



The 889th Meeting of the Mineralogical Society of  
Southern California

*September 14, 2012 7:30 pm*

**Pasadena City College  
Geology Department, E-Building, Room 220  
1570 E Colorado Blvd., Pasadena**

**In this issue: *Program:*** "The Ancient California River  
and How it Carved the Grand Canyon." Brian Wernicke

<i>Program:</i> The Ancient California River and How it Carved the Grand Canyon." by Brian Wernicke	2
Meanderings from the President - Ann Meister	2
Fallbrook Picnic by Angie Guzman	3
Geo-Literature Resources - Handbook of Crystal and Mineral Collecting and Oddities of the Mineral World by Ann Meister	4
Lapidary Swap Shop is a new Facebook Group	5
Excerpts from <i>The Frugal Collector, Vol. 1</i> by Bob Jones	6
CFMS PLAC – SOUTH By Kim Campbell Erb, Partnering With Government Agencies	7
In the News--Rockhound Political Activist Point	9
Calendar of Events	13
Society Officers	14
About MSSC	15

**Program The Ancient California River and How it Carved the Grand Canyon."** by Brian Wernicke Anyone who stands at the rim of Grand Canyon is confronted with one of the most humbling spectacles in the solar system, a high, featureless plateau interrupted by a mile-deep chasm. Its origin has been controversial ever since John Wesley Powell's historic navigation of the Colorado River in 1869. A long-held consensus is that the canyon is six million years old and was carved by the Colorado. We will examine data collected over the last three years suggesting instead that the canyon was incised between 70 and 80 million years ago, by a river flowing in the opposite direction to the modern Colorado. Brian Wernicke, Professor of Geology at Caltech, will be visiting the Department tomorrow (Wednesday). Brian received his Ph.D. from MIT in 1982, working with Clark Burchfiel. He has become one of the world's best known geologists dealing with problems of crustal extension. His recent work has concentrated on the evolution of continents, the deep structure of collision zones, and active tectonics of diffuse continental deformation. Brian Wernicke's Research Interests are evolution of the continental lithosphere through judicious combination of field observation and geophysical and geochemical methods: Physical processes governing the large-scale structural evolution of mountain belts using GPS geodesy and neotectonics, especially earthquakes and slow episodic deformations revealed through comparison of geodetic and geologic measurements; Neoproterozoic climate change using chemostratigraphic methods; paleoaltimetry and geomorphology using low-temperature thermometric techniques, including carbonate clumped-isotope thermometry and (U-Th)/He thermochronometry.

---

### **MEANDERINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT by Ann Meister**

The annual picnic/potluck/swap with the Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society was very enjoyable. About a handful of MSSC members attended on a very hot August Saturday (about 100 degrees in the Pasadena area), which was much cooler (by about 20 degrees!) in Fallbrook since it gets a breeze from the ocean. Delicious food: BBQ tri-tip, Janice Bricker's special meat loaf, 3-bean salad with lots of other goodies in it, macaroni salad, green salad, home-made guacamole made with local avocados, home-made crackers (scrumptious), fresh peach pie, and more for dessert. Lots of good things to eat. Two MSSCers, Dale Harwood and Pat Stevens joined the swap/sale group with flats full of minerals. In addition the museum (and museum shop) was open with Garth Bricker and former MSSCer Mike Evans serving as guides

to the variety of exhibits including lots of local pegmatite material. Angie Guzman looked in on the lapidary room while a junior was receiving instruction. I enjoyed chatting with another former MSSC'er, Mary Fong-Walker, who is associated with the Heritage Auctions. We had an interesting discussion on how to get the most for your collection when you are ready to part with it. I want to thank the FGMS President Vanessa Jones and Janice Bricker for a joyous day and wish them the best for their Fall Festival of Gems on Sunday, October 7, 2012.

Now MSSC needs to get ready for fall elections - no, I don't mean that strange struggle between Republicans and Democrats - but our own Society elections. Who will serve?

