



Ore-Cutts

Volume XXXIX, Issue VIII

August, 2004

WELCOME to our GEM SHOW!

The Orcutt Mineral Society's 37th Annual Gem Show is from Friday, August 6th through Sunday, August 8th at St. Joseph's Church (298 S. Thompson Avenue, Nipomo). Show hours are from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily.



Comfortable weather and great company at our show

Some of this year's highlights include demonstrations on glass lampwork beadmaking, knitting with fine silver, and "Ugly Rocks Uncovered". The ever-popular Rick Kennedy will return to give benitoite etching talks, and demonstrate his skilled techniques. Dick Knox will give multiple speeches on rock identification throughout the show. Sir Paul Howard will present a slide show on agates and Australian treasures.

Featured attractions include:

- "The best darned barbecue on the central coast" on Saturday night.
- The Treasure Chest Raffle drawing on Sunday afternoon at 4:00 p.m.
- Delicious treats from the Snack Bar.
- Country Store with those unique items you can't pass up.

- Our Fluorescent Room explores another dimension of rockhounding.
 - The Prospecting Adventure your youngsters.
- Thank you's are extended to the following members for volunteering time to chair the numerous committees. Please contact them if you can spare a few hours to volunteer at the Show:

Debbie Hood	Chairman & Country Store
Lucky Virgin	Co-Chairman
Wes Lingerfelt	Dealers, Signs, Show Layout, & Electrical
Bess Shields	Exhibits, Demonstrations, & Grab Bags
Sylvia Nasholm	Snack Bar & Thursday Night Dinner
Wayne Mills	Prospecting Adventure & Publicity
Don Nasholm	Signs & Chef
DeeDee Magri	Treasure Chest & Hostess
Ralph Bishop	Decorations
Marshall Reeves	Security
Dick Shields	Fluorescent Room & Talks
All members	Skirting, set-up & clean-up

Benitoite - California State Gemstone

Rick Kennedy returns for the third year to speak at our Gem Show about Benitoite, and the Benitoite Gem Mine. Rick is an expert in etching this precious gemstone, and will demonstrate how to etch mine run material to free up the hidden benitoite crystals.

Please join Rick on Saturday afternoon at 2:00 p.m., and Sunday at noon in Classroom #1 (the Fluorescent Room) to hear Rick speak.

Declared the California State Gemstone in 1985, Benitoite is the only mineral that crystallizes in ditrigonal-dipyramidal form. Benitoite crystals fluoresce a bright deep sky blue under

shortwave ultraviolet and x-ray, and a few specimens fluoresce scarlet under long wave ultraviolet.



Rick emphasizing a point in his talk about benitoite

Rick will bring mine run material to the Fluorescent Room for viewing during the show. Some of this rare material will be available for sale, including benitoite, neptunite, and fresnoite.

Miners at the Benitoite Gem Mine found crystals in many forms ranging from pure blue glass to rough-skinned opaque mass. They also found a wide range of sizes, although most are small (half an inch).

At the show, we have examples of all forms in our displays. We'll have glassy crystals that were cut as finished jewelry and as unmounted faceted gems. There will be examples of rough gems under a blanket of natrolite that has been acid etched to reveal crystals attached to the blue schist. We'll also have crystals showing the classic shape but which grew in crossite (now weathered away) with skin that is rough and pitted, but still highly fluorescent. Some are large, over 2 inches across!

Bug in a Gilded Cage

All that glitters is sometimes bacterial

(Ralph Bishop brought in an article recently that ranks right up there as "too odd to be true". It appeared in *Scientific American*, September 1992, pp. 27-28.)

Panning for gold in frigid Alaskan streams, prospectors mused about mysterious outcroppings of ore,

the mother lodes from which they presumed the precious flecks and nuggets came. If John R. Watterson of the U.S. Geological Survey in Denver is right, the immediate origin of the prospectors' gold has as much to do with biology as with geology. He has found evidence that most of the stream-borne gold particles in Alaska, and possibly elsewhere, were formed by bacteria that accrete a thin skin of pure gold.

