



Birthdays

Marshall Reeves
September 6

Dyana Cridelich
September 16

Peter Dettelis
September 30

Anniversaries

Dee Dee and Aldo Magri
September 16

Who is Bringing Snacks?

We want pie! Jeannie Lingerfelt and Jan Ferguson have both signed up to bring pie to our next general meeting. Thank you!



The Prez Box - September 2023

By Tara Machin for Sally Griffith



I hope your summer has been good and relaxing. For our President, Sally, it has been a little overwhelming. Her computer has decided to eat her Prez Box notes.

The show is shaping up to be the best show in 55 years. We will know for sure after the September

general meeting when our treasurer crunches the numbers. We ended up with 72 dealers this year. We had so many that we ran out of tablecloths to cover tables for them. Thank you so much to Renea for working so hard to get those new dealers.

A shout out to all our members who really pulled together this year. It seemed to be much smoother than last year. There were no complaints from vendors that I know of so that speaks volumes about how great a job our whole team did. Thanks Team!

The August field trip was unexpectedly cancelled, but we are hopeful that September will be back to normal. Joey will let us know about her plans at the next general meeting.

We had 12 new guests at the August general meeting and most of them heard about us from our show. Wayne did his annual rocks and minerals of the central coast presentation which is always a hit with the

September 2023

September 4 at 7:00 pm -
Board Meeting in Wes
Lingerfelt's Garden

September 9 at 8:00 am -
Highway Clean Up at the
southeast corner of Highway
101 and 166

September 12 at 7:00 pm -
General Meeting at the Oasis
Senior Center

September 16 - Tentative Field
Trip - TBD

October 2023

October 2 at 7:00 pm - Board
Meeting in Wes Lingerfelt's
Garden

October 10 at 7:00 pm -
General Meeting at the Oasis
Senior Center

October 21 - Tentative Field
Trip - TBD

Coming Next Month

Show Photos will be in the
October newsletter. The
newsletter editor will be
traveling so the October
newsletter needs to be
prepared early. Thank you to
Wayne Mills for helping to send
out the October newsletter.

Prez Box continued from page 1

new members. With all the new members, we will have lots of hands to make our next annual show even better.

Highway clean-up will be on September 9th at 8:00 am. Please meet at the southeast corner of 101 and 166. We really need lots of help. Safety vests and equipment are provided so just bring yourself.

We will do his show wrap up presentation at the next meeting. Please bring your shopping finds from the annual show so we can all see what you bought. There was a great array of vendors so I am sure the treasures were plentiful.

Have a great month, Tara

Terminology - Arsenates and Vanadates

By Tara Machin

As the title suggests, we are going to talk about minerals that contain arsenic or vanadium. This class of minerals are very similar to the phosphate class, but instead of bonds with phosphorous the bonds are with arsenic or vanadium. Sometimes the arsenates and the vanadates are grouped with phosphates into a larger class of minerals.

Like the phosphates, I have not heard of most of these minerals even though there are 94 arsenates and 32 vanadates. Most are found near mining operations of arsenic or vanadium respectively. Some are very colorful and beautiful and often have amusing names. Let's discuss the mineral Fluckite since it seems to be the most entertaining.

Fluckite is an arsenate of calcium and manganese and was named in 1980 in honor of Pierre Fluck who discovered the first specimens in Sainte-Marie-aux-mines in France. Fluckite was discovered after arsenic mining operations were ceased and geologists were trying to safely close down the mine. It is a very beautiful pink color and was unknown to the author of my 1934 book, Getting Acquainted with Minerals.

Orcutt Mineral Society Board Meeting - August 7, 2023

Call to Order: No official start - informal meeting

Members present: Wes Lingerfelt, Sally Griffith, Wayne Mills, Tara Machin, Renea Sutcliffe, Jan Ferguson, Jeanne Watkins, and Joey Nichols. Absent: Joe Goetz and Betty Campbell

Minutes: No updates

Treasurer's Report: Will be reported after the show, preliminary report will be in September

Correspondences: No updates

Committee Reports:

1. **Bulletin**- No updates
2. **CFMS**- No updates
3. **Membership**- 5 or 6 membership applications were turned in at the show
4. **Field Trips**- No updates
5. **Adopt-A-Highway**- No updates
6. **Annual Awards Banquet**- No updates
7. **Education**- No updates
8. **Library**- No updates
9. **Sunshine**- No updates
10. **Scholarship**- No updates
11. **Show:**
 - The show went really well.
 - Renea did a wonderful job organizing the dealers and vendors
 - There were some minor squabbles, but overall the show went very smoothly.
 - We should put in the dealer contracts that generators may need a cage around them to keep people from touching them. The club might get a fine if they don't have one. This seems to be a new regulation and we will investigate more before the next show.

- We need to make sure that people know that dogs are not allowed on the school property. Service dogs are OK, but they need to be wearing red service vests. Dogs can be in carriers (or strollers). I guess the club used to have signs to put up in the parking lot, but they were not up. However, the high school does have signs up and club members were asked to point out those signs in the future as needed. We did have quite a few more dogs this year than normal, we also had a parrot, a cat, and a lizard enjoying the show.
- Most of the vendors new and old want to come back.
- We had a few problems with some of the vendors. The board voted to eliminate some dealers from future shows.
- We were a little short on demonstrators and exhibitors. We will start earlier to get more in place.
- We can talk to CFMS to see if they have a list of demonstrators and traveling cases for exhibits.
- The applications for the display cases needs to be with the dealer contracts next year. At a minimum, there needs to be a line added to the contract asking if they have an interest and what size their display case is.
- Wayne asked if Tara could put an application in the newsletter to see if our club members would like to have an exhibit or a demonstration.

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Board Meeting Notes Continued from page 3

- We are getting low on electrical power for demonstrators and vendors. Can we put people outside? Can we get demonstrators that don't need electricity? Follow up before next show.
 - We want to get more outreach to children. We can fit a few 10 x 10 tents next to the kids booth. Tara wants to see if the Dana Adobe or the Santa Maria Natural History Museum would like to have a booth with artifacts and talk about archeology. We could also get the Discovery Museum to host activities as her husband is on the Board there.
 - Tara wants to do a kid's treasure hunt next year.
 - Labor for the tables is still an issue. We have a plan for more labor next year. It would be great if the high school kids could put up the pizza party table and chairs using the NHS tables while they are waiting for us to bring the 8 foot OMS tables from storage. Tara has contacts at St. Joe's High School and she will try to secure kids before the summer.
- Old Business:** No updates
New Business: No updates
Program: Wayne to give his talk about the rocks and fossils around the Central Coast
Display: Whatever you like
 Adjourned: No official end time - informal meeting
 Respectfully Submitted by Tara Machin

Orcutt Mineral Society General Meeting - August 8, 2023

Call to Order: 7:08 pm by Sally Griffith

Invocation: Debbie Hood

Pledge of Allegiance: Sally Griffith

Members present: 20 Members / 12 Guests

Minutes: Will be published in the September newsletter

Treasurer's Report: Preliminary show report will be in September

Correspondences: Magazine from Cuesta College, SB Gem Faire postcard, Tax information, and Santa Lucia Newsletter

Committee Reports:

1. **Bulletin-** No corrections
2. **CFMS-** No update
3. **Membership-** 6 applications from the show turned in. Welcome new people
4. **Field Trips-** August 19th - may join up with Santa Lucia club or Ventura Club. We are hoping to go to San Simeon, but we will see.

5. **Adopt-A-Highway-** September 9th at 8:00 am.

6. **Annual Awards Banquet-** No Update

7. **Education-** No Update

8. **Library-** No Update

9. **Sunshine-** Wayne is doing well, but Margaret was not feeling well after the show

10. **Scholarship-** No update until September when we do the totals

11. **Show:** DONE!

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Program: Rocks and Fossils of the Central Coast by Wayne Mills

Display: Anything you want -

Adjourned: 8:40 pm

Respectfully Submitted by Tara Machin

Displays from the August General Meeting



Special thanks to Wayne Mills and Jeanne Watkins for their displays and also Joe Goetz and Joey Nichols who I think provided displays. Thank you to everyone who brought displays if you were missed.

Interesting Internet

Rockhounds fight for access to their jewel in the desert: Mojave Trails National Monument

<https://www.latimes.com/environment/story/2023-07-16/rockhounds-fight-for-access-to-jewels-of-california-desert>

The world's largest Amethyst geode - The Empress of Uruguay

<https://www.geologypage.com/2017/01/worlds-largest-amethyst-geode.html>.

More Trouble in Paradise: Geology of Santa Barbara Field Course hosted at the Santa Barbara Natural History Museum

<https://www.sbnature.org/visit/calendar/7387/more-trouble-in-paradise-geology-of-santa-barbara-field-course>

Upcoming Rock and Mineral Shows

September 16-17, 2023 - Monterey, CA
Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Contact: susieharlow@gmail.com
Website: <http://cvgms.rocks>

September 16-17, 2023 - Reno, NV
Reno Gem and Mineral Society
Contact: sailondan55@aol.com
Website: www.renogms.org

September 16-17, 2023 - San Luis Obispo, CA
San Luis Obispo Gem and Mineral Club
Contact: 2023show@slogem.org
Website: <http://slogem.org>

October 7-8, 2023 - Grass Valley, CA
Nevada County Gem and Mineral Society
Contact: 4vanclan5@att.net

October 7-8, 2023 - Signal Hill, CA
Long Beach Mineral & Gem Society
Contact: lbmineralgemsociety@gmail.com
Website: <http://www.facebook.com/LBMGS>

October 7-8, 2023 - Anderson, CA
Shasta Gem and Mineral Society
Contact: sgmsrocksredding@gmail.com
Website: <http://shastagemandmineral.org>

October 8, 2023 - Fallbrook, CA
Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society
Contact: info@fgms.org
Website: <http://www.fgms.org>

October 14-15, 2023 - Redwood City, CA
Penninsula Gem and Geology Society AND
Sequoia Gem and Mineral Society
Contact: cci@pacbell.net
Website: <http://sequoiagemandmineralsociety.org>

October 21-22, 2023 - Santa Rosa, CA
Santa Rosa Mineral & Gem Society
Contact: jolene4srmgs@gmail.com
Website: <http://srmgs.org>

October 21, 2023 - West Hills, CA
Woodland Hills Rock Chippers
Contact: whrc@rockchippers.org
Website: www.rockchippers.org

October 28-29, 2023 - San Diego, CA
Sponsor: San Diego Mineral & Gem Society
Contact: luannz@att.net
Website: <https://bit.ly/gemdiego2023>

October 28-29, 2023 - Orange, CA
American Opal Society
Contact: (714) 501-9959 or
info@opalsociety.org
Website: <http://opalsociety.org>

October 28-29, 2023 - Sacramento, CA
Sacramento Mineral Society
Contact:
webadmin@sacramentomineralsociety.org
Website: <http://www.sacgemshow.co>

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

CFMS / AFMS News - September 2023

Notes by Wayne Mills

The following summaries are intended to give the reader a hint of what is contained in the current newsletters. If any of these topics are of interest, PLEASE take the trouble to look up the newsletter on the AFMS or CFMS website.

CFMS Website - cfmsinc.org

President's Box- (Kimberly Fiala) states that there is an upcoming field trip to Topaz Mountain and the Dugway Geode location (both in Utah) in late September, but no field trip leader or contact information is given. Suggests that rock-hounders support the upcoming CFMS shows listed at the end of the bulletin.

Juniors- (Jim Brace-Thompson) notes that the AFMS Show in Billings was a great one. Thanks folks who helped in the Kid's booth at the Lodi show last month. The Ventura Club will hold their 2024 show in May. The CFMS Juniors Achievement Awards were given to 2 girls at the Lodi Show; Valerie Churchill (age 7!) from the Ventura Club and Alyson Nishimura from the Pasadena Lapidary club won in the 12-18 age group.

Rock and Gem Magazine- will pair with AFMS for mutual support. For each membership to Rock and Gem from associated clubs, AFMS will get 15% of the fees. Members of AFMS associated clubs will get a discount price on subscriptions (\$6.00 for a one year membership, and \$10.00 for a 2-year subscription.)

The CFMS Fall Business Meeting- will be in Visalia November 10-11, 2023.

Rockhound of the Year- (Chris Ward) Gaynell Miller from the Delvers Gem and Mineral Society is the current winner.

Public Relations- (Jim Brace-Thompson) Jim will host a Zoom conference on "Practicing Public Relations in the Age of New Media" in October or November 2023. Contact Jim at 805-659-3577 to register for the conference.

Safety- (Ellery Borow) Dealing with ultraviolet lights, especially at shows can be hazardous. Please read the article for more information.

Remember the CFMS Facebook page- LOTS of good info. [Click Here](#)

The Bulletin- contains upcoming local, regional and national shows, and 2023 officers, Chairmen and Committees. It also has forms for: CFMS Endowment Fund

AFMS Website - amfed.org

No September AFMS Bulletin as of 8-28-23. Look for updates on their website.

Terminology - Sulphates

By Tara Machin

Sulphates round out our lessons on the different mineral classes in geology. We have already covered haloids, sulphides, oxides, carbonates, silicates, phosphates, arsenates, and vanadates in previous newsletters. We will now end this series with sulphates.

Aren't sulphates the same as sulphites? They are both compounds of sulphur. In short, no. Sulphates contain compounds combined with oxygen, specifically SO_4^{2-} (the sulphate group in chemistry). The most recognizable of these minerals is gypsum with the chemical formula of $\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$.

Gypsum is traditionally used in our everyday life in drywall, chalk, and plaster. It is colorless to white in color, but some impurities can cause the gypsum to take on a pink, yellow, blue or brown hue.

Gypsum is easily dissolved in water so it is rare to find gypsum sand. However, there is a special place in North America where gypsum sand is present, the White Sands National Park in New Mexico. The dunes of gypsum are the largest in the world and cover more than 275 square miles of the desert. This national park is on my list to see, but have yet to make time to travel deep into New Mexico. Did you know that you can bring your own sled (or buy one at the visitor center) so that you can sled down the dunes like you were on a Colorado ski trip? You can. You can get a tour of the Trinity nuclear test site on special days, you can visit the White Sands Missile Range Museum, and you can see the White Sands Space Harbor where the space shuttle Columbia landed in 1982. Check out <https://wsrmr.com/> for more visiting information. I'm hoping to make a pilgrimage in spring of next year. I will let you know all about my gypsum adventures.

Gypsum comes in all sorts of shapes and configurations. My favorite is the desert rose of selenium.



Photo from mindat.org



\$50 Prize Winner from the Treasure Chest

Here is a shot of Wayne Mills handing the \$50 Treasure Chest prize to Chris from Grover Beach. Way to go Chris!

Congratulations to everyone who won a prize! Please let us know who won the \$100 prize.



Orcutt Mineral Society Officers		
President	Sally Griffith	(805) 928-6848
President Elect / Treasurer	Jeanne L. Watkins	(805) 481-1811
Immediate Past President	Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495
Secretary	Tara Machin Joey Nichols	(805) 863-5992 (805) 714-7108
Orcutt Mineral Society Board Members		
	Jan Ferguson	(805) 474-9977
	Betty Campbell	(805) 929-5344
	Renea Sutcliffe	(805) 929-2783
	Joe Goetz	(408) 707-8005
	Wes Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788
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.		
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

The ORE-CUTTS (named after William Orcutt) was first published in 1966. Member Helen Azevedo was the first editor. The Orcutt Mineral Society was founded in 1958, and was also named after Orcutt who was a geologist and civil engineer who worked in the Santa Maria Valley as a District Manager for Union Oil Company in 1888. In 1889, William Orcutt discovered the mineral and fossil wealth of the La Brea Tar Pits on the property of Captain Alan Hancock in Los Angeles. The La Brea Tar Pits are one of the most significant fossil finds in paleontological history.

OMS is a non-profit organization dedicated to stimulating an interest in the earth sciences. The club offers educational programs, field trips, scholarships, and other opportunities for families and individuals to pursue an interest in the collecting and treatment of lapidary materials, fossils, gems, minerals, and other facets of the Earth Sciences. In addition, another goal of this Society is to promote good fellowship and proper ethics in pursuit of the Society's endeavors. Operating Rules have been set forth to guide the officers and members of the Society in accomplishing these aims. Affiliations of the OMS include American Federation of Mineral Societies, and California Federation of Mineral Societies.

