



# Ore-Cutts

Volume LI Number 11

November 2017



## The Pres Box— November 2017 Wayne Mills, OMS President

November is **really** a waning month, as I turn 72 on the 21st. Definitely on the downslope, but still above ground, and that's a good thing. **Another good thing** is that we have a strong candi-

date to take over the reins of OMS after our Annual meeting on December 11. It should be a fun meeting after the pressure of elections is off, and the Season of Christmas cheer is upon us—and a couple of glasses of wine won't hurt either! We have a lot to celebrate and appreciate, and hope to see many of our members there.

We had a very informative program from two SBCC Geology Students at our last meeting, about the formation of the (terrestrial) Sespe Formation, and the geologic conditions that helped shape our coast in those Oligocene times. I am really looking forward to our November presentation by local Geologist (and my brother in rocks) Jim Mills. Jim's talks are always delightful and educational, and this one on the Formation of Petrified Wood should be no exception. If you have petrified wood to display or to be identified, this would be the right night to bring it.

My friend Kathy Clarke of the Santa Lucia Club is doing a presentation on Rock Stacking (Cairns) at the SLR November meeting. I plan to take it in at the Templeton Community Center, November 20 at 7:00 pm. Check out some great photos of her work on her website : [www.whispersofwonderwow.com](http://www.whispersofwonderwow.com) . Oh yes, she wrote a lovely book Whispers of Wonder along with her daughter Kamryn.

*Happy Halloween and Thanksgiving!*  
*Wayne*

## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Greetings go out to those folks who are having Birthdays and Anniversaries in **November**:

### BIRTHDAYS

Adam L	11/6	♄
Joe Azevedo	11/8	♄
John Von Achen	11/14	♄
Dee Dee Magri	11/21	♄
Wayne Mills	11/21	♄
Brenna Ferguson	11/27	♁
Dick Bazzell	11/30	♁

### ANNIVERSARIES

Bill and Jeanne Brown	11/09
Marshall & Glenda Reeves	11/18
Mike & Margaret Henson,	11/19

***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)*



*Part of the fun of our meetings is the displays. Thanks to Sylvia for this great one!*

## MINERAL OF THE MONTH— Calcite, Aragonite

Text, photo by Wayne Mills

Seashells are made of *calcium carbonate* (Calcite and Aragonite). When seashells decompose, they make **limestone** that is one of the most abundant forms of marine deposits. When limestone gets subject to heat and pressure, it becomes **Marble**. When limestone gets dissolved and precipitated in caves it can take many forms including **stalactites** (top down), **stalagmites** (ground-up), **helictites**, **soda straws** and **flowstone**. When calcium carbonate is dissolved in super-heated water and redeposited at mineral springs (like at Yellowstone NP), it forms **travertine**. A lovely, banded rock material.

When dissolved *calcium carbonate* crystallizes, it can take any of about 600 forms, including forms identified as two separate minerals, **Calcite** and **Aragonite** (which are both calcium carbonate). The difference between these two is how their atoms are stacked which determines their physical properties .

*“Aragonite has a structure that is more resistant to stress than calcite, explaining why organisms that live in high-energy environments (e.g. corals) prefer aragonite skeletons over calcite. Calcite is less prone to dissolution, which is why organisms that live at greater depth (e.g. benthic foraminifera) prefer calcite over aragonite, especially when they live below the Aragonite Compensation Depth. Bivalves are organisms that use both minerals, building a layer of calcite on the outside of their shell while building an aragonite layer on the inside of their shell where the strong shell closing muscle attaches to the shell.”*

*Niels de Winter, Vrije Universite, Brussels Belgium in [Researchgate.net](https://www.researchgate.net)*

Calcite is pretty soft (3 of 10) on the hardness scale, usually colorless to translucent, has perfect cleavage in 3 directions, and is often fluorescent, while Aragonite though also fluorescent, is a little tougher (3.5-4), and only has cleavage in one direction. Aragonite is much rarer in occurrence than calcite being found in fewer mineral environments.



