



Come join us on February 12, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at Mussell Senior Center, 510 E Park, Santa Maria. Our program will be on Sphere Making by Wes Lingerfelt. Come learn how he makes his beautiful round displays-maybe the best way to show primo materials. The Display will be Handmade Lapidary items. Have you ever polished a rock by hand, or done a carving, or made jewelry or any other craft with rocks? Bring a sample to display and fire our imaginations! Dessert will be pie.



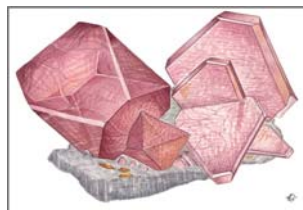
Vein and Seam Agates

The January meeting was very well attended and made for a lively meeting. We had a last minute change of plans. Steve Riegel was sent off to Colorado by his Uncle Sam and could not give his program on Florescent Rocks, which is re-scheduled now for October. So we dug out a slide show on Vein & Seam Agates by The Heart Of Wisconsin club. However the script was not found so we had commentary by Ralph Bishop and visiting dealer, Dave Hignett (The Agate Gallery.) These agates form in limestone after organic items that rot out leaving voids that fill with silica, or organic matter that becomes replaced by silica, and other voids and cracks from cooling and other natural phenomena. There were some very beautiful agates shown, including some from Ralph's old mine claim at Dry Head. Thank you to Ralph and Dave for helping us with commentary.

Geology of the Central Coast (2nd in a Series)

Wayne Mills

Another widespread formation found near the coast of California is the Franciscan Formation. This mélange (mixture) of metamorphosed terrestrial and



marine sediments was deposited during the Age of the Dinosaurs (the Mesozoic period) about 200-65 million years ago. As the Mid-Pacific plate boundary that we now call the San Andreas Fault was gradually pushed under the edge of the continental plate, like a transverse crack in a conveyor belt, sediments and portions of the oceanic crust were broken off and accreted onto the edge of the continental (North American) plate. I am reading a great book about this topic; it is called *Assembling California*, and is written by John McPhee. Early in the book, McPhee dramatically describes the assembling of our state.

“For and extremely large percentage of the history of the world, there was no California. That is, according to present theory. I don’t mean to suggest that California was underwater, and has since come up. I mean to say that of the varied terranes¹ and physiographic provinces that we now call California, nothing whatever was there. The continent ended far to the east, the continental shelf as well. Where California has come to be, there was only blue sea reaching down some miles to ocean-crustal rock, which was moving, as it does into subduction zones to be consumed. Ocean floors with an aggregate area many times the size of the present Pacific were made at spreading centers, moved around the curve of the earth, and melted into trenches before there was ever so much as a kilogram of California. Then, a piece at a time—according to present theory—parts began to assemble. An island arc here, a piece of continent there—a Japan at a time, a New Zealand, a Madagascar—came crunching in upon the continent, and have thus far adhered. Baja California is about to detach. A great deal more may go with it.”

On a geologic map of California, many of our state’s surface features have the same northwest-southeast orientation as the present-day San Andreas Fault, strong evidence of its’ influence on coastal geology. It is interesting to note that the average offset along this fault is about 5 centimeters (2.5 inches) per year. Projecting this

¹ A formation or group of formations. An area where a particular rock-type is prevalent.

Ore-Cutts

backward to about 18 million years ago, when the subduction event apparently occurred, suggests that features on the ocean side of the fault have moved northward more than 200 miles since that time. This means that the Seven Sisters, the most prominent geologic features near San Luis Obispo were originally formed in Mexico. Dates on the Sisters range from 22 to 25 million years before present (Reference Mountains of Fire by Sharon L. Dickerson, EZ Nature Books, 1990).

Probably the most desirable rock material coming out of the Franciscan Formation is Jade. The Nephrite jade found in the Big Sur area is a great example of Franciscan jade. Coming in many variations from Vulcan to botryoidal to chatoyant and colors from red to dark green to light and



nearly white, Big Sur jade is a definitely desirable lapidary material.

Monterey County jade

Other materials derived from this formation are (our state rock)

serpentine, and the related soapstone, and tremolite (also called California Tigereye) for its chatoyant properties.

After all, jade, serpentine and soapstone are in the tremolite-actinolite series of the amphibole mineral group, often produced by regional metamorphism.

