



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

**NEWS FLASH**  
**5/24/21— Our picnic  
scheduled for June 12**

**is ON!! Please save the date on your calendar.**

We are happy to report that after some struggles, our President, Bill Brown is home and recovering from his recent heart surgery. We hope to have him back in the saddle again SOON. 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.

Fifteen folks showed-up for the General Meeting, and Wayne Mills gave the presentation on "Rocks and Fossils of the Central Coast". Sally G. brought donuts, and we got sign-ups for (refreshments for) the rest of the year, **though we would like to have a second person sign-up for July (Cake), and October (Cake)**, so we can have 2 folks for each month.. There were 4 nice displays as well. **MANY thanks** to the intrepid OMS Members who made the effort to join our first meeting in over a year.

On Mother's Day weekend, I helped with the 3rd installment of Rough Rock Sale at the home of former OMS Members, Chuck and Kay Vollmer. Only two folks showed-up (maybe Mother's Day was not the best choice for a sale day, but the two who showed-up still got some nice rocks and books. ,

On Saturday May 1, I joined Kim Noyes and 3 other folks to hike through Nipomo Creek behind the Adobe Plaza in Nipomo. We found a few Nipomo agates, and a lot of poison oak. But it was fun to be out rock collecting again. I have heard rumblings about a possible field trip to Ozena, so be prepared!

Hope to see everyone at the Picnic. Bring a side dish, and rocks for the rock raffle. More details as they come available.

Rock on ya'll  
Wayne Mills, OMS IPP

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

**JUNE  
BIRTHDAYS**

Ralph Bishop	6/2	II
Geary Sheffer	6/9	II

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Bill & Debbie Hood	6/7	<b>#36</b>
Fred & Betty Campbell	6/19	<b>#66</b>
Stan & Jan Ferguson	6/27	<b>#51</b>

***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*



## BIRTHSTONE(S) FOR JUNE Wayne Mills, Secretary ,OMS

### The birthstones for June—Alexandrite and Pearl (From the June 2017 Ore-Cutts)



**Alexandrite** is a pleochroic (many color) form of Chrysoberyl (Beryllium aluminum oxide) that can display a range of colors from dark yellow-green to slightly blue-green to red, purplish or purple-violet under artificial light. The finest Alexandrite comes from the Ural Mountains of Russia where it was discovered in 1839 on the day the Czar to be Alexander II “came of age”. Associated with concentration and learning, alexandrite is believed to strengthen intuition, aid creativity and inspire imagination—bringing good omens to anyone who wears it.

**Pearl** is created in bivalve molluscs when an irritant (sand) is detected and coated with part of the shell lining called nacre. Precious pearls are created in (pearl) oysters and in abalones in the wild. Cultured pearls can be raised in freshwater, but have more regularity in shape, and less luster than naturally created pearls. In many cultures, pearls symbolize purity and innocence, which is why it's tradition for a bride to wear pearls on her wedding day



Images: (**Alexandrite**) <https://www.pngarts.com/files/2/Alexandrite-PNG-Photo.png>, (**Pearl**) <https://www.algiersumc.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/oyster-pearl.jpg>

### LOCAL ROCKS From Agates and Jaspers of the California Coast Ranges by Hans Gamma

### DEEDEEITE | AVILA BEACH San Luis Obispo County



Sphere  
13 cm dia.

In 2002 DeeDee Magri discovered a massive seam of a previously unknown brecciated rhyolite at the southern end of Avila Beach in San Luis Obispo County. It's named DeeDeeite in her honor. She describes it as an igneous siliceous rock containing agate, chalcedony, white quartz and marcasit California rock rarely fluoresces, but DeeDeeite can show orange, red and a bit of blue.



17 cm



13.5 cm

## ORCUTT MINERAL SOCIETY BOARD MEETING

Nipomo Chamber of Commerce  
May 4, 2020 (7:00 p.m.)

**Called to Order at 7:02 pm.** by Wayne Mills for President Bill Brown

Present were Wayne Mills, Betty Campbell, Dick Bazzell, Jan Ferguson and Sally Griffith. Absent were Bill and Jeanne Brown, Debbie Hood and Renea Sutcliffe.

**MINUTES:** No General meeting in April.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Jeanne. Not present

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Wayne—Salvation Army, Ca Div Tax & Fees, AFMS News, Santa Lucia News

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**Bulletin-** May bulletin is out—no comments.

