

THE ROCKORDER

JUNE 2007

Vista Gem & Mineral Society, P.O. Box 1641, Vista, CA 92085



To contribute articles and event notices, email to: Rockorder@sbcglobal.net

NATIVE AMERICAN JEWELRY TO BE FEATURED

The June 21st program features a "Native American Jewelry" slide presentation by Associate Professor Conrad Grundke, "Connie", of Saddleback College Emeritus in Orange Co. CA. Five tribes are represented: Zuni, Hopi, Kiowa-Taos-Laguna, and Yaqui.

Connie was born in 1931, spent four years in the Navy, and worked for IBM for thirty years before retiring in 1986. In 1976, he began lapidary and

channel work. Inspired by his father, he started doing Intarsia (Comesso) in 1990. His first picture was called "Big Sky Country." He completed five more Smithsonian quality Intarsias before starting to teach Lapidary and Intarsia Classes at Saddleback College in 1994. His lapidary skills were perfected with the aid of his Father, William Grundke [who did over 60 Intarsias], and Saddleback professor Russ Heinz. Connie has had a history of cliff climbing and

studying geology, besides his lapidary work and teaching. Connie is one of the few people teaching Comesso now - maybe the only one. His website is www.americanmastersofstone.com. You will be amazed at the talent Connie and Dennis Batt are organizing in one place to show the world what is being done in the lost art of "Comesso." New items are always being added - usually by Connie's students.

STONE OF THE MONTH

JADE

Source: Burma (Myanmar), China, Coastal California (USA), Mexico, New Zealand

There are two completely different minerals associated with the name "jade," "nephrite," and "jadeite." Jadeite is a pyroxene, part of a rock-forming silicate mineral group associated with [metamorphic](#) rock, while nephrite is an amphibole, a variety of actinolite that is part of the rock-forming inosilicate mineral containing ions of iron and/or magnesium. The mineral Jadeite is comprised of blocky, interlocking granular crystals, while nephrite is

comprised of fibrous crystals. These differences are what accounts for the identifiable characteristics of each mineral. Jadeite is described as having a granular, or "sugary" texture, whereas nephrite's texture is described as "silky."

boulders or small pebbles in alluvial deposits located near subduction zones (California, Japan). Myanmar (Burma) is a significant source for "Imperial Jade." Weathered jadeite typically has an "orange peel" like texture that is sometimes utilized in

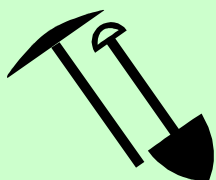
Jadeite is typically found as

Continued ...



What's Inside

President's Message	3
Coming Events	4
Nuggets of Info	6



Wanted to buy:

Large enough piece of Ocean Jasper to cut a large cab. Also interested in a slab of raindrop or Leopardskin jasper.

Please feel free to forward my phone number and email address to anyone you know who might be able to assist. Thanks!

Susan Nikkel, 760-728-2139, Susan Nikkel
salt9112002@yahoo.com

Jade (continued)

the final texture of carvings.

Nephrite

Nephrite occurs in a very limited color range of Pale green to dark green. Nephrite is whitish-gray when actinolite asbestos is present.

In New Zealand, nephrite jade (aka greenstone) was worked for centuries by Maori to fashion ornaments and weaponry, and is still widely used to make carved jewelry. The Maori word for "greenstone" is pounamu.

Nephrite was the only form of jade used in Europe until the 16th century when Spanish explorers brought jadeite back from Mexico. The Spaniards referred to this material as piedra de ijada or "stone of the loins" which was mistranslated into the French pierre de jade, the origin of the word "jade."

Maw-Sit-Sit

The towns of Hpakan and Tawmaw are the main jade mining regions in North-Western Myanmar (Burma). Jade from this region is transported down the Ayeyarwady or Irrawaddy River, from the port city of Myitkyina - a major trading hub for both jade and opium.

