



# Ore-Cutts

Volume XLX Number 1

January 2016

## The Pres Box—January 2016

Alexis Van Natta



I trust you had a Merry and Happy Christmas and are looking forward with renewed enthusiasm (as I am) to another wonderful and exciting New Year. OMS is starting out in January with an interesting speaker,

Doctor Robert Gray from Santa Barbara City College. Dr. Gray's talk is entitled, "The Golden Age of Mining in the West, 1848 – 1888".

Bring your favorite ore minerals (or anything else) for display. If the program doesn't tempt you, how about those yummy doughnuts the club is serving up for dessert?

Please set January 9th aside and join us for Highway Cleanup; we meet at 8:00 AM at the southeast corner of 101/166East. This is a fun way to work off those extra pounds from the holidays with a stroll in the fresh air. See you January 9th and/or 12th, 2016.

*Alexis*

## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



**Birthday greetings** go out to those folks who are having birthdays and Anniversaries in January. **Ore-Cutts regrets the**

omission of Renae Suttcliffe's December 15 birthday from the December Ore-Cutts. Sorry Renae!

### January Birthdays

Berthelot, Paul	1/10
Nuernberg, Pat	1/11
Limon, Daniel	1/21
Howard, Sir Paul	1/28
Von Achen, Elaine	1/30

### January Anniversaries

Don and Sylvia Nasholm	1/10
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### 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).*

## SUNSHINE

Jeannie Lingerfelt

Lucky Virgin is battling double pneumonia. Sandy Berthelot is being tested to see if her cancer has returned. Our thoughts and prayers are with them both.

## HIGHWAY HEROES

Wayne Mills, Adopt a Highway Coordinator

Our December issue was so packed, we didn't have room to thank our highway heroes (and heroines) for their participation in the November 2015 clean-up. And here it is January, and we have another clean-up scheduled for Saturday, January 9. We look forward to continued great participation. Wes

Lingerfelt has agreed to continue to support the highway clean-up.

The following folks helped us in November: Dyanna Cridelich and Alexis Van Natta, Stan and Brenna Ferguson, Wes and Marty Lingerfelt, Lisa Dabbs, Sally Griffith, Geary Sheffer, and yours truly.

With so many helpers, the clean-up went pretty quickly and we were able to get to our Treats at Francisco's by about 9:45, then a couple of us drove up to Cliff Brewen's tailgate north of Paso Robles. I got some good rocks there.

The winner of our draw for a cluster of amethyst crystals was Dyanna Cridelich—she said that she never wins anything! She received the cluster at our November meeting.

## OUTGOING PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**Dyanna Cridelich**

**2015!** All in all, it's been a very good year. It had its ups and downs as all years have, but we accomplished a lot and had a lot of fun doing it. I would first like to let you know about our field trips.

In **February**, we took "A trip to Rock Fantasyland." We gathered at Ralph Bishop's Rock Museum which, I feel, is one of the largest and finest private rock and fossil collections anywhere.

In **April**, a group of hearty souls took a weekend, and went to the LA County Museum and the Himalaya Mine dumps at Lake Henshaw. Some beautiful tourmaline was found.

**May** found us at our annual tailgate sale located at the Von Achen's in Nipomo. A fun time was had by all with good buys and great camaraderie.

In **June**, we went to Pioneer Park for our Annual BBQ. The food was tremendous and the silent auction prompted lively action. Do any of you remember Molly and Karl Kerlick? Their grandson, Michael showed up wearing his pebble pup nametag. It was great to see him after so many years.

Many of us attended the numerous shows in our area. The Jade festival, The Santa Lucia Rock hounds from Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo Gem and Mineral Club in Cayucos to name a few.

**We had a nice variety of programs** and displays this year.

In **January** we had a CFMS video on Kentucky agates. Wes added his own slide show on agates to make a very nice presentation. We had some beautiful agates on display.

A very nice video about our planet entitled "Home" was shown in **February**. Displays were jaspers and heart shaped stones.

**March** brought Richard Wade and his fabulous talk on Astronomy. He can certainly make any topic interesting. Several of our members were good sports and volunteered to help him with his demonstrations, which were both fun and educational.

In **April**, we visited Antarctica, a frozen laboratory. This told us of the challenges geologists and meteorologists face in this piece of land the size of America that is not owned by anyone.

In **May**, we visited the sweet home mine in Alma, Colorado and took a look at "Big Red", the most beautiful crystal of rhodocrosite I have ever seen. Wes Lingerfelt spoke to us in **July** about Sphere Making. I never knew that making a little sphere was so involved and I have definitely acquired a new respect for anyone who is able to do it correctly.

In **August**, Wayne Mills spoke to us about his 2009 trip to Brazil. Accompanied by a really nice slide show, it made me want to get my traveling shoes on.

In **September**, Wes showed us a slideshow of all the photos from our Annual Show. It was nice to see all the photos from many of our members and how they documented the weekend.

In **October**, we had four members of OMS talk about four successful field trips: Thanks to Elaine von Achen, Jan Ferguson, Wayne Mills and Wes Lingerfelt. They were all nice, lively presentations and everyone enjoyed them tremendously.

In **November**, Ralph Bishop gave a talk on Copper Turtles. His display was beautiful and his talk was educational and informative. Ralph is a wealth of lapidary knowledge and he always makes it interesting and humorous.

One thing that is always fun to discuss is our annual GEM SHOW. **Our Show for 2015** was a great success. One big change was that we had the **G Brothers Smokehouse** from San Luis Obispo do the BBQ and catering. They had a good menu with pulled pork sandwiches, burritos, kettle corn and many other items. For the Saturday Night BBQ, the fare was a half chicken, baked beans, coleslaw and bread. Almost everyone really enjoyed the food. I think the breakfast burritos and the kettle corn were outstanding.

The Treasure Chest had over 100 prizes. Did you know that we sold out of the 1,600 Treasure Chest tickets and took in \$1371. We will have to

make more tickets next time. Hospitality took in \$430. The Kids booth made \$260. The caterer gave us \$280. And the pies booth took in \$955. The overall gross income for 2015 was up \$613 from 2014. The best thing is that it was accomplished with a lot less work and a lot more play. Everyone I spoke to commented that we were all so friendly and that our displays were outstanding. We even had a special showcase remembering those who have passed on. So, all in all, the vendors were pleased, the customers were pleased, and the club members were pleased. I think it was successful. Thanks to all of you.

Speaking of MEMBERSHIP, I must say that this year has been a good year for membership. We have 4 new members: Drew Rickey, Allyn and Marilyn Goodall and Robert Bischoff. It is so good to have all of you with us.

Many positive things happened this year that are worth mentioning. I wanted to thank our members for writing such wonderful articles in the bulletin. They are brilliant. My favorites include, **Why I like Minerals** and **Field Trips near SLO** by Wayne Mills, **Chandler Mountain Carnelian** by Ralph Bishop, **Queensland Agate**, by Sir Paul Howard, our honorary member from down under, Joseph Martinez's excellent article on **Petrified Wood** and thanks to Jan Ferguson, the article about her parents, **Ralph and Helen Smith and their three month getaway vacation**. All of these and many others were inspirational and entertaining. I really enjoy the kid's corner as well. There's a lot of good information in there for everyone.

**SCHOLARSHIP.** We sent a \$1000. scholarship to Santa Barbara City College to the Geology Department for student use.

**TABLES.** We sold all of our old wooden tables and replaced them with 80 new plastic ones. No more splinters!

**STANDING RULES.** We were able to become current and updated our standing rules to reflect how the club is currently operating. This is important to do every so often and I'm glad we were able to accomplish that this year.

**2015 has been a great year** for the OMS and with all of your help, I'm sure 2016 will be even better. I've really enjoyed working with all of you this past year and I look forward to working with you again in the coming months with a brand new board.

## **SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS AND AWARDS:**

I would first like to thank my Board Members and present them with their pins and a token of my appreciation. I hope you all like a good bottle of Moscato. Alexis, Elaine, Wes, Mike, John, Sandy, Jeanne and Jan.

Throughout my Presidency, there were several people who helped me in many unsung ways.

### **WAYNE MILLS:**

Editor of the Bulletin and attended all the board meetings just to keep in the know.

He is the Chair of several committees including highway cleanup, scholarship, education, and field trips.

In May, he made a **Bibliography** of past issues of the Bulletin from 1994 through 2014 and put them online and made them available to all of us. He has listed over 983 entries. He was "Rock Doc" at the Santa Lucia Gem and Mineral show, and is always willing to help in any way he can.

### **ALEXIS VANNATTA**

Stepped up to do the Refreshments, and helped put our 2015 programs together.

Headed the nominating committee.

Took over the Juniors booth at our Gem Show.

I can count on her to volunteer for anything I ask her to do.

Is always there to bounce any ideas off.

She drove me to the Board Meetings in Nipomo for the past 2 years.

### **ELAINE VON ACHEN**

Secretary for 8 terms.

Membership Chair and Historian.

Gem show: Skirting, Thursday night dinner, show cases, demonstrators.

Got the caterer for our Annual gem show.

Started our tailgate show 4 years ago.

Does displays for the library.

Got our Annual Christmas luncheon moved to the Madonna Inn.

Spent hours proof reading my articles.

## WES LINGERFELT

In honor of everything he has done for the club and all the years he has put in doing it.

He was the Treasurer forever, the CFMS Director, Newsletter and Redbook publisher, OMS Dealer Chairperson, OMS Website manager, Our Parliamentarian, and our Membership database manager and more. All of these plus everything he did to insure a successful gem show. Many of these things I still don't know about and have yet to learn how they are done. How do you mark off the parking lot? I hope someone knows.

## GOLDEN BEAR

We haven't given the Golden Bear Award for a few years and I'd like to do it now.

**MIKE AND MARGARET HENSON** joined the club in 1994. **Mike** has been our Chaplin and has served on our Board of Directors for several years. Mike and Margaret hosted our Board meetings for many years. **Margaret** had been in charge of refreshments at our club meetings for several years. She helped run the snack bar/kitchen at the church during the gem show. She ran the snack bar at the Nipomo High School for the first couple years we were there. She always attended board meetings with Mike. Both Mike and Margaret are always around to help when and wherever they can and they can be counted on to be there for us.

## INCOMING PESIDENT'S PEP TALK

Alexis Van Natta

---**Why does a moon rock taste better than an Earth rock?** (It's a little meteor).

---**Why did the Geologist take his girlfriend to a quarry?** (He wanted to get a little boulder).

I never thought that, at my age, I would be put in to a POSITION WITH SO MUCH RESPONSIBILITY.

I have been very happy working behind the scenes these many years and would be happy to continue to do that but, Wes and Elaine threw the club a curve and so I took a chance and said "yes" to assume the president position in hopes that all of you will step up when called up on to advise me and to help keep this club in good running order.

I thank those of you who have already taken on committee positions and pledged yourselves to the Lapidary cause.

We do so much good for our community with our scholarships, Abused Children's Fund, Food

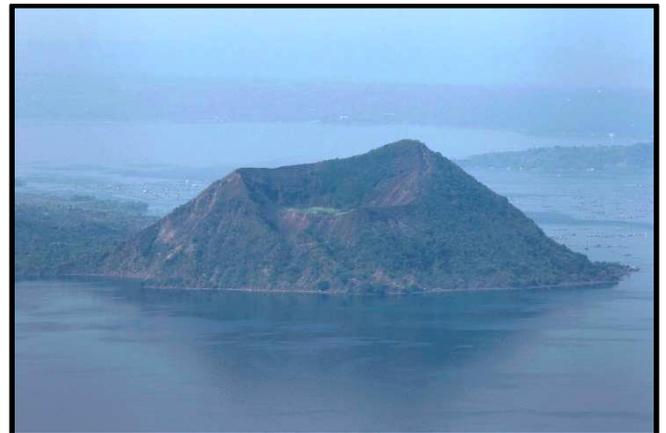
donations, and all the education, fun, joy and fellowship at our Annual Gem Show that it would be sad to have that all go away.

Let's give Wes and Elaine a much deserved rest so they may return to us invigorated and with new zeal for leadership.

I don't want to be a politician and make you a lot of promises I won't or can't keep, but I will serve this club to the best of my abilities.

## VOLCANIC ISLANDS

<http://www.msn.com/en-us/travel/article/19-places-you-wont-believe-exist>



**In the Philippines, on the island of Luzon,** Taal Lake rests in a volcanic caldera. It contains an island that, at its center, has a crater lake—which also has an island. In other words, ***an island on a lake on an island on a lake on an island***. Got it?

## BITS AND BYTES

Check out this lovely video of Fly Geysir in the Black Rock Desert of Nevada

<https://vimeo.com/107168720>

Nice site for pictures of a variety of jaspers and metaphysical properties of rocks

<http://www.thatcrystalsite.com/jasper/>

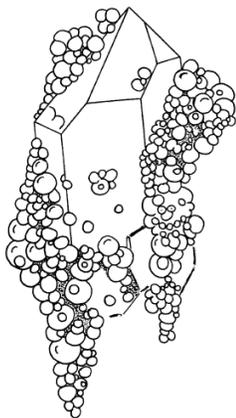
## KID'S CORNER

## MINERAL ODDITIES

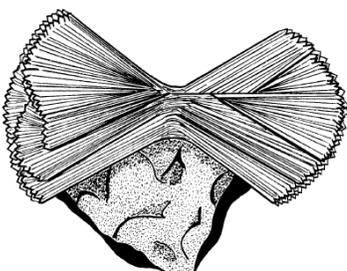
Mini Miner's Monthly Vol.8, No. 2  
(February 2014) Illustrations by Emma Fajcz

## BOTRYOIDAL

Under the right conditions, some minerals form clusters of round balls that look like bunches of grapes. Mineralogists call this form botryoidal. Botryoidal comes from the Greek word *botrys* which means a **bunch of grapes**.



Right: Hematite on quartz from Graves Mountain, Georgia.  
Above: Malachite from Morenci, Arizona right.

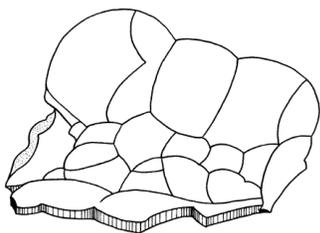


**BOW-TIE CRYSTAL**  
A single stilbite crystal looks like a thin blade. But when thousands of stilbite crystals grow together, they can form groupings of

crystals, like this specimen from Poona, India, that look like an old-fashioned bow tie. If you look carefully you can see how a number of crystal groups have grown over each other to create the bow-tie shape.

## RENIFORM

The word reniformis from the Latin words *renes*, which means **kidney** and *formis*, which means **form**. In other words, it describes a mineral that looks like a kidney. Here is a specimen of hematite from Cumberland, England. The miners called this shape kidney ore because the dark, blood-red, rounded masses of hematite look like kidneys. Notice that the hematite is rounded, but not in individual balls that look like grapes. Do you remember what mineralogists call specimens that look like bunches of grapes?



## AFMS JUNIOR ROCKHOUNDS (AGATE) POSTER CONTEST

See Wayne if you are interested! Or check out the January 2016 CFMS Bulletin at: [cfmsinc.org/Newsletters/Jan. 2016](http://cfmsinc.org/Newsletters/Jan.2016) (but that edition has not been posted yet). Deadline is April 15, 2016.

## ANNUAL MEETING PICTURES

Bill Hood





Many thanks are due to Elaine Von Achen for all she did to secure this wonderful venue and to help make this a lovely Holiday Get-together. A great time was had by all!

**ORCUTT MINERAL SOCIETY—  
BOARD MEETING  
Nipomo Chamber of Commerce, Nipomo, CA  
December 1, 2015**

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President Dyanna Cridelich called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

Board members present were Wes Lingerfelt, Jeannie Lingerfelt, Janis Ferguson, Sandy Berthelot, Dyanna Cridelich, Alexis Van Natta, John Von Achen, and Elaine Von Achen, Paul Berthelot, Don Nasholm, Sylvia Nasholm, Sharon Duncan, Wayne Mills, Sally Griffith and Jeanne Brown-Watkins were guests.

**Minutes:** Minutes were approved as printed in the December bulletin.

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

**Correspondence:** Newsletters were received from Santa Lucia Gem and Mineral Society and San Gorgonio Gem and Mineral Society. We also received a newsletter from the Underground Gold Miners Museum announcing their 7th Annual Gold Show to be held June 18 and 19, 2016. We received a postcard announcing the Gem Faire in Santa Barbara on Dec. 4-6.

**Committee Reports:**

**Abused Children:** Jan Ferguson requested a check, issued in her name, for \$750 so she can get gift cards for children taken in by the Department of Social Services in Santa Barbara County.

**Annual December Luncheon Meeting:** Elaine reported everything is a go with Madonna Inn. She spoke to them on Monday and gave them our food selections and special requests. We have 32 members and 2 guests attending.