*Aragonite from Erfoud, Morocco photo from [Etsy.com](https://www.etsy.com)*



*Different forms of calcite (from upper left): Onyx Cave, Pima Co., Az; Santa Eualia Mine, Chihuahua, Mex; Los Mochis, Sinaloa, Mex; Rattlesnake Butte, Jackson Co., So. Dakota*

## LOCAL ROCKS--ROCK HOPPERS

Wayne Mills, Ore Cutts Editor, text and picture by Wayne Mills

Many years ago, OMS's most adventurous rockhound, Ralph Bishop, discovered hopper crystals of Halite (salt) replaced by Aragonite (*calcium carbonate*) at Point Sal. These are called *pseudomorphs*, when one mineral takes the place of another mineral while retaining the original crystal form. One can see modern day salt "hopper" crystals at many gem shows in the form of pink halite from Searles Dry Lake near Trona in Inyo Co., CA. But those hopper crystals are small, perhaps 1/2 inch on a side at the largest. By contrast, the hopper crystals from Point Sal are up to 2 inches on a side. "Hopper" crystals have the shape of an indented cube with stepped pyramid-shaped indentations on each of the cube's 6 faces.

So, no, they don't actually move (they are, after all, minerals), but they are moving, rather fascinating to behold.



## BIRTHSTONE(S) FOR NOVEMBER

Story <https://www.americangemsociety.org/> and <http://www.healing-crystals-for-you.com>. Photo by Wayne Mills

November is a special month to me because it is MY birth month. Thanksgiving, autumn leaves, and all that. The two stones associated with this month are yellow to red-orange **topaz**, and another yellow-colored stone, **citrine**. Both of these sunshine-colored stones are known for their calming energies, and bring warmth and fortune to those who wear them (according to the American Gem Society). Though topaz comes in several colors, the yellow and red-orange (Imperial) forms are the ones associated with November births. Interestingly, both Texas (where non-commercial quantities of blue topaz have been found) and Utah (think Topaz mountain near Delta), have named Topaz their state gemstone.



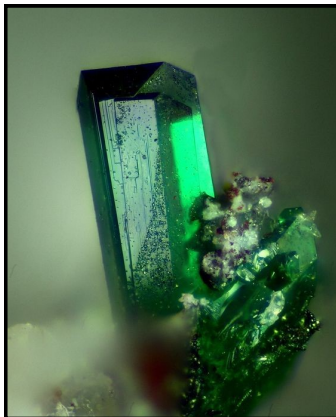
*Imperial Topaz in and on Quartz from Minas Gerais Brazil, collected in 2009*

### The Birth signs for November

are: **Scorpio** (10/23-11/21) and **Sagittarius** (11/22-12/21). (See discussion of Scorpio's stones in the **October Ore-Cutts**.)

The stones associated with Sagittarius (The Archer) are **many**. You can read about them at <http://www.healing-crystals-for-you.com/sagittarius-birthstone.html>. I counted 21 different minerals from **Amethyst** to **Zircon** with maybe twice that many associated healing properties. Some of these include **Atacamite** that can help open your third eye, **Charoite** that brings spiritual energy into your third eye, and **lolite** that can calm your mind and help you respond to the guidance "that is coming through from spirit."

**Atacamite** (Copper chloride hydroxide) from Chile. Photo from: [crystalsandgemstones.com](http://crystalsandgemstones.com)



## EDITOR'S BLUES

"Doc" Watson, Pegmatite (San Diego M&GS via Scribe, Fall, 1995) from December 1995 Ore-Cutts

*I'd like to write a story  
Of the big geodes you found...  
And of the friendly campsites  
And the stories that abound...  
Of your field trips to far off places  
And the famous folks you met  
But all there is to fill these pages  
Is the news I didn't get.*

*What is new at the 'ol diggings?  
Does that polish really shine?  
Have you visited a new location?  
Have you visited the mines?  
I'm NOT after your gold nuggets,  
As I sadly sing the blues...  
My heart is bleeding printer's  
ink as I BEG you for some news.*

## BITS AND BYTES

Oldest signs of life on earth at 3.9 Billion years ago  
<http://www.msn.com/en-us/video/wonder/these-canadian-rocks-may-be-the-oldest-known-traces-of-life/vi-AAszSbl>

Wondering about your kitchen counter top? What is it and where did it come from? Is it really a granite? Check out the web site at:

[www.natural-stone-database.com/](http://www.natural-stone-database.com/). You can search by trade name, type, or color. The database lists over 18,000 stone types from around the world. (From [Flatiron Facets](#) September-October 2017 via [Delvings](#), October 2017)

