



Birthdays

Jeannie Lingerfelt
March 7th

Krystal Rose
March 8th

Bill Hood
March 18th

Anniversaries

No anniversaries this month

Upcoming Dates

June 11, 2022 - Tentative
Summer BBQ Potluck

August 5-7, 2022 -
Tentative Date for the OMS
Show

September 23-25 - San Luis
Obispo Club show at the San
Luis Obispo Vet's Hall

December 10, 2022 -
Annual Meeting

The Pez Box - March 2022



We are off and running on our 3rd month of 2022. We've been busy this month because it's the shortest month and we have 2 field trips lined up.

Our 1st field trip is on March 19th (they are always the 3rd Saturday of the month). We will be going to Moonstone Beach in Cambria. I have not been there

before but I understand it is an easy hike. We will meet in the Parking Lot of the Veteran's Hall in Cambria at 10:00 AM. Bring hats, buckets, squirt bottles, sunscreen, drinks and lunch.

Our 2nd field trip was arranged by Wayne who happened to run into Ralph Bishop one day on the street. He asked Ralph if we could have a field trip to see his "museum" in April. If you have never been to Ralph's Museum, you're in for a real treat!! His rock collection is unlike anything I have ever seen! He has been collecting for decades in areas coast to coast. Most of these areas are no longer, (or never) open to the public or have been worked clean. Ralph has as many stories to tell as he does rocks to show, both of which are fascinating! This will be a member's only field trip. So please pay your dues!

We had enough positive response at our February General Meeting to proceed with our August Show! We have filled out our application for August 5-7 at Nipomo High School. Jeannie Watkins submitted it on Tuesday. As long as our application is approved, we will have our 1st Show in 3 years. Although we had a good response, we still

March 2022

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!

March 12 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 19 at 10:00 am - Field Trip to Moonstone Beach

April 2022

April 4 at 7:00 pm - Board Meeting at the Nipomo Chamber of Commerce Building.

April 12 at 7:00 pm - OMS General Meeting at the Oasis Senior Center in Orcutt.

April 23 - Tentative Field Trip to Ralph Bishop's Museum.



Continued from page 1

need a lot more help! There are a couple areas we really need to fill. We need advertising. It is a very important job that needs filling! Our show can't be much of a success if no one knows about it! It involves contacting newspapers, radio and TV stations, passing out fliers to anywhere that will allow you to post our fliers in their store or business, and even writing up a post on social media. If there is anyone who would be willing to work on this, please let Wayne or I know! We also need someone to arrange security, arrange port-a-potties, and empty trash. We also need someone to organize the exhibits. We used to have Sylvia who did a fantastic job in the past but she is unable to commit. She will help out where she can.

Highway Clean-up is March 12. There's a good chance I will not be able to attend clean up in March due to weight lifting restriction for 5 days after surgery. So please come out and give the crew a hand and have some fun!

Program for March will be Wayne's "Mineral Meanders in Minas" and the display will be rocks from Brazil or anything else you want to bring.

Have a great remaining days of February and I look forward to seeing you all March 7th .

Sally

Aquamarine - March Birthstone

With colors ranging from light blue to dark blue and even blue-green, aquamarine has been linked to water. Roman fishermen called the gemstone "water of the sea" and used it as protection, for safe travel by boat, and for luck in catching fish.

Aquamarine was linked to the apostle St. Thomas who frequently traveled by boat.

The Sumerians, Egyptians, Hebrews, and Greeks all admired aquamarine gemstones. Beads were discovered with Egyptian mummies, and it was believed that the High Priest of the Second Temple wore aquamarine stones engraved with the six tribes of Israel.

<https://www.americangemsociety.org/aquamarine-history/>
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aquamarine_\(gem\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aquamarine_(gem))

Orcutt Mineral Society Board Meeting - February 7, 2022

Members: Present: Sally Griffith, Jeanne Watkins, Wayne Mills, Jan Ferguson, Renea Sutcliffe, Tara Machin, and Betty Campbell
Absent: Jeannine Todd
Call to Order at 7:04 pm by President, Sally Griffith

Minutes: General Meeting from January - No corrections

Treasurer's Report: None since the report will be quarterly. The report will be in April. CFMS got paid for the members. \$100 endowments for Dick Bazzell and Mike Henson were approved. Jan and Tara were reimbursed for expenses. Sally delivered money from recycling and money for the abused children's fund to Jan.

