



# Ore-Cutts

Volume XLIII Number 8

August 2007

**Come join us on 14 August at 7:00 p.m. at the Mussell Senior Center for a Recap of the show and a slide show of it.** The display this month will be Petrified Wood. Dessert will be cookies brought by Christine Clason, Don Nasholm, Debbie Hood, & Truman Burgess.

## August 3-5, 2007 Rainbow Of Gems Show

Wednesday August 1, 2007  
8:00 a.m. to completion

Measure, layout and mark the Show areas. We need help with this. Coffee and donuts will be there to reward the faithful.

Thursday August 2, 2007  
8:00 a.m. till complete



Show set up at St Joseph's Church 298 S. Thompson Ave. Nipomo. We need some strong folks to move tables and cases, and everyone else to skirt the tables. Coffee and donuts will be there to reward the faithful. All members are cordially invited!

Thursday August 2, 2007  
6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Chicken Dinner for Vendors, Exhibitors and Club members who have helped to layout and set up the show,

Friday, August 3, 2007  
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Opening of the 40<sup>th</sup> annual **OMS Rainbow of Gems Show**. Each family is requested to bring 2 pies for the snack bar. Volunteer: help is needed in the Country Store, Snack Bar, Hospitality Booth

Saturday, August 4, 2007 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Enjoy the displays, demonstrations and the vendor's many rocks & minerals for sale. Enjoy the great food in the snack bar. Volunteer: help is needed in the Country Store, Snack Bar,

Saturday August 4, 2007 6:30 p.m.

Hospitality Booth  
Best-darned BBQ on the Central Coast! Tickets are \$9.00 for Adults and \$4.50 for kids 12 and under. Don't miss it!

Sunday August 5, 2007  
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.



Enjoy the displays, demonstrations and the vendor's many rocks & minerals for sale. Enjoy the great food in the snack bar. Volunteer: help is needed in the Country Store, Snack Bar, Hospitality Booth

Sunday August 5, 2007 5:00p.m. - 7:00p.m.  
Sunday August, 2007 7:00p.m. - 9:00p.m.

Show take-down and clean-up. We need everybody to help with this. Many hands make light work.  
Post show victory dinner 7:00 p.m. at the Golden Dragon Restaurant, 151 Dana St. Nipomo

## Errata

In the July issue there was an omission made in the list of awards and one of the categories reported erroneously. The following is the correct listing:

**New Editors:** Second Place CFMS & Ninth Place AFMS-Deborah Hood. **Original Adult Articles, Advanced:** First Place CFMS & Eighth Place AFMS-Wayne Mills. Second place CFMS & Honorable Mention AFMS-Ralph Bishop. Third Place CFMS & Honorable mention AFMS-Paul Howard. **Original Adult Articles:** Third Place CFMS-Wes Lingerfelt. Fourth Place CFMS-Deborah Hood. Sixth Place CFMS-Jeannie Lingerfelt. Seventh Place CFMS- Sharon Duncan. **Junior Articles, Age 5-11:** Fourth Place CFMS-Joseph Martinez. **Adult Poetry:** Tenth Place AFMS- Wayne Mills. A total of 14 awards. -Editor

## AMAZING GRACE

Ralph Bishop

Cliff and Mattie White were a wonderful couple and true rockhounds of the first water. They were stalwarts of the local clubs in the '50's and '60's. Mattie was the first person I ever saw make gold wire-wrapped jewelry in the mid '60's. Cliff always had the best quality rock, seldom the most but always the best. And they tolerated a young teenager named Ralph Bishop, never failing to be helpful in their guidance, through my formative years learning about rocks and dealing with an odd and eccentric breed of Americans known as Rockhounds. As time passed our families shared many fond memories of fieldtrips and shows during our hobby's Golden Era when there was a rockhound on every block and a rock shop in every town. Imagine if you will, two rock clubs in Santa Maria, each putting on a show at the fair grounds with around 150 displays cases and a dozen dealers. Cliff and Mattie were part of that vibrant "go-get-'em generation" that had grown-up during the Depression, fought World Wars and come home to make love-not-war during the decade of prosperity that followed. As I grew older, I became extremely successful in my ability to procure quality rock and very often I stopped by to visit my old mentors to show them my latest finds.

My first wife, Cindi, and I stopped by to see the Whites just before we got married and moved to Oregon. Cliff piped up that he had heard, just a few days ago, from Boyd Case in Sweet Home, and that they had just hit a big driftwood lens on Roger Mountain. They were only digging at four feet. Mattie admonished Cliff saying, "Cliff, keep your big mouth shut. They are going to be on their honeymoon. There will be plenty of time to hunt rock later on."