Website to identify trilobites and other fossils

<https://www.amnh.org/our-research/paleontology/paleontology-faq/trilobite-website/gallery-of-trilobites>

**JURASSIC QUEST**—I heard about this event on the radio in early October. It was at the Paso Robles Event Center October 6-8. After seeing the video at the following site, I want to go, Sounds like monster fun! Especially for kids.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L1Z4FRjmTd4>

Human-like teeth found in Germany, and dated to 9.7 million years ago could rewrite pre-history!  
[www.msn.com/en-us/video/wonder/97-million-year-old-teeth-found-in-germany-have-scientists-baffled/vi-AAtMvly](http://www.msn.com/en-us/video/wonder/97-million-year-old-teeth-found-in-germany-have-scientists-baffled/vi-AAtMvly)

## KID'S CORNER— KEEPING A CATALOGUE OF YOUR MINERAL COLLECTION *By Darryl Powell*

From *Mini Miner's Monthly* Vol. 9, No. 8 August, 2015

What do you do after you take a mineral specimen home? There are a few things that you should do to take good care of your specimens.

When you add a specimen to your mineral collection, it is important to write down as much information about the specimen as you possibly can. Mineral dealers from all over the world tell me that a specimen that has information with it is much more valuable than a specimen without any information.

On the next page is a simple two-page catalogue you can use for your specimens.

Let's go through it.

1. **When you get a new specimen**, give it a number. Keep a list of your numbers and the specimen that goes with each. It is easiest to number them 1, 2, 3, 4, and so on.

2. **Write down the name** of the mineral on the long line.

3. **If there are other minerals** with it, list those next.

4. **In the next section**, record how you came to own the specimen. Did you buy it? If so, from whom and for how much? Was it a gift? Who gave it to you? Is it an old specimen that was owned by another collector? Who was it? Do you know who actually dug it out of the ground? When was it found?

5. **Then measure it** with a metric ruler and describe the crystals if there are any.

6. **On the second page**, add any other special information you may have. I like to mention magazine articles about the specimen or the place where it was found. I also make comments about anything special that happened or that I learned when I received

the specimen. If it reminds you of a special event or person, make a note about this. I even make personal comments like, "This is one of my favorite minerals!" or

"This is ok, but someday I'll buy a better specimen." Anything you want to write here is ok.

7. **Save any labels** that came with the specimen, including the dealer's label. Labels are very collectible by themselves. Also, a specimen with all its labels is worth more money.

You can copy the following pages as much as you want to for your own collection. (e-mail: **Wayne Mills for a copy of the information page.**)

***If you would like some mineral catalogue pages that are printed in full color, contact us at Diamond Dan Publications. They are available in***

***packages of 100 sheets. The cost is \$20/100 sheets. We know this is a bit expensive, but we believe you will find the bright, color printing makes for a very good looking catalogue page. You can reach us at 278 Howland Ave., Rochester, New York 14620, or give us a call at 585-278-3047. Ask for Darryl Powell.***

## MINERAL TALES YOU NEVER HEARD

David W. Phillips from Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society Rock Writings ~April 1996. As printed in the *Ore-Cutts*, May 1996. Picture from <http://skerah.com>

**In Northern Ireland**, not far from the town of Bushmills lies a landscape that is nothing short of spectacular. Crystallized out of molten rock from the Earth's interior is a geological curiosity referred to as the Giant's Causeway. This Causeway is composed of approximately 40,000 basalt columns and most of them have hexagonal shapes. Because of their precise shapes from a distance, and even close-up, they appear to be the architectural remains of some great structures left by man. But they're not. They were formed by nature from volcanic action and similar structures are found in other areas around the world, including a few in the United States.

Recently, I came across an intriguing story that told about some manmade structures built with basalt columns. In this case they were referred to as "black crystals" which in fact, they are, but not of the quartz variety. This is where it gets interesting. Most of us have heard about Easter Island in the Pacific, and have either seen pictures of it or watched it being described in some TV special. But how many of you have heard about the gigantic ruins of the crystal city of Nan Modal on the island of Pohnpei? Me either until a few months ago.



