



Ore-Cutts

Volume XLIV Number 10

October 2008

Come join us on October 14 at 7:00 p.m. at the Mussell Senior Center, 510 E Park, Santa Maria, for a program on **Gold Prospecting** given by John Elander. John is a prospector who goes to Alaska hunting for gold every year, and he will be talking to us about where to go to search for gold, how to “read” a river, and other exciting details of gold hunting.

The display this month will be rocks from your favorite fieldtrips, anywhere, any time, as many as you want to show!

Dessert will be cake brought by Sharon Duncan, Lee Reyburn and Elaine Von Achen.



Geology of the Central Coast—A Series— Fossils of the Central Coast

By Wayne Mills

The Central Coast has had a short but eventful history. Our oldest rocks exposed at the surface date to the Jurassic period, 230-135 million years before the present (ybp). This is right in the middle of the age of the Dinosaurs, but we were located a bit too far offshore for the big guys. The oldest rocks in our area are the meta-sedimentary and volcanic rocks of the Franciscan Formation, and (at least in our area (Monterey, San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara Counties), these rocks contain only one occurrence of a vertebrate fossil. That fossil is a vertebra from a plesiosaur, a 6 to 60- foot long marine reptile, and was found near Stanley Mountain off Route 166. The Upper Cretaceous marine rocks (about 80—65 million ybp, contain a few more mega-fossils (big enough to see with the naked eye) than the Franciscan. The only fossils in this category that I know of, however, are a 5-inch diameter ammonite from near the Klau Mountain Mine off Santa Rita Creek Road, a portion of an ammonite that was about 15-inches in diameter from near Jalama Beach, and a rock scallop that (I think) came from

the Upper Cretaceous marine strata near Lake Nacimiento. I would enjoy hearing about other fossils from the Cretaceous of this area.

Ralph’s ammonite from near the Klau Mine



The local Paleocene and Eocene periods (65 to 35 million ybp) seem to have been pretty quiet, because I know of few fossils from those periods. The Miocene (25 to 5 million years ago) is when things started to get interesting. Driven by the subducting, spreading center, there was widespread volcanism in the area. The volcanic ash along the Pismo Coast was deposited, the Nipomo Volcanics were formed (thank heavens, because without them we would not have Marcasite and Sagenite to collect), and the Seven Sisters were emplaced along a fault below the surface of the earth. Realize that this happened about 300 to 400 miles south of our current position, due to the right lateral movement of about 2-inches per year along what is now the San Andreas Fault. The Monterey Formation, one of the most widespread formations in California, was deposited on top of the Nipomo Volcanics, which apparently happened early in the Miocene. The dates on the Seven Sisters range from 22 to 26 million years before present (ybp), and the Monterey Formation is dated at about 15 million ybp. We have an abundance of marine mega-fossils in the Miocene, stretching all the way to Bakersfield (home of Sharktooth Hill) where the Temblor Formation, (co-equal to the Vaqueros Formation) of Lower Miocene Age (about 25-18 million ybp) contains one of the most significant accumulations of marine vertebrates in the world.

On the Central Coast, the Monterey Formation that overlies the Vaqueros Formation stretches from Monterey County (duh) to the Gaviota Coast of Santa Barbara, where it yields cobble to boulder-sized concretions

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containing whale and shark skulls, agatized wood, petrified palm, and a variety of fish fossils in its associated shales. In Lompoc where the world's largest diatomite mine is located, the diatomaceous shales of the Monterey Formation have yielded dolphins, sea cows, whales, seaweed, and a wide variety of fish, shrimp and other fossils. On the micro scale, each cubic inch of diatomite is composed of millions of silica-skeletons of plants that used to make up a large percentage of the marine plankton, and whose decomposition in part led to the Monterey Formation being the largest repository of oil on the Central Coast.

Another widely distributed formation on the Central Coast is the Santa Margarita Formation that immediately overlies the Monterey. One of the classic sections of the Santa Margarita is off Shell Creek Road, about 21 miles east of Santa Margarita (duh again). This site contains oysters, pectens, barnacles, clams, sand dollars, and other shallow-water marine fossils. It is recognized by the generally white cast of matrix and fossils, though further north in Santa Cruz County, Santa Margarita Formation fossils occur in a much sandier and less well-cemented matrix. Atop the Santa Margarita, are the more unconsolidated sediments of the Carreaga and Etchagoin Formations of Pliocene Age (5 to 1 million ybp.) In Orcutt, these sediments contain mostly vertebrate remains, including sharks, dolphins, and sirenians (seals and sea lions, so-named because of their resemblance to mermaids. Man, those sailors must have been in a bad way after a couple of years at sea...). Near Lompoc, the Etchagoin Formation is also of Pliocene Age. South of Route 1 on San Antonio Creek Road, is an exposure of poorly consolidated Etchagoin sand containing a mortality stratum of *Dendraster ashleyi* sand dollars. This has been a fun collecting area for OMS since about 1956. These sand dollars represent a shallow marine environment.



