



Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society
PO Box 565
Nevada City, CA 95959-0565

First Class Mail

September 2009



General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, September 1, 2009

7:00 p.m.

Golden Empire Grange
11363 Grange Ct., Grass Valley



September Program

"Show & Tell"



Members share their finds from rockhounding trips.



Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society



PRESIDENT	Vicki Black
VICE PRESIDENT	Dan Chaplin
SECRETARY	Julie-Anne Lay
TREASURER	Alan Boone
DIRECTORS	Kim Moore Gary Black Terry Bartels
	<u>2009 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS</u>
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FIELD TRIP DIRECTORS	Terry Bartels Tony Kampitch Vicki Black
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MEMBERSHIP	Jeanne Boone
PARLIAMENTARIAN	Bill Budd
CLUB PICNIC	Anita Wald-Tuttle
PROGRAM	Terry Bartels
PUBLICITY	Robert & Joyce Emerson Kim Moore
REFRESHMENTS	Birthday Honorees
SHOW CHAIRMAN	Kim Moore
SHOW CHAIRMAN, ASSISTANT	Marty Patton
SHOW DEALER CHAIRMAN	Joyce Emerson
SUNSHINE	Mary Tucker
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Jeanne Boone
WEBMASTER	Jonathan North

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

Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society Meetings

Executive Committee Meeting:

First Tuesday of the month, 6:00 p.m.
Golden Empire Grange Building
11363 Grange Ct., Grass Valley

Tues. Sept. 1, 2009

General Membership Meeting:

First Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m.
Golden Empire Grange Building
11363 Grange Ct., Grass Valley

Membership Dues: Yearly membership dues for NCG&MS are \$20.00 for singles and \$25.00 for families. For more information or an application, contact Membership Chairman Jeanne Boone at (530) 268-8857. *Deduct \$5.00 if you receive your newsletter via email*

NCG&MS is a non-profit organization that has these objectives:

- ◆ to promote the study of mineralogy, geology and fossils.
- ◆ to encourage the collection of minerals and gems.
- ◆ to foster the study and practice of the lapidary arts.
- ◆ to provide field trips to mineral localities.
- ◆ to promote good fellowship, education and recreation.



NEVADA COUNTY GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY IS A PROUD MEMBER OF:
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES, INC. (AFMS)
CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES, INC. (CFMS)



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Please send Exchange Newsletters & Newsletter Submissions to: Jeanne Boone, Editor
18260 Mountain Park Ct. Grass Valley, CA 95949-9037
email: jeanneboone@sbbmail.com

ROCK WRITINGS

Official Monthly Publication of the Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society

Volume 43, Number 9

Nevada City - Grass Valley, California

September 2009

President's Message by Vicki Black

Here we go again...almost show time. We need rocks for the silent auction table, lots of rocks. But not junk, we need to have rocks we ourselves would like to have. We also need nice things for the hourly drawings and the bigger raffle items. Julie Anne Laye and I are helping with the hospitality table and raffle items so we will be calling you and asking for some donations. This is the time of year where I keep asking for your help so here is another request. Magazines, "Rock and Gem" or "Lapidary Journal" are two of the magazines we put on our table for people to look through and take. This is always popular so please bring in your old issues.

Let's not forget our young boy, Aaron Hendricks, from Oklahoma, who asked for rocks from California for a home schooling project. Please remember to bring them in this September meeting so I can mail his box off to him right away.

And don't forget the September meeting is the "show and tell" program. Bring in your summer finds and stories to share with everyone. This is always a fun evening. I look forward to hearing about your summer adventures.