---

### **Fallbrook Picnic Report** by Angie Guzman

*(Two reports are better than one any day of the week. Ed)*

Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society (FGMS) had their annual potluck picnic on August 11th this year. It was a success, in spite of the heat. MSSC and FGMS members were there to enjoy the food and camaraderie. Following the delicious feast, folks set up their wares. There were lots of great items for sale/trade. It was a great time to talk with other rockhounds, jewelers and collectors and see what is going on in that part of the world.

The Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society's museum was open and tours were offered or one could just browse on your own. Special attractions at the museum included the collection of (rock) eggs and the "fluorescent room" displaying many beautiful goodies under ultraviolet light. The museum is a comprehensive collection of wonderful samples and, if you get a chance, it's worth the visit.

In the lab, a couple of youngsters selected stones and, under Meg Berry's (faceter/carver extraordinaire) supervision, shaped and polished them. The girls did a good job and I'm sure they'll remember and treasure their work.

Overall, a good time was had by all!

The Fall Festival of Gems community event will be held, as every year, on the 1st Sunday in October and is hosted by Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Society. Remember to save the date: October 7, 2012 for the Fall Festival.

**GEO-LITERATURE RESOURCES contributed by Ann Meister**

I have two books by William B Sanborn that I enjoy. (I knew Bill Sanborn because he was an occasional speaker at MSSC meetings and various shows.) The first book is an 81 page paperback published by Gembooks (Mentone, CA) in 1966, Handbook of Crystal and Mineral Collecting. It's an excellent introduction for someone starting a collection. Sanborn begins with a discussion on the history of the hobby and continues with some basics on mineral properties and crystal form and a general discussion on where to collect. In addition, there are great chapters on "How to collect and prepare specimens," "Specimen size and collection types," and "Housing, cataloging, and labeling," all very important to a well curated collection. He concludes with a chapter on how to value minerals. But what I like best is a mineral from my collection - a malachite stalactite from the Apex Mine near St George, UT - is pictured on page 25. It was previously in Sanborn's collection and I also have his label.

The second book is Oddities of the Mineral World published in 1976 by Van Nostrand. Sanborn liked odd-ball specimens and this book has chapters on unusual forms, inclusions, geodes and nodules, concretions, pseudomorphs, luminescence and other interesting specimens. As he says, "This book is an interpretive and, hopefully, stimulating *sampling* of the spectrum of provocative phenomena within the field of mineralogy." The pictures are in black and white except for 4 pages at the start which are in color.

---

**Lapidary Swap Shop is a new Facebook Group**

Notice of Interest from the Internet There is a new Facebook group called "lapidary swap shop" and is designed for people that have lapidary equipment, rocks, tools, findings, fossils, gems, rough material, minerals, crystals or anything used in the lapidary trade that they do not need and are willing to trade with some one in this group that has something that you want or need. Just go to Facebook and type in lapidary swap shop. Please feel free to check it out and if you would like join.

**Excerpts from *The Frugal Collector, Vol. 1* by Bob Jones**

*Gold is where you find it and below are some of those tales found in The Frugal Collector.*

Today, the search for gold has gone electronic. Old gold regions are being scoured successfully with metal detectors. One such instrument uncovered a 32-pound nugget in Mexico. The nugget is shaped like a cowboy boot and is so named! (Page 165)

One lucky fellow in California strapped a huge metal detector to the front of his desert vehicle and drove slowly over gold-producing ground. He did OK, finding a 13-pound mass for his trouble! You can see that nugget in the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County in Los Angeles. So not all the world's gold has yet been found! (Page 165)

Keep in mind that the main reason America was even colonized was gold! We seldom think of the Virginia settlers as gold seekers, but they were. Their first duty upon arrival, after setting up living quarters, was to seek gold. Little did they know that, just west and south of where they settled, America's first gold strike would take place about 200 years later. Remarkable, this first major strike wasn't due to the efforts of any prospector. It happened when a youngster named Conrad Reed picked up a yellow rock that proved to be the first gold nugget found in America. It was the size of a brick and weighted a whopping 17 pounds!

This discovery happened in Cabarrus County, North Carolina, not far from modern-day Charlotte. In fact, Charlotte owes its explosive growth in the eighteen hundreds to the gold mines that were opened once the initial discovery hit the news.

