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# The Carmel Valley PROSPECTOR!

January 2016 Vol. 56 No. 1

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The January program will be a presentation on Club members Talma & Jay's trip through the Canadian Rockies.

#### THE CARMEL VALLEY PROSPECTOR \* NEWSLETTER OF THE CARMEL VALLEY GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.

P.O. Box 22756, Carmel, CA 93922-0756 CLUB WEBSITE: CVGMS.ROCKS NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS:saylor@redshift.com

Elected Officers & Board of Directors- 2016			Committee Chairpersons- 2016		
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VICE-PRESIDENT	Susie Harlow	637-0735	PROGRAM	<b>Board of Directors</b>	
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BULLETIN EDITOR	Rich Saylor	372-9215	SCHOLARSHIP	Talma Taormina	375-1477
			MEMBERSHIP	Jay House	372-1011
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DIRECTOR 2017	Mike Cole	484-7808	LIBRARIAN	Richard Franco	402-2106
DIRECTOR 2018	Adrienne Pimentel 375-6360		WEBMASTERS	Richard & Cynthia Franco	402-2106

#### **CLUB INFORMATION:**

ANNUAL DUES: Adults (21 & over) \$15, Couples \$20, Juniors (high school) \$1, and Pebble Pups (grade school or younger)- Free INITIATION FEE: \$10 plus \$5 each additional family member (includes "stinkin' name badges!")

**MEMBER OF:** California Federation of Mineralogical Societies, American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CFMS & AFMS) **CLUB MINERAL:** Gold CLUB COLORS: Green & Gold CLUB GEMSTONE: Botryoidal Jade

SOCIETY PURPOSE: The Carmel Valley Gem and Mineral Society is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the study of mineralogy and geology, to encourage the collecting of specimens and the practice of the lapidary arts, to promote responsible field excursions to mineral locations, and to further the education of all. And remember, please...Tread Lightly! CLUB NEWSLETTER: Permission is given to quote any item in <a href="The Prospector">The Prospector</a> provided proper credit is given. Please contact the editor for permission to reprint original articles in their entirety, which are to be considered as being copyrighted. Rich Saylor, editor & publisher. Contributions, which are ALWAYS welcome, & (nice!) comments may be sent to <a href="saylor@redshift.com">saylor@redshift.com</a>

**Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society** general meetings: **2nd** Friday, 7:00 PM; guests & visitors are welcome. Board meetings are held at 6:00 PM, before the General Meeting. Members are welcome to attend.

#### SUPPORT OUR LOCAL CLUBS:

The Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, at 7:00pm, Live Oak Grange Hall, 1900 17<sup>th</sup> Ave., Santa Cruz. Their website is <a href="https://www.SCGMS.org">www.SCGMS.org</a> for club info & their newsletter, The Lapidarian.

The Salinas Valley Rock & Gem Club meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month, 7 PM, at the North Minster Presbyterian

Church, 315 East Alvin Drive, Salinas. Guests & visitors welcome. For club information & their newsletter, the club website is <a href="www.salinasrockandgem.com">www.salinasrockandgem.com</a>. Also contact Karin Salomon, 375-5233. Guests and visitors are welcome. Annual SVR&G Show: March 2016, dates TBA, Veterans Hall, Spreckels. (2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in March). Modest admission charge, FREE parking.

2016 CVGMS Monthly calendar (MONTHLY MEETING DATES): PLEASE NOTE, ALL DATES TO BE CONFIRMED, especially June (auction) and December (Christmas Dinner).

January: Friday the 8th

February: Friday the 13st. The Newark show will be on Mar. 6~8. See page 9. Carpooling is

suggested.

March: Friday the 12th. April: Friday the 8th May: Friday the 13th

June: Sunday the 5th:? (TBA) Annual picnic & White Elephant Sale- Whispering Pines Park, Monterey

July: Friday the 8th August: Friday the 12th

Sept.: Friday the 9th (General Meeting) 56th ANNUAL CVGMS GEM SHOW, SAT& SUN, the 26th & 25th

October: Friday the 14th

November: Friday the 11th - THE ANNUAL AUCTION!

December: Sunday, Dec.5th:(? TBA) ANNUAL XMAS DINNER & INSTALLATION OF 2017 OFFICERS

# The Carmel Valley PROSPECTOR!

January 2016 Volume 56, Number 1

### Message from the President- January

Dear CVGMS Members.

Golly. It's already 2016. Happy New Year to our CVGMS members. Hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year Holiday.

