Program: Rhodochrosite, Red Treasure of the Rockies, the story of the Sweet Home Mine.
Tuesday September 3
7:00 p.m.
Golden Empire Grange Guild
11363 Grange Ct., Grass Valley

** Bring a Friend! **
NUGGETS FROM THE PREZ

Upon entering the city of Paradise, one doesn’t know what to expect. Turning onto Clark, all I saw were the dry yellow grass lands that one usually sees on the Pacific hills dotted with Oak trees. No fire here but it could become another one if started. We traveled past the college and see some road changes. The closer towards the town we go there are some signs of businesses that were destroyed by the fire. Houses untouched here and there. Out in the distance one can see blackened trees that show that there had been a fire. Traveling on closer towards the town, more fire damage. It saddens me to see all of this damage. Signs to this restaurant and to that store that are no longer there. Granted the fire that destroyed this city last year is fighting to return with a vengeance. Like us they too had rain and things are greening up to replace the blacken city. Buildings of where I shopped being just skeletons of themselves. There are areas that didn’t looked like they weren’t touched at all. Strange some homes or most of them are gone with chain linked fences around holes where septic tanks use to be. It’s very interesting what was and wasn’t burnt. Chimneys stood where houses once stood. Burnt cars and trucks are seen here and there. pieces of twisted metal looking like pieces of metal art. Some houses are built like new while there are mobile units, what I call trailers, on various pieces of land. Showing that people are moving back into town. It will take many years.
What I was surprised to see was that the beautiful Catholic Church with it’s rectory, hall and school looked saved when around it was burnt. It stood out like a lovely gem, clean and pretty. Granted it’s been a while since the fire so I don’t know how it looked before I saw it, but it was so lovely.
Went to check out where I use to live and all of the houses are gone. The wire fence around my former place was there with the locked gate where a “NO Trespassing” sign hung. I didn’t feel a sadness because I didn’t own it any more. I wanted to see or find where my folks and I lived when I returned back to California.
NOW here was a different scene altogether. I felt as though I was in a foreign land. Oh sure the trees and green plants were there but all of the trailers or mobile homes were gone. There were trucks and all sorts of Earth movers all over the place. The roads had been dirt here and so the ground was all loose earth. This was so different compared to the rest of the city. I can’t find a word to describe it. It gave me an weird feeling. The roads going off the "main" road were dirt ones so that helped make this as though no one had ever lived here at all. Was I sad, I don’t know because I hadn’t lived here for over twenty years but it had been home at one time. Perhaps numb is how I felt. Guess one can’t go home.
Wishing all of you Love, Happiness and Good Health. I’ll be thinking of all of you while we’re at Camp Paradise, so behave yourselves.

Edwina,
Madame Prez
Vice President’s Message ---for September 2019

Hello there fellow rock hounds, mineral enthusiasts, fossil collectors, etc. Several members showed up on the 17th to assist with cleaning out and re-organizing the trailer. We managed to get rid of a lot of excess weight of items no longer being used or needed. The assistance of several members made this task a lot easier to do. Now, in October, when we bring the trailer to the show, it will be much more efficient to load and unload. Also, a map of where items are stored and stacked is taped to the inside door for easy reference. I’d like to personally thank all who attended and helped with this work, it was much appreciated and something I wanted to see get done since the 90’s. We’re in good shape now though.

A couple of cases had the sides fall off from inadequate sized screws being used. These will be fixed in time for the show. At present we have 26 cases for display available. This does not include the cases we got form the El Dorado club, that will give us a few more.

The AFMS Endowment Fund donated a spectacular DVD to the CFMS video library which you will get to see for the September program. As I mentioned at the last meeting, this DVD is a little longer than most programs I’ve prepared in the past as it runs about 1hr. and 15 min. But, I think it is well worth your time to sit through it as it’s very informative and insightful. As a matter of fact, it’s the most informative DVD I’ve seen to date on this mineral.

