



**The Prez Box—
July 2021**
Wayne Mills for Bill Brown, OMS President

Our President, Bill Brown was home briefly after his Heart Surgery, but fell and injured his brain and required further surgery to relieve that injury. At this writing, he has recently been moved to an extended care facility in Arroyo Grande. He will be confined to a wheelchair for at least a year. Our heartfelt good wishes go out to Bill and Jeanne at this difficult time.

We had our first face to face Board meeting in more than a year on Tuesday, May 4, and our first face to face General Meeting on the following Tuesday (May 11) at Oasis Senior Center in Santa Maria. Fifteen folks showed-up to hear Wayne's presentation on "Rocks and Fossils of the Central Coast. Four members brought displays including Wes Lingerfelt (Arizona Petrified Wood), Betty Campbell and Wayne Mills (Rocks and Fossils of the Central Coast).

After some difficulty, our first Semi-Annual Meeting/Picnic in 2 years took place on **Sunday**, June 13 (it was supposed to be on Saturday, June 12) at Pioneer Park in Santa Maria. About 25 folks showed-up, and I think they had fun. We had a table and a half full of donated rocks, and sold about \$160 worth. Wes Lingerfelt and crew did a great job on the barbecue, and the member's donations of food and desserts was varied and delicious.

Wes Lingerfelt agreed to take over the OMS Website in President, Bulletin Editor and Web Master Bill Brown's temporary (we hope) ab-

sence. Wes has recently posted the Calendar for the rest of 2021. He has also agreed to do 3 of our 5 remaining programs! Thank you Wes!. Our July General meeting will be on the Denver (Colo.) Mineral Museum, and our display will be a 1' x 1' display (or anything). Hope to see you at the Oasis Center July 13. Bring your 1' x 1' display, or anything.

Rock on ya'll
Wayne Mills, OMS IPP

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

**JULY
BIRTHDAYS**

Mike Henson 7/17 ☞

ANNIVERSARIES

Joe & Lisa Azevedo 7/08

***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 (May 2020)*

BIRTHSTONE(S) FOR JULY Wayne Mills, Secretary ,OMS

RUBY

Text by Wayne Mills and as noted. July 2020 Ore-Cutts. Picture Wikipedia.org

Ruby (Latin Ruber -red), is an aluminum oxide (Corundum) that is in the same “family” with sapphire.



Interestingly, The name corundum was is

taken from the Tamil word “kuruntam” which means “ruby” (<https://gemcity.com/interesting-facts-ruby-gemstone>.) Corundum is the second hardest mineral rating 9 on the Mohs Hardness Scale. The red color in Rubies come from the replacement of 1 in 5,000 of the aluminum atoms with chromium (Encyclopedia Britannica). Ruby is one of the Big 4, most desirable gemstones (Diamonds, Rubies, Emeralds and Sapphires).. Ruby has been found in few locations, most notably in north-central Myanmar (Burma), northeast of Mandalay, where the gemstone occurs in bands of crystalline limestone associated with granitic and gneissic rocks. Rubies have been found at several localities in Thailand, in gravels with sapphires and spinels; and they are generally of dark color, often inclining to a deep reddish brown. Rubies found in the gem gravels of Sri Lanka are not usually of such good color as the Myanmar stones. (Encyclopedia Britannica). In America, Rubies have been found in North Carolina. Rubies occur with Zoisite (chrome mica) in Tanzania, however, these are NOT gem grade. Other locations claiming to have rubies— Arizona, Australia and the Cape of South Africa, have instead, fine garnets.

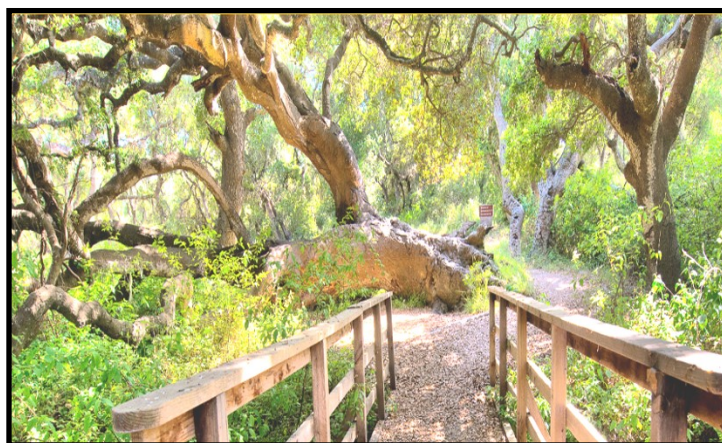
LOCAL ROCKS

Wayne Mills, Secretary ,OMS
Image: ParksCa.gov

On Saturday, June 5, I joined Kim Noyes and 8 other folks in Los Osos at the Los Osos Oaks Reserve. I had not been in that Reserve previously, so thought it a good opportunity to explore with folks who knew the way. GOOD THING I did not try to do it on my own!