Under the electron microscope, many of the gold dust particles Watterson has examined resolve into a lacy mesh of micron-diameter balls and thinner struts. Often the structures are confined to the surface of the gold particles, but some particles are solid masses of them. Watterson has proposed that the structures are the 24-karat castings of bacteria belonging to the genus *Pedomicrobium*. "The fact that you can find these residual morphologies in the majority of particles I examined suggests that most of it is secondary gold that dissolved and reprecipitated on the cells," Watterson says. "That is quite contrary to the current model."

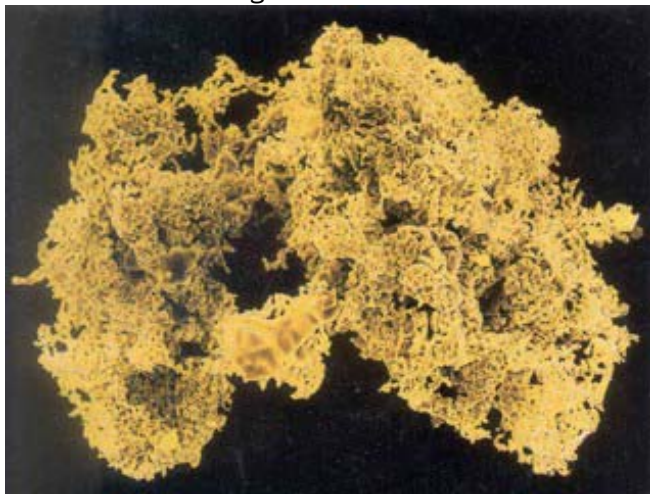
As far back as Aristotle, earth scientists have generally believed that placer gold, as such particles are called, is the result of mechanical weathering: wind and water chipping away at veins of ore. During this century, geologists have become more aware of how chemical—and sometimes biological—processes can also shape mineral deposits.

Watterson's discovery follows by about 10 years his serendipitous observation that gold solutions are lethal to many soil bacteria. Thin coats of gold, he explains, tend to condense around the bacterial spores, clogging the narrow pores in their cell walls through which nutrients enter.

Those observations spurred Watterson to look for similar accumulations of gold around cells in natural soils. When he looked at placer gold particles from Lillian Creek in Alaska, he was immediately struck by the abundance of *Pedomicrobium* cell castings. "It looked like a Ping-Pong-ball truck had ruptured on the highway," he recalls. "They were all over the place." Many of the particles seemed to be solid masses of gilded cells. Some gold samples from China and South Africa showed similar bacterial shapes, which suggests that *Pedomicrobia* and related bacteria might have been involved in the formation of placer gold around the world.

Pedomicrobia can survive the accumulation of gold better than most bacteria, Watterson thinks, because of their unusual reproductive habits. Most bac-

teria multiply by fission, splitting into separate cells. Pedomicrobia, however, often reproduce by budding. Because new cells bud off their parents, remaining attached by short stalks, the bacteria can grow fast enough to escape the gilded cages closing around them. The reliance on budding also explains why these bacteria are good at forming visible gold particles: masses of Pedomicrobia cohere to one another rather than becoming isolated cells.



GOLD PARTICLE about 0.1 millimeter wide is a 24-karat mass of bacteria that accumulate gold around themselves. Photo: John R. Watterson

Stephen Mann, a biomineralization expert at the University of Bath, points out that many bacteria can become encased in mineral coatings under the right circumstances. Quite aside from their proclivity for gathering gold, Pedomicrobium bacteria accumulate iron and manganese oxides around themselves inside pipes in hydroelectric plants and similar environments rich in dissolved minerals. In general, however, these mineral deposits are the form less products of chance interactions between metal ions and various molecules leaving the cells. The golden casings around the Pedomicrobium cells are extraordinary, Mann remarks, because they are almost perfect in their purity.

The specificity with which the bacteria are gathering gold suggests that some molecule on their cell wall attracts gold complexes selectively. Asked what the bacteria might be doing with the gold, Watterson replies, "That's still an absolute mystery to me." Mann has speculated that the precipitating gold complexes may serve as acceptors of electrons from some biochemical process within the cells.