Cliff said, "yes, Dear, but they're in the thick of it now. By the end of summer it will be history. Honey, don't you remember our honeymoon?" Mattie winced, a smile on her face, and said, "I certainly do, Clifford White," and she turned to address herself to Cindi. "This man, sitting right here, talked me into going to Eden Valley for our honeymoon. Eden Valley ...sounds good, doesn't it? Well...after driving all the way to Wyoming in our old, second-hand car, we got a room in the only motel in town. (Eden Valley, Population 55). The next morning Cliff walked next door to the Post Office where the masonry rockwork was done in

Petrified Wood. That's where I found him, talking about his favorite subject, Petrified Wood. What a coincidence that we would end up near a petrified wood deposit! The Postmaster loaned us his truck and off we went across the God-forsaken desert, bouncing over every sagebrush in Wyoming. Twice we had to drive back. And we found wood, yes, we did. There were logs and limbs lying everywhere. We loaded the truck and when we got back to the motel, Cliff highgraded the pile and gave the rest to the Postmaster. Our honeymoon got more romantic once Cliff had our old car loaded with wood, and we're still married, so I guess it could have been worse."

I don't know what Cindi thought about that story, but all I could think was "What a guy! A man to emulate." At this juncture, Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like to ask your understanding, as I digress momentarily from the flow of this story. I truly believe you will find this snippet worthwhile.

Cindi and I got married less than a week after our visit with Cliff and Mattie, and headed north on our honeymoon to a true Eden. Oregon was a floral paradise, the water was like wine, animal life abounded, and there were world-class rocks. On the third day of our honeymoon, we turned off of Highway 20 onto the road to Sio, made another turn out on Crabtree Creek, and the countryside was everything Eden should be: giant Maple trees along the creek, with colorful wood ducks nesting in them, in the distance, one whole mountainside was covered with pink rhododendrons. My new bride was truly impressed with Oregon's beauty. I came to a log road, just before Zelney's Farm, and quickly turned on to it, and up we went.

"Did that sign say Roger Mountain?" Cindi asked.

"I believe so," I said. She scowled and said something under her breath that I did not ask her to repeat.

The ten miles to the top of Roger Mountain was breathtaking (thank God!) More views of flower-covered hills, giant Western Red Cedars, and then I pulled up to a most beautiful sight: an open hole. The tailings pile was extensive, and the driftwood lens was now all of 6 feet deep. But it seemed all the beauty in the Eden I had brought her to could not dispel the concern in my new bride's anguished voice as her husband dove into the hole. The yellow buff clay layer that held the wood was covered with five feet of soil and overhung the working face by four feet. The wood strata had been accessed by a thirty-

yard long trench following the wood-bearing strata. The entire trench was in a state of collapse, except for the ten-foot section where the overhang remained. Testing the clay face, with the shovel I just happened to bring on our honeymoon, an audible “clang” made my blood pressure soar, and then a second “clang” increased the worried expression on my new wife’s furrowed brow. She was relieved when I exited the gaping hole in a hurried fashion, but was dismayed when I returned from the Bronco with a mattock that I just happened to bring on our honeymoon. The hole was deep and dark in contrast to the warmth at the surface, and the beautiful odor of the Oceanspray flowers hung in the air. My new bride prowled the tailings pile nervously. The first piece of wood came out easily and weighted about sixty pounds. It was smooth, and water worn, with distinct growth bands about half an inch wide. I struggled to push the piece out of the coolness of the hole and couldn’t help noticing the warmth of the day. Neither had my new wife, as she had removed some of her more confining clothing. A quick kiss, and I was back in the tempting coolness giving the devil another chance to get me. The second piece was bigger, with a longer “tail,” hung in the confines of the earth. To access this rock I had to assume a horizontal position on my side in the hole, and dig out another foot and a half of the strata that supported the overhang. After quite an awkward struggle, I managed to remove the second piece of moist clay-covered wood, and pushed it into the bronco next to the new luggage her parents had bought for us for our honeymoon. I couldn’t help noticing that my wife had taken advantage of a beam of sunlight that had penetrated the trees’ canopy to the forest floor. She appeared to be sunbathing in an attempt to improve the quality of her overall tan. There I was, in a true Eden, with the apple of my eye offering me a cool drink. Who says men only think about one thing? What could I do? “Not right yet,” I replied, and in a fit of obsessive-compulsive syndrome, I dove back in the hole and stabbed the wood strata with the shovel in a last attempt to make an auditory discovery. At that point, my new bride decided enough was enough, and utilized all her god-given powers to influence her new husband. Instead of the clang of wood, I heard the throaty roar of our Bronco balanced 289 motors. The auditory message clearly rang in the stillness of Eden. She rapped the throttle to 4000 rpm, a sweet sound through tuned headers. She rapped the throttle a second time to 6000 rpm...WOW! What a motor! But the third

time she floated my engines valves. Now, THAT was uncalled for, and an utterly irresponsible thing to do, especially on our honeymoon! But before another thought could cross my mind, I heard her words, and they seemed rather coarse in tone and extenuated by expletives.