It’s called “Rhodochrosite, Red Treasure of the Rockies, the story of the Sweet Home Mine.” You get to see fabulous specimens of Rhodochrosite you probably won’t ever see elsewhere, except in a museum or perhaps in someone’s private collection. In addition, you’re actually shown the pockets or vugs where these crystals are found in the mine. It’s quite impressive to see the extensive tunnels excavated over a period of years to find the world class specimens they uncovered. Some of the crystals were larger than a big grapefruit in size and worth thousands. Well narrated and visually enticing and the opportunity to see the history and development of this mine does not come around often.

Preparations for our show are moving along well at this point and we’ll give you further updates in September. We obviously need to wrap things up soon in this regards as the show occurs just 45 days from now, which really isn’t that far away. Thanks to everyone who has been chipping in and helping to get our show ready.

I hope to see you there at the next meeting. Take care, until then.

David Phillips
NEVADA COUNTY GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY BOARD MEETING AUGUST 6, 2019

MEETING: 5:38 pm

ATTENDANCE: Edwina Swensen, David Phillips, Gwen Fissel, Frank Van Hecke, Christie Harris, Eric Trygg, Christy Bunch.

Treasurer: Accounts are in good order. We have seven paid vendors for upcoming show. Camp Paradise scholarships dispersed; will receive the reimbursement money from the special co-op scholarship at the next co-op meeting.

Membership: some phishing occurred with e-mail addresses of officers and a political e-mail was also forwarded to some members from previous member. Our nonprofit status is in jeopardy when politics are involved with club e-mail.

Filed trips – The leaders of the trips have been active for the last few months. John D has at least two more trips are coming up before the end of the year. This is the most trips offered in several years. Please take a look and try to fit some of these great trips in if possible.

Federation: Camp Paradise – an Earth Science camp offered by the CFMS will have several of our members attending in a few weeks. Congratulations to the three members who won either full or a partial scholarship.

Show: David has had dental health problems and even been in the hospital and is still working hard getting the programs and show details completed. The cases are done. We bought some from El Dorado club and they were transported from Camron Park by Frank, John D. and Amber. This involved a rental truck, time and muscle. Christy and River helped to unload the cases. It was decided that the cases need some piano hinges to make them easier to assemble and use. Club will be signing up members to help volunteer at show. Please help as much as you are able.

The rock crusher is at Frank’s house and we need John to fix the pin.

The rental storage unit is at 3295 Amsel Way and is unit D12. Keys were disbursed at a previous meeting.

Jr Program: Christie had put together a program with the Earth Resources badges for tonight but we did not have any kids show up. At least one called and said they were sick. Beverly is sending out e-copies of the monthly Mini Miner Newsletter.

Christy B. has a list of the club’s equipment and there will be sign out sheets for all. John will submit information re: maintenance on equipment.

Edwina and some of our members will be at Camp Paradise and will miss our next meeting.

Meeting ended 6:35pm

Submitted by G Fissel
NEVADA COUNTY GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY EDUCATIONAL MEETING
AUGUST 6, 2019

Pledge of Allegiance and opening of meeting: 7:07 pm

Attendance: members 30, guests 7
Drawing for President’s gift – Terry Bartels

Treasurer’s report: Accounts in good standing. Scholarships: the full scholarship that was given to club at drawing of Co-op went to Lori Woodhall and the partial club scholarships went to Richard Pell and Diane Hobson. Applications to Camp Paradise were also on table for members who wished to apply to the camp at the end of August and first of September.

Field Trips: The next trip is to get Tulead Agate on September 28 – 30th. There is also a trip scheduled for November 16th for crystals out of Georgetown. Flyers were out on table.

Edwina asked if anyone was interested in soapstone carving. She will try to get small kits put together for the show. We had kits available to juniors a few years ago.

Sunshine: Beverley Glenn won a County (work) award. Congratulations. Rudy, Terry, Sandy, and David were in attendance. Hope to see everyone who has been ill, hospitalized, etc. back at the meetings. Great to see you!