Correspondences: AFMS newsletter, bulletin from Santa Lucia Rockhounds, 2 invites from Chase Credit Cards, and the monthly request from the Salvation Army

Contributions: None

Committee Reports:

1. Bulletin- Correction Highway cleanup is the 2nd Saturday of the month. Next cleanup will be March 12, not March 5. AFMS newsletter arrived too late for the February bulletin. It will be published in March newsletter, but will be late. Wayne read the AFMS news and Tara will print out the newsletter for the general meeting.
2. CFMS- No news
3. OMS Membership- Wayne needs to order Robin's name badge. Stevenson's came to the highway cleanup.
4. Field Trips- Sally wants Wayne and Wes to lead a field trip in March to Moonstone beach. Date - 3rd Saturday so March 19th
5. Adopt-A-Highway- March 12th is the next cleanup
6. Annual Awards Banquet- No update on change of venue for the annual Christmas party
7. Breakfast- Cancelled until further notice
8. Education- No report
9. Library- No report
10. Sunshine- Wes and Jeannie are out sick as well as and their daughter, Joyce. Margaret will be sending out cards. Mike's memorial was very nice and well attended.
11. Scholarship- No update

Show: The show might be cancelled unless more people sign up to volunteer. This will be discussed in the general meeting on February 8th and a vote will be taken by the board. We need lots and lots of volunteers. We can get the High School students to help with heavy lifting. Sally to ask around who organized the students 2 years ago. We will find out if we can reserve the date for the school on Wednesday, Feb 9th. We may not be able to hold vendors inside. Jan or Sally will go to Nipomo High School with Jeanne on Feb 9th.

Old Business: Dues need to be paid at the general meeting. Wayne needs to double check who has already paid. \$24 per person or \$34 per couple. Should proxies be allowed? It would be up to individuals whether or not they want to allow their proxies. We need to amend the bylaws to change the length of membership from 2 years to 1 year for service on the board. The board voted to approve the change and Wes needs to be contacted to see how to change the bylaws if possible.

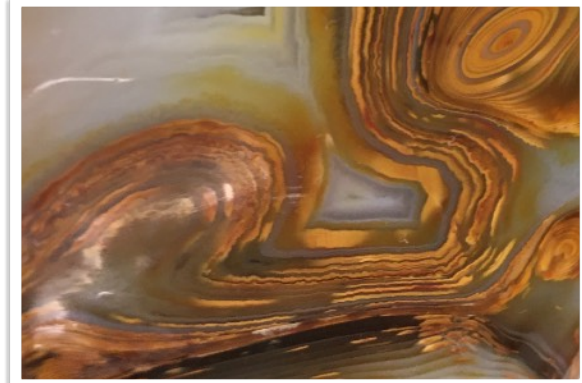
Continued on page 4

Continued from page 3

New Business: Please come up with program suggestions. Wes was going to do a show, but he is sick so we might just watch a video. Rent is due for the Oasis Senior Center. Sally will bring the check to Sylvia Nasholm who has a connection with the Oasis on Feb 8th at the General Meeting.

Adjourned: 7:59 pm

Respectfully submitted by Tara Machin,
Secretary



Orcutt Mineral Society General Meeting - February 8, 2022

Minutes:

Call to Order at 7:11 pm by President, Sally Griffith

Invocation by Wayne Mills

Flag Salute by Wayne Mills

Members/Guests: 19 Members and 3 Guests

Board Meeting Notes were read by Wayne Mills as well as the AFMS

Sylvia needed sign ups for the refreshments so the sign up sheet was passed around Jan Ferguson and Jeannie Lingerfelt donated pies for the general meeting.