Pohnpei is an island located about 1,000 miles northeast of New Guinea and is the capital of the

Federated States of Micronesia. On one end of the island is the ruins of a huge city that has been called “Venice of the Pacific” by the Europeans who discovered it in the early 1800’s. This city is built onto a coral reef and is crisscrossed by many manmade canals that connect the 100 artificial islets. The central area of this canal-crossed city covers an area of approximately 2.5 (square) miles, and these canals are built out of huge basalt crystals weighing up to some 20-tons apiece. These islets or “constructed islands” are also connected by numerous tunnels. (Human bones excavated in and near the city indicated the average height of the Nan Modal residents was around 7-foot tall.) Walls built from the basalt “logs” are stacked up to 40 feet tall, and encompass close to 11 miles of this mysterious city. (*Note: since basalt is an igneous rock, it cannot form crystals, but the hexagonal columns that it cools into LOOK like crystals. Ed.*)

Who were the builders of this city and why did they build such a huge fortress on coral reefs. To this day, many questions are still unanswered about the city and its inhabitants. Curiosities surround Nan Modal. Basalt that has formed into crystals is commonly magnetized in a vertical manner as part of its cooling process, yet the basalt crystals of nan Modal are magnetized quite strangely. Compass needles spin one direction and then another when moved up and down the crystal’s length.

Tunnels were built between the islets and many of the structures for what purpose? The source of the basalt and how it was transported to Nan Modal is still in question too. As basalt rock formations do exist on the island, it is presumed that the rock came from one or two of the locations which are on the opposite side of the island. How they were brought to Nan Modal is another story altogether. It has been theorized that the basalt crystals were floated on coconut or bamboo rafts. American engineers on the island have discounted this theory as untenable as a large portion of these rocks weigh 20-50 **TONS** each.

Even if they could have floated them over on rafts, how do you suppose they were able to stack such heavy rocks on top of each other on walls up to 40 feet high enclosing an area of up to 11 miles? Legends claim that certain sounds made the stones start vibrating, and at one point they started to float. Once they were floating they were directed by the builders to the construction site many miles away and gently lifted or lowered into place.

Japanese divers reportedly recovered large amounts of precious metal, particularly platinum and silver bars from a sunken city connected by tunnels to Nan Modal off the coast. This occurred in the late 1930’s and early 1940’s. Attempts to date the age of the city’s construction have not been easy. Remnants of pottery have been dated as over 2,000 years old. A method for using the comparative growth rate of lichen was employed to give a rough estimate. As lichen grow extremely slow, this was thought to be a

good measurement indicating the city was 5,000 years old or more.

I find mysteries like this are fascinating and I hope you do too.

**INTERPRETING OLIGOCENE PALEO-GEOGRAPHY IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA USING A PROVENANCE ANALYSIS OF THE SESPE FORMATION** (Our October presentation in brief) [Carl Swindle](#), & [Parker Clarke](#). Submitted August 15, 2016, SCEC Contribution #6958, [2016 SCEC Annual Meeting Poster #132](#)



**Parker (left) and Carl (right) at our October meeting**

The Sespe Formation is a lithified fluvial system that was deposited during the Oligocene. Previous geological investigations aimed at identifying the origins of the Sespe Formation have arrived at conflicting conclusions. This project assists in resolving these conflicts by identifying, mapping, and writing lithologic descriptions of the Sespe that includes the clastic variability and paleocurrent indicators. Data displayed graphically from east to west, and cartographically using GIS software is interpreted in order to suggest potential paleogeography of the Oligocene. Analysis of data suggests the locations of highlands present during the Oligocene, in particular, two independent quartzose highlands along with other, subtler findings. Understanding the dynamics of formations like the Sespe is key to understanding the paleogeography of Southern California.

**Citation:** Swindle, C., & Clarke, P. (2016, 08). *Interpreting Oligocene Paleogeography in Southern California Using a Provenance Analysis of the Sespe Formation. Poster Presentation at 2016 SCEC Annual Meeting.*

---

**ORCUTT MINERAL SOCIETY  
Board Meeting  
Nipomo Chamber of Commerce  
October 3, 2017**

---

**President Wayne Mills called the meeting to order** at 7:00 pm. Board members present were Wayne Mills, Alexis Van Natta, Jan Ferguson, Sharon Duncan, Jeanne Watkins Brown, Dyanna Cridelich, Sylvia Nasholm, Sally Griffith, Debbie Hood and Renea Sutcliffe.

No guests were present.

