



**The Pres Box—
February 2020**
Bill Brown, OMS President

Well, We've made it to February (or will real soon. I'm late with this. It seems that the time is just running

away.

Our first meeting of the year covered a lot of ground. Wayne has started the process of getting the school for our show. We have presentations for February through April.

The bylaws specify the order of the meeting (business first and presentation after) but do allow for changing the order on a case by case basis. There was general agreement having the presentation first is a good idea where it is better for the presenter or where it is interesting for younger members that may have issues with meetings that go to 9:00.

The board meeting will be on Tue, Feb 4 from 7 to 9 p.m. If you have a chance, drop by. We usually have a good time and non-board members are welcome.

Our regular meeting will be on Tue, Feb 11. The theme will be Mystery Rocks. Bring in anything that you would like help identifying. The program will be "The Rock Docs". See if you can stump Wes and Wayne with your unusual rock!

Refreshments will be pie, brought to you by Jeanne Lingerfelt and Alexis VanNatta..

Our Monthly Breakfast will be on the 22th (4th

Saturday) at the Country Kitchen in Arroyo Grande (1488 E Grand Ave. near Smart and Final). Breakfasts will follow the order that is shown in the 2019 Red Book (page 11). Please try to join us! "The more the merrier" as the saying goes.

We have a good start on programs for the next year, but if anyone has an interest in a program on anything let Jeanne or I know. We have had great programs in the past, and we would like that to continue. We need your input to keep going with programs that are interesting to the membership.

Be safe,

Bill Brown

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Greetings go out to those folks who are having Birthdays and Anniversaries in **February**

BIRTHDAYS

Marshall Reeves	2/8	☺
Jan Ferguson	2/16	☺
Alexis Van Natta	2/20	☺

ANNIVERSARIES

None?

***Congratulations!** If you don't see your name here when you should, then the information is not in The Red Book. Please write your important dates down and give them to **Wayne** so they will be included in the next edition (April 2020)*

MINERAL OF THE MONTH— RED BERYL

Text by Wayne Mills photo by Chelsea Mills

Since February is hearts and flowers month (Valentine's Day on the 14th, don't forget!), let's pick the color red. Many minerals come in this color, and the mineral **Beryl** (beryllium aluminum silicate) comes in many colors including red. One of the more desirable red Beryls comes from the Wah Wah Mountains in Juab Co., Utah. I just happen to have a specimen of this material, but it is really small (thumbnail size).

The small crystals form in along fractures "topaz rhyolite" in the Thomas Range and Wah Wah Mts. They are considered one of the rarest minerals in the world. See <https://www.gja.edu/gems-gemology/winter-2003-red-beryl-utah-shigley>



LOCAL ROCKS--HALITE PSEUDO-MORPHS

Text by Wayne Mills, Ore-Cutts Editor, Photo by Chelsea Mills

Occurring on the south side of Point Sal in Santa Barbara County, are these amazing pseudomorphs (false forms) of Aragonite (a form of Calcite—Calcium carbonate) that have replaced the original Halite (sodium chloride) crystals. If you have seen the lovely pink halite crystals coming from Searles Dry lake, you can recognize the "Hopper" (indented face) form, but be struck by the size attained by these crystals. Individual crystals of up to 2 inches on a side have been found. However the replacement occurred, it is a serendipitous occurrence because otherwise these amazing crystals would be long gone! The Point Sal deposit was discovered by local rock(hound) legend, Ralph Bishop.



Halite Pseudomorphs from Point Sal with pink salt crystals from Searles Dry Lake near Trona, Inyo Co., CA

BIRTHSTONE(S) FOR FEBRUARY

The modern birthstone for February is **Amethyst**, a purple variety of quartz. The traditional Birthstone of the month is **Bloodstone**, also known as Heliotrope. There are several minerals associated with the Astrological signs for February (Aquarius and Pisces). You can find out more about those at: www.bernardine.com/birthstone/february.

The purple color in Amethyst comes from Iron and aluminum impurities in the silicon and oxygen mixture that makes crystal quartz. Amethyst occurs in many countries around the world, notably Brazil and Canada. Rio Do Sol, Brazil is world-famous for its huge Amethyst geodes, some reaching 6 feet or more in height. Picture from: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EboHYb8UdAQ> Amethyst from Around the World



BITS AND BYTES

Research on the Mermaids in the Zodiac brought me to “Love By Luna”, crystal infused nail polish with microtonized obsidian (designed for Scorpios, but anyone can wear it). There are 3 water signs in the zodiac (Cancer, Scorpio and Pisces (that one makes sense)). More at:

<https://blog.goddessprovisions.com/mermaid-water-signs/>.

