



# Ore-Cutts

Volume XLIV Number 8

August 2008

**Come join us on 14 August at 7:00pm at the Mussell Senior Center for a Recap of the show and a slide show of the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Rainbow of Gems Show.** If you take pictures at the show, please get them to Wes before the meeting for inclusion in the slide show.

The display this month will be Your Treasures/Goodies acquired at the show.



Dessert will be cookies brought by Christine Clason, Don Nasholm, Debbie Hood, & Truman Burgess

## August 1-3, 2008 41<sup>st</sup> Rainbow Of Gems Show

Wednesday July 30, 2008  
9:00 a.m. to completion

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

Thursday July 31, 2008  
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, 2008  
6:00 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 1, 2008  
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.



Opening of the 41<sup>st</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 2, 2008,  
10:00 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, & Hospitality Booth

Saturday August 2, 2008 6:30 p.m.

Best-darned BBQ on the Central Coast! Tickets are \$10.00 for Adults and \$5.00 for kids 12 and under. Don't miss it!

Sunday August 3, 2008  
10:00 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, & Hospitality Booth

Sunday August 3, 2008 5:00 to 7:00p.m.

Show takedown and clean up. We need everybody to help with this. Many hands make light work.

Sunday August 3, 2008 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Post show victory dinner 7:00 p.m. at the Golden Dragon Restaurant, 151 Dana St. Nipomo

## VENUS DE REFUGIO

By Ralph Bishop

From the pensive smile of Venus De Milo to the god given anatomy of early Grecian marbles to Venus in blue jeans, men like myself have always been in celestial adoration of the feminine form. From the time before advanced hybrid structures allowed the Neanderthal man to bellow his enamorment in aboriginal eloquence they were carving "Venus" effigies out of mammoth ivory and stone. By observation of these ice age figurines it appeared the Neanderthals had an aboriginal preference

for, shall we say, large ladies. This I feel was their advanced understanding of ecological imperative. In the ice age this knurly gentleman had much more common sense than say a modern PhD; a Big Woman keeps you warm in the winter and provides shade in the summer. Scientific evidence of today's global warming can be seen in mankind's modern preference for the stick figures slinking down a fashion runway. Modern man has invented the sombrero for summer shade. Myself being noticeably aboriginal, I prefer a pronounced "Balcony" on a hot day at the beach. And ladies and gentlemen, that is where I found the Venus of my dreams; Venus De Refugio.

I descended the barranca below the ancient Chumash Village of Quasil (Beautiful in the Chumash language) with a favorable tide to hunt concretions that had weathered out of the tan Miocene shale sea cliffs and the oil shale contact at or below the tide line. The sequence of shale layers of the Monterey Formation exposed by earthquake and wave action here is a history written in stone of an idyllic subtropical environment punctuated by radical natural events. There are three significant type strata's involved in this zone of influence. First is a dark black oil shale stratum that is usually found at or just below the tide line. It is so rich in petroleum that one can literally wring it out with one's hands. This strata no doubt was deposited in an anaerobic environment, a dead zone without any oxygen. Then there is above it at tide line and above in the sea cliff a well stratified tan zone of shale. This was laid down during a point in time that saw a shallow off shore zone teeming with life. Above it in the vertical column of sea cliff is a dramatically different slightly stratified zone of granular yellow volcanic ash born shale. This gritty yellow zone, sometimes up to 15 feet, denotes a catastrophic volcanic ash fall that has been chemically linked to Tranquillon Peak, an extinct volcano near Lompoc, CA. It is at these punctuations in earth evolutionary history that the concretions are found.

The concretions are formed when a "seed object," whether it is a piece of wood or a 90-foot whale, are buried in ocean bottom silt. They transmit mineralization from their mass that accretes a hardened zone around the seed object usually mirroring in three dimensions the shape of that seed object. For example, a long limb of wood will usually be encased in a hardened area of shale in a torpedo or hot dog shape. Any twigs on the limb will deform the torpedo shape accordingly.

As I walked down the beach in my fashion statement of beige and blue jeans I passed by the bikini clad beach bunnies who peered strangely at my exceptional form. "Oh Lord it was hard to be humble" but alas they'd have to wait for a future incarnation to have a chance at me. I was on a mission with destiny. I rounded the point on the right side of this sheltered embayment and poked and prodded around the near vertical wave washed shale razor

blades (as the surfers call them) and combed the isolated caves where on occasion I have embarrassed lovers in a tenacious embrace. There were few rocks on the beach that late in the season. The sand was in. But what a day!