**CFMS-** See new business (Renea CFMS Director's meeting will be by Zoom in June..

**Membership –** Wayne-- one new application Karen Loidea (one activity) Board decided Karen needed to attend 2 meetings as per our Bylaws to earn membership.

**Field Trip –** Sally. **Rough Rock Sale Pt. III Sunday May 9 at 1212 Starlite, Nipomo 10-2**

**Adopt-a-Highway –** Our next highway cleanup will be on Saturday, May 8 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 BILL OR WAYNE AHEAD OF TIME IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN A FACE-TO-FACE -ANNUAL MEETING. AND/OR SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING (PICNIC)**

**Breakfast-** Breakfasts have been cancelled until further notice.

**Education** None to report.

**Library-** (Alexis)

**Sunshine-**many members seem to be "hanging in there". Several have had their second COVID shots, but despite our pleas in the bulletin, we have heard from very few of our members.

**Scholarship** (Jeanne) No scholarship will be awarded until (perhaps) 2022. Our annual scholarship depends 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](http://Sphereheaven.com)) to advertise on our site though.

**New Business-** We still haven't heard from Santa Maria Parks & Rec about our Picnic, but we should start planning in case it happens (I called P&R 5/3 and they said we may know the last week in May!). I called Oasis Center about our May meeting, and **we are good for under 28 for May 11. PLAN MEETING!!** Printing costs just went up again, the May bulletin cost \$43.38 for printing (22 copies) and \$11.00 for mailing (about \$654/year).. On 4/29, Wayne met Ligia Zavala at Nipomo C of C and got new door codes and required enter and exit procedures.

**Adjourned at: 7:34 PM.**

**Respectfully submitted,  
Wayne Mills, OMS Secretary**

## ORCUTT MINERAL SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING

Nipomo Chamber of Commerce  
May 11, 2020 (7:00 p.m.)

About 15 folks showed-up for our first face to face meeting in over a year. It was nice to have some of our folks back in the fold. Sally brought donuts for refreshments, and we had four displays. We reiterated the same information as we had for our Board meeting, plus a **Treasurer's report** from Jeanne Brown. No activity from 1/1/21 to 4/30/21 except \$280 fees to CFMS for Membership. WE had income of \$43.75 for cans and bottles from highway clean-up. Our insurance is good until September 15.

We had a successful highway clean-up with Wes, and Marty Lingerfelt, Geary Sheffer, Sally Griffith and Wayne Mills attending.

We had a request from Jeanne Brown for donations to the Abused Children's Fund (Jan Ferguson) since we neglected them last year. Bill and Jeanne Brown donated \$100 to get the fund started.

Wayne Mills ran the meeting for President Brown who is recovering from heart surgery. Wayne also gave the program on "Rocks and Fossils of the Central Coast. It seemed to be well received as no body fell asleep. We hope to have word on whether or not we can have our picnic on June 12 by the time the bulletin goes out (about May 25. Adjourned about 8:47 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,  
Wayne Mills, OMS Secretary**



## BECOMING A ROCKHOUND

David Guinn—Rockhound at Large (Story and Picture)  
Adjunct professor at East Los Angeles College



When I first started out rockhounding, I was a complete rube. Vic and I had bought some Mexican Coconut Geodes at the County Fair. Then, I, being the genius that I am, thought, "These things are just sitting in the ground." I just needed to find out where. So I jumped on the internet and found some discussion groups for rockhounds.

I hooked up with a couple of cool guys who invited me out for a weekend of rockhounding. They explained that they were not going out

for geodes that weekend. However, they promised that at the end of the weekend, they would give me directions to a place where I could find some geodes. You see, I was on Winter Break and they all had to go back to work on Monday (I love being a professor ) In preparation for the trip, they gave me a list of equipment and supplies that I would need to make the weekend comfortable. Since I was a former construction worker and an avid Do-It-Yourselfer, I had most of what they recommended I pack along. One item I didn't have was a bag of marbles. I apparently needed a bag of marbles to go rockhounding

I was a little reluctant to be going out into the middle of nowhere with three strangers, but I believe the mantra; \*Feel the Fear and Do It Anyway, for There Lives True Adventure\* So I packed my things and followed them into the desert. I discovered that these were true gentlemen, with kind spirits, good hearts, and they possessed a good sense of humor.