**Minutes:** Minutes from general meeting are printed in the newsletter. No additions or corrections.

**Treasurer's report:** Jeanne Watkins Brown presented the Treasurer's report. The final bill from the High School was less than we thought it would be which puts us in good shape and on target with our budget. Report was accepted as given.

**Correspondence:** We received an AFMS newsletter and a September newsletter from the Santa Lucia Rockhounds.

**Committee Reports:**

**Bulletin:** The Bulletin is out. It is looking good. No corrections or additions.

**CFMS:** Bulletin Contest Entries are due this month (October). Wayne Mills submitted 3 entries: The September bulletin, the article about Secret Canyon and the article about the California Blue Mine. CFMS is allowing entries to be in PDF form instead of needing to be on a disk. There is a Federation meeting in November.

**Field Trips:** A field trip to Shell Beach and See Canyon may be in the making for November 18th, which is the 3rd Saturday in November. We can go after DeeDeeite and apples.

**Highway Cleanup:** Our next Highway cleanup will be held November 11, 2017 at 8:00am. Members will meet on the Southeast corner of Highways 101 and 166 East.

**Membership:** Membership packets are normally given to all new members when they get their membership badges. A few members have not received them. Dyanna Cridelich will make up some new packets to ensure that everyone in club has one. Anyone who did not receive one, please let Dyanna Cridelich know.

Jeanne Watkins Brown would like to know how many members the OMS presently has and how many members joined last year. Dyanna will get the numbers to her at the general meeting. Two people called Alexis Van Natta and wanted to know how to join the OMS. She

gave them all the information needed and they will be attending our next general meeting.

**Refreshments:** October is cake month. Sally Griffith says that cakes will be brought by Alexis Van Natta, Jeanne Watkins Brown, Sylvia Nasholm and Sharon Duncan.

**Sunshine:** Everyone is well.

**Scholarship:** Two young men from SBCC, who are recipients of our scholarships, will be giving a talk on the Origin of Clasts in Sespe Formation for our October program.

**Breakfast:** October 28th at the Country Kitchen in Arroyo Grande at 8:30 am.

**Show:** Sharon Duncan is thinking to the future. She wants to upgrade our dealer contracts for next year. She will add and subtract as needed. Sharon has agreed to remain our dealer chair for the next Rainbow of Gems show.

**Old Business:**

Report from the Nominating Committee: Sharon Duncan (Chair), Sylvia Nasholm and Elaine Von Achen

**Nominations:** President: Sylvia Nasholm, President Elect: empty, Secretary: Dyanna Cridelich, Treasurer: Jeanne Watkins Brown, Past President: Wayne Mills. For the Board, 7 members: Jan Ferguson, Sally Griffith, Debbie Hood, Bill Brown, Dick Bazell, Alexis Van Natta and Renea Sutcliffe.

We need a Bulletin Editor.

**New Business:**

Programs for next year: look to Mineral Explorer. They are 22 to 25 minutes long and perfect for the club. They go all over: Peru, Portugal, Spain, Brazil to name a few. Wayne Mills can also talk on his 2009 Brazil trip, and we have the World's Greatest Geological Wonders Series of 36 Lectures donated by Bill and Jeanne (Watkins) Brown

Jeanne Watkins Brown spoke on Insurance Renewal. New requirements are put forth from time to time and Jeanne has been on top of them.

The November talk will be Jim Mills on the Formation of Petrified wood.

We need to find out if Ralph Bishop is selling off some of this collection

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Dyanna Cridelich, OMS Secretary.

---

**ORCUTT MINERAL SOCIETY  
General Meeting  
Oasis Senior Center, Orcutt, CA  
October 12, 2017**

---

President, Wayne Mills, called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Debbie Hood gave the invocation.

Wayne Mills gave the flag salute.

Due to the distance travelled by our speakers and guests, we voted on a meeting order change. We proposed that the program and door prizes be presented first and the general meeting afterward. Alexis Van Natta made the motion, Renea Sutcliffe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Program for October is two young SBCC students on the Origin of Clasts in Sespe Formation.

Minutes: Minutes for the Board are published in the Bulletin.

**Treasurer's report:** Jeanne Watkins gave the treasurer's report. She said that the final show figures are in and we are in great shape. Sir Paul Howard gave OMS a \$50.00 donation from sale of his books. The report was accepted as given.