Vicki

September Calendar

September 1	Board Meeting 6:00 pm
September 1	General Meeting 7:00 pm
September 7	Labor Day
September 11	Patriot Day
September 20	Newsletter Items Due
September 28	Yom Kippur



Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society Presents



Earth's Treasures 2009



Sat. & Sun., Oct. 10 & 11
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

*42 Annual Show
Exhibits of Rocks, Minerals, Carved and
Faceted Stones and More*



Mineral Identification
Half Hour Prizes
Mineral & Fossil Sales
Lapidary Equipment Sales

Special
Fossil
Exhibits



Children's Games
Silent Auctions
Jewelry Sales
Demonstrations

Raffles and door prizes
Admission \$2.00 Children Under 12 Free

Plenty of Free Parking
The Nevada County Fairgrounds - Main Exhibit Hall
11228 McCourtney Road . Grass Valley
Show Chairman: Kim Moore (530) 470-0388
Dealer Chairman: Joyce Emerson (503) 559-2595

Twenty Minutes Rock Hounding in Greece

by Julie-Anne Lay

This summer my family and I were lucky enough to spend a week in Greece. A little research before we left home gave Alex, my son, and I the opportunity to get down in the dirt in the blazing Greek sun in the hope of finding a little piece of Greece to bring home, in the ancient silver mining region around Lavrion.

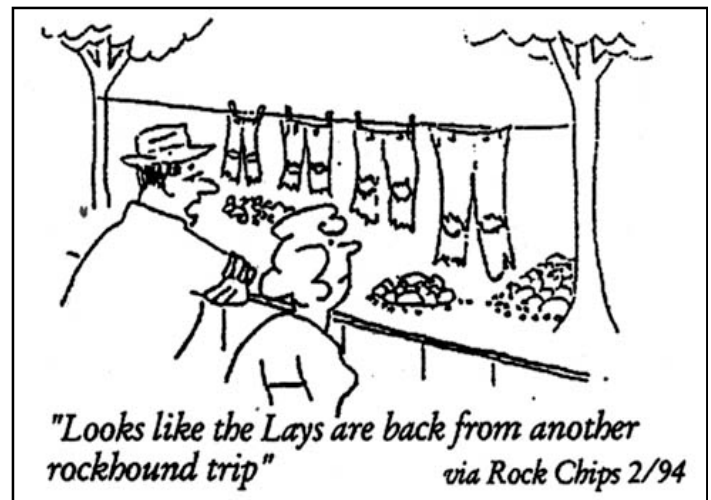
It was the last day of our trip. We had checked out of our hotel, seen some ancient sites around Corinth and thought we could fit in one more ancient landmark, the Temple of Poseidon, before heading to the airport. Lavrion is a seaport town about 40 miles south east of Athens, and just a few miles north of our final tourist stop. Lucky for me nobody wanted to linger at the Temple of Poseidon so we had a few minutes spare to check out the Ancient Quarries sign that we saw off the road.

Mining has taken place in this area for the last 3000 years. Initially they mined silver and lead and more recently in the 19th century, lead, manganese and cadmium. What made this area so interesting to me was that it was the silver that the Greeks produced from these mines that produced the coins that funded the construction, beginning in 508BC, of all the magnificent ancient sites (such as the Parthenon and Temple of Zeus) that we'd seen over the last few days. The mines covered a huge area and as well as being famous for the wealth they produced, they were also infamous for the exploitation of slaves who worked here. For me, it's not always possible to feel the history when you're stuck behind tour groups and camera clicking crowds. But among the stunted olive trees, marble ruins and scarred hillsides, I told Emma "I'm feeling it here!" There was just something about that place.

We didn't have much time to look for minerals (of which there are around 500 in the area according to Mindat) and as the area has been declared a UNESCO world heritage site since 2003 there's probably some restrictions on collecting. We ended up picking up a few interesting rocks along the road-side which satisfied Alex's and my rock hounding need. The rest of the family were very patient, though a little hot and dusty. I'm very grateful for the twenty minutes they allowed us in the dirt – it made my trip!



Photos by Julie-Anne Lay



Remember, when it's your birthday month, you provide the treats for the General Meeting.

Also, don't forget to put a penny for every year in the birthday cup near the sign in table.