“If you don’t get out of that hole in ten seconds, I’m going to drive off and leave your blank-blank-blank in the blank hole and you can blank-blank-blank.” I found her tone and content to be rather unsettling and abrasive, far from what a reasonable man would expect so soon after nuptial bliss. So I, a poor misunderstood husband, assumed a subservient attitude and acquiesced to her wishes. Things were a little more romantic once Ralph had a little wood in the Bronco.

There are a few lessons to learn here. For the ladies: most male Rockhounds are bedeviled by obsessive-compulsive disorder, and if they offer to take you to Eden, or heaven, there may be a hook in the offer. For the gentlemen: a woman’s love and affection may be a transitory thing; Petrified Wood is forever.

With that, Ladies and Gentlemen, we will return to the main thrust of the story. Fifteen or so years after my first honeymoon, I was again living on the Central Coast, and often stopped to visit with the now elderly Cliff and Mattie. It was on one of these casual visits that Cliff set in motion a hunt that would continue for many years.

“Ralph, it was back in ’55 I think, Mattie and I were dealers at the Monterey show. We decided to leave early on Friday and enjoy the beautiful drive up Highway 1 past Jade Cove, Limekiln and Big Sur. We stopped at Pacific Valley for an early lunch. Everything was going along as scheduled until we got just past the bridge at Limekiln Creek. A flagman stopped us there and apologized, as there would be a wait of approximately 45 minutes. They were blasting the rocky point just north of the creek to widen the road. I sat through the blast but got antsy so I’d asked the flagman if I could walk up to the point and watch the cat work. He said that would be okay, but not to go any further. So I walked up to a wide point in the road and sat on a big black rectangle of rock about 4 ½-feet by 10-feet by 12-feet that had been blasted out and pushed there when we had first pulled up. The sky was blue and the sea at the rivers mouth was powder green changing to clear blue. The cat skinner was busy pushing the rock blasted off the cliff above the road over the edge of

the road where it rumbled 7 or 8 hundred feet down a near vertical cliff and into the Pacific Ocean's crashing waves, creating a new rocky beach."

"So, Ralph, I was sitting there enjoying the view when for some reason I looked down to where my hand rested. There was a small loose flake there, so I flipped it over. To my shock the broken face under the black skin was the brightest pink Rhodonite I had ever seen. I'll never get used to looking at black and thinking pink. We'd hunted Rhodonite on the main beach at Lime Kiln for years but I had never seen anything like the chip I held in my hand. I ran back to the car to get some tools, but all I could find was a jack handle and a screwdriver. The traffic was backed up quite a ways and I didn't think I had much time so I ran back to that big black shoebox-shaped rock and found one small crack and did my best to pound the screwdriver into the crack. Surprisingly a chunk of about 40 pounds fell off just as the flagman started to yell at me. I picked up the rock, leaving my tools, and got back to the car just in time to take my place to caravan around the freshly blasted cliff. As we passed the point there was the big black rectangular rock so close I could almost reach out and touch it on the way by. A last look and I said,"  
Mattie, that rock is solid Rhodonite." Being a little behind schedule, we made the best time we could and got to Monterey in time to set up for the next day's show. Many of our friends from up north were at the show that we hadn't seen in a year, so we were wrapped up with a real busy and successful show during the day, and dinner on Saturday and Sunday night with friends catching up on the latest gossip. We got home real late Sunday night and I had to work the next morning. That week was real busy but I had time to put the piece of Rhodonite on the 18-inch saw and make a few cuts each night. The Coalinga Club Show was the following weekend and we were dealers at that show as well, so we left the car packed. On Friday I grabbed the accumulation of slabs out of the saw, wrapped them in newspaper, and threw them on the front floorboard in time to make the long drive to Coalinga. I hit the sack early and I guess Mattie washed and priced the dozen or so slabs that night. Around noon Saturday I asked about the Rhodonite slabs but it seems they had all sold except for the heel. This was the first time I had seen the piece cut and let me tell you, it was fantastic; bright pink in red jasper with green and orange streaks. The cut was smooth and not granular like most of the Rhodonite from the area, or any other location for Orcutt Mineral Society

that matter. It was actually jasper, not quartz, and I was sick at heart that all that was left was the heel."

"After another busy show and work week, I got up early the next Saturday morning and I broke the speed limit all the way up to Limekiln Creek. I parked at the bridge and walked up the road to the Point. There was fresh broken rock everywhere. Lots of red jasper and chert and the gray miolite that makes up most of the cliff, was scattered into loose piles. As I turned the point, I could see the big black shoebox was not sitting on the wide bench on the ocean side of the road. It was gone. I searched both sides of the road and found no sign of the rock. Walking back to the wide spot, I studied the area and came to the conclusion that there was only one direction a car could have approached the big black rock, and because of that, there was only one spot where the rock could have been pushed over the bank. Looking over that spot was a dismal sight. It was a near-vertical rubble slide ending directly into the crashing surf. As I turned around I looked up on the freshly blasted cliff, and there it was, surrounded by gray miolite. It was a huge ledge of red jasper and pink Rhodonite 300 feet above the road level. I went back down to the car and came back with binoculars. What I saw was spectacular, but there was no way to get to either it or the big black rock that had been pushed over the bank into the rubble slide hundreds of feet below. I went home heartsick that this one had gotten away."

"Mattie, get that heel for me, I want to show Ralph." Mattie went into the bedroom and returned with a thin heel around 7 inches by 9 inches, and set it in my hands, rough, flat black surface up.

"Turn it over, Ralph," Cliff said. When I did I saw Rhodonite like I'd never seen before. The Rhodonite comprised a vast majority of the cut face, but coming in from one corner was a hematite-red jasper area with a halo of green and yellow. The color was bright; the cut surface was slick like jasper. There seemed to be no difference in hardness or texture between the jasper and the Rhodonite. The Rhodonite also seemed translucent in some areas, with a small but distinct pattern. Looking carefully at the polished surface, I could hardly believe my eyes. There were long streamers of bright pink tightly packed in a translucent background and they had a branching habit.

"There are plumes," I said to Cliff, pointing out the area on the slab with the best pattern, "Like a dense Plume Agate." He nodded his head. I'd never seen

anything like this before, a cryptocrystalline jasper and Rhodonite Plume agate. The only Rhodonite I'd ever seen was composed of a tight-grained granular quartz. The bright pink Spider-web from Randsburg and the bright pink from Tejon Ranch were both distinct and beautiful, but because of the texture, hard to polish. The Rhodonite from Cave Junction, Oregon and the raspberry-pink "Imperial Rhodonite" from Australia are calcite-based materials, again, difficult to get a good polish on. This piece in my hand had such a mirror polish I could have shaved by its' surface, a true cryptocrystalline jasp-agate Rhodonite with a fine plume structure. It was amazing, and truly unique.

"Ralph," Cliff said, "There's only one area of that slide that rock could have been pushed." He drew me a map as he continued, "It's been thirty-some years now, and I believe the slide has probably stabilized, and the rains have washed the surface. I'm too old to even think about it now, but if there were anyone around today who could find it, Ralph, you're the one. I know you go up to Limekiln now and then so I'd like to ask you to find that rock and make this old rock hound happy before I die."

"I'll sure look for it if I can get up the sea cliff on the south end of the beach, I think I can at low tide," I said.

**TO BE CONTINUED NEXT MONTH**

## Something Amazing

(From a Talk by Ralph Bishop)

Wayne Mills

Ralph Bishop did not disappoint with his lively presentation on the formation and history of Brazilian Agates, perhaps the most abundant and varied of all agate deposits. Ralph brought several samples from his collection to help confirm his theories of the formation of these quartz wonders. The talk was given at our July 10 meeting.

With hand drawn charts, Ralph showed how the gas bubbles in the viscous lava that hardened into the basalt host for the lovely agates elongated with depth, he explained how the bubbles later became filled with hydrothermal quartz containing various impurities, and how the basalt eventually weathers to clay, revealing the lemon to basketball or larger sized chalcedony "tubers".

Ralph displayed a range of the different shapes, and explained that the "cow-plop-shaped agates" often have the best colors. Though he could have gone on for another hour or so, he was interrupted so we

could squeeze in the raffle and the abused children's drawings. And still he generously donated four of his agates to the raffle. Whattaguy!

## Let it Be(ad)--Memories of the Hoh

Wayne Mills

My friend Kay just turned 86. She is short and sweet and has an infectious chuckle and blue eyes. She is dear to my heart because she is nuts—about rocks, beads, shells, artifacts, and purple glass. She is relatively sane on most other matters. Kay has rocks on her tables, in her closets and cupboards, in the bathroom, and under her bed. She and her husband of 58 years, Charles, had a long, happy and productive life together, bearing



*Chuck & Kay Vollmer (Center) at Hoh River. Mid 1960's.*

three fine children, and collecting all over the western

United States. Kay's stories are wonderful, but, I must admit, I have heard the same ones a few times now.

In early June 2007, I asked Kay what her favorite collecting trip was, and she related the following story:

Many years ago, Charles was a naturalist with the National Park Service. For 13 summers, Kay and Chuck lived in a small, rustic cabin near Queets on Washington State's Olympic Peninsula. The cabin was near a crick, with the ocean to the west, and the Olympic rainforest a few miles to the east. While Charles was working, Kay had the leisure to explore the surrounding area, picking berries, combing the deserted, driftwood-laden beaches for rocks and shells, or heading into the rainforest.

One day, Kay was exploring alone along the Hoh River. Under a large tree near the river's mouth, she found a solitary red bead sticking out of the soil. It was a lovely bead, dark red and translucent, and about 3 millimeters long. Since she happened to be equipped with a bucket and a shovel, she scooped several shovels-full of dirt from the area she found the bead into her bucket. When she got back to the cabin, she took the bucket down to the creek along

with a gold pan, and, over the next few hours, proceeded to pan many more beads out of the soil. When she started stringing them, there were enough for a complete strand. They were fine, burgundy red, dense, and relatively uniform glass beads thought Kay- "made in Europe, and fit for a chief!"

For 50-years, the Hoh River Bead strand has been among Kay's favorite treasures, (and she has a LOT of them), memorabilia of a happy, adventurous, exciting and fulfilling life of discovery. A few years ago, Kay had a visit from Helen, another collecting legend in our club. As Helen examined Kay's treasures, she picked up the red beads and looked at them closely. "Why these are *garnet* beads" she exclaimed, "I wonder where they were made?" When Kay took them back, she readily agreed with Helen, and they rose even more in Kay's esteem, for garnet beads would be much harder to make than glass. Maybe they didn't come from Europe...where *could* those red garnet beads have come from?

Kay says we'll never know for sure since the chief is long gone, but since the Russians are known to have made garnet beads a couple of hundred years ago, and since they are known to have established a presence in Northern California (Fort Ross) it is possible that they traded the beads to the chief for salmon or beaver pelts. Perhaps the chief, from a nearby tribe buried the beads beneath the tree out of mourning when his wife and companion of many moons passed away. That's Kay's story, and until a better suggestion comes along, she's sticking to it.

## Highway 166 Clean up – July 2007

Wes Lingerfelt

We loaded the car the night before with all the support material for the road clean up so as not to be rushed in the morning. It was overcast and cool when I peered outside at 7:30 AM. Well, I thought, that will reduce the turn out today. Fortunately, I was wrong in a big way. We had 14 hardy souls turn out for the task. The members arrived at the appointed hour and selected their gear from the back of my car. There were enough workers this time to have at least two people on every stretch of highway. This is going to be a good day I thought. With so many eyes looking there should be lots of interesting stuff found out there among the weeds and grass. In deed, there was a whole lot of trash that had multiplied due to the Cal-Trans mower having visited the 2-mile stretch of highway recently. What used to be large was now

small and scattered all over the place. I found a valid drivers license due to expire next month belonging to a young lady in Arroyo Grande, CA. It's amazing how you find such an important document laying beside the highway. I tried to look her up in the telephone book with no success. I'll take it to the local DMV office first thing Monday.

Some of the other workers found something very hazardous and informed our resident Deputy Sheriff (retired) and he went to retrieve it after the rest of us were finished. It was an array of drug paraphernalia including syringes, a toke pipe and a case to hold it all. The Sheriff (Bob) happens to be wed to a registered nurse (Rosie) who just happens to know how to properly dispose of this hazardous waste. I'm really glad they were on the job this day.

We all gathered at the Francisco's restaurant as usual to reward and refresh the workers for an outstanding effort. The prize for the day was a pair of genuine Citrine gemstones in 10 x 8 mm oval shape. Lee Reyburn won them. I wonder if he will be wearing them at the next club meeting? Thanks to all those listed below for a job well done!

The hardy souls included the following OMS members: Geary Sheffer, Bob Bullock, Don & Sylvia Nasholm, Lee Reyburn, Stan & Brenna Ferguson, Wes & Jeannie Lingerfelt, Wayne Mills, Laura Kasteal, and three Guests: Rosie Bullock, Marty Lingerfelt and Todd Mills.

## Rock Quiz

Wayne Mills

Looks like the Berthelots are the OMS rock whizzes. At our semi-annual meeting, Sandy mentioned that Paul had done some research and decided that the world's largest petrified forest might be on the Island of Lesvos in the Greek Isles. According to [Wikipedia.com](http://Wikipedia.com), that is the correct answer. The forest is about 150 kilometers (93 square miles) in size. The world's largest petrified trees probably come from Argentina (up to 10 feet in diameter and 100 feet long) while the ones on Lesvos only go up to 66 feet long. So with this, the Rock Quiz is history so to speak. We tried to generate some discussion with this feature, but it seems to be mostly a one-sided one. We'll keep trying new ideas. We remain open to your suggestions.



## In Memoriam

Raymond B. "Ray" Meisenheimer passed away peacefully at his home, Sunday, July 1, 2007, surrounded by his family. He was 89 years old. Ray was born in Illinois. He joined the Army and served in Europe with the Eighth Air Force during World War II and in

Korea. He worked for over 20 years in the oil fields.

Ray spent most of his retirement years volunteering. He was the first president of FOOD Share and volunteered for Project Understanding for more than 20 years. He was a member of the Ventura Gem and Mineral Society for over 40 years, as well as the Oxnard and Conejo Gem and Mineral Societies and the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies. He enjoyed giving Earth Science programs at various schools. He was active in the Boy Scouts of America for over 20 years. He was a life member of the Elks Club and the American Legion and volunteered at the Ventura County Fair for over 30 years. Ray is survived by his wife, Florence; son, Eugene; daughter, Barbara; and grandson, Joshua.

A graveside service was held Friday, July 6, at Ivy Lawn Memorial Lawn Memorial Park, 5400 Valentine Road, Ventura, CA.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Ray's name may be made to the American Cancer Society, Ventura County Chapter, 250 W. Citrus Grove, Suite 200, Oxnard, CA 93036.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Ted Mayr Funeral Home & Crematory, 3150 Loma Vista Road, Ventura.

## Orcutt Mineral Society Board Meeting Held at La Bella Salon Santa Maria, Ca. July 3, 2007

President, Debbie Hood, called the Meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

Board members present were Elaine Von Achen, Gary Sheffer, Sylvia Nasholm, Mike Henson, Wayne Mills, Dee Dee Magri, Sandy Berthelot, Wes Lingerfelt and Debbie Hood. Guests were Bill Hood and Paul Berthelot.

President Hood announced that Ray Meisenheimer passed away. More information will be forthcoming.

Minutes of the previous board meeting were approved as published in the July 2007 newsletter.

Wes Lingerfelt gave the treasurer's report and it was accepted as read.

**Correspondence:** Elaine Von Achen reported newsletters received from San Geronio Mineral & Gem Society, Capistrano Valley Rock & Mineral Society, Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society and the Sun Valley Indian School. We also received an announcement for a gem show to be held October 3-7, 2007 in Joshua Tree, Ca. They will have lots of dealers as well as many events.

### Committees:

**Newsletter:** Debbie Hood reported that it had been brought to her attention that some of the awards from CFMS & AFMS had been incorrectly reported in the July newsletter. They should read as follows: New Editors: Second Place CFMS & Ninth place AFMS-Deborah Hood. Original Adult Articles, Advanced: First Place CFMS & eighth place AFMS-Wayne Mills. Second Place CFMS & Honorable Mention AFMS-Ralph Bishop. Third place CFMS & Honorable mention AFMS-Paul Howard. Original Adult Articles: Third Place CFMS-Wes Lingerfelt, Forth Place CFMS-Deborah Hood, Sixth Place CFMS-Jeannie Lingerfelt, Seventh Place CFMS-Sharon Duncan. Junior Articles, Age 5-11: Forth Place-Joseph Martinez. Adult Poetry: Tenth Place AFMS-Wayne Mills. A total of fifteen awards.

**Education:** Wayne Mills received a thank you from Cuesta College for the OMS scholarship. He also reported that the Hancock College recipient for the OMS scholarship might be at the July general meeting.

**CFMS:** Wes Lingerfelt said he had lots of information from the show and meeting and would compile it into a report to be handed out later. He also had additional expenses of \$52.80 and requested that he be reimbursed. Elaine Von Achen made a motion to pay Wes the \$52.80. Motion was seconded by Sylvia Nasholm. Motion passed.

**Highway Cleanup:** Our next cleanup will be held Saturday July 14, 2007. We will meet at the corner of Highways 166 and 101 at 8:00 a.m. to be followed with coffee and pastry at Francisco's Country Kitchen.

**Field Trips:** July's field trip will be to Jalama Beach on Saturday July 21, 2007. We will meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Mussell Sr. Center parking lot. We will be collecting agate, travertine and fossils.

**Library:** None

**Annual Gem Show:** Bob Bullock has ordered new banners. Elaine Von Achen has everything needed for the grab bags. Sylvia Nasholm will bring donuts and Elaine Von Achen will bring coffee to the Church on Wednesday morning for lining out the spaces and whatever else needs to be done on Wednesday. It was mentioned that we need more OMS Tee Shirts and Elaine Von Achen will look into that. Wes Lingerfelt was able to obtain storage for OMS from St. Joseph's Church and it should be ready by show time. Wes also reported that demonstrator's will receive their space free of charge. They are allowed to

sell their product but must demonstrate throughout the show. Wes said demonstration spaces are filled. Wayne Mills made up a press release and passed it around to see if anyone had any changes or suggestions. Dee Dee Magri is looking for donations for the raffle.

