



Ore-Cutts

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December 2015

The Pres Box—December 2015

Dyanna Cridelich, OMS President 2015



Hello everyone! It's December and I can't believe how the year has flown by. It is quickly coming to a close and with it, my term as your President. I've really enjoyed being OMS President and have learned a lot and gotten to know and appreciate all of you hearty souls. I would like to thank all of you who helped plan

and who participated in the various activities of 2015. To those of you who brought desserts, displays and door prizes to the meetings, who attended highway cleanup, who spent endless hours insuring a successful show and to those of you who helped in numerous unsung ways: Please know that I am eternally grateful for your support and generosity.

Our last two events for the year will be the joint board meeting of our outgoing and incoming officers on December 1st at 7:00pm at the Nipomo Chamber of Commerce, 239 W. Tefft Street in Nipomo, and on December 12th at 12:00pm, we are having our annual meeting/Christmas luncheon at the Madonna Inn in SLO.

If you haven't already done so, don't forget to purchase a ticket for the luncheon before November 30th. Tickets will not be sold at the door. Tickets are \$10.00 for members and \$20.00 for guests and can be purchased from Elaine Von Achen at 805-801-3926.

The luncheon will be a lot of fun with excellent food and great camaraderie. If you are planning on participating in the gift exchange, don't forget to bring your wrapped, lapidary-related gift, worth \$10.00. This is always a highlight of the day and you may pick something really great. We will be collecting canned goods for the Salvation Army and Jan Ferguson will be collecting for the Abused Children's Fund as well. We will also have the installation of officers for the 2016-year.

Congratulations to our new president, Alexis Van Natta and to our new president-elect, Wayne Mills. This is a dynamic duo and I'm sure they will bring much experience and exciting energy to the Orcutt Mineral Society. I'm expecting great things from them. Come give them a hearty welcome for the New Year and lots of support and help in 2016.

Again, I'm sending a big **Thank You** to all our members for your help and support. I hope to see many of you at our upcoming annual meeting.

Here's wishing everyone a very warm, happy, healthy and peaceful holiday season.

Dyanna



SUNSHINE

Jeannie Lingerfelt

We were happy to see Lucky Virgin at our November meeting—he appears to be continuing to heal from his treatments for bone marrow deficiency.

If you have good or bad news that you would be willing to share with our members, please notify Jeannie Lingerfelt and Wayne Mills.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



Birthday greetings go out to those folks who are having Birthdays and Anniversaries in

DECEMBER

Birthdays

Jeanne Brown	12/1
Truman Burgess	12/6
Renae Sutcliffe	12/15
Sandy Berthelot	12/16
Peggy Johnson	12/22
Lee Reyburn	12/23
Samantha Schmidt	12/28

Anniversaries

Bob Bullock	12/9
Sir Paul Howard	12/10
Pat Nurenborg	12/28

Congratulations!

*If you don't see your name here when you should, then the information is not in **The Red Book**. Please write your important dates down and give them to Wayne Mills so they will be included in the next edition (2016).*

COPPER IN THEM THAR HILLS

Story and pictures by Wayne Mills



November's program was given by OMS Honorary Lifetime Member, Ralph Bishop. Ralph covered various depositional environments for copper, and presented some drool producing commentary about some of the World's finest copper deposits. Copper's affinity for limestone (*calcium*

carbonate) has created some of the lapidarist's favorite cutting rock—green Malachite and azure blue Azurite—both minerals being *copper carbonate*.

Members who attended Ralph's rousing talk now know the location of a fabulous deposit of metallic ores that have been included in the Mojave Desert exclusion area at the whim of a BLM Supervisor. Ralph's talk was a fleeting look at a copper mine that few may ever again

have the opportunity to visit. One of Ralph's funniest lines was when he was describing how the Mayor of San Diego willed the Copper World mine to the Catholic Church—“Oh Jeezus!” Ralph commented...

VESTED INTEREST

Wayne Mills

We have several new members without our signature red vests. We have had at least one request to get a vest. If memory serves me, there is a vest pattern floating around somewhere, perhaps one that belonged to the club. So, if anyone has a vest pattern hat belongs to the club. Please return it. If anyone has a pattern and is willing to make a vest for the cost of time and materials. **Please let me know!** We might be able to send some business your way.

BEST 1 X 1 at NOVEMBER MEETING

Pictures and text by Wayne Mills, Ore Cutts Editor

Our November display is (semi-) traditionally the **Best 1'x 1' Display** as judged by the members present at the meeting. This year we had 9 displays, by my count the most displays of any meeting this year. Deciding which display was

“the best” was hard as evidenced by the fact that the competition ended in a tie between John Von Achen's lovely local



rocks (polished sagenite and marcasite from Nipomo), and Jeannie Lingerfelt's wonderful wire-wrapped cabochons from the North Cady Mts. The tie was broken by a show of hands from the audience, and Jeannie won by one vote. Jeannie's prize

was a ~4” sphere of Morgan Hill Poppy Jasper donated by her husband Wes. Talk about “keeping things in the Family!”



APPLY FOR ZYZZX!!

The earliest you can apply for CFMS Earth Science Camp Zyzzx (March 27- April 3, 2016) is Midnight December 31, 2015. Deadline for application is March 1, 2016 (but all the spaces will be taken well before then). Get your application on the CFMS Website at: <http://www.cfmsinc.org/> (CFMS Calendar 2016)

SAVING STAMPS

By Wayne Mills—Incoming Federation Director

One tidbit I picked up at the recent Federation meeting is that the CFMS is saving stamps for the **Easter Seal Foundation**. Apparently once a year the Easter Seals hosts an event where they dump all the stamps they have received on a table, and philatelists who have paid for the privilege dive on the pile. CFMS gets nothing out of it save helping a fellow non-profit. So, please save your postage stamps, and if anyone inherits a stamp collection they don't want and can't sell, please bring them to me—it's for a good cause.

CFMS DIRECTORS MEETING

11/14/2015

By Wes Lingerfelt

I arrived at the home of Wayne Mills at 5:45am to begin the journey to Visalia, CA. No problems with weather were encountered except for some Tule Fog in Lemoore, CA. We stopped for breakfast in Kettleman City at the new Denny's restaurant and still made it to the meeting place at the Visalia Airport motel now called The Windham Hotel by 8:30am. I began taking Wayne through the steps of checking in and picking up the reports and show packet for 2016 CFMS Convention and show.

The meeting was the usual agenda consisting of 57 items. The following are the highlights:

1. The 2015 Lodi, CA show did very well.
2. The 2017 show will be an AFMS/CFMS event in Ventura, CA.
3. The 2016 CFMS 3 day show will be in Placerville, CA and is in conjunction with the 2016 World Gold Panning Championships show which lasts 8 days. September 16th, 17th and 18th, 2016 are dates for the next CFMS Show. The next Directors meeting will be the 17th of September, 2016.
4. There is an increase in the Program Library fee. It is now \$10.00 to rent items from the library.

5. The CFMS is recommending that clubs with storage lockers or a club house where equipment is stored purchase separate insurance against loss from the CFMS insurance agency. Currently we only have liability which does not cover any losses.
6. The election of officers for 2016 included the following:
President – John Martin
1st VP/President Elect – Margaret Kolaczyk
2nd VP – Kim Erb
Secretary – Louisa Carey
Treasurer – Tony Fender
7. There were no new club applications and there was one club who has folded (Bay Area Searchers) so our club number went from 58 to 57 at the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30pm so we stopped at the Denny's in Kettleman City again for lunch. I recommend the ½ sandwich and soup which we both enjoyed.

COPPER TURTLES

By Ralph Bishop--Honorary Member of the Orcutt Mineral Society. Photo of Copper World turtle carving by Wes Lingerfelt.



This is the story of a desolate place, a box canyon parched by the sun where water is a mirage of the past that holds fond memories and freedom lost. Although in this defile of dust and stone where life

holds only forlorn hope, there is fleeting beauty in the brilliance of its lunar display and the pastels of sunset and sunrise – and for rockhounds - the vivid colors held in veins of gem azurite and malachite of exceptional quality exposed in the limestone escarpment of the Clark Mountains that lies just above the desert floor.

