

Volume XLIX Number 2

The Pres Box—February 2014

By Elaine Von Achen, President, OMS

We've already had a pretty busy January and as I am writing this, it is only the 20th.

We ended 2013 with 64 members, 58 adults and 6 juniors.

We have a new venue for the annual December luncheon and meeting. This year's meeting/luncheon will be held at the Madonna Inn in their "Round Room" and will be on the second Saturday of December (the 13th) rather than the usual first Saturday. We will be having a sit down dinner and I am looking forward to both the venue and the meal.

Another change is that our board meetings will be held at the Nipomo Chamber of Commerce, 239 West Tefft Street, Nipomo at 7:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mike and Margaret Henson for their generous use of their home for the past couple of years for our board meetings. It is truly appreciated. A reminder to all members: Dues are due and must be paid by the end of March to be included in the "Redbook" (our club directory). I am also asking everyone to be sure and let me know if you have any changes in address, phone number, etc. so our Redbook will be as up to date as possible.

A lot of us know each other only through the short time we spend together at an OMS February 2014

function. It is my thought that it would be fun if we each shared one thing that most people don't know about us. It can be something from the past or maybe something we are currently involved in. If each of you would write out a short story and e-mail it to me, I will compile these together and they will be printed in the newsletter. If you don't want to write something, just tell me about it and I will write it out. You can also call me and I will jot down notes. It should really be fun and we can get to know each other even better.

I will give you an example of something most people don't know about me. I don't think John even knows as I don't think

I don't think John even knows as I don't think I've ever mentioned it to him. When I was a senior in high school I took stenography classes and was pretty fast and accurate and my picture and a short article was printed in the Santa Maria Times. I remember being proud of myself. Shortly after graduation I took the Civil Service test and at 17 I was hired to work for the Air Force at Vandenberg Air Force Base as a stenographer.

Activities for February include our monthly meeting on the 11th at the Luis Oasis Senior Center, a field trip still to be determined and breakfast to be held at the Sunset Grill on the 22nd. If you have questions regarding any of these events, please call me.

Hope to see you in February and Happy Valentine's day.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



Birthday greetings go out to those folks who are having birthdays and Anniversaries in February.

2/8

2/16

February Birthdays are:

Marshall Reeves Jan Ferguson

February Anniversariesinclude:Peggy Johnson2/14

Congratulations!

If you don't see your name here when you should, then the information is not in <u>**The Red Book**</u>. Please write your important dates down and give them to Wes Lingerfelt so they will be included in the next edition (March 2014).

SUNSHINE

Debbie Hood

Our thoughts go out to Bonnie Ward who has been having a tough go of it lately. Your thoughts and prayers for Bonnie are much appreciated.

PICTURES FROM OUR ANNUAL MEETING















Ore-Cutts—Bulletin of Orcutt Mineral Society

February 2014

2

THE MANY FACETS OF LAPIDARY

Wayne Mills, OMS Editor

Like the many faces of a brilliant cut stone, so are there facets in the fascinating hobby of Lapidary. I tried to enumerate these in a display I did a year ago called "Rockhounding A-Z", and I still think it is worthwhile to consider how many things there are to do with a rock (or mineral or fossil). With your help, perhaps we can expand on this list!

1. Agate and amber collecting, cutting and polishing

2. **B**each Glass collecting, Beading, Bolo tie and bracelet making

3. **C**airn building, carving hard and soft stones, chain making, coprolite collecting (see Royal Flush Society),

4. Dinosaur digging

5. Etching glass

6. Faceting, field tripping, *fluorite* and

fluorescent rock collecting, fossil collecting 7. **G**em Tree making, geode cutting and polishing

8. Heart-shaped rock collecting

9. Intaglio and intarsia making and collecting10. Jade and Jasper collecting, cutting and polishing

11. Knapping arrowheads

12. Leaverite leaving?, Lost wax casting

13, **M**etaphysical (healing) stones, meteorite collecting, mineral (and crystal) collecting (cabinet, micro-mount and thumbnail sizes)

14. Netsuke carving and collecting

15. **O**pal collecting and polishing

16. **P**earl gathering and stringing, pendant making

17. *Quartz* crystal collecting and displaying including inclusions and phantoms

18. **R**ing making, rock collecting and identifying (Ophiolites anyone?), rock tumbling

19. Scrimshaw, sphere making and silverwork

20. Tailgating (rock-swapping), thunderegg collecting, cutting and polishing

21. **U**ranium exploration, ultraviolet lights (see fluorescent rock collecting, *Uvarovite* (garnet) 22. **V**olcanology, *Vanadanite*, *Vesuvianite*

23. Wire bending (chains) and wrapping

24. **X**-ray diffraction studies (to identify rocks and minerals)

25. **Y**ag (Yttrium aluminum garnet) faceting, *Youngite*

26. Zeolite (mineral) collecting

BIRTHSTONE INFORMATION

Birth Month	<u>Modern</u>	Traditional	Mystical
January	Garnet	Garnet	Emerald
February	Amethyst	Amethyst	Bloodstone
March	Aquamarine, Bloodstone	Bloodstone	Jade
April	Diamond	Diamond	Opal
Мау	Emerald	Emerald	Sapphire
June	Pearl, Moonstone	Alexandrite	Moonstone
July	Ruby	Ruby	Ruby
August	Peridot	Sardonyx	Diamond
September	Sapphire	Sapphire	Agate
October	Opal, Tourmaline	Tourmaline	Jasper
November	Yellow Topaz, Citrine	Citrine	Pearl
December	Turquoise, Blue Zircon, Tanzanite	Zircon, Lapis Lazuli Onyx	

http://www.thelonestarmineshaft.com/Birthstone%20Inform ation.htm

BITS and BYTES Websites of interest:

A wonderful site that answers your questions about a wide variety of Earth-Science related topics. http://www.gemstoneeducation.com/

An interesting article on various rock fakes that can be found at gem shows. http://www.the-vug.com/vug/vugfakes.html

FIELD TRIP—FEBRUARY

We will meet at Joyce Baird's home at 10 a.m. on February 15th. The field trip will last until

1:00 p.m., or when everyone has gotten all the rocks they want. Rough rock is priced \$.25 per pound. A variety of materials collected on numerous field trips over about 20 years is available.

Joyce's address is 9845 Santa Clara Rd., Atascadero, CA. From Highway 101 northbound, take Santa Barbara Road east to El Camino Real. Proceed south on Camino Real to Santa Clara Road. Turn east again on Santa Clara Road about 3/5 of a mile. Joyce's home is on the north side of the road. Look for balloons! If you get to Sandoval Road, you have gone too far.

Bring buckets, spray bottles and rock hammers. Trip is on rain or shine!

QUARTZSITE—2014 Wayne Mills

By the time this edition of the Ore-Cutts hits the streets, the Quartzsite Gem Shows will be all but over. January is traditionally the month when Tyson Wells, Desert Gardens, QIA, Prospectors Paradise and other shows are held in that town. In February, it is on to Tucson, where many of the town's hotels and motels are taken over by gem dealers from around the world. I can't speak to Tucson, but I can say that Quartzsite was a wonderful experience this year. My friend Roberta Hall wanted to make the Quartzsite experience more available to other rockhounds in both Santa Lucia AND Orcutt Clubs, so she asked me to help her organize the trip. So after advertising our intentions to both the Santa Lucia and Orcutt Clubs, we got exactly zero requests to join us, but we had fun anyhow. We met Wes Lingerfelt and his friend Royce on Saturday, January 4 in Bouse, Arizona, and trekked the 28 miles northwest to the Planet Mine.

There we collected rock with bright blue Chrysacolla and occasional patches of druzy gem silica—Chrysacolla overlain by druzy quartz.