Conrad found the nugget just before the turn of the nineteenth century, but the rush didn't get started right away. You see, Conrad and his folks had no idea what they had in their possession, so American's first significant gold nugget ended up being used as a doorstop! Later, a visitor suggested they take their doorstop to a jeweler to see what it was. The jeweler knew and even gave the reeds \$3.50 for the rock! Shortly afterward, the news came out and the rush was on.

By all standards, this was American's first gold rush and it makes North Carolina America's top gold producer, a position it held until the 1848 find in California. Today in Midland, North Carolina, you an actually

go underground at the Reed Gold mine and visit the interesting museum there. It even has a replica of Conrad's "brick". (Page 166)

A working mine that produced an amazing find of gold is located in Johnstown, California. The mine is an underground complex. One Christmas Eve in the 1990's, as the gold ore was coming up a conveyor to the surface, alarm bells went off signaling a higher than usual metallic content of the ore. When workers checked the conveyor, they were amazed to see huge chunks of gold coming along the belt. This find included a number of large crystalline gold masses, the largest of which is now displayed in a vault in the gift shop at Ironstone Vineyards in Murphys, California. It weighs an amazing 44 pounds! (Page 169)

This book is only available from Rock and Gem Magazine.

Excerpts from *The Frugal Collector*, Vol. 1 copied with permission from Bob Jones.

---

### **CFMS PLAC – SOUTH by Kim Campbell Erb Partnering With Government Agencies**

*(PLAC is Public Lands Access Committee. Ed)*

There is much going on currently within the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and other government agencies that will likely have a significant impact on our future ability to collect gems and minerals in the deserts of Southern California and beyond. This includes the West Mojave ("WEMO") Route Plan, the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan, and the federal government's proposed solar energy program, just to name just a few.

It is now necessary that each of us become activists if we want to keep rockhounding alive. We all need to monitor the BLM's and other government agencies' websites to keep abreast of what programs have been proposed that would deny us or restrict access to yet another collecting area, and we need to respond with valid well-reasoned, articulate comments to be sure that our voices are heard.

What I have learned from some of the activists representing other recreational interests that I have had the pleasure to become acquainted with is that we will be taken far more seriously by the government agencies if we develop relationships with them. The best way to develop relationships with them is to become partners with them in a

variety of ways that will educate them regarding who we are and what we do, and show them in a real way that we care about the land, the local species and their habitat in the areas where we collect. In doing so, we will gain recognition and respect, and will gain credibility with those making decisions about the public lands where we collect gems and minerals.

There are several ways we can partner with them:

1. Loan educational display cases to their field offices and visitors' centers with [labeled] gem and mineral specimens from the geographic areas over which they have jurisdiction. This would include specimens of gems and minerals we are no longer able to collect because they occur in areas that have been closed to rockhounding. These could be changed from time to time to keep them fresh and interesting. They should be locked to prevent theft. 2.
2. Organize work days for area clean-up, route/trail maintenance, or even habitat restoration at popular collecting areas, in coordination with agency staff. These could be advertised on LA Rocks and other groups to get a high level of participation. This would really get the attention of the agencies, and there is probably no better way to show that we care. A press release could be issued following the event to publicize and get public acknowledgement for rockhounds and your club.

This might best be accomplished by establishing a committee to spearhead this effort, and organize and keep records regarding which club “adopts” which field office or visitor center, and provide information regarding who to contact, the amount of space available for a cases (or cases) and what type of work days are most needed and in which collecting areas.

I would suggest that any group or society start by contacting their local BLM field office to seek out that office’s interest in participating with their club. Stress earth science education and BLM’s current Great Outdoors project, but be willing to do basic chores like clean-ups if that is what they need most.

Active clubs can begin by identifying gems and minerals collected within the district of a specific field office. Stress to the BLM (or other government agency) that these are uniquely occurring gems or minerals, i.e. natural resources, found within their district. If the field office manager is agreeable, your group can organize, plan out, fund and create its case. Seek out members who have relevant

material: rough, specimens, lapidary art and even jewelry. It would be helpful if you could also include material that we are no longer permitted to collect, too. Include educational information about each gem or mineral, a club brochure, and even a mention about the particular individual who created any displayed lapidary art or jewelry. Mention to your members that this is a good opportunity to showcase your club as well as the individual lapidary or jewelry artist.