Kim led us up the trail from the parking lot, and we hiked through a well-wooded area to several dramatic overlooks of the now dry creek bed that winds through the preserve. At one point where we tried to enter the creek bed, I slipped and slid down the hill a bit, cautioning the folks following me to try another entry point., Fortunately, it was suggested that an easier entry/ exit point was on the east side of the bridge on LOVR (Los Osos Valley Road) that we crossed to get to the Reserve parking lot. THAT worked a lot better as an ingress/egress point when we were ready to leave (we walked in the creek bed toward the noise on the bridge)..

According to the Parks website, there are about 1.5 miles of trails in the park. Most of the rocks we saw though were in the creek. Several of the attendees got some nice pieces of banded chert and brecciated jasper. Many thanks are due to Kim Noyes for continuing to lead his informal field trips at scenic and often productive locations around our Central Coast.



**ORCUTT MINERAL SOCIETY--
BOARD MEETING**
Nipomo Chamber Conference Room
June 1, 2021 (7:00 P.M.)

Members present: 2021 Board: Wayne Mills, Betty Campbell, Dick Bazell;

Members absent: Bill & Jeanne Brown, Jan Ferguson, Debbie Hood, Sally Griffith, Renea Sutcliffe

Called to Order at 7:05 PM. by Wayne Mills for President Bill Brown

MINUTES: Published in June Bulletin. Corrections?

TREASURER'S REPORT: Jeanne. Will not be present. Will Jan get checks?

CORRESPONDENCE: Wayne—Salvation Army, expired SB Gem Faire notice, 3 letters from Pic Rights asking for money for using copyrighted pictures in Bulletin. (Dick checked them out—it is a scam), AFMS newsletter

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Bulletin- First General meeting in May. Bulletin out— one correction noted – wrong meeting date was printed..

CFMS- (Renea). CFMS Director's meeting will be by Zoom in June. No report..

Membership – Wayne—Nothing new. Bill will be out for a few or several months. He had surgery to relieve brain hemmorage from fall.

Field Trip – Sally. No report- -still waiting to hear about our trip to Ozena.

Adopt-a-Highway – Our next highway cleanup is Saturday, July 10 at 8 AM.

Annual Awards Banquet: We don't know if we will be able to hold our banquet or not due to corona virus. We should have info from Madonna Inn by Mid-November. We do have the room reserved for December 11 (Deposit carried over from 2020).

PLEASE CONTACT WAYNE AHEAD OF TIME IF YOU WILL/WILL NOT COME TO A FACE-TO-FACE - ANNUAL MEETING. Wayne called over half the local membership on Picnic. The recalled them (with help) when our reservations got changed to Sunday..

Breakfast- Breakfasts have been cancelled until further notice.

Education None to report.

Library- (Alexis)

Sunshine-Bill fell after his heart surgery and got "brain bleed" then had surgery for that.

Scholarship (Jeanne) No scholarship will be awarded until (perhaps) 2022. Our annual scholarship de-

pends on our show revenue.

Our show was canceled this year due to Corona-virus. The SLO Club is planning their show for Aug.-Sept., 2021.

Old Business- In November, 2020, The Board voted to accept Wes Lingerfelt's proposal to advertise his rock-related materials on our website, giving the club a percentage of the profits. No one has picked any items off Wes's Website (Sphereheaven.com) to advertise on our site though. **Wes has kindly agreed to do the Webmaster job in Bill's absence.**

New Business- We are a go for our picnic! About 25 folks plus a couple of maybes have committed to the picnic. Folks bring side dish/dessert, place settings, drinks, tablecloth and rocks for raffle. Wayne bring cash box, raffle slips. Santa Maria P&R changed our reservations to Sunday, June 13.

We had our first face to face meeting at Oasis Center on May11. We need to plan meetings (5) for the rest of the year. **Any ideas?**

Printing costs just went up again, the May bulletin cost \$43.38 for printing (22 copies) and \$11.00 for mailing (about \$654/year). Board suggested asking who do not need mailed copy.

No objections from Board to Wayne being President pro-tem until Bill recovers.

Adjourned at: 7:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Wayne Mills, OMS Secretary

**ORCUTT MINERAL SOCIETY
SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING**
Pioneer Park, Santa Maria
June 13, 2020 (11 AM—2 PM)

About 25 folks showed-up for our Picnic. It was fun!
(See article on page 5)



Respectfully submitted,
Wayne Mills, OMS Secretary

BITS AND BYTES

Mystery Gem Boxes.