Treasurer's Report: None until April

Correspondences: Refer to the Board meeting notes from February 7th

Contributions: None

Committee Reports:

1. Bulletin- Everyone seems to like the new format and everyone got their bulletins in time.
2. CFMS- No report
3. OMS Membership- No report
4. Field Trips- Refer to the Board meeting notes from February 7th
5. Adopt-A-Highway- The date was wrong in the February newsletter. The

members were told of the correct date on March 12th

6. Annual Awards Banquet- Refer to the Board meeting notes from February 7th
7. Breakfast- Refer to the Board meeting notes from February 7th
8. Education- No report
9. Library- No report
10. Sunshine- Refer to the Board meeting notes from February 7th
11. Scholarship- No report

Show: Wayne explained all the jobs that are needed for the show so that people would know how to sign up. Many people had questions about the show and how much time would be needed. Some inquired as to whether they could camp in a RV Thursday night before the show. The answer was likely "Yes", but we need to confirm with the High School. Show will be first weekend in August if it is approved by the High School. The board will vote on the if the show will go on based on sign up sheet and the news from the High School. We need to secure the date and make sure we can have vendors inside before we can vote.

Continued on page 5

Continued from page 4

Old Business: Member were polled about changing the bylaws to change the length of membership from 2 years to 1 year to serve on the board. Members were agreeable to the change so we will proceed with help from Wes.

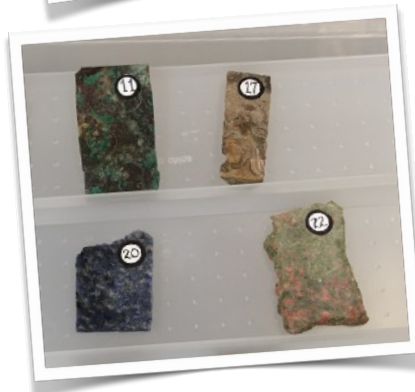
New Business: Sally requested program ideas for the General Meetings. She doesn't want to rely solely on Wes and Wayne. Please let Sally know if you what interests you have, speakers that you would like to see, or offer

your own presentation. A member asked if the red book would ever be online and the answer is, "No."

Program: Wayne gave a program about metamorphic, sedimentary and igneous rock formations in our local area. His presentation notes will be in the March newsletter. There were lots of displays for the meeting. A great turn out. Keep it up.

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 pm

Respectfully submitted by Tara Machin,



Corrections

March Highway Cleanup is on March 12th, not March 5th.

Interesting Internet

Small Town Dicks Podcast - Season 9 Episode 11 - Gold Fever

An interesting investigation into a 2 million dollar gold heist in the gold mines of Australia.

<https://www.smalltowndicks.com/category/podcast/season-9/>

America's rivers and mines where you can hunt for gold and gemstones

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/travel/tripideas/americas-rivers-and-mines-where-you-can-hunt-for-gold-and-gemstones/ss-AASbpST>

Women that Rock - An interview with Female Paleontologists who really know how to rock!

<https://youtu.be/clb82NHS8xk>

Sternberg Museum of Natural History Is Now Online

<https://gather-town-spaces.webflow.io/>

Royal Tyrrell Museum of Palaeontology has a Lecture Series - Check it out

<https://www.facebook.com/37946265171/posts/10159369252010172/?d=n>

Brick-sized opal goes on the block at Alaska auction

<https://www.npr.org/2022/02/18/1081935933/alaska-auction-to-feature-brick-sized-opal-that-has-been-stashed-away-for-years>

CFMS / AFMS News - March 2022

CFMS Website - cfmsinc.org

CFMS President Jim Barton is tracking instances of attempted scams where posers act as CFMS Executive members to get money or other information from local clubs. Please report all instances of this to Jim by citing the information in the spam e-mail after deleting it. Contact Jim Barton at geologist1@surewest.net for more information.

Gary Leavitt, a member of the Woodland Hills Rock Chippers, the Rockatomics, and the Palmdale Club passed away on February 1, 2022. Gary was very active in CFMS and local club activities.

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

History - Jennifer Haley has an interesting article on the use of gem cutters for faceting Sapphires for equipment during World War II. (From AFMS February 2022 Bulletin)

Safety - Article on making sure that you are up to a chosen task. (From February 2022 Bulletin)

Continued from page 6

Exhibits—Informative article by Pat La Rue on how to create an educational display, and how to draw attention to your club through educational displays.

CFMS Golden Bear Award Rules - (for Service to the CFMS only) are included in this issue..