If there is a cell-wall protein that turns Pedomicrobia into gold bugs, Mann continues, it should be possible eventually to clone its gene and transfer it into other bacteria for industrial applications. Many mining companies are already using bacteria to help

extract metals from low-grade ores. Surely some 21st-century prospector will try to harness these microscopic Midases as well. —John Rennie

Highway Cleanup

Thank you to all 13 OMS members who helped clean our two mile Adopt-a-Highway stretch of Hwy 166 on Saturday, 17 July.

The following members were in attendance: Ralph Bishop, Bob Bullock, Sharon Duncan, Stan and Brenna Ferguson, Marty Lingerfelt, Wes Lingerfelt, Don Nasholm, Marshall Reeves, Lee Reyburn, Geary Sheffer, Bess Shields, and Dick Shields.

We had coffee and pastry at a new location, Country Kitchen on North Broadway, in Santa Maria since Omelets & More is no more. Brenna Ferguson won the prize, a beautiful faceted amethyst, in our drawing.

Please join us on Saturday, 18 September for the next Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup. We meet at the intersection of Highway 166 and Highway 101 at 8:00 a.m., and go out for pastry and beverage (and another prize drawing!) following the cleanup.

OMS WINS IN AFMS COMPETITION

Our congratulations are extended to member Paul Patrick for his Honorable Mention in the recent American Federation of Mineralogical Societies 2004 Bulletin Editor's Competition. Paul won Honorable Mention in the Advanced Adult Articles category for his descriptive piece entitled "The South Korean Order".

Way to go, Paul! We hope to see more articles from you.

Check our OMS web site at
<http://omsinc.org> or send email to
oms@ix.netcom.com.

Orcutt Mineral Society

Board Meeting

Mussell Senior Center, Santa Maria CA

6 July, 2004

Call to Order at 7:05 p.m. by President Deborah Hood. Board members present were Sharon Duncan, Bill Hood, Debbie Hood, Wes Lingerfelt, Marshall Reeves, Geary Sheffer, Bess Shields, Lucky Virgin, Wayne Mills, Immediate Past President, and Dick Shields, Past President. Guests attending were Ralph Bishop and Don Nasholm.

Treasurer's Report was read by Wes Lingerfelt, and accepted as read.

Minutes of the previous Board Meeting were approved as published.

Correspondence:

- Sun Valley Indian School newsletter.
- *Pick & Shovel* newsletter from San Geronio Mineral & Gem Society.
- *Rockonteur* newsletter from Santa Lucia Rockhounds Club.
- *Tumble Rumble* newsletter from Capistrano Valley Rock & Mineral Club.
- *Rocky Review* newsletter from Conejo Gem & Mineral Club.
- *The Agatizer* newsletter from South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society.
- Thank you for donations from CFMS Endowment Fund Chair (for Louise and Al Ryzner, and Oleta Ross).
- Land Use Services Dept, County of San Bernardino, Final Environmental Impact Report.
- Los Padres Bank correspondence.

Committee Reports:

Adopt-a-Highway: Marshall Reeves stated that the next cleanup will be on July 17th.

Bulletin (Ore-Cutts): Bess Shields reported that the bulletin was mailed and emailed last weekend. Our August Ore-Cutts will feature Gem Show related articles.

CFMS: Wes Lingerfelt attended the Federation Meeting in Mariposa. Wes also read the thank you from CFMS for our donations to the Endowment Fund.

Show: Wayne Mills already distributed a press release about the Gem Show to community service editors, thrifty newspapers, and will contact the TV and radio stations soon. Wes Lingerfelt will contact Emily Slater, ask her if she can cover the Gem Show, and possibly do a feature article on OMS. Wes discussed our Gem Show insurance coverage. Also, there were a few dealers who dropped out, but replacements have been secured. Truman Burgess will provide the barbecue wood this year. Sylvia Nasholm reported that everything is on track, but she'll need a pie from everyone. Wes will make final arrangements for security. Don Nasholm will handle Gem Show signs along Highway 101. Bess Shields has reservations from 25 exhibitors, and is still lining up demonstrators. Dick Shields will set up the Fluorescent Room and fluorescent exhibits. Sir Paul Howard has assembled a slide show that he will present at our show. Debbie Hood is actively seeking donations for the Country Store, and suggests we put two tables outside for special goodies, to generate interest, and attract more traffic into the Country Store. Wayne Mills suggested a display of dealer locations, plus he wants a locator inserted into the program. Wayne volunteered to

assemble this information. Bess Shields was asked to make sign-up sheets for the various volunteer opportunities, and bring them to the General Meeting next week.