They took me out to an area towards Yuma, AZ. The place was called "Indian Pass." They showed me where to find what I later discovered was scarce in nature, true blue rocks (dumortierite). There are blue crystals, but not many types of blue "rocks." In the same area I found some petrified "limb casts." We hiked up a trail that in many places was "built out and up" on the side of the mountain by hand, by people who have long since gone. We went up to find an ancient silver-smelting site. There were "rooms" carved out of the mountainside and some stone smelters still intact! On Sunday afternoon, true to their word, they gave me directions to the Hauser Geode Beds. I have told the story of how I got "hooked" on rockhounding all alone in the Hauser Geode Beds, so I won't repeat it here. However, the first night, sitting under the stars, all alone, under a black sky filled with stars, I remembered the bag of marbles in my backpack. They had forgotten to tell me what I was supposed to do with my bag of marbles! As I thought about it, with only the sounds of coyotes howling in the distance and the sounds of Kit Fox scurry-

ing about just outside of the light of my campfire in my ears, I thought I might be able to figure it out. After all, I had a whole THREE DAYS: of rockhounding under my belt, right?

I thought about it for some time before I figured out what they were for. I decided that whenever a rockhound finds a place that has cool rocks, they would drop a marble. That way other rockhounds, who knew about the marbles, would know to stop and look around in that area. Marbles are not "natural." If you see/find one, you would know that it was left there intentionally. I thought that was the most logical use for marbles in the desert. It also reinforced my impression of rockhounds as caring and helpful people. I felt quite proud that I had reasoned this through to the point where I added to my knowledge base about what was to become my new long-term hobby.

After my week in the desert, I returned with a new appreciation of the desert that I had mostly zoomed through on a motorcycle before, and a bucket full of geodes that I would need to saw in half. (Oh yeah, I had to buy a rock saw too ) I called my new friends to tell them how the rest of my trip had gone. We made plans to meet up to plan our next outing. I was, indeed, hooked.

While sitting together I told them how I had figured out what the marbles were for and how cool I thought that concept was. It was while I was explaining my hypothesis to them that I noticed their faces. They were making quick, sideways glances at each other and seemed to be trying to suppress a giggle (at least). One of them finally decided to put me out of my misery by explaining the marbles to me--so, here is the truth so you will never have to embarrass yourself like I did.

When you begin rockhounding you start out with all of your marbles intact. Then whenever you found a spot with cool rocks, you drop one. So far so good, right? It was at this point that the train ran off of the tracks. It seems that the marbles are just a tool to measure if one is suitable to be a Rockhound. You see, the truth is that only when you have "lost all of your marbles" are you truly qualified to be a Rockhound!!



## HIGHWAY HEROES

Wayne Mills, OMS Adopt A Highway Coordinator--Story and pictures

On Saturday, May 8, four faithful OMS folks showed up to help me clean up our stretch of Highway 101 east of Highway 101. Wes and Marty Lingerfelt, Sally Griffith and Geary Sheffer have been long-time supporters of the Caltrans AAH Program with their steady attendance at our bi-monthly Highway Clean-ups. (Second Saturday of odd numbered months). Wes has generously supplied the "participation prize" for the last several years from his collection (at no cost to the club).





*(Note in the picture above, it was a nice day with pleasant views. There is a big Elderberry bush in bloom at middle right. Anybody make Elderberry Wine?)*

We were fortunate that the highway was not too dirty, so clean-up went pretty quickly. The most unusual thing I saw was a flattened Bobcat (rest his soul), and Wes reported seeing a Vulture that had met the same fate. It is amazing how large those things are up close and personal. Marty found a penny, and I found a bag with FIVE Trucker Bombs inside. I had to empty them so we could recycle the plastic bottles they were in.



*Above: Wes, Sally, Marty and Geary. Right: Wayne's prize. Selenite Sphere from [Sphereheaven.com](https://www.sphereheaven.com)*

After the Clean-up, we met at Country Kitchen in Santa Maria. Wes again supplied the participation prize, an (approximately 3" Selenite sphere). Our waitress Shelly drew the winner from a hat, and the winner was ... Wes, who then said to draw another name, and this time it was...Wayne. I am keeping the prize! Thank you Wes!

