

THE ROCKORDER

September 2007

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



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

ALL ABOUT MALACHITE

Malachite ... calcium carbonate hydroxide ... is one of Catherine "Cathy" Davis' "favorite minerals," and she will teach us all about it at our September 20th meeting program.

A native of Southern

California, Cathy started her lapidary training at age 9 when her father, a dentist, was an instructor with the Convair club. In 1986 she joined the San Diego Lapidary Society; in addition, she has been a long

time member of the Gemological Society of San Diego (17 years), and the San Diego Mineral and Gem Society (15 years).

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IN MEMORY

WILLIAM ISRAEL ISENBERG

March 6 1929 – August 23, 2007

Bill Eisenberg, a friend and long-time member of our club, died August 23, 2007. Bill was born in Iowa to Joseph and Ruth Eisenberg, both immigrants from Poland. He and his sister Sylvia, who died in 1988, were raised in Chicago. At age 17, Bill enlisted in the United States Army for almost two years and served an additional seven in the Illinois National Guard, where he was commissioned as Second Lieutenant.

Bill married Rose Schaffer in 1950. Their first two children, Martha and Bill were born in Chicago and their other two, Audrey and Dale, were born in California, where Bill and Rose had relocated after accepting a job offer with Hughes Aircraft.

In 1971, Bill graduated



from California State University in Fullerton and became a member of the Technical Staff at Hughes. He retired in 1988 after working there for 35 years and moved with Rose to Vista.

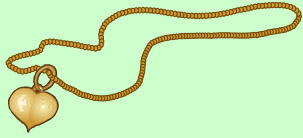
Bill had many interests in life; among them were jewelry-making, square dancing, sumi-e painting, Chinese sword play, computers, yoga and antique car restoration.

Bill will be greatly missed.

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Dedicated to Calvin North

Working on the Chain Gang by Pennie Stavast

The Vista Chain Gang rides again following in the "links" of a wonderful mentor and teacher – Calvin North.

For those of you that do not know me, my name is Pennie Stavast and I have been creating jewelry for 30 years. I am the Jewelry Tech at Palomar College, assisting the professor. My husband Clay and I have been official Vista Club members for about 2 years (friends of the club for much longer). I have taken the lapidary class several times and have helped with instruction for a few rounds.

I first learned chain making from Calvin a few years ago during

one of my rotations with the lapidary school before he stopped teaching. I was so excited! I loved every sore finger moment (I was only using one set of pliers, ouch!) I was hooked. Ever since then I have been reading, collecting information and making chains.

A few lapidary school sessions ago I asked Calvin if he was going to teach again and he suggested that I teach the chain class instead and he would help in any way possible.

Well, help he did. He gave me copies of his famous chain notebook, answered

all my questions and boy were there a lot! Thanks for your patience, Calvin and Frances.

Last session, I began teaching the chain class. We made the rectangle version of the box chain and this session we are going to make the helm chain. The class is always the last two or three sessions of the regular lapidary school. Every other session will be a new weave so the second round folks will be able to learn two different weaves in their two rounds of class. I look forward to teaching many more weaves and to help others fall in love with the process the way Calvin helped me.

Did you know?

**Mining
Malachite
began as early
as 4000 BC by
ancient
Egyptians**

September Program ...Continued

Currently, Cathy serves as treasurer for the San Diego County Council, a position that she has held for a number of years.

Recently, Cathy earned a "Graduate Gemologist" diploma from the Gemological Institute of America (GIA) in Carlsbad. She has taught gem

identification for two years for the San Diego Mineral and Gem Society. Cathy is an excellent instructor! I know because I have taken her course. You have probably seen Cathy at some of the gem shows where she donates her time in the gem identification booth. She also donates her

time presenting lapidary lectures for clubs, and at the nursing home where her husband resides. Cathy also cares for family members. She is one busy lady and I am so pleased she is able to come to the VGMS.

Carolyn Jungwirth - Programs

From the President

The two months of summer vacation are over and it's time to get back to work. For the most part, it was an enjoyable two months and I hope everyone enjoyed themselves as much as I did. It was also a very sad summer because the club lost two of our older members, Bill Eisenberg and Calvin North. Bill was well known for his silversmithing skills and jewelry-making. Calvin will always be remembered for his and Frances' time spent in the kitchen during many of our club shows. What wonderful chili they made!