<https://entirerapidsample.com/Gemstone/index.php>

Boring to the core. Earth's deepest holes

<https://zenherald.com/q/deepest-man-made-hole-ever-abandoned-due-to-astonishing-event>

Third largest diamond recently found in Botswana (1098 Carats

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/world/record-setting-diamond-unearthed-in-botswana>



Largest mammal Ever to Live on Land— A rhino big as 6 Elephants found in China in 2015

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/technology/new-fossil-discovery-just-revealed-the-biggest-land-mammal-ever-to-walk-on-land>

World's largest Collection of Fluorescent Rocks— Sterling Hill, New Jersey

<https://www.geologyin.com/2017/03/see-worlds-largest-collection-of>

Top Spots for Hunting Gems in the US.

www.geologypage.com/2016/top-spots-gem-hunting-us

PLEASE HELP!!

We have made this plea before, and gotten little response. We have five months left this year, and are running out of inspiration for the Ore-Cutts. Please send us pictures of your favorite rocks or rock crafts, articles about your rockhound adventures, Rock-related questions that you would like answered, or links to good rockhound videos, You might start working on your 1 x 1 Display for November (and a practice 1 x 1 Display in July). There MAY be a prize in November.

OMS PICNIC 6/13/2021

Text by Wayne Mills, OMS Secretary, pictures by Bill Hood

About 25 folks showed-up for the first OMS Picnic in 2 years. We had a tough time getting started, as we first had to change the date of our Picnic after Santa Maria Parks and Rec. gave away our Saturday date, Then after we requested to have the park opened at 8 AM on Sunday, no body had shown-up to open the gates even by 10 AM that the posted notice gave as our start time. It took a call to the Police Department at 10:10 AM, and another 40 minute wait until the Ranger came to open the gates. In the interim, Dick Bazzell came up with a brilliant idea to wheel the firewood from Truman's truck to the Barbecue pit in the available 45 gallon trash cans so we could at least get the fire started. Many thanks to all the OMS folks who carried their stuff to the picnic area before the gates were opened, and to all those who helped get the picnic set-up and ready to go. There was LOT of delicious food, and many folks brought in great rocks, plants (Jeannie L.) and honey for the silent auction. Some of the high earners were Wes's beautiful petrified wood slab (\$20.50), The crystal lined geode halves \$15 and \$12.50 respectively, and the jar of Honey (\$15). Many thanks (again) to all who contributed to our successful auction! (\$160).

See more pictures from our 2021 BBQ on our website at: omsinc.org / ENTER WEBSITE HERE/OMS Annual Picnic.



THE SAND BENEATH YOUR FEET From An article by Andrew Hoekstra in *Delvings*— newsletter of the Delvers Gem and Mineral Society of Long Beach, CA, July 2021.



SAND FROM PISMO BEACH, CALIFORNIA (*photo: Wikimedia Commons, courtesy Mark A. Wilson*)

Andrew wrote a great article about sand and sand collecting in his July Bulletin. When I saw this picture of sand from Pismo Beach (about 8 minutes from my home) I felt I needed to share it. Most folks don't think much about the sand they walk on, or about where it came from and what it is composed of. You hear about the black sand beaches of Hawaii (basalt), and the white sand beaches of the Caribbean (often bits of coral and sea shells), but there are many other colors and combinations of sand-sized particles around the world. And THAT is partly why some people collect vials of sand from different beaches and deserts that they have visited.

When you think of the journeys that individual sand grains make from inland mountains down rivers to the shore and then (at least in California) transported by longshore currents southward, occasionally resting on intermittent beaches, You can appreciate the variety of the individual sand grains from many locations. I can see granite, gneiss, chert, quartz, chalcedony, feldspar and perhaps basalt in the sample above. Luckily, some of the rocks that start out on the journey to becoming sand are able to hang together long enough for eager rockhounds to find them.

Recommended: [A Grain of Sand](#), by Gary Greenberg. Voyager Press, 2008 (out of print)

CFMS SHOWS

July

July 10, 2021—Bellflower., CA ,10 AM—4 PM

The Delvers Gem & Mineral Society
Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church
14515 Blaine Ave.,
Parking Lot Sale—Rocks, mineral, lapidary
equipment and more for sale.