All this was inspired by my reading “The Mermaid Tavern”, a poem by John Keats. (Yes, I like the idea of mermaids— I’m a Scorpio!— Ed.)

Mexican Volcano Spews

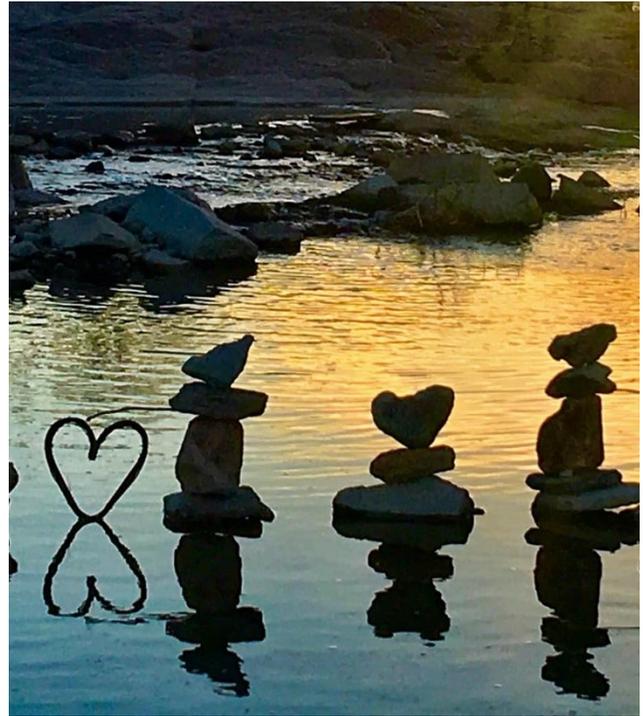
<https://www.npr.org/2020/01/10/795327291/video-mexicos-most-active-volcano-erupts-spews-ash-cloud-nearly-20-000-feet>

HAVE A HEART!

Wayne Mills, OMS

I have a couple of friends from the Santa Lucia Club who collect Heart (shaped) Rocks. My friend Kathy Clarke even tops many of her cairns (rock stacks) with them. It amazes me how she can find heart-shaped rocks —especially larger ones (5 inches or more tall) wherever she does her stacking, and she has stacked rocks from Hawaii to Texas, at least. Kathy and her daughter Kamryn co-published a book of inspiring sayings and photos—many of which feature Kathy’s artful stacks in pristine natural settings. The book is named Whispers of Wonder, and you can get information about acquiring the book through Kathy at: ladykatephotos@sbcglobal.net.

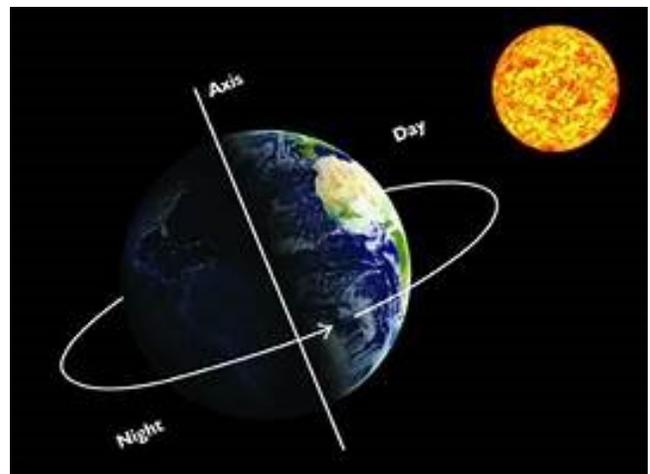
I have been inspired by these heart rock-collecting ladies to collect a few heart rocks of my own, and I was pleasantly surprised to find that I could locate some nice specimens just by looking for that specific shape. (As an aside, among my metal detecting treasures, heart-shaped pendants seem to be the most abundant of any specific shape that I have found.)