Comparison of a Mammoth tooth (bottom) with a Mastodon tooth (top)

Central Coast about 12-14,000 years ago. Further north in the Nipomo area, more



Near here are found Pleistocene deposits containing mammoths, mastodons, shrub oxen, ice age elk, and evidence that these were hunted by some of the earliest men on the

evidence of Pleistocene mammals is found. Here, mastodon bones are also found in association with primitive stone tools. There is also evidence of *Pantera atrax*, *Smilodon californicus*, (our state fossil), the short faced bear, and giant sloth in the northern Santa Barbara, southern San Luis Obispo county areas, indicating that by about 20,000 years ago, the sea had retreated from what is now Nipomo.

Sunshine

Mike Hensen was in the hospital for a short stay to treat pneumonia, and is recovering at home now. We hope you are feeling better very quickly, Mike!



The Pres Box

Wayne Mills, president, OMS

We had about 41 members and 7 or so guests (including Kim Noyes, vice president of the San Luis Obispo Gem and Mineral Society) at our September meeting, a great turnout. Our business portion went pretty smoothly, the desserts (pies) were great, thanks to Jeannie Lingerfelt and a few others, we had wonderful displays (special thanks to all those who displayed)—Jeanne McElvanie's fossils really made me want to get up to Lewis Creek).

Jean's fossils (right), and Wes's turritella (left) from Santa Ynez (picture by Ray Yamamoto)

I had several positive comments on my Central Coast Fossils

presentation, and that is ALWAYS encouraging, and we had good participation in the Door Prize activity. Thanks are due Lucky Virgin and Dee Dee Magri who contributed some nice rocks for that activity. In addition, Deborah Hood presented several members with certificates for their winning articles in the 2007 Bulletin Contest.

Wes Lingerfelt, our Federation Director brought up an article from the most recent CFMS Bulletin about the current attempt in the Senate to pass legislation that would cut off our access to our (so called) "public lands" in the Southern California Desert, and another bill (the Paleontology Preservation Act) that would impose severe penalties (\$10,000 or more and loss of your vehicle) for the sale, trade, removal, transportation or even mislabeling of vertebrate fossils. I urge you to look into these bills and protest to your representatives before our access to public lands that we have enjoyed since the founding of our country is more severely limited.



We have been asked by the San Luis Obispo Club to put a display in at their upcoming gem and mineral show on the weekend of October 18-19. The event will be held



at the Veteran's Hall in Cayucos. Since nobody spoke-up when I asked for volunteers to be in charge of the case, I got the job of putting the

case together, set-up, and take down. NOW, I am asking our members to bring in something nice from your collection to put IN our club case. Please bring it to the October meeting, and have a hand written or typed label with the items' and your name. For example, here is the case the Lone Pine Gem and Mineral Club did for the Ventura Show.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Very happy returns of the day go out to Robert Cochran, Al Wilcox, Kevin Cochran, Don Nasholm, & Laura Kasteal who have birthdays this month!



Anniversary congratulations are in



order to Al & Becky Wilcox. May you have many more!

New Board of Director's Member Appointed To Fill Remaining Term

September 3, 2008

Please accept this e-mail as notification of my resignation from the Orcutt Mineral Society board of directors. I have enjoyed the time spent serving on the board but have moved to Benecia, Calif. and will be unable to fulfill my duties.

Sincerely, Dee Dee Magri

The Board of Directors appointed Gloria Dana to fill out DeeDee Magri's term of office. If you have any business to bring up with Gloria, she may be reached at 929-6429.

Fieldtrip To Collect Nipomo Agate

By Bob Bullock, Fieldtrip Chairman

Saturday, September 21st, was another perfect end-of-summer day on the central coast. We meet up at St. Joseph's Catholic Church on Thompson Road. Present were: Robert Bullock, Wes Lingerfelt, Jeannie Lingerfelt, Stan Ferguson, Jan Ferguson, Brenna Ferguson, Don Nasholm, Sylvia Nasholm, Alex Small, Michael Shidz, Geary Sheffer, Dave Hignett, Kaitlin Rush, Heather Rush, Jean McIlvanie, Rodric Ness, Ralph Larsen,

Robert Cochran, Kevin Cochran, Robert Burson, Sharon Burson, Scott Empey, Mark Sirota, Keith McKay, Erica Erskine, Jason Badgley, Laura Kasteal, Don Dana, Gloria Dana, Shelly Dana, Harold Virgin, Joseph Martinez, Elizabeth Martinez, John Van Achen,