August

August 21-22, 2021 – Tehachapi, CA

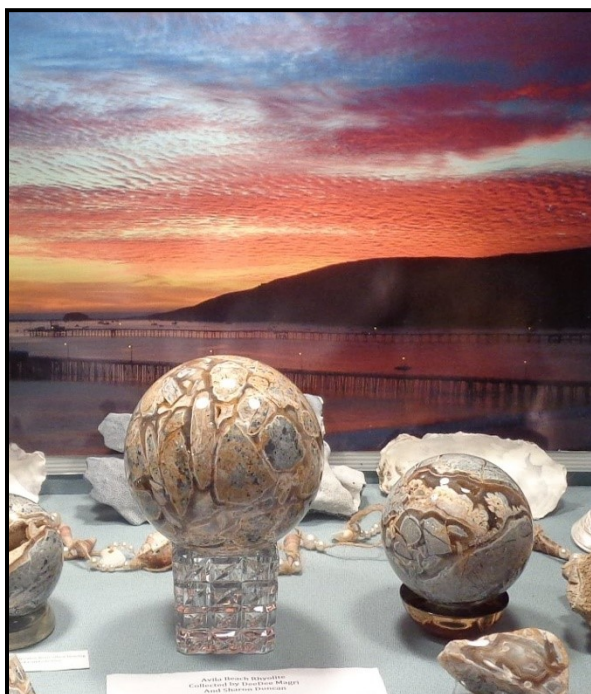
Tehachapi Valley Gem and Mineral Society
TVGMS Annual Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show
500 East “F” Street, Tehachapi, CA 93561
Saturday and Sunday 9 AM to 5 PM
Contact: (661) 972-1117, travis462@outlook.com
Website:<http://tvgms.org>

Rocks, Gems, Minerals, Beads, Jewelry, kids activities and more plus Tehachapi Mountain Festival 2021.

AFMS SHOWS

July

None listed



**Sharon and Deedee's display of (Avila Beach)
DeeDeeite from a couple of our past shows**

AFMS/CFMS NEWS—JUNE 2021

Wayne Mills, SLR CFMS Rep

CFMS (cfmsinc.org)

The bulletin also has an article about tips on growing your club (Part III,)

CFMS Camp Paradise is open 8/22-27 and 8/29—9/4/2021. Contact Sandi Fender for applications.

In response to an editorial problem I had, I found that the Legal Advisor to CFMS position is open

SHOWS:

June 12-13—Escondido, CA --California Arts Center Museum and Ballroom (340 N Escondido Blvd, Escondido, CA)

June 25-27—CFMS Show in Lodi Cancelled)
August Pasadena Lapidary Club Show has been cancelled.

AFMS (amfed.org)

Margaret Kolaczyk, former CFMS President is the new President Elect of AFMS. (Mis reported in the previous AFMS/CFMS Notes)

AFMS is seeking a new Bulletin Editor to replace Sue Webb who has retired from the position.

It does not appear that AFMS has a Legal Advisor (either, like CFMS).

The June bulletin has a nice article about getting the most slabs out of a rock, and a Jim Brace Thompson article requesting Juniors help in coming up with an Oath and a Mascot for the JRA (Junior Rockhounds of America)..

In an article about What Makes a Club Great, an interviewer asked a 3rd Grader “do you believe in Climate Change”, the student’s reply was “of course there is! If there wasn’t, we’d still be in an ice age!”

OMS CALENDAR	
JULY 2021	
Tuesday, July 6 7:00 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting, Nipomo Chamber of Commerce Building
Saturday, July 10 8:00 a.m.	Highway Clean-up Southeast corner of Highways 101/166 east
Tuesday, July 13 7:00 p.m.	OMS General Meeting, Oasis Senior Center. Wes Lingerfelt—Denver Mineral Museum Display 1' x 1' or anything
July-no Breakfast	OMS Breakfast (TBD)
AUGUST 2021	
Tuesday, August 6 7:00 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting, Nipomo Chamber of Commerce Building
Tuesday, August 13 7:00 p.m.	OMS General Meeting, Oasis Senior Center. Wayne Mills on Pictures in Rocks Display— Picture Rocks or anything
August-no Breakfast	OMS Breakfast (TBD)

2020-2021-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 (Interim)		
Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495	wwmills50@hotmail.com

Check-out the OMS Web page at :omsinc.org for our old bulletins (since 2002) and a wealth of other information We have a Bibliography to help your bulletin search.. Our bulletins look much better in COLOR!

Check-out our Facebook page. Elisabeth does a great job keeping that up. (Search for Orcutt Mineral Society in Facebook Search)..

ROCKHOUND HUMOR (PUNISHMENT)

Pictures and captions by Wayne Mills

“Don’t tell me this isn’t a gneiss rock!”

“You know it’s not gneiss to say schist!”
(OK, it’s Blue Schist.)



“One, two, three o’clock, four o’clock
rock!...”

Hard Rock Café



Stay tuned for next month when we may feature even more
earthy humor

**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.