The sun glimmered as the waves broke forth from the azure sea of paradise. The resident pool of dolphins leisurely kept pace with me just beyond the breakers as if waiting for my earth bound pace. And there before me a sea of sand, no rocks in sight, only an occasional pair of the flower of youth walking hand in hand. I walked endlessly in a trance brought on by Quasil and the spirit coast. This beach had provided so much Miocene wonder to me over the last 20 years. Petrified wood that sometimes rivaled Blue Forest covered with botryoidal agate and druzy quartz covered chalcedony roses. In days past, skulls of porpoise and seals, a baby baleen whale skull and a sea turtle in 3 pieces that weighed in at a total of 500 pounds, a real jewel with its prismatic design of shell platelets. And then there was the crown of all discoveries among the many "Dud" concretions; my shark jaw. The fine detail of the prismatic cartilage of the jaw gill supports and vertebral discs studded with jet black enamel teeth and white roots had proved to science that what had been identified as 3 separate species (*Isurus hastalis*, *Isurus planus*, and *Isurus retraflexa*) was in fact one type of shark (proving that scientific fact is only one minute away from fallacy). They were all there in flawless arrangement in one jaw. The intellectuals and lettered gentlemen of the highest tone in academia had a heart attack at their first view of the prepared specimen. It seems their mentor...ah Shelton Applegate the aahh thirrrd... who any redneck would get a kick out of meeting had predicated his career on shark genus identification including *hastalis planus* and *retraflexa*. I loaned it to be cast and reproduced for the sake of science to a well-known historical museum. When I went to retrieve it the scientists exhibited a practiced surprise. "Why Mr. Bishop, we knew you wanted your specimen back but we didn't know you wanted "physical custody" of it." Pretty intelligent for an ex-spurt.

Seeing only a sea of sand I turned at the knarled anticline that jutted into the blue pacific, my pack empty, unfulfilled. I strolled back to Quasil shuffling through the incoming tide. An empty pack was a rare day of leisure on the coast of Miocene Spirits that usually gave themselves so readily to me.

But then the aggressive motion of the outgoing tide drew the sand away and there she was in her aboriginal glory. The *Venus de Refugio*; was a sight to behold. Another tidal outflow and



the shards of her upper torso were further revealed. I was transfixed by her "balcony." The incoming tide rose halfway up to my knees and when it had retreated. She was fully exposed; Venus Gone Wild! The brain cast of a small whale. The occipital lobes (rear of the skull) were perfectly matched, smooth as tanned flesh. I leaned in reverence at my fortune removing her from the sand and let the incoming swell wash her perfection. The Creator has never allowed me to return home without reward.

When I returned home my mother studied the curvature of the stone and I pointed out where the eye sockets and nostrum (nose) had been eroded away over the ages and the nub of the brain stem that composed her neck. A vestige of bone remained, the bone cells were strung like a beaded necklace. Mother opined that this was the safest young lady I'd ever brought home. I agreed, at my age I could probably do without anymore intrigue.

I was sure proud of my new gal. The Bakersfield show was coming up the next weekend. I couldn't wait to show her off to the good ole boys of the club. But there loomed a problem. Many of their wives were decent God-fearing ladies of the first wake. I did not want them to think Ralph Bishop might have a twinge of scallywag in him. I felt the utmost sensitivity should rule the upcoming weekend. Her unclad natural art might fly in Athens, Paris or San Francisco but Bakersfield? It was a dilemma. It was incumbent for me to maintain my gentlemanly manner. When I broached my sociological dilemma with my mother her mouth pursed and she shook her head and went back to knitting mumbling her intent not to speak her whole mind on the matter. I was determined to maintain Venus' modesty by appropriate attire and thought also it would add a good hoot. Venus was a full figured beauty but small in stature.

It struck out of the blue as oft-times happens. I had a close lady friend a few houses down the street with three adolescent daughters. Where better to get a diminutive brassiere? Now Erin was a sweetheart with an intense Harley Davidson past that made me look like a piker. She was a single mother with three gorgeous adolescent daughters; a hard row to hoe. I had always been there to help her with a troublesome car or to fix the kitchen window when she threw a frying pan through it as an unacceptable male type barely escaped her ire. Three times if I remember correctly. She had always said if there was anything she could do to repay my kindness....

I figured this was my time of need and she had a good sense of humor and well, it was worth a try, and if she picked up the frying pan I'd know to run. So I knocked on her door, the door swung open and Erin said "Come on in, Ralphfa! .Ha! Ha! Ha! (Hmnm, red wine I could smell). We sat down and the girls came out and plopped on the couch. "Well, Ralph what can I do you for Ha! Ha! Ha! Better red wine than to kill ya (Tequila). "Well, Erin I need your help" "Anythang, jess name it Ha! Ha!

Ha!" "I need some adolescent underwear", I said. "Wha? Ha! Ha! Ha! Yeah right!" The three girls giggled. "Girls go to your rooms!" She was stern. "No, mom, we want to hear," Sierra said. The mood had swung and there was a ¾ empty bottle of wine within Erin's reach. "Erin, I need a small brassiere," and thinking quickly I took Venus out of a moneybag. They all laughed and the girls ran into their rooms in a chorus of laughter. They returned with hands full of bras of all colors and varieties. The youngest tried hers first...too small, the oldest was too big but Sierra's bra fit snug as a bug in a rug. She was elated. Erin took a slug that emptied the bottle and said, "Ha! Ha! Thought you'd gone gay on us." I tried to engage the rigging of my much-needed acquisition but fumbled badly. "Gimme that! Can't you even put a bra on?" I said, "No!" Everyone laughed. I thanked them and departed, mission accomplished. When I showed her mom she pursed her lips shook her head, mumbled and went back to knitting.