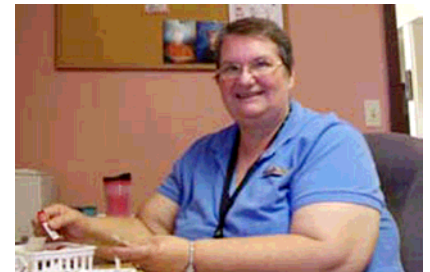
I do believe this was the biggest field trip the club has ever had, it may have been short on distance but we did satisfy some childhood dreams of a few folks. Also I'm sure that every one who participated did collect some interesting specimens. On the Sunday after the trip I presented Leonard Dana with a sphere of native Agate, Marcasite, Cinnabar and other combined materials from his ranch in the name of our organization, Mr. Dana was very moved. As I didn't hear any complaints from the folks who attended I'm extremely happy that the trip went off with out a hitch. (Editor's Note: Well done, Bob! That's one we could repeat without hearing ANY complaints! See the slide show of pictures from the trip on our website:

http://www.omsinc.org/archives/OMSFieldTrip9_20_08.ppt

On future fieldtrips where we are being allowed onto private property to hunt, our policy will be NO PETS unless the announcement clearly states pets are welcome. Please abide by this rule so that we will be welcomed back.)

**THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!**

My name is Nora Gaffield and I am the new **Campbell's Soup** labels coordinator. God



has blessed in so many ways — and with friends like each of you. We are presently working toward getting a new mini-van. We are about a third of the way toward reaching our goal. I would like to remind everyone of the new regulations from **Campbell's**. They will no longer accept the front labels. We must have the UPC from the can or box, preferably the logo as well. To find out the current list of eligible products, go to www.labelsforeducation.com. The 5-point list has changed this year, so be sure to check that out on their website.

It's Soooooo Amazing!! "It's so amazing how it happened — that God would go through all that to bring me here!" exclaimed a new staff member. In addition to the faithful staff who remained for the New Year, God brought nine new people. Each person's story is unique and amazing! We'll share some of those stories in upcoming *Newsletters*.

THIS YEAR'S NEW STAFF:

Cindy Allen, Florida, junior high English/writing teacher.

Barbara Bowers, Pennsylvania, art teacher, dorm assistant.

Ed and Eleanor Brelinski, Washington state, maintenance.

Manager and bookkeeper.

Lin Drumm, Iowa, 1-3 grade teacher.

Bill Johnston, Texas, high school teacher.

August Ketterling, California, maintenance

Ray Kishen, Oregon, media technician.

Debra Newman, S Carolina, kitchen/custodial and dorm assistant. Get the *Newsletter* via email. Go to www.indianschool.org and click on the *Newsletter* link to sign up.

More opportunities — every time you shop!

eScrip—Safeway and many other merchants donate to the school of your choice when you use your credit, debit and/or ATM card. See www.eScrip.com.

Target — Go to www.target.com/coe to enroll in Target's Take Charge of Education program.

Office Depot — When you make qualifying school purchases at Office Depot, give our school's ID # (70117517). SVIS will receive credit equal to 5% of the qualifying purchases to use for free supplies.

We are now collecting **Box Tops for Education**. Simply cut the Box Tops for Education coupon off the box or package and send it to SVIS. For more information, call me at 928-524-6211 or email me at nagaffield@indianschool.org. *Nora*

School Visit

By Wes Lingerfelt

I visited the Dorothea Lange elementary school today and gave two sessions about rocks to the 2nd graders there.

In all there were about 80 students (2 classes of 40 students in each). It never ceases to amaze me when I see the glimmer in the kid's eyes as they get to hold and handle the mineral and rock specimens. It's really a sight to behold. I believe the teachers get a kick out of it as well.



Their teacher sent Wes the following letter:

Thank you so much for coming and speaking to second grade. The kids

absolutely love learning about rocks and can hardly wait to go home and teach their parents something new!

Christmas Gift Exchange

By Sylvia Nasholm

This year we are going to try a gift exchange at our annual meeting and I want to explain how it will work since it is a little different than the usual and tends to be not only entertainment but a lot of fun as well

First, participation is **VOLUNTARY**. For those not wanting to join in, you can have almost as much fun watching as participating so it should be enjoyable for all. If you wish to participate, bring a gift that is **rock related**. No need to identify male or female as we are all Rockhounds!

Your gift should be \$10 or less. You can wrap it traditionally or in a lunch sack tied with a ribbon. Don't identify whom the gift is from or what it is in any way. When you arrive at the meeting, you place your gift on the designated table and you will be given a number.

When it is time for the exchange, numbers will be called. When your number is called, you go to the gift pile and choose. You open the gift and we all get to see it. The next number is called and the person holding it gets to choose an unwrapped gift from the pile or "take" one that has been previously chosen by someone else. If you take one from someone, that person gets to choose another and it continues down through the pile. A particular gift can only be "taken" twice and then it is considered out of play.

As you can imagine, it can get very lively and always provides good friends with good memories and years of stories about the "one that got away"!!

We hope you all will choose to play!