**Annual Gem Show:**

**Breakfast:** There will be no breakfast in December.

**Bulletin:** December's bulletin is out.

**CFMS:** Wes wrote a column regarding the recent directors meeting for the bulletin.

**Education:** None

**Field Trip:** None

**Highway Clean-up:** Our next clean-up will be held January 9, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. Members will meet on the South East corner of Highways 101 and 166.

**Library:** None

**Membership:** Elaine reported that four new members were taken in for 2015. She will write an end of the year report.

**Refreshments:** December's meeting is the luncheon held on December 12th at Madonna Inn. Refreshment for the January meeting will be donuts. Elaine Von Achen has agreed to bring them to the meeting.

**Scholarship:** None

**Sunshine:** None

**Old Business:**

Wayne mentioned that the post office will no longer let us staple our newsletters. He priced some envelopes that would work for us. They were \$60.00 for 500. Alexis Van Natta made a motion that we buy one box. Jeannie Lingerfelt seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**New Business:**

Sylvia Nasholm has agreed to pick up the key from the chamber the day of the board meeting and return it the following day.

Wes said he will cancel the OMS credit card as it has his social security number and suggested that Jeanne Brown open one with her social security number. Jeanne Brown said that her legal name is Jeanne Watkins and asked that in the future she be listed as such.

Wayne said that Dr. Robert Gray, Santa Barbara City College, has agreed to be our guest speaker for January. The title of his talk will be "The Golden Age of Mining - 1848-1888".

The display for January will be fossils.

The meeting was adjourned by President Dyanna Cridelich at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:  
Elaine Von Achen, Secretary, OMS

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**ORCUTT MINERAL SOCIETY—  
GENERAL MEETING  
Madonna inn, San Luis Obispo, Ca, CA  
December 12, 2015**

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At 12:20 President Dyanna Cridelich welcomed all guests and asked our chaplain, Mike Henson to give the invocation.

Joseph Martinez led the flag salute.

Dyanna introduced our two guests, Krystal Castro and Velvedeen Elder.

Luncheon was served at 12:30. We dined on roast beef, roast turkey and portabella mushrooms. Very nice.

Following our meal Dyanna gave the president's annual report. She hit the highlights of field trips we took this past year. Next she showcased the programs for the year along with some fabulous displays brought by our members. She went over our annual gem show and mentioned some wonderful changes that were made this past year. Dyanna welcomed the four new members that joined our organization in 2015. She brought up the wonderful articles that had been written for our newsletter and mentioned the \$1,000 scholarship we were able to give to Santa Barbara City College students. All in all we had a very successful year.

**Minutes:** Elaine Von Achen read the minutes from the December 1st, 2015 board meeting. Minutes were approved with one small correction.

**Treasurer's report:** Wes Lingerfelt gave the treasurer's report. It was accepted as given. He then presented the 2016 budget. Debbie Hood made a motion that we accept the budget. Jan Ferguson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Old Business:** none

**New Business:**

Dyanna said that she had new membership cards for 2016 and if anyone wanted to pay their dues early, they could see her.

Wayne Mills said he is working on the calendar for 2016 and hopes to have it completed in the next month.

**Awards and Recognition:**

Dyanna presented each member of the board with their pins and a wonderful bottle of Luisi Moscato wine. Board members included Alexis Van Natta, Elaine Von Achen, Wes Lingerfelt, Mike Henson, John Von Achen, Sandy Berthelot, Jeannie Lingerfelt and Jan Ferguson.

She also presented Wayne Mills with a bottle of Moscato for his many contributions to the club this past year and Alexis Van Natta with a box of Sees chocolates for her many contributions to the club and for driving her to the board meetings for the past 2 years.

Dyanna recognized two members who were retiring from their long held positions as elected officers. First she asked Elaine Von Achen to come up, and presented her with a card from Starbucks for her stint as secretary for eight years along with a list of the many committees and activities she has done for OMS. Next she asked Wes Lingerfelt to step forward where she presented him with a Starbucks card for his many years as Treasurer and all

of the committees and activities he has chaired representing OMS.

Dyanna presented the Golden Bear Award to a couple who joined OMS in 1994 and have been very active since that time. Mike and Margaret Henson were presented with Golden Bear Pins.

