to Hear From You!

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.

OCTOBER 2: FGMS Fall Festival of Gems on Alvarado Street in Fallbrook from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., 23 vendors, food, prizes, games and more. Contact the Museum, Tues.-Thurs., Fri., 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., at 760-

728-1130 for more information

YOUR AD HERE: email the editor Sally Larsen at slarsen2@bak.rr.com, write to Sally Larsen at 3020 N. Inyo Street, Bakersfield, CA 93305, or call at 661-861-9102.

Summary from page 10

We received \$3,000 in '05-'06 TOT funds to install the ore cart and to purchase exhibit cases and a scale model of a fossil mastodon.

A new Fallbrook festival, the Art of the Book, was granted permission to use the FGMS auditorium for writers' workshops on Sunday, October 23.

Erich Kern arranged a successful termite fumigation and continues maintenance projects around the building.

The Board authorized \$2,000 to remodel the bathrooms. Gina Palulich is in charge of carrying out the project and John Stanley of Curves will assist.

Fall Festival from page 7

fossil ammonite, pictured on page seven, and donated by Cal Graeber. Other prizes are a barite on quartz specimen, donated by Irv Brown; pink schiller sunstone pendant and chain, donated by Karla Proud, Exotic Gemstones, LLC; benitoite earrings, donated by Paul Cory, Iteco, Inc.; 16.96 ct. blue topaz, donated by Thomas M. Schneider, with a \$100 gift certificate for a setting donated by Dave Lowrie, Stonemith; onyx vase, donated by Jim and Mary Walker, IKON; twenty-five piece mineral collection, donated by Cal Graeber; Oceanview mine Tour, donated by Steve & Lisa Koonce, Stephen's Custom Jewelry; lab created opal and 14K gold bracelet, donated by Sam Nasser and a three year subscription to *Gems & Gemology Magazine*, donated by *Gems & Gemology*.

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.

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Lithosphere

Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society

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