California Federation Show - is planned for May 6-8 at the Antelope Valley Fairgrounds

The Ventura Club Show - is March 5-6 at the Ventura County Fairgrounds. The Ventura Club is seeking (lapidary arts) demonstrators for their show.

The CFMS Endowment Fund - is explained, and a donation slip included. A list of CFMS 2020 Officers is included.

AFMS Website - amfed.org

AFMS News - From February 2022

The AFMS website is being re-vamped.

AFMS Best Bulletin Contest- There are 4 classes. The top score over 95 in each class wins \$200. Copies of the winning entries will be sent to each Federation for their Lending Library. The Deadline for 2022 is March 15. Send submissions to Delone Cox at delonec3@Earthlink.net.

History- Jennifer Haley wrote an informative article about the use of gemologists during WWII for cutting faceted quartz and sapphires for use in communications and other devices.

Juniors- There is a new AFMS website for junior programs with contacts for signing-up new juniors and forms for the rock pal rock exchange. There is information about the annual poster contest, and a new process for ordering pins and badges.

Safety- Chari Elleróy Borrow has a thought provoking article about knowing your limits before trying to perform tasks. Consider if are you a morning or evening person. Do you have the skills and equipment to perform the desired task?

Bulletin Aids- Mark Nelson suggests that (especially new) editors join S.C.R.I.B.E (Special Congress Representing Involved Editors) to exchange ideas about making a better bulletin.

Earth Science Studies- (Tony and Sandie Fender)—Camp Paradise is on this year. Featuring classes in Lapidary, Casting, Beading, Enameling, Precious Metal Clay (PMC), Dichroic Glass, Wire-Wrapping, Chain Mail, and Carving. Camp Paradise is located in Strawberry Valley north of Marysville in Yuba County, CA. . Dates for 2022 are August 21-26, and August 28-September 2. Applications should be in the April AFMS Newsletter and on the website.

Wildacres Geology Seminar- It will be held May 16-22, 2022 in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina. The Eastern Federation sponsors two seminars here each year. The speaker at the May Session is Nathalie Brandes of Lonestar College Montgomery of Conroe, Texas. She will focus on gold mining in the U.S., silver mining in Norway, mining in the ancient world, the History of Mineralogy, and the History of Birthstones. More information should be forthcoming.

Upcoming Rock and Mineral Shows

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](#)

April 1-3, 2022, Vista CA

Vista Gem and Mineral Show
Website: <https://vistarocks.org>

April 9-10, 2022 - Mariposa, CA

Website: <http://mariposagemclub.org>

April 9-10, 2022, Thousand Oaks, CA

Canejo Gem and Mineral Club
Website: <https://cgamc.org>

April 30 - May 1, 2022 - Anaheim, CA

Searchers Gem & Mineral Society
Website: <https://searchersrocks.org>

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

Geology of the Central Coast

By Wayne Mills from the February 8th General Meeting (edited for length)

The Central Coast has a relatively short, but fascinating geological history. Rocks on the Central Coast go back about 250 million years to the Jurassic Era, although our older rocks are of marine, rather than terrestrial origin (so, sorry, no dinosaurs here)..

What is today the San Andreas Fault, was formerly a plate boundary/spreading center in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. Being a point of weakness in the crust of the Earth, it allowed molten material to come from the mantle of the earth to the ocean bottom/seawater interface where it began to cool.

This cooling process allowed "magmatic differentiation" where the denser iron rich minerals (clinopyroxenites and gabbros) crystallize out at the bottom of the column that could be up to ten miles in thickness. At the top of the column, radiolarian cherts (sedimentary rocks) and pillow basalts (igneous rocks) are deposited. A great example of ancient pillow basalts can be seen at the western end of Port San Luis. Chert is found in both the Monterey (18-15 mya) and Franciscan Formations (250-~65 mya).