Old / unfinished business:

Sylvia Nasholm moved that OMS donate \$50.00 to the Cancer Society in memory of Fred Summerson. Wes Lingerfelt seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Bess Shields set up the OMS display at Santa Maria Main Library for June and July. Marshall Reeves set up the Lompoc Library display today. Wayne Mills did not get the Arroyo Grande Library slot. Lucky Virgin will contact the Nipomo Library tomorrow to see if a display can be put in during July.

Wes Lingerfelt announced that Aaron LaBarre from the SLO Public Health Department, Division of Environmental Health will speak at our General Meeting in September on "Proper Disposal of Oil".

New business:

Wayne Mills announced that he held a Prospecting Adventure at the Dana Adobe. Each participant was charged \$.75, and the donations, totaling \$45.00, are being submitted to the OMS Scholarship Fund.

Dick Shields announced that there is a launch scheduled on Saturday, so the field trip to Vandenberg AFB will have to be cancelled.

Wayne Mills inquired about the CFMS All American Club Silver Award Plaque that OMS received in Mariposa, and where it will reside. The Board agreed that the 2004 Silver, and 2003 Gold Awards will be part of the OMS historical records. Wes Lingerfelt moved that Wayne Mills be allowed to retain both plaques until he is no longer chairman of the Scholarship Committee. Bill Hood seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Lucky Virgin wants to buy an OMS saw being stored for the club at Wes' house. It has no blade, the hinge and switch are broken but the unit can be fixed. Wayne Mills moved that the saw be sold to Lucky for \$500. Marshall Reeves seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Debbie Hood suggested that DeeDee Magri should bring in all donations to the Gem Show Treasure Chest to next week's General Meeting for the "Best Treasure Chest Prize" awards. All members present at that meeting will vote for the winners.

The July General Meeting program will be a short talk by Wayne Mills about exhibits and displays. A competition for best 1' x 1' display will be held. Gem Show planning will also occupy part of the evening. Competition for best Treasure Chest donation, and awarding of two prizes will complete the evening. The refreshment will be pies.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m. by President Hood.
Respectfully submitted,
Bess Shields, Secretary, OMS

Orcutt Mineral Society

General Meeting

Mussell Senior Center, Santa Maria CA

13 July, 2004

Call to Order at 7:05 p.m. by President Deborah Hood. Invocation was given by Bess Shields on "Open Hearts". Flag Salute was led by Lucky Virgin. Sharon Duncan reported that 28 members, and 1 guest were present. Bob Wright was our guest. Sheriff Bill Hood had **2 poachers** tonight who turned themselves in for not wearing nametags.

Treasurer's Report was read by Wes Lingerfelt, and was accepted as read.

Minutes of the previous General Meeting and Board Meeting were approved as published. Minutes of the July Board Meeting were approved as amended.

Committee Reports:

Adopt-a-Highway: Marshall Reeves reminded us of the July 17th cleanup, followed by breakfast and raffle at Francisco's Country Kitchen, 1700 N. Broadway, Santa Maria. Omelets & More Restaurant was sold, so this is a new location for our breakfasts.

Breakfasts: Ken Kreh made reservations for us to meet at Country Kitchen every fourth Saturday morning.

Bulletin: Bess Shields announced that Paul Patrick's article on "The Korean Order" won honorable mention at the AFMS competition. President Hood will present the certificates to our numerous winners at the Gem Show.

CFMS: Wes Lingerfelt was not sure if our insurance certificate had arrived at the church yet. It must be in place before the show. Wes discussed the BLM letter information, and suggested that we publish the website in our August newsletter.

Field Trips: Dick Shields reported on the June trip to Brea Creek. The July field trip to Vandenberg AFB was cancelled due to a rescheduled launch on base. There will be no field trip during August since we will all be busy with the Gem Show. In September we will be guests of Elaine VonAchen's brother on his ranch near Rock Front Ranch on Highway 166.

Library: Bess Shields invited members to call her if they have book and video needs between meetings. The education committee speakers frequently use materials in their classroom visits.

Raffle: Marshall Reeves has a selection of minerals, a fruit basket, phone cards, and a large crystal cluster for tonight's raffle.

Refreshments: DeeDee Magri thanked Al Wilcox, Don Nasholm, Jan Ferguson and Sharon Duncan for bringing refreshments to tonight's meeting.

Show:

Marshall Reeves reminded members that, if you assist with the barbecue, you get a free dinner. He needs servers, and cooks.

Wes Lingerfelt had 2 more outside dealers sign up today, and one more inside dealer.

Don Nasholm will erect Gem Show signs along Highway 101 in Nipomo.

Debbie Hood reminded members that sign-up sheets are on the front table. Please volunteer in one of the many areas, and don't forget to each bring a pie to the show for our snack bar.

Marshall Reeves reported that DeeDee Magri has the Gem Show raffle tickets for distribution.

Wes Lingerfelt is printing the Barbecue tickets this week, and they will be available at the start of the show.

Marshall is donating a sphere for "Most Raffle Tickets Sold". It will be awarded at the show.

Bess Shields announced that Sir Paul Howard will present a slide show at the Gem Show. Bess has already packed the grab bags to sell at the Hospitality Table.

Wayne Mills is soliciting for rough rock to give away at the Prospecting Adventure.

Ralph Bishop is in charge of filling those gaps between cases in the main hall with "monster fossils", and awesome rocks.

Wes reported that Lapidary Journal ran our show information this year.

Marshall has security arranged for Friday and Saturday nights from 9:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m..

Wes announced that outside vendor spots will be marked on Wednesday, 4 August beginning at 9:00 a.m. Set-up and table skirting will start at 7:30 on Thursday, 5 August. Donuts and coffee will be provided to all volunteers. The hall will be available for display and demonstrator set-up at noon. Tear-down on Sunday will begin at 5:00 p.m. Workers and dealers will gather at Golden Dragon afterwards for a leisurely dinner.

Correspondence was received from the following:

- *Rockonteur* newsletter from Santa Lucia Rockhounds Club.
- Sun Valley Indian School newsletter.
- *Lapidarian* newsletter from Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Club.
- *Tumble Rumble* from Capistrano Valley Rock & Mineral Club.
- *Pick & Shovel* from San Geronio Mineral & Gem Society.
- *Rocky Review* newsletter from Conejo Gem & Mineral Club.
- *The Agatizer* newsletter from South Bay (Torrance) Club.
- BLM News Release.
- Junior Achievement invitation to participate.
- EIR for Molycorp Mountain Pass Mine project.

Old/unfinished business:

Debbie Hood encourages members to vote for the best "Treasure Chest Donation" tonight. A lepidolite sphere will be awarded after the vote.

Debbie encourages members to take digital camera shots at the show for our August General Meeting "Highlights of the Gem Show" presentation. Also, remember to bring in your agates to show off during the break and refreshments time. September meeting will feature Aaron LeBarre from SLO Public Health Department. He will talk on "Proper Disposal of Oil". Wes Lingerfelt reported that Lucky Virgin paid for the saw he bought from the club, now it needs to move.

New business:

Debbie Hood congratulated the club for its All American Club award. Ken Kreh will be investigating the formation of a Political Action Committee to satisfy the block of All American Club category that we were lacking in last year's competition.

Elaine VonAchen is still holding the Thursday night wirewrap meetings, but attendance is low. She hopes for more attendance.

Marshall announced that 4 packets of tickets were issued to someone last month and the name was not recorded. Please check with Marshall if you received tickets last month so he can clear up his records.

Following the break for refreshments, Wayne Mills presented a talk on "Display and Exhibit Tips".

The raffle was held after the program. Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. by President Hood.

Respectfully submitted,
Bess Shields, Secretary, OMS

The Wanderer

Gathering of Kindred Spirits

Once a year, central California rockhounds gather to celebrate at the OMS Rainbow of Gems Show. It's our time to show off our skills, trade minerals, and renew old friendships. We share our techniques, greet the public, and invite visitors to become new members. We provide instructional talks by experts in the various fields of rockhounding, and have demonstrators share their talents.

