



Birthdays

Jan Ferguson
February 16th

Glenda Reeves
February 8th

Alexis Van Natta
February 20th

Anniversaries

None

Please make sure your information is updated in the Red Book so we can celebrate your important dates with you!



The Pez Box - February 2022



We're back for month 2. This month it is important to discuss whether or not we will put on our annual Rock Show. Due to the reduced size of our board and membership it will take almost everyone's participation in one way or another to pull this together. In the last few years, the majority of our members have left it up to the board with a few willing people to do the entire show! If we are unable to get a great deal more participation this year, the show will not be. It doesn't have to be signing up to work a booth it can be something like stuffing envelopes or running documents back and forth or...I ask you to think of different ways that each of you can do to help out! We will be sending the usual signup sheet and in addition, a sheet that requests your name and suggestions of ways you think you may be able to help. The decision will need to be made at the February General Meeting to give us enough time to send out application to our vendors and to reserve the venue! So put your thinking caps on and figure out how you would be willing and/or able to help.

Our program this month will be presented by Wayne on the differences between Igneous, Metamorphic and

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February 2022

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

February 8 at 7:00 pm - OMS General Meeting at the Oasis Senior Center in Orcutt.

Bring your "Mystery Rocks" for identification.

March 2022

March 5 at 8:00 am - Highway cleanup at the corner of 166 and 101 just north of the Santa Maria River. Equipment is provided and we have lots of fun!

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

March 8 at 7:00 pm - OMS General Meeting at the Oasis Senior Center in Orcutt. **MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE DUE!**

Upcoming

December 10, 2022 - Annual Meeting

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Sedimentary Rocks as well as some local geology. Our displays are "Mystery Rocks" so bring in any of those, "what the heck is this" rocks and our experts will do their best to identify them for you.

I want to remind everyone that membership dues are due no later than the March meeting on March 8th. Please submit them to Wayne. That is all for this lady this month. We'll see you 2/08/22, It's especially early this month so don't forget! Our board notes may be a little less organized this month because our board meeting will be the day before.

Thank you, Sally

Amethyst - February Birthstone

Amethyst is for the lovers this month as it is Valentine's Day. It is thought that the mineral can strengthen relationships.

The word Amethyst comes from the Greek Word Amethystos which is roughly translated as "not drunk." Many wine goblets were carved from Amethyst to prevent intoxication.

One myth associated with Amethyst is the story of Dionysus who was insulted by a mortal and vowed to kill the next mortal to cross him. The next mortal was a woman named Amethystos. The God Artemis turned her into a statue of pure Quartz to protect her from Dionysus. Dionysus saw her beauty and wept tears of wine staining her quartz statue purple.



[Photo from RogersandHolland.com](http://RogersandHolland.com)

Orcutt Mineral Society Board Meeting - January 3, 2022

Members present: Sally Griffith, Jeanne Watkins, Wayne Mills, Jan Ferguson, Rene Sutcliffe, and Jeannine Todd. Absent: Tara Machin, Betty Campbell

Called to order at 7:15 pm by President Sally Griffith

Minutes: General Meeting minutes were published in January Bulletin. Corrections needed, Treasurer should be listed as Jeanne Watkins, not Jeanne Brown or Jeanne Watkins-Brown.

Treasurer's Report: (Jeanne) \$19,416.20 in account. Membership dues need to be paid before 03/08/2022.