The congealing of rock materials at the spreading center pushed the older parts of the two oceanic plates away from the contact point, forcing the leading edge on the western plate below the American Continental Plate where it was eventually consumed at depth by

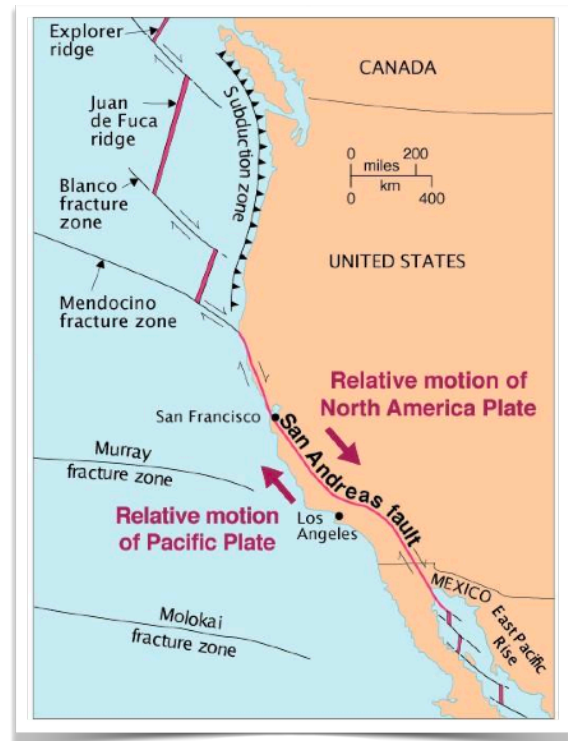
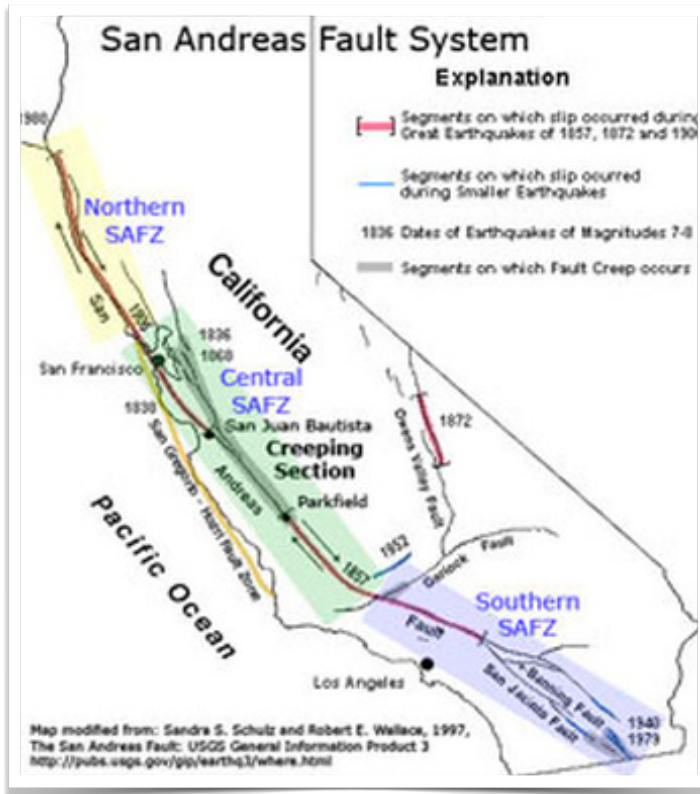
Continued from page 8

melting. Oceanic plates are primarily underlain by basalt which is denser than the granite crust that underlies the Continental masses, therefore the denser oceanic plates are dragged underneath the continents scraping off any land or island masses that lie on top of the plate. Occasionally entire thicknesses of the oceanic plate, called ophiolites, break off and attach to the overlying plate. There are well preserved ophiolites at Point Sal, and on Cuesta Grade north of San Luis Obispo.

One of my favorite geologic features of our county is the chain of intrusive igneous mountain peaks (formed from Dacite) that we now call "The Seven Sisters". These were formed about 24 mya along a plane of weakness caused by a transform fault, now called the San Andreas, that sliced into the

continental crust as the former spreading center was being consumed. These peaks were formed under the Earth, and have been uplifted and eroded in the intervening 24 or so million years. An amazing fact is that these peaks were formed about the latitude of the Salton Sea, and have been moved about 235 miles northward since their creation.

The Monterey Formation is represented in Lompoc by deep-water diatomaceous shales with fish, whale and dolphin fossils. The diatomite deposits in Lompoc are the largest in the world. At Lake Lopez the Monterey Formation is represented by shallower depth porcelainite shales containing crabs, scallops and smaller fish. At Buellton, one can find fossils of pipefish in Monterey Shale.