I first learned of this location by an abandoned copper mine named Copper World on a particularly stormy rain soaked winter dodging sea spray and tidal surges at Willow Creek from an old timer named Bud. Soaked and feeling like drowned jade rats we were able to rock hop the slippery beach boulders back to the car just ahead of wind whipped roiling clouds with a fair amount of Jade. Cold to the point of having the shakes we drove to the coffee shop on Highway 1 at Gorda perched on a cliff 1000 feet above the Pacific as a strong gust pelted us with a wall of rain. Dripping wet, we both in unison ordered "Coffee, Hot Coffee" before we even sat down at

a window seat. It was obvious by the horizontal rain we were lucky to have gotten off the beach, a beach notorious for rogue waves, when we did. Because of his age I was a little worried about Bud through the first cup, Bud was a tough old fart, part of the greatest generation. As the steam rose above the second cup the wind howled shaking the windows in their old frames, he began remembering his childhood on Agate Beach on the Oregon coast. "Storms always give up the best rock", he said. "I almost drowned twice when I was a kid but nothing has changed. You either go when the conditions are right or you don't find much." "You're right as rain," I laughed. "But right about now I'd give my kingdom for dust and sunburn."

The months through winter and spring faded in time and then one summer day Bud called me. "Say, do you still want dust and sunburn?" "Sure", I said. "Well the boys and I are headed out to Copper World next week."

On the appointed day Santa Maria was socked in with a dripping fog. I didn't need a weather man to tell me when the Coast is beset by fog it would be a scorcher inland but Bud said where we would be it would be 67.5 degrees. "Yeah, right", I replied. "Well, I'll bet you the best rock you find I'm right." "I'll pass", I said. I knew better than to bet this particular old fart. This wily olé boy had driven plenty of turnip trucks and I wasn't going to be bounced off. We broke out of the fog bank 10 miles east of town but the air conditioner blunted the reality of what lay ahead until we dropped off the Tehachapi Grade onto the barren Mojave Desert floor. The desert floor was a shimmer of heat that even blurred out the bases of the Creosote bushes so that their upper foliage seemed to be floating. A few crows sat on the power lines mouths open and their wings spread out. Time passed slowly as we passed rocky mountains and the vast alkaline sinks between them. The white shimmer reflected the blue sky and these vast areas truly appeared to be water, a visual reincarnation of the interconnected lakes that spread westward from Death Valley to Mojave fed by Ice Age glacial melt; ghostly apparitions of the Pleistocene. "My bets still good," Bud chuckled. "You know what I see Bud? I see huge lakes with Tule and Willow margins teaming with fish and water fowl, grass lands with elephants, camels and horses." "Hell, you are seeing things and I haven't yet rolled down the window." "Good luck with that" I laughed. "The sun probably melted the rubber on the windows shut." "Al Gore says we caused all this hell on Earth," I chimed in. "Now there's a lying socialist crook that needs a short drop. We'd better be glad to get what we can before the Land Nazi's turn rock hunting on the land I fought for into a crime." Oops, I lit the fuse of a man from the greatest generation and we heard about it all the way to the dusty piss stop known as Baker, California, gateway to Death Valley, once a huge Ice Age lake known as Lake Manley.

As we pulled in, there it stood—the town's claim to fame, the largest thermometer in the world, 110 feet tall; and the number was 119 degrees. When I opened the

door the heat literally sucked the breath out of me. I guess I got what I wished for that rainy bone chilling day at Gorda. We tanked up with gas and water and headed North, turning off on the power line road, raising dust that hung in the dead air like talcum powder for miles behind us. To the South we could see mines in the granite basement formation where turquoise had been mined for generations both white and Indians before them. We turned North on a washed out two track until we got to the head of the canyon where the overlaying formation of limestone shot skyward. On the West wall was a great jumble of white boulders stained bright blue and green where the mine entrance had obviously been dynamited closed. Bud said, "See that small hole to the left? That's where we get in."

We made short order of getting the tools and supplies through the portal; and Glory Hallelujah! It felt like I'd walked into a freezer. "67.5 degrees" Bud said, "Unless you want to work the tailings pile." When we lit the lanterns we found ourselves in a large one story house sized room where areas of the walls and ceiling looked like a mosaic of white tile separated by blue and green veinlets ranging from a film to 1/8th inch but in places where 3 or more fractures came together triangular masses were substantially larger and of much higher quality. There were stunning masses of Azurite, Malachite with dendrites, and black Tenorite. The limestone was well fractured and soft so the chiseling work following the veins went well. There was a substantial amount of 1/8th inch veins although they were somewhat crystalline producing nice cabs down the line that took a better than average matte finish. The better material came randomly and the better part of a day's work would produce around 20 pounds.