Correspondences:

Holiday card from SBCC Earth Sciences, Fliers for upcoming shows

Contributions: (Jan) CASA thanks OMS for \$715.00 donation as \$25.00 Walmart teen gift cards

Committee Reports:

1. Bulletin- Tara, correction to Jeanne's name as above
2. CFMS- (Renea), report in January Bulletin
3. OMS Membership- (Wayne) New members Bryan and Sharon Pearson. Wayne handed out new member name badges. 19/45 current members are also lifetime honorary members. New honorary members this past year were Dee Dee Magree (and Aldo), Elaine & John Von Achen. Wayne has application for exhibit displays for upcoming shows:

- March 5th and 6th - Ventura Gem and Mineral Society at Ventura County Fairgrounds
- January 14th - 23rd - Laughlin Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, and Bead Show at Tropicana Hotel
- (past show): December 10th, 2021 SB Gem Faire

4. Field Trips- Sally would like to retrieve list of upcoming field trips led by Kim Noyes. Jeanne requests caution re Mr. Noyes' past (not advertised as) moderate to strenuous trips
5. Adopt-A-Highway- (Wayne) First highway clean-up of the year is on January 8th at 8:00 am. Meet at 166/101 on E side of freeway. Extra help is appreciated
6. Annual Awards Banquet- Wayne reports that the banquet was "nice." Funds carried over for deposit for 2022. Discussion of options for December 10th, 2022 banquet venue ensued.
7. Breakfast- seems this may be removed permanently
8. Education- ideas were exchanged re possible educational offerings ie sphere-making, wire-wrapping, live-recorded classes. Jeanne will create a questionnaire for member input.
9. Library- (not present, Alexis): Wayne reports that the Great Courses DVDs which were lost have now been found, hallelujah! Wes had been

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protecting them from the elements, and they are now available (along with a second newly donated set of identical DVDs from Jeanne) for members to check out (Nature of Earth - Geology series; it's EXCELLENT!)

10.Sunshine- (not present, Margaret): Mike Henson's and Dick Bazzell's passings in November, 2021 were acknowledged. Mike's Memorial will be on January 15th, at the Henson's home. Upcoming cataract surgery (unknown date) for Sally

11.Scholarship- Jeanne: annual scholarship depends on show revenue; nothing to report

Show: Wayne will create questionnaire to assess member interest in holding a show (perhaps in August) this year. Requires 12-15 DIFFERENT volunteers.

Old Business: Sylvia will handle refreshments

New Business: January Meeting - bring displays, PLEASE!

Adjourned at 8:04 pm.

Submitted by Jeannine Todd for Tara Machin, Secretary

Highway Hijinks from the January Adopt-A-Highway

By Wayne Mills, Adopt a Highway Chair

OMS January Highway Clean-up had the best turn-out in recent memory. Nine folks showed up just before 0800 on a chilly (for the Central Coast) January morning. The attendees included: Wes and Marty Lingerfelt, Sally Griffith, Geary Sheffer, Steven and Lisa Siemsen (not yet members!), Jeannine Todd, Joe Azevedo and yours truly. Five of us handled the parking lot and the first section east of 101, and the other four folks took the middle and eastern most sections. The Siemsons and Jeannine had to leave early, so Joe and I sat at the Country Kitchen for about a half hour waiting for Wes, Marty, Sally and Geary to show-up. We had some fun conversation, met a prospective new member (Jeremiah) and had our waitress Shelly draw the winner of the mystery bag of rocks that Wes brought for our incentive prize. And the winner was...Steven Siemsen! Steven will have to pick-up his prize at our meeting on Tuesday night.

We did find some interesting things on the highway this time. Geary didn't find another \$50 dollar bill, but he did find a man's size large coat (that he gave to Wes). Joe Azevedo found a commercial grade caulking gun with attachments, and Jeannine found an insulated cup. Wayne got to empty 4 trucker bombs so we could recycle the plastic. Thanks to all the folks who showed up for a successful clean-up!

Orcutt Mineral Society General Meeting - January 11, 2022

Minutes:

Call to Order at 7:07 PM by Sally Griffith, President

Invocation by Deborah Hood

Flag Salute by: Wayne W. Mills

Members/Guests—13 members, 1 guest

Minutes of the January Board meeting

Read by Wayne Mills

Treasurer's Report: (Jeanne) -Treasurer's report was available for review. Jeanne was unable to attend. We will postpone Budget approval for 2022.

Correspondence: Letter from CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) to Jan Ferguson thanking her for \$750 in donations for abused children in Santa Barbara County.

No quorum present (15 members) in January.

Committee Reports:

1. Bulletin- (Tara) January Bulletin is out. No questions or comments
2. CFMS- (Renea) A report on /CFMS is included in the January Ore-Cutts. AFMS Report is December-January
3. Membership - (Wayne) Introduced new members Sharon, Bryan Pearson and gave them their badges. Also introduced our newest member, Robyn Burgess. (Approved by Board 1/11/2022). We were not able to present Moniah M. her badge. Dues are due by March meeting.
4. Field Trip - (Sally) Will try to get list of Field Trips from Kim Noyes. They are

often posted on Central Coast Rockhounds FB Page.

5. Adopt-a-Highway - (Wayne) Our highway cleanup was Jan. 8. 9 folks showed-up and clean-up went well.
6. Annual Awards Banquet- OMS Annual Meeting was well attended (33 members/guests) Jeanne Watkins is looking for a new, more accessible venue for 2022.
7. Breakfast- Breakfasts have been cancelled until further notice.
8. Education- (Wayne) No report.
9. Library- (Alexis) No report.
10. Sunshine- (Margaret). Sally is having eye surgery. We lost member Dick Bazzell on Thanksgiving Day. Mike Henson Memorial is on the 15th from 11to 3 at the Henson Home.
11. Scholarship- (Jeanne) No scholarship will be awarded until (perhaps) 2022. Our annual scholarship depends on our show revenue.
12. Our show Wayne made a list of jobs for show. How many volunteers? (Will determine if we will try for a show this year).

Old Business: Fill committees for 2022.

DUES ARE DUE BY MARCH METING.

New Business: Board voted to include Board Meetings and additional General meetings (after 2) to toward meeting the requirement of "additional activity" for membership.

The Board will try to get an amendment passed in the next year that lowers

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requirement for an officer position to one year.

We have a hold on Pioneer Park for our Picnic June 11.

We need to get \$308 to SM Parks by May 1, 2022.

Deborah Hood proposed that OMS send a donation to the CFMS Endowment Fund in honor of Mike and Margaret Henson and Dick Bazzell.

Sharon Pearson suggested that Board members attending the meeting be given proxies (for voting) from absent Board Members.

Program: Wes Lingerfelt will present a program on Banded Agates. The display was ANYTHING. Only 3 folks had displays. After the program, Renea Suttcliffe awarded the door prizes.

Wayne Mills and Wes Lingerfelt donated prizes for the 2022 Door Prize Activity. Closed meeting at 8:47 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Wayne Mills, for Tara Machin, OMS Secretary



Sally Griffith



Jeannie Beattie



Wayne Mills

Colors of Obsidian

By Tara Machin

What color is Obsidian? This seems like a basic question which should have a basic answer. Black, the answer is black. Having never done research on Obsidian before, I always thought that black was the only color that there possibly could be. However, I was very, very wrong. Obsidian can come in a rainbow of colors.

Obsidian is not actually considered a mineral since it does not have a crystalline structure. It can be identified by this lack of structure, conchoidal breaks, and a chemical composition that is the same as Rhyolite. Because of its glasslike structure, it is fragile by geologic standards as it breaks easily. No Obsidian older than the Cretaceous period has been found and it is rare that you find any older than 20 million years old.

What about the different colors of Obsidian? Along with the common color of black, Snowflake Obsidian has bursts of bright white within the black color. The white "snowflakes" are called Spherulites and are composed of a type of Quartz called Cristobalite. Pumpkin Obsidian is bright orange



Photo - Mahogany Obsidian
geology.com

in color, while Mahogany Obsidian is made when 2 flows of red and brown Obsidian swirled together before hardening. The orange, red, and brown colors are usually formed when small inclusions of Hematite or Limonite (iron oxide) are present. Rarer colors like green, blue and purple are formed when nanoparticles are present in the original flow. Micro crystals of feldspar and magnesium are responsible for the cooler color pallet. Nano crystals of Magnetite give a rainbow sheen to Obsidian while Hedenbergite nanorods cause the striped affect in Rainbow Obsidian. Micro crystals, nanorods, and other metallic impurities aren't the only contributors to Obsidian's color.