## **IF YOU FIND A ROCK**

By Peggy Chastain  
(From the Idaho Gem Club in Rockhound  
Connection FB Page)

If you find a rock—a rock that's not  
A skipping rock or a throwing rock,  
Or a chalk rock, or a resting rock,  
Or a wishing rock—

That's not a splashing rock or a sifting rock  
Or a worry rock or a hiding rock,  
That's not even a climbing rock or a crossing  
rock,  
Or a fossil rock or a walking rock,

But you like it anyway,  
Because it reminds you of a place  
Or a feeling, or something important,  
Then you have found a memory rock, and some-  
times...  
Those are the best rocks of all.



<https://i.pinimg.com/originals/>

## **CFMS SHOWS June**

### **June 12-13, 2021 – Escondido CA**

Palomar Gem and Mineral Club  
340 N. Escondido Blvd., Escondido CA 92025  
Saturday – 10 AM – 5 PM, Sunday 10 AM-4PM  
Palomar Gem and Mineral Show – presented by  
the Palomar Gem and Mineral Club. Held in the  
California Arts Centers museum and ballroom. A  
beautiful indoor facility. Secure for vendors and  
comfortable for attendees. 30-35 dealers.  
Website: [pgmshow@palomargem.org](mailto:pgmshow@palomargem.org)

### **June 25-27, 2021 Lodi, CA – Cancelled CFMS Annual Show and Conference**

### **June 27, 2021 – Fallbrook, CA**

Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society  
123 W. Alvarado St., Fallbrook CA 92028  
Time 12 Noon – 4 PM  
Contact (760) 728-1130  
Email: [info@fgms.org](mailto:info@fgms.org)

## **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.

## **AFMS SHOWS June**

### **June 17-20, 2021 — Big Piney, Wyoming. AFMS Convention Show.**

Sublette County Fairgrounds. 10937 Hwy. 189,  
Big Piney, Wyoming. There will be field trips the  
next weekend.

## **July**

None listed

<b>OMS CALENDAR</b>	
<b>JUNE 2021</b>	
<b>Tuesday, June 5</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>OMS Board Meeting, Nipomo Chamber of Commerce meeting room.</b> Limited to 10 folks. Sorry.
<b>Saturday, June 12</b> 11 a.m.-2 p.m.	<b>Semi-Annual Meeting (Picnic) in Pioneer Park</b> It is a GO!!
<b>June no Breakfast</b>	<b>OMS Breakfast (TBD)</b>
<b>JULY 2021</b>	
<b>Tuesday, July 6</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>OMS Board Meeting, Nipomo Chamber of Commerce Building</b>
<b>Saturday, July 10</b> 8:00 a.m.	<b>Highway Clean-up</b> Southeast corner of Highways 101/166 east
<b>Tuesday, July 13</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>OMS General Meeting, Oasis Senior Center.</b>
<b>July -no Breakfast</b>	<b>OMS Breakfast (TBD)</b>