After a lot of work on the second day there was a pile in the room so Bud led us about 50 yards further into the mine. Our footsteps echoed in the tunnel, the lights of our headlamps bobbed until beyond belief, we entered a huge 3 story room with a vast working floor and a monumental 2 story headframe constructed from 12" x 24" timbers. "Here's the main ore stope," Bud pointed out. Sure enough a 30" diameter vertical shaft disappeared into a gloomy abyss. I inched up to the edge and noticed a well-worn wooden ladder bolted to the descending wall. I tossed a rock down and heard a faint tick, tick and after what seemed to be forever, a Ker splash. Who in their right mind would consider a descent of this ladder, I thought? What a surreal place with only the skeleton of the headframe left as a ghost of a beehive of activity past.

I was glad when we neared the Coast and I could breathe marine air but when I tried to roll down the window the rubber, after 3 days of baking, had melted onto the glass. Bud told me later that he had to use a razor blade to free them up.

During the ensuing years I made several trips back to the blue place in the sun. One memorable trip occurred in the spring after a rare thunderstorm had drenched the

Baker area. The life of the dust had been soaked into hibernation. A strange mist mimicked mirages rising from the local sinks but most unusual was the strange muggy odor that grew stronger the deeper I drove into the canyon. After an average day in the dusty recess of the mine that now seemed rather chilly, I set a nice campfire on the flat below the boulder pile. As time passed in what seemed like suddenness, a lunar of the full moon bathed the narrow canyon. As the moon rose further it was framed by the cliffs in a yellow tint. It appeared to be enormous beyond conception, other worldly within the scope of science fiction art. "An optical illusion of perspective" I wondered, or was this vision real in my mind's eye? One thing I can assure you on that night in time and space I was enveloped by the mysterious aura of the daughter of the sun well beyond the abbreviated and simplistic definition in Webster's Dictionary. I was drawn to wander the canyon in this surreal reflection.

As I returned to the embers of the campfire I heard the first sound of the evening; tick, tick and then another and then what seemed to be an echoed chorus. As I stirred the fire the ticks became a buzzing and I noticed serpentine movement on the canyon floor below the boulder pile. I'd never seen or heard so many Rattlers. I gathered up what I thought I needed and retired to the front seat of the truck and watched the strange movement and what appeared to be coupling of the serpents. I thought to myself, was what I experienced that night the seed of mystery that developed into myth and superstition? There was reality in my experience but there was also mystery of the Lunar Aura that felt well beyond the abbreviated and simplistic definition of Aura in Webster. That night has caused reflective introspection that raises haunting questions to this day.

On another occasion I stopped by for a couple of day's enroute to the Dryhead (agate) Mine (in Montana) to work a particularly rich high wall. Unfortunately someone had found the crude but stable ladder I had built and the ladder was nowhere to be found. Frustrated I decided to explore beyond the working floor of the main stope and I found a chaotic warren of tunnels and rooms. At one point I noticed a faint acrid odor and let my nose lead my path until I came to a large room where a major portion of a vast west wall had recently collapsed. Above the rubble was a strange sight. Unlike the bland white limestone walls this new exposure looked like multicolored cottage cheese. I scraped a couple of inches of this mineral scum off the wall and found a black metallic mass. I retrieved a large bar and sledge from the truck and began working the wall. It took some time to pry a block loose which turned out to be 2 feet thick and heavy as an engine block. I was hoping there would be some associated gem material but no such luck. I was able to haul out about 200 pounds and proceeded to a month long dig at Dryhead. Being curious about the black metal I boxed up a 20 pound sample and sent it to an assayer requesting a readout on Copper, Gold, Silver, and because Copper World is in a rare earth district,

platinum. Upon returning home I got the results in ounces per ton: 427 Copper, 2.6 Gold, 2.8 Silver, 11.86 platinum. On that day's metal prices the values were over \$2000 per ton. Not long after I received a call from the assay office saying that my samples were the richest ore they had seen in decades, not because of the values I had asked for but rather values I had not asked for including Rhodium, Palladium and rare earths which would triple values. Well, not being an ore guy and being short of money, I never followed up. Years had passed since my baptism of dust and exactly what Bud had warned of had come to pass; a vast exclusion zone that would now total 9 million acres of the Mojave Desert had been taken from public access. Years before I had wondered about Bud's rash tirade but now his words came back to me. "The professionals (Politicians) say it's for the children or the turtles but it's all about governmental control, i.e. The government, not the people." As I studied the map of exclusion there were many places I had been or wanted to go that were gone but the Copper World area North of I-15 was not. Thank God I thought so I built another ladder and planned a two-day stop on this year's trip to Dryhead. I was upbeat as I descended the Tehachapi Grade into mild temperatures. I decided to take a break at the BLM office that had been turned into a publicity display for the new "Sanctuary". I was met by a diminutive button of a girl with an oversized Bear hat that seemed to be almost a comic character. She was thrilled to show me all the photos of animals that were "near extinction" and when she came to turtles she put her hand to her chest. Noting her rapid staccato voice I asked "where are you from". "New Jersey", she replied. "Yup pilgrim", I thought, you must have a lot of experience in this desert. At this point my visit was profoundly amusing but that was about to change. In the middle of the room was an oversized government map documenting the legislated exclusion area outlined in bright red that crossed I-15 in a pipe stem and encompassing Copper World that appeared to be a different shade of red. I asked about what appeared to be an addition. She said "Federal regulations gave the District Manager the right to expand the area." "I came over here to hunt rocks" and pointed to Copper World on the map. She took a couple of steps backward as if I had developed body odor and gave me the squint eye. "You can always walk in" she said with a smarmy smile. "Hiking is good for the body and soul". "That's over 12 miles one way", I said. I just about blew up, but instead I turned away and looking at the mockup of a turtle in its burrow, I said, "Maybe you're right, I love turtles" and she stepped closer to the skunk of a rockhound. "You know this area is a sanctuary to me. I've spent more time hiking and prospecting here for decades, probably more than anyone else and I know this rare environment better than anyone else. Do you know about the isolated population of turtles that live on the top of Clark Mountain? They are physiologically different and no doubt an unknown species." "Oh my god", she said

almost hyperventilating. I almost burst out laughing, but, I sucked it up knowing I'd set the hook on this, the future of our government. Pointing to the map I said, "There is a big spring right here with lots of sand and forage. This is where they burrow in and lay their eggs." Then I said, "Unlike other populations they migrate counter clockwise around the mountain from the spring to this one to that one over the year returning to what the old timers called Turtle Spring. There is evolutionary evidence that this type of side hill activity has been consistent for thousands of generations. If you follow my directions you could write a scientific paper and probably have this new species named after you. All it will take is a little hike." "Oh my god," she said. "This would be so important to science." "The one most conspicuous difference you will notice is that their right legs are noticeably longer than their left legs." By this time she seemed to have moistened herself, so having satisfied my humor I said I was behind schedule. "Oh please tell me more," she pled. "No" I said, "You'll have to earn your honor" and I bid her farewell. As the miles passed on that ribbon of highway I remembered the wonderful field trips with Orcutt Mineral Society into the desert, stories around the campfires and the wholesome family traditional values that men like Bud fought to preserve. The Rangerette had made it obvious that we rockhounds are considered a degenerate subclass. I pulled over at a wide turnout and looked north. There in the distant haze were the Clark Mountains. Sure I could hike in—what an insult. "Goodbye Copper World old friend" I sighed--"Freedom Lost".

BLUE MOON SELLS FOR A LOT OF CHEESE

<http://www.msn.com/en-us/news/world/rare-blue-diamond-sells-for-record-dollar485-million-at-auction>

Dateline Geneva, Switzerland, September 17, 2015. Southeby's Auction House has sold a rare 12.03 carat blue diamond* for a record 48.6 million Swiss francs (\$48.5 million). The price included fees of 6.4 million Francs.

The 'Blue Moon' Diamond (name derived from the saying "once in a blue moon"), is said to be among the largest known fancy vivid blue diamonds. The sale price topped the previous high for a diamond set in 2010 (\$46.2 million for the Graff Pink). The Blue Moon was



cut from a 29.76 carat diamond found last year in South Africa.

**(By contrast, the Hope Diamond is 45.52 carats-- Wikipedia)*

KID'S CORNER

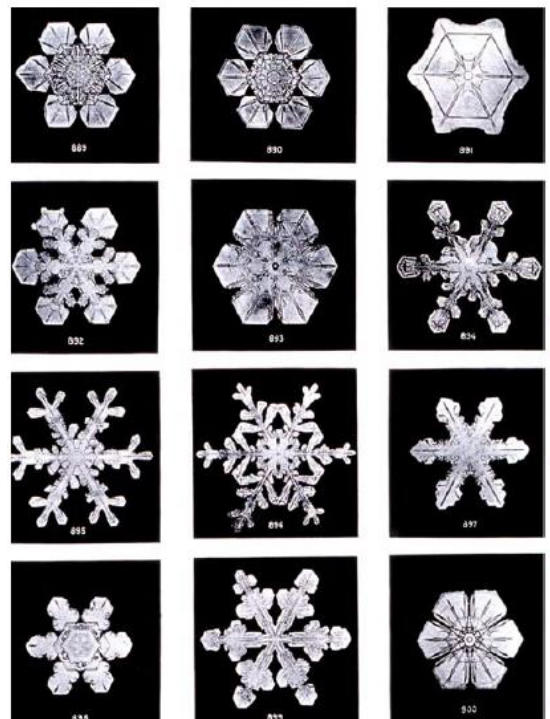
Diamond Dan's Mini Miner's Monthly Vol. 8 No. 2.
Photograph by Wilson Bentley—in the Public Domain

LET IT SNOW!

Believe it or not, snow is a mineral. It has a (sort of) regular crystal shape (hexagonal crystal system—although it is said no two snowflakes are alike), it is a homogeneous (the same throughout), inorganic, and naturally occurring substance.

Wilson Bentley was a farmer who lived in Jericho, Vermont between 1865-1931 and who photographed snowflakes as a hobby. He was so good at photographing snowflakes that he was known as "The Snowflake Man." These snowflakes are from Studies Among the Snow Crystals. Wilson captured the snowflakes on black velvet and photographed them before they could melt.

If you live where there is no snow, or if you want even more of it around you, you can visit any of these websites to learn how to make some really cool (get it???) paper snowflakes:



<http://www.instructables.com/id/How-to-Make-6-Pointed-Paper-Snowflakes/>
<http://www.highhopes.com/snowflakes.html>

BUY FOSSIL PROPERTY IN BAKERSFIELD

Word is that Rob Ernst, owner of Shark's Tooth Hill is selling 1000 square-foot lots at "Slow Curve". The area produces wonderful sharkteeth and sea mammal bones. For details, call (661) 319-7080 or see <http://sharktoothhill.net/>

ORCUTT MINERAL SOCIETY— Board Meeting Nipomo Chamber of Commerce Office, Nipomo, CA November 3, 2015

President Dyanna Cridelich called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Board members present were Wes Lingerfelt, Jeannie Lingerfelt, Janice Ferguson, Sandy Berthelot, Mike Henson, Dyanna Cridelich, Alexis Van Natta, John Von Achen and Elaine Von Achen. Paul Berthelot, Margaret Henson, and Wayne Mills were guests.
Minutes: Minutes were approved as printed in the November bulletin.

Treasurer's report: Wes Lingerfelt gave the treasurer's report. Report was accepted as given.

Correspondence: Elaine read a thank you letter from CFMS thanking us for our donation in memory of Lee Reyburn. Newsletters were received from the Sun Vallley Indian School, Santa Lucia Gem and Mineral Society and San Gorgonio Gem and Mineral Society.

Committee Reports:

Abused Children: None

Annual December Luncheon Meeting: Elaine read the list of members who have already signed up for the annual luncheon. Members have the choice of Roast Turkey Breast, Roast Sirloin of Beef and Grilled Portabella "Steak" for a vegetarian choice. Raspberry Delight will be for dessert. The luncheon will be held in the "Round Room" at Madonna Inn on December 12th and guests may arrive at 12:00 noon. Cost is \$10.00 for members and \$20.00 for guests. Elaine will take reservations and payment until the 30th of November. Please sign up early as no reservations can be made after the 30th.

Annual Gem Show:

Breakfast: November's breakfast will be on the 28th at 8:30 a.m. and will be held at the Sunset Grill, Fairview Drive, Santa Maria.

Bulletin: November's bulletin is out.

CFMS: There will be a business meeting on November 14 in Visalia. Wes will take Wayne Mills and introduce him.

Education: None

Field Trip: None

Highway Clean-up: Our next clean-up will be held November 21, at 8:00 a.m. Members will meet on the South East corner of Highways 101 and 166.

Library: None

Membership: None

Refreshments: Alexis Van Natta reported that the refreshment for November will be cookies provided by Don Nasholm, Geary Sheffer, Debbie Hood, Virginia Rogers and Truman Burgess.

Scholarship: None

Sunshine: Jeannie Lingerfelt reported that Lucky Virgin is still having blood transfusions and is taking it slow.

Old Business: Alexis passed around a copy of the ballot for the board of directors. Members will choose five people from the following members who are running for the board: Sandy Berthelot, Jan Ferguson, Sally Griffith, Sylvia Nasholm, Don Nasholm, Debbie Hood and Reneae Sutcliffe.

Wayne will be asking members for suggestions for programs for the coming year.

New Business:

Wes Lingerfelt reiterated that before any member can do business in the name of OMS that business must first be brought before the board.

There was discussion on the rental of OMS tables to various groups. If we decide to continue to pick up and deliver, we will have to rent a trailer. We will also have to have someone willing to take this on. There is another option, that being that the group wishing to rent the tables will have to pick them up and return them. Wayne is to look in to the cost of renting a trailer.

The program for November's general meeting will be given by Ralph Bishop and will be a surprise. The display for November is any 1x1 and members will vote on their favorite. Wes will bring a prize.

The meeting was adjourned by President Dyanna Cridelich at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Elaine Von Achen, Secretary, OMS

**ORCUTT MINERAL SOCIETY—
General Meeting
Luis Oasis Senior Center, Orcutt, CA
November 10, 2015**

President Dyanna Cridelich, called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Mike Henson gave the invocation.

Joseph Martinez led the flag salute.

Minutes: Elaine Von Achen read the minutes from the November 3, 2015 board meeting. Minutes were approved as read.

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

Correspondence: Elaine read a letter from the CFMS thanking us for our donation of \$100.00 in memory of Lee Reyburn. We received postcards announcing the West Coast - Fall Gem & Mineral Show in Santa Ana, Ca. on November 13 - 15, 2015. We also received a newsletter from Sun Valley Indian School, Santa Lucia Gem & Mineral and San Gorgonio Gem & Mineral.

Committee Reports:

Hospitality: There were 29 members and 2 guests in attendance. Our guest was David Mann and Lisa Dabbs.

Refreshments: Alexis Van Natta thanked the following members for their donation of cookies for the evening's refreshments: Don Nasholm, Geary Sheffer, Virginia Rogers, Debbie Hood and Truman Burgess.

Committee Reports:

Annual December Luncheon Meeting: Elaine reported that our luncheon will be held at the Madonna Inn in the round room on the 12th of December at 12:00. Cost is \$10.00 for members and \$20.00 for guests. Elaine will take reservations this evening, and until the 30th of November. Numbers must be turned in to the Madonna Inn by December 1st.

Abused Children: None

Breakfast: November's breakfast will be held on the 28th at 8:30 a.m. and will be held at the Sunset Grill, Fairview Drive, Santa Maria.

Bulletin: Wayne said he realized there were a few errors in the bulletin and that in the future he plans to send it to Dyanna to proof before he sends it out.

CFMS: There will be a business meeting on November 14th in Visalia. As Federation Director Wes will be attending and as Federation Director Elect, Wayne Mills will also attend.

Door Prizes: Joseph Martinez reported donations from Wayne Mills and Lucky Virgin. There were lots of other various assorted items.

Education: None

Gem Show: None

Historian: None

Field Trip: Nothing planned.

Highway Clean-up: Our next highway clean-up will be held November 21. Members will meet on the south east corner of Highways 101 and 166 at 8:00 a.m.

Library: None

Membership: None

Junior Members: None

Political Action Committee:

Property: None

Scholarship: None

Sunshine: None

Old Business: Wayne Mills reported that future OMS table rentals will either have to be picked up by the organization wanting to rent them unless we can find a couple of members who are willing to deliver and pick up. This will involve renting a trailer and Wayne got a couple of estimates as to the cost to do so. He asked anyone who would be willing to take this on to get in touch with him.

Elaine announced that she had some belt buckle blanks donated by Bud Burgess that were for sale for \$5.00 each. There were also some bolo tie blanks and some bolo tie tips for \$3.00 each. She also noted that there were four boxes of agates donated by Sir Paul Howard for sale. They are the last of his generous donation and are \$20.00 each.

Dyanna read the following names for the slate of officers for 2016: **President Elect-** Wayne Mills, **Secretary-** Dyanna Cridelich and **Treasurer-** Jeanne Brown. She called each office three times for nominations from the floor. Having no nominations, each of the three were elected for 2016.

She also read the following names for persons running for the board of directors: Jan Ferguson, Sandy Berthelot, Sylvia Nasholm, Don Nasholm, Sally Griffith and Renea Sutcliffe. She then opened up the Board of Directors position for nominations from the floor. Alexis Van Natta nominated Sharon Duncan as a write in. Nominations were closed and members voted for five of the seven members running. The following members will serve on the board for 2016:

**Janis Ferguson
Sylvia Nasholm**

**Don Nasholm
Sharon Duncan
Sally Griffith**

New Business:

Wayne Mills introduced Ralph Bishop, our guest speaker for the evening. Ralph did a program on "Copper Turtles". As always, Ralph gave a great and entertaining talk. He said we would have to wait for his article to come out to find out the "rest of the story".

Our display for November was the Best 1x1 and members voted for their favorite. Displays were brought by the following:

Sally Griffith - Petrified Wood

Wes Lingerfelt - Jasper/Agate from North Cady Mountains

Jeannie Lingerfelt - Jasper/Agate pendants from North Cady Mountains

Elaine Von Achen - Quartz Crystals

John Von Achen - Local Nipomo Rock, Sagenite and Marcasite

Wayne Mills – The Colors of Copper

Jan & Stan Ferguson - Malachite Specimens

Alexis Van Natta - Cog made by Covington Engineering in Redlands

Mike & Margaret Henson - Selection of Tube Agates, Jaspers and Flame Agates

Sharon Duncan - 1930's Petrified Wood Sphere

The winner was Jeannie Lingerfelt for her display of Jasper and Agate wire wrapped pendants. She won a Morgan Hill Poppy Jasper Sphere.

Dyanna thanked everyone who brought a display.

President Dyanna Cridelich adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Elaine Von Achen, Secretary, OMS

OMS CALENDAR	
DECEMBER 2015	
Tuesday, Dec 1 7:00 pm	Board Meeting 239 W. Teft, Nipomo
Saturday, Dec 12 7:00 pm	Annual Meeting, Madonna Inn at 12:00 Noon
Friday, Dec 25	MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Saturday, Dec 26	☉ No Breakfast in December
JANUARY 2016	
Tuesday, Jan 5 7:00 pm	Board Meeting 239 W. Teft, Nipomo
Saturday, Jan 9 8:00 am	Highway Clean-up @SE Corner Rte, 101/166 E
Tuesday, Jan 12 7:00 pm	General Meeting — Luis Oasis Senior Center Program: Dr. Robert Gray Display: Fossils Dessert: Donuts
Saturday, Jan 23 8:30 am.	☉ Breakfast—Country Kitchen in Santa Maria

CFMS SHOWS

DECEMBER 2015

December 5 - 6: BARSTOW, CA

Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society
Cora Harper Community Center
841 S. Barstow Road
Hours: 10 - 5 daily
Contact: Danny Watts, (760) 373-1309
Email: dvwatts@msn.com
Website: www.mdgms.net

December 5 - 6: LAKESIDE, CA

El Cajon Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Lakeside Rodeo Grounds
12584 Mapleview Street
Hours: Sat 9 - 5; Sun 9 - 4
Mary Ness, (619) 449-0759
Email: ecvgms@gmail.com
Website: www.ecvgms.com

December 12 - 13: RIALTO, CA

Orange Belt Mineralogical Society
Across Street from Rialto City Hall
105 South Palm Avenue
Hours: Sat 9 - Dusk daily
Contact: Jessica Pierson, (909) 381-0089
Website: <http://OBMSrocks.yolasite.com>

JANUARY 2016

January 16 - 17: EXETER, CA

Tule Gem & Mineral Society, Visalia
Exeter Veterans' Memorial Building
324 N. Kaweah Avenue
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
Contact: Margaret Buchmann, (559) 799-6034
Email: Margaretbu03@gmail.com
Website: www.tulegem.com

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.