**Correspondence:** Alexis Van Natta spoke with two prospective members and gave out two applications for membership.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Hospitality:** There were 22 members and 13 guests in attendance. Dr. Bob Gray brought many of his students from SBCC. It was great to have them. The guests were Carl Swindle, Jean Carlson, Eiko Kitas, Parker Clarke, Jason Bemis, Paula Thach, Dr. Bob Gray, Janet Blum, Sharon Willis, Randy Newton and Nancy Newman.

**Refreshments:** Sally Griffith said that tonight is cake night. Many thanks to Sylvia Nasholm, Jeanne Watkins Brown, Sharon Duncan and Alexis Van Natta. Katherine Nybo surprised us with homemade, hand frosted brownies that she made herself.

**Annual December Luncheon:** December 9 at 12 Noon is our annual membership meeting at the Madonna Inn. All of the information regarding price and sign up will be given at the November meeting. We voted for the entries and the winners were: Roast Turkey Breast, Petite Monterey Salmon Filet. The dessert will be the Black Forest Cake with Cherries and the Vegetarian entrée will be the Portobello Mushroom. We will decide at the November board meeting what the cost will be.

**Breakfast:** Bill Hood says that the October breakfast will be at the Country Kitchen in Arroyo Grande at 8:30AM on

October 28, 2017.

**Bulletin:** Please submit any rock related articles by the 20th of the month to Wayne Mills.

**Door Prizes.** Renea Sutcliff has a wide array of wonderful items; some of them (books) from Sandy Berthelot's estate.

**Field Trips:** Wayne Mills stated that the November Field trip on the 18th of November is Cliff Brewen's Rock Sale. It will feature Nipomo Agate (Bob Baker Collection). The October Bulletin has the details. Cliff's address is 6384 Monterey Road, Paso Robles. Vendors set up at 7. It is open from 8-3. If you want to sell/trade rocks, bring 'em and drop your tailgate!

**Highway Cleanup:** Our next Highway cleanup will be held Saturday, November 11, 2017 at 8:00am. Members will meet on the Southeast corner of Highways 101 and 166 East.

**Membership:** Dyanna Cridelich gave out new member packets to everyone who had not received one and also gave out a couple of new membership applications. We currently have 50 OMS members. We added two new members this year.

**CFMS:** Wayne Mills spoke about the questionnaire from CFMS (items for the November Director's meeting) and received permission from the members to have it e-mailed.

**Scholarship:** Tonight's program was presented by two young men from SBCC. Our scholarship monies have already paid off. Thank you to Dr. Robert Gray.

**Sunshine:** All seems well.

**Education:** (Wayne Mills) Nothing new.

**Property:** (Geary Sheffer) Nothing new.

**Library:** (Alexis Van Natta) No one has asked for any books or tapes this month.

**Show:** Sharon Duncan will be show Dealer Chair for the 2018 show. Sharon wants to update and streamline the dealer contracts before the next Rainbow of Gems show.

#### **Old Business:**

Nominating Committee: Members: Sharon Duncan—Chair, Sylvia Nasholm, Elaine Von Achen.

Ballot: For President—Sylvia Nasholm  
For President Elect -Vacant  
For Secretary- Dyanna Cridelich  
For Treasurer- Jeanne Watkins Brown  
For Board of Directors (5)-Jan Ferguson, Sally Griffith, Alexis VanNatta, Dick Bazell, Debbie Hood, Renea Sutcliffe, Bill Brown

Nominations were asked three times from the floor for each position.

Sharon Duncan will remain the Show Dealer Chair. We need a new Bulletin Editor

#### **New Business:**

We had 6 members display their favorite rocks: **Sally Griffith** displayed a nice Rhodocrosite, an aquamarine crystal and a forest crystal. **Jeannie Beattie** displayed lovely Tourmaline. **Wayne Mills** had an interesting display of examples of the things that he does. **Sylvia Nasholm** displayed three beautiful pieces: Plume