After collecting for a couple of hours, I took my detector over to the ruins of the town of Planet and found...nothing special. On our way back to Quartzsite, we stopped at the Ribbon

Barite location (south of Bouse), and found several pieces on the nearby hills. Then we hit



Roberta, Royce and Wes at the Planet Mine

Gem World on Main Street north of I-10, and started our shopping,

The next morning after sleeping comfortably (IN A TENT!) at **Hi-Jolly Campground** (not for the squeamish—no outhouses), we drove over the highway to **Desert Gardens**. There was a LOT of rough rock here, and I got a headache from trying to look at it all. I did (literally) pick-up a couple pieces of Indonesian amber that a group of free-spirited youngsters was sorting. They were really interesting to talk to. We pretty much spent the day walking around Desert Gardens, and the **Prospector's Paradise** (more rough rock) including a large building of Moroccan materials and a spread with bins of



large, rough rock from Australia. We met Roberta's boyfriend, Jim (a rock novice) at the pink Chamber of Commerce building about 5:00 p.m., then drove back to Hi-Jolly to get their tent set-up. Jim brought steaks that we pan-fried for dinner, so he is OK in my book.



Orbicular granite from Western Australia

On Sunday, Roberta, Jim and I started out together at **Tyson Wells**, but soon went our separate ways. Roberta was debating over a sink with 2 ammonites and an orthoceras glued on it. and I decided to move on. Came across our friends from Naturals from the Earth, and picked up a couple of rock presents for friends (after receiving a nice discount). My impression of Tyson is that there is much more finished rock material here than at Desert Gardens. I got a few more things as I cruised around Tyson and then headed back to Camp. Roberta and Jim left on Tuesday (the 7th) for Yuma and Algodones, Baja California where they planned to get some dental work done, and I decided to head home to attend the OMS Board meeting that night.

All in all, it was a fun experience. I was apprehensive about camping out, since it had been a few years, but it wasn't that bad. Think I would recommend a mummy bag and a coverlet the next time (I have to sleep alone), as it got a little frosty at night, but I went home with some nice rocks, and one of those mesquite trees in Hi Jolly received a lot of um...nutrients that it might not otherwise have received.



Typical scene for Quartzite shows. Note the sign "We pack it deeper and sell it cheaper"

ORCUTT MINERAL SOCIETY BOARD MEETING

Mike & Margaret Henson's home, Santa Maria, CA. January 7, 2014 President Elaine Von Achen called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Board members present were Wes Lingerfelt, Jeannie Lingerfelt, Elaine Von Achen, Dyanna Cridelich Sandy Berthelot, Wayne Mills, John Von Achen and Mike Henson. Paul Berthelot and Margaret Henson were guests.

Minutes: Minutes of the December general meeting were approved as printed in the OMS January Bulletin.

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

Correspondence: None

Committee Reports:

Annual Gem Show: None

Breakfast: January's breakfast will be held on the 25th at the Girl's Restaurant, 1237 E. Grand Avenue, Arroyo Grande, CA. at 9:00 a.m.

Bulletin: The bulletin is on line and has been mailed.

CFMS: None

Education: None

Ore-Cutts—Bulletin of Orcutt Mineral Society

Field Trip: February's field trip is still to be determined. Advanced notice for April's field trip: We will be going to the LA County Museum followed by a trip to the Himalaya Mine in San Diego where members will look for pink tourmaline, lepidolite, graphic granite and more.

Highway Clean-up: The next highway clean-up will be held Saturday, January 11th. Members will meet at Highways 101 and 166 on the south east corner at 8:00 a.m. Members are invited to Wes and Jeannie's after the cleanup to view items they purchased in Quartzsite and to perhaps purchase some items as donations to the OMS raffle.

Library: None

Membership: None

Refreshments: Refreshment for the January General Meeting will be "donuts" donated by the club. Margaret has already ordered five dozen.

Scholarship: None

Sunshine: Dyanna's mother is having surgery and she will be staying with her for a week or two and will not be at the general meeting.

Rainbow of Gems Show: None

Old Business: Wes reported that the old check book binder he has been using for a gazillion years has finally kicked the bucket. He ordered a new binder from Rabobank, which he brought to the meeting. To be blunt, it is a piece of junk for which Rabobank charged us \$26.00. Elaine is going to return it to Rabobank for credit and Wes has ordered a very nice zippered binder on line. This binder should last a long time and has places for him to store monies received until he makes a bank deposit. All of that being said, Elaine made a motion that OMS reimburse Wes in the amount of \$45.00 (approximately) which was seconded by Sandy Berthelot. Motion passed.

New Business: It has been decided that our second annual tailgate at the Von Achen's will be held May 17th, 2014. The Von Achen's have lots of rock that belongs to OMS and most members have gone through the rock and picked out what they wanted. John proposed that we sell this left over rock by the bucketful for \$5.00 each with monies going to the club. Elaine has slabs that were given to OMS at the last Rainbow of Gems Show and she proposed that these be sold at the tailgate as well, with monies going to the club. Both proposals were agreed upon by the board.

Margaret Henson said that Donna Lehman has again agreed to help with refreshments this year but that she also needs help lifting the heavy coffee pots. Hey guys, please give Margaret a hand.

Elaine proposed that this year's December luncheon and meeting be held at the Madonna Inn. Sylvia Nasholm gave her a packet with accommodations, prices, etc. Wayne Mills made a motion that we look into the Madonna Inn as a new venue for our luncheon for 2014. Sandy Berthelot seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Wayne has most of the programs booked for 2014, one of which is a program given by Richard Wade. Mr. Wade gave us a program in 2013, on dinosaurs, which was very well received. He comes a long way and has to stay over. His fee will be \$325 and the program will be on Volcanology (the study of volcanos). Wayne made a motion that we pay the fee of \$325 and Elaine seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Wes has the dealer applications for the 2014 Rainbow of Gems show ready and has already received his first reservation. This year's show will be held August 1st, 2nd and 3rd. Wes said he will get with the high school to reserve the date.

The board gave kudos to Wes and Wayne on the new look of the newsletter and that ended our meeting.

The meeting was adjourned by President Elaine Von Achen at 7:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Elaine Von Achen, Secretary, OMS

ORCUTT MINERAL SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING Luis Oasis Senior Center, Orcutt, CA January 14, 2014

President Elaine Von Achen called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Mike Henson gave the invocation.

Mariah Martinez led the flag salute.

Minutes: Elaine Von Achen read the minutes from the January 7, 2014 board meeting. Minutes were approved as read.

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

Correspondence: Elaine reported a couple of newsletters and a letter from Jim Brace-Thompson asking that we note the Ventura Gem and Mineral

Society's annual Gem Show, being held the first weekend in March, in our February newsletter.

Hospitality: There were 32 members and 3 guests in attendance. Guests included: Bruce Nybo, Jeannie Nybo, and Joey Coletti. Guests were introduced and were thanked for attending.

Refreshments: Margaret Henson passed around a sign-up sheet for 2014 refreshments and reported that she had the most sign-ups she has seen since she started chairing the refreshments. She thanked everyone who signed up. Refreshment for January was donuts donated by the club. In February we will have pie donated by Jeannie Lingerfelt, Jan Ferguson, Sandy Berthelot and Elaine Von Achen.

Committee Reports:

Annual December Luncheon Meeting:

Abused Children: Jan Ferguson said she has collected \$44.00 so far this evening.

Breakfast: February's breakfast will be held on the 22nd and will be to the Sunset Grill, 1424 Fairway Drive, Santa Maria at 9:00 a.m.

Bulletin: The bulletin is on the web as well as having been mailed.

CFMS: None

Door Prizes: Mike Schmidt showed Joseph Martinez how he runs the door prize giveaway as Mike has to give the position up. Joseph will be in charge of the door prizes for the next year. There were a lot of slabs, a sphere, a polished geode, a piece of Halite donated by Jeannie Nybo and lots more for January's giveaway. Elaine thanked Mike for all of his hard work in the past and welcomed Joseph. She also thanked the Ferguson's, the Berthelot's, the Lingerfelt's and the Von Achen's for their donations for prizes for the coming year.

Education: None

Gem Show: Wes said he took the application for Lucia Mar School District plus the \$15.00 fee for this year's gem show and left it at the Nipomo High School. He hasn't had time to hear back.

Field Trip: February's field trip is still to be determined but Wayne said it is possible that we will go to Avila Beach, Perfumo Canyon and around that area. Wayne also noted future field trips that have been firmed up and the months they will be held.

Highway Clean-up: January 11th will be the next highway clean-up with members meeting at 8:00 a.m. on the South East corner of Highway 166 at Highway 101. Wayne reminded members that highway clean up is held on the second Saturday of the month of odd numbered months.

Library: None

Membership: Elaine said that dues were due and members can pay her tonight. She noted that a single membership is \$24.00, a couple is \$34.00 and a junior membership is \$5.00.

Junior Members: None

Political Action Committee: None

Property: None

Scholarship: None

Sunshine: Jeannie Lingerfelt said that Dyanna Cridelich was not at the meeting tonight as her mother is having surgery and she has gone to stay with her.

Old Business:

Elaine awarded Sharon Duncan and Mike Schmidt with their pins for being on the board of directors in 2013. They had been unable to attend the December meeting when the pins were awarded.

Elaine passed out sign-up sheets asking members for their suggestions on future programs and field trips.

New Business:

Elaine reported to members that she, John, Wes and Jeannie had gone to the Madonna Inn to view various rooms where we might hold this year's annual December meeting and luncheon. We were shown three different rooms and chose the "Round Room" as being perfect for our needs. We booked the room for the 13th of December, 2014 and will have a sit down dinner. Members will have a choice between a Roast Turkey Breast Dinner, a Roast Sirloin of Beef Dinner or a Vegetarian Dinner. More about this later in the year.

Elaine said that she had an idea that would let members get to know each other better. She thought that if we each shared one thing that most people don't know about us it would be fun and asked everyone to e-mail her with their story. She will compile these stories and they will be printed in the newsletter. She gave an example of something she didn't think anyone knew about her.

Elaine reported that we have a new venue for our board meetings. They will be held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Nipomo Chamber of Commerce meeting room, 239 West Tefft, Nipomo. The room is free to chamber

Ore-Cutts—Bulletin of Orcutt Mineral Society

members and OMS is now a member of the chamber. Membership has multiple benefits, one of them being that we can advertise our show by having handouts in the chamber office.

Elaine also asked members to let her know of any changes in address, telephone number, etc. so we can have the 2014 Redbook as up to date as possible.

Wes noted that the San Luis Obispo High School will be renting our tables on January 30th and 31st. The tables have also been booked for May 17th by the AAU Book Club and for the Memorial Day weekend by the Succulent Society.

Elaine thanked Mike & Margaret Henson and Wayne Mills for their display of agates and also Sandy Berthelot for a couple of spheres she displayed.

January's program is "Sedimentary and Vein Agates" and our display is Agates.

President Elaine Von Achen adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Von Achen, Secretary, OMS

OMS Calendar February 2014

Tuesday, Feb. 4 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting Nipomo Chamber of Commerce meeting room, 239 West Tefft, Nipomo All members are welcome at this business meeting.		
Tuesday , Feb. 11 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.	 OMS General Meeting—Luis Oasis Senior Center. Program- Metal Detecting by Wayne Mills Display- unique metal objects, anything else! Refreshments- Cookies 		
Saturday, Feb. 15 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Field Trip to Joyce and Kincy's Rock Pile— 9845 Santa Clara Rd. Atascadero, CA		
Saturday, Feb. 22 8:15 to 9:15 a.m.	OMS Monthly Breakfast- Sunset Grill in Santa Maria		
March 2014			
Tuesday, Mar. 4 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting, Nipomo Chamber of Commerce		

	welcome at this business meeting.
Saturday 8 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.	Highway Clean-up S.E. corner Rtes. 101/166 East
Tuesday, Mar. 11 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.	 OMS General Meeting—Luis Oasis Senior Center. Program- Oregon Trip by Margaret Henson Display- Thundereggs, geodes, anything else! Refreshments- Cakes
Tuesday, Mar. 22 9:00 a.m.	OMS Monthly Breakfast- Hometown Buffet in Santa Maria

CFMS Calendar

FEBRUARY 2014

February 15 - 24: INDIO, CA

San Gorgonio Mineral & Gem Society, Banning Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival 46350 Arabia Street Hours: 10 - 10 daily Contact: Bert Grisham, (915) 849-1674, (951) 288-9025 cell Email: <u>bert67@verizon.net</u>

February 21 - 23: NEWARK, CA

Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley Newark Pavilion 6430 Thornton Avenue Hours: Fri & Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5 Contact: Cathy Miller Email: <u>info@mgscv.org</u> Website: <u>www.mgscv.org</u>

MARCH 2014

March 1 - 2: ARCADIA, CA

Monrovia Rockhounds Los Angeles Arboretum & Botanic Gardens 301 Baldwin Avenue Hours: 9:00 - 4:30 daily Contact: Jo Anna Ritchey, (626) 359-1624 Email: joannaritchey@gmail.com Website: www.Moroks.com

March 1 - 2: VENTURA, CA

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society

Ore-Cutts-Bulletin of Orcutt Mineral Society

meeting room, All members are

Ventura County Fairgrounds 10 W. Harbor Blvd. Hours: Sat 10 - 5: Sun 10 - 4 Contact: Krishna Juarez. (805) 323-6725 Email: abaris2007@gmail.com Website: www.vgms.org March 8 - 9: SAN MARINO, CA Pasadena Lapidary Society San Marino Masonic Center 3130 Huntington Drive Hours: Sat 10 - 6, Sun 10 - 5 Contact: Marcia Goetz, (626) 260-7239 Email: joenmar1@verizon.net March 8 - 9: SPRECKELS, CA Salinas Valley Rock & Gem Club Spreckels Veterans Hall 5th & Llano Streets Hours: 10 - 5 daily Contact: Karin Salomon, (831) 375-5233 Email: k1.salomon72@yahoo.com Website: www.salinasrockandgem.com March 8 - 9: TURLOCK, CA Mother Lode Mineral Society, Modesto Stanislaus County Fairgrounds 900 North Broadway Hours: 10 - 5 daily Contacts: Bud & Terry McMillin, (209) 524-3494 Email: terry_mcmillin@yahoo.com Website: www.turlockgemshow.com March 15 - 16: LEMOORE, CA Lemoore Gem & Mineral Society Trinity Hall 470 Champion Street Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 4 Contact: Chris Wertenberger (559) 309-3433 Email: georgersilva@sbcglobal.net March 22 - 23: ANGELS CAMP, CA Calaveras Gem & Mineral Society **Calaveras County Fairgrounds** 101 Frogtown Road ours: Sat 10 – 5; Sun 10 – 4 Contact: Robin Williams, (209) 728-8277 Email: amy95247@yahoo.com Website: www.calaverasgemandmineral.org March 22-23: ROSEVILLE, CA **Roseville Rock Rollers** Roseville (Placer County) Fairgrounds 800 All American City Blvd Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4 Contact: Gloria Marie, (916) 216-1114 Email: gloriarosevillerockrollers@gmail.c

Website: <u>www.rockrollers.com</u>

March 29 - 30: TORRANCE, CA

South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society, Torrance Ken Miller Recreation Center 3341 Torrance Blvd (enter on Madrona Ave) Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4 Contact: Craig Polliard & Chris Lemaster, (310) 533-4931 Email: <u>CraigPolliard@yahoo.com</u> Website: www.palosverdes.com/sblap

2014-OMS Officers					
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President-Elect	Dyana Cridelich		(805) 937-4347		
Secretary	Elair	e Von Achen	(805) 929-1488		
Treasurer	Wes Lingerfelt		(805) 929-3788		
Imm. Past	Wayne Mills		(805) 481-3495		
Pres.					
Federation	We	es Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788		
Rep.					
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Sandy Berthel	Sandy Berthelot		(805) 349-3977		
Jan Fergusor	า	(805)	05) 474-9977		
Mike Hensor	า	(805) 934-1308			
Jeannie Lingerfelt		(805) 929-3788			
John Von Ach	en	(805) 929-1488			
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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

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





Ore-Cutts-Bulletin of Orcutt Mineral Society