Membership dues for 2016 are now due. Checks can be given or sent to Jay House (whose address follows this report- Ed.).

Thanks to everyone who contributed and attended our Holiday Party on Dec. 6, 2015 at the Pacific Grove Masonic Hall. Special thanks to Mary Jane for the holiday music and to our Christmas fairies for all the stuffed animals. There were more than enough gifts for all who attended!

At our Holiday party we formally re-elected Pearl Chan as Treasurer and Sally Eastham as Assistant Treasurer. Pearl will be transitioning and training Sally over the course of 2016.

Our first meeting this year will be on Friday, Jan 8, 2015. Talma Taormina and Jay House will be doing a slide show on their trip through the Canadian Rockies.

Many of our members will be going to Tucson in February. Our Feb 12, 2016 program will be a film on Fossil Lake in Kemmerer Wyoming, part of the Green River Formation.

The January Science Saturday at the Pacific Grove Natural History Museum will be on Sat. Jan 30, 2016 from 11 am to 3 pm. The Topic is Migration Madness. Whales, birds, insects, fish, etc.

We look forward to seeing you at our first 2016 CVGMS meeting on Friday January 8.

Margaret Chan
President

#### MEMBERSHIP REPORT- by Jay House, Membership Chairman

Hi Rich

At our Christmas Dinner we had 40 members present. Also, there were 6 guests present. I had 15 checks written for 2016 dues. There are still a few members that haven't paid their 2016 dues.

Dues can be paid at the January meeting this coming Friday, or with a check made out to CVGMS and mailed to:

Jay House 22606 Gallant Fox Rd. Monterey, CA 93940

-Jay

# Lecture: Living on the Edge Sunday, January 31, 2016, 3:00 pm

Hi Rich.

There will be a geology-related lecture given at the museum at the end of January, by geologist Ed Clifton; It's to coincide with the opening of a new exhibit upstairs at the museum, which will focus on the geology of Big Sur, which was- and is being- created by the subduction of the oceanic Farallon Plate under the continental North American Plate, and likewise the creation of the Franciscan Formation and Big Sur Jade.

Those of us who live on the West Coast reside at the interface of huge plates of the earth's crust. Through hundreds of millions of years the interaction of crustal plates has created the geology of the region and continues to shape its physical geography. The consequences affect the region's climate and its habitability.

In this lecture, Ed will explore the process of subduction, which involves the collision of two tectonic plates and results in one sliding below the other. He will illustrate how the Big Sur coast provides an excellent, ancient example of this process.

The talk will conclude with an examination of past and future geological hazards that attend the West Coast, including volcanoes, earthquakes, and tsunamis. Find out about earthquake prediction and get a few more coping strategies for dealing with the inevitable "Big One".

Admission is \$5 (free for Museum Members)

Thanks,

**Annie Holdren** 

## Pebble Pups and Jr. Rockhounds by Talma Taormina

As the Scholarship Chair of The Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society I have been working to attract more Pebble Pups and Jr. Rockhounds into the club. I and others go to Elementary Schools and do presentations on a variety of subjects, such as "The Earth Oven- How Rocks Are Formed", "Fossils", "Dinosaurs", and "The Types of Rocks". We always give each student a specimen for their collection. In addition, we ask the teachers to give our meeting information to the parents in their Newsletter. The students always show a lot of interest in our club, but families are busy and unless they have time to commit to bringing their child to a meeting, we don't get a chance to welcome them to the club.

We have also increased the Kids' Activities at our yearly Show at the Fairgrounds. There we talk to families and pass out information about our meetings.

At the beginning of most meetings each Pebble Pup/Jr. Rock Hound is given something to add to their collection. And, we have been adding more hands-on activities at our meetings, to appeal to the younger members.



One of the club's Pebble Pups, Roslyn H., working a stone

Additionally, there are 2 scheduled Workshops each year, at the Biewers' house, although any club member is welcome to go and learn how to use the machines any time. Just give them a

call to set it up. Their number is in the Membership Roster. It was at these workshops that my grandsons, Coleman and Nathan, learned to use a Genie (a machine with 6 different grades of grinding wheels) to polish rocks. Of course, youngsters are carefully supervised on the use of all the machines they are permitted to use! - Ed.

Another great way for young people to enjoy our hobby is to take trips where they can collect rocks and fossils. Unfortunately, we haven't had very good attendance at club sponsored field trips, so it's important for club members to voice their field trip desires to our Field Trip Chair, Jay House. His number is also in the club roster, as well as being on the back cover of The Prospector.