I placed my Venus De Refugio front and center in my fossil case. I labeled her *Cetation* (Scientific designation for whales) *modestii* (for her modest appearance). She was a big hit with the good ole boys and I saw some of the ladies purse their lips and shake their heads. But! They smiled! I felt I passed the test of discretionary sensitivity that is so sacrosanct and wide spread in the town where the American flag fly's in all its traditional glory. So when you ask why a "Chick magnet" like Ralph Bishop isn't on the prow! The answer is what more could I ask for? I take refuge in my Venus. She's my gal!

### CFMS/AFMS

By Debbie Hood

This years Editor's Awards Breakfast was held in Ventura at the CFMS 2008 Show on June 29, 2008. OMS's *Orecutts* won Second place, out of 139 bulletins competing in the state. This was only possible because you write articles for your newsletter!

Also, Our member, Sir Paul Howard of Australia, won First place for his Adult Advanced Article on hunting Queensland Agates. Congratulations, Paul!!!



### The Pres Box

By Wayne Mills, OMS President

We had a nice treat at our July meeting as Dee Dee Magri gave a lovely program on the Carrara Marble Quarries. Her presentation was based on a trip she her son and husband made last year. She had a lot in good information about the history of the quarries dating back to pre-Roman times, and brought some nice vari-colored

samples of marble for us to share. We also had some nice displays at our meeting, but not very many (about 5 folks brought stuff in). Come on folks we are a rock club. Bring in SOME-thing for us to look at! It is only once a month.

Our highway clean up is slated for the 19<sup>th</sup> (of July), and I (apologizing in advance) will have to miss it. A friend is coming back from 3-years in the Peace Corps in Armenia, and I am slated to help her move back into her house on that day.

Don't forget our breakfast coming up at Margie's in San Luis on the on July 26<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. Gloria has been making these a lot of fun, and our attendance this year has been great. Couldn't be the nice prizes Gloria has been bringing?

Thanks to Wes for taking over the Figueroa Mountain Field trip for Bob. Looks like they got some nice material like the one pictures in Wes's article.

And then there is our show. Preparations for the "really big shew" begin Wednesday July 30 at 9:00 a.m. at St., Joseph's Church. Wes will need a few folks to help mark out the dealer spaces in the parking lot. Thursday morning at 8:00 a.m. we need a good crew on hand to help set-up and skirt tables, install the display cases and electric, help out in the kitchen (please don't forget to bring a pie or two), and from about noon to 5 p.m., install your displays. There will be doughnuts and coffee! And about 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, we will have our traditional chicken dinner for the dealers, displayers and folks who have set-up the show.

Friday, Saturday and Sunday we are open from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. and hope that folks have volunteered to help cover all areas where we are active during the show-kitchen, hospitality booth, Country Store, and Saturday-night barbecue. And of course we will need help taking down and cleaning-up after the show ends at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday August 3. All those who have helped with the show, please plan to enjoy our "victory" dinner at the Golden Dragon on Dana Street in Nipomo about 7:00 Sunday night.

## Rock Breakfast Report

By Gloria Dana

On June 28, 2008 at 9:00 am, the breakfast was held at "Huckleberries," a new restaurant with a New Orleans flare and great food. You get more than you bargain for. This place was great. May I say they have wonderful gravy and sausage too!

Those attending were: the Ferguson's, that's Jan, Brenna, and Stan, the Hood's, that's Debbie and Bill, the Nasholm's, Silva, Don, an brother Nick, The McKay's that's Keith, Pat and Erica Erskine, The Mill's That's Wayne and Todd, (Thank you for the lovely flowers Wayne.) the Berthelot's, that's Sandy and Paul, and myself, Gloria Dana.

All had full tummies and were curious to see the morning's door prize and the winners were: Pat Mc Kay" with a great gift card and Debbie Hood and another great gift card. We all had a great breakfast and fun

The July reservation will be at "Margie's Diner" located on the southbound exit of Los Osos Valley Road in San Luis Obispo, At 9:00 am. Please contact Gloria Dana for driving instructions.

## Check These Out!

Geary Scheffer reports that the following are some of the titles of the recent donations of books and pamphlets to the OMS Library: COMPLETE METALSMITH, PRACTICAL CASTING' GEM STONE ADVERTURE, DINOSAURS DEATH TRAP, GEM CUTTING, MINERALOGY HANDBOOK, THE ART OF GEM CUTTING, TURQUOISE ANNUAL, COLORED CLAY MATES, TREASURE HUNTING TIPS, METAL JEWELRY, DEATH VALLEY TALES, FINDING GOLD IN CAL., ADVANCED CABOCHON CUTTING, AUSTRALIAN GEMSTONES, PRECIOUS STONES, ROCKS & MINERALS, GEMSTONES AND MINERALS, GEM CUTTING SHOP HELPS, SUCCESSFUL MINERAL COLLECTING, GEM & GEM MATERIALS, HANDBOOK FOR PROSPECTORS. Since this list was made up, more books have been donated.