**Installation of new Officers and Board of Directors:**

Wes Lingerfelt, our parliamentarian, installed the following members to the following positions for 2016:

Alexis Van Natta - President

Jeanne Watkins - Treasurer

Dyanna Cridelich - Secretary

Wayne Mills - President Elect

Board Members:- Janis Ferguson, Sylvia Nasholm, Don Nasholm, Sharon Duncan and Sally Griffith.

Dyanna handed over the gavel to new president, Alexis Van Natta. Alexis had a couple of riddles for the members. Why do moon rocks taste better than earth rocks? They are meteor. Why did the man take his girlfriend to the rock quarry? He wanted to get a little boulder. Alexis gave the "New President's Pep Talk" and said that she will serve the club to the best of her abilities.

**Gift Exchange:**

Sylvia Nasholm presided over our gift exchange. Almost everyone in attendance participated. There were a lot of great gifts and a lot of stealing. Everyone had a good time.

Dyanna asked if members would like to hold their luncheon at the Madonna Inn again next year and everyone voted yes.

Respectfully submitted:

Elaine Von Achen, Secretary, OMS

## OMS CALENDAR

### JANUARY 2016

Tuesday, January 5 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting, <b>Nipomo Chamber of Commerce</b> meeting room, All members are welcome at this meeting
Saturday, January 9 8:00 a.m.	Highway Clean-up-SE corner Rtes. 101/166 East
Tuesday, January 12 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.	OMS General Meeting— Luis Oasis Senior Center. • <b>Program</b> -The Golden Age of Mining in the West-- 1848-1888 Dr. Gray • <b>Display</b> -Ore minerals

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refreshments- Doughnuts</li> </ul>
Saturday, January 23 8:30 a.m.	OMS Monthly Breakfast- <b>Country Kitchen, Santa Maria</b>
<b>FEBRUARY 2016</b>	
Tuesday, February 2 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting, <b>Nipomo Chamber of Commerce</b> meeting room, All members are welcome at this meeting
Tuesday, February 9 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.	OMS General Meeting— Luis Oasis Senior Center. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program-Agates</li> <li>• Display- Agates</li> <li>• Refreshments-Cakes</li> </ul>
Saturday, February 27 8:30 a.m.	OMS Monthly Breakfast- <b>Sunset Ridge, Santa Maria</b>

## CFMS SHOWS

### 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](mailto:Margaretbu03@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.tulegem.com](http://www.tulegem.com)

### FEBRUARY 2016

#### February 12 - 21: INDIO, CA

San Geronio Mineral & Gem Society  
Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival  
82-503 Highway 111  
Hours: 10 - 10 daily  
Contact: Bert Grisham, (915) 849-1674  
Email: [bert67@verizon.net](mailto:bert67@verizon.net)

#### February 20 - 21: ANTIOCH, CA

Antioch Gem Club  
Contra Costa County Fairgrounds  
1201 West 10th Street  
Hours: 10 - 5 daily  
Contact: Brenda Miguel, (925) 301-6957  
Email: [brenda.miguel@yahoo.com](mailto:brenda.miguel@yahoo.com)  
Website: [www.antiochlapidaryclub.com](http://www.antiochlapidaryclub.com)

2016-OMS Officers		
<b>President</b>	Alexis Van Natta	(805) 937-4347
<b>President-Elect</b>	Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495
<b>Secretary</b>	Dyanna Cridelich	(805) 937-4347
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jeanne Watkins	(805) 481-1811
<b>Imm. Past Pres.</b>	Dyanna Cridelich	(805) 937-4347
<b>Federation Rep.</b>	Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495

2016-OMS Board Members	
Sharon Duncan	(805) 478-9359
Jan Ferguson	(805) 474-9977
Sally Griffith	(805) 928-6848
Don Nasholm	(805) 481-0923
Sylvia Nasholm	(805) 481-0923

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**OMS Membership** \$24.00 for Individual, \$34.00 per couple, \$5.00 Each Additional Family Member, \$5 for Juniors under age of 18. One time initiation fee for new members is \$10.00. **OMS Membership Chairperson is Dyanna Cridelich (805) 9374347**

**OMS Webmaster –Bill Brown– (805) 481-1811**  
Check out our OMS web site  
at: <http://www.omsinc.org> or send e-mail to  
[info@omsinc.org](mailto:info@omsinc.org).

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**Check out our Website**  
**[omsinc.org](http://omsinc.org)**  
**For our tentative calendar**  
**for 2016!!**

**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.