Those club members who have children or grandchildren should think about vacation spots where collecting is a possibility. At our upcoming January meeting there will be a slide show about a collecting trip I took my grandsons on last summer. They also will have specimens to give the other Pebble Pups/Jr. Rockhounds.

An added benefit for the Jr. Rockhounds is that we have traditionally given modest college scholarships to those who have been active members in the club. Liam Cunningham was our most recent recipient. Liam attended meetings and volunteered at our show since he was a Pebble Pup.

To those of you who enjoy and appreciate our club, please realize that we need our Pebble Pups/Jr. Rockhounds and their families. If you know of any families with children or teens who would be interested, consider inviting them to attend a meeting.

# AND NOW....JASPERS FOR TVJ - part 2 (Continued from last month)

Nebula stone. To quote from the Nebula Stone website: "There are companies that are trying to capitalize on the popularity of our stone's name (Nebula Stone) because they have learned it has become very popular around the World. Some unethical companies have intentionally sold

Kambaba/Kambamba/Kabamba Jasper/Crocodile rock/Galaxyite from Madagascar and South Africa falsely calling them Nebula Stone. Kambaba Jasper is not Nebula Stone. Nebula Stone is an igneous stone (from within the Earth). Kambaba jasper is a sedimentary stone of fossilized algae. Kambaba jasper is an algae (a stromatolite - a clump of algae) that fossilized over time turning the algae into stromatolite Jasper. Stromatolite Kambaba Jasper is from the South African Rift that runs from South Africa



Nebula Stone frog carving

to Madagascar, an island nation off the east coast of Africa. Whatever names they use, Kambaba Jasper is still Kambaba Jasper... a sedimentary fossilized algae. Kambaba is usually colored bluish-gray-green with dark and greenish orbs. Nebula Stone is NOT a fossilized algae. Nebula Stone is of igneous origin (from within the Earth). Nebula Stone is NOT from South Africa nor Madagascar. Nebula Stone is from only one location on the planet...............North America.

"The technical description of the Nebula Stone may not be much fun to read but at least it would be familiar to a professional geologist if it were in your interest to use it in that manner. In plain English stripped of jargon, it means that this stone is a fresh and unusual alkalitic volcanic rock composed of the minerals quartz, anorthoclase, riebeckite, aegirine, arfedsonite and zircon. Quartz and anorthoclase form the groundmass of the gem, while riebeckite and

aegirine are an integral part of the spherulites. The darker matrix is richer in riebeckite and also contains more quartz and anorthoclase. The light green spherules you see in the stone composed of radiating fibers are riebeckite needles mantled with fine grained aegirine." "What this means is that the minerals were once molten and glass-like but cooled very slowly, allowing the discrete minerals to begin to separate out and crystallize so the final product had lost its glass-like condition. This allowed the green nebula eyes (orbicules or spherulites) to form as the different component minerals cooled and crystallized at various rates. "Nebula stone frog carving, (http://www.nebulastone.com/), not by Jo.

Kambaba jasper is simply a newly invented name (source of the name cannot be found) for "green stromatolite jasper", a sedimentary stone that has been around for a long time. Most mineralogists know it as a fossilized algae. During Precambrian times, bacterial mats formed a platform for trapping and cementation of sediment. For photosynthetic bacteria, depletion of carbon dioxide in the surrounding water could cause precipitation of calcium carbonate that along with grains of sediment were then trapped within the sticky layers of mucilage (that formed a film for UV protection) that surrounded the bacterial colonies. Cyanobacteria are also capable of directly precipitating calcium carbonate, with minimal incorporation of sediment within the structure. The bacteria could repeatedly re-colonize the growing hard sedimentary platform, forming layer upon layer in a cyclic repetitive process. The resulting



Kambaba Jasper

successive layering can assume a myriad shapes dependent upon microorganism and environment, and if left undisturbed by forces of nature could form huge domes and flat laminar structures that grew upward toward the life-sustaining rays of the sun. Cyanobacteria are found to be a primary organism in the formation of microbial carbonates. Prokaryotic bacteria is blue-green algae owning to its pigmentation involved in photosynthesis.