Visitors are full of questions, and red vested OMS members gladly answer their numerous inquiries. Staff at the Hospitality Table assist visitors, and sell rock-related items. A dedicated group of OMS Chefs provides a first class barbecue dinner on Saturday evening. The Snack Bar staff cheerfully provides healthy food and drink throughout the three day event. Colorful specimens await those who visit the Fluorescent Room. Treasure hunters love our Country Store and its numerous goodies. Little ones pan for surprises at the Prospecting Adventure.



Bess and Gayle recalling past adventures

Our Gem Show is a time to share stories with old friends we value and admire. In past years, they have been where we now stand. They once ran the kitchen, set up the show, and accomplished the numerous jobs necessary to conduct a successful show. They deserve the place of honor! We owe them a debt of gratitude for keeping the spirit of the show alive when we hadn't even arrived on the scene. Those who came before us provided the vigor and vitality to attract newcomers like us.

Now it's our turn to work the show. But, even now, our old timers continue to volunteer at the welcome table, hand out grab bags, sell slices of pie, and provide information about our club. Their dedication is phenomenal!

I am grateful to be of service, and thankful to those who have gone before us. What an honor to be part of this 37th celebration of rockhounding! Happy Hunting, Love, Bess

Grab Bags

Our "Grab Bags" are packed, and ready for the Gem Show. These continue to be popular with the younger folks who visit our Show. But, Grab Bags don't just magically appear. It takes many people to produce them. Some sew the poke sacks together. Others tumble the stones. Some contribute little treasures, necklaces, shells, and surprises.

And, then there's the stuffing activity. Each Grab Bag is different, and each one has a variety of stones. Thank you to the following people who have contributed time, materials, and sewing expertise in this project: Helen Bishop, Sharon Duncan, Debbie Hood, Wes Lingerfelt, Bess Shields, Dick

Shields, Helen Smith, Fred Summerson, Lucky Virgin, Kay Vollmer, and Al Wilcox.

Official Stuff

OMS Purpose

Founded in 1958, and is named after William Orcutt, a geologist and civil engineer who worked in the Santa Maria Valley as a district manager for Union Oil Company in 1888. In 1889, Orcutt discovered the fossil wealth of the La Brea Tar Pits, one of the most significant fossil finds in paleontological history. The Society is a non-profit club, dedicated to stimulating an interest in rocks and minerals. The club offers educational programs, field trips, youth activities, and other opportunities for families and individuals to pursue an interest in collecting and lapidary treatment of rocks, fossils, gems, minerals, and other facets of Earth Sciences. In addition, a 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 purposes. Affiliations: California Federation of Mineralogical Societies and American Federation of Mineralogical Societies.



OMS Logo

A rock saw cutting a piece of stone was selected when the first bulletin, *ORE-CUTTS* (namesake, William Orcutt) was first published in 1966. Member Helen Azevedo was the first editor.

2004 OMS Elected Officers

President	Debbie Hood	(805) 481-6860
President Elect	Lucky Virgin	(805) 929-9525
Secretary	Bess Shields	(805) 937-0357
Treasurer	Wes Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788
Immediate Past President	Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495
CFMS Representative	Wes Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788

2004 OMS Board Members

Geary Sheffer	(805) 925-8009
Sylvia Nasholm	(805) 481-0923

Bill Hood	(805) 481-6860
Sharon Duncan	(805) 929-2209
Marshall Reeves	(805) 588-8932

Ore-Cutts Editors

Dick and Bess Shields	(805) 937-0357
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Webmasters

Dick Shields	(805) 937-0357
Wes Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788

Ore-Cutts Photo Credits: "Gold Bug" by John R. Waterson; all other photos by Dick Shields.

OMS Membership dues are \$15 per year. Junior Membership is \$7.50. New membership dues are pro-rated from January 1st of the first year.

Web Sites of Note:

August 2004

Opals:

<http://www.cigem.ca/415.html#scl10>

Rock Tumbling tips:

<http://www.rocks4u.com>

Simple Wire Wrap lesson:

<http://www.princetonol.com/Christa-wire.htm>

Beaded abalone cabochon:

<http://abalonebeadedcab.htm>

Quartzsite information website:

<http://www.quartzsitechamber.com/show.schedule.shtml>

BLM, Northern & Eastern Mojave Desert plan:

<http://www.ca.blm.gov/barstow/nemo.html>

California Federation of Mineralogical Societies:

<http://www.cfmsinc.org/>

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies:

<http://www.amfed.org/>

August 2004 Calendar

Tuesday August 3, 2004 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	OMS Board Meeting -- Mussell Senior Center. All members are welcome at this business meeting.
Friday - Sunday August 6-8, 2004 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM	37th Annual OMS Gem Show - St Joseph's Church, 298 South Thompson Avenue, Nipomo. For details go to http://www.omsinc.org/tailgate.html
Tuesday August 10, 2004 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	OMS General Meeting -- Mussell Senior Center <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program: OMS Gem Show Recap, Pictures from Show • Display: Agates from everywhere • Refreshment: Cookies
Saturday August 28, 2004 8:15 AM - 9:15 AM	OMS Monthly Breakfast - "Country Kitchen" in Santa Maria. Call Ken Kreh at 343-7749 for details.

September 2004 Calendar	
Tuesday September 7, 2004 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	OMS Board Meeting -- Mussell Senior Center. All members are welcome at this business meeting.
Saturday September 11, 2004 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM	Field Trip to Los Padres Forest -- Meet at Mussell Senior Center Parking Lot. Explore a local private ranch with an interesting green chert deposit and fossil shells. Accessible for 2 wheel drive vehicles and no hiking required. Bring lunch and water to drink.
Tuesday September 14, 2004 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	OMS General Meeting -- Mussell Senior Center. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program: "Lost Wax Casting" by Jan Ferguson • Display: Minerals - massive, crystalline, mysterious • Refreshment: Cake and Cupcakes
Saturday September 18, 2004 8:00 - 10:00 AM	OMS Highway Cleanup -- Intersection of Highway 101 and 166 After the cleanup we have coffee and pastry at the "Country Kitchen" in Santa Maria. Contact Marshall Reeves at 733-2775 for details.
Saturday September 25, 2004 8:15 AM - 9:15 AM	OMS Monthly Breakfast -- "Country Kitchen" in Santa Maria. Call Ken Kreh at 343-7749 for details.

October 2004 Calendar	
Tuesday October 5, 2004 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	OMS Board Meeting -- Sierra Vista Park. All members are welcome at this business meeting.
Tuesday October 12, 2004 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	OMS General Meeting -- Mussell Senior Center. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program: "Wired" by Sharon Duncan • Display: Rocks from 2002 - 2003 Field Trips • Refreshment: Pie

Saturday October 16, 2004 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM	Field Trip to Clear Creek -- Meet at Mussell Senior Center Parking Lot A long day to hunt in a prized California gem collecting area. We can find botryoidal jade, orbicular pieces of jasper, chatoyant material, serpentine, cinnabar, and turtle jade. Bring lunch and sturdy shoes for short hikes. We'll eat dinner out on the way home.
Saturday October 23, 2004 8:15 AM - 9:15 AM	OMS Monthly Breakfast -- "Country Kitchen" in Santa Maria. Call Ken Kreh at 343-7749 for details.

37th Annual OMS Gem Show

Earth's Treasures - Rocks - Minerals - Gems
Exhibits - Tailgaters - Demonstrations - Lapidary Equipment
St Joseph's Church
298 South Thompson Avenue
Nipomo, California

3 Big Days! 10 AM-5 PM

August 6th, 7th, 8th 2004

ONE-OF-A-KIND CRAFTED STONE
MERCHANDISE FROM ALL OVER THE
WORLD. ROCK BOTTOM PRICES!

RAFFLES! PRIZES!

FOOD ON SALE!

MONSTER SANTA MARIA STYLE BBQ ON
SATURDAY NIGHT ONLY \$7.50 FOR
ADULTS, \$3.50 FOR KIDS 12 AND UNDER.
Free Parking - Free Admission!

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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED