



**The Pres Box—
January 2020**
Bill Brown, OMS President

Welcome to a new year. I hope it will be a happy, healthy and enjoyable journey for all. I also hope that your Holidays were as joy-filled as they could be.

This is my first time doing this (ever), and I have not figured out where everything is. I'll do my best to get myself caught up.

The board meeting will be on Tue, Jan 7 from 7 to 9 p.m. (Nipomo Chamber of Commerce). If you have a chance, drop by. We usually have a good time and non-board members are welcome.

Our regular meeting will be on Tue, Jan 14. The theme will be agates, and the program will be agates. The club will provide donuts (yum!).

Our bi-monthly highway clean-up will take place on January 11, the weekend before our General Meeting. We meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Park-n-Ride at the southeast corner of Route 101 and 166 east. It is good exercise, and kind of fun, especially since we have treats and coffee afterwards at the Country Kitchen in Santa Maria. And we can always use another hand or several.

Our Monthly Breakfast will be on the 25th (4th Saturday) at the Country Kitchen in Santa Maria (1701 N. Broadway). Bill Hood has kindly agreed to continue to be in charge of the

monthly breakfasts, and the breakfasts will follow the order that is shown in the 2019 Red Book (page 11). Please try to join us! "The more the merrier" as the saying goes.

We are trying to plan our programs for the year. We have a start, but request your input on topics you would like to hear about. Please talk to Jeanne Brown or myself with your ideas. We are also trying to fill out our show committees for next year. Please check out page 10 in your 2019 Red Books for the Show committees and let me know what activities you would agree to help us with. While you are checking the Red Book, please check your own entry (Pages 12-15) and let us know if anything has changed.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES
Greetings go out to those folks who are having Birthdays and Anniversaries in **January**

BIRTHDAYS

Jeannie Beattie	1/2	Yo
Pat Nurenberg	1/11	Yo
Virginia Rogers	1/21	~
Elisabeth Nybo	1/27	~
Sir Paul Howard,	1/28	~
Elaine Von Achen	1/30	~

ANNIVERSARIES

Don & Sylvia Nasholm 1/10

***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** so they will be included in the next edition (April 2018)*

MINERAL OF THE MONTH— Unakite

*Text by Wayne Mills (from Wikipedia).
Photo from majesticquartz.com*

Alright, it is not a mineral (it is an igneous rock), but **it is** green and red in honor of Christmas— (mistletoe and holly and all that). Also called “green granite”, it is, in fact an “altered” granite that was first found in the Unakas Mountains of North Carolina, but is not limited in its distribution area to the United States. (It occurs in South Africa, Sierra Leone, Brazil, and China.) The material is also found on the slopes of Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia and on the Shores of Lake Superior.

The main minerals present in Unakite are Epidote (green), Orthoclase Feldspar (Pink), and Quartz (generally colorless). Good specimens of Unakite take a great polish and are considered a semiprecious stone, being used in beads, cabochons, sculptures and eggs among other forms.

LOCAL ROCKS--BICONOIDS

Wayne Mills, Ore Cutts Editor, Photos by Wayne Mills



Biconoids from Templeton. Collection of Ralph Bishop

When they were first discovered near Templeton, scientists thought they were a new form of fossil clam. **Biconoids** have a similar bi-lateral symmetry to clams (two equal halves), but they are also **bi-radial** (meaning that if you cut them perpendicular to their midpoint, both halves are approximately equal. They look

kind of like the stereotypical UFO. **Biconic** means “two cones” which, in fact, describes the perfect biconoid—two squashed cones joined in the middle. These sedimentary quartz rocks apparently weather out of rhyolite (an igneous rock) like those found on Highway 46, about Post Mile 8. Many biconoids are found weathered out of their matrix off Las Tablas Road near the Twin Cities Hospital in Templeton.

The January, 2003 issue of **the Ore-Cutts** has a nice article about Biconoids written by Bea and Sherm Grizelle, former members of the Santa Lucia Rockhounds. The same issue has an article about geodes and biconoids by Ralph Bishop, honorary member of OMS. The Grizzelle’s article was first published in the June 2001 edition of Rock and Gem Magazine.



Biconoid from Templeton atop Multiconoid from Oregon. Collection of Ralph Bishop.