## Birthdays & Anniversaries



Very happy returns of the day go out to, Sylvia Nasholm, Debbie Hood, Lucky Virgin, & Wes Lingerfelt in August

Anniversary

congratulations are in order to Geary Sheffer and his wife for this month. May you all have many more!



## How Not To Go On A Field Trip, A Fairy Tale

By Debbie Hood

Listen carefully, children, and I will tell you a story that you may learn something from.

Once upon a time I bummed a ride with Wes & Jeannie Lingerfelt, down to the CFMS Show in Ventura, to go to the Editor's Breakfast. After the breakfast Wes turned Jeannie and I loose on the show and disappeared for a while. About 20 minutes later Wes sidles up to me and asks, "*Do ya wantta blow this show and go rock hunting? I got a couple a buddies I want to take up to Figueroa Mountain.*" Well, as a bumette, I was taught to be agreeable when riding with others, and as a Rockhound I am always rarin' to hunt rocks, so I said, "*Sure, when do we leave?*" I had exactly 30 minutes to see the Federation Show at warp speed, and we were off.

## Ore-Cutts

Now this was **my** first mistake. It is always better to do at least a little planning when one is going out to hunt rocks, or bears. This is not in criticism of Wes, he's *always* prepared! You should check conditions at the site, in this case, while the area was open, it was a hot day and there was a lot of talk about the potential for fires to get started. At least Wes had the requisite Forest Pass.

It is also a good idea to dress appropriately for the

occasion. My open-toed sandals, and nice clothes and jewelry was not exactly the best thing to be wearing. Long pants are good, and heavy boots



with pant cuffs tucked into them. *Above is the best reason I know to wear boots; the picture was taken recently by rockhounds out on a hunt here in California, and Yep, those are Rattlers.* At least I took off all the jewelry except for my earrings. Sunscreen would have been a good idea as well as a wide-brimmed hat.

Also nice to have would have been my rock collecting bag/bucket, gloves and rock pick, I might have saved my manicure and been able to drag home twice as many purty rocks for husband Bill to "oooooh" and "ahhh" over.

Best of all, Wes *HAD* thought to bring an ice chest full of cold drinks and water, and I, of course, had my bag of soft drinks...but they were NOT cold. Between us Jeannie and I were able to scare up a very flattened Glucerna bar and a packet of mouthwash, but NO food. If we'd gotten stuck up there for very long we'd have had to eat spiders and lizards like Bear Griles or emulate the Donner Party of early California pioneer Days.

Wes also, fortunately for me, keeps a fairly decent first aid kit in the car at all times. As a nurse, I always have a little first aid kit and a bottle of hand sanitizer in my purse as I am frequently called upon to dispense Band-Aids and generally minister to those with cuts & scrapes.

When we got to the site, Wes and his buddies rabbited off in search of jaspers, and Jeannie and I took a more sedate, gentile approach to the creek bed and began to hunt. I was stuffing rocks into my pockets until I started to feel like a plumber; it was taking one hand just to hold my pants up.

As we continued to search down the dry creek bed we came to an old tree fallen across it, and I had to climb up the bank a ways to get around it, in my open, slip on sandals, remember. Something slipped under my foot; I started to fall, grabbed at a tree branch, which broke off

in my hand allowing me to slip farther until I suddenly found the palm of my right hand impaled on the broken stump of the branch.

Pulling my hand off of the stump of the branch, I could see a number of good sized splinters and that some bits of the tree's bark had come off in the wound, so I spent a couple of minutes fishing as much of the debris out as I could get. Wes seemed unhappy about the bleeding, (Probably afraid I'd attract sharks,) so I climbed up the bank and hiked directly back to the vehicle where Jeannie calmly helped me clean up and dress the wound. Thank goodness, between us we had water, antiseptic and enough dressings to do the job.

Well, at this point the one sane brain cell I keep as a pet woke up and insisted that I drink something, stay in the shade, and forget about hunting rocks and disturbing rattlers. Jeannie and I kept angling for any shade and breeze, and she wondered why I had only one earring on. (My guess is that there is a snag across that creek sporting my lovely silver and lapis earring.)

Soon the guys all came dragging back under heavy rock burdens, we piled into the car and lit out for home. We were all hungry as it was late afternoon, and of course we had missed lunch, so we stopped for a slightly early dinner, then on for home.

There were several stages where things could have gone wrong and really ruined an otherwise fun rock hunting day, which is why in the future whenever I bum a ride from Wes I will come slightly better prepared for a major expedition. Oh, by the way, it is also wise to keep your Tetanus vaccinations up to date. Saves on those pesky, unplanned trips to the Doctor. And, surprisingly, we all lived happily ever after. THE END. ("Where's the fairy, you ask, after all, it *Does* say this is a Fairy Tale. Well, maybe *she* is the one wearing my earring!")



## Sunshine

Wes Lingerfelt has been having continuing problems with dizziness brought on by an ear infection. Ralph Bishop continues to heal from his bicycle accident in which both knees were injured. He reports that he has quit entertaining the general public by doing the crab shuffle down the street, and now walks nearly upright again. Debbie Hood's hand has nearly healed from her smack down with the tree on Figueroa Mountain.

## FIGUEROA MOUNTAIN FIELD TRIP

By Wes Lingerfelt

Saturday morning, July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008 was the day. It had been looming as a possible wasted day as the California fires were still raging all over the State including the Los Padres National Forest above Santa Barbara. Our regular Fearless Leader had family obligations to take care of so I was appointed as the stand in Trail Boss. Jeannie and I arrived at the Senior Center rendezvous point at the

## Ore-Cutts

appointed time of 8 am. John Von Achen, Dee Dee Magri and Jean McIlvanie were already in the parking lot. I made sure everyone had the required entrance pass and also ascertained if anyone wanted to ride in my vehicle. No one took me up on it. Soon Don & Sylvia Nasholm arrived and we were off to the mountain. The weather was good and the smoke from the fires was not a problem over the entire 50-mile ride up to the mountain.

At the entrance to Figueroa Mountain Road we picked another club member, Dick Bazzell. We made it in good time to the Tunnell Road turnoff and after giving everyone a suggested path to search the dry creek and surrounding area I headed up the east side of the canyon to look for a source of Jasper I know must be up there somewhere. On earlier trips to this location I had found some very nice small pieces that are mouthwatering to say the least. I walked up the road and over the ridge into the next canyon always on the lookout for an outcrop. It's a good thing it was still cool, as I didn't realize how far out of shape I've become. In the next valley to the east I found another road that looped up to the north end of the canyon from the south, around a well and pump house. I thought that was strange, as the main road didn't seem to be connected to it. I turned north and ran into Dick who had also climbed up and over into this canyon. On the way back Dick surprised a swarm of bees that took their wrath out on him by stinging him twice. And we were worried about rattlesnakes!

I continued up the hill in a northerly direction until I popped out of the trees on to the main (paved) road. I noticed a road going north so I figured why fight the brush when the road was so handy? About 10 yards up the road I discovered a Jasper seam sticking out of the bank. Along came John so he and I proceeded to extract what we thought was the best of the seam and piled it on the edge of the road. This is a very easy picking, I thought. Simply bring the truck up the road and load it; How easy is that?



I continued down the paved road and decided to try the North side of the main road where I had never been before. I came upon a water culvert leading down the mountainside so I decided to follow it. After a long trek down and then back up again (that was the hard part) I found only a few large yellow Jasper rocks that looked promising. It appeared to be virgin territory for rockhounding. I must bring the rest of the troops up here to check this site out I thought. I made my way back to the vehicle parking area and told them my story. By this time John had already taken his truck up the road and

retrieved the Jasper we had found earlier. Dick and John took their vehicles up to the main road to park and search the area I had told them about. At least that's where I thought they were going. Upon arriving up on top I noticed they had parked next to the wrong wash. I went on up to the next one and parked with Don and Jean. I grabbed a walking stick (snakes you know) and left behind my gloves, rock hammer and water. It was just a short quick trip to coral the wayward hounds and get them back on track, I thought. I got to their vehicles and looked down the mountain but I couldn't see them. I'll just walk a short distance down the wash until I see them I thought. I cut across a little ravine and looked down on the side of the bank where a multicolored rock was sticking out. Well now, I thought. What's this! I grab the rock with my rock grabber walking stick and pulled it over. It was about 50 pounds I estimated and I could tell this one was a keeper. Don't you just know that it happens every time? No water, no rock hammer and no rock bag. I finally got the troops to come up the wash and take a look. "Wow!" They said. "It's a beauty indeed!" As we were admiring the rock a voice from a few feet away sang out. It was Dee Dee saying, "Oh look! Here's a bigger one!"

We spent the rest of the afternoon carrying tools down the mountain and rocks back up. The whole time Jeannie sat in the car watching us and reading her book. She's the sharpest tack in the box that's for sure! Everyone will get some very nice rock this day.

As we talked among ourselves around the load of rock I



suggested it would be good to head into Los Olivos for a nice cold bottle of refreshment. Don and Sylvia suggested the grocery and café about a mile east of the Figueroa Mountain road intersection. "Sounds good to me" I said, and off the mountain we flew.

We found what we were looking for in the wine cooler and sat around the empty café tables taking stock of our day. Everyone agreed it was about as good as it gets. I'm looking forward to the next trip already.

## **Orcutt Mineral Society Board Meeting Elwin Mussell Sr. Center, Santa Maria, Ca. July 1, 2008**

The Meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by President, Wayne Mills.

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

## Ore-Cutts

Minutes from the June 3, 2008 board meeting were approved as printed in the July 2008 newsletter. The actual minutes, as submitted for printing, stated that we had agreed to exchange the Field Trip Saturday with the Highway Clean-up Saturday. Therefore, highway clean up will be the second Saturday every other month and the Field Trips will be held on the third Saturday of the month. The new date for the July field trip was to have been the 19<sup>th</sup>. However, Wes felt the date was incorrect and changed it to the 12<sup>th</sup>. It has been decided that we would leave the July field trip as the second Saturday and the July highway clean up as the third Saturday. We will start the new schedule in August.

**Correspondence:** Elaine Von Achen noted newsletters received from South Orange County Gem & Mineral Society, Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society, South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society and Sun Valley Indian School. A notice of an up coming MINERAL SAFARI to Namibia and South Africa in April, 2009 was received from Doug Coulter. A thank you was received from Gaye Galvan of Cuesta College thanking OMS for their scholarship donation of \$500.00

**Treasurer's Report:** Wes Lingerfelt read the treasurer's report. The report was accepted as read.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Awards Banquet:** Bill Hood has the Sweet Adeline's booked for this December's entertainment. The board has agreed that it would also be fun to have a gift exchange. Guidelines include a \$10.00 limit, can be, but not limited to, rock related items, and members are not obligated to participate. Sylvia Nasholm will chair this event and there will be more about it later in the year.

**Adopt-A-Highway:** The next clean up will be July 19, 2008 at 8:00 a.m. We will meet at the intersection of Highway 101 and Highway 166. As previously stated, this will change for the September clean up which will be held the second Saturday of the month.

**Field Trip:** The field trip for July will be held Saturday, July 12. It has been decided that we will again go to Figueroa Mountain.

**Bulletin:** Debbie Hood reported that the newsletters were ready for mailing and that it was also on the web.

**CFMS:** The Ventura show was held June 27<sup>th</sup> through June 29<sup>th</sup>. At the "Editor's Breakfast" it was announced that OMS had won second place for their bulletin. Sir Paul Howard won first place and a plaque for the Advanced Adult Articles category. At the directors executive meeting Wes Lingerfelt said that Frank Mullaney announced that due to great demand they would have "Golden Bear with Gavel" pins available. Wes said OMS would like to have five of them to start. The 2009 CFMS Federation Convention & Show will be held in April at the Santa Clara Fair Grounds. In 2010 the AFMS and CFMS will hold a combined show in Riverside, Ca.

**Education:** Wes Lingerfelt gave a talk to a group of second graders Thursday, June 5, at the Rock Depot in Los Alamos. He shared some of the thank you letters he received from the students. Debbie Hood reported that she had given a talk to the Santa Maria Valley Antique Dealers Association on "How to Tell Good Stuff from Bad". Sylvia Nasholm is donating two copies of the Merit Badge Program to the club. She had them copied and in binders so we will have a permanent copy. She also noted that Dr. Gray, from the Santa Barbara City College,

is available for talks on geology and we might want to have him give a program in the future.

**Annual Gem Show:** Wes announced that all spaces have been sold out. This is an OMS first. Sharon Duncan will be in charge of the OMS club case and anyone interested in having something in the case should contact her. She is also chairing the Treasure Chest this year and needs your donations. Elaine Von Achen and Dee Dee Magri will be doing the snack bar. Debbie Hood is in charge of the General Store.

Wes Lingerfelt has the raffle tickets available so we can start selling. We have four dealers who will be set-up in the classrooms at the back of the lot. Historically, customers don't seem to find their way to these rooms and Wes thought that if we hid one ticket among each dealer's wares, and make announcements as such, we might get more traffic back there. He is willing to donate four small spheres for prizes.

We will probably have at least 122 dealers and exhibitors for the Thursday night chicken dinner. We will again have a security guard for Thursday, Friday and Saturday night.

After some discussion it was decided that we would spend between \$500 and \$600 for publicity for the show. Debbie Hood made a motion that we allot \$600.00 for advertisement. The motion was seconded by Sylvia Nasholm. Motion Passed.

**Membership:** None

**Scholarship:** None

**Sunshine:** Kay Vollmer is doing very well.

**Telephone Tree:** Debbie Hood passed out the new lists for this year.

**Old Business:** None

### **New Business:**

Wes Lingerfelt will put a display in the Nipomo Library on July 5. He plans display some of his spheres and some of Jeannie's wire-wrap pieces.

Member Molly Kerlick donated nine pins from the past. These will be offered to club members for sale.

Member Pat Nuernberg donated some show cases. Wes will have these and they will be offered to club members for sale as well.

Sylvia Nasholm donated two books, a travel log on the Mother Lode and one on the San Andres Fault, to the OMS library.