Stolen Pictograph!

This picture is of the damage and subsequent theft of a rock art panel from an archaeological site on the Arizona Strip. This is part of a large cliff face habitation and multiple rock art panel sites. This site is located in Mohave County on Federal lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), within Arizona.



This damage and theft occurred at this archaeological site between April 2008 and September 7, 2008.

If anyone has any information concerning this damage and theft please contact BLM, Special Agent, Robert Babb at 602-417-9332 or email at rbabb@blm.gov.

Dendrites vs. Moss Agates: Orbicular Jasper vs. Polka Dot Agate

via *Rock Chip Reporter*, 4/08; via *Petrograph*, 6/03; ref: *Calumet Gem*.

We are usually delighted, but not surprised, to find inclusions in crystals, e.g., quartz of one color or another, rutile, sagenite, and 'stars'. The appearance of inclusions in microcrystalline varieties of quartz however, has a mysterious ambiance that brings out the name making propensities of collectors. When our vision of inclusions is obscured, our imagination takes hold. Chalcedony (clear to cloudy), agates (clear but usually banded), and jasper (opaque) are all variations of silica oxides, with hardness between 6 and 7, which makes them very suitable for polishing. They may all have included material, and the nature of the inclusion is dictated by the composition of the host rock material and the manner of rock formation.

Dendritic chalcedony and moss agate are terms or names frequently applied to the same material. They are basically similar, but dendrites can form not only in chalcedony and agate, but also on limestone and soapstone and some sandstone. The dendrites, so called from the Greek *dendron*, or tree, are branching structures of mainly manganese and iron oxides, in or on the host material. Dendrites occur in many places in the world, basically whenever water rich in oxides flows across rocks. The dendrites form on a surface and are two-dimensional, like snowflakes or frost crystals on a windowpane. If the rock is chalcedony, the dendrite forms on the surface, but more chalcedony may entomb it. The dendrites are usually earthy, black, brown, or reddish, but near Four Corners, in the eastern Mojave, near the junction of Hwy 58 & Hwy 395, rockhounds reputedly find blue.

The 'mosses' of moss agate, not organic material at all but chlorite or celadonite, are visible impurities in the agate. Scientists attempt to distinguish between the two by determining, if possible, whether the dendrite/moss or the mineral rock formed first. The moss forms while the chalcedony is still gel like and can then form three-dimensional shapes with the stone. Moss agate, also widely distributed, can be a variety of colors, green, black, white, yellow, red, orange, and tan. It is widely used in jewelry, and polishes beautifully, if care is taken not to cut into and pluck the moss.

Multi-colored balls can appear in rhyolite flows. Rhyolite is a fine-grained igneous rock. If it contains sufficient silica to take a brilliant polish, it is sometimes called jasper. Orbicular material usually appears as a mass of rhyolite that has silicated. As the rhyolite cools, sometimes-excess silica starts to precipitate out of the magma, forming spherical balls. The ball shape is the

form that any extremely concentrated silica (cristobalite) takes, as opposed to the crystal form in dilute concentrations. However, any material that by composition or consistency is immiscible (not mixable) with the host magma will also form balls.

Regional metamorphism can also form orbicular jaspers. We hear names like Rainforest Jasper from Australia, Leopard Skin Jasper from Mexico, Poppy Jasper from California, and Ocean Jasper from Madagascar. We may find one color surrounding another, or bands of balls, veils of lighter colors staining the background. Polka Dot Agate, from Oregon, has iron rich spheres floating in snowy extremely fine-grained jasper, along with veils of golden brown. The material is so fine-grained it is almost chert and resembles porcelain.

The rock distinction of jasper and chert is: if it's attractive, it's jasper; if it's dull, it's chert. Some jasper represents replaced limestone or dolomite, some occurs as nodules, and sometimes it is part of the gangue of mineral deposits by hydrothermal or meta-somatic processes. Agates are translucent and usually banded, with sub-vitreous luster; jasper is opaque with a dull to pearly luster; to a rockhound, Jaspagate is a fine mixture of the beautiful oxides.

Oldest Rocks on Earth Found

Researchers determined samples were from 3.8 to 4.28 billion years old. The Nuvvuagittuq Belt on the coast of the Hudson Bay in Northern Quebec



Scientists have found the oldest known rocks on Earth. They are 4.28 billion years old, making them 250 million years more ancient than any previously discovered rocks. Earth formed about 4.6 billion years ago from a disk of gas and dust circling the sun. Remnants of crust from Earth's infancy are hard to come by because most of that material has been recycled into Earth's interior several times by the plate tectonics that continue to shape our planet's surface.