I noticed that the emoji for heart is ❤️

Two hearts end to end make a kiss, 💕

And that is love, which makes the world go round. (But physics helps!) (Earth image from stemech431.weebly.com)



HIGHWAY HEROES—A NEW DECADE

Wayne Mills, OMS Adopt-A-Highway Coordinator

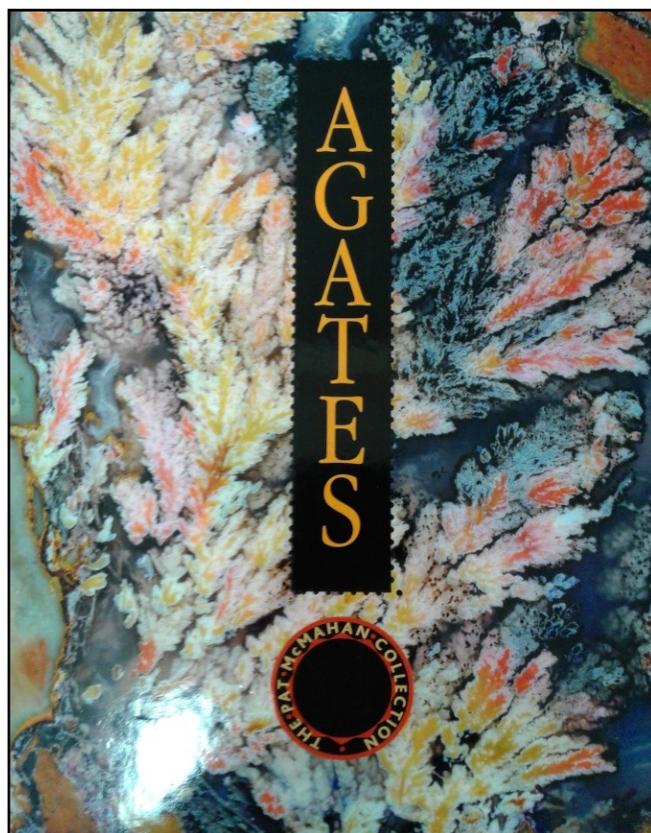
OMS recently received a certificate from Caltrans marking another decade that we have been cleaning our part of Highway 166 East. I note that many of the same folks who showed up Saturday morning (January 11) had been involved in our bi-monthly highway activity for much of that decade. My compliments and

thanks to the crew who braved near freezing temperatures (well 44 degrees F) at 8 a.m. on this particular day. Specifically, Wes and Marty Lingerfelt, Sally Griffith, Geary Sheffer, and Bill Brown. Fortunately, the highway was not too dirty, so we made it to treats at Country Kitchen about 9:45 a.m.

Our waitress, Shelly, drew the winner of the nice Jasper Heart that Wes brought for the prize, and the winner ...again... was Wes! I think that he and Shelly have something going on— that is at least the 3rd time in 7 clean-ups that Wes won his own prize (with Shelly's help...she draws the names from the hat)!!



Betty Campbell —agate tray



*Agate book recommended by Betty Campbell—
The Pat MacMahan Collection*

PICTURES FROM OUR JANUARY MEETING

For our first meeting of the year, we had some very nice displays from Betty Campbell, Mike and Margaret Henson, someone who brought in Agates from Jalama Beach (sorry I didn't get a name— great display!), and yours truly.

Let's keep it up! Bring mystery rocks (or Anything_) in February.



Agates of Jalama Beach



Mike & Margaret Henson



Wayne Mills —Mixed agates

ORCUTT MINERAL SOCIETY
Board Meeting
Nipomo Chamber of Commerce
January 7, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. after some difficulty getting into the building. Members present were: Bill and Jeanne Brown, Wayne Mills, Betty Campbell, Jan Ferguson, Debbie Hood, Sally Griffith and Renea Sutcliffe. Absent was Dick Bazzell.

The minutes of the December Annual Meeting were accepted as printed in the January Ore-Cutts. Betty Campbell and Jeanne Brown gave the **Treasurer's Report**. We were \$1000 in the red for 2019, partly due to unexpected expenses from our show. These expenses will be accounted for in an up-dated budget for 2020.

Correspondence: Received from So. Co. Chamber of Commerce—Thanks for 1 year membership. From Salvation Army—Donate and save on your taxes! Gem Show News about the January 10-19, 2020 Laughlin, Nevada Gem, Mineral, Bead and Jewelry show, and from Ventura Gem and Mineral Show, a plea to announce their March 7-8 show in our bulletin, and they included a form for being an exhibitor in the Ventura Show

The **January bulletin** has been mailed and e-mailed. All articles for the February bulletin should be received by January 20.

CFMS—Renea had no report, except to note the CFMS Show in Lodi on June 23-28, 2020. Wayne Mills added that he had sent the Officer Change form into CFMS. Wayne also submitted entries for the 2019 Bulletin Contest. Wayne also noted that CFMS insurance and dues is due.

Membership is apparently another job of the Secretary. We will try to have staffing at our annual show to hand out club information and membership

applications.