BIRTHSTONE(S) FOR JANUARY

Story *compiled from*

The Birth signs for January are: **Capricorn** (12/22-1/19) and **Aquarius** (1/20—2/18). According to <http://astrologyk.com>, the traditional stone for Capricorn is **Garnet (Photo: gemsociety.org)** as it is used in many ancient calendars as the stone for January when most Capricorns are born. “Capricorn is a



zodiac sign where the mystery of the darkest night and the glory of the light merge. The birthstone Garnet symbolizes the crossing of the bridge of darkness before one

can reach the radiation of the great white light. It is the conquest of the monster of the self that is the ultimate goal of the Capricorn.” Garnet comes in a rainbow of colors depending on the trace minerals present.



Garnet is also considered the traditional birthstone for January.

The traditional Birth Stone for Aquarius is: the Amethyst. The Zodiac sign of Aquarius also responds to Garnet, Turquoise, Agate and Jasper. The tradition of giving gifts of jewelry containing these stones dates back thousands of years. The gemstone, or birthstone Amethyst is believed to conduct the energies of the planet Uranus with which it is sympathetic and that wearing jewelry containing the gemstone will focus the energies of the planet and sign through the gem.

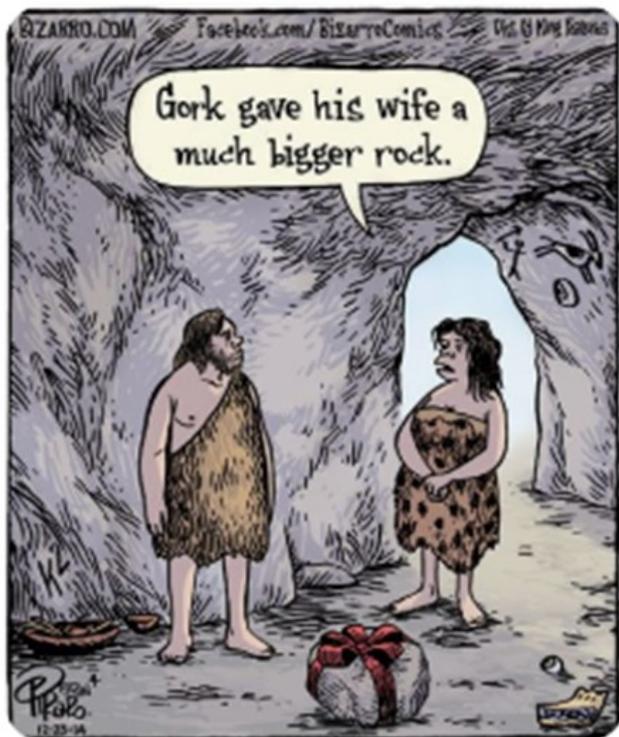
Aquarius is the friendliest and most sociable sign of the zodiac, and Aquarius birthstones have been identified of old. Amethyst helps in the promotion of communication and effective group work. The ideal is basically oneness of the whole or wholeness of the one, whichever way it is put.

Since purple is also a symbol of majesty, the stone plays a role in spiritualising the nature made noble by sorrow. As the lower nature is purified, the wearer becomes worthy of the "purple robe" or the ultimate goal that lies at the end of the path.



Image from: quotev.com.

Image from: globalracutan.com.



Cartoon: Bizarro.com

BITS AND BYTES

The Beauty of jade:

<https://www.facebook.com/MasonKayJade/videos/286235702311963/>

Virtual tour of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington D.C.

http://naturalhistory.si.edu/vt3/NMNH/z_NMNH-016.html

Inside the World's largest geode (Southern Spain)

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/science/2019/10/giant-crystals-formed-in-strange-ways-climate-chemistry-pulpi-geode/>

Scientists find remains of a 386 million year old forest (oldest known) in New York Quarry.

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/video/science/scientists-just-found-remains-of-a-massive-386-million-year-old-forest/vi-BBYajeh>

QUARTZITE (Az.) ROCK SHOWS SCHEDULE - 2020

Desert Gardens Gem & Mineral

January 01 - February 28, 2018

Prospectors Panorama January 01 - January 14, 2017

Tyson Wells Rock & Gem Show January 05 - January 14, 2018

QIA Pow Wow - Gems, minerals & jewelry
January 17 - January 21, 2018

Gold, Treasure & Craft Show February 9 - 11, 2018

<https://xpopress.com/showcase/profile/5/quartzsite-showcase-swapmeet>

<https://www.desertusa.com/cities/az/quartzsite.html>

PICTURES FROM OUR ANNUAL MEETING —12/14/2019
Pictures by Bill Hood





DISPLAYS FROM OUR NOVEMBER MEETING

Our November Meeting was the Annual 1' x 1' contest. Members voted on their favorite display



for a neat prize donated by Wes Lingerfelt (a Rhodonite Sphere). The winning display was **Betty Campbell's 25-item display**

Betty's winning display



Incoming (2020) Board



The Browns receive their Golden Bear Certificates



of banded agates from various locations. Thanks to all who brought displays!



Brenna and Sylvia at the gift exchange





**ORCUTT MINERAL SOCIETY
Board Meeting
Nipomo Chamber of Commerce
December 3, 2019**

After some excitement trying to get into the building, President Wayne Mills called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. **Incoming and outgoing Board** members present were: Wayne Mills, Jan Ferguson, Bill and Jeanne Watkins Brown, Debbie Hood, Dick Bazzell, Dyanna Cridelich, Alexis Van Natta, Sylvia Nasholm, Sally Griffith, and Renea Sutcliffe. Elisabeth Nybo stopped in to drop off the Bulletin Editor Stuff and 3 copies of the bulletin. Wes Lingerfelt attended to present an item to the Board.

Minutes: Minutes from general meeting were read by President Wayne Mills since the bulletin was just hot off the presses at time of the meeting. No additions or corrections. Accepted as printed.

Treasurer's report: Jeanne Watkins Brown presented the Treasurer's report. Checking and savings total over \$26,949. Tax return was due on November 15 and is taken care of. The Abused Children's fund has \$750 and the Board voted to round this number to \$1000, our usual donation. Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented. Jeanne will present the 2020 Budget at our Annual Meeting.

Correspondence: Included newsletters from AFMS, So. County Chamber of Commerce, the Underground Mining Museum, and the Santa Lucia Rockhounds (Rockonteur). We also had requests from donations from The Oasis Senior Center and the Salvation Army.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Bulletin: The Bulletin is out. It looks good (4 – pages this month). No corrections or additions.

CFMS: Renea had no report. Wayne (CFMS Rep for Santa Lucia Rockhounds) mentioned that Quartzite Shows are in January. Wes Lingerfelt is planning to attend in the second week of January. There will be an AFMS Rocky Mountain Federation Show in Big Piney Wyoming on June 6/13-016/2020. There will be field trips in connection to the show. Two of the collecting areas will be Blue Forest Petrified wood, and Fish Fossils from Kemmerer, Wyoming.

Field Trips: The field trip to Cliff Brewens' home in November was fun. There was a lot of nice material from the Grizzelle's rock sale.



Betty and her Rhodonite Sphere donated by Wes Lingerfelt

Highway Cleanup: Our next Highway cleanup will be held January 11, 2020 at 8:00 am. Members will meet on the Southeast corner of Highways 101 and 166 East.

Membership: Debbie Hood had nothing to report.

Refreshments: January treats are doughnuts on the Club. Wayne is supposed to bring a sign-up list to pass around at the January meeting.

Sunshine: Jeanne Brown was looking quite spry as she is recovering from her recent surgery. We are told that Lisa Azevedo is recovering from knee surgery. Bill Hood is not doing well.

Scholarship: (Jeanne Brown) Nothing to report this month.

Breakfast: (Bill Hood) Next breakfast is January 25 at Country Kitchen in Santa Maria. 2020 Breakfasts will follow the pattern in our 2019 Red Book.

Education: (Wayne Mills) Nothing to report this month.

Library: (Alexis Van Natta) Our library is posted on our web site. Let her know if you want anything.

Show: President Brown should submit the application (to the Lucia Mar School District) for use of Nipomo High School for our August Show in January. Other groups may try to usurp our show dates! The approval process can take 3-5 months. Our 2020 Show Dates are August 7-9.

Annual Meeting: Our Annual Meeting/ Madonna Inn Luncheon will take place on Saturday, December 14th, 2020. It will begin at 12:00 noon and go until 3:00 pm. Those of you who want to participate in the gift exchange, please bring a rock-related gift that is worth \$10.00 and don't forget to bring a can or two for the food drive.