In 2001, geologists found an expanse of bedrock, known as the Nuvvuagittuq greenstone belt, exposed on the eastern shore of Hudson Bay in northern Quebec. Suspecting that the rocks there could be from one of the earliest periods of Earth's history, geologists took samples to try and determine their age. They measured tiny variations in the isotopes (or species of an element that have different numbers of neutrons) of the rare earth elements neodymium and samarium in the rocks and

determined that the samples were from 3.8 to 4.28 billion years old. The oldest dates, which came from rocks that geologists call "faux amphibolite," are thought to be ancient volcanic deposits. They beat the previously oldest known rocks, which are 4.03 billion years old and come from a formation called the Acasta Gneiss in Canada's Northwest Territories.

The only dates of crustal material older than the newly-dated Nuvvuagittuq greenstone belt are from isolated mineral grains called zircons that are highly resistant to weathering and geologic processes. The oldest zircons, from grains in Western Australia, are about 4.36 billion years old. "The Nuvvuagittuq rocks are "the oldest whole rocks found so far though," said geologist Richard Carlson of the Carnegie Institution, who analyzed the rocks with Jonathan O'Neil, a Ph.D. student at McGill University in Montreal. The team's findings are detailed in the Sept. 25 issue of the journal *Science*. Their work was supported by the National Science and Engineering Research Council of Canada, the U.S. National Science Foundation and the Carnegie Institution of Washington.

Examining such ancient rocks "gives us an unprecedented glimpse of the processes that formed the early crust," Carlson said.

Orcutt Mineral Society Board Meeting Elwin Mussell Sr. Center, Santa Maria, Ca. September 2, 2008

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President, Wayne Mills.

Board members present were Elaine Von Achen, Debbie Hood, Wayne Mills, Wes Lingerfelt, Sylvia Nasholm, Sandy Berthelot, Mike Henson and Sharon Duncan. Guests included Bill Hood, Gloria Dana and Paul Berthelot.

Minutes from the August 2, 2008 board meeting were approved as printed in the September 2008 newsletter.

Correspondence: Elaine Von Achen reported receiving newsletters from So. Orange County Gem & Mineral Society, South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society and Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society. We also received a notice from the Department of Justice confirming that we are authorized to conduct raffles in California for the next year and it will expire on 08-31-09. A thank you card from Lee Nore Garibaldi was read thanking us for the two items she won in the Treasure Chest and commenting on the great show we put on.

Treasurer's Report: Wes Lingerfelt read the treasurer's report. The report was accepted as read. He also read the final report on the Gem Show.

Committee Reports:

Gem Show: It was suggested that we might list the top 3 prizes right on the tickets we sell for the Treasure Chest

and that we might also start selling a little earlier next year.

Scholarship: Funds from the show that will go toward scholarships amounted to \$932.81. Elaine Von Achen made a motion that we round this amount up to \$1,000.00. Sylvia Nasholm seconded the motion. Motion passed. There was some discussion on the possibility of giving three scholarships this coming year as this account has plenty of money in it.

Adopt-a-Highway: Wayne Mills announced that the next clean-up will be held on September 13 at 8:00 a.m. We will meet at Highways 101 and 166.

Abused Children: Debbie Hood said she would like to see some of the money from the Gem Show go into this fund. After some discussion it was decided that the OMS charter is earth science oriented specifically and to change that would dilute our charter.

Hospitality: None

Membership: None

Sunshine: Debbie reported that Kay Volmer is living in Los Angeles with her daughter, Wendy, and is doing quite well. Lee Reyburn's wife has had hip replacement surgery.

Annual Luncheon: It has been decided that we will have a gift exchange at the December luncheon meeting. Gifts should be rock related and limited to \$10.00. We will be allowed to steal a gift twice. It should be noted that no one is obligated to participate. If you bring a gift, you will receive a gift. If you choose not to participate, you will sit out the gift exchange. Sylvia Nasholm has offered to type up the guidelines and have them available for members. Sylvia made a motion that we add the gift exchange to our December meeting. Wes Lingerfelt seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Refreshments: Dee Dee Magri and her husband Aldo have moved to Benecia, which is located in the Bay Area. Therefore we are in need of a refreshment chairperson. Sylvia Nasholm has agreed to take charge for the September meeting.

CFMS: None

Bulletin: We missed listing the Jade Festival in October in the bulletin and Debbie said she would be sure to get it into the next one.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Bill Hood agreed to head the nominating committee this year.

Wayne Mills agreed to reserve the Senior Center for the appropriate dates for the coming year.

Gloria Dana said she would like to fill out the year in Dee Dee Magri's place on the board. Wayne Mills made a motion that we accept Gloria to the board. Debbie Hood seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Wes stated that our premium of \$250.00 was due to McDaniel Ins. Services for the Federation Directors and Officers Insurance. Debbie Hood made a motion that we pay this premium. Sandy Berthelot seconded the motion. Motion passed.

There was discussion on the bill sitting in congress regarding fossil collecting. Wes said he would try to put together a letter as a guideline that would be available to members so you can let our legislators know your feelings on this matter. He would try to have it available at the next general meeting.