As hot as the summer was, we were lucky that we took time off and didn't try to have any scheduled field trips to the desert. Of course some of us weren't smart enough to stay home and we went out for a couple of day trips and, sure enough, it was really hot! Part of our time off was used up by manning the information booth at the San Diego County Fair at Del Mar. My thanks to all the volunteers who helped out and especially those members who exhibited their work. All of the badges that were ordered during the June meeting are in my hands and will be passed out at the September meeting.



Anyone who failed to get their order in during the June meeting can place an order for name badges with me at the September meeting and I'll try to get them before the October meeting. The cost will still be eight dollars each. I'm looking forward to a very productive second half of the year and we have some interesting programs coming up, which everyone should really enjoy thanks to our Program Director, Carolyn, who has put in a lot of hard work and long hours to keep us informed and entertained.

Once again I hope you had a good summer and are ready to get back to a regular schedule of meetings.

Ray Pearce, VGMS President

COMING EVENTS

Sept 22-23 San Diego Lapidary show at the Rancho Bernado Winery
Contact Bill Horning (858) 748-0069

Oct 3-7 Joshua Tree Ca.
Joshua Tree Sportsmans Club 6225 Sunburst Ave. Contact John (760) 366-2915

Oct 7 (one day show) Fallbrook 123 W. Alvarado Ave. Fallbrook, Ca. contact Mary Fong Walker (760) 723-5356

Oct 13-14 Trona Ca. 84830 12th St. , contact Bonnie Fairchild (760) 372-5356

Oct 19-21 Gem Faire at Del Mar Fairgrounds
Contact Gem Faire (503) 252-8300

Tanzanite at the GIA

A rare collection of tanzanite jewelry at the GIA museum in Carlsbad has been on exhibit this summer. It's the first time the exhibit has been open to the public and the last time the collection will be shown in the United States.

The exhibit is a collection of 21 winning pieces from the Tanzanite Celebration of Life Jewelry Design Awards. To reflect Tanzanite's modern discovery, the Tanzanite Foundation

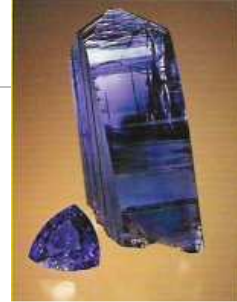
invited jewelry designers from more than 20 countries to submit sketches of pieces based on the beauty and originality of the designs, and the interpretation of the theme "Born to Tanzanite."

The collection includes rings, pendants, earrings, necklaces, bracelets, an elaborate headpiece and a \$2 million pair of high-heeled shoes created by Stuart

Weitzman and Le Vian.

Tanzanite is found in only one place; at the foothills of Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania Africa. Tanzania being the only place on Earth where it has been found, makes this beautiful stone so rare, maybe only lasting one generation, unless more Tanzanite is discovered in other locations.

Thanks to Cherie Wilson making the reservations early on a



few of us very lucky VGMS ladies enjoyed this tour. Although they are booked up for the exhibit, you might get lucky if there is a cancellation.

For more information check out these websites:
<http://www.gia.edu/>
<http://www.tanzanitefoundation.org/>



Seeking Volunteer Artists

Guajome Park Academy's "Artists In Residence" (AIR) program is a volunteer program where professional artists join with teachers to enhance the school's curriculum. AIR offers students the opportunity to explore different art experiences and mentorships that they may not have in a traditional classroom environment, thus providing a "real-world" experience.

Whether you prefer to instruct, demonstrate and/or lecture, your commitment is flexible to match your busy lifestyle. We ask only that you volunteer a minimum of 1-1/2 hours per school year...that's it!

Last year our artist registry included 30 local artists who volunteered a total of 166 hours for 933 students.

PLEASE JOIN US!! For more information contact **Rosie Barnett** at airforkids@yahoo.com or by phone at 760-941-6079 or visit www.myspace.com/airforkids
Guajome Park Academy 2000 North Santa Fe Avenue Vista, CA 92083 (760) 631-8500

What I Did on My Summer Vacation

This summer, I was an invited presenter for a day at the Cub Scout Day Camp, which was a week-long camp and each day had a different guest presenter. The camp was held at the Vista Antique Gas and Steam Engine Museum and this year's theme was "Digging in the Dirt".

Their daily schedule consisted of six sessions of 45 minutes each, each session station having different activities and lessons. At my station, I



gave my morning and afternoon presentation sessions to about 105 Cub Scouts, ages 6 to 11 yrs old.

My sessions covered the formation of the earth and its layers and the earth's cycle of rocks, gems and minerals. Along with that, I also shared the "show and tell" portion of over 40 types of specimens the club has in the collection I use.

My assistant, Lois Harr, had a previous morning commitment but she came in the afternoon with a cold bottle of peach tea and a cup to drink it from. She is the BEST! She also shares gem and mineral information with the Cub Scouts and helps identify the tumbled stones that are give-aways at the conclusion of the presentations for each student. Thanks, Lois!

In the fun of learning,
Carolyn Elliott

Plan NOW for Tucson!

If you think you might want to go to the 2008 Tucson Gem and Mineral Show, it's not too early to plan your trip. This rockhound extravaganza, which is held the first two weeks of February, attracts thousands of visitors from all over the world.

HOTEL ROOMS FILL FAST! Book as early as you can to be assured of getting a room.

Some VGMS members are planning to attend and many of us will be driving out. More details, along with some tips for making your visit more enjoyable, will be offered in upcoming newsletters. In the meantime, check out these two sites: <http://www.tucsongemshowguide.com/> and <http://www.colored-stone.com/tsg/>

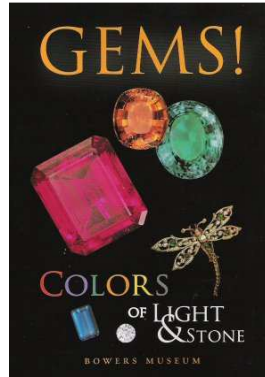
Venues are spread all over the city and are connected by a well-organized shuttle system, so it doesn't matter too much where you stay. However, you may need to drive from your lodging to a shuttle stop, so for convenience, you may want to stay within city limits. Just be prepared for early starts and marathon days of eye-popping displays.

WORLD RENOWN COLLECTION OF GEMS OPEN AT BOWERS MUSEUM

www.Bowers.org phone 714-567-3600 hours 10 to 4 Tues. – Sun.

In early 2002, Bowers Museum made history with the first public exhibition in a museum of the priceless Michael Scott gem collection. More than 300 exquisite pieces, showing a rainbow range of colors and the rarity of stones, displayed the scientific and artistic aspects of gemstones. It was then exhibited in 2005 at the Shanghai Museum where it was enjoyed by more than 850,000 visitors. Arguably, the most important private gem collection in the United States with few rivals in the world outside the royal families, it has returned and features even more luxurious pieces. Colors of Light and Stone opened in June 2007 for a year-long run in the new Anderson Hsu-Tu Gallery of Bowers Museum.

Colors of Light and Stone is the most important exhibition of colored gemstones, diamonds and gems as art ever shown in a U.S. museum, says Dr. Peter Keller, president of Bowers Museum, who is also a geologist and gemologist and who curates this exhibits. "What is particularly



impressive is that the collection was amassed by one individual in only about 14 years!"

Michael Scott, the first president of Apple Computer has a collection that rivals that of any national museum, if one excludes historic jewelry, such as the Hope Diamond. The collection focuses on quality but also on variety. In "Colors of Light and Stone" one will see most of the major gem species in every color and variety known. In addition, one will see very rare examples of little know color varieties such as green tanzanites and "electric-blue" Paraiba tourmalines. It also includes 25 examples pf cut "collector" stone – those too rare to be used in the general jewelry trade.

The Scott Collection and the exhibition also focus on gemstones as art. Largely German gem carvings by artists Bernd Munsteiner (commonly referred to as the "Father of the Fantasy Cut") and Gerd Dreher and the work of Seattle-based silversmith/contemporary artist, John Marshall, plus some antique jewelry from the mid-19th to early 20th centuries.

Bowers Museum is located at 2002 North Main Street in Santa Ana. Admission prices for eight exhibits, which include "Colors of Light and Stone"/ 5,000 Years of Chinese Art & Culture/ Mummies, Death & the After Life of Ancient Egypt/Treasures from the British Museum and five permanent exhibits are: Weekends-Adults \$19 and weekdays \$17, Senior (62+) \$14 weekends, and weekdays \$12. Kids under 6 are free.

Please note that Carol Pelly, Cherie Wilson and I visited the exhibit. It was definitely worth the trip and price. It was eye-candy to behold all that bling!

Submitted by Mary Mital via The Opal Express.

Save a tree!

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rockorder@sbcglobal.net

**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
Bregle 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
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Ways & 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

E-mail address

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



Sept 20 – VGMS meeting

Sept 22-23 – San Diego
Lapidary Show at RB
Winery

Oct 7 – One day show
Fallbrook