Kambaba jasper is commonly formed by the trapping, binding, and cementation of sedimentary grains by microorganisms, especially blue-green algae. (Much reduced information from an article posted on http://www.mindat.org/mesq-55-85320.html

Madagascar's Ocean Jasper - A Lost Treasure Found Again (Source M. McDonough, Yahoo! Contributor Network, July 29, 2008) During the last few years, a stone known as ocean jasper has become a favorite of mineral collectors. This stone is found in only one place in the world, a site along the northwest coast of the African island, Madagascar. The location which holds the Madagascar ocean jasper can only be reached by boat when the tide is low. Ocean jasper is a variety of orbicular jasper, a type of jasper named for the spherical shapes that pattern the stone. Various forms of orbicular jasper can be found in many areas around the world, including the United States. However, the ocean jasper of Madagascar is unique due to the beautiful colors and markings it possesses.



Madagascar Ocean Jasper

Another aspect of ocean jasper that lends to its mysterious aura is the story of how it was found, or perhaps "found again" would be the more accurate phrase. Stories about the stone have existed since the early 1900s, and a few mineral collectors have passed and traded the ocean jasper since that time. However, all that was known about the stone until recently was that it came from someplace in Madagascar & that the original site of the quarry had been lost.

Ocean jasper made its reappearance to the world at the 2000 Tucson Gem and Mineral Show, and the story behind its rediscovery was the talk of the crowd. After 45 days of tirelessly searching along the Madagascar coast, an exploration group from the mining company

Madagascar Minerals located the ocean jasper deposit. It turns out that the reason the site was lost for so long is that is only visible at low tide. Even today, the location can only be reached by boat at low tide and miners have to plan their trips carefully.

Leopard skin jasper is an opaque sedimentary rock that occurs in shades of red, yellow, or brown as a result of mineral impurities. This once abundant orbicular jasper comes from Mexico.

"The scientist does not study nature because it is useful; he studies it because he delights in it, and he delights in it because it is beautiful. If nature were not beautiful, it would not be worth knowing, and if nature were not worth knowing, life would not be worth living." - Jules-Henri Poincare (1884-1912)



Leopard Skin Jasper

## TRIP REPORT- Mike Cole

Hi Rich,

I scored some Campitos Mine Turquoise rough from Abdul, a rug and basket dealer, at a flea market outside of Santa Fe New Mexico. I made a pair of earrings and a pendant for Carolyn and really like the color/matrix of the turquoise!





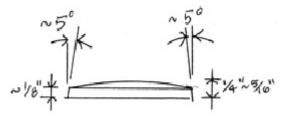
# Making a cabochon- part 2: shaping and polishing

by Rich Saylor

Last month, we discussed selecting a stone, either as a slab or else making your own slab, choosing whatever shape you want, trimming the stone to its rough final outline, and placing the stone on a dop stick or cork. So, here's how to finish your cab, using a set of grinding wheels; if in the Biewer's workshop, either on a Titan (big wheels) or else a Genie (smaller wheels). The Titan is the tool of choice, having wider wheels and larger diameter grinding stones that have less curvature to deal with, especially if you're trying to produce flat surfaces. Nothing wrong with the Genie, though; they just require a bit more technique, especially for larger pieces. At the Biewers, first come, first served!

And- please remember when using a grinding stone, ALWAYS keep the wheel wet with either the sprayer at the bottom of the tray (Titan wheels) or sometimes a drip setup on other types of wheels. NEVER use a wheel dry- it will heat up and destroy the wheel, especially ones with corundum or diamond abrasives, which are both expensive wheels to replace, and cannot be repaired! As you move from one wheel to another, move the sprayer (or turn on the drip) for the wheel you're using now. *Don't forget!* 

The profile of nearly all finished cabs (a side view) is like this: the bottom should be flat, and the edge will be thinner than the middle of the stone, the definition of a cabochon being a domed, polished stone. When you have made the final outline of the stone (oval, round or whatever), and cut it to shape, first make sure the outside edge is vertical, then slowly make the outside edge slope inwards evenly, around 5 degrees or so. *This inward slope will allow the stone to* 



Cabochon, side view

be held tightly in its setting by burnishing the bezel, after the finished cabochon is finally placed in its setting. Now,

using a pencil, draw all around the edge, about 1/8" or so up from the bottom, which will be the final height of the cab around the outside. This line is called the "belt line", like a belt around your waist.