Refreshment for the September general meeting will be Pie.

September's program will be given by Wayne Mills on Fossils of the Central Coast.

The Display will be fossils, preferably local.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m. by president, Wayne Mills.

Respectfully submitted:

Elaine Von Achen, Secretary, OMS

Orcutt Mineral Society General Meeting Elwin Mussell Sr. Center, Santa Maria, Ca. September 9, 2008

President Wayne Mills called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Mike Henson gave the invocation.

Bill Hood led the flag salute.

Elaine Von Achen read the minutes of the September 2, 2008 Board Meeting. Minutes were approved as read.

Correspondence:

Elaine Von Achen reported newsletters received from Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society, South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society, So. Orange County Gem & Mineral Society and San Geronio Mineral & Gem Society. She also noted a flier announcing the Searle's Lake Gem and Mineral Society's 67th annual GEM-O-RAMA to be held October 11 and 12, 2008. A flier was received announcing the McDermitt Rock & Gem Show in McDermitt Nevada on September 18 through the 21, 2008. In addition, we received a letter from La Verne Dean asking for materials and information on OMS and a membership application.

Treasurer's report:

Wes Lingerfelt gave the treasurer's report. It was accepted as given.

Committee Reports:

Hospitality: Sharon Duncan announced 40 members and 13 guests. Guests included Rod Ness, Mikela, June Stephenson, Raymond Yamamoto, Joe Martines, Paulette M., Kim Noyes, Paul Hodges, Bill Kengel, "Wild Bill", Pat McKay, Jason Badgley and Kristin Taylor.

Abused Children: Jan Ferguson reported some mineral specimens as this evening's door prizes.

Monthly Breakfast: Gloria Dana reported that the following members, Wes and Jeannie Lingerfelt, Lucky Virgin, Stan, Jan & Brenna Ferguson, Bill & Debbie Hood, Paul & Sandy Berthelot, Erica Erskine, Keith & Pat McKay, Bob Schrum and Don & Gloria Dana, all shared breakfast and conversation on August 23, 2008 at Huckleberry's Restaurant in Pismo Beach. Lucky prizewinners of the monthly drawing were Jan Ferguson and Bill Hood who each received a gift certificate. The September breakfast will be on the 27th and will be held at the Creek Side Café, 330 E. Tefft St., in Nipomo at 9:00 a.m.

Bulletin: Debbie Hood announced that August's bulletin had been mailed and was also on the web.

CFMS: Wes Lingerfelt said that the bulletin had an article on the bill currently sitting in congress regarding fossil collecting and one that Diane Feinstein is trying to get put through on desert collecting. Wes is going to try to get information to our members so they can start a letter writing campaign letting our legislators know our feeling on these matters. The fossil protection act will make the sale, trade, exchange or barter of vertebrate fossils illegal.

Field Trips: Bob Bullock announced the September field trip will be held Saturday, Sept. 20 at 9:00 a.m. Members will meet at the St. Joseph's Church parking lot. They will go into the Nipomo foothills looking for sagenite and marcasite. The fields have recently been ploughed and we are hoping for a fruitful trip.

Nomination Committee: The nominating committee is looking for anyone who would like to hold office or be on the board. Anyone interest should contact Wayne Mills.

Property: None

Public Lands Access Committee: None

Refreshments: The evening's refreshment is pie donated by Jeannie Lingerfelt, Jan Ferguson, Virginia Rogers and Sylvia Nasholm.

Scholarship: Wayne found a five-dollar bill and donated it to the scholarship fund.

Old Business: Wayne Mills read a letter of resignation from Dee Dee Magri, who recently moved to Benicia, Calif. She thanked everyone for her years on the board and said she would miss being an active OMS member. He also announced that Gloria Dana had been voted to fill the vacancy left by Dee Dee Magri and would complete her term.

Wayne also announced that Bill Hood had agreed to head the nominating committee and that he would be on that committee as well.

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Wayne is waiting to hear back from the Department of Parks and Recreation regarding the use of the Senior Center, for our meetings, for next year.

Debbie Hood drew Ralph Larsen's name as the lucky winner of a beautiful pendant, wire- wrapped and donated by Jeannie Lingerfelt. This was a prize for all the great help Debbie received in the Country Store at our annual Gem Show.

New Business:

Kim Noyes invited members to the Paso Robles Gem Show to be held Saturday and Sunday the 20th and 21st of September at the Pioneer Park in Paso Robles. The show will run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. He also encouraged members to attend the San Luis club show to be held on October 18 and 19 in Cayucos. Wayne Mills agreed to chair an OMS club showcase at the Cayucos show.

The program for October's general meeting will be given by John Elander on "Gold Prospecting". The display will be your "Favorite Field Trip Find".