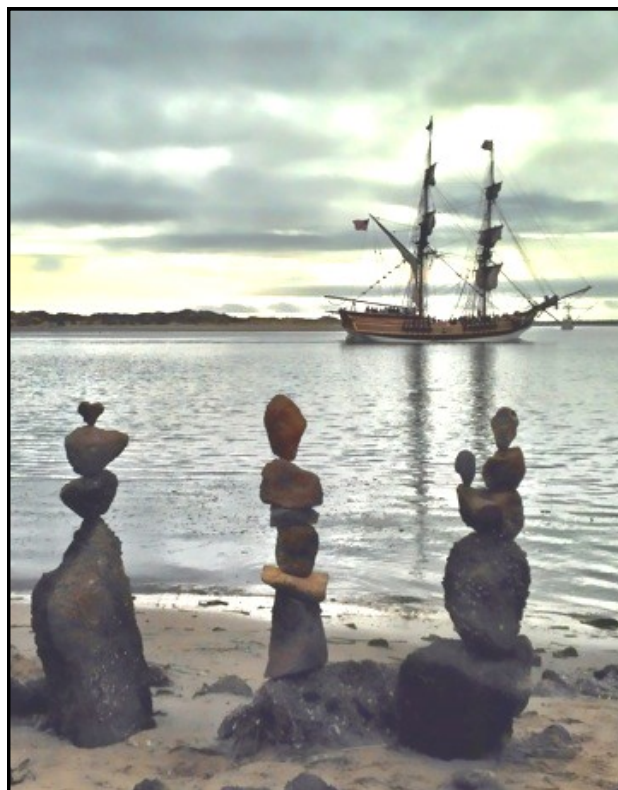
Agate, Chromium Jade and Angel Wing. **Alexis Van Natta** displayed the first rock that she found and collected: a dendrite collected at Turkey Ridge Trail. **Dyanna Cridelich** displayed an unusual piece of Ocean Jasper with opalescence and Crystals purchased at the Rainbow of Gems Show in August.

President Wayne Mills adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:  
Dyanna Cridelich, Secretary, OMS

### SANDY BERTHELOT COLLECTION AT SPHEREHEAVEN

Sandra Berthelot's collection of rocks and crystals is for sale on Wes Lingerfelt's web site: [Sphereheaven.com](http://Sphereheaven.com). Look for "Sandy's Treasures". There are a LOT of them, and at very reasonable prices. Please check the pages out! More specimens added each day.



*"Rock the Plank" Kathy Clarke in Morro Bay published in the SLO New Times*

## OMS CALENDAR

### NOVEMBER 2017

<b>Tuesday, November 7</b> 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.	<b>OMS Board Meeting, Nipomo Chamber of Commerce meeting room.</b> All members are welcome at this meeting.
<b>Saturday, November 11</b> 8:00 am	<b>Highway Clean-up</b> at southeast corner <b>101/166 East</b>
<b>Tuesday, November 14</b> 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.	<b>General Meeting</b> —Luis Oasis Senior Center. <b>Program</b> —Jim Mills on the Formation of Petrified Wood <b>Display</b> —Petrified Wood <b>Refreshments-Cookies</b> —Debbie Hood, Truman Burgess, Joe & Lisa Azevedo, Dick Bazzell
<b>Saturday, November 25</b> 8:30 a.m.	<b>OMS Monthly Breakfast—Denny's, Santa Maria</b> ( <i>last OMS Breakfast of the year</i> )

### DECEMBER 2017

<b>Tuesday, December 5</b> 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.	<b>OMS Board Meeting, Nipomo Chamber of Commerce meeting room.</b> (Meeting for both incoming and outgoing Boards). All members are welcome at this meeting.
<b>Saturday, December 9</b> 12:00 p.m.	<b>Annual Meeting Madonna Inn.</b> Awards, Installation and gift exchange
Tuesday, December 12	<b>Happy Hanukkah!</b>
<b>Saturday, December 25</b> 8:30 a.m.	<b>Merry Christmas!</b>
Tuesday, December 26	<b>Happy Kwanzaa!</b>