Maw-sit-sit is a rare, intense green variety of jadeite found in Tawmaw. First discovered in 1963, maw-sit-sit is composed of jadeite and chromite with chromium (Cr) as the principle coloring agent,

and kosmochlor (Ko) forming the black spots.

Jade in China

Jade was considered a royal gem in China from the earliest dynasties up until present, and is a major part of the ancient (and modern) Chinese culture. Most of the "jade" used in China prior to the 17th and 18th centuries was nephrite. The largest nephrite jade deposits in China were in the region of Khotan in the Western Chinese province of Xinjiang.

Jade in Other Cultures

In Pre-Columbian times (1200 BC - 400 BC), Jadeite was fashioned by the Olmec, people of Mayan decent, living in the region of what is now Veracruz and Tabasco, Mexico. The dark blue-green jadeite variety that the Olmec used is now known as "Olmec Blue" jade, and is still being used today by the indigenous peoples of Guatemala.

Physical Properties of Jadeite

Jadeite crystallizes in the monoclinic crystal system with a fibrous, granular or massive crystal habit.

Jadeite has a hardness of 6.5 to 7 on the Mohs scale, a specific gravity of 3.25 to 3.35, and a refractive index of 1.665. Jadeite has a vitreous luster.

Jadeite Chemical Composition: $\text{NaAlSi}_2\text{O}_6$

Physical Properties of Nephrite

Nephrite is an aggregate variety of actinolite (asbestos) which crystallize in both the monoclinic and orthorhombic triclinic crystal system. Nephrite is a softer material with a hardness of 5 to 5.6 on the Mohs scale, and a refractive index of 1.610. Nephrite has a vitreous to dull glassy luster, and can exhibit some [pleochroism](#).

Nephrite Chemical Composition: $\text{Ca}_2(\text{Mg}, \text{Fe})_5\text{Si}_8\text{O}_{22}(\text{OH})_2$

Physical Properties of Maw-Sit-Sit

Maw-Sit-Sit is a translucent to opaque metamorphic rock composed of spheroidal or ellipsoidal aggregates of chromian jadeite, symplektite, ureyite and kosmochlor (Ko). Maw-Sit-Sit has a similar hardness to jadeite, 6.5 to 7 on the Mohs scale, a specific gravity of 2.50 to 3.50, and a refractive index of 1.52. Maw-Sit-Sit has a vitreous luster.

Jadeite Chemical Composition: $\text{NaCrSi}_2\text{O}_6$

Taken from: www.allaboutgemstones.com



From the President

Only one more meeting before our summer break when we go dark during July and August. I hope everyone enjoyed the first half of the year as much as I did and is looking forward to the second half of the year and the upcoming events not only for our club but the shows scheduled by the other clubs in the area.

Monte still hasn't had very many people approach him about field trips. Please get with him and arrange a trip out in the desert before it gets too hot and all of the wildflowers are gone. He will be more than happy to show you some of his favorite spots and you will pick up more rocks than you can haul back. The County Fair will be

coming up soon and I have had several volunteers willing to man the information booth in the Gym and Minerals building, which consist of informing people of the different clubs in the San Diego area and passing out tumbled stones to the younger visitors and sometimes to the older crowd. You will have more fun than the visitors and besides that you get in free. I'll see all of you at the June meeting but until then be safe.
Ray

Ray Pearce, VGMS President



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Rebecca Tolbertson

Brenda Ohst

COMING EVENTS

Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Society

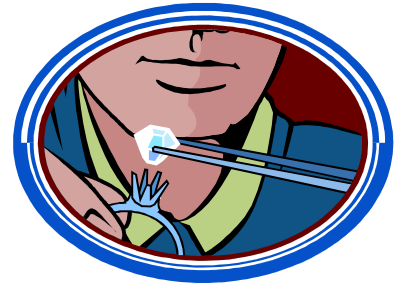
Posted by: Janice Bricker, Director of Member Services

Silent Auction: June 14th 7PM at 123 W. Alvarado St.

October 7th: Fall Festival of Gems.

