

# **Bulletin of the Mineralogical Society of Southern California**

Volume 88 Number 10 - October, 2015

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*The 926<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Mineralogical Society of Southern California*

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***With Knowledge Comes Appreciation***

**October 9th, 2015 at 7:30 P.M.**

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

***Program: 50 Unusual things in the Mojave Desert***, Presented by Tony and Sandy Fender

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**Remember:** If you change your email or street address, you must let the MSSC Editor and Membership Chair know or we cannot guarantee receipt of future Bulletins

## **About the Program: 50 Unusual things in the Mojave Desert:** Presented by Tony & Sandy Fender

Bill Mann, a long time desert rat, has written several books describing unusual things that he had seen over his 50+ years of exploring the desert.

Tony and Sandie have taken Bill Mann's book *50 unusual things in the Mojave* and have visited many of these sites. These unusual sites are ones that most of us have driven by and didn't even notice.

Join us viewing intaglios, collecting sites, ancient graves and rock animals along with some of the most beautiful scenery just a few hours drive from home.

Most of the locations are easily accessible with a high ground clearance vehicle, and there are detailed directions to each of the sites in the book.

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## **From the Editor:** Linda Elsnau

September has been an interesting month for Fred & I. We bought a new car on the 1<sup>st</sup> and on the 16<sup>th</sup>, it was rear-ended on the freeway. As I write this, our poor dented RAV4 is still in the repair shop! The repair shop will have had our car longer that we did before the accident! We haven't even made the first payment on it yet! The insurance companies sure are keeping us busy.

October is the month that the MSSC membership nominates officers for next year with the election held in November. Our current panel of club officers have held these positions for several terms. It is past time for other members to step up and help. Please think hard about what you can do for the club and which position you may like to try on for a year. You can ask any of the current officers what their duties are to help you decide where you can help. The current officers have agreed to serve "again" for 2016, but would gladly step aside for some new blood! If MSSC is to remain active and vibrant, everyone must help.

Do you remember the question I asked you last month? If you collect minerals, do you remember what your first mineral specimen was and where/how you acquired it? Send me a paragraph or two to tell me about it. If I get enough replies, you will see them in a future bulletin. Send me your first specimen story at:

[msscbulletin@earthlink.net](mailto:msscbulletin@earthlink.net)

So far, I have gotten only 2 responses, not nearly enough to create an article. I know there are more interesting stories out there!...Come on...Share your first specimen's story!

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

As I write this, late as usual, I'm sweltering in another 100°+ day, my 19 year old cat looking at me with big Keane eyes asking me to turn off the heat. What a summer! After a hot spring, we had May Gray, June Gloom, and continued with No-Sky July, at least partly. Then it got hot with steamy respites of monsoons, remnants of hurricanes and tropical storms off Baja California that strayed to the west of their usual target in the Arizona Sonora Desert. I got 1.5" out of one and 1.7" from another; rather unusual for this area – the desert and the mountains maybe, but seldom that much here in the city. Now there are threats of a huge El Niño event this winter. Are you ready for this? September was actually National Preparedness Month, but you can still get prepared. After devastating fires up north, we're still waiting to see what the fire season will do down here, especially as the Santa Ana winds start to blow.

But then what do we really know about the weather and climate over the looong term? Our weather records go back maybe 150 years. That's not very long. The National Weather Service started in 1870. And human memory has a penchant to forget, especially in areas where there weren't many people at the time and there was another event going on in "our world" that was of momentous importance. Beginning on Christmas Eve in 1861, California was hit with a series of storms that would have had Noah building an ark. Los Angeles was inundated with 35" of rain in 30 days from December 24, 1861 to January 23, 1862. The LA rain total for the year was sixty-six inches (that's right 66")!! The Central Valley of California became a temporary inland sea

from 250 to 300 miles long and 20 to 60 miles wide. Sacramento was underwater for 6 months. The loss of life and property was unbelievable. Entire communities were wiped out.

I first heard about this disaster at a lecture sponsored by USGS at PCC in November 2010. Dr. Lucy Jones titled her talk, "The ARkStorm: Atmospheric Rivers in California" (ARkStorm stands for Atmospheric Rivers 1000 Storm). The USGS Multi Hazards Demonstration Project uses hazards science to improve the response and resiliency of communities to natural disaster. This followed the ShakeOut Earthquake Scenario with which we are more familiar. I would believe that none of us in attendance had ever heard about this wet disaster. The 1861-62 flood was caused by a series of "Pineapple Express" storms, not the El Niño that we are expecting. However, what if the El Niño was in phase with whatever other cycle that causes ARkStorms? I don't even want to think about it. This is the description of the lecture from the flyer: "California's Winter Storms, fed by "atmospheric rivers" above the Pacific, rival hurricanes in their potential for rainfall and damage by flooding. In the winter of 1861-1862, a series of storms caused such extensive flooding that one-third of the taxable land in California was considered destroyed. Come hear about the new understanding of these storms and the potential future impact to California." Well, that lecture is way past, but there are some good sources of information.

Before the floods, California State Geologist Josiah Whitney hired an assistant, William Brewer, to help survey the new state's resources. Brewer's letters were published in a volume called *Up and Down California 1860-1864* and included stories about the massive flooding and destruction. The book was reprinted in paperback in 2003 by University of California Press and is currently out-of-print but is available on ABE books. A more recent study of the water resources and paleoclimatology of the west is *The West Without Water: What Past Floods, Droughts and Other Climatic Clues Tell Us About Tomorrow* by B. Lynn Ingram and Frances Malamud-Roam, published in 2013 by University of California Press. This is an in-depth presentation of how to find out what happened way back when. So stay calm, cool, and collected until we meet again...

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### **Sad News:**

It is with great sadness that I tell you about the passing of Rock Currier, a Life Member and past MSSC President. Rock passed away suddenly on Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015. He apparently didn't feel well on his way back from the Denver show and went to the hospital. He passed while they were running tests on him. As I understand things now, there will be some kind of memorial for Rock in Tucson next year before the show. Plans are not yet forthcoming about a local memorial for him. I promise that as soon as I get any information regarding any kind of memorial, I will send a special email to all members to keep you informed. Rock will be missed!.....Linda Elsna, Bulletin Editor

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### **MINUTES of the September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Meeting**

The 925<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting of the Mineralogical Society of Southern California (MSSC) was held at Pasadena City College's Geology Department on Friday, September 11, 2015.

#### **Call to Order**

President Ann Meister called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. Ann welcomed all guests and members in attendance including Life Member Joy Alaidarous (Freed), who came down from Walnut Creek, new member Don Kurth, out from Rancho Cucamonga and Rudy Lopez's mother, Genevieve.

#### **Regular Business**

A **motion** was made by Fred Elsna and seconded by Rudy Lopez to approve the July 2015 Membership Meeting Minutes as published in the August 2015 Bulletin. Vote taken was unanimous to approve as published

A **motion** was made by Angie Guzman and seconded by B. J. Ledyard to approve the August 2015 Annual Picnic Meeting Minutes as published in the September 2015 Bulletin with one correction: Dan Kurth should be Don Kurth. Vote taken was unanimous to approve the minutes with the correction.

Bulletin deadline to submit articles and other contributions is Wednesday, September 23, 2015 per Editor Linda Elsna.

Thank You to Bruce and Kathy Carter for hosting the MSSC Annual Picnic on August 9, 2015. It was a delightful picnic!

MSSC Board Meeting will be held Sunday, September 13, 2015 at the Carter residence. All are welcome to attend.

Webmaster Leslie Ogg reports that the website survey had a response from a non-member. You are encouraged to check out our web page and take the survey. The survey is a tool we've implemented to see how we can encourage interest in MSSC's membership and what we can do to improve participation.

Nominations for MSSC officers are coming up. If you are interested in participating as an officer of MSSC, please contact Ann Meister.

The Installation Banquet will be held Saturday, January 9, 2016 at Coco's on Colorado Blvd. It will feature our fundraising Silent Auction and a presentation by Bruce Carter. Watch the Bulletin for more information.

### **Announcements**

- Delver's show will be September 26 and 27, 2015 in Downey. See their ad in the September 2015 Bulletin.
- The von Kármán lecture tonight at PCC, is why the parking lot is full. Oct 8-9, 2015 lecture is "Unveiling an Alien World: Dawn at Ceres". Nov 5-6, 2015 lecture is "The Juno Mission to Jupiter". [Note: The lectures are presented at JPL on Thursdays in the von Kármán Auditorium and at PCC on Fridays in the Vosloh Forum. For more info: [www.jpl.nasa.gov/events/lectureship](http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/events/lectureship)]
- Searles Lake Gem-O-Rama will be October 10-11, 2015 in Trona. If you've never been there, it's lots of fun!
- American Opal Society's 47<sup>th</sup> annual show will be November 7-8, 2015 in Anaheim.
- The Pacific Micromount Conference will be held January 29-31, 2016 at the San Bernardino County Museum. Further details to be announced.
- Check with Ann Meister if you need a MSSC parking sign for your windshield or dashboard. The signs are laminated and should be honored by PCC's parking security.
- Angie Guzman reminded everyone that she will not be at the next meeting and that JoAnna Ritchey has agreed to take the Minutes for her. [Thanks JoAnna!]
- JoAnna Ritchey sent an email to Ann Meister saying the Friends of Mineralogy had to cancel their October 17, 2015 Crestmore Quarry trip because the quarry is being sold. Stay tuned or check their webpage for updates. There was discussion about the sale and other possible collecting sites.
- The 36<sup>th</sup> Annual New Mexico Mineral Symposium will be held November 14-15, 2015 and is slated to have a really good line up of speakers.

### **Program Chair Report**

- Field Trip to the UCLA Meteorite Gallery will be October 18, 2015. Contact Rudy Lopez, Program Chair, if you intend to attend. Parking fees may be an issue and carpool is recommended. Rudy will post an article in the Bulletin.
- In November or December 2015 there will be a multi-club trip out to the Salton Sea area and one of our members wants to give a program on it.
- Tony and Sandie Fender will present next month on "50 Unusual Things in the Mojave Desert/ Mount St. Helens".
- Rudy had the opportunity to talk about Mars on a fishing trip! On a recent trip, some of his fellow fishermen were talking about the video, "Mars Up Close", a National Geographic presentation. Through MSSC's programming presentations, Rudy was able to contribute to the discussion. "Out on the boat, there is some down time," Rudy says. So, you see, it's not all just about the fish! ["Mars Up Close" is on YouTube.]

## **Program**

Rudy Lopez introduced our speaker, Fred Elsnau, accompanied by his wife, Linda. Fred and Linda are longtime members of MSSC. Fred has been collecting minerals, cutting stones and eventually began photographing specimens he came across. Both Fred and Linda are involved in crystal identification and micro mounting minerals. Fred has become skillful in his micro photography and it is with this talent he brings us an antique slide show of petrified dinosaur bone: “Bones of the Thunder Lizard”.

Fred Elsnau began his presentation by asking: “Why the heck are you showing lapidary material for a mineral club?” Fossil material, dinosaur bone in particular, is fossilized by agate. It is fairly uncommon worldwide but fairly common in the Colorado, Utah areas of the western United States. Fred explained how, some years ago, he had opportunity to take up close photographs of the cell structure of dinosaur bones. Fred took all the photographs in his presentation and he did all the rock cutting, in this case, cabochons, which reveal the fascinating, intricate designs and structures of the dinosaur bones contained within the stones. Fred encouraged questions during his presentation.

Fred’s photographs project his cabochon specimen cuttings that are 1/8” to 1/4” by 3mm to 6 mm. Most of the cells are in the core part of the bone where the marrow was. The cells probably included zeolites which were altered by the silicification process. The cells reveal the resulting infill of mostly red jasper agate colored by iron and amethyst, also colored with iron compound, previously thought to be colored by manganese. Fred went on to show other slides of bone cross sections where crystals filled in the void spaces. The patterns are interesting and show dark areas where the actual bone is present. The fill-in spaces are colored where the mineral appears dark at the edge and lighter toward the center. Some of the colors are brilliant while others muted.

In a side story, Fred told of an incident where he cut the bone that had been altered from a phosphate to a carbonate and when he etched it with white vinegar, the bone dissolved and left little cells completely intact...a handful of nodules!

Another slide shows a little geode with quartz lining containing carnelian and yellow agate. Fred points out a hemisphere where there were probably zeolites. When it was fossilizing, the fluids percolating through the soil removed a lot of the organics then the zeolites were the first things to crystalize. That’s where the silicification process took place. There are others who could describe it a heck of a lot better than he could, but Fred said, that’s his take on it.

Fred was asked if all specimens were found in the same location. No, he said. Most of them were from parts of Utah, Colorado, southern Montana and a little from Arizona. The primary locality is Colorado and Utah. Another little side story: Fred said he knew a fella some years ago who rented a helicopter and was able to pick up his dinosaur bone specimens off the top of a mesa in Colorado. Probably can’t do that today.

Fred was asked if he himself had done any mineral collecting. Yes, his first major collecting trip was with a night school teacher in 1950 to Utah. In those days there were no rules. You could collect any place, anywhere you wanted. There, north of Escalante, Utah, is a big field with dino bone and petrified wood. One of the guys on the trip picked up a rib section about 10 or 12 inches across and where the marrow was, it was filled with quartz crystals. Fred said he has seen them filled with amethyst.

One of the slides showed a peachy color filling in the cells. Someone asked if it was jasper. Fred said he’d call it agate as there is a fairly thin line between jasper and agate, depending on if there are too many impurities. The silicification process was incredibly able to differentiate between the resulting minerals. So there is a yellow next to red, zeolites next to quartz and so on. These colorful structures only occur in the western United States.

Fred was asked what bone in the body the photos were taken of. He said the bones were fairly large with the marrow in them. He has two muscle bones from a brontosaurus and the cell structure is something like 1/4” across. Most of the bones had to be big enough so they’d have the marrow in the center to have the structure be filled in. Otherwise, you have just plain old bone.

Fred went on to talk about the different colors resulting from iron (yellow, oranges, reds), copper (green), citrine (amethyst), phosphates (turquoise) and others. Agate, quartz, jasper, opal, amethyst, calcite and other mineral crystals each fill bone marrow voids to reveal unique patterns. In addition, the texture of the bone itself lends a hand in the outcome of each specimen. Fred brought a sample to show around.

Fred's presentation is spectacularly visual. His mastery of photography, a talent for cutting, an eye for perfection and his experience and knowledge contribute to his intricate and fascinating presentation. Thank you, Fred and thank you, Linda.

**Door Prize:** Drawing was won by Linda Elsnau.

**Other Business:** Angie asked for a moment of remembrance for 9/11 (14 years ago today).

Rudy mentioned the Banquet price will be the same as last year, \$38. Also, he will gladly pick up things that people may want to take to the event. Send him an e-mail to let him know details.

**Adjournment** was at 8:25pm.

**Refreshments** were served in the office after the meeting. And, Linda Elsnau brought a fruit tart in honor of Fred's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday next Friday. Yum!

Respectfully submitted, Angie Guzman, MSSC Secretary    Apologies in advance for any misspellings in these Minutes/aag

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### List of Upcoming MSSC Events : Mark your Calender!

Event	Date	Comments / Scheduled Program (if known)
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	November 13, 2015	Chuck Houser? Calcite/ Elizabeth R/ Oceanview Mines, Pala/ Minerals/ Mining San Diego County
	December 11, 2015	Forestry Service Monument Program
	January, 2016	No meeting, see you at the Banquet on the 9th
	February, 19, 2016	Program Pending- NOTE Feb meeting is 3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday due to Tucson Show
<b>Field Trip</b>	<b>October 18, 2015</b>	<b>UCLA's Meteorite Museum</b>
<b>Board Meeting</b>	November 8, 2015	Board Meeting at Bruce Carter's house
<b>Annual Banquet</b>	January 9, 2016	At The Oak Tree Room, CoCo's Restaurant, Arcadia

*Note: Dates and programs shown above are subject to change. Check your bulletins to confirm final information each month.*

## DON'T FORGET SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS FOR THE BANQUET ON JANUARY 9, 2016

### NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN FOR OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR 2016

As required by the Bylaws and Operating Rules, here are the nominees for 2016. The nominations are open if you would like to submit an additional candidate for any office. Make sure you have that person's permission before making the nomination. Directors serve a two year term, other officers serve a one year term. Do the names on this list look familiar? The election takes place at the November meeting.

President	Ann Meister
Vice-President	George Rossman
Secretary	Angie Guzman
Treasurer	Jim Kusely
CFMS Director	Jo Anna Ritchey
Director #1 2016-2017	Pat Caplette
Director #2 2016-2017	Pat Stevens



## MSSC Field Trip: Sunday, October 18TH, 2015 at the UCLA Campus

### *UCLA's new Meteorite Museum*

The title of the presentation is "**The Origin of the Solar System.**" by: Alan Rubin

We have a special Tour and a presentation about Meteorite's given by: Alan Rubin, Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics, Department of Earth, Planetary, and Space Sciences, University of California

The Museum will be open for us from 1:00pm to 4:00pm on Sunday October 18th, 2015

Canyon Diablo, a 357-pound chunk of a meteor that slammed into Earth 50,000 years ago, sits center stage at UCLA's new Meteorite Museum. That meteorite became one of the first specimens in a collection that has grown to some 1,500 meteorites under the stewardship of Professor John Wasson and researcher Alan Rubin, members of the department of Earth and space sciences and the Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics. The collection is one of the most extensive in the world, but only recently have these unique bits of our solar system's history been on display for visitors to admire.

Once a month on a Sunday, we have a free public lecture around the corner of the Meteorite Gallery. In light of your visit on October 18th, I will schedule myself to give the October talk on that day. The talk is from 2:30 P.M. to 3:00 P.M. The title of the talk will be "**The Origin of the Solar System.**" We look forward to seeing you at the Gallery and the lecture.

All attending will have to pay for parking, so try to car pool if possible.

The Meteorite Gallery is located in room 3697 of the Geology Building on the UCLA campus.  
*595 Charles E. Young Dr. East, Los Angeles, CA, 90095.*

Maps and directions can be found here: <http://www.meteorites.ucla.edu/visit/>

Please contact Rudy Lopez, for more information at: [rclopez002@verizon.net](mailto:rclopez002@verizon.net)

### UCLA Meteorite Gallery: Details

#### Location

The Meteorite Gallery is located in room 3697 of the Geology Building on the UCLA campus.

*595 Charles E. Young Dr.*

*East, Los Angeles, CA, 90095.*

#### Hours

Open Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 4:00PM (Except federal holidays)

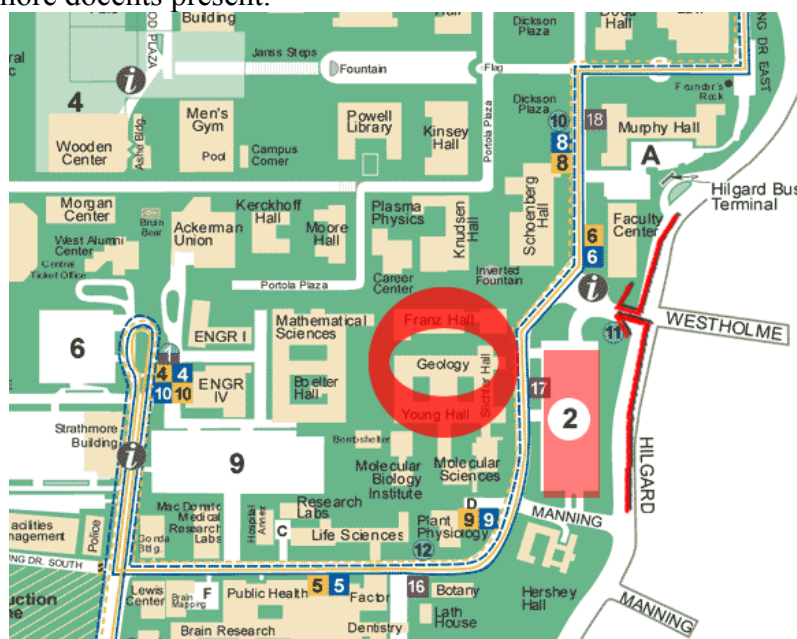
Open Sunday, 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM, with one or more docents present.

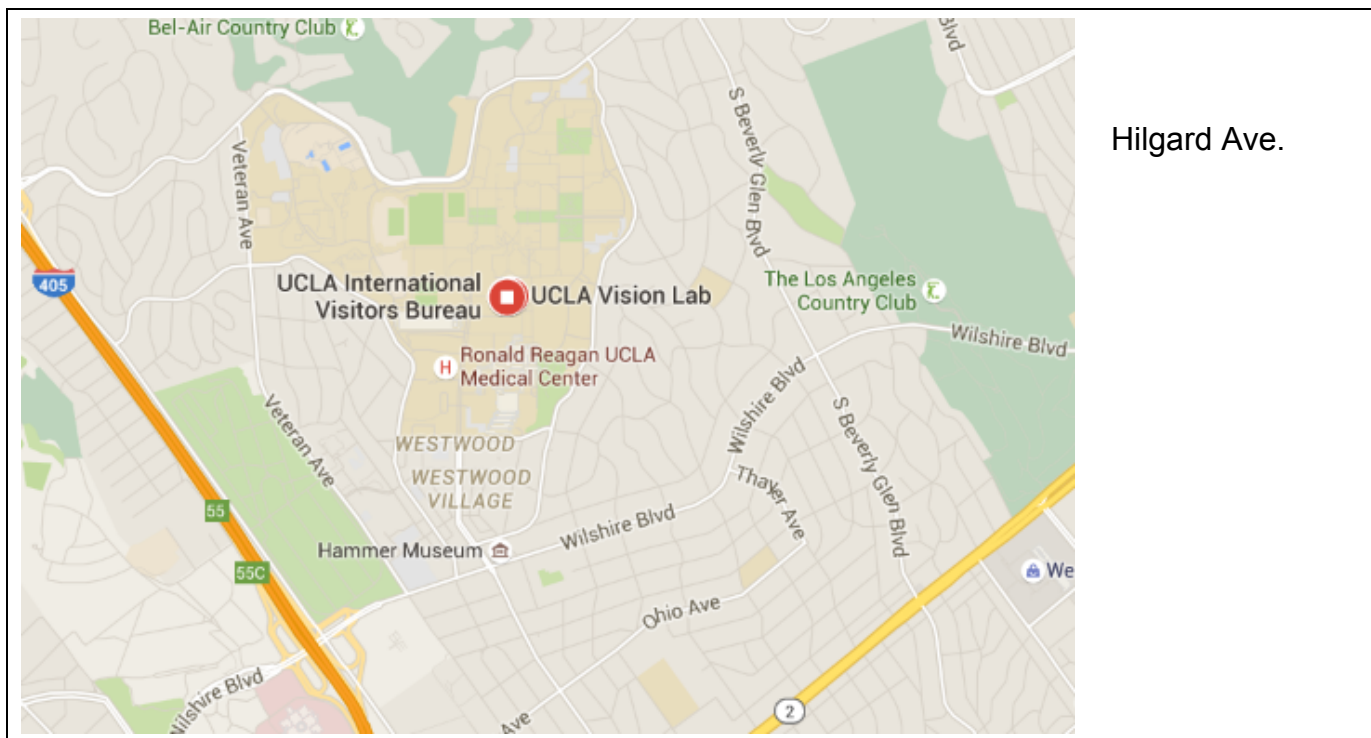
**Admission:** Admission is free.

#### Directions

As shown on the map, we are located on the east side of the UCLA campus. It is difficult to find free parking but weekend and evening rates in pay-by-space areas in Lot 2 (the rose rectangle just east of the Geology Building) are very reasonable: \$2 for one hour, \$4 for two hours, and \$8 for one day (rates on work days are 50% higher). You can pay with a credit card or dollar bills. There are several entrances to Lot 2; the one for pay-by-space is shown on the map just west of the number 2 in a white circle.

You probably won't need to visit it, but there is a parking information booth just to your right when you enter the campus at Westholme.





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**POSSIBLE FIELD TRIP FOR: December 12 2015:** Rudy Lopez

There is a Multi-Club filed trip to Salton Sea in December, if our members would like to participate in the trip please let me know so I can get the information. If we want to be part of the Multi-Club field trips for the 2016 year let me know so I can attend the meetings on these trips.

DEC 12: SALTON SEA - YUHA Fossil Beds: Tour Geothermal Power Plant, Mud Volcano Field.

**2015 MULTI-CLUB FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE:** Expanded and current information for these collecting opportunities will be published in the Bulletin for the particular month. As always, you should to contact the field trip leader ahead of time because: **1.** Sometimes field trips are canceled or changed for various reasons including inclement weather or areas being closed. **2.** If we don't know you are coming we won't wait for you and you may not find out the planned camp site was moved until too late. Distributed to the representatives of the Delvers – Long Beach – North Orange County – Pasadena – Whittier – Searchers Gem - Monrovia Rockhounds Mineral and Lapidary Clubs

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### You May Be Interested:

## Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Societies' Fall Festival Of Gems

123 W. Alvarado Street, Fallbrook, CA  
Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am-4:00 pm

This annual event promotes earth sciences within the community for all ages. The mission is to promote earth sciences and this is one special way to accomplish this mission. The activities include geode cracking, panning for minerals, wheel of fortune, multiple silent auctions, mineral sales, mineral ID and a special raffle. The street in front of the museum is closed and up to 22 vendors set up their booths on Alvarado Street from Main to Pine. These vendors sell minerals, fossils, jewelry and other earth science related items.

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## **Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Societies' Special Event:**

***“ROUGH & CUT Sale”!***

Saturday ~ Oct. 24, 2015 1 pm – 4 pm

**3 SILENT AUCTIONS:** 1:30 pm, 2:30 pm & 3:30 pm

**MINERAL SALES FEATURING:** Garth Bricker Red Cloud Mine wulfenite, Himalaya Mine tourmaline, Rutile, inesite, morganite, amazonite, linerite, obsidian, Kingston Peak amethyst, calcite, agates, polished slabs, geodes and much, much more!!

**MINERALS TO “MAKE YOUR OWN PERKYS”!**

**BULK ROCK BY THE BUCKET!**

**UNPOLISHED SLABS!**

**FGMS Building, 123 W. Alvarado St, Fallbrook, CA 92028**

Free parking across the street ~ (760) 728-1130

Come early to visit the newly refurbished free Museum & Gift Shop! Open 11:00 am – 3:00 pm

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## **FISHING & MARS UP CLOSE: Rudy Lopez**

On a recent fishing trip I was talking with 5 gentleman from San Francisco about Mars Up Close an interactive exhibit in Washington D.C., at the National Geographic Museum article, they had found in a National Geographic Magazine that was on the boat. Sometimes we have time to relax when the fish aren't cooperating so we read and talk. We talked some and they mentioned the speaker's name, Bethany Ehlmann. I was able to give them more information on Bethany and her presentation, since I heard it already.

When I got home I went to the web-site and found the video, For those that didn't attend **Bethany Ehlmann's** presentation at PCC, you see what you missed; you can find it and others on: [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)

The interactive exhibit in Washington D.C., puts you on the red planet. Highlights include profiles on NASA scientists and full scale model of Curiosity Rover. Visit- [www.ngmuseum.org](http://www.ngmuseum.org) , for more information.

When I went to this web site if found a video titled: .”**National Geographic Live!: Bethany Ehlmann: Commanding Robots on Mars**” [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RBK7hmOR9\\_g](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RBK7hmOR9_g)

Without little green men to conquer, National Geographic Emerging Explorer and planetary geologist Bethany Ehlmann has been free to direct NASA's Curiosity rover simply to study the ancient rocks and environment of our cool red neighbor. The “National Geographic Live!” series brings thought-provoking presentations by today's leading explorers, scientists, photographers, & performing artists right to your YouTube feed. Each presentation is filmed in front of a live audience at National Geographic headquarters in Washington, D.C. New clips air every Monday.

When on YouTube I found more videos by, Bethany Ehlmann.: “*Following the Water on Mars*”, - “*Roving with Curiosity Rover*” and “*The Future of Mars Exploration*” – to name a few. Check them out here: [https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=Bethany+Ehlmann](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=Bethany+Ehlmann)

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## **Minutes of the MSSC Board Meeting of September 13, 2015**

**1. Call To Order:** The Board meeting was called to order at 1:06 p.m. by Board President Ann Meister. Welcome to the Board of Director's meeting. Board roll call: Ann Meister, George Rossman, Jim Kusely (arriving late), Angie Guzman, Bruce Carter, Jo Anna Ritchey, Geoffrey Caplette, Pat Caplette, Leslie Ogg, Pat Stevens and, Linda Elsnau were present. Bob Housley, Rudy Lopez, Cheryl Lopez and Al Wilkins were excused. There were no guests in attendance. Thank you to Bruce and Kathy Carter for again hosting the meeting.

## **2. Minutes:**

There was a **motion** from the floor by Angie Guzman and seconded by Leslie Ogg to *approve the Board Meeting Minutes of June 7, 2015 as published in the July 2015 Bulletin*. After asking for additions or corrections, the motion was voted on and **passed unanimously**.

## **3. Old Business & Committee Reports:**

### **3.1 President's Report** and associated questions:

- a. Picnic report: This year's picnic was a success! It was very nice. Ann reports her expenditures were minimal. How do we get more participation in the future? Next year other clubs, including MoRocks and Fallbrook, will be invited. Also, it would be good to see PCC's Dana Club attend. Bruce said they will need to be invited early because of the school break calendar. Regarding the Picnic Program, we need to think about next year's topic.
- b. Friends of Mineralogy field trip: JoAnna mentioned Friends of Mineralogy having to cancel their October field trip meeting to Crestmore Quarry due to sale; also mentioned were Jensen Quarry and Felix Mine, which is closed due to fire.
- c. By Laws correspondence: By-Laws e-mail correspondence from Angela Brown, VGMS regarding how to rescind a membership. There was Board discussion with a general consensus to check with VGMS to see if they still need our By Laws and, if so, to send them to them with a disclaimer that in doing so is *not* construed as an endorsement of support in any way.
- d. Director position: Director Bob Housley's position may become vacant, if so, the President has power to appoint a replacement until that position is up for election. After discussion, Ann decided she will verify with Bob to see if he still wants to continue or resign. If he resigns, he must send in a resignation letter. If he does resign, Ann is appointing Linda Elsnau to replace him. In any case, Linda will represent that position until the matter is resolved.
- e. Procedures Manual and Proposed Budget: The officer How To policy and procedure descriptions need to be completed. Perhaps the descriptions may attract other members to run for election. In any event, they need to be done and kept updated as changes are made. Ann also wants to see a proposed budget including: Linda for the Bulletin, JoAnna for CFMS, Leslie for the web, the picnic and the Banquet and Rudy for speakers including those from out of town for housing and travel. [Note: Jim arrived 1:35p.m.] Discussion followed.

### **3.2 Treasurer's Report** and associated questions:

- a. Liability Insurance Renewal: Ann made a **MOTION to renew the MSSC Directors and Officers Liability insurance**. The motion was seconded by Bruce Carter. The cost is \$275 per year beginning October 16, 2015. The broker is Mc Daniels and the insurance company is Old Republic Insurance Company. The coverage carries a shared limit of \$2 million and excellent policy provisions. The motion was put to a vote and **passed unanimously**.
- b. Dues and Membership Application Form: Form changes regarding ½ price membership from the end of June 2015 through the end of the year was discussed. This issue has been brought up before but there is no control to indicate when the change(s) was implemented. Ann Meister will check with Membership Chair, Cheryl Lopez. All changes will be distributed to the Board. Angie brought up that at the last Board meeting that a motion was passed approving the change of ½ price membership and ½ prices for the Bulletin for the stated period. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously at the June 7, 2015 meeting. Ann mentioned the web is not updated and is unsure what is being distributed. Angie's point was that the June Board minutes were approved today. Ann indicated that since the Board approved it at the last meeting, the motion should already be in effect. Linda will send Ann her Membership spreadsheet and send it any time there is an update. George Rossman asked Jim Kusely about donations and there was further discussion regarding wording to be included in the donations area on the form. A **MOTION** was made by Linda Elsnau and seconded by JoAnna Ritchey as follows: **The Dues and Membership Application Form is to state that donations included on the dues form will go for a greater diversity of out of area speakers.** Discussion followed which included hotel and air fare for out of area speakers and, a revision date is to be

noted on the form. The vote was taken and **passed unanimously**. Any form changes are to be sent to Leslie Ogg for the website, Linda Elsnau for the Bulletin and to President Ann Meister.

- c. Discussion regarding donations: We do have a letter for PCC. Do we still wish to send it to the Field fund or another fund? Bruce Carter reports there are three major funds that go toward geology and mineralogy. They are (1) The Van Amringe fund with \$75K, (2) the second fund with \$45K and (3) the Field Scholarship fund has \$25k. The Field fund is the one that needs to be built up. George wanted to know what value we get in return. We get our meeting room. The PCC Foundation lists MSSC as a donor, but it was missed this year. MSSC can send a letter *to the Foundation* asking to be listed as a donor on their donation list with “cc” to Geology Department head, David Douglas.
- d. Ann Meister proposed a donation to mindat.org. Mindat.org is an outreach project of the Hudson Institute of Mineralogy, a 501 (c) (3), a not-for-profit organization. Board discussion included merits of donating to the outreach project, the value of mindat.org as an education and information database and if MSSC is in a financial position to make the donation. Treasurer Jim Kusely verified that MSSC is able to do so. The amount would be equal to PCC donation, \$500. George Rossman, for the record, stated that mindat.org is one of the best repositories of information of California minerals and it is relevant to what we do. Angie Guzman made the **MOTION**, seconded by JoAnna Ritchey that **MSSC donate \$500.00 to Mindat.org in support of their on-line mineral database**. After verifying there was not further discussion, Ann Meister put the motion to a vote which **passed unanimously**. The Bulletin and website will be updated to reflect this change.
- e. Jim Kusely reported that MSSC is in good standing showing a net worth of \$22,700.
- f. Discussions regarding volunteers, Aaron Celestian, the new curator at Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County and benefit to donating to mindat.org donation “what they can do for us”.

### 3.3 Federation Director Report

- a. CFMS Officers elections will be at the fall meeting on November 15, 2015.
- b. Next year’s show will be in Placerville in conjunction with the 2016 World Wide Gold Panning Championship. JoAnna Ritchey expressed her desire to not want to go for personal reasons. Ann asked her to think about it.

**3.4 Membership** – no report [Chair Cheryl Lopez excused]

**3.5 Programs** – no report [Chair Rudy Lopez excused]

### 3.6 Bulletin Editor Report

- a. Editor Linda Elsnau is always looking for articles for the Bulletin. If you care to write about your favorite mineral, submit your article to Linda.
- b. Suggestion: Officers and Directors could write a paragraph describing their position and what the position does for them. One article per Bulletin could be published as a means to stir interest in participation by other members.
- c. A marketing or otherwise creative person would be helpful. If anyone knows someone, please contact Linda.
- d. MSSC Bulletin goes to PCC geology staff via e-mail but there is never a response. A hard copy is not posted in the Geology Department, either. There has been increasing interest in mineralogy over the last 10 years. Board discussion included planning a field trip to encourage student participation, the field trips already included in the geology curriculum and personal contact is good. Perhaps an abbreviated Bulletin – a one pager – to post may help.
- e. Information from other clubs could be posted in the Bulletin. Ann will forward whatever she gets from other societies to Linda.

### 3.7 Webmaster Report

- a. Report of web site visits or hits to our webpage was presented by Leslie Ogg, Webmaster. The handout showed fewer visitors lately. It’s likely the Pacific Micromount Conference will draw more people as the event nears. Historically, February and March are the highest months for hits

b. Web survey has not received any interest in a couple of months.

### **3.8 Pacific Micromount Conference** [Report given by President Ann Meister]

- a. Tables and chairs: Ann Meister will follow up with San Bernardino County Museum to find out more regarding MSSC's donation for PMC.
- b. Invoice for last year's conference still has not been received from San Bernardino County Museum.
- c. Tags for tables and chairs logistics, what kind, where to place the donation tags on the items, etc. Angie Guzman said she will help when the time comes.
- d. Date for the conference was not confirmed by Al Wilkins. Since the weekend of January 29, 2016 – January 31, 2016 had already been announced and is the weekend traditionally PMC we will keep to that date but will still be followed up on.
- e. Logistics meeting for volunteers to help set up for the conference To Be Announced.

## **4. New Business**

### **4.1 Nominations for 2016**

President Ann Meister asked the "Current" officers if they would be willing to run for another term. The √ under "Nominations" indicates that each person was asked and is willing to run. Ann Meister thanked all for continuing. As in the past, we will continue to recruit other members to participate at the Board level.

Office	Current	Nominations
President	Ann Meister	√
Vice President	George Rossman	√
Secretary	Angie Guzman	√
Treasurer	Jim Kusely	√
CFMS Director	JoAnna Ritchey	√
2016-17 #1	Pat Caplette	√
2016-17 #2	Pat Stevens	√

Note: JoAnna Ritchey expressed that she would like to change to Director. Ann Meister asked her that since our two directors will continue would she continue as CFMS Director with MSSC. JoAnna Ritchey replied yes, as long as we don't mind her not going to the CFMS meeting in Placerville in 2016. She was told she could designate an alternate. Angie Guzman said she would go and learn about CFMS in the process. Ann Meister mentioned certain expenses would be paid by MSSC. JoAnna Ritchey agreed to name Angie Guzman as her alternate for that meeting.

**5. Next Meeting:** The next MSSC Board Meeting will be November 8, 2015 at Bruce Carter's home.

**6. Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Angie Guzman, Secretary

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Ride Share Listing**

### **Can You Provide A Ride?**

### **Would You Like Company On The Drive To Meetings?**

We have heard from several of our members that they would like to ride-share with someone to the meetings. We will list the names, general location and either a phone number or an email address of anyone who would like to connect for a ride-share. If you would like to catch a ride or would like company for the trip, let me know at [msscbulletin@earthlink.net](mailto:msscbulletin@earthlink.net) and I'll put the information in this section of the bulletin. After that, any final arrangements made are up to you. Also, If you make a connection that works for you, let me know so that I can remove your information from the bulletin. The Editor

Looking for	Who	Where	Contact at
A ride	Richard Stamberg	North Orange County, near Cal State Fullerton	
A ride	Catherine Govaller	San Bernardino, CA	

**Featured Mineral: Aegirine**

**Formula:**

**Crystal System:** Monoclinic

**Color:** Dark green to greenish black, reddish brown, black

**Name:** Named in 1835 by priest and mineralogist Hans Morten Thrane Esmark after Ægir (Aegir), the sea god in Norse mythology because the type location was along the sea shore. The mineral was found at Låven, Langesundsfjorden in 1834 (Berzelius 1835). Acmite (now a synonym of aegirine) was previously described in 1821 from Rundemyr, Norway. For further information on the history of Aegirine, please see entry on Acmite.



*irocks.com photo*

**Aegirine :**  $\text{NaFe}^{3+}\text{Si}_2\text{O}_6$

**Locality:** [Mount Malosa, Zomba District, Malawi](#)

10.9 cm x 2.2 cm x 1.4 cm



*irocks.com photo*

**Aegirine :**  $\text{NaFe}^{3+}\text{Si}_2\text{O}_6$

**Locality:** [Narsaarsuk pegmatite, Narsaarsuk Plateau, Igaliku, Narsaq, Kujalleq, Greenland](#)

10.4 cm x 3.8 cm x 3.8 cm



*irocks.com photo*

**Aegirine :**  $\text{NaFe}^{3+}\text{Si}_2\text{O}_6$

**Locality:** [Mount Malosa, Zomba District, Malawi](#)

3.7 cm x 3.1 cm x 2.2 cm



*irocks.com photo*

**Aegirine :**  $\text{NaFe}^{3+}\text{Si}_2\text{O}_6$

**Albite :**  $\text{NaAlSi}_3\text{O}_8$

**Locality:** [Mount Malosa, Zomba District, Malawi](#)

5.3 cm x 3.6 cm x 2.8 cm

\*\*\*\*\*

**Calendar of Events:**

Only local area shows are listed here. Other CFMS Club shows can be found at: <http://www.cfmsinc.org/>

**OCTOBER, 2015**

**October 3 - 4: BORON, CA**

Mojave Mineralogical Society  
Boron Park  
12000 Boron Avenue  
Hours: 9 - 4 daily

**October 3 - 4: VISTA, CA**

Vista Gem & Mineral Society  
Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum  
2040 North Santa Fe Avenue  
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4  
Website: [www.vistarocks.org](http://www.vistarocks.org)

**October 10 - 11: TRONA, CA**

Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society  
SLG&MS Show Building  
13337 Main Street  
Hours: Sat 7 - 5; Sun 7 - 4  
Website: [www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub](http://www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub/) /  
[Show Pages](#)

**October 11: FALLBROOK, CA**

Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Facility  
123 West Alvarado Street  
Hours: 9 - 4  
Website: [www.fgms.org](http://www.fgms.org)



**October 17: WEST HILLS, CA**

Woodland Hills Rock Chippers  
 First United Methodist Church  
 22700 Sherman Way

Hours: 10 - 5

Website: [www.rockchippers.org](http://www.rockchippers.org) / [Show Page](#)

**October 17 -18: WHITTIER, CA**

Whittier Gem & Mineral Society  
 Whittier Community Center  
 7630 Washington Avenue  
 Hours: 10 - 5 daily

**NOVEMBER, 2015****November 7 - 8: ANAHEIM, CA**

American Opal Society  
 The Phoenix Club  
 1340 South Sanderson Avenue  
 Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5  
 Website: [www.opalsociety.org/](http://www.opalsociety.org/)

Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4

Website: [www.oxnardgem.com](http://www.oxnardgem.com)

[Show Page](#)

**November 7 - 8: RIDGECREST, CA**

Indian Wells Gem & Mineral Society  
 Desert Empire Fairgrounds  
 520 South Richmond Road  
 Hours: 8 - 5 daily

**November 21 - 22: APPLE VALLEY, CA**

Valley Gem & Mineral Club  
 Victor Valley Museum  
 11873 Apple Valley Road (x Bear Valley Rd.)  
 Hours: Sat 9 - 5; Sun 9 - 3  
 Website: [www.vvgmc.org](http://www.vvgmc.org)

[Show Page](#)

**November 7 - 8:****OXNARD, CA**

Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society  
 Oxnard  
 Performing Arts Center  
 800 Hobson Way

**WEST COAST GEM & MINERAL SHOW**

**NOV. 13 - 15, 2015**

**SANTA ANA, CA**

Holiday Inn - Orange County Airport  
 2726 S. Grand Ave.

(55 Freeway exit 8 for Dyer Rd. to S. Grand Ave.)

**80 Great Dealers**

**Minerals ★ Fossils ★ Gemstones**

**Jewelry ★ Beads ★ Decorator Pieces**

**Meteorites ★ Lapidary ★ Metaphysical**



Calcite on Amethyst - Antiguas, Uruguay  
 Photo by Jeff Scovil©

**FREE ADMISSION ★ FREE PARKING ★ RETAIL  
 WHOLESALE FOR QUALIFIED BUYERS**

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

LLD Productions, Inc., 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) Like us on Facebook ~ [facebook.com/mzexpos](https://www.facebook.com/mzexpos)

**MSSC Advertisement Policy:**

Mineral-related ads are allowable in the MSSC 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 mailed to the editor at [bulletin@mineralsocal.org](mailto:bulletin@mineralsocal.org) and the payment should be sent to the  
**MSSC Treasurer 1855 Idlewood Road, Glendale, CA 91202**

## 2015 MSSC Officers:

<b>OFFICERS</b>		
President	Ann Meister	<a href="mailto:president@mineralsocal.org">president@mineralsocal.org</a>
Vice President	George Rossman	<a href="mailto:vicepresident@mineralsocal.org">vicepresident@mineralsocal.org</a>
Secretary	Angie Guzman	<a href="mailto:secretary@mineralsocal.org">secretary@mineralsocal.org</a>
Treasurer	Jim Kusely	<a href="mailto:treasurer@mineralsocal.org">treasurer@mineralsocal.org</a>
CFMS Director	Jo Anna Ritchey	
Past President	Geoffrey Caplette	
<b>DIRECTORS</b>		
2015--2016	Bruce Carter	
2015--2016	Bob Housley	
2015--2016	Leslie Ogg	
2014-2015	Pat Caplette	
2014-2015	Pat Stevens	
<b>COMMITTEE CHAIRS</b>		
Bulletin Editor	Linda Elsnau	<a href="mailto:bulletin@mineralsocal.org">bulletin@mineralsocal.org</a>
Hospitality	Laura Davis	
Membership	Cheryl Lopez	<a href="mailto:membership@mineralsocal.org">membership@mineralsocal.org</a>
Micro Mount Conf. Chairman	Al Wilkins	
Program and Education	Rudy Lopez	<a href="mailto:programs@mineralsocal.org">programs@mineralsocal.org</a>
Publicity	Linda Elsnau	<a href="mailto:bulletin@mineralsocal.org">bulletin@mineralsocal.org</a>
Webmaster	Leslie Ogg	<a href="mailto:webmaster@mineralsocal.org">webmaster@mineralsocal.org</a>

### 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 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 Micro mount 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. Bulletins are delivered by email, there is an additional annual \$20.00 fee if you prefer paper bulletins mailed to your address. The Society's contact information:

**Mineralogical Society of Southern California**

**1855 Idlewood Rd.,**

**Glendale, CA 91202-1053**

**E-mail:** [treasurer@mineralsocal.org](mailto:treasurer@mineralsocal.org)

**Website:** [www.mineralsocal.org](http://www.mineralsocal.org) **The Mineralogical Society of California, Inc.**

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MSSC Bulletin Editor  
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Glendale, CA 91214-  
2415

*To:*



***With Knowledge Comes  
Appreciation***

***Your MSSC  
Bulletin Is  
Here!***