Work to this line, very carefully, as given below. This means that after the stone is carefully trimmed on the grinding wheel to its final shape- oval, circle, whatever- the top of the stone must be shaped all around the edge, as in the side view sketch, before any fine grinding or polishing is started. Start on the roughest wheel, which on either a Titan or Genie is the left grinding wheel, as they get finer & finer from left to right. The far left wheel is generally 80 grit-very, very coarse, and will remove material VERY quickly, so be careful-take it easy! Hold the stone by the dop stick or cork firmly, but apply the stone to the wheel VERY gently. Practice will make perfect.

Mentally draw a cross on top of the stone (no use drawing actual lines as they'll be removed right away!) and start with one line of the cross, and holding the stick or cork firmly, gently rotate the stone, as if your hand is mounted on a pivot, in an arc, to start to shape the final domed shape you want. Thin stone, shallow arc; thicker stone, a taller, more curved arc. After a few passes, change 90 degrees to the other direction, and repeat the process. Don't press the stone to the grinding wheel too hard, as it may either remove too much material or else grab the stone and toss it across the room! If you're making a round cab, the curve of the top will be the same in any direction, but any other shape will mean the arc across the top of the stone will change, so watch what you're doing carefully! Trim the top surface to the belt line, all around. You should eventually produce a smoothly curved top surface, all of which end at the top of the belt line.

So far, you've only shaped the stone, not removed scratches or polished it. When the shape of the top surface and edge is right, you can move to the next (finer) polishing wheel to the right. If at any point you see that the shape is not quite right, go back to a rougher stone to make corrections. When done making corrections to the shape of the stone, you can begin polishing!

Each wheel will produce scratches, going from very rough to (eventually) scratches so fine you cannot see them, after the finest stone is used, even under a loupe! When each wheel has been used until the scratches of the previous wheel have been eliminated, it's time to use the next finer wheel. In the typical 6 wheel Titan or Genie or whatever, by the time you end up at the finest (right) wheel you should see no scratches at all, even under 10-power loupe magnification, let alone just plain eyeball perfect! If however there are any scratches, go back a couple of wheels and remove them, then do the remaining wheels over- until it's right!

When you're finished, it's time to remove the dop stick or cork. Here's how: first, if you used a wood dowel dop stick: put the stone on the dop stick in the freezer for perhaps 15 minutes or so. When it's nice & cold, take it out of the freezer & the stone will part from the dopping stick easily. Usually. If you used a cork dop: the freezer method won't work on cork superglued to the stone; you'll need to use a razor blade or a fine saw to remove the cork. Use either one very carefully; if your children have used the cork method please do it for them. Work in from the edge of the cork carefully until it's off- don't try to cut right next to the stone; if even as much as 1/16th or 1/8th of an inch of cork is left on the stone, that's OK, as that can be easily scraped away, once the main body of the cork is removed, cork being very pliable when thin. Once the dop stick & wax, or else the cork, have been removed, clean up the back of the stone, and now you're ready to set the stone.

If you're setting the stone in a bezel, you can gently work the silver (or whatever) to shape the bezel to the angled-in edge of the stone with a burnishing tool. Work gently and carefully, take your time. And by the way... if you're just trial fitting the stone prior to permanently mounting it, remember to take a piece of dental floss, set the floss across the bezel under the stone, and fit the stone into the setting. This will enable you to easily remove the stone from the setting before burnishing the bezel, without having to pry it up!

And... if the stone's height is shorter than the bezel, you can "prop up" the stone in its setting by putting filler such as epoxy clay or similar under the stone to raise it a bit. Let the epoxy set hard before burnishing the bezel! Be sure to polish the setting before setting the stone, of course.

## **EQUIPMENT FOR SALE**

Hi Rich,

Here's a quick list of the items I'd like to sell. I've given asking prices, but all is negotiable. Everything works but some will need some work and parts to work efficiently.

- 1. 3 glass display cases \$100 each
- 2. 12" rock saw that was originally gravity-fed converted to power feed. \$200
- 3. 14" rock drop saw \$300
- 4. 14" handmade counterweight saw that has a good blade. \$200
- 4. 16" rock saw good blade. \$500
- 5. 20" flat lap that works well. \$500
- 6. Gem Tech Supreme with 6" wheels (has no shield) \$150
- 7. Gem Tech Coronet with 4" wheels \$250\

Thanks a million, Janis Rovetti (831) 372-1311 janis12@sbcglobal.net

### **UPCOMING LOCAL/REGIONAL EVENTS**

This month, only Calif. events and Quartzsite/Tucson events are listed. For more information & other out-of-state listings, please go to: rockngem.com or cfmsinc.org PLEASE NOTE THAT COMMERCIAL (non-club) SHOWS aren't listed, but can be found at above websites. Please confirm all dates!

Quartzsite Shows and events: (courtesy of The Rockhounder, Jan. 2016)

Quartzsite Market Place Street Fair: Oct. 31, 2015 - March 1, 2016

Tyson Wells Market Center Swapmeet: Oct 01, 2015 -March 31, 2016

Desert Gardens - Gem & Mineral: January 01 - February 28, 2016

Prospectors Panorama: January 02 - January 15, 2016

QIA Pow Wow - Gems, minerals & jewelry: January 20 - January 24, 2016

Tyson Wells Rock & Gem Show: January 01 - January 10, 2016

Tyson Wells Sell-A-Rama: January 15 - January 24, 2016

#### January-February 2016

16-17—EXETER Annual show; Tule Gem and Mineral Society, Exeter Veterans Memorial Building; 324 N. Kaweah Ave.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; Free Admission; Demonstrations, Door Prizes, Free Parking, Gems, Grab Bags, Snack Bar, Jewelry, Lapidary Supplies, Minerals, Outstanding Displays, Raffle, Rocks, Silent Auction, Ten Dealers, and Wheel of Fortune.; contact Margaret Buchmann, 5215 W. Nicholas Ave, Visalia, CA 93291; e-mail: margaretbu03@gmail.com; Web site: www.tulegem.com

29-14—TUCSON, ARIZONA: Wholesale and retail show; AS Shows, Kino Sports Complex; 2500 E Ajo Way; Daily 10-6; Free Admission; A world class collection of vendors.; contact Jim Gehring, 2003 Viscount Row, Orlando, FL 32809; e-mail: Jim@as-shows.com; Web site: KionGemShow.com

30-13—TUCSON, ARIZONA: Wholesale and retail show; Martin Zinn Expositions, L.L.C., Three locations: InnSuites Hotel, Ramada Ltd., Mineral & Fossil Marketplace; 475 N Granada, 665 N Freeway, 1330 N Oracle; Daily 10-6; Free Admission; 400 Dealers in three locations, selling minerals, fossils, meteorites, gemstones, cutting material, decorator items, and more.; contact Regina Aumente, PO Box 665, Bernalillo, NM 87004, 505-867-0425; e-mail:

mzexpos@gmail.com; Web site: www.mzexpos.com

#### February 2016

12-21—INDIO, CALIFORNIA: Annual show; San Gorgonio Mineral & Gem Society, Riverside County Fairgrounds & National Date Festival; Gem & Mineral Building, 82-503 Hwy 111; Daily 10 am-10 pm; Adults \$9.00, Seniors \$8.00, Students \$7.00, Children 5 & under free; We have 16 dealers in the building featuring jewelry, beads, crystals. precious & semi-precious gemstones, mineral specimens and geodes. There are 108 displays featuring the gem, mineral and fossil collections of guest and member exhibitors. In addition demonstrations of sphere making, rock grinding and polishing, and cutting of geodes. Free polished rocks for the children. Lots of fun for adults & children alike.; contact Bert Grisham, 1029 N. 8th St., Banning, CA 92220, (951) 849-1674; e-mail: bert67@verizon.net

20-21—ANTIOCH, CALIFORNIA: Annual show; Antioch Lapidary Club, Contra Costa County Fairgrounds; 1201 West 10th Street; Sat. 10:00 am-5:00 pm; Adults, Seniors + Students \$5.00; Children under 12, scouts in uniform and active military with ID cards are admitted free. The show features Jewelry, Gems, Findings, Supplies, Auction, Grab Bags, Exhibits and hands on projects for kids.; contact Brenda Miguel, P.O. Box 91, Antioch, CA 94509, (925) 301-6957; e-mail: brenda.miguel@yahoo.com

27-28—VALLEJO, CALIFORNIA: Annual show; Vallejo Gem & Mineral Society, Solano County Fairgrounds, Mc Cormack Hall; 900 Fairgrounds Drive, ; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; \$5 Admission, Children under 12 free; Vallejo Gem & Mineral Society presents its annual "Spring Bling". Jade, turquoise, amber, fossils, opals, minerals specimens, beads, crystals, silver jewelry, rough rocks, slabs, demonstrations, prize drawings; contact Dan Wolke, VGMS 900 Fairgrounds Drive, Vallejo, CA 94589, 707 334-2950; e-mail: dncwolke@sbcglobal.net; Web site: vjgems.org