Schedule an “event” for the installation of the case, and issue a press release. Most agencies issue their own press releases regarding these events, too, so coordinating these events well with the agency will benefit everyone and generate greater recognition for rockhounds in general, your club and your individual contributing members.

It behooves us all to develop a good working relationship with the BLM and other government agencies. They are the stewards of vast acres of public land and are charged with the responsibility to monitor and maintain it. We rockhounds need to remind the stewards that they work for *all* Americans, not just the most vocal special interests, and we need to show them that we appreciate what they do and give them a reason to appreciate and respect us, too.

---

### **In the News--Rockhound Political Activist Point of View**

There have been several reported deaths from a virus at Yosemite National Park that our government has not been able to get under control and the park is still open and people are flocking to the park to be exposed to this environmental hazard.

At the same time there have not been any reported injuries or deaths in the Clear Creek Management Area from asbestos exposure. The CCMA has been closed to human usage since 2008 and the BLM has just released an order to keep parts of the area closed to human entrance for another 20 years.



Do you think the EPA, BLM, USFS and our Government Elected officials have their priorities reversed? What say YOU!

John Martin  
Rockhound/Political Activist

---



Public Domain Pictures from the Internet

---

### **Question Re San Gabriel River mineral question viA e-mail:**

Hi, my name is Jeff and I do a little recreational gold prospecting from the East Fork of the San Gabriel River and am perplexed about a mineral that I have gotten quite an abundance of in my pans. The mineral appears to be fine silvery/white grains that have a specific gravity just a little less than gold probably between 14-16. I say 16 since it is nearly impossible to separate the flour gold from the silvery material. Any thoughts?

Your assistance in this would be greatly helpful as this relates to trying to remember a name but just can't grasp it.

Cheers, Jeff

You may respond directly to his face book page:

<http://www.facebook.com/GoldVilleybyJT/posts/243625409091330>

**THE CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF  
MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES, INC.**

**DEDICATED TO THE ADVANCEMENT AND  
ENJOYMENT OF THE EARTH SCIENCES**

**Camp Zzyzx**

We invite you to join us at the Earth Science Seminar to be held at Soda Springs (ZZYZX) located approximately 50 miles northeast of Barstow, CA, OFF Hwy I-15 at Zzyzx Rd.

Facilities are rustic, dormitory style rooms with bed, mattress, and desk. Cleaning is the occupant's responsibility. You must bring bed linen or sleeping bag and any creature comforts you may desire, i.e .lamp, throw rug, ice chest. RV PARKING is approximately 1/4 mile from the center and has no facilities of any kind. All restrooms and showers are located in separate building at the center and are communal.

The Earth Science Committee retains the right to accept or deny applications as they deem appropriate. This area is designated by the Government as a Desert Studies Center, consequently, NO PETS ARE ALLOWED. A limited number of reservations are available and early application is recommended. Subject to change, these classes will be offered.

LAPIDARY

BEADING

PRECIOUS  
METAL CLAY

SILVER  
FABRICATION

WIRE ART

ALTERNATIVE  
CASTING

SOFT STONE  
CARVING &  
SCRIMSHAW

FACETING

FIELD TRIPS  
AND KNAPPING

The fee for the week is \$375.00 per person and includes room or RV space, three meals per day, and classes. Additional charges may be assessed for material furnished by instructors

**--- IF YOU USE YOUR R.V. YOU CAN SAVE \$50.00 PER PERSON ---**

**NO CANCELLATIONS AFTER MARCH 1, 2013 unless a replacement is provided.** A \$25.00 Administration fee will be assessed for cancellations made prior to March 1, 2013.

**Please complete the Registration Form below and mail it with full payment, payable to C.F.M.S.**

**FOR INFORMATION ONLY : MAIL APPLICATION TO:  
CONTACT**

MARION ROBERTS

AUDREY HARVEY

(209) 538-0197 3363

Tuxford Place

email: mvroberts@bigvalley.net

Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

(805) 492-2253

**CAMP ZZYZX REGISTRATION  
CAMP DATE: MARCH 31 to APRIL 7, 2013**

**REGISTRATION FORM DEADLINE MARCH 1, 2013**

Applications received after this date will be placed on a standby list and considered only when a vacancy exits.

Please use block printing:

Mr. Mrs. Ms \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Mrs. Ms \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_ ROOM \_\_\_\_\_

ASSIGNMENT FOR SINGLE APPLICANTS ONLY. R.V. \_\_\_\_\_

DORM \_\_\_\_\_

ROOM REQUESTS FOR MEDICAL OR PHYSICAL REASONS;

PLEASE DESCRIBE \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS: DIABETIC \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

(explain) \_\_\_\_\_

**ALL CLASSES OF YOUR CHOICE ARE AVAILABLE AS  
SPACE IS AVAILABLE**

**Calendar of Events**

**September 15-16—DOWNEY, CALIFORNIA:** Annual show; Delvers Gem & Mineral Society; Women's Club of Downey; 9813 Paramount Blvd.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; free admission; more than 20 dealers, displays, grab bags, raffle, demonstrations; *note date change.*

**September 12-16—DENVER, COLORADO:** Fall Colorado Mineral and Fossil Show; Martin Zinn Expositions LLC; Ramada Plaza Hotel (formerly Holiday Inn-Denver Central); 4849 Bannock St.; Daily 10-6, Sun. 10-5; free admission; 200 wholesale and retail dealers, free shuttle bus to Merchandise Mart

**September 14-16—DENVER, COLORADO:** Colorado Fossil Expo; Martin Zinn Expositions LLC; Denver Merchandise Mart Plaza Annex; 451 E. 58th Ave.; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$6, seniors and teens \$4; 50 dealers, fossils, meteorites, petrified wood, amber, paleontology exhibits, part of the Denver Gem & Mineral Show

**September 14-16—DENVER, COLORADO:** Annual show; Greater Denver Area Gem & Mineral Council; Denver Merchandise Mart; 451 E. 58th Ave. , I-25 Exit 215; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$6, seniors and students \$4, children free with adult; 300 exhibits and dealer/museum displays, expert speakers, demonstrations, gem cutting, jewelry making, fossil preparation, free kids' gold panning, free gem and mineral identification 2516; e-mail: [info@denvermineralshow.com](mailto:info@denvermineralshow.com); Web site: [www.denvermineralshow.com](http://www.denvermineralshow.com)

**October 3-8—JOSHUA TREE, CALIFORNIA:** Annual show; Joshua Tree Sportsman's Club; JTSC; 6225 Sunburst Ave.; Thu. 1-7, Fri. 9-7, Sat. 9-7, Sun. 9-7; free admission; dealers, fine jewelry, loose colored gemstones, fashion jewelry, beads, mining equipment, lapidary supplies, discount prices.

**October 20-21, 2012** Palm Desert Campus, 29 Palms plus Field Trips hosted by Southern California Friends of Mineralogy Seminar and Field Trip. Symposium will be Saturday morning, followed by field trip to Eagle Mountain. There is talk of a Field Trip to Iron King Mine #1 and #2 and Osborne Wash Mine. Plans are not completely set yet and are still subject to change. If interested respond to Bob Reynolds [breynolds220@verizon.net](mailto:breynolds220@verizon.net)

# WEST COAST GEM & MINERAL SHOW ~ Fall

## NOV. 9 - 11, 2012

**Holiday Inn - Orange County Airport**  
**2726 S. Grand Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92705**  
(Take 55 Fwy exit 8 for Dyer Rd. to S. Grand Ave.)  
*Just 2 miles from our former Costa Mesa location*



**Fabulous Holiday Shopping!**

**80 Top Quality Dealers!**

Minerals • Fossils • Gemstones • Jewelry  
 Beads • Decorator Pieces • Meteorites • Lapidary • Metaphysical

**FREE ADMISSION & PARKING • WHOLESALE • RETAIL**

Show Hours: Fri. & Sat. 10 - 6 • Sun. 10 - 5

Martin Zinn Expositions, L.L.C., P.O. Box 665, Bernalillo, NM 87004  
 Fax: (303) 223-3478, [mzexpos@gmail.com](mailto:mzexpos@gmail.com), [www.mzexpos.com](http://www.mzexpos.com)