Under Field Trips, Sally Griffith agreed to help coordinate these. She will ask Wes Lingerfelt to lead another trip to Ozena in Lockwood Valley, and the one we had last year was so fun. Wayne mentioned that the September 2015 Ore-Cutts has an article about places on the Central Coast where one can look for interesting rocks. Folks who are willing to lead a field trip, or who have an idea about one, please contact Sally.

Our Next **Highway Clean-up** is Saturday, September 11 at 8:00 am at the SE Corner of Highways 101/166 East. Some of our regulars will be missing, so we hope for some new faces!

The date for our **2020 Annual Meeting** is December 12, 2020. Dyanna Cri9delich is still in charge of this event, and a call after the Board Meeting confirmed that she is waiting for the contract from Madonna Inn.

Our **next Breakfast** is February 25 at the Country Kitchen in Arroyo Grande.

Nothing to report under **Education or Library**.

Under Sunshine, we hear that Stan Ferguson is feeling better, and are sad to report that Sir Paul Howard's wife, Lady Marie passed away in the first week in January, 2020. Margaret Henson has been requested to bring a sympathy card to the meeting for Sir Paul.

Jeanne Brown, our **Scholarship Chair** has made inquiries of local colleges and high schools, trying to find an institution that would be willing to give us a 45 minute talk in exchange for our donation of an earth science-related scholarship. So far, the one respondent (Hancock College) was not available for a talk on our meeting night. Jeanne is still pursuing this issue.

Wayne Mills got the application for use of Nipomo High School **for our Show**. Bill Brown signed the form during our meeting, and Wayne will return the application to the District Office on Wednesday. Our 2020 Show Dates are 8/7-9, 2020. Please put them on your calendars!

Under Old Business, President Brown thanked all members of the 2019 Board and Past President Mills for their hard work in 2019, leading to a successful show and fun year.

Under New Business, President-Elect Jeanne Brown mentioned some ideas for programs. One idea was a night of craft demonstrations, i.e. cabochain making or wire wrapping. Other ideas that were offered were: **Show and Tell**—where people bring in a favorite rock or fossil and talk about what it is, where it is from and why it is special; **Mystery Rocks**—where folks bring in a rock or two to be identified; and **(Three or) Four Folks, Four Field Trips**—where people talk 10-15 minutes each on a favorite field trip (hopefully with specimens and photos).

There was also discussion of how to deal with people who talk during the meeting and program. One idea was a dollar fine for each infraction. President Brown suggested that he would like to try another way (possibly an embarrassing silence"--- "When Mr. _____ is finished talking, we can continue our meeting".) first.

We also discussed reversing the order of the meeting to attract more visitors, and Bill said he would make 3 color copies of the bulletin each meeting to hand-out to our guests.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Wayne Mills, Secretary, OMS

ORCUTT MINERAL SOCIETY

General Meeting
Oasis Sr. Center, Orcutt, CA
January 14, 2019

The meeting was called to order about 7:05 p.m. by President Bill Brown. Mike Henson gave the **invocation**, and Bill led us in the **Flag Salute**. Bill Hood said we had 22 **members** and **one guest** (former member Fred Campbell). Wayne Mills presented the **minutes of the January Board Meeting**, and they were accepted as presented. **Correspondence** was included in the Board Minutes. Betty Campbell gave the **treasurer's report** and mentioned that we had not received our new checks from the bank although the bank said that they were sent.

Under **Annual meeting**, our 2020 date is set for December 12 at Madonna Inn. We have an ongoing deposit for the room with Madonna.

The bulletin is out, and no one had comments or questions on it. Wayne asked for the Prez Box and any articles by the 20th of the month prior to the next (February) meeting. **On CFMS**, Renea mentioned the Earth Science Summer Camps—Zyzzx in April and Camp Paradise in Late August-September. Applications are available on the CFMS Web Site. She also mentioned the CFMS Show in Lodi—June 25—28.

Under **Membership**, it was noted that dues are due. Betty Campbell said that she paid our dues and Insurance to CFMS for 2020. Under **Sunshine** (and rain), we hear that Stan, Brenna and Jan Ferguson are ailing. Bill Hood is on the mend, and we passed a card around for Sir Paul Howard who recently lost his wife Lady Marie. Wayne mentioned that he had tried unsuccessfully to contact Dick Bazzell, but finally got a response via text. Dick is out of the area for the rest of the month.

Six folks showed-up for the January **Highway Clean-up**, and had a pretty easy time of it. Thanks to Wes and Marty Lingerfelt, Sally Griffith, Bