



Ore-Cutts

Volume XLIV Number 12

December 2008

Come join us on December 6, 2008 at 12:00 Noon at Santa Maria Terrace at 1405 East Main Street (was Maria Del Sol-new owners, new name-same place,) for the annual Dinner Meeting. We will have the installation of new officers, review this year's accomplishments, set goals for next year and transact any other necessary business. There will be a wonderful dinner (Cost \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children, guests are welcome, just call Bill Hood at 481-6860 and make reservations so they will know how many to plan for.)



This year we are going to do a gift exchange with a twist, so if you plan to participate please bring a wrapped gift with a value no more than \$10.00. For an explanation of how this exchange will work, please see Sylvia Nasholm's article in the October *Ore-cutts* (page 4.)

Because we are an incredibly blessed group of people who basically want for very little and have the time and energy to pursue the wonders of this Earth, we will be collecting for the following:

Please bring a donation of *non-perishable* food for the Salvation Army's food drive.

We will also be collecting for the Abused Children's Fund. We donate all proceeds to the Department of Children's Services...it is used to buy clothes, toiletries etc. for children in protective custody, as well as to provide for each child at least one Christmas gift and one gift on their Birthdays. It is also used to reinforce good behavior such as bringing up grades in school. It is an investment in our future as well as theirs, so please be generous!

Pres Box

Wayne Mills, President 2008

The November meeting was a success, as we accomplished our main goal of electing our officers for 2009. We also had a very professional and "enlightening" presentation on fluorescent rocks by our own Steve Riegel. He also brought some of his wonder fluorescent minerals to illustrate his talk.



Steve Reigle's "glow-rocks" (picture by Wayne Mills)

Our 1 x 1 contest was not as exciting as I had hoped, due to a lack of participation (we had four entries, and one of those didn't even know about the contest)! But I do want to thank those who did take the time to prepare an exhibit—Margaret Henson who put in some lovely polished thunderegg halves, Robert Cochrane who shared some of his recent rock work, a



Wayne Mills & Betty Kern's 1x1 displays (WM)

carved and planted stone bowl and heart, and Betty Kern, who commemorated our recent gold panning adventure in Coarsegold. My exhibit on "The Colors of Copper" won the award that I finished polishing earlier in the day—a piece of Clear

Creek Plasma Agate.

Bill and Debbie Hood have worked hard at setting up our Annual Meeting at the former Maria Del Sol (1405 E. Main Street, Santa Maria). That event will begin at noon on December 6, and food will be served at 12:30 followed by entertainment and our business meeting and

installation of officers for 2009. At last count, we had about 35 folks signed up for the event. When you see them, please thank Bill and Debbie for arranging this event for the past several years.

December marks the end of my 3rd (and last) term as president of OMS. I feel that we have had another successful year of sharing our knowledge of the earth sciences, supporting our community, and yes, even having some fun along the way. I want to give special thanks to a few of you who have given me additional support during a sometimes-difficult year. I urge your continued participation in our activities and support for our incoming President Deborah Hood. She is an old pro at being OMS President, as she has already served 4 terms as President Elect, and as of January 1, 2010, will have served more terms as President of OMS than any other person (4).

Florescence

Steve Riegel gave us a very enlightening and understandable program on the phenomenon of florescence in rocks and minerals. He also brought an awe-inspiring display of florescent rocks (*see illustration in Pres Box on page 1.*)

When exposed to ultra violet light (*energy*), the electrons in the atoms of some minerals are given a greater charge, which is then emitted at a different wavelength in the form of visible light. Metallic minerals are the exception, as they do not fluoresce.

Phosphorescence is a description of this process when there is no heat given off.

Tenebrescence refers to a color change in the mineral on exposure to Ultraviolet light. These minerals return to their original color on exposure to strong visible light.

Triboluminescence describes minerals that emit light when rubbed or crushed.

Thermoluminescence is the term for the phenomenon of minerals that emit light when heated. This is most often a one-time occurrence.

The various types of florescence are used extensively in mining and prospecting for ore bodies as well as ore separation.

There are three kinds of ultra violet light, low wave, medium wave and high wave. Most minerals will respond to short wave UV lamps and are the most used in mineralogy. Short and medium wave UV is harmful to skin and eyes, and one should always use protective glasses. When exhibiting UV fluorescing minerals in a case the observer is protected since UV does not pass through plate glass. Long wave UV is safe and will not harm the eyes.

Where can you find florescent minerals? Gem shows are good places to find them, you can trade with other

collectors via the Internet or e-Bay, and you can collect on fieldtrips. When collecting always obey the law, get permission to collect on private property. It is best to scout the area in the daylight, and mark hazards with day glow tape to prevent injuries. Always take extra batteries along, and be very careful about what you pick up, snakes, and scorpions also fluoresce.

Director's Report CFMS Meeting November 8, 2008

By Wes Lingerfelt

Once again Jeannie and I had the pleasure of getting up real early and flying the "Beamer" to Visalia, CA for the Fall Business Meeting of the California Federation. The weather was perfect since the Tule Fog was nowhere in sight. My radar detector went off as I rounded a corner near the CA198 interchange but luckily I was able to slow down before the CHP officer got a good lock on me. Other than a couple of bus loads of band students on their way to Pismo Beach over-crowding the restrooms at Kettleman City Chevron station, we had no problems going or returning from Visalia.

The meeting for the most part was routine and nothing exciting happened until we got to the Public Lands Access Committee (PLAC) report. Then we started discussing the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2008 (S. 3213). I told the group about the response our President-Elect received from our California Senator, which in essence said that we could use the desert so long as we owned a pack mule or a horse or two on our journeys into the desert. It was interesting to see the group have a "Deer in the Headlights" look as the seriousness of the situation began to sink in. There was the usual chatter about writing letters and everyone requesting form letters so they could say something intelligent. I expressed my opinion as to each person needs to write in their own words or make a phone call or two. I'm also of the opinion that at this time we are too late as the 180 or more individual Bills combined into this package are on a fast track to passage. Enjoy the desert while you can for tomorrow it will be closed forever. (*Editor's Note: The Omnibus Lands Bill has been temporarily shelved due to a perceived inability to get it passed. But the new Congress will have a different make up. There IS still time to write or call your representatives and request that recreational uses be allowed to continue without equine chaperonage.*)

Some of the highlights from the meeting follow:

1. New rules for Beading & Beadwork were accepted and will be used at the 2009 Show in Monterey.
2. The 2011 CFMS show will be in Redding, CA in the 3rd week of May (This date conflicts with the

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Camp Paradise Seminar). No resolution at this time.

3. The dues and insurance increase to \$8.00 per member was officially established.
4. I have in my possession a copy of the "2009 CFMS Supplementary Rules" if anyone wants a copy.
5. The Camp Paradise Earth Sciences Study session will be May 17 to May 23 2009. The Zzyzx Camp will move to November 15 through November 22 2009.

The session got off to a shaky start as there was difficulty in rounding up enough attendees to make a quorum. They had to count multiple club membership to "get'er done"! That is about it for this round. Thank you for listening!

Geology of the Central Coast: A Series—I Feel Pretty

By Wayne Mills

This series has tried to touch on different aspects of Central Coast geology that are unique to our area, but that have elements in common with geology around the world.

-Everywhere, weather causes the hardest of rocks to decompose and, over time, reduces the tallest of mountains to beach sediment.

-Everywhere, rivers collect rocks from within their drainage basin to allow the trained observer to determine that geological processes that have shaped the area.

-Everywhere, the highest rocks in a geological section are younger than the rocks underneath (principal of superposition), unless the area has been tectonically affected.



Jeannie L's "ET" Sagenite pin (picture by Wayne Mills)

-Everywhere, "pretty" rocks are where you find them, but what is "pretty" can vary from person to person.

Our Central Coast has many "pretty" rocks. Among the most abundant are the brecciated jaspers

(see Ore Cutts, June 2002) that occur from Santa Barbara to



Ralph Bishop's Limekiln Rhodonite sphere (Picture by Wayne Mills)

Monterey County. Much more scarce are the sagenite and marcasite agates from Nipomo and Jalama Beach. To many, the rose pink rhodonite from near Limekiln is one of our loveliest rocks, as are the blue, green and botryoidal jades that also occur in the area.



Botryoidal Jade from Jade Festival (Picture By Wayne Mills)

Some of the unusual biconoids from the Templeton area also deserve to be in this category. Honorable mention in the prettiest rocks category would have to go to the



Biconoids- from Rock and Gem Article on Grizelle's Collection

(hopefully tar free) brown travertine from Jalama Beach, the gem-quality whalebone from Jalama Beach, Atascadero Beach (and others), the

"mushroom" rhyolite found on San Simeon Beach,

and perhaps even the green Franciscan chert found from Big Sur to Santa Barbara County. At least it sure makes some handsome artifacts.

As I said, beauty is in the eye of the beholder. To me, one of the prettiest rocks I have seen come from our area is the concretion that our own Ralph Bishop found on the Gaviota Coast of Santa



Ralph Bishop's Shark Jaw (Picture by Wayne Mills)

Barbara County.

It contains a complete Miocene-aged shark's jaw (about 15 million years old) with lovely dark, shiny teeth with white bases set in fossilized cartilage. The jaw is about 18-inches long, and when



Sharon Duncan's cinnabar and jasper pieces (Picture by Wayne Mills)

it was shown to the paleontologists at Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History, it caused a quite a stir by disproving a prominent scientist's theory that the teeth (previously only found separately) represented three different species of *Isurus sp.* (Mako Shark).

My second-favorite local rock? I think it is a toss-up between the finest of the Stone Canyon brecciated jaspers, and the cinnabar stained jaspers from Pine Mountain.

November Breakfast

The November breakfast was held at the IHOP in Santa Maria. We had a good turn out, lots of good food and camaraderie. Jeannie Lingerfelt has been making wire-wrapped rings and brought them to show us, as well as pictures of a necklace and ear rings of Chrysocolla that she wire wrapped on commission, that are to be given to Alaska governor, Sarah Palin. WOW!

The drawing was for 2 stone doughnut pendants that were wire wrapped by Gloria Dana. The lucky winners were Rosie Bullock and Sandy Berthelot.

Many of the members there were later to be seen at the tailgate in Paso Robles organized by Cliff Brewen of the Santa Lucia Rockhounds. There were dealers with everything from tools & equipment to finished jewelry.

Sunshine

Our member, Karen Dry who now lives in Florida is recovering from Knee surgery and doing well. Elaine Von Achen is recovering from a bout of pneumonia. Lee Reyburn continues to recover from his surgery with a few small set backs along the way. Gloria & Don Dana are getting over their round with a bug. Mike Hensen is also recovering from a case of respiratory infection. Kay Vollmer continues to thrive in her new home in the L.A. area. *(If you have information concerning any member who is ill, hospitalized, or has had a death in the family, please contact our Sunshine person, Debbie Hood 481-6860.)*



The Highway is clean once more

By Wes Lingerfelt

It was a week late in coming but the crew finally gathered at the CA166 & US101 intersection for a bi-monthly cleaning. The process went quickly and smoothly due to a better than normal turnout. Those participating included: Wayne & Todd Mills, Don & Sylvia Nasholm, Wes, Jeannie and guest Marty Lingerfelt, Ralph Larson & guest Rod Pennington, Geary Sheffer, Steve Riegel, Stan and Brenna Ferguson. With such a large crew the work was finished quickly and we all (except for Wayne & Todd who had a prior commitment) headed for Francisco's for our well-earned

refreshments. The prize drawing this time was for a small bag of Herkimer Diamonds from New York. Ralph Larson took home the prize. We discussed what was found on the roadside and it was pretty amazing what turns up out there. It was great to have a joyful time with plenty of camaraderie. If you aren't participating you are missing a lot of fun. Please join us!



Anniversaries & Birthdays

Very happy returns of the day go out to who have birthdays this month to Truman Burgess, Sandy Berthelot,

Richard Dry, Peggy Johnsen, & Lee Reyburn.

Anniversary congratulations are in order to Bob & Rosie Bullock, Paul & Marie Howard, and to Robert Schrum and his wife. May you all have many, many more!



“Underwater volcano off Central Coast gets national protection”

By Paul Rogers – *The Mercury News* 11/20/2008

Said Bill Douros, West Coast regional director for the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Its slopes are thick with coral forests that grow 10 feet high. Fields of colorful sponges cover its rocky outcroppings. And marine mammals that until recently had never been seen by scientists teem all around it. On Thursday, a giant underwater volcano off California's Central Coast that some have compared to an aquatic "Lost World," was given national protection.

Davidson Seamount stands 7,546 feet above the ocean floor, in pitch black waters about 80 miles southwest of Monterey. Until eight years ago, almost nothing was known about it, largely because its summit sits 4,000 feet below the surface of the Pacific Ocean.

But as marine biologists began to send unmanned submarines to explore it, they found a pristine environment rich with life, from red crabs with spindle legs to anemones that close like Venus flytraps.

"We were astounded to discover the variety of life, and particularly the size of the animals," said Dave Clague, a geologist with the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI) in Moss Landing. "Some of the corals are truly huge. The big pink bubble gum corals get at least 10 feet tall. And they are hundreds of years old. We'd never seen anything like that."

On Thursday, the Bush administration published final regulations to expand the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary by 14 percent to include Davidson Seamount. The first such expansion since Congress and President Bush's father established the sanctuary in 1992, the newly protected waters total 775 square miles — an area more than half the size of Yosemite National Park.

All offshore oil drilling is banned in the Monterey sanctuary, which stretches from the Marin headlands near the Golden Gate Bridge along 276 miles of coastline to Hearst Castle. With the new boundaries, the drilling ban will be extended to Davidson Seamount, as will other regulations prohibiting harmful fishing practices, mining and other exploitation.

Scientists from MBARI and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration have conducted 14 expeditions to Davidson Seamount since 2000. They have collected dozens of samples of corals, sponges, clams, fish and other marine life on which to perform DNA tests and other experiments, using remotely operated vehicles, or ROV's. But 99 percent of the seamount remains unexplored. "We see whatever we can catch in the lights of an ROV. It's like sampling the Sierra Nevada only by what we can see from headlights of a car. It will take a long time to fully explore it all," said the NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries.

The area was not included among the sanctuary's original boundaries, he said, because "in 1992, it was simply a point on a chart. Nobody had ever been there or seen it."

The seamount last had a volcanic eruption 9.8 million years ago. Another eruption is highly unlikely, Clague said. If it did erupt, lava would remain below the surface.

The rules giving the seamount permanent protection will become final in mid-March, with no changes unless Congress orders them, which is not expected.

They were part of a package of new NOAA regulations updating the management plans for three California marine sanctuaries: Monterey Bay, Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank.

The plans also set strict new rules for personal watercraft, known commonly as jet skis, so that the crafts, which environmentalists say harass otters and other wildlife, are confined to four small areas, and can only be used in winter months to tow in surfers to Maverick's, the area off Half Moon Bay known for its massive waves.

The new rules also ban cruise ships from dumping any sewage in sanctuary waters. And they ban all forms of shark chumming, a practice of dumping blood into the water by thrill seekers and filmmakers to attract great white sharks but one that can endanger surfers.

The sanctuary expansion adds to the ocean legacy of President Bush. Bush has drawn sharp criticism from environmentalists for relaxing oil drilling rules and other conservation laws.

In 2006, he created the largest protected marine area in the world, off the northern Hawaiian Islands, and also has pushed measures to ban shark finning and to protect the Florida Everglades.

"Although he hasn't been widely considered an

environmental president, he does have a history of some leadership on ocean issues," said Kaitilin Gaffney, a program manager with the Ocean Conservancy in Santa Cruz.

"To me, the Davidson Seamount is the classic crown jewel that the sanctuary program was set up to protect. It's just spectacular."

Writing Letters To Your Representatives

By Debbie Hood

You're finally mad enough and you are going to write your Congressman? Good idea. But it is usually difficult for most people to figure out what to say, how to say it, and where to start. Those who think members of Congress pay no attention to their constituent's letters are wrong. Concise, well thought out personal letters are one of the most effective ways Americans have of influencing their lawmakers. It is always better, and more effective to write your own letter rather than use a form letter or one of those e-mail form letters, but even a form letter beats doing nothing but whining and crying. Here are some tips that will help your letter have impact.

First of all, to whom should you write to do the most good? It's usually best to send letters to the Representative from your local Congressional District and the Senators from your state. Your vote helps elect them -- or not -- and that fact alone carries a lot of weight. Mass-mailings to all Members of Congress rarely have much impact, and Congressional courtesy demands that those letters be sent to on your representative, alienating the staffers who have to do the extra work.

Congressional offices have staffers whose days are spent solely on the mail, so make their lives easier by keeping your letter short and to the point. The best letters are courteous, address only one subject, and include specific supporting examples.

What Should Your Letter Say? It should address a single topic or issue. Typed, one-page letters are best. Say who you are and why you are writing (If you want a response, you must include your name and address, even when using email.)

I think the three paragraph rule works best: introduce yourself; introduce your issue, request action.

Introduce Yourself: There is a two-prong test for determining your worth: (a.) Are you a constituent? (b) Are you an important constituent? Feel free to puff up your chest but stick to reality. Are you a lifelong member of the district? Are you associated with community groups? Say so! If it's relevant, describe your



"credentials" or experience. Convince the reader that yours is a voice of experience and wisdom.

Tell them what you are going to tell them. In the first paragraph, explain your reason for writing (one single subject or issue). If you are writing about a particular bill, use its House or Senate bill number and/or title.

In the middle paragraph(s), discuss the issue and explain your stand. Frame your discussion in a national, rather than a personal perspective. Cite relevant facts, avoiding emotionalism. If you support a particular bill, say so, and why. If you are writing in opposition, include specific examples of how the measure would adversely affect you, and suggest an alternative approach if possible. Give the legislator information he or she can use, including what you are hearing from other legislators and from people back home. Be yourself. If you are copying a model letter, put it into your own words. Avoid jargon, slang, big words, words that you are not positive of their meaning and acronyms.

Be specific and practical. Don't just ask a Member to oppose mandatory binding arbitration agreements. Ask them to rush to the floor to **support S.1782**, The Arbitration Fairness Act of 2007. Relate the points of your message to your experience and/or the Member's committee assignments and/or constituents' interests. Your argument—and you are making an argument—must be supported by facts.

Feel free to use facts gleaned from other sources, but don't copy and paste paragraphs of pre-written text from form letters. Your own experiences are most effective, and often very moving. Share them! Provide details. Give specific rather than general information about how the topic affects you and others. If a certain bill is involved, cite the correct title or number whenever possible. Try to show an understanding of both the issue and the legislative process, so that your message will be taken more seriously. For example, name the bill's sponsoring Member(s), and/or whether the bill is supported/opposed by the President. If you want a response, explicitly (but politely) ask for one.

Close by requesting the action you want taken: a vote for or against a bill, or change in general policy. In a few words restate what you told them and request - not demand - a specific action.

Thank the member for taking the time to read your letter. Thank the Member for his/her consideration of your views. Offer assistance. Ask a question (needing more than just a Yes/No answer). This requires a response. **Be Exceedingly Polite, Please:** *Never* use insults, vulgarity, profanity, or threats. The first three are just plain rude and the fourth one can get you a visit from the Secret Service. Simply stated, don't let your passion

get in the way of making your point. You are trying to rally them to your cause, so be nice. Above all, be brief!

Do not fail to include your name and address, even in email letters. It should go without saying that your letter should follow all formal style guidelines, such as a return name and address, and should be free of spelling and grammatical errors.

Addressing Members of Congress, Send Your Letter To The Right Place: Send your letter care of the staffer covering the issue. These staffers - called Legislative Assistants - are the Member's eyes and ears on their assigned issue areas. Finding the staffer who will read your letter is easy: call the Capitol switchboard (open 24 hours a day!) at (202) 224-3121, ask for your Member's office, and ask the person who answers for the name of the staffer handling the issue area or bill number. Once you get that name, address your letter like this:

To Your Senator:

The Honorable (full name)
c/o Staffer
(Room #) (Name) Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510
Dear Senator

To Your Representative:

The Honorable (Full name)
c/o Staffer
(Room #) (Name) House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
Dear Representative

The above addresses should be used in email messages, as well as those sent through the Postal Service. The addresses for your Representatives and Senators were published in your 2008 **OMS Redbook** and in **Orecutts** November, 2008. Use your complete return address.

Many members of Congress keep one or more offices in their home states where they can also be contacted. These addresses are typically listed on the members' web sites. Or you can check Email Addresses & Web Sites for Congress, it is a massive project of the University of Michigan Library Documents Center, and the information is priceless.

Send your letter to the Capitol, where the legislative staff is based, though it will take a while to arrive since all incoming Congressional mail is irradiated thanks to the pinhead that mailed Anthrax laced letters.

Timing: a letter sent months before an issue is considered is likely to be forgotten; one sent after Congress acts is a missed opportunity. Time your letter to arrive in the month before a bill is due to come up for a

vote. Most Congressional mail arrives on Monday, Tuesday or Friday

For an even greater impact, Follow-up. Write back! React to the Member's response. This is a two-way communication. Follow up your Congressman's response (or lack thereof) with another brief letter, regardless of the position they have taken. If your Member agrees with you, send a letter of thanks for his or her stand. If your Member disagrees with your position, reply with a brief letter quoting the section of his letter with which you take issue, restate your position, and supply individual additional evidence to support it. Maintain an extended, informed dialog with your Congressman. And don't forget Elected officials are people too, and they like to be told when they've done something right. Send a congratulatory note when they do something that merits approval.

Keep it up! Don't get discouraged
(With assistance from About.Com: U S Government Info)

Earthquake fault discovered offshore of Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant

By David Sneed – *The Tribune*, Friday, November 21, 2008

Pacific Gas & Electric Co. officials announced today that they have discovered a new earthquake fault offshore of Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant in San Luis Obispo County.

The presence of the fault was discovered using new computer programming that allows geologists to better map the epicenters of the many small magnitude earthquakes in the area, said Lloyd Cluff, head of PG&E's earthquake risk management program, in a summary sent to the California Energy Commission earlier this week.

The new fault is thought to be smaller than the other fault off the plant's coastline, the Hosgri fault, but it is closer to shore. The new fault is less than a mile offshore while the Hosgri fault is about three miles offshore.

"Currently, the available geophysical data is not sufficient to definitely classify the offshore feature as a major fault, although a minor fault could exist," Cluff wrote in a notice published earlier this week.

The new fault is described as a vertical strike-slip fault. The two sides of such faults move horizontally. It is estimated to be from nearly two miles to more than eight miles below the Earth's surface and from nine to more than 15 miles long and could intersect the Hosgri fault.

"Based on this dimension, the magnitude of a rupture along the full 25 kilometer (15.5 miles) would be about 6.5," wrote Cluff in his report.

The utility is planning on doing additional geophysical surveys in the spring and summer of 2009, which will provide additional information about the fault, Cluff said in the report.

Turkish scientist discovers new mineral in Antarctica

From:

http://www.worldbulletin.net/news_detail.php?id=30538

A Turkish chemical engineer has discovered a new mineral species on earth and named it "Meridianiite." Wednesday, 29 October 2008 11:15 Dr. Elif Genceli, who works as a chemical engineer at Delft University of Technology in the Netherlands, told the story of new discovery to A.A. " In 2005, I found out that the formula of the mineral was registered wrong in the scientific literature. It should be found naturally on earth to prove that the molecule was a mineral. So, I thought that it could be found in Antarctic glaciers. I went to Japan in 2007 and I discovered this mineral in a pond in Hokkaido Island and in an Antarctic glacier," Genceli said. Genceli said later she learned that the mineral was also discovered by Ron Peterson, a professor who works for NASA, in northern Canada on the trunk of a tree. She said the International Mineralogical Association (IMA) registers the discovery for both her and Peterson. Meridianiite is stable below 2 degrees Celsius and it melts above 2 degrees, incongruently to slurry of epsomite and water. Magnesium sulfate minerals are thought to exist in the soils at Gusev crater and elsewhere on the Martian surface.

Orcutt Mineral Society Board Meeting Elwin Mussell Sr. Center, Santa Maria, Ca. November 4, 2008

The Meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by President, Wayne Mills.

Board members present were Elaine Von Achen, Debbie Hood, Wayne Mills, Wes Lingerfelt, Sylvia Nasholm, Sandy Berthelot, Mike Henson and Gloria Dana. Guests included Bill Hood and Paul Berthelot.

Minutes from the October 7, 2008 board meeting were approved as printed in the November 2008 newsletter.

Correspondence: Elaine Von Achen reported receiving newsletters from South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society and San Geronio Mineral & Gem Society.

Treasurer's Report: Wes Lingerfelt read the treasurer's report. The report was accepted as read.

Committee Reports:

Adopt-a-Highway: Wayne Mills announced that the next clean-up will be held on November 8, 2008 at 8:00 a.m. We will meet at Highways 101 and 166.

Annual Christmas Luncheon and Meeting: Bill Hood reported that we have 32 people signed up so far. Debbie said she would appreciate advanced payments as it frees her up at the meeting if everyone has pre-paid.

Monthly Breakfast: Gloria Dana reported that the November breakfast would be held at the IHOP Restaurant in Santa Maria on November 22 at 9:30 a.m.

Refreshments: We are in need of a refreshment committee chairman to replace the vacancy left by Dee Dee Magri. If anyone has any interest in this committee we could use the help.

Membership: Elaine Von Achen read an application for membership from Paulette Mireles. Wayne made a motion that we accept Paulette for membership. Debbie Hood seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Sunshine: Debbie reported that Lee Reyburn has been a pretty sick guy. He had a ruptured appendix and spent some time in the hospital. He is home now and doing better.

Scholarship: None

Bulletin: Debbie Hood showed us the revised last page of the bulletin and shared how she planned to staple it so that it should pass through the post office machines without tearing it apart. Wayne Hood noted that he neglected to mention, in his article on the club show case in Cayucos, that Margaret Henson had a piece of graveyard point agate. He apologized for the oops.

Old Business:

Wes Lingerfelt agreed to make up the programs for the Annual Luncheon. He also agreed to purchase the poinsettias for the table decorations. Everyone was reminded that we would be having the canned goods drive again this year.

Wayne Mills called for nominations for the following slate of officers for 2009:

- President – Debbie Hood
- President Elect – Sylvia Nasholm
- Secretary – Elaine Von Achen
- Treasurer – Wes Lingerfelt
- Board Members – Gloria Dana, Sharon Duncan,

Sandy Berthelot, Mike Henson and Jan Ferguson.

He called thrice and nominations were closed for this meeting.

Wayne announced that the program for the November General Meeting will be given by Steve Riegel and will be on "Fluorescent Minerals". The display will be any 1x1 display. We will vote for our favorite display and a prize will be awarded.

New Business:

CFMS News – Wes Lingerfelt noted that the Earth Science Studies held at Camp Paradise will be held May 17 through the 23, 2009. Cost is \$350 per person per week. Reservations must be in prior to April 26th or a \$25.00 late fee will occur.

Wes also encouraged board members to read an article in the CFMS newsletter regarding calling our organization a society rather than a club. It has to do with being incorporated as a non-profit.

Mike Henson made mention that Margaret had attended a gem show in Whittier and that they had a raffle every two hours rather than at the end of the day as OMS does.

Wes reported that he has five golden bear with gavel pins in stock. Debbie will get one, as she didn't receive hers last year.

Member dues to AFMS have increased from \$7.50 to \$8.00 per member. The breakdown is \$6.00 for insurance and \$2.00 dues. Both AFMS and CFMS raised the dues by \$0.25 each. There was discussion about possibly having to raise OMS dues.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m. by president, Wayne Mills.

Respectfully submitted:

Elaine Von Achen, Secretary, OMS

Orcutt Mineral Society General Meeting Elwin Mussell Sr. Center, Santa Maria, Ca. November 11, 2008

President Wayne Mills called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. Wayne Mills gave the invocation.

Margaret Henson led the flag salute.

Elaine Von Achen read the minutes of the November 4, 2008 Board Meeting. Minutes were approved as read.

Correspondence:

Elaine Von Achen reported newsletters received from Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society, South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society and San Gorgonio Mineral & Gem Society.

Treasurer's report:

Wes Lingerfelt gave the treasurer's report. It was accepted as given.

Committee Reports:

Hospitality: Sharon Duncan announced 38 members and 9 guests. Guests included Rod Ness, Joe Martines, Alan Chavez, Samer Momani, Jack Landis, Debbie Buchert, Mary McKay, Sharon Etchchuky and Jack Fresold.

Abused Children: Jan Ferguson has a slag glass sphere from Holbrook, Arizona, donated by Don and Sylvia Nasholm, as this evening's door prize.

Adopt-a-Highway: Wayne Mills, Bob Bullock, Don and Sylvia Nasholm all showed up and ready to work on the assigned date and the clean up had to be re-scheduled for November 15 at 8:00 a.m. We asked for a show of hands and quite a few people responded so we should have a good turn out for the 15th. Wayne noted that Cal Trans is requiring workers to have new vests after the 24th of November. They are currently on order and should be here before the next scheduled clean up.

Annual December Luncheon Meeting: Bill Hood said everything is set for the 6th and we will meet at 12:00 with lunch being served at 12.30. Sylvia Nasholm went over the rules for the gift exchange. Members should bring a wrapped, rock related gift worth at least \$10.00. Numbers will be drawn and a member will pick out a gift. We will allow two "steals" and the gift will go to the last person to choose it. It sounds like fun but members are not obligated to participate.

Monthly Breakfast: Debbie Hood noted that the November breakfast would be held at the IHOP restaurant in Santa Maria on November 22 at 9:30 p.m.

Bulletin: Debbie Hood announced that November's bulletin had been mailed and was also on the web.

CFMS: Wes Lingerfelt attended the Federation Meeting. He reported that the main topic of conversation was the Omnibus Bill/Paleontology Act and that amazement on the part of members was shown. Apparently many were unaware of the bill. The fossil protection act will make the sale, trade, exchange or barter of vertebrate fossils illegal. They are also striving to close off desert lands to collecting.

Education: Wes Lingerfelt said he had given two programs for about 60 students each at the Nipomo Elementary School and Dana Elementary School. Each student received a bag of rocks.

Membership: Elaine Von Achen welcomed Paulette Miereles and Kim Noyes as new members.

Door Prize: Bob Bullock has all kinds of items this month from crystals to fossils.

Refreshments: The evening's refreshment was cookies donated by Paulette Miereles, Margaret Henson, Don Nasholm, Jo Ellen Chrones and Elaine Von Achen.

Scholarship: Wayne Mills said that he and Betty Kerns would be attending a Scholarship Donor Reception at Hancock College.

Sunshine: Mike Henson and Don and Gloria Dana have all had colds. Lee Rebyburn is still not up to par.

Ore-Cutts

Old Business: Wayne Mills apologized to Margaret Henson for omitting her name in the newsletter. She had shown some Grave Yard Point agate in the club showcase in Cayucos.

Wayne called for the election of new officers and board for the 2009 term as follows:

- President – Debbie Hood
- President Elect – Sylvia Nasholm
- Secretary – Elaine Von Achen
- Treasurer – Wes Lingerfelt
- Board Members – Gloria Dana, Sharon Duncan, Sandy Berthelot, Mike Henson, Jan Ferguson

Members voted by a show of hands and the voting was unanimous.

Wayne also announced that our display for the evening was a 1 x 1 of any thing you would like to share and that we would be voting on the displays. He encouraged members to be sure to cast their votes for their favorite display.

New Business:

Wayne announced that December’s board meeting would be on the 2nd and asked both the old and new boards to attend.

The meeting was adjourned by President, Wayne Mills at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Elaine Von Achen, Secretary, OMS

Saturday Dec 13, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.	Field Trip to be announced
	OMS Monthly Breakfast-There will be no breakfast in Dec.
January 2009 Calendar	
Tuesday January 6, 2009 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting- All members are welcome at this business meeting.
Tuesday January 13, 2009 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.	OMS General Meeting-Elwin Mussell Senior Center. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program • - Display- • Refreshments-Do-Nuts
Saturday January 17, 2009 8:00 am to 5:00 pm	Field Trip To Be Announced
Saturday January 24, 2009 8:15 to 9:15 a.m.	OMS Monthly Breakfast- To be announced
Saturday January 31, 2009 8:00 to 10:00 a.m.	Roadside Clean up After the cleanup, coffee and pastry at "Francisco's Country Kitchen" in Santa Maria.

SHOP TIPS: Working Seashells

Author unknown

Working with current Seashells vs. fossilized ones and particularly with clams and mussels, you are apt to find a deep brown to black horny layer on the outside of the shells. With it on the shell, the under colors and patterns cannot be seen. Recently I tried to clean a dozen or so shells that had come from the local market as stuffed clams on the half shell. Using the suggestion of photographer Erica Van Pelt, I soaked the shells for a day in a solution of four parts water to one part laundry bleach. This weak hydrochloric acid frothed away and, with a second day in a fresh solution, cleared away 99% of the horny coating. A scrubbing with course steel wool cleared off a bit more. The acid bath didn't seem to affect the inner surface of the shell but left the outer surface a bit dull. A double shot of quick drying Krylon Crystal Clear Acrylic spray brought out or brought back the shells' colors and smoothness

December 2008 Calendar

Tuesday Dec. 2, 2008 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting-Elwin Mussell Senior Center. All members are welcome at this business meeting.
Saturday Dec 6, 2008 12:00 Noon to 3:00p.m.	OMS Annual Meeting At Santa Maria Terrace (Maria Del Sol) Bring donations of Canned good for Salvation Army and \$ for Abused Children’s Fund, and a gift for the exchange if you are going to participate.

CFMS Show Schedule 2008

December 13 - 14 2008, San Bernardino, CA

Orange Belt Mineralogical Society
Hernandez Recreation Center
2nd & Sierra Way, SB
Hours: 9-5 both days
Lyle Strayer (909) 887-3394

January 17-18 2009, Exeter, CA

Tule Gem & Mineral Society
Exeter Memorial Bldg.
420 N Kaweah, Exeter
Hours: Sat. 10 - 5, Sun. 10-4
Margaret Buchmann (599) 739-0401
Email: mab@mindinfo.com
Web page: tulegem.org

March 7 - 8 2009, Ventura, CA

Ventura Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.
47th Annual Gem, Mineral, Lapidary & Fossil Show
Seaside Park
Ventura County Fairgrounds
Hours: Sat. 10 - 5, Sun. 10-4
Website: <http://www.vgms.org>

March 13, 14, 15 2009, Stoddard Wells, CA

Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club
33rd Annual Tailgate
Held off Stoddard Wells Road in Apple Valley
Hours: 10-5 Daily
Tailgate Map (Google):
N34.670650 W117.108983
(760) 243-2330
Website: www.vvgms.org



Ore-Cutts

Check out our OMS web site at <http://omsinc.org>
or send e-mail to info@omsinc.org.

OMS Membership (dues) is \$18 per year. Junior memberships (under 18) are \$9 per year. Membership dues are due January 1, and are prorated for new members for each month thereafter. Membership Chairperson is Elaine Von Achen (805) 929-1488

2008-OMS Officers

Pres.	Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495
Pres. Elect	Debbie Hood	(805) 481-6860
Secretary	Elaine Von Achen	(805) 929-1488
Treasurer	Wes Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788
Immed. Past Pres.	Debbie Hood	(805) 481-6860
Federation. Rep.	Wes Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788

2008-OMS Board Members

Sharon Duncan	(805) 478-9359
Sylvia Nasholm	(805) 481-0923
Sandy Berthelot	(805) 349-3977
Gloria Dana	(805) 929-6429
Mike Henson	(805) 934-1308

ORE-CUTTS (named after, William Orcutt) was published in 1966. Member Helen Azevedo was the first editor Orcutt Mineral Society was founded in 1958, and was 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, William Orcutt discovered the mineral and fossil wealth of the La Brea Tar Pits on the property of Captain Alan Hancock. The La Brea Tar Pits are one of the most significant fossil finds in paleontological history. The OMS is a non-profit club 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



OMS Editor

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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