We are celebrating our golden /fiftieth anniversary of which we are very proud to have been in existence for so long. It will be held in the street in front of our building. We close off the street and line it with dealers. It will be from 10AM to 4PM. Sellers, please contact me at 760-728-1333 or janicebricker@roadrunner.com and I will send an application.

Hope to see a lot of your members at both of these events to help us celebrate.



CFMS Annual Show

Posted by: "Cheri George" lizardwoman3@yahoo.com
lizardwoman3

The California Federation of Mineralogical Societies
68th Annual Tri-State Convention and Lapidary Arts Show
Hosted by Palmdale Gem & Mineral Club at the
Antelope Valley Fair Grounds- Enter Gate 2
Lancaster, Ca

June 15,16 &17, 2007

from 9:00AM to 5:00PM Daily

Over 100 Display Cases 40+ Vendors
Gems, Minerals Fossils, Jewelry, Beads and Lapidary Arts

Special Events:

- Field Trips to local areas
- Lapidary Art Demonstrations
- Classic Car Show
- RV Show
- Hourly Speakers
(Sunday- 3 Programs on Dinosaurs)

General Admission

Adults-\$5.00

Seniors & Students(15-18)-\$3.50

Under15-Free (when accompanied by an Adult)

CAMP PENDLETON HOBBY SHOP ARTS & CRAFTS SUMMER FAIR

Saturday, June 23, 2007

Go to support our members:
Mary Anne Mital, Ray Pearce,
Donna Robles and Fred Wilson.

Go to the San Luis Rey gate off
of Vandergrift. Located at the
Hobby Shop.

Check out map and site map
at: www.mccsCP.com
Or call 760-725-4880

Name Badges to be Ordered

We will be ordering name badges next month. The cost will be \$7.00 each. If you are interested, there are two ways in which you can order:

You can bring \$7.00 to our June 21st meeting where I will be collecting money at the raffle table or you can mail a check to:

Vista Gem and Mineral Society
PO box 1641
Vista, CA 92085-1641

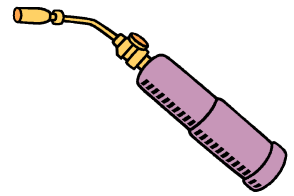
Please include a note in the envelope stating how you would like your name to read on your badge.

June 21st will be the last day we will accept orders for this batch of badges. So don't delay and get your checks in and we will see you on Thurs. June 21st.

The name badges will be available for pick-up at the September meeting ... they will not be mailed to individual members.

Please feel free to call me if you have any questions.

Laura Stearn
Ways and Means
(760)942-9241



Some more fun websites to check out:

<http://www.thebigrockshopauction.com/>

<http://www.rockhoundingvideos.com:80/>

<http://www.mineralsweb.com/>

<http://www.e-rocks.com/>

www.americanmastersofstone.com

www.gemandmineral.com

Nuggets of information

S.D. County Fair "A Salute to our Heroes"

-Opening Day,
Friday, June 8th,
Dollar Day!
Get your tickets at
Ralphs.

-Bola tie Contest ~
Saturday, June 16th,
10:00 – noon.

Judging at 1:00pm
-Belt Buckle Contest
~ Sunday, June 23rd,
10:00 – noon.

Judging at 1:00pm
-Last Day ~
Wednesday, July 4th.
Exhibits open till
midnight.

*(Dates with the help from
SDMG&S.)*

Vista's Creekwalk

The Vista Village
Creekwalk
Fine Art Show is the
2nd Sunday of the
month.

Our very own Mary
Anne Mital is there
every month. As
most of you already
know, Mary Anne
has been crowned
the Wire Wrapping
Queen, but have
you seen her
beautiful Dichoric
Glass?
Take a friend or

family member there
and show them how
Vista is Embracing the
Arts.

The Creekwalk is
accessed off of Vista
Village Drive, behind
"The Wave Water
Park".

VGMS ~ Well Represented...

At the San Diego
Mineral & Gem
Society's Annual BBQ,
which was a big
success. With
donations from Monte
Hazen & Betty Kramer,
Lois Harr, Mary Anne
Mital and Carolyn
Jungwirth, our group
was well represented.
Sharron Smith was the
first place winner in the
Mimic category, with
her "Red Potato."
Way to go members!
And a big Thanks to
Carolyn for getting the
tickets ahead of time.

To find more shows, in
the United States and
around the world, just
look online:

Lapidary Journal:
www.lapidaryjournal.com/call.cfm
Rock & Gem:
www.rockngem.com/showdates/showdates.shtml

Volunteer Help Wanted

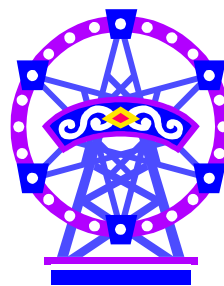
I am looking for
someone to take
over my Co/Editor
position for our
newsletter.

Working with Aleta
Dirido makes this
position so much
easier. She compiles
and formats all the
information on the
computer for us.

I have quite a few
members signed up
for e-mail delivery
now and that also
saves some time.
I've enjoyed doing
this project, but
unfortunately
because of health
reasons, cannot take
this task on for the
rest of the year.

The person who
takes on this
responsibility will
have the help from
me, Cherie Wilson
and Aleta Dirido.

Thank You,
Dawn Zimmer



Reminder -

Don't forget, the
VGMS goes dark in
July and August.
That means no
meetings or
newsletters.

See you in
September!

The Rockorder
Bulletin of Vista Gem & Mineral Society
P.O. Box 1641
Vista, CA 92085-1641

Membership in this Society is open to anyone interested in mineralogy, gemology, and related educational subjects. Regular meetings are held

The **3rd Thursday** of each month except July and August at

Gloria McClellan (Senior) Center
1400 Vale Terrace
Brengle Terrace Park
Vista, CA
7:30 P.M.

Please send exchange Bulletins to:
 Cherie Wilson
 4904 Amador Dr.
 Oceanside, CA 92056-4969

Vista Gem & Mineral Society
Officers for 2007

PresidentRay Pearce 726-7570
 1st Vice President Barbara Gelman
 2nd Vice President..... Cherie Wilson 941-7073
 TreasurerMary Anne Mital 758-4599
 CFMS Rep Fred Wilson 433-8446
 County Council Rep Ray Pearce
 Secretary Debbie George,

Committee Chairpeople

Programs Carolyn Jungwirth
 PublicityLois Harr 724-0395
 Bulletin Co-editor.....Dawn Zimmer
 Bulletin Co-editorAleta Dirdo 726-4486
 Lapidary SchoolFred Wilson, Ray Pearce
 Educational SvcsCarolyn Elliott 295-6505
 SunshineCarol Pelly 630-5674
 Field Trips Ray Pearce 726-7570
 Field Trips Monte Hazen 940-0379
 Hospitality Ruby & Ernie Schmidt 724-4737
 Hospitality Sue Wilson 433-8446
 Hospitality Ellie Page
 Membership Sharron Smith 724-8673
 Finance Director Calvin North 433-9527
 Wavs & Means Laura Stearn

Application for Membership Vista Gem & Mineral Society

All information for club use only

Date _____

Last Name _____ First _____ Nickname _____

Spouse and Children _____

Street Address _____ City _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Birthday (month/Day) _____ Spouse Birthday _____

Are you willing to take part in Committee work? _____

Please list any special talents and abilities _____

Dues (includes bulletin): Family (husband, wife & children under 18) \$25.00 year
 Couple \$22.00
 Single member \$12.00

Please make checks payable to Vista Gem & Mineral Society
 P.O. Box 1641, Vista, CA 92083-4599
 For more information phone (760) 724-0395 or (760) 758-4599

VISTA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 1641
VISTA, CA 92085-1641



June 8 – Del Mar Fair

June 15-17 – CFMS Show

June 21 – VGMS meeting

June 23 – Camp Pendleton
show