Soapstone from Willow Creek, Monterey Co., and Tremolite (white) from El Dorado Co., CA



Ralph Larson—Retired and Ready to Rock

Wayne Mills

Ralph is a relatively new member of OMS, but he has already shown his willingness to participate in club activities by helping to fold tables after our meetings, and picking up trash on our November 2007 cleanup. At that event Ralph and Wayne got the killer hill section—downhill slopes in both eastbound and westbound directions of CA166, nearly the whole length of the section. Ralph says that his knees are almost recovered from that strenuous outing. We'll stick to the flat areas in March.



Ralph was born in Miami Beach, Florida in 1938, and moved several times during the war years (1940-1945), as his father was a radar expert for the government during that time. The family moved from Illinois to El Segundo after the war, and Ralph grew-up in Hollywood as his father became involved in making educational films. Ralph graduated from Culter Academy (high school) in 1956, and 4 years later, enlisted in the US Air Force where he was a jet mechanic, traveling to such locales as Okinawa and Indiana. On his return to Hollywood, Ralph worked with his father part time producing 16 mm educational films, and full time as a cable-man for the Film Sound Union. At Universal Studios, he met such luminaries as Juliette Prowse whom he described as a lovely lady in every way, and other notables that he had a much lower opinion of. Ralph met and married his ladylove, Mary through his church in 1971, then left the Sound Union in 1974, and went back to college to get an Associate degree in electronics. With his degree, Ralph got a job with TRW in the aerospace industry and moved to Santa Maria to continue in his occupation. He worked for several firms as the aerospace industry has evolved, learning and performing the valuable function of instrument calibration to meet exacting government standards.

In the 1970s, Ralph attended the Red Carpet Gem and Mineral Show in Long Beach, and the Pasadena Gem and Mineral Show, and at these, learned to appreciate the beauty of naturally faceted crystals. At the Pasadena show, he was especially influenced by the collection of Dave Wilbur, at the time, one of the foremost private mineral collectors in the world. (*Mr. Wilbur has generously endowed CFMS with several of his wonderful specimens.*) Ralph was also influenced in his hobby by his association with Willard Perky (inventor of Perky boxes). He became good friends with Willard, and got first crack at many of the minerals that Willard brought back from his trips to Mexico in the late 1970s. Ralph has also had some association with the San Diego area tourmaline mines, having collected at the Stewart and Tourmaline Queen mines among others, and he wrote a report on his experiences for a geology class at Cerritos College.

Ralph and Mary have been married for 36 years, and have two fine sons—Dan (34) and David (26). We are happy to welcome Ralph to OMS, and look forward to nice displays of his minerals, since he is one of our few mineral collectors. Rock on Ralph-on level ground of course!

Birthdays & Anniversaries

A big "Happy Birthday" to everyone who had a birthday in January:
DeeDee Magri, Paul Berthelot, Pat



Nuernberg, Dave Sumpter, Linda Kolasinski, Charlie Azevedo, and Elaine Von Achen, and to those who will be having one in February: Alma DeFreitas, Jan Ferguson, & Alexis Van Natta.



Anniversary congratulations go out to those who had one in January: Linda Kolasinski and her husband, Don & Sylvia Nasholm, and Dave & Mary Sumpter. And to those having anniversaries in February: Peggy Johnsen and her husband, Bob Wright and his wife, we wish all of you many more!

Field Trip Opportunity-Poppy Jasper

The January *Dinny's Doin's*, the newsletter for Fossils For Fun, announced a co-op field trip for rockhounds to Morgan Hill for the nationally famous Poppy Jasper. The trip will be held March 8, 2008. This is a fee dig, costing \$10 per person, and there is a charge of \$2 to \$5 per pound for the jasper. This trip is open to anyone; however, non-members of CFMS must provide proof of liability insurance. For more information, contact: Dean Welder (408)-353-2675. This could be a great trip, as this location is usually closed to collecting. OMS's Wes Lingerfelt says that good poppy jasper can go for up to \$25 per pound.

Highway 166 is Clean Again

Wayne Mills, Adopt-A-Highway Coordinator

8 hardy souls showed-up for the bi-monthly highway cleanup on Saturday, January 19. The shoulders of Highway CA166, where we do our thing, were dirty (in more ways than one). We finished our work in about an hour and a half, and then retreated to Francisco's in Santa Maria for pie and coffee (well, a few folks had biscuits and gravy). When we compared notes, Wes made the best find, about 2 dozen um..., Carnal art books, but Jeannie wouldn't let him keep any. All I found was a single mattress, an old tire, a roll of tape, and about 6 trucker bombs. Wes brought the prize, a 8 x 6 faceted citrine. He let Jeannie pull the winner, and it was Jeannie! Then she told Wes to have someone draw another ticket, and Geary Sheffer pulled HIS own name out of the hat (he kept the citrine). Some people are born lucky, as Geary's name has come up a few times before in this drawing. Other participants in the outing were Bob Bullock, Don Nasholm, Ralph Larson, and Lee Reyburn. Thanks to all participants, the highway is clean for a few more weeks.



Sunshine Report

Maida Williams was in the hospital in December, and is still recovering from a problem with one of her medications, and a fire that struck her apartment while she was hospitalized. Hope that uses up all your bad luck for the rest of the year, Maida!

Arizona Holidays

Wayne Mills

My sister has lived in Arizona for the last 3 years. So for the last 3 years, I have been going to the Phoenix area at Christmastime to visit her—and to do a little rock collecting as well. This year, my son Todd accompanied me, and was good company, though he slept much of the 10-hour drive to Mesa.

Saturday morning, (December 22), we arrived at the Mining and Mineral Museum about an hour ahead of their 10 a.m. opening, and enjoyed a walk around Memorial Park located between the museum and the copper-domed state capital building that is an easy walk from the museum. In the park, we saw memorials to the USS Arizona sunk at Pearl harbor, to the Arizona Peace Officers, to the K-9 corps, to the Arizona soldiers that fought for the Confederacy, to Korean and Viet Nam War veterans, and to several other deserving groups. Todd, animal lover that he is, liked the K-9 Memorial, and I was drawn to the Confederacy Memorial because it had the most copper stained rocks.

After the museum opened, we were greeted by Liz, a sprightly docent that I had been warned, I mean told about by my Arizona collecting acquaintance from last year. Liz told us about the wheelbarrow in the next room with free rock samples, and that's where I headed. How to pick three rocks from a wheelbarrow full? Took awhile, but I managed. Found a sample of turquoise, one of a red moss agate, and a layered silicate of some kind. Then we checked out the exhibits. And they have some nice ones. I especially liked the one of the seven different mining districts, and one of real turquoise and some of its' imitators. , *Indian "Sky stone"* Boy, some folks are sure sneaky using dyed howellite and dyed magnesite to imitate the Native American "sky stone."

Here's another insider tip I got from my collecting friend from Payson. At the information desk, they have a book of collecting places. If you ask nicely, you can get a copy of a couple of them. If you offer a couple of bucks, you can get a copy of the whole book (28 locations). *Wood impregnated with copper*



Full-scale model of Pima Indian structure

Another trip Todd and I took was to the Desert Botanic Gardens in North Tempe. Being in the cactus and succulent society, we thought this might be a fun



trip, and it was. We saw some amazing cacti from around the world, and also enjoyed some of the exhibits of local Native American plants and culture. They had a lot of rocks in their landscape, just no agates. But it was definitely a place to go back to

One day, I went off on my own to try to find a place in the Collecting Arizona book my sister gave me last Christmas. The place was near Horseshoe Lake near Carefree, and I thought it might be fun to check it out. There were supposed to be zeolites in basalt. The drive was pleasant enough, but the houses seemed to go on forever! All through the desert, way north of Scottsdale, houses all the way to the foot of the mountains-houses. Talk about a Vanishing Wilderness. Until I got on the dirt road near the lake, it was hard to get away from the houses. The houses were pretty nice looking, but not as nice as the desert. Well, I eventually found the lake and the basalt, but the zeolite-filled cavities were smaller than I imagined (isn't that always how it goes). So I got a few specimens of natrolite, okenite and stillbite, and headed back to Mesa—there were still a few Christmas cookies I hadn't scarfed down yet.

THE CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES, INC.

DEDICATED TO THE ADVANCEMENT AND ENJOYMENT OF THE EARTH SCIENCES MARCH 23-30 2008

We invite you to join us at the Earth Science Seminar to be held at Soda Springs (Zzyzx) located approximately 50 miles Northeast of Barstow, CA. Off I-15 at Zzyzx Rd. The facilities are rustic, dormitory style rooms with bed, mattress & desk. Cleaning responsibilities lie with the occupants. You must bring bed linen or sleeping bag, and any creature comforts you may desire, i.e. lamp, throw rug, ice chest. R.V. parking is approximately 1/4 mile from the center, and has no facilities of any kind. All restrooms and showers are located in separate buildings at the center, and are communal. The Earth Science Committee retains the right to accept or deny applications, as they deem appropriate. The Government designates this area as a Desert Studies Center, consequently: **NO PETS ARE ALLOWED.** A limited number of reservations are available

and early application is recommended. The fee for the week is \$300.00 per person, includes: Quarters, or R.V. Space, three meals per day and Classes. Additional charges may be assessed for material furnished by Instructors. Subject to change these classes will be offered: Lapidary - Tom Burchard; Silver Fabrication - Mary Ann Anderson and Patti Tostenson; Soft Stone Carving - Margaret Kolaczyk; Wire Art - Sale Nichols; Field Trips - Francis Pedneau; Enameling - Betty Egger. DEADLINE - MARCH 1; 2008. No cancellations after this date, UNLESS A REPLACEMENT IS PROVIDED. A \$25.00 Administration Fee will be assessed for cancellations prior to this date.

Contact Wes Lingerfelt, CFMS Director or download the form from the CFMS website; <http://www.cfmsinc.org>.

Please complete the Registration form and Mail with full payment, payable to: CFMS Earth Science Seminar c/o

Audrey Harvey, 3363 Tuxford Place Thousand Oaks, CA 91360 Phone #: (805) 492-2253

For Information Only Call: **Marion Roberts (209) 538-0197**

Chinese Soldiers Visit the States

Wayne Mills

Since I first read about the discovery of 7000 soldiers and horses being buried with their (Chinese) emperor about 2200 years ago, I have wanted to see them. Part of the attraction is that the soldiers and horses are made of (terra-cotta) clay, are remarkably life-like, and are full-scale models. The creation of this funerary army must have been a huge undertaking (*pun intended*). Their discovery, made in 1974 adds meaning to the expression "feet of clay..."

Anyhow, a selection of the grave goods is visiting the United States in 2008. This is the largest collection of these figures to have left China. They will be on display in the Bowers Museum in Orange County beginning May 18 of this year. Afterwards, they will travel to the High Museum in Atlanta Georgia in November. On display will be 82 original artifacts including: 11 terracotta soldiers, two horses, a number of bronze and pottery cooking utensils, personal ornaments, weapons, coins, terracotta animals and other items excavated over the last 30 years. The clay army was made for the first emperor of the united China, and was uncovered by farmers digging a well in Shaanxi (Shanhsi) Province in north-central China.

I am definitely planning to visit these ceramic sentinels. Think of the savings—round trip to China \$3000, round trip to San Bernardino \$100. Let me think about that. Tickets for the event can be found at the Bowers Admission Desk, through Ticketmaster, or at www.museumtix.com

And the silent soldiers are not the only feature of the museum. The 70-year old Bowers Museum is the only US Museum to partner with the British Museum, and is an internationally celebrated institution of art and culture dedicated to the preservation, study and exhibition of arts from around the world.

References

<http://www.archaeologynews.org/link>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shaanxi>

[SLO Telegram Tribune ~12/31/07](http://www.slo-telegram.com/~12/31/07)

http://www.anaheimoc.org/member_details/member

Fire & Ice

By Debbie Hood

About 2,000 years ago (about 207 BC, + or – 240 years) a powerful volcano erupted underneath the West Antarctic ice sheet that may still be active



now. This is the first evidence for an eruption under the ice sheet itself. The ice sheet is a slab of frozen water that is hundreds of feet thick that covers most of Antarctica and holds most of the world's reserves of fresh water. The eruption occurred near the massive Pine Island Glacier, an area where the movement of ice towards the sea has been increasing in recent decades. It is possible that heat from the volcano may have caused this acceleration. While it doesn't seem to explain all of the thinning of Western Antarctic glaciers, this makes the recent ice loss from that continent more understandable.

Investigators from the British Antarctic Survey recently reported in the journal *Nature Geoscience* that the event would have been rated "severe" to "cataclysmic" on the international scale of volcanic force, being only 1 point below the eruption in 1980 of Mount St. Helens. It would have punched a massive hole in the ice sheet and spewed out a plume of smoke and debris some 8 miles into the air and been the biggest eruption in Antarctica of the last 10,000 years. The evidence comes from a British-American airborne radar geophysical survey done in 2004-5 to map the terrain under the ice sheet. They discovered a 23,000 square mile area of thick ash, rock and glass formed from fused silica, bigger than the country of Wales.

While most of Antarctica is seismically stable, the Hudson Mountains on its western side lies over a rift in the Earth's crust that gives rise to volcanism and geothermal heat on the coastal margins. The finding of this volcano extends the range of known volcanism in Antarctica by 300 miles and raises the question whether these volcanoes have melted enough ice to alter global sea levels and contributed to wider change in warming ocean waters.

Bits and Bytes

Wayne Mills

—Mike Woodward takes wonderful close-ups of rocks and sells them as fine art. See some of his work at:

<http://tinyurl.com/29abx3>

Door Prize Thanks

Wayne Mills,

Thanks to generous donations from Don and Sylvia Nasholm, Lee Rayburn and Ralph Bishop, and the efficient handling of the tickets and prizes by Linda Kolasinski, the January door prize was a great success. It

was announced that what we had been calling the club raffle will now be called the Door Prize Activity, and that a committee has been formed to make rules to regulate this fun club activity. Also at the January meeting, Wayne Mills, who has handled the door prize for the last 2.5 years announced his resignation as chairperson of the door prize committee citing the need to focus on his duties as 2008 club President.

Argentinean Dinosaur skeleton unearthed

Debbie Hood

Scientists from Argentina and Brazil announced the discovery of a new species of dinosaur in Patagonia. Because of the unique structure of its neck, the dinosaur appears to represent a previously unknown species of Titanosaurus, a 105-foot plant-eater that is among the largest dinosaurs ever found. They have named it *Futalognkosaurus dukei* after the Mapuche Indian words for "giant" and "chief," and for Duke Energy Argentina, which helped fund the skeleton's excavation. This skeleton is one of the biggest and most complete of these giants that exist. Scientists say he giant herbivore walked the Earth some 88 million years ago, during the late Cretaceous period. Since the first bones were found on the banks of Lake Barreales in the Argentine province of Neuquen in 2000, paleontologists have dug up the dinosaur's neck, back region, hips and the first vertebra of its tail." I'm pretty certain it's a new species," agreed Peter Mackovicky, associate curator for dinosaurs at Chicago's Field Museum, who was not involved with the discovery. "I've seen some of the remains of *Futalognkosaurus* and it is truly gigantic." The neck alone must have been 56 feet long, and by studying the vertebrae, they figured the tail probably measured 49 feet. The dinosaur reached over 43 feet tall, and the excavated spinal column weighed about 9 tons when excavated. One neck vertebra alone measured more than 3 feet high. Jeff Wilson, an assistant professor of paleontology at the University of Michigan, who was asked to review the finding, said he was impressed by the sheer amount of skeleton recovered." I should really try to underscore how incredible it is to have partial skeleton of something this size," Wilson said. "With these kind of bones you can't study them by moving them around on the table; you have to move around them yourself. It shows us the upper limit for dinosaur size," Wilson added. "There are some that are bigger but they all top out around this size." Patagonia also was home to the other two largest dinosaur skeletons found to date; *Argentinosaurus*, at around 115 feet long, and *Puertasaurus reuili*, 115 feet to 131 feet long. Comparison between the three herbivores, however, is difficult because scientists have only found few vertebrae of *Puertasaurus*, and while the skeleton of *Futalognkosaurus* (FOO-ta-long-koh-SOHR-us) is fairly complete, scientists have not uncovered any bones from

its limbs. North America's dinosaurs don't even compare in size, Mackovicky added. "Dinosaurs do get big here, but nothing near the proportions we see in South America." The site where Futalognkosaurus was found has yielded more than 1,000 specimens, including 240 fossil plants, 300 teeth and the remains of several other dinosaurs. As far as I know, there is no other place in the world where there is such a large and diverse quantity of fossils in such small area. That is truly unique," said Alexander Kellner, a researcher with the Brazilian National Museum and co-author of the dinosaur's scientific description.

Orcutt Mineral Society Board Meeting Home of Wayne Mills Arroyo Grande, Ca. January 2, 2008

The Meeting was called to order at 7:55 p.m. by President, Wayne Mills.



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

Minutes of the December 2007 general meeting were approved as published in the January, 2008 newsletter.

Correspondence: Elaine Von Achen reported having received newsletters from the South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society, Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society, San Geronio Mineral & Gem Society, Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society and the Native American Ministries. A letter was read from Constance Rogers of the Kern County Mineral Society inviting any of our members to exhibit at their annual gem show to be held May 3rd and 4th, 2008. She also requested a listing of our membership. We received a thank you from Cuesta College for our annual scholarship donation as well as a thank you from the Salvation Army for our annual Christmas donation. A flyer was received announcing the Arizona Mineral & Fossil Show to be held February 2nd through the 16th in Tucson. A letter was read from Habitat for Humanity offering speaking engagements. We also received a request for information about our club from Robert Alberg of Rapid City, South Dakota. And last but not least we received a letter from the California State Mining & Mineral Museum Association inviting OMS to become an organizational member of their organization. They also requested that we inform our membership of the Mariposa Gem and Mineral Show on April 12th and 13th at the Mariposa County Fairgrounds.

Treasurer's Report: Wes Lingerfelt read the treasurer's report. There was a \$5.00 entry for a check received that needed to be re-allocated and Wes made that notation. The report was accepted as amended.

Committee Reports:

Awards Banquet: Bill Hood said he had set the December 2008 general meeting and luncheon for December 13th but that we might want to have it on December 6th instead. After some discussion it was agreed that the meeting would be December 6th, 2008

Adopt-a-Highway: Wayne Mills reported that our next clean up would be held Saturday, January 19 at 8:00 a.m. We will meet at Highways US101 and CA166. Wayne said that he will be in Quartzsite and asked Wes to be in charge of the clean up.

Newsletter: Debbie Hood noted that the newsletter was on the web and she was waiting for the newsletters to come back from the printers for mailing.

CFMS: Wes reported a CFMS sponsored show to be held June 27th through June 29th in Ventura, Ca.

Education: Wes Lingerfelt passed around letters and pictures from two talks he gave to students. One of the talks was held at his home for a group of scouts.

Annual Gem Show: None

Historian: None

Membership: Elaine Von Achen read an application for membership received from Pat Montague. Debbie Hood made a motion that we accept Pat as a member. Wayne Mills seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Publicity: None

Scholarship: Wayne Mills said he will be requesting a check for \$500.00 for the Alan Hancock Scholarship Fund.

Sunshine: Debbie Hood said that Maida Williams had been in the hospital but is home now.

Telephone Tree: Debbie Hood said she needs to update.

Yearbook: Wes Lingerfelt said he will be starting on the new "Red Book".

Old Business: None

New Business:

January's general meeting program will be a video on "Vein Agates". The display for January will be "Central Coast Rocks". Refreshments will be donuts provided by OMS.

A committee to codify the door prize activities within the Operating Rules and Regulations was formed. Sylvia Nasholm will chair the committee and other committee members will include Debbie Hood, Wes Lingerfelt, Wayne Mills, Sharon Duncan and Bob Bullock.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 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. January 8, 2008

Ore-Cutts

President Wayne Mills called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Mike Henson gave the invocation.

Shelly Dana led the flag salute.

Elaine Von Achen read the minutes of the January 2nd Board Meeting. Minutes were approved as read.

Correspondence: Elaine Von Achen read a flyer from Larry Blank reporting quality turquoise for sale including cabochons for jewelry. Newsletters were received from South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society, Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society, San Geronio Mineral & Gem Society, Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society and the Native American Ministries. A letter was read from Constance Rogers of the Kern County Mineral Society inviting any of our members to exhibit at their annual gem show to be held May 3rd and 4th, 2008. She also requested a listing of our membership. We received a thank you from Cuesta College for our annual scholarship donation as well as a thank you from the Salvation Army for our annual Christmas donation. A flyer was received announcing the Arizona Mineral & Fossil Show to be held February 2nd through the 16th in Tucson. A letter was read from Habitat for Humanity offering speaking engagements.

Treasurer's report: Wes Lingerfelt gave the treasurer's report. It was accepted as given. Wes noted that the IRS is requiring non-profits having \$25,000 or less to file a Form 990. This is an information return, electronic filing only. Wes filed for OMS.

Committee Reports:

Abused Children: Jan Ferguson noted donations of beautiful crystals from Don & Sylvia Nasholm. These are for anyone who would like one. They collected them in Arkansas.

She also reported that the prizes for the evening are wavellite from Arkansas and three mineral specimens.

Greeter: Sharon Duncan reported 37 members and 14 guests. Guest included Donna Lehman, Dave and Shiho Hignett, Tome & JoEllen Chrones, Colleen Johnson, Jeff Hardesty, Nathan Limon Kathleen Wendell, Frank Wendell, Jane Kametani, Savannah Ferguson, Mary McKay and Robert and Kyle Stringer. Guests were asked to stand and introduce themselves. Guests were welcomed.

Annual Awards Banquet: Bill Hood said that he has confirmed the December 6, 2008 date for our yearly luncheon/meeting.

Adopt-a-Highway: None

Monthly Breakfast: Gloria Dana reported the January breakfast will be held at Pappy's Restaurant on East Betteravia Road on 01-26-08 at 9:30 a.m. Gloria also said she could use donations for the breakfast raffle.

Bulletin: Debbie Hood said the bulletin is now on the web site as well as having been mailed.

By Laws: None

CFMS: Wes Lingerfelt reminded members of the June show to be held in Ventura.

Field Trips: There will be no field trip for January.

Education: Wes Lingerfelt has some thank you letters from students he gave a talk to.

Historian: None

Hospitality: Dee Dee Magri reported the night's refreshment would be donuts donated by OMS.

Librarian: None

Membership: Elaine Von Achen gave out two membership applications. She also apologized to Colleen Johnson and Jeff Hardesty as she had their applications and had misfiled them. They will be presented at the February board meeting.

Property: None

Publicity: None

Public Lands Access Committee: None

Door Prizes: Wayne Mills thanked Ralph Bishop for his donation of condor agates. He also thanked Don & Sylvia Nasholm for their donation of quartz crystal and Lee Reyburn for his donation of slabs. There is a turquoise necklace, agates, Peruvian birds and much more. Wayne also made an announcement that he would be resigning as door prize chairman.

Scholarship: Wayne Mills mentioned that Allan Hancock College had requested our donation of \$500.00 for this year.

Sheriff: None

Sunshine: Maida Williams is feeling better and is with us this evening. We also welcomed Al Wilcox, as he was able to make the meeting.

Telephone Tree: None

Year Book: Wes Lingerfelt has starting on the yearbook and it will be ready by the end of March.

Old Business:

Wes Lingerfelt noted that Gloria Dana has for the most part, donated all donations for the prize at the monthly breakfasts. He felt that the club might want to allocate money for these prizes. Wayne Mills made a motion to budget \$100.00 for this use. Linda Kolasinski seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Wes Lingerfelt said an updated version of the Operating Rules and Regulations was posted on our website.

New Business:

It was noted that new member Steve Riegel's wife has an article in the January issue of Rock & Gem magazine. Sylvia Nasholm reminded members that there were crystals available for the taking that she and Don had brought back from Arkansas.

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

Respectfully submitted:

Elaine Von Achen, Secretary, OMS

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	at 125 N. Thompson Ave., Nipomo
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Show Schedule 2008

February 15-24 2008, Indio, CA

San Gorgonio Mineral & Gem Society
 Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival
 46-350 Arabia St.
 Hours: 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.
 Bert Grisham (951) 849-1674
 Email: bert67@verizon.net

March 1-2 2008, Arcadia, CA

Monrovia Rockhounds
 Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanical Garden
 301 N. Baldwin Ave.
 Hours: 9 - 4:30 both days
 Jo Anna Ritchey
 Email: j.ritchey@verizon.net
 Website: www.moroks.com

March 1-2 2008, Escondido, CA

Palomar Gem & Mineral Club
 Army National Guard Armory
 304 Park Avenue
 Escondido, CA
 Hours: Saturday 9-5, Sunday 9-4
 Michelle & Van Lynch (760) 949-4164
 Email: michelleandvan@hotmail.com
 Show Website: www.palomargem.org

March 1-2 2008, Ventura, CA

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society
 Seaside Park
 10 W. Harbor Blvd.
 Hours: Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4
 Abe-Bar-Shai (818) 991-7735
 Email: Barshai3@aol.com
 Web Site: www.vgms.org

March 8-9 2008, San Marino, CA

Pasadena Lapidary Society
 San Marino Masonic Temple
 3130 Huntington Dr.
 Hours: Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5
 Drew Wilson (626) 449-4910
 Email: TODREW@sbcglobal.net

March 8-9 2008, Spreckles, CA

Salinas Valley Rock & Gem Club
 Spreckles Veteran's Memorial Hall
 5th and Llano St. Hwy 68 Spreckels Exit
 Hours: 10-5 both days
 Jim Bassett (831) 758-5830
 Karin Salomon (831) 375-5233
 Email: jbmcs@sbcglobal.net
 Email: kcbakes27@yahoo.com

March 15-16 2008, Vallejo, CA

Vallejo Gem & Mineal Society
 Solano County Fairgrounds County Building
 Hours: 10-5 both days
 Ed Austin (707) 373-5639
 Email: edhen@ips.net

March 22-23 2008, Calaveras, CA

Calaveras Gem & Mineal Society
 Calaveras "Frogtown" Fairgrounds
 Hwy 49 Angles Camp
 Hours: Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4
 Tom Reeves (209) 754-4863
 \$3.00 per adult, children free

February 2008 Calendar	
Tuesday February 5 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting at Elaine Von Achen's Home. All members are welcome at this business meeting. For directions call Elaine at 929-1488
Tuesday February 12, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	OMS General Meeting Elwin Mussell Senior Center. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program- Spheremaking • Display- Handcrafted Lapidary • Refreshments Cake
Saturday, February 23, 8:15 - 9:15 a.m.	OMS Monthly Breakfast-at Denny's, 1910 E. Main St., Santa Maria.
Saturday, February 16, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Field trip to Jade Cove -Meet at Mussell Senior Center Parking Lot. Observational trip to a classic location. Bring a Lunch and water. Some hiking required. Contact Bob Bullock at 928-6372 for details.
March 2008 Calendar	
Tuesday March 4, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting-at Elwin Mussell Senior Center. All members are welcome at this business meeting.
Saturday March 8, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m..	Field Trip to Carrizo Springs -Meet at Mussell Senior Center Parking Lot. Trace the San Andreas Fault from Highway 166 north through the Carrizo Plains to Soda Lake. If we are lucky, we'll hit the highlights of wildflower bloom. Bring lunch and water. Short hikes possible. Contact Bob Bullock at 928-6372 for details
Tuesday March 11, 2008 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	OMS General Meeting-Elwin Mussell Senior Center. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program-Mineral Dealer • Display- Green rocks & minerals • Refreshments-Pie
Saturday March 15, 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Roadside Clean up After the cleanup, coffee and pastry at "Francisco's Country Kitchen" in Santa Maria.
Saturday March 22,	OMS Monthly Breakfast-at Jocko's



Period	Age	Major Events
Holocene	Now – 0.01 Mya	Modern Man
Pleistocene	0.01–2 Mya	Ice Age
Pliocene	2 – 6 Mya	Horses Primitive Elephants
Miocene	6 – 26 Mya	First True Whales Primitive Hominids Giant Sharks
Oligocene	26 – 36 Mya	Primitive Whales
Eocene	36 – 58 Mya	Primitive Horses Oreodonts
Paleocene	58 – 65 Mya	Mammals abundant
Cretaceous	65 – 135 Mya	Last Dinosaurs Flowering Plants
Jurassic	135 – 190 Mya	Dinosaurs - Conifers
Triassic	190 – 225 Mya	First Dinosaurs Primitive Animals
Permian	225 – 280 Mya	Mammal like reptiles, Reptiles
Pennsylvanian	280 – 310 Mya	Primitive reptiles Cold Swamps Insects
Mississippian	310 – 345	Amphibians Crinoids

	Mya	
Devonian	345 – 400 Mya	Shark like fish Armored fish
Silurian	400 – 430 Mya	Primitive Land Plants Eurypterids
Ordovician	430 – 500 Mya	Primitive Fish Corals
Cambrian	500 – 570 Mya	Trilobites
PreCambrian	570 – 4,500 Mya	Primitive Marine Animals Green Algae

Mya=Millions of Years Ago. 4,500 Mya – Age of Earth

This chart was put together by Elaine Von Achen to help her grandson, Joseph to understand how the various geological time periods fit together with the appearance of various creatures, and their apparent ages. Maybe it will help all of us who need a simplified version to start with. -Editor.

Humorous One-Liners

- _ The man who fell into an upholstery machine is fully recovered.
- _ A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France would result in Linoleum Blownapart.
- _ You feel stuck with your debt if you can't budge it.
- _ He often broke into song because he couldn't find the key.
- _ Every calendar's days are numbered.
- _ A lot of money is tainted. It t'aint yours and it t'aint mine.
- _ A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat.
- _ He had a photographic memory that was never developed.
- _ The short fortune teller who escaped from prison was a small medium at large.
- _ Once you've seen one shopping center, you've seen a mall.
- _ Those who jump off a Paris bridge you are in Seine.

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OMS Webmaster - Wes Lingerfelt –(805) 929-3788.
Check out our OMS web site at <http://omsinc.org> or send e-mail to info@omsinc.org.

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OMS Membership (dues) 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

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

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



ORE-CUTTS 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 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

Ore-Cutts Editor

Deborah Hood, Senior Editor | (805) 481-6860