July's general meeting program will be a talk on "Carrara Marble" given by Dee Dee Magri.

Display for July will be a 1'x1' display of what ever you would like to share.

Refreshment will be cake.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 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. July 8, 2008**

President Wayne Mills called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

Mike Henson gave the invocation.

Shelly Dana led the flag salute.

Elaine Von Achen read the minutes of the July 1, 2008 Board Meeting. Minutes were approved as read.

Ore-Cutts

**Correspondence:**

Elaine Von Achen reported newsletters received from Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society, South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society, South Orange County Gem & Mineral Society and Sun Valley Indian School. A notice of an up-coming MINERAL SAFARI to Namibia and South Africa in April 2009 was received from Doug Coulter. A thank you was received from Gaye Galvan of Cuesta College thanking OMS for their scholarship donation of \$500.00

**Treasurer’s report:**

Debbie Hood gave the treasurer’s report for Wes Lingerfelt, who was unable to be at the meeting. It was accepted as given.

**Committee Reports:**

**Hospitality:** Sharon Duncan announced 40 members and 3 guests. Guests included Gisela Schrum, Tiana Anderson and Pat McKay.

**Abused Children:** Jan Ferguson noted three specimens as this evening’s door prizes. One of the prizes was wavelite from Montgomery Co., Arkansas.

**Annual Luncheon Meeting:** The Sweet Adeline’s have been booked as this year’s entertainment. It has also been decided that we will have a gift exchange.

**Adopt-a-Highway:** The next clean up will be July 19, 2008 at 8:00 a.m. We will meet at the intersection of Highways 101 and 166.

**Monthly Breakfast:** Gloria Dana reported that the June breakfast was held at Huckleberries in Pismo Beach on June 28 at 9:00 a.m. Members attending were Stan, Jan and Brenna Ferguson, Bill and Debbie Hood, Don and Sylvia Nasholm and her brother Nick, Keith and Pat McKay and her granddaughter, Erica Erskine, Wayne and Todd Mills, Paul and Sandy Berthelot and Gloria Dana. Lucky winners of the door prizes were Pat McKay and Debbie Hood who each won a gift card. The July breakfast will be held July 26 at 9:00 a.m. at Margie’s Diner in San Luis Obispo.

**Bulletin:** Debbie Hood announced that the OMS bulletin won 2<sup>nd</sup> Place out of 139 entries at the CFMS awards breakfast. In addition member Sir Paul Howard won 1<sup>st</sup> Place for an article on “Hunting Queensland Agates” in the Advanced Adult Articles category. He won a plaque which will be mailed to him.

**CFMS:** None

**Education:** None

**Field Trips:** Bob Bullock reported that July’s field trip would be July 12 to Figueroa Mountain. He is looking for someone to lead the trip, as he will be unavailable. Members will meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Elwin Mussell Sr. Center.

**Gem Show:** Members will meet at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 30 at Saint Joseph’s Church to help set-up outside spaces for the show. Elaine Von Achen will bring coffee and donuts. We will meet Thursday morning the 31<sup>st</sup> at 8:00 a.m. to start setting up and skirting tables, getting show cases set-up etc. Sharon Duncan will be in charge of the Treasure Chest and she is asking for donations. Debbie Hood will be in charge of the General Store and she passed around a sign-up sheet for help with setting-up and sitting with the store. Elaine Von Achen and Dee Dee Magri will be running the snack bar. Elaine passed around sign-up sheets for anyone interested in working in the kitchen. She also asked members to sign-up to bring pies. Wayne Mills has two spaces left for showcases if you

have your own case. I believe he has one club case available as well.

**Property:** None

**Public Lands Access Committee:** None

**Refreshments:** Dee Dee Magri reported the night’s refreshment as cake donated by Sylvia Nasholm, Sharon Duncan, Shelly Dana, Dee Dee Magri, Elaine Von Achen, Gisela Schrum and Margaret Henson.

**Scholarship:** None

**Membership:** Elaine Von Achen announced that Betty Ann Kern has been accepted for membership.

**Publicity:** Wayne Mills has sent e-mails out to various media regarding the Gem Show.

**Door Prizes:** Bob Bullock reported a Brecciated Jasper sphere from Big Sandy, donated by Lucky Virgin, some poppy jasper and a Brazilian Agate donated by Jan Ferguson as some of the items for the evenings drawing.

**Sunshine:** It was reported that Kay Vollmer is doing much better.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

Wayne announced that there is an article in the July issue of the Journal Plus on John and Elaine Von Achen on John’s rocks and Elaine’s jewelry.

The program for the evening will be given by Dee Dee Magri and will be on “Carrara Marble”.

The display for the evening is anything you would like to share on a 12” x 12” mat. Members displaying this evening are Bob Bullock, Wayne Mills, Joellen and Tom Chrones, Steve Riegel and Sylvia Nasholm.