Old Business:

Bill says that his understanding is that we have the Oasis Center until June 2020. We will need to resubmit the application at that time. Our new Board was elected by unanimous acclaim at our November General meeting. They are: President (Bill Brown), President Elect (Jeanne Brown), Treasurer (Betty Campbell), Secretary (Wayne Mills), Board: (Dick Bazzell, Debbie Hood, Sally Griffith, Jan Ferguson, Renea Sutcliffe) .

Wayne thanked the current board for their service to the club in 2019.

New Business:

Wes Lingerfelt mentioned that we had an open Pay Pal Account for selling rocks donated by Lucky Virgin to the club. He wanted to get his name off the account. Jeanne Brown bought 2 of the three cabochons and the sphere, and we put the other cab in the Treasure Chest for our 2020 Show. The Board Voted to close the Pay Pal Account. Motion passed.

The Board reviewed the proposed Agenda for our annual meeting and had no changes.

President Wayne Mills adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Wayne Mills for Debbie Hood, 2019 Secretary, OMS

ORCUTT MINERAL SOCIETY
Annual Meeting
Madonna Inn, San Luis Obispo, CA
December 14, 2019

OMS ANNUAL MEETING

MADONNA INN –December 14, 2019

The meeting began about 12:20 PM with the invocation by Mike Henson, and the Flag Salute by Truman Burgess.

Serving of the meal began about 12:30 pm and just after 1:00 pm, President Mills gave his annual report remarking that OMS had had another good year, and he thanked many people who had helped to make it so. He then introduced the incoming officers and board (many of whom are continuing on the Board and as Officers. The 2020 Board is:

President (Bill Brown), **President-Elect** (Jeanne Brown), **Secretary** (Wayne Mills), **Treasurer** (Betty Campbell). **Board members** for 2020 are: Dick Bazzell, Jan Ferguson, Sally Griffith, Debbie Hood and Renea Sutcliffe)

Our Treasurer Jeanne Brown commented that she had left the proposed budget at home, but that the club was still solvent, and that she would present the 2020 budget at our January meeting.

President Mills asked for any Old or New Business, and there was none. He then proceeded to the Awards and Recognition. Bill and Jeanne Brown were the recipients of the 2019 Golden Bear awards for their many good deeds for our society. Wayne then mentioned that while he would not make a Member of the Year award, he wanted to recognize Wes Lingerfelt for his continuing and valuable contributions to our society.



Wes then proceeded to administer the oath of office to the new Board and individually to the new officers.

Incoming President Bill Brown mentioned that he had bronchitis and would keep his remarks short. Bill said that being new to the office of president, he will need a lot of help from the membership in the coming year. He mentioned some of his priorities for the year, including adding new, and especially younger members to help keep the club vital. In aid of this goal, Bill proposed a manned membership table at our 2020 Show. He also expressed a desire to find a home for a lapidary workshop for the club as we have enjoyed in the past. After Bill's remarks, Wes Lingerfelt mentioned that he had brought 2020 pocket calendars for all the meeting attendees.

Then the meeting was turned over to Sylvia Nasholm for the gift exchange. She had 35 numbers to run through and with occasional stealing taking place, that activity took up most of the rest of the time. The meeting concluded just shy of 3:00 pm when we were due to leave the room.

Respectfully submitted, Wayne Mills, OMS Secretary

OMS CALENDAR

JANUARY 2020

Tuesday, January 7 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting, Nipomo Chamber of Commerce meeting room. All members are welcome at this meeting.
Saturday, January 11 8:00 a.m.	Highway Clean-up at southeast corner 101/166 East
Tuesday, January 14 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.	General Meeting —Luis Oasis Senior Center. Program —Agates! Wes Lingerfelt Display —Agates / Anything Refreshments —Donuts—Club provides
Saturday, January 18	FT—TBD
Saturday, January 25 8:30 a.m.	OMS Monthly Breakfast— Country Kitchen , Santa Maria

FEBRUARY 2020

Tuesday, February 4 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting, Nipomo Chamber of Commerce meeting room. All members are welcome at this meeting.
Tuesday, February 11 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm	General Meeting —Luis Oasis Senior Center. Program —TBD Display —TBD Refreshments —Pie—
Saturday, February 15	FT—TBD
Saturday, February 22 8:30 a.m.	OMS Monthly Breakfast— Country Kitchen , Arroyo Grande