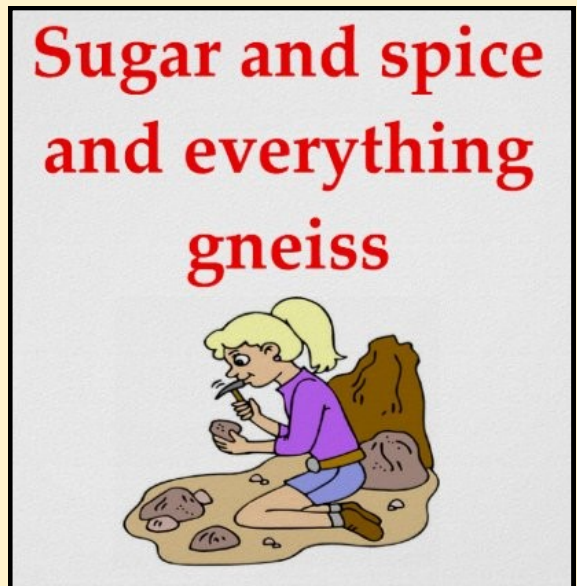
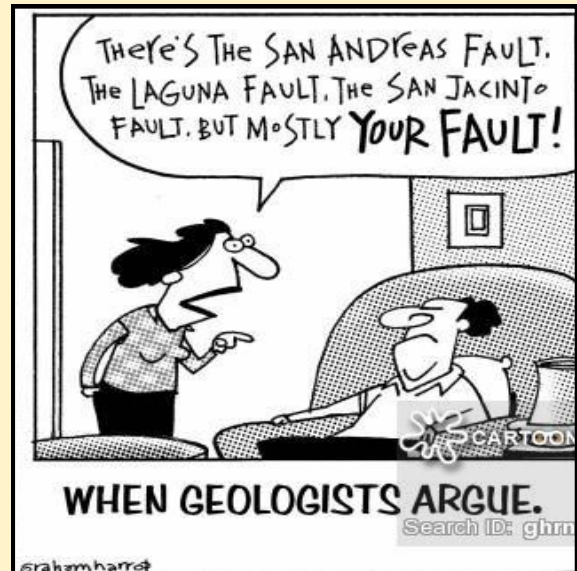
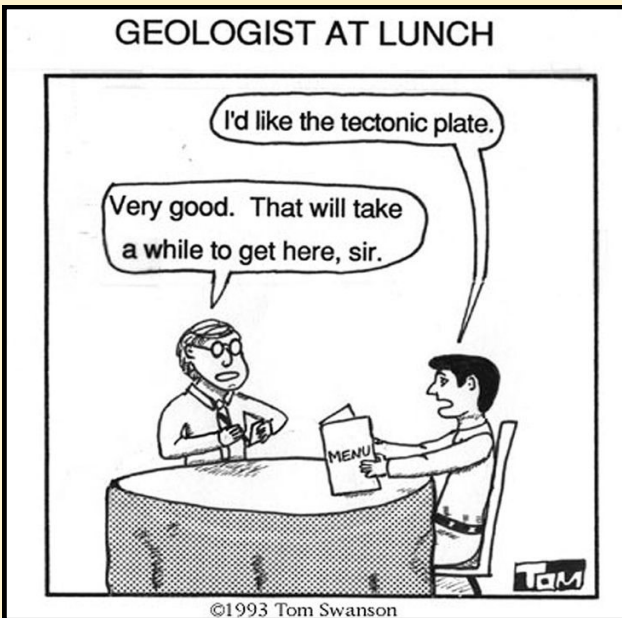
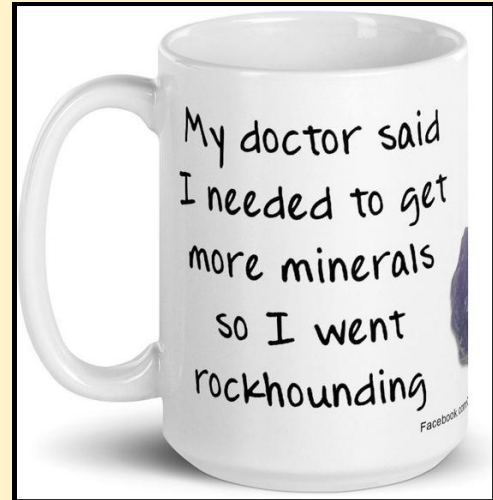
<b>2020-2021-OMS OFFICERS</b>		
<b>President</b>	Bill Brown	(805) 481-1811
<b>President-Elect</b>	Jeanne Brown	(805) 481-1811
<b>Secretary</b>	Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495
<b>Treasurer</b>	Betty Campbell	(805) 929-5344
<b>Imm. Past Pres.</b>	Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495
<b>2020-OMS BOARD MEMBERS</b>		
	Dick Bazzell	(805-757-9123
	Jan Ferguson	(805) 474-9977
	Sally Griffith	(805) 928-6848
	Debbie Hood	(805) 481-6860
	Renea Suttcliffe	(805) 929-2783
<b>CFMS FEDERATION DIRECTOR</b>		
	Renea Suttcliffe	(805) 929-2783
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<b>OMS Membership</b> \$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. <b>OMS Membership Chairperson is: ?</b>		
<b>OMS Webmaster –Bill Brown– (805) 481-1811</b> Check out our OMS web site at: <a href="http://www.omsinc.org">http://www.omsinc.org</a> or send e-mail to: <a href="mailto:info@omsinc.org">info@omsinc.org</a> .		
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**Check-out the OMS Web page** at :[omsinc.org](http://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 From Bing Images



**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.