Obsidian can cool very fast once it is formed. Sometimes tiny gas bubbles are trapped in the flow as it cools. These microscopic gas bubbles are responsible for light



Photo - Rainbow Obsidian
geologypages.com

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diffraction on the surface of the Obsidian. These gas bubbles can give the stone a gold, silver, or rainbow sheen. So beautiful.

With so many known colors of Obsidian, one might be over zealous in finding some colored specimens to call their own. However, buyer beware. In doing this research I stumbled upon many websites selling colored Obsidian to aid in your mental, physical, and spiritual healing. It is supposed to ward off evil spirits and help with insomnia. In reality many of these "Colored Obsidian" stones are nothing more than colored glass that disreputable folks are trying to pawn off. Be sure to source your Obsidian from reputable sources.

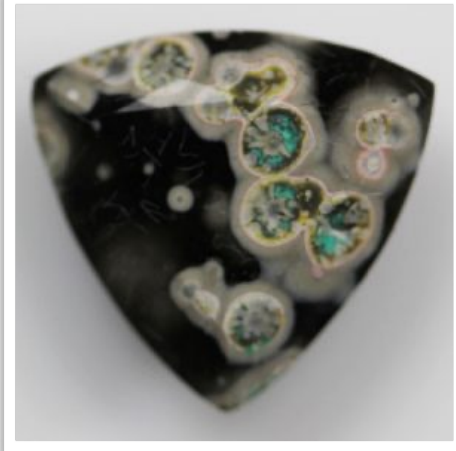


Photo - Cosmic Obsidian
nationalgemlab.in

References - geology.com, geologypage.com, and volcano.oregonstate.edu

Upcoming Rock and Mineral Shows

February 12-13, 2022 - Antioch, CA

Antioch Lapidary Club
Jewelry, Gem & Rock Show
Website: <http://www.antiochlapidaryclub.com>

February 26-27, 2022 - Vallejo, CA

Vallejo Gem and Mineral Society
Website: <http://vjgems.co/>

March 5-6, 2022 - Ventura, CA

Ventura Gem and Mineral Society
Website: <http://www.vgms.org>

March 5-6, 2022 - Newark, CA

Mineral and Gem Society of Castro Valley
Website: <http://mgscv.org>

March 11-13, 2022 - Victorville, CA

Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club
Contact: smaquilter12@gmail.com

March 12-13, 2022 - Turlock, CA

Mother Lode Mineral Society
Website: <http://www.turlockgemshow.com>

March 19-20, 2022, Lemoore, CA

Lemoore Gem & Mineral Club
Website: <http://lemooregemandmineralclub.org>

March 25-27, 2022, Clovis, CA

Fresno Gem & Mineral Society
Follow: [Central Valley Gem and Mineral Show | Facebook](#)

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

Corrections

The name of the President of CFMS was mistyped in the January Bulletin. The President is Jim Barton, not Don Barton

The treasurer's name is Jeanne L. Watkins, not Watkins-Brown as was reported in the January Bulletin. The correction has been made to this bulletin.

Coloring Book for the Kids

There is a new simple mineral coloring book for our little, mini miners. Diamond Dan has made the coloring book available for free. Contact Wayne Mills or Tara Machin for a printout if you do not have access to the bulletin email. The link will be attached to the email with the newsletter. Some examples are on the next page.

There are also some really fabulous gifts on bonfire.com featuring Diamond Dan's mineral drawings. New images will be available each month.

CFMS / AFMS News - February 2022

CFMS Website - cfmsinc.org

Field Trips - March 5, 2022 there is a planned Cooperative Field Trip leader Seminar near Sacramento. Contact Jim Barton at geologist1@surewest.net.