**MSSC Advertisement Policy:** Mineral-related ads have always been acceptable in the bulletin. Below is the price per month

Business Card	\$5.00
1/3 page	\$10.00
1/2 page	\$20.00
Full Page	\$35.00

**In addition, any advertiser who purchases 12 months of space in advance will receive a discount of 12 months for the price of 10 months. The copy for the ads should be e-mailed to the editor at [bulletin@mineralsocal.org](mailto:bulletin@mineralsocal.org) and the payment should be sent to the MSSC Treasurer at 1855 Idlewood Road, Glendale, CA 91202-1053. The Bulletin Editor reserves the right to decline requests for space if material submitted is judged to be inappropriate**

**OFFICERS**

President	Ann Meister	<i>president@mineralsocal.org</i>
Vice	Bruce Carter	<i>programs@mineralsocal.org</i>
President		
Secretary	Angie Guzman	<i>secretary@mineralsocal.org</i>
Treasurer	Jim Kusely	<i>treasurer@mineralsocal.org</i>
CFMS	Jo Anna	<i>bulletin@mineralsocal.org</i>
Director	Ritchey	
Past Pres.	Geoffrey Caplette	

**DIRECTORS**

2010-2011	Geoffrey Caplette	
2010-2011	Leslie Ogg	<i>webmaster@mineralsocal.org</i>
2010-2011	Linda Elsnau	<i>publicity@mineralsocal.org</i>
2010-2011	Fred Elsnau	

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS*****Facilities*****Vacant*****Publicity***

Linda Elsnau (See Director)

***Membership***

Jim Kusely (See Treasurer)

***Program and Education***

Bruce Carter (See VP)

***Show*****Vacant*****Webmaster***

Leslie Ogg (see Director)

***Bulletin Editor***

Jo Anna Ritchey (See CFMS)

**2012 PACIFIC MICROMOUNT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE**

Chairman	Bob Housley
Speakers	Bob Housley
Pre-registration	Bob Housley
Electrical	Alan Wilkins
Sales Table	Garth Bricker
Give-away Table	Gene Reynolds
Food	Ann Meister & Sugar White

**About the Mineralogical Society of Southern California**

Organized in 1931, the Mineralogical Society of Southern California, Inc. is the oldest mineralogical society in the western United States. The MSSC is a member of the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies, and is dedicated to the dissemination of general knowledge of the mineralogical and related earth sciences through the study and collecting of mineral specimens. The MSSC is a scientific non-profit organization that actively supports the geology department at Pasadena City College, Pasadena, California. Support is also given to the Los Angeles and San Bernardino County Museums of Natural History. The Bulletin of the Mineralogical Society of Southern California is the official publication of the Mineralogical Society of Southern California, Inc.

The MSSC meetings are usually held the second Friday of each month, January, February and August excepted, at 7:30 p.m. in Building E, Room 220, Pasadena City College, 1570 E Colorado Boulevard, Pasadena, California. The annual Installation Banquet is held in January, and the annual Picnic and Swap Meeting is held in August. Due to PCC holidays, meetings may vary. Check the Society website for details.

The Society also sponsors the annual Pacific Micromount Symposium held at the San Bernardino County Natural History Museum during the last weekend of January.

Annual Membership dues for the MSSC are \$20.00 for an individual membership, \$30.00 for a family membership. The Society's contact information: **Mineralogical Society of Southern California 1855 Idlewood Rd., Glendale, CA 91202-1053 E-mail: [bgbrdpen@earthlink.net](mailto:bgbrdpen@earthlink.net) Web: <http://www.mineralsocal.org> The Mineralogical Society of California, Inc.**

Permission to reproduce and distribute material originally published herein, in whole or in part, for non-commercial purposes, is hereby granted provided the sense or meaning of the material is not changed, the editor is notified, and the author's notice of copyright is retained. Permission to the material reprinted here in from other sources must be obtained from the original source.

**DISCLAIMER: The Mineralogical Society of Southern California, Inc. is not responsible, cannot be held responsible or liable for any person's injuries, damages or loss of property at or traveling to or from any general meeting, board meeting, open house, field trip, annual show or any other MSSC event.**