August’s general meeting program will be an over view of the Gem Show. We will discuss how the show did and hopefully will have a viewing of pictures from the show.

The display for August will be “A TREASURE YOU PICKED UP AT THE SHOW”!

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

Respectfully submitted:

Elaine Von Achen, Secretary, OMS

<b>August 2008</b>	
Friday, Saturday & Sunday August 1, 2, & 3, 2008 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	<b>OMS Rainbow of Gems Show</b> Have a great time and remember to show up on time to do your scheduled work.
Sunday, August 3, 2008 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.	Post show clean up till 7:00 p.m. or until done, with Post show victory dinner 7:00 p.m. at the Golden Dragon Restaurant, 151 Dana St. Nipomo
Tuesday, August 5, 2008 7:00 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting-Elwin Mussell Senior Center. All members are welcome at this business meeting.
Tuesday August 12, 2008 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.	OMS General Meeting Elwin Mussell Senior Center. Program- Show Recap, slides from show Display- Goodies and Treasures



	from the show Refreshments-Cookies
16 August, 2008	No Field Trip in August
Saturday, August 23, 2008 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.	OMS Monthly Breakfast: Call Gloria Dana for details 929-6429.
<b>September 2008 Calendar</b>	
Tuesday Sept. 2, 2008 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting-Elwin Mussell Senior Center. All members are welcome at this business meeting.
Saturday, September 13, 2008 8:00 a.m. till 5:00 pm	<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. 9, 2008 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.	OMS General Meeting-Elwin Mussell Senior Center. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program TBD</li> <li>• Display: TBD</li> <li>• Refreshments-Cakes</li> </ul>
Saturday Sept. 20, 2008 8:00 a.m. to 10:00	Roadside Clean up After the cleanup, coffee and pastry at "Francisco's Country Kitchen" in Santa Maria.
Saturday Sept. 27 2008 9:00 to 10:00a.m.	OMS Monthly Breakfast- Country Kitchen, Arroyo Grande. Call Gloria Dana for details: 929 6429.

**Tip of the Month:**

Vinegar- Not just for Salads.

- one-way to remove carbonates such as calcite from quartz and amethyst is to cover the specimen with fresh vinegar and allow standing overnight. Repeat if necessary. Wash and then place crystals in washing type ammonia for 8 1/2 hours. Remove, rinse thoroughly, wipe and air dry.
- For a gloss finish on tiger-eye, polish once, dry the stone, and then put a drop of vinegar on it. Let stand for a few minute, then give it a second polish.
- Mother-of-pearl kit inlay work can be softened by soaking in white vinegar. It then can be easily cut.
- Dark household vinegar will dissolve epoxy glue by soaking overnight.

*First printed by Rocket City Rocks & Gems 6/99*

**CFMS Show Schedule 2008**

**August 1, 2 & 3 2008, Nipomo, CA**

Orcutt Mineral Society  
St. Joseph Church  
298 S. Thompson Ave.  
Hours: 10 - 5 daily  
Wes Lingerfelt (805) 710-1983  
E-mail Rocks4u@prodigy.net  
Web page: <http://www.omsinc.org>

**August 2 - 3 2008, 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 29 - Sept. 1 2008, Fort Bragg, CA**

Mendocino Coast Gem & Mineral Society  
Town Hall, Main & Laurel  
Hours: Sat. & Sun 10-6; Mon. 10-4  
Don McDonnell (707) 964-3116  
E-mail ejwebb@mcn.org

**September 13-14 2008, Downey, CA**

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

**September 25-28 2008, San Bernardino CA**

Orange Belt Mineral Society, Inc.  
Western Region Little League Ball Park  
6707 Little League Dr.  
Hours: 9 a.m. - Dusk each day  
Emma Rose Couveau (951) 288-6182

**September 27-28 2008, Monterey, CA**

Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society  
Monterey Fairgrounds  
2004 Fairgrounds Rd.  
Hours: Sat. 10 - 6; Sun. 10 - 5  
Sky Paxton (831) 417-7477  
Email: [sky@familystones.net](mailto:sky@familystones.net) Website: [www.cvgms.org](http://www.cvgms.org)

**September 27-28 2008, Stockton, CA**

Stockton Lapidary and Mineral Club  
Scottish Rite Masonic Center  
33 West Alpine Ave.  
Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4  
Nettie Meissner (209) 858-2263  
E-mail: footsey1@yahoo.com

Copyright 2008 Orcutt Mineral Society. Material in this newsletter may be duplicated provided that credit is given this publication and the author(s). For commercial use, the individual author(s) must be contacted.

**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](mailto:info@omsinc.org).

Ore-Cutts Photo Credits: Photographs used in this bulletin were taken by Wes Lingerfelt, & Wayne Mills except where noted

**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

Ore-Cutts

**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
Dee-Dee Magri	(805) 595-2755
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	<a href="mailto:debihood1@sbcglobal.net">debihood1@sbcglobal.net</a>
-------------	----------------	--