The meeting was adjourned by President, Wayne Mills at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Elaine Von Achen, Secretary, OMS

Shop Helps

Rockhound Rambling Nov.-Dec. '07

Good old **Elmer's Glue mixed 50/50 with warm water** works wonders at maintaining that "wet look" on all types of materials, including most shells. Just brush it on and let it dry- if it gets dusty or dulled simply soak it in warm water and reapply. I learned this technique from one of my mentors when I wanted to display some petrified wood that looked great when wet but looked like a plain old rock dry. *From Clyde Gilbert Oct 24, 2007*

Rock_Collecting_and_Field_Trips@yahoo.com

If you have **sore hands from hard rock mining**, soak them in warm vinegar water and the swelling and soreness will disappear. *From Leo Lueet in GI Nugget via Moroks 04/00*

Tumbling Tips for Apache Tears

When attempting to polish apache tears, here are some methods to try: 1) In steps 3 and 4, add corn syrup to the load to slow down the action. This thickens the slurry and will keep the stones from scratching themselves. 2) Use cerium oxide as a polish, and use it with oatmeal. Let it go for several weeks. DO NOT add water with this method. Polish dry. 3) Use a vibrating polisher. These type polishers do not have the harsh action a rotary polisher does. *From Rockpile Legend Co.*

www.rocks4u.com/lapidaryhint.htm

October 2008 Calendar

Tuesday Oct. 7, 2008	OMS Board Meeting-Elwin Mussell Senior Center. All
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7:00 to 8:30 p.m.	members are welcome at this business meeting.
Tuesday, Oct. 14, 2008 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.	OMS General Meeting-Elwin Mussell Senior Center. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program John Elander on Gold Prospecting • Display- Favorite Fieldtrip Finds • Refreshments- Cakes
Saturday Oct. 18, 2008	Field Trip to be announced. For information call Bob Bullock at 928-6372.
Saturday Oct. 25 2008 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.	OMS Monthly Breakfast- To is announced. For information Call Gloria Dana at 929-6429.
November 2008 Calendar	
Tuesday Nov. 4, 2008 7:00. to 8:30 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting-Elwin Mussell Senior Center. All members are welcome at this business meeting.
Tuesday Nov.11, 2008 7:00. to 9:00 p.m	OMS General Meeting-Elwin Mussell Senior Center. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program-Florescent Minerals by Steve Riegel • Display-Best 1 x 1 display (no other rules.) • Refreshments-Cookies
Saturday Nov. 15, 2008	Fieldtrip to be announced. For information call Bob Bullock at 928-6372.
Saturday Nov. 22, 2008 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.	OMS Monthly Breakfast To Be Announced. For information Call Gloria Dana at 929-6429.
Saturday Nov. 29 2008 8:00. to 10:00 a.m	Roadside Clean up After the cleanup, coffee and pastry at "Francisco's Country Kitchen" in Santa Maria.

FOR SALE

Combination Lapidary Machine. Highland Park "One Man Band," Model #B10. 10-inch rock saw and five cutting/polishing stations: one muslin buff wheel, 100 grit, 200 grit carborundum wheels, steel drum for grit paper (600), and end polishing plate, with two attachable plates with leather pads. Includes motor, belt and custom-made sturdy bench. Takes a piece from start to finish. Great for lapidaries of all skills, beginner to advanced. \$300.00. Call Don at (805) 929-6429.

CFMS Show Schedule 2008**October 5 2008, Fallbrook, CA**

Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Society
 "Fall Festival of Gems"
 FGMS Museum
 123 W. Alvarado
 Hours: 10 - 4
 Mary Fong-Walker (760) 728-1130
 Diane Tjepkes (780) 468-8028

October 10, 11, & 12 2008, Pacific Valley, Ca

17th Annual Jade Festival
Pacific Valley School
Highway 1, 35 miles north of Hearst Castle
Friday-Noon – 6:00 pm
Saturday/Sunday 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
Admission is Free

October 11-12 2008, Grass Valley, CA

Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society
 "Earth's Treasures"
 Nevada County Fairgrounds
 11228 McCourtney Road
 Hours: 10 - 5 both days
 Kim Moore (530) 470-0388
 Email: Kmoore160@comcast.net

October 11 - 12 2008, Trona, CA

Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society
 "66th Annual Gem-O-Rama"
 Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society
 13337 Main Street
 Hours: Sat. 7:30 - 5; Sun. 7:30 - 4
 Bonnie Fairchild (760) 372-5356
 Email: glgms@wvisp.com
 Website:
www.l.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub/tronagemclub.html

October 11-12 2008, Lakeside, CA

Cajon Valley Gem & Mineral Society
 Lakeside Rodeo Grounds
 12584 Mapleview
 Hours: 10-5 both days
 David Newton (619) 390-5054
 Email: jontom@nethere.com
 Web page: ecvgms.com

October 11-12 2008, Vista, CA

Vista Gem & Mineral Society
 Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum
 2040 North Sante Fe Avenue
 Hours: Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4
 Cherie Wilson (760) 941-7073
 Lois M. Hair (760) 724-0395

October 18-19 2008, Cayucos, Ca.