**Sunshine:** Debbie Hood said that Kay Vollmer could use cards and phone calls.

**Monthly Breakfast:** July's breakfast will be held Saturday July 28, 2007 at the Santa Maria IHOP. Everyone will meet at 9:30 a.m.

**Old Business:**

Debbie Hood needs a few more job descriptions so she can complete the manual. She also announced that we would be taking a vote at the general meeting as to how we want to award the Australian Agates donated by Sir Paul Howard.

**New Business:**

Wes Lingerfelt brought up the possibility of moving some of our money from one account to another in order to garner more interest. He noted that our Mid State Checking account currently gets zero interest. Sylvia Nasholm is going to check into the possibility of an Oppenheimer Account.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m. by President, Debbie Hood.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elaine Von Achen, Secretary OMS

**Orcutt Mineral Society General Meeting Mussell Sr. Center, Santa Maria, CA July 10, 2007**

President Debbie Hood called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Debbie Hood gave the invocation.

Joseph Martinez led the flag salute.

Sharon Duncan reported 27 members and 8 guests. Guests include Michelle Hall, Raymond Benlien, Donna Lehman, Jean McIlvanie, Susan Goodman and sons James and David Goodman, Michelle Reed and Linda Reed.

Elaine Von Achen read the minutes. It was noted that there was no award given for Poetry from CFMS and that Debbie Hood, not Sylvia Nasholm, will be bringing donuts for the Wednesday work day August 1, 2007. Minutes were approved as amended.

Wes Lingerfelt gave the treasurers report and it was accepted as read.

**Committee Reports:**

**Newsletter:** Debbie Hood reported that the bulletin was on the web and the mailing had gone out for snail mail.

**Annual Gem Show:** Wayne Mills noted that he had sent out 30 publicity notices to papers and radio etc. Wes Lingerfelt said that flyers and posters are ready. Elaine Von Achen said she had everything ready for the grab bags and would set a time to put them together. Wayne said he just about has the wheel of fortune ready. Dee Dee Magri is still accepting donations for the treasure

chest. Wes reported 47 dealers with several new dealers. He noted that the church has been doing lots of work on the parking lot and the asphalt is doubled in size and that the new storage units are already in place. OMS is going to rent on of the units (8' x 20') for \$1,500.00 year. This is \$275.00 less per year than we are currently paying. Bar B Q tickets will be available Friday morning at the snack bar. Tickets will be \$9.00 for adults and \$4.50 for Children 12 and under. Sharon Duncan and Bob Bullock have agreed to take the job of getting new tee shirts and ball caps ordered in time for the show. John Von Achen has lined out someone for security detail.

It was also announced that sign-up sheets would be passed around for help with the kitchen, the country store and the treasure chest.

Sylvia Nasholm said that Jeannie Lingerfelt donated a piece of jewelry to be awarded to someone who volunteered for kitchen duties. There will be a drawing following the show.

**Hospitality:** Dee Dee Magri announced that the evening's refreshment would be pie donated by Jeannie Lingerfelt, Jan Ferguson, Sandy Berthelot and Dee Dee Magri.

**Abused Children:** Jan Ferguson reported the evenings raffle would include a Mexican Fire Opal and A Tourmaline specimen.

**CFMS:** None

**Sunshine:** None

**Scholarship:** Wayne Mills read a thank you from Hancock College and a very nice note and thank you from Michelle Reed our Hancock College recipient.

**Field Trips:** The field trip for July will be to Jalama Beach on July 21<sup>st</sup>. Everyone will meet at the Mussell Sr. Center parking lot at 8:00 a.m.

**Property:** None

**Library:** None

**Education:** None

**Highway Clean up:** Our next clean up will be Saturday July 14, 2007 with everyone meeting at Highways 166 and 101 at 8:00 a.m.

**Monthly Breakfast:** Gloria Dana reported that the next breakfast would be Saturday, July 28, at 9:30 in Santa Maria at the IHOP Restaurant,

**Raffle:** Wayne Mills thanked Ralph Bishop for donations. He said tonight's raffle will include a piece of amethyst crystal, spheres, turquoise and more.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Debbie Hood passed out CFMS and AFMS bulletin awards to Joseph Martinez, Sharon Duncan and Ralph Bishop.

Ralph Bishop will be the guest speaker tonight and he will talk about "Something Amazing".

President, Debbie Hood, adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.



Respectfully submitted:  
Elaine Von Achen, Secretary, OMS



A saw cutting a piece of stone was selected when the first bulletin, ORE-CUTTS (namesake, William Orcutt) was first 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 1989, 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 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

### August 2007 Calendar

Tuesday August 7, 2007 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting Mussell Senior Center. All members are welcome at this business meeting.
<b>August 3-5, 2007 Rainbow Of Gems Show See Page 1</b>	
Tuesday August 7, 2007 7:00p.m. - 8:00p.m.	OMS Board Meeting-Elwin Mussell Senior Center. All members are welcome at this business meeting.
Tuesday August 14, 2007 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	OMS General Meeting Elwin Mussell Senior Center. Program- Show wrap up Display- Show acquisitions & Foreign rocks. Refreshments- Cookies by Christine Clason, Don Nasholm, Debbie Hood, Truman Burgess
Saturday August 24, 2007	OMS Monthly Breakfast To Be Announced

### September 2007 Calendar

Tuesday Sept. 4, 2007 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting-Elwin Mussell Senior Center. All members are welcome at this business meeting.
Saturday September 15, 2007 8:00a.m. - 5:00pm	<b>Field Trip to Los Padres Forest-</b> Meet at Mussell Senior Center parking lot. Explore a local private ranch with an interesting green chert deposit and fossil shells. Accessible for 2 wheel drive vehicles and no hiking required. Bring lunch and water. Contact Bob Bullock at 928-6372 for details.
Tuesday Sept. 11, 2007 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	OMS General Meeting-Elwin Mussell Senior Center. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program-“Lovely Beads” by Debbie Hood</li> <li>• Display: Minerals: massive, crystalline &amp; mysterious</li> <li>• Refreshments-Cakes</li> </ul>
Saturday Sept. 15, 2007 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Roadside Clean up After the cleanup, coffee and pastry at "Francisco's Country Kitchen" in Santa Maria.
Saturday Sept. 22, 2007 8:15 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.	OMS Monthly Breakfast- To Be Announced

### 2007-OMS Officers

Pres.	Debbie Hood	(805) 481-6860
Pres. Elect	Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495
Secretary	Elaine Von Achen	(805) 929-1488
Treasurer	Wes Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788
Immed. Past Pres.	Bob Bullock	(805)928-6372
Federation. Rep.	Wes Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788

### 2007-OMS Board Members

Geary Scheffer	(805) 925-8009
Sylvia Nasholm	(805) 481-0923
Sandy Berthelot	(805) 349-3977
Dee-Dee Magri	(805) 595-2755
Mike Henson	(805) 934-1308

### Ore-Cutts Editors

Deborah Hood	(805) 481-6860
Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495

**OMS Webmaster** - Wes Lingerfelt –929-3788  
Check out our OMS web site at <http://omsinc.org> or send e-mail to [info@omsinc.org](mailto:info@omsinc.org).

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**OMS Membership** (dues) are \$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

### Show Schedule

**August 4-5 2007, San Francisco, CA**

San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society  
San Francisco County Fair Bldg  
Ninth Ave. & Lincoln Way  
Hours: Sat. 10-6 Sun 10-5  
Ellen Nott (415) 564-4230

**August 31 - Sept. 3 2007, Fort Bragg, CA**

Mendocino Coast Gem & Mineral Society  
Town Hall, Main & Loral  
Hours: Sat. & Sun 10-6; Mon. 10-4  
Don McDonell (707) 964-3116

**September 15-16 2007, Redwood City, CA**

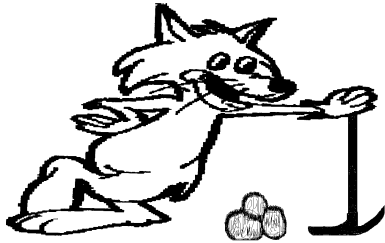
Sequoia Gem & Mineral Society  
Community Activities Building  
1400 Rosewood Ave.  
Hours: 10-5 both days  
Carol Corden (650) 248-7155  
Email: [ccorden@earthlink.net](mailto:ccorden@earthlink.net)  
Website: [sqms.driftmine.com](http://sqms.driftmine.com)

**September 22-23 2007, Downey, CA**

Delvers Gem & Mineral Society  
Woman's Club of Downey  
9813 Paramount Blvd  
Hours: Sat. 10 - 6; Sun. 10 - 4  
Steve Miller (562) 633-0614  
Email : [guynellallen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:guynellallen@sbcglobal.net)

**September 22 2007, Los Altos, CA**

Peninsula Gem & Geology Society  
Recreation with Rocks  
Rancho Shopping Center  
Foothill Expressway & Springer Road  
Hours: Sat. 9:30am - 4:30pm  
David Muster (408) 245-2180  
Email: [colleen.mcgann@hds.com](mailto:colleen.mcgann@hds.com)



**Orcutt Mineral Society, Inc.**  
**PO Box 106**  
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**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**