Rockhounding in State Parks & BLM Mining-Related Fees

by John Martin, AFMS Conservation & Legislation Committee

ROCKHOUDING IN CALIF. STATE PARKS

During the last several months there have been several incidences where rockhounds have had an encounter with an authority figure over collecting in a California State Park or on a California State Beach. After lengthy searches on the internet, hours of reading regulations and several trips to the local State Senator's office, there is light at the end of the tunnel, and it is not the headlight of the approaching train.



Yes, Virginia, there really is rock collecting within the boundaries of California State Parks and California State Beaches. The collecting regulations are intermixed within several dozen California Code of Regulations documents, which give explicit collecting requirements and conditions. This does not mean that collecting is allowed at all parks and beaches nor does it exclude collecting from all parks and beaches. As it turns out, each unit within the California State Parks System, through its own regulatory processes, may, can and will regulate rockhounding within its own boundaries within the regulations established at the state level.

During the search of the regulations covering rockhounding, it was discovered that there is no actual reference to the collecting of paleontological resources, such as fossils, petrified bone or petrified wood, nor is there any exclusion for these. So, during visits to California State Parks and Beaches for rockhounding activities, just keep in mind their definition of rockhounding as defined in the California Code of Regulations.

There are over 200 units within the California State Parks System, and therefore there could be over 200 different collecting regulations. After surfing several State Park and State Beach web sites, I discovered no consistency in published unit regulations. For example, Hearst San Simeon State Park allows rockhounding as published in the California Code of Regulations; Carpinteria, El Capitan and Gaviota State Beach web sites had no mention of rockhound opportunities.

Some of the State Park web sites included Providence Mountains, which includes Mitchell Caverns, Silverwood Lake, which borders the National Forrest, had no mention of rockhound collecting while Red Rock Canyon State Park states that "All plant, animal, natural and cultural features are protected. Collection is prohibited without a permit."

So to be on the safe side and to avoid any confrontation with that big guy with the gun, check at the entrance to the park for the bulletin board where there will be the "Posting of Notices" where special instructions pertaining to areas where activities are curtailed or restricted are to be found for the particular state park or beach.

If there is no posting of restrictions, check with park personnel before collecting to avoid losing the collected specimens or worse yet, receiving a citation from a park ranger where the fine could be between \$10 and \$1,000 or more.

Just remember to follow the California Code of Regulations for Rockhounding and you should be safe. "Check before you collect." Below is the California Code of Regulations pertaining to the California State Parks and Beaches to serve as a guide while rockhounding.

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**CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS
TITLE 14. NATURAL RESOURCES
DIV. 3. DEPT. OF PARKS & RECREATION
CHAPTER 1. GENERAL**

§ 4307. Geological Features.

(a) No person shall destroy, disturb, mutilate, or remove earth, sand, gravel, oil, minerals, rocks, paleontological features, or features of caves.

(b) Rockhounding may be permitted as defined in Section 4301(v).

§ 4308. Archaeological Features.

No person shall remove, injure, disfigure, deface, or destroy any object of archaeological, or historical interest or value.

§ 4309. Special Permits.

The Department may grant a permit to remove, treat, disturb, or destroy plants or animals or geological, historical, archaeological or paleontological materials; and any person who has been properly granted such a permit shall to that extent not be liable for prosecution for violation of the foregoing.

**CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS
TITLE 14. NATURAL RESOURCES
DIV. 3. DEPT. OF PARKS & RECREATION
CHAPTER 1. GENERAL**

§ 4301. Definitions.

(i) Posting of Notices. The term "posted" as used herein, unless otherwise indicated, shall mean and require that the Department shall set aside at the district headquarters and at the unit affected and in a location convenient to the general public, a bulletin board or similar device upon which shall be posted all special instructions, orders, pertaining to units of the district including but not limited to special hours of operation, swimming and boating restrictions, hunting and camping restrictions, and special instructions pertaining to areas where activities are curtailed or restricted. Proof of posting shall be filed in the offices of the division chiefs or the Sacramento California Office of the Division of Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation.

(t) Unit. Unit means any named and classified unit under control of the Department of Parks and Recreation, as well as any Department projects which have not yet been named or classified.

(v) Rockhounding is defined as being the recreational gathering of stones and minerals found occurring naturally on the undisturbed surface of the land, including panning for gold in the natural water-washed gravel of streams.

(w) Float Material is defined as materials only occurring naturally on the surface of the land.

**TITLE 14. NATURAL RESOURCES
DIV. 3. DEPT. OF PARKS & RECREATION
CHAPTER 6. PROVISIONS LIMITED TO SPECIFIC UNITS**

§ 4611. Rockhounding.

(a) Rockhounding is authorized by Section 5001.65 of the Public Resources Code.

(b) Units and portions thereof open for Rockhounding will be posted in accordance with Section 4301(i).

(c) Commercial Use. Rocks or mineral specimens gathered within a unit may not be sold or used commercially for the production of profit.

(d) Maximum Take. One person may gather, in one day in one unit, not more than 15 pounds of mineralogical material or not more than one specimen plus 15 pounds of mineralogical material.

(e) Use of Tools. Tools, except goldpans to be used in gold panning, may not be used in rockhounding within a unit.

(f) Areas for Swimming and Boating. In state recreation areas rockhounding may not be practiced in areas designated for swimming or for boat launching.

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g) Areas Limited for Collecting. In state recreation areas rockhounding is limited to beaches which lie within the jurisdiction of the Department and within the wave action zone on lakes, bays, reservoirs, or on the ocean, and to the beaches or gravel bars which are subject to annual flooding on streams.

(h) Indian Artifacts. Rockhounding in a unit specifically does not include the gathering of Indian arrowheads, Indian stone tools, or other archeological specimens, even when such specimens may be found occurring naturally on the surface.

(i) Panning for Gold. Panning for gold is considered to be "rockhounding" as the term is applied in the Department. The gold pan is the only exception permitted to the exclusion of tools from rockhounding in a unit as provided in Section 4610.5. Muddy water from panning operations must not be visible more than 20 feet from the panning operation.

California State Beach Regulations General Regulations (14 Cal. Code of Regs.) 6) Geological Features. No person shall destroy, disturb, mutilate, or remove earth, sand, gravel, oil, minerals, rocks, paleontological features, or features of caves except rockhounding may be permitted as defined and delineated in Sections 4611 (a) through (i) (14 Cal. Code of Regs. 4307). 7) Archaeological Features. No person shall remove, injure, disfigure, deface, or destroy any object of archaeological or historical interest or value (14 Cal. Code of Regs. 4308).

BLM Announces Adjustments to Mining-Related Location & Annual Maintenance Fees

In June, the Bureau of Land Management published in the Federal Register a notice that it is adjusting for inflation its fees for the location (or "staking") and maintenance of unpatented mining claims, mill sites, and tunnel sites. The location fee will increase from \$30 to \$34 and the maintenance fee will rise from \$125 to \$140 for such unpatented claims, in which no federal land has been transferred to the individual or company staking the claim.

The adjusted fees are due on or before September 1, 2009. Mining claimants must pay the new location fee for any mining claim or site located after the effective date of this final rule, which is today (June 29, 2009). Those who have already submitted maintenance fees for the 2010 maintenance year will be given an opportunity to pay the additional amount without penalty upon notice from the BLM.

Since Fiscal Year 1993, mining claimants staking new claims or sites have been required to pay a one-time location fee. Claimants must also pay an annual "maintenance" fee in lieu of performing annual assessment work and making annual filings.

In accordance with the Mining Law of 1872, as amended, and in light of recent related regulatory actions, the BLM is announcing today a new final rule that establishes a regular schedule for adjusting mining-related location and annual maintenance fees. Specifically, the new rule authorizes adjustments to these fees to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index every five years after August 10, 1993, or more frequently if the Secretary of the Interior determines an adjustment to be reasonable.

The BLM has not adjusted location and maintenance fees since 2004. The adjustments made in this final rule are based on the change in the Consumer Price Index from December 31, 2003, through December 31, 2008, as reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The link to the final rule in the Federal Register is: <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/pdf/E9-15248.pdf>

John

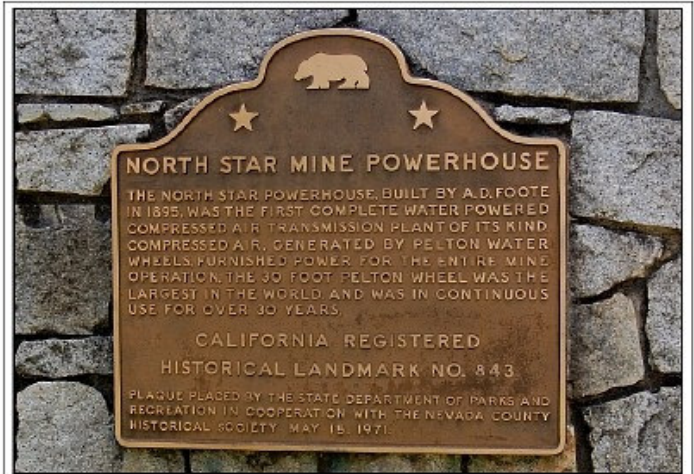
Source: CFMS Aug. 2009 Newsletter
<http://www.cfmsinc.org/>

Can You Match The Correct Dinosaur With It's Name And Description?

- Ankylosaurus- A walking tank with a horned helmet; a plant-eater.
- Dilophosaurus- had a large head topped with a set of two curving crests.
- Hypsilophodon- had long, arched claws, powerful legs, and a long rigid tail.
- Iguanodon- This plant-eater had hands with four fingers and a spike-like thumb.
- Procompsogathus- had a very light build, long legs, and could probably run fast.
- Pteranodon- A flying creature with a toothless beak, crest on its head and no *tail*.
(This one was really hard, right?)



See page 11 for the answers

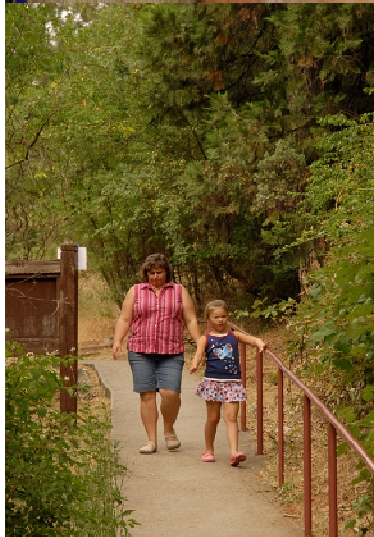


Photos by Bill Budd

***Rockclub Picnic
Northstar Mine Powerhouse Museum
July 11, 2009***



Picnic Photos
by Jonathan North



CO-OP MEMBER & OTHER FIELD TRIPS FOR 2009

Contact your club's field trip leader for further information and revisions. CO-OP website also has information: www.ourfieldtrips.org
(Password is needed.)

- All non-CFMS members must have proof of personal liability insurance (renters or homeowners policy). These trips are open to all rockhounds who agree to abide by the AFMS Code of Ethics, the directions of the field trip leader and practice safe rock-hounding.
- Call the field trip leader beforehand to sign up and for further information.
- Remember to wear your name badge and sign in with the field trip leader.
- A Consent and Assumption of Risk Waiver of Liability form must be signed upon arrival at meeting site

- Sept. 19 or 26 Hanksville, UT for petrified wood, fossils and agate. Fossils for Fun, Keith Lindholm, by phone or email
- Oct. 3 Empire Mine Tour. Sun City Lincoln Hills G & M Club, Ron Clawson, by phone or email
- Oct. 10 - 12 Fernley, NV for agate, jasper-agate, opalite, rhyolite, calcite, Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Club, Gerry Hill by phone
- Nov. TG week Southern CA – annual Thanksgiving week trips. Mother Lode Mineral Club, Al Troglin by phone or email

Sources: Florence Brady, Co-op Field Chairman & CFMS website:
Website: www.cfmsinc.org/

Fossils For Fun Society Invites You To
The 9th Annual Tailgate Gemboree
September 12 & 13, 2009
Saturday and Sunday
9 to 5



Join us at the Kennedy Mine in Jackson for
-Free Admission (\$2 parking)
-Fossil and Rock Exhibits & Dealers
-Teacher Specials on Fossils
-Saturday Evening Potluck and Live Auction
-Kennedy Mine Tours Available

DINOSAUR KEY

C Ankylosaurus
A Dilophosaurus
D Hypsilophodon
F Iguanodon
E Procompsognathus
B Pteranodon

YOUTH NOTES by Kay Jurgens in THE PICK & SHOVEL 5/2000
Via The Glacial Drifter 9/01
Via SCRIBE 2009 DVD



September 4-7 2009, Fort Bragg, CA
 Mendocino Coast Gem & Mineral Society
 Town Hall
 Cr. of Main & Laurel
 Hours: Fri. to Sun. 10-6, Mon. 10-4
 Don McDonell / (707) 964-3116

September 12-13 2009, Vista, CA
 Vista Gem & Mineral Society
 Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum
 2040 N. Sante Fe Ave.
 Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4
 Fred Wilson (760) 433-8464
 Cherie Wilson (760) 941-7073
 Lois Harr (560) 724-0395

September 19-20 2009, Redwood City, CA
 Sequoia Gem & Mineral Society
 Redwood City Community Activities Bldg.
 1400 Roosevelt Ave.
 Hours: 10-5 daily
 Carol Corden (650) 248-7155
 Email: coorden@comcast.net
 Website: www.sgms.driftmine.com/home.htm

September 19-20 2009, Paso Robles, CA
 Santa Lucia Rockhounds
 Pioneer Park & Museum
 2010 Riverside Ave.
 Hours: 10 - 5 both days
 Richard Smith (805) 467-2966
 E-mail: jonme2@wildblue.net

September 19-20 2009, Stockton, CA
 Stockton Lapidary and Mineral Club
 Scottish Rite Masonic Center
 33 West Alpine Ave.
 Hours: 10 - 5 both days
 (209) 946-0113
 E-mail: footsey1@yahoo.com
 Website: www.stocktonlapidary.com

September 26-27 2009, Carmel, CA
 Carmel Valey Gem & Mineral Society
 Monterey Fairgrounds
 Hours: Sat.10 - 6; Sun. 10-5
 E-mail:
 Website: www.cvgms.org

2009
 CFMS
 SHOWS

September 26-27 2009, Downey, CA
 Delvers Gem & Mineral Society
 Womens Club of Downey
 9813 Paramount Blvd.
 Hours: Sat.10 - 6; Sun. 10-4
 Nancy Bird (562) 697-0636
 E-mail: nancyjbird@verison.net

September 26-27 2009, Monerey, CA
 Carmel Valley Gem and Mineral Society
 Monterey Fairgrounds
 2004 Fairgrounds Road
 Sky Paxton (831) 262-2492
 E-mail: sky@familystones.net
 Janis Rovetti (831) 657-1933
 E-mail: Janis12@sbcglobal.net
 Website: www.cvgms.org

October 3-4 2009, Fallbrook, CA
 Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Society
 Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Museum
 123 W. Alvarado Street
 Hours: 10 - 4 both days
 Mary Fong-Walker (760) 728-1130
 Email: ikonmiming@gmail.com

October 3-4 2009, Oroville, CA
 Feather river Lapidary & Mineral Club
 Oroville Municipal Auditorium
 1200 Myers St.
 Hours: 10 - 5 both days
 Connie Rossetto (530) 59-1840
 Email: crossetto@aol.com
 Website: www.oroillerocks.com

October 10-11 2009, Grass Valley, CA
 Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society
 "Earth's Treasurers"
 Nevada County Fairgrounds
 11228 McCourtney Road
 Hours: 10-5 both days
 Kim Moore (530) 470-0388
 Email: kmoore160@comcast.net
 Website: www.ncgms.org

Source: CFMS Website: www.cfmsinc.org/

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