2017-OMS Officers		
<b>President</b>	Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495
<b>President-Elect</b>	Sharon Duncan	805) 478-9359
<b>Secretary</b>	Dyanna Cridelich	(805) 937-4347
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jeanne Watkins	(805) 481-1811
<b>Imm. Past Pres.</b>	Alexis VanNatta	(805) 937-4347
2017-OMS Board Members		
	Jan Ferguson	(805) 474-9977
	Sally Griffith	(805) 928-6848
	Debbie Hood	(805) 481-6860
	Sylvia Nasholm	(805) 481-0923
	Renea Suttcliffe	805) 929-2783
CFMS Federation Director		
	Wayne W. Mills	(805) 481-3495
<b>Copyright 2017 Orcutt Mineral Society.</b> 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 <a href="http://omsinc.org">omsinc.org</a> .		
<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 Dyanna Cridelich</b> (805) 937-4347		
<b>OMS Webmaster –Bill Brown–</b> (805) 481-1811 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> .		
Ore-Cutts Editor/Publisher		
Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495	<a href="mailto:wwmills50@hotmail.com">wwmills50@hotmail.com</a>

## CFMS SHOWS

### NOVEMBER

#### November 3, 4 & 5: EUREKA, CA

Humboldt Gem & Mineral Society  
 Redwood Acres Fairgrounds  
 3750 Harris Street  
 Hours: Fri 9 - 6; Sat 9 - 6; Sun 10 - 5  
 Contact: Toni L Tyson, (707) 502-9574  
 email: [bluiis911@msn.com](mailto:bluiis911@msn.com)

#### November 4 - 5: ANAHEIM, CA

American Opal Society  
 Business Expo Center  
 1960 S. Anaheim Way  
 Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5  
 Contact: Veronica Purpura, (714) 501-9959  
 Email: [info@opalsociety.org](mailto:info@opalsociety.org)  
 Website: [www.opalsociety.org](http://www.opalsociety.org)

#### November 4 - 5: CONCORD, CA

Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society  
 Centre Concord  
 5298 Clayton Road  
 Hours: 10 - 5 daily  
 Contact: Mary Hicks, (925) 779-0698

Email: [maryhicks@comcast.net](mailto:maryhicks@comcast.net)  
 Website: (Temp. under construction)

#### November 4 - 5: RIDGECREST, CA

Indian Wells Gem & Mineral Society  
 Desert Empire Fairgrounds  
 520 South Richmond Road  
 Hours: 9 - 5 daily  
 Contact: John DeRosa, (760) 375-7905  
 Email: [jfrocks@dslextreme.com](mailto:jfrocks@dslextreme.com)

#### November 11 - 12: YUBA CITY, CA

Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society  
 Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds - Franklin Hall  
 442 Franklin Avenue  
 Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4  
 Contact: Karen Horita, (530) (916) 677-6696  
 Email: [horita@comcast.net](mailto:horita@comcast.net)  
 Website: [www.sutterbuttes.net](http://www.sutterbuttes.net)

#### November 18 - 19: OXNARD, CA

Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society  
 Oxnard Performing Arts Center  
 800 Hobson Way  
 Hours: Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4  
 Contact: Stephanie Hagiwara, (805) 394-8002  
 Email: [webmaster@oxnardgem.com](mailto:webmaster@oxnardgem.com)  
 Website: <http://oxnardgem.com>

#### November 18 - 19: SANTA CRUZ, CA

Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society  
 Santa Cruz Live Oak Grange  
 1900 17th Avenue  
 Hours: 10 - 5 daily  
 Contact: Michael Cox, (831) 459-0572  
 Email: [scruzmgs@gmail.com](mailto:scruzmgs@gmail.com)  
 Website: [www.scrockngem.org](http://www.scrockngem.org)

## DECEMBER

#### December 9 - 10: RIALTO, CA

Orange Belt Mineralogical Society  
 Near Rialto City Hall Lot  
 105 South Palm Avenue  
 Hours: 9 - Dusk daily  
 Contact: Jessica Pierson, (909) 381-0089  
 Email: [OBMSTailgateInfo@gmail.com](mailto:OBMSTailgateInfo@gmail.com)  
 Website: <http://OBMSrocks.yolasite.com>

### ROCK OPPORTUNITY—CLIFF'S TAILGATE/YARD SALE

Cliff Brewen is a long-standing member of the Santa Lucia Rockhounds (hope he keeps standing for a long time to come!). His Annual Rock Sale is a fun event, and is open to all rockhounds. His sale will be held (Rain or Shine) on **November 18, 2017 from 8 am to 2 pm**. Set-up for vendors is 7 am. The address is **6384 Monterey Road, Paso Robles**. Bring rocks or rock-related items to sell from your tailgate or table. **Nipomo Agate from the Bob Baker Collection is expected to be sold at this activity.**

**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.