



Birthdays

Kim Noyes
April 15th

Katherine Nybo
April 19th

Robert Bullock
April 21st

Anniversaries

Karen Dry
April 3rd

John and Elaine Von Achen
April 24th

Upcoming Dates

June 11, 2022 - Summer
BBQ Potluck

August 5-7, 2022 - OMS
Show

September 23-25 - SLO
Club show at the SLO Vet's
Hall

December 10, 2022 -
Annual Meeting

The Pez Box - April 2022



Happy Spring! Three of us had a nice field trip to Moonstone Beach on Saturday, March 19. Wayne, Joyce (Wes Lingerfelt's daughter and my adopted sister), and I checked-out Nitwit Ridge, a State Landmark in Cambria. It was a house constructed, by hand, from various items collected from the beach. Then we hit Moonstone Beach which was quite different

from most beaches! The beach wasn't super sandy, it was covered with bright multicolored small stone like you'd see in a fish tank! It was really fun! I could have sat in one spot and been entertained for hours looking through the pile around me. We picked-up some nice rocks and even experienced an early April Shower, which enhanced the beauty of the stones. You all missed a great relaxing field trip!!

The previous weekend, 6 of us had a routine highway clean-up followed by treats and talk at Francisco's in Santa Maria. It was a nice morning—you should try it some time!

In April, we can look forward to Wayne's talk about an OMS Legend, Ralph Bishop, Wayne's talk will feature a brief introduction about Ralph and a couple of his amazing stories. The extensive library of Ralph's stories, I wait with anticipation, to see which stories he will choose! PLEASE bring some interesting rocks for our display. It would be great if you have any rocks from Ralph to display, they would be a fun addition to our program! On April 16. Wayne will

April 2022

April 4 at 7:00 pm - Board Meeting at the Nipomo Chamber of Commerce Building.

April 12 at 7:00 pm - OMS General Meeting at the Oasis Senior Center in Orcutt.

April 23 at 10:00 am - Field Trip to Ralph Bishop's Museum. Contact Wayne Mills if you are interested in going. This is a MEMBERS ONLY FIELD TRIP.

May 2022

May 2 at 7:00 pm - Board Meeting at the Nipomo Chamber of Commerce Building

May 10 at 7:00 pm - OMS General Meeting at the Oasis Senior Center in Orcutt.

May 14 at 8:00 am- Highway Clean Up at the corner of 101 and 166

May 21 - Field Trip - TBD



Continued from page 1

lead a (Members Only) field trip to Ralph's Rock Museum. Please contact Wayne for further details.

We are still waiting to hear from Nipomo High School about our (August) show application, so please keep your fingers crossed.

We hope to see many of you at our April 12 General meeting. I love SPRING and have spring fever! All I want is to be outside all day long! So get out there and enjoy your spring, it doesn't last long!

Diamond - April Birthstone

Natural diamonds are a rare and unique ultimate gift for a loved one. Thought to be one of the hardest substances on the globe, natural diamonds date back billions of years.

The diamond is the traditional birthstone of April and holds significant meaning for those born in that month, thought to provide the wearer with better relationships and an increase in inner strength.

Wearing diamonds is purported to bring other benefits such as balance, clarity and abundance. It's also symbolic of eternal love, and those fortunate to call April the month of their birth will enjoy the following history behind this rare gem.

Adopted from the Greek word *adamas*, meaning "invincible," diamonds come in a wide range of colors such as black, blue, green, pink, red, purple, orange and yellow. The color is dependent upon the type of impurities that are present in the stone. For instance, yellow diamonds have minuscule traces of nitrogen while blue ones contain boron.

Foxtire Diamond

The Foxtire diamond is the largest known uncut, gem-quality diamond mined in North America. The 187.63 carat Foxtire diamond was almost discarded when it was unearthed in August 2015 at the [Diavik diamond mine](https://www.americangemsociety.org/), above the Arctic Circle in Canada's Northwest Territories.

<https://www.americangemsociety.org/>
<https://www.si.edu>

Orcutt Mineral Society Board Meeting - March 7, 2022

Members: Present: Wayne Mills, Renea Sutcliffe, Sally Griffith, Tara Machin, Betty Campbell, Jan Ferguson, and Jeanne Brown
Absent: Jeannine Todd
Call to Order: 7:04 pm by President, Sally Griffith

Minutes: January minutes - correction - \$750 donations to abused Childrens fund not \$715. No corrections to March newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: No report

Correspondences: Pat Nuernburg sent in a check for \$10 to cover postage for her bulletin, club in Escondido is having a show in June and would like mention in the bulletin, AFMS newsletter, Santa Lucia Rock Hounds newsletter, and a meteorite testing advertisement - contact lab@meteorlab.com or their website at meteoritetesting.org

Committee Reports:

1. Bulletin- Tara will be out so April bulletin will be out on March 22 and the May bulletin will be on May 2. She will miss April meetings and will need Wayne or Jeannine Todd to cover meeting notes. Wayne requested that Tara put in the bulletin to have people contact Wayne if they want to go to Ralph Bishop's field Trip in April. Members Only
2. CFMS- no News
3. Read the AFMS bulletin from March
4. OMS Membership- 5 members are outstanding.
5. Field Trips- Will be to Moonstone Beach on March 19th. Meet at Vet's Hall at 1000 Main Street in Cambria at 10:00 am. Bring bucket, bring squirt bottle, lunch, water, jacket.
6. Adopt-A-Highway- Will be on March 12th at 8 am. Extra help is needed. We meet at the southeast corner of Highways 101/166 East.
7. Annual Awards Banquet- Deposit is already paid to Madonna Inn since it rolled over from last year. We may change the venue to Spyglass Inn instead of Madonna Inn. It might depend on the price. The Spyglass has no stairs so it is more accessible to members. If the price is good, we will get our deposit back from the Madonna Inn. Jeanne to report back to the board in April.
8. Breakfast- Cancelled until further notice
9. Education- March Program - Wayne - Brazil Minerals from his trip in 2009. April Program will be Wayne, May Program will be Wes, and there will be no program in June. We need more volunteers to present topics.
10. Library- No report
11. Sunshine- Jeanne will be out with a knee replacement so will miss the meetings in May. Sally had successful surgery on one eye. The surgery on the other eye will be soon. Tara will be finished with her radiation treatments on March 18th and will be cancer free.
12. Scholarship- no report

Show: Insurance Update - the insurance was originally was \$1700. Jeanne negotiated that down since we will have less than 1000 people per day at the show. Our general insurance will cover the show so we don't need to pay any money for extra insurance at the school. Kim Koyes works for a security company so we will ask him if he can do security for the show. We need people to help with port-o-pottys, trash, displays, and

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advertising. Renea will help put up signs on the side of the road for advertising. Wayne will do the postcards and mailings. Sally will contact Elizabeth Nybo to see if she will post the show info on Facebook.

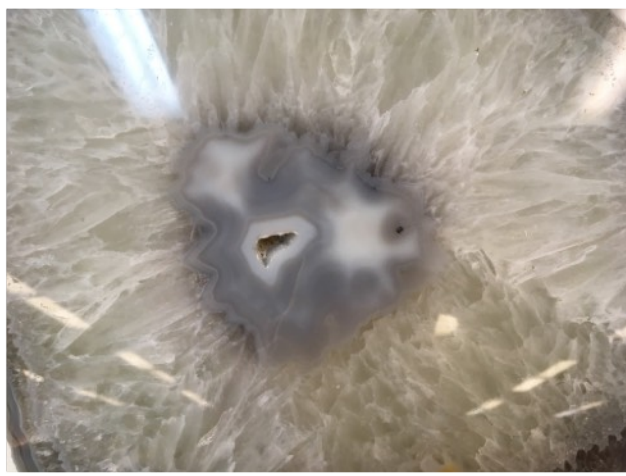
Old Business: Wayne is writing up an amendment to change the 2 year membership to hold office to 1 year membership. It should be ready by the April board meeting.

Membership dues are due on March 8th at the general meeting.

New Business: Red book to be updated by the April meeting. We will bring the 2020 red book to the general meeting on March 8th so people can make corrections. Jeanne will help Wayne with the new Red book

Adjourned: 7:44 pm

Respectfully submitted by Tara Machin,
Secretary



TOURMALINATED QUARTZ
SCHORL TOURMALINE
Sodium (magnesium, iron)
silicate



B-20. DENDRITIC QUARTZ
Silicon dioxide
Near Galiléia,
Minas Gerais, Brazil

Display Photos from the General Meeting

Orcutt Mineral Society General Meeting - March 8, 2022

Minutes:

Call to Order: 7:03 pm by President, Sally Griffith.

Invocation by Debbie Hood

Pledge of Allegiance by Sally Griffith

Members/Guests: 22 Members and 3 Guests
Margret and Sharon and Robin and Jeanne
donated food

Treasurer's Report: No report

Correspondences: The correspondences were read to the members. Refer to the Board Meeting Notes for the list

Committee Reports:

1. Bulletin- Tara will be out so April bulletin will be out on March 22 and the May bulletin will be on May 2. She will miss April meetings. Wayne asked the OMS members if anyone could fill in as secretary for one month and no one seemed interested.
2. CFMS- No news
3. AFMS - March notes will be in the OMS April newsletter
4. OMS Membership- A review of the Red Book went around at the general meeting for corrections. Dues were due at the meeting.
5. Field Trips- 3 to 5 members are confirmed to go on the field trip on March 19th. 5 to 7 members showed interest in Ralph Bishop's field trip April 16th. Contact Wayne if you want to go to Ralph's. This is a member only trip. Please refer to the board meeting notes for more information on field trips.
6. Adopt-A-Highway- Folks were reminded that the next clean up will be on March 12th at 8 am. Extra help is needed. We

meet at the southeast corner of
Highways 101/166 East.

7. Annual Awards Banquet- Refer to the Board Meeting notes
8. Breakfast- Cancelled until further notice
9. Education - Refer to the Board Meeting notes
10. Library- No report
11. Sunshine- Refer to the Board Meeting notes
12. Scholarship- Scholarships are dependent on the show profits. We will award scholarships at the end of 2022 if we make enough money at the annual show.

Show: We reviewed the board's discussions about the show from the March 7th meeting. Please refer to those notes. The show has not been approved by the High School, but it should be approved by April meeting.

Old Business: Wayne is writing up an amendment to change the 2 year membership to hold office to 1 year membership. It should be ready by the April board meeting. There is a hold on the Pioneer Park Annual Picnic. We have to pay \$308 by May 1 to Santa Maria Parks and Recreation. Wayne to help take care of this.

New Business: Red book to be updated by the April meeting. We will bring the 2020 red book to the general meeting on March 8th so people can make corrections. Jeanne will help Wayne with the new Red book

Presentation: Wayne did his presentation on his Brazil trip.

Adjourned: 8:23 pm

Respectfully submitted by Tara Machin,
Secretary

Titanium Minerals

by Tara Machin

In October, I had some unfortunate news. I had an abnormal mammogram which resulted in a diagnosis of breast cancer. One of the first procedures I underwent was a breast biopsy where they took the tissue samples and also inserted a titanium marker into my body. This got me thinking. What is Titanium? Where does it come from? How is it mined? What part does geology play in Titanium production? These questions helped to distract me from my bigger medical issues. Let me share some of my learned knowledge with you so that you can more appreciate

the Titanium minerals that are processed to make Titanium metal and alloys.



Specimen of Ilmenite - Titanium Ore
Photo from geology.com

are the most common forms of Titanium ores. Rutile can be used in its natural form, but Ilmenite and Leucoxene are Titaniferous ores and must be processed to remove iron so that the ore is at least 85%

Titanium dioxide. The purified ore is then put through a process called the Kroll method. This method of extracting pure Titanium was developed in 1937 by William Kroll. In the Kroll method, Titanium Dioxide is treated with Carbon and Chlorine to produce Titanium Tetrachloride. The Titanium Tetrachloride is then reduced with molten magnesium at about 800 degrees Celsius leaving metallic Titanium and Magnesium Chloride. It took about 10 years to develop the process for large scale production, but by 1947 Titanium was ready for use in the medical industry as well as the aerospace industry.



Crystal of Ilmenite
By Rob Lavinsky, iRocks.com

Titanium has been used in the medical industry since the 1950s. It is most commonly used for joint replacements and prosthetics, and sometimes markers for tumors. It is corrosion resistant, it is the most compatible metal for bones and other tissues, it is non-magnetic, and is relatively lightweight. It is used for surgical tools as well as heart valves because of its durability. Titanium can be alloyed with Iron, Aluminum, Vanadium, and other metals to produce other lightweight materials in the medical industry.

Titanium is a common element in the Earth's crust. It is usually found as an oxide ore.

Rutile, Ilmenite, and Leucoxene



Crystal of Rutile
Photo from minerals.net

The mineral ore Rutile is found in metamorphic rocks as well as igneous and sedimentary rock. Rutile was the first ore that was discovered. In 1791, Reverend William Gregor found Rutile in the

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black sands of Cornwall, England. He was the first to start doing experiments on the mineral. Rutile is mined in Australia, Africa, Norway, Canada, and in the USA. Australia has very large deposits and they are commonly in the form of beach sands produced by the weathering of granite and other igneous rocks along the seashore. Although China has more Rutile deposits, Australia is the largest producer of the ore.

The mineral ore Ilmenite is also mostly mined as sand along with Rutile. Such deposits are found on the coasts of Australia, Africa, the United States, India, Vietnam, China, and Ukraine. Ilmenite is named after the locality of the Ilmen Mountains, which are a part of the Southern Urals of Russia. In Russia, the Ilmenite mineral forms beautiful crystals that are hexagonal in shape.

Leucoxene ore is a derivation of Ilmenite where some of the iron has been leached out leaving a more pure form of Titanium Dioxide. Leucoxene is only found as a sand. It is also not considered a mineral because it has no defined structure. The world's largest producer of Leucoxene is Australia.

Although Titanium minerals are not your typical rock hunter's dream, the manufacture of Titanium from these minerals has become this rock hunter's dream as it will help to save my life.

References - geology.com, wikipedia.com, howmade.com, mindat.org, minerals.net, and

Upcoming Rock and Mineral Shows

April 1-3, 2022, Vista CA

Vista Gem and Mineral Show

Website: <https://vistarocks.org>

April 9-10, 2022 - Mariposa, CA

Website: <http://mariposagemclub.org>

April 9-10, 2022, Thousand Oaks, CA

Canejo Gem and Mineral Club

Website: <https://cgamc.org>

April 30 - May 1, 2022 - Anaheim, CA

Searchers Gem & Mineral Society

Website: <https://searchersrocks.org>

May 6-8, 2022 - Lancaster, CA

Contact: Bob Backus at lbackus@aol.com

More information coming!!

May 6-7, 2022 - Yucaipa, CA

Yucaipa Valley Gem and Mineral Society

Website: <http://yvgms.org>

May 7-8, 2022 - Jackson, CA

Amador County Gem & Mineral Society

Website: <http://www.amadorgemandmineral.org>

More information can be found on the CFMS website at cfmsinc.org



Interesting Internet

Wayne's Presentation from the OMS General Meeting on March 8th. You can watch the presentation from your home if you missed it. <https://youtu.be/5vXp4JFbRfk>

Interesting article about H.H. Nininger and the American Meteorite Museum - <https://www.meteorite-times.com/h-h-nininger-and-the-american-meteorite-museum/>

What are meteorites anyway? - Find out here - <https://geology.com/meteorites/>

CFMS / AFMS News - April 2022

CFMS Website - cfmsinc.org

The upcoming CFMS Show and Director's meeting is March 6-8 at the Antelope Valley Fairgrounds in Lancaster, CA. The bulletin has forms for camping (\$35 per night), Convention, dinner and awards banquet is included in the April Bulletin.

CFMS is seeking demonstrators (of lapidary arts) for the show. (Contacts are in the April bulletin). Diane Cook, CFMS Treasurer is having a contest to encourage members to read the CFMS Bulletin. Two prizes have been awarded (just for saying "HI")!

Jim Brace Thompson (Juniors) gave the last call for Junior's Exhibit applications for the May Show. Jim urges societies to encourage their juniors to display at club or CFMS Shows.

Golden Bear Award (For CFMS Service only) The deadline for 2022 entries is April 15 (Tax Day!) Contacts for this are in the AFMS April Bulletin

On April 23, we have an opportunity to walk the Hauser Beds (Wiley's Wells) with the BLM, and learn about the area's minerals.

The CFMS Bulletin Contest winners (for 2021) were announced. Amy Phillips (Bulletin) and Ted Gray (Articles) were winners for the Santa Lucia Club. The deadline for entries in the 2022 Bulletin Contest is February 1, 2023. Forms and contracts are in the April Bulletin.

Ellery Borrow (Safety Chair) has an article about Word Safety. (Choose your words carefully, and speak clearly!)

Shows- Upcoming CFMS Club shows are listed, and there are a LOT of them!

A list of CFMS 2022 Officers is included.

AFMS Website - amfed.org

AFMS News - From February 2022 - Please check the website for more up to date information

Bulletin—Pat LaRue is the new AFMS Bulletin Editor. Mark Nelson has an article about recruiting and training a new bulletin editor including information about S.C.R.I.B.E.

Continued from page 8

Juniors–The Juniors Web page is now up, and has some great information.

Committees, Officers–AFMS Committees and Officer Contact information is included in the bulletin.

Articles–AFMS Land Use Policy is enumerated

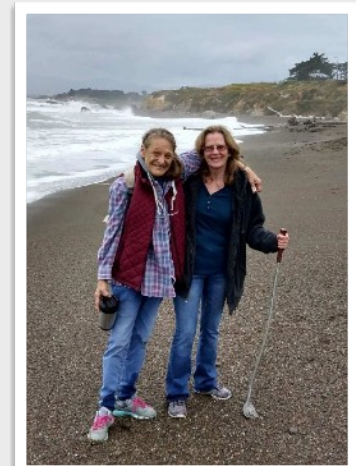
AFMS Show–Set for **October 14 - 16, 2022 in New Orleans, LA** (Changed from Montana)

Field Trip to Moonstone Beach

By Wayne Mills, OMS

At about 6 minutes to 10 on Saturday (March 19), I sat alone in the parking lot for the Veterans Hall in Cambria. Then Sally and Joyce (sally's adoptive sister and Wes Lingerfelt's daughter) pulled in. We waited until 10 after 10 then left to see Nitwit Ridge (a sudden inspiration). The old house, built by Captain Tinkerpaw (or Dr.Nitwit), is a State Landmark overlooking the town of Cambria. Neither Joyce nor Sally had seen or heard of it before today.

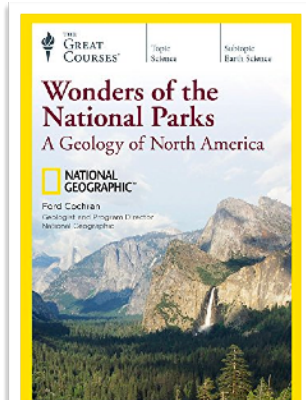
After a brief visit to the old house, we headed for Moonstone Beach and started searching the gravels for "pretty rocks" We moseyed up the beach looking down, and tried to avoid the surges of the incoming tide, and picked the occasional cool rock. Joyce, who had never rock collected before, proved quite adept at spotting



unusual specimens, I am still trying to figure out what the cool green and black speckled one she found is. After about 45 minutes of looking, a light rain started to fall, but we kept looking for another half-hour or so. I asked if Sally and Joyce wanted to go look at some cool plants, but they decided to head back south. I treated myself to looking at cool plants at Grow Nursery, and lunch next door at Lily's. Afterward, I detected my way back home.

Thank You

A special thanks to Jeanne Brown for the donation of a new DVD for our OMS library. This new DVD, Wonders of the National Parks - Geology of North America, will provide our club with many presentations in the future.



Honkin' on the Highway

Wayne Mills, Adopt-A-Highway Coordinator

Six of us showed-up on a pleasant Saturday morning (March 12) for our Bi-monthly Highway clean-up. Wes Lingerfelt, Sally Griffith, Geary Sheffer, and I were joined by Steve and Lisa Siemsen who we have not yet convinced to be members, but who have showed-up for 3 of our highway cleanups! The parking area was kind of trashy, but the rest of our 2 mile stretch was pretty clean.



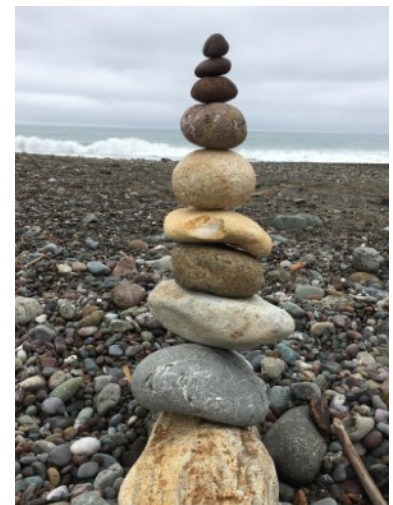
We got done in about an hour and a half, and headed to Francisco's in Santa Maria for treats.

At the table, I remarked that I had more folks honking at me today than any time I can remember in the past. A couple of others noted the same thing. I am assuming that they were honking their encouragement and thanks, rather than out of annoyance. The biggest finds I heard of were the pieces of tire tread that Wes found. He also found some nuts and bolts and an unfired 9mm bullet. My only good find was a shiny, gold-colored barrette that I (unfortunately) had no use for, but Sally seemed to like it.

Our waitress, Shelly, really earned her tip today, as she pulled my name out of the hat for the motivation prize, a 2.5" sphere of Howellite that Wes donated for our motivation prize. And, Shelly also had some deep-fried bread pudding with whipped cream AND ice cream that Wes and I ordered and REALLY liked. Shelly noted that I had been "crying" about the lack of desserts on our last several visits. So it was a successful day all around.

Corrections

Part of Wayne's presentation notes from the February General Meeting were cut off at the end. The last portion should read as follows: **Gold in California** - There are reports that Native Americans were mining gold near San Miguel in 1805. An early discovery was made -Francisquito Canyon in LA Co., 3/9/1842. Gold was discovered at Sutter's Fort near Sacramento 3/9/1848 starting the Gold Rush. Gold has been mined in the Mountains west of Paso Robles where there is a peak called Gold Butte on the Jack Ranch. Gold has also been mined in the La Panza area of SLO County since the late 1800's.



Orcutt Mineral Society Officers		
President	Sally Griffith	(805) 928-6848
President Elect	Vacant	
Secretary	Tara Machin Jeannine Todd	(805) 863-5992
Treasurer	Jeanne L. Watkins	(805) 481-1811
Orcutt Mineral Society Board Members		
	Jan Ferguson	(805) 474-9977
	Betty Campbell	(805) 929-5344
	Renea Sutcliffe	(805) 929-2783
CFMS Federation Director		
	Renea Sutcliffe	(805) 929-2783
OMS Membership		
Membership	Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495
Membership is \$24.00 for Individual, \$34.00 per couple, \$5.00 Each Additional Family Member, \$5 for Juniors under age of 18. One time initiation fee for new members is \$10.00.		
OMS Online Contacts		
OMS Webmaster	Wes Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788
Website	omsinc.org	
Email	info@omsinc.org	
Ore-Cutts Information		
Editor and Publisher	Tara Machin	(805) 863-5992
Email	taradmachin@gmail.com	

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Orcutt Mineral Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 106
Santa Maria, CA 93456-0106

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

The ORE-CUTTS (named after William Orcutt) was first published in 1966. Member Helen Azevedo was the first editor. The Orcutt Mineral Society was founded in 1958, and was also named after Orcutt who was a geologist and civil engineer who worked in the Santa Maria Valley as a District Manager for Union Oil Company in 1888. In 1889, William Orcutt discovered the mineral and fossil wealth of the La Brea Tar Pits on the property of Captain Alan Hancock in Los Angeles. The La Brea Tar Pits are one of the most significant fossil finds in paleontological history.

OMS is a non-profit organization dedicated to stimulating an interest in the earth sciences. The club offers educational programs, field trips, scholarships, and other opportunities for families and individuals to pursue an interest in the collecting and treatment of lapidary materials, fossils, gems, minerals, and other facets of the Earth Sciences. In addition, another goal of this Society is to promote good fellowship and proper ethics in pursuit of the Society's endeavors. Operating Rules have been set forth to guide the officers and members of the Society in accomplishing these aims. Affiliations of the OMS include American Federation of Mineral Societies, and California Federation of Mineral Societies.