Cayucos Gem & Mineral Show
Cayucos Veterans Hall at the Pier
Hours: Sat.-Sun. 10:00 am-5:00 pm
Free admission

October 18-19 2008, Anderson, CA

Shasta Gem & Mineral Society
 Shasta District Fairgrounds
 Hours: 1 Sat. 9-5; Sun. 10-4
 Bill Seward (530) 365-8641
 E-mail: glseward@sbcglobal.net

October 18-19 2008, Placerville, CA

El Dorado County Mineral & Gem Society
 El Dorado County Fairgrounds
 100 Placerville Drive

Hours: 10 - 5 both days

Jackie Cerrato (530) 677-2975

Email: info@rockandgemshow.org

Show Website: <http://www.rockandgemshow.org>

Website: eldoradomineralandgem.org

October 18-19 2008, Santa Rosa, CA

Santa Rosa Mineral & Gem Society
 Veterans' Memorial Auditorium
 1351 Maple Avenue, Santa Rosa
 Hours: Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5
 Tom Dering (707) 564-4537
 Email: farmarch@sonic.net
 Website: www.gem-n-i.org

October 18-19 2008, Whittier, CA

Whittier Gem & Mineral Society
 Whittier Community Center
 7630 Washington Avenue
 Hours: Sat. 10-5 both days
 Jay Valle: (626) 934-9764
 Email: res19pnb@verizon.net

October 25-26, 2008, Los Altos, CA

Peninsula Gem & Geology Society
 Los Altos Youth Center
 One San Antonio Road
 Hours: Sat. 9-5 pm, Sun. 9-4 pm
 Stan Bogosian: (408)568-2489
 Email: sbogosian@aol.com

November 1-2 2008, Concord, CA

Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society
 Centre Concord - 5298 Clayton Rd.
 Clayton Fair Shopping Center
 Hours: 10 - 5 both days
 Sam Woolsey (925) 837-3287
 Email: sdwools@earthlink.net
 Website: www.ccmgs.org

November 1 - 2 2008, Ridgecrest, CA

Indian Wells Gem & Mineral Society
 Desert Empire Fairgrounds, Mesquite Hall
 520 S. Richmond Rd.
 Hours: 9-5 both days
 John De Rosa (760) 375-7905
 Vickie black (760) 371-4416

November 7, 8, 9 2008, Eureka, CA

Humboldt Gem & Mineral Society
 Redwood Acres Fairgrounds
 3750 Harris
 Hours: Fri. 9-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5
 Toni Tyson (707) 725-2890
 Email: BLUII911@msn.com

November 8-9 2008, Lancaster, CA

Palmdale Gem & Mineral Society
 Antelope Valley Fairgrounds
 2551 W. Ave. H, Hwy 14
 Hours: 9 - 5 both days
 Susan Chaisin-Walblom (661) 943-1861
 Email: SLChaisson@yahoo.com
 Website: pgms@antelecom.net

November 8 - 9 2008, Yuba City, CA

Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society
 "Festival of Gems"
 Grace Franklin Hall
 442 Franklin Avenue
 Hours: Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 9 - 4
 Cliff Swenson (530) 272-3752
 Inez Berg (530) 633-4612

Ore-Cutts

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OMS Webmaster - Wes Lingerfelt –(805) 929-3788.

Check out our OMS web site at <http://omsinc.org> or send e-mail to info@omsinc.org.

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OMS Membership (dues) is \$18 per year. Junior memberships (under 18) are \$9 per year. Membership dues are due January 1, and are prorated for new members for each month thereafter. Membership Chairperson is Elaine Von Achen (805) 929-1488

2008-OMS Officers

Pres.	Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495
Pres. Elect	Debbie Hood	(805) 481-6860
Secretary	Elaine Von Achen	(805) 929-1488
Treasurer	Wes Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788
Immed. Past Pres.	Debbie Hood	(805) 481-6860
Federation. Rep.	Wes Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788

2008-OMS Board Members

Sharon Duncan	(805) 478-9359
Sylvia Nasholm	(805) 481-0923
Sandy Berthelot	(805) 349-3977
Gloria Dana	(805) 929-6429
Mike Henson	(805) 934-1308

Orcutt Mineral Society, Inc.
PO Box 106
Santa Maria, CA. 93456-0106

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



ORE-CUTTS (named after, William Orcutt) was published in 1966. Member Helen Azevedo was the first editor Orcutt Mineral Society was founded in 1958, and was named after William Orcutt, 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. The La Brea Tar Pits are one of the most significant fossil finds in paleontological history. The OMS is a non-profit club 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

OMS Editor

Debbie Hood	(805) 481-6860	debilhood1@sbcglobal.net
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