<https://www.usgs.gov/media/images/san-andreas-fault-3>
<http://earthquakesresearch.weebly.com/san-andreas-fault.html>

What Rocks Can Be Found on the Central Coast

Scott's Valley, Santa Cruz County near Lockhart Gulch - fossil shark teeth and sand dollars.

Clear Creek Management Area near Idria in San Benito County - jade, serpentine, chrysoprase (plasma agate), benitoite, (fee dig area), and several other rare minerals.

Near Templeton (hospital) and in Paso Robles off Highways 46 and 101, San Luis Obispo County - biconoid, mushroom rhyolite, geodes, and occasional Miocene aged whale bone.

West of Atascadero on Highway 41 about PM 5.0 San Luis Obispo County - Phosphorescent aragonite has been reported.

Cayucos Beach off Highway 1 in Cayucos San Luis Obispo County - Chert, brecciated jasper and other wave- rounded rocks.

Moonstone Beach in Cambria, San Luis Obispo County has river and ocean tumbled chalcedonies, rounded agates and jaspers, and wave smoothed wood.

San Simeon State Beach and Creek off Highway 1 - Mushroom rhyolite, chert, brecciated jasper and rarely sagenite agate may be found here.

Willow Creek Beach off Highway 1, Monterey County - Jade, chert, serpentine and gold.

Jade Cove, Highway 1, Monterey County - Jade, Serpentine, chert and soapstone.

Behind the TV Towers off Cuesta grade, San Luis Obispo County - Small quartz crystals

Nipomo off Highway 101, San Luis Obispo County - In many local creeks and fields, Sagenite agate, marcasite agate, beanfield agate, chert and bone can be found. Most property owners here DO NOT like rockhounds because of trespassing in past years. Find a friendly landowner.

Behind Lake Lopez, San Luis Obispo County - Off High Mountain Road near Pozo, you can find Upper Miocene age shells (Santa Margarita Formation). Closer to the Lake you can find Pecten discus (scallop) shells from the Middle Miocene (Monterey Formation).

Figueroa Mountain Road off Highway 154, Santa Barbara County - Take Figueroa Mountain Road north to the top of the Mountain. In the little valley next to the southern continuation of Catway Road (before you get to the campground) you can hunt for a variety of jaspers and chert. I found serpentine on Soapstone Hill there. Out on Davey Jones Road there is a geode patch way down in the valley, but is hard to get to (ask Ralph Bishop). [Gem Trails in California](#) shows cinnabar near the old Red Rock Mine, and soapstone in many road-cuts on the eastern limb of the loop back to 154. This is Happy Canyon Road to Armor Ranch Road. The soapstone is about 11 miles from 154. The entire loop appears to be about 49 miles.

Jalama Beach off Highway 101 Santa Barbara County - Go north up the beach about 2 miles to find brown travertine just before the cliffs appear to cut off beach access. Go south of the campground down the beach and you can find fossil whalebone at certain times of the year.

Gaviota and Refugio Beaches off Highway 101 Santa Barbra County - Here can be found fossil whalebone, the occasional fish fossil in the shales, brecciated jasper, beach agate and tan limestone concretions containing fossilized wood and bone.

Gold in California - There are reports that Native Americans were mining gold near San Miguel in 1805. An early discovery was made –Francisquito Canyon in LA Co., 3/9/1842. Gold was discovered at Sutter's Fort near Sacramento 3/9/1848 starting the Gold Rush. Gold has been mined in the Mountains west of Paso Robles where there is a peak called Gold Butte on the Jack

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.		
OMS Online Contacts		
OMS Webmaster	Wes Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788
Website	omsinc.org	
Email	info@omsinc.org	
Ore-Cutts Information		
Editor and Publisher	Tara Machin	(805) 863-5992
Email	taradmachin@gmail.com	

Copyright 2021 Orcutt Mineral Society. Material in this newsletter may be duplicated provided that credit is given this publication and the author(s). For commercial use, the individual author(s) must be contacted. Editor may be contacted c/o OMS, P.O. Box 106, Santa Maria, Ca. 93456-0106, or via club web site omsinc.org.

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.