2020-OMS OFFICERS		
President	Bill Brown	(805) 481-1811
President-Elect	Jeanne Brown	(805) 481-1811
Secretary	Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495
Treasurer	Betty Campbell	(805) 929-5344
Imm. Past Pres.	Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495
2020-OMS BOARD MEMBERS		
	Dick Bazzell	(805-757-9123
	Jan Ferguson	(805) 474-9977
	Sally Griffith	(805) 928-6848
	Debbie Hood	(805) 481-6860
	Renea Suttcliffe	805) 929-2783
CFMS FEDERATION DIRECTOR		
	Renea Suttcliffe	805) 929-2783
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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: ?		
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 .		
Ore-Cutts Editor/Publisher		
Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495	wwmills50@hotmail.com

CFMS SHOWS

JANUARY (2020)

January 18 – 19: EXETER, CA
 Tule Gem & Mineral Society, Visalia
 Exeter Veterans' Memorial Building
 324 N. Kaweah Avenue
 Hours: Sat 10 – 5; Sun 10 – 4
 Contact: Gayle Bingaman (559) 802-6029
 Email: bandgbing@aol.com
 Website: tulegem.com

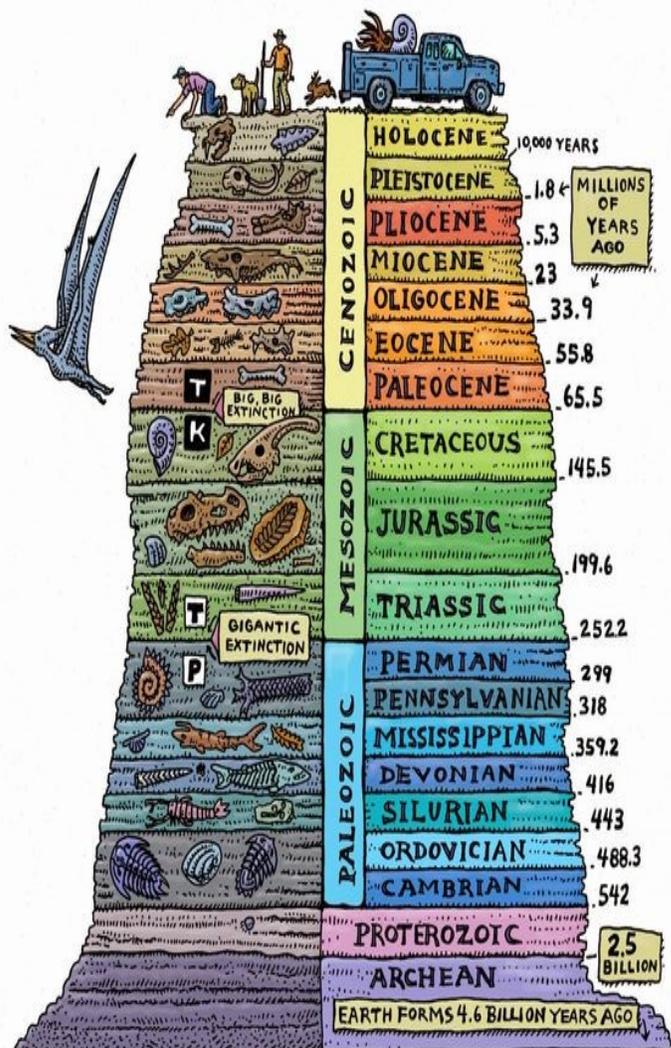
FEBRUARY (2020)

February 14 – 23: INDIO, CA
 San Gorgonio Mineral & Gem Society
 Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival
 82-503 Highway 111

Hours: 10 – 10 daily
 Contact: Bert Grisham, (951) 849-1674
 Email: bert67@verizon.net
February 15 – 17: ANTIOCH, CA
 Antioch Lapidary Club
 Contra Costa County Fairgrounds
 1201 West 10th Street
 Hours: 10 – 5 daily
 Contact: Brenda Miguel
 Email: brenda.miguel@yahoo.com
 Website: antiochlapidaryclub.com

February 22 – 23: VALLEJO, CA
 Vallejo Gem & Mineral Society
 McCormack Hall, Solano County Fairgrounds
 900 Fairgrounds Drive
 Hours: 10 – 5 daily
 Contact: Debra Duhon, (415) 254-1506
 Email: dduhonvgms@gmail.com
 Website: vjgems.org

BASIC GEOLOGIC TIME SCALE (Time in millions of Years) Geologyin.com



**Orcutt Mineral Society, Inc.
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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.