Juniors - The February bulletin contains an application for Junior Achievement Awards (\$100) due by March 1 (not May 1 as previously stated. Send to cfmsinc.org/juniorsachievementaward.

Bulletin - CFMS Bulletin is now being edited by Par LaRue. NO applications for the 2021 Bulletin Contest.

All American Club - Applications are due by February 21, 2011. Send to: johndianedaisy@yahoo.com.

Rockhound of the Year - Several clubs have made nominations for this Honor.

Safety - Article on silica dust hazards.

Exhibits - Article on how to create a competitive display.

Earth Science Summer Camps - No Camp Zyzzx this year or next year due to COVID restrictions. Camp Paradise experienced a few mishaps this year, and low attendance. Camp Paradise is planned for August-September 2022.

California Federation Show - Planned for May 6-8 at the Antelope Valley Fairgrounds.

AFMS Website - amfed.org

There was no newsletter for January or February. Please check the website for more information

Interesting Internet

Stunning Fossils

<https://www.newscientist.com/round-up/seven-fossils/>

The Wikipedia Entry for Obsidian

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Obsidian>

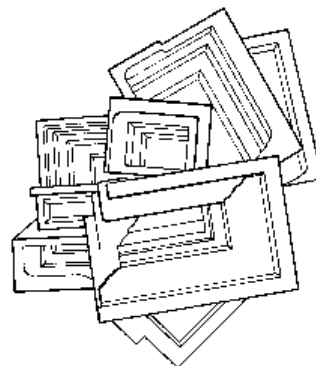
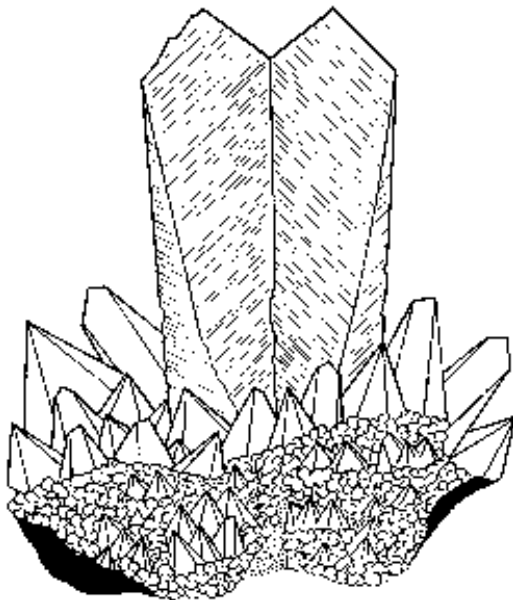
Winter is Here! Have you ever wondered what rock salt is?

<https://geology.com/rocks/rock-salt.shtml>

Chapman's Gem and Mineral Shop in Northern California - Hit the road and see some amazing gems at this roadside stop. The prices are very reasonable. OMS Member, Tara Machin visited in November of 2021

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Museum/Chapmans-Gem-Mineral-Shop-Museum-127570647298100/>

Coloring Examples from the Mini Miner Coloring Book - Go Play with the Grandkids



Orcutt Mineral Society Officers		
President	Sally Griffith	(805) 928-6848
President Elect	Vacant	
Secretary	Tara Machin Jeannine Todd	(805) 863-5992
Treasurer	Jeanne L. Watkins	(805) 481-1811
Orcutt Mineral Society Board Members		
	Jan Ferguson	(805) 474-9977
	Betty Campbell	(805) 929-5344
	Renea Sutcliffe	(805) 929-2783
CFMS Federation Director		
	Renea Sutcliffe	(805) 929-2783
OMS Membership		
Membership	Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495
Membership is \$24.00 for Individual, \$34.00 per couple, \$5.00 Each Additional Family Member, \$5 for Juniors under age of 18. One time initiation fee for new members is \$10.00.		
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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.