Show: Show sign-ups were out on table and there were also chairmen individually requesting help during the break. Please everyone; try to come to help set up, attend, and take down show in October. Flyers and postcards for the show were handed out to be distributed in September, (remember we will be missing some members next month while they attend Camp Paradise). Please take more to distribute if you are attending the next meeting. Banners have had their dates revised and will be put up next month.

Frank will check on the popcorn again. The selling of popcorn is now considered a Class 3 Hazardous food handling permit item. Frank will clarify that definition with the authorities involved.

Let Frank know if you would like to exhibit using one of our new cases. “Pleistocene Zoo” is the show theme. Live talks at the show are open to suggestions and/or volunteers.

Demonstrators are signed up; they will be working inside and outside of the building. The show will close at 4pm on Sunday. Richard asked for help with publicity and Lori is doing the newspaper and radio publicity.

Juniors: see board meeting notes

Lengthy drawing – will have to shorten again since the DVD was 35 minutes and should not have run over time.

Program: DVD – 2006 AMS award winner – “German Agates”. The program was great; colorful, educational and inspiring. Secretary wondered if she were there how much her suitcase would hold (and weigh) if attended any of the collection sites shown on DVD.

Next month’s program will be lengthy, but AWARD WINNING. Group will try to cut meeting to as short as possible to be able to watch it and split showing around break.

Meeting adjourned 9:10 pm

Submitted by G. Fissel
California Federation of Mineralogical Societies

Camp Paradise Lapidary Camp is coming here. Many of our members have attended this one week lapidary camp and many of those have attended multiple times.
Frank Van Hecke, CFMS Director, NCGSMS

Rock and Mineral Donations To The Paradise Gem and Mineral Society

Gwen Fissel has graciously volunteered to collect and transport any Nevada County Gem and Mineral Society donations of rocks, minerals, lapidary material and/or lapidary equipment to the Paradise Gem and Mineral Society. Please bring your donations to the February 5th meeting. Thanking you all in advance

Upcoming Field Trips

9/28/19 - 9/29/19 Tuledad Canyon, NV. agate, petrified wood
August? Foresthill Divide Rich Cross 530.401.7066 ammonites, quartz crystals

Membership Bonus
Because of our recent club donations to the Underground Mine Museum in Allegheny and the State Mining and Mineral Museum in Mariposa, members who show 2019 NCGMS membership cards have free access to both facilities.

Frank Van Hecke, Acting Membership Chair
SHOW NEWS

Please be considering the exhibit case you would like display at the show, and where you will be able to help setting up, helping to run, and breaking down this years show. The sign up board will be at the next two meetings. Don't be shy. David Phillips and Frank Van Hecke, 2019 Show Chairs

The first job for the show is Publicity. The only job needed before the show. Richard Pell can use help getting the word out. Please see Richard and volunteer for some of the jobs needed to publicize the show.

Rock Tumblers Needed

The club purchased a rock crusher to process rock material to a size needed for tumbling. We need a home for the crusher and someone to run the crusher. Someone please consider this as this is a critical component in the show.

PLEASE VOLUNTEER FOR THE SHOW. WE CAN USE YOUR HELP
SOME THINGS YOU CAN DO TO HELP
• PUBLICITY (Call or Email Richard Pell)
  • PASSING OUT FLIERS
  • HELP PUT UP SIGNS
• SET UP
• BREAK DOWN
• OTHER THINGS (See Frank or David)

Frank Van Hecke, CFMS Director
The September birthstone has traditionally symbolized sincerity, truth, faithfulness and nobility. For countless centuries, sapphire has adorned royalty and the robes of the clergy. The elite of ancient Greece and Rome believed that blue sapphires protected their owners from harm and envy. Clerics of the Middle Ages wore sapphires because they symbolized Heaven. Ancient Persians believed the earth actually rested on a giant sapphire, which made the sky blue.

The September birthstone was reputed to have healing powers as well. Medieval Europeans believed that sapphire cured plague boils and diseases of the eye. The sapphire birthstone was also thought to be an antidote to poison.

Famous sapphires include the Rockefeller Sapphire, a 62.02 carat (ct) rectangular step cut stone that was unearthed in Myanmar (Burma). Acquired in 1934 by financier and philanthropist John D. Rockefeller, Jr. (1874–1960) from an Indian maharaja, the gem was recut and remounted over the years. The sapphire was first set as a brooch and later as a ring featuring two cut-cornered triangular diamond side stones. Perhaps the best-known sapphire in recent years is the 12 ct blue gem surrounded by diamonds in the sapphire engagement ring first worn by Princess Diana and then given by her son to Kate Middleton, now Duchess of Cambridge.
CFMS SHOWS 2019

September 7-8; Arroyo Grande, CA  
San Luis Obispo Gem & Mineral Club  
South County Regional Center 800 West Branch Street  
Hours: 10-5 Daily  
Contact: N/A  
Email: info@slogem.org  
Website: www.slogem.org/

September 21, Long Beach, CA  
Long Beach Mineral & Gem Society  
Expo Arts Center 4321 Atlantic Ave  
Hours: 10-5  
Contact: Carol Kron and Karin Alvarez, 562-577-9044  
Email: lbmineralgemsociety@gmail.com  
Website: www.facebook.com/LBMGS/

September 21 - 22; CHICO, CA  
Feather River Lapidary & Mineral Society  
Silver Dollar Fairgrounds 2357 Fair Street  
Hours: Sat 9:30 - 5; Sun 9:30 - 4  
Lori Millard, (530) 533-2968  
Email: lori.millard58@yahoo.com  
Website: www.featherriverrocks.org

September 21-22: MONTEREY, CA  
Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society  
Monterey Fairgrounds 2004 Fairgrounds Road  
Hours: 10 - 5 daily  
Contact: Janis Rovetti, (831) 372-1311  
Email: janis12@sbcglobal.net  
Website: cvgms.

September 28-29; Lodi, CA  
Stockton Lapidary and Mineral Club  
Lodi Grape Festival Grounds 413 E. Lockeford St.  
Contact: Mike Mathis, 510-301-3612  
Email: mmatis@mw.org  
Website: www.stocktonlapidary.org/show

October 5-6; Grass Valley, CA  
Nevada County Gem and Mineral Society  
Nevada County Fairgrounds 11228 McCourtney Rd  
Hours: Sat 10-5; Sun 10-4  
Contact: Mitchell Frank Van Hecke 530-575-4252  
Email: 4vanclan5@att.net  
Website: www.ncgms.org/show-info

October 12-13;  
Los Altos Peninsula Gem & Geology Society  
Los Alton Youth Center  
1 North San Antonio Rd  
Hours: 10-5 Daily  
Contact: Beverly Morlock 707-328-5778 Email: bamorlock@gmail.com  
Website: HTTPS://pggs.org/show/htm

October 12-13, Trona, CA  
Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society  
Trona Gem Building 13337 Main St.  
Hours: Sat 7:30-5, Sun 7:30-3  
Contact: Jim & Bonnie Fairchild, 760-372-5356  
Email: slgms@iwvisp.com  
Website: www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub/Show

October 19; West Hills, CA  
Woodland Hills Rock Chippers Gem Show  
22700 Sherman Way  
Hours: 10-5 Daily  
Contact: Virginia Rotramel, Phone N/A  
Email: whrc@rockchippers.org  
Website: www.rockchippers.org/shows.html

October 19 - 20; PLACERVILLE, CA  
El Dorado County Mineral & Gem Society  
El Dorado County Fairgrounds  
100 Placerville Drive  
Hours: 10 - 5 daily  
Contact: Debbie Winterson  
Email: info@rockandgemmaevent.org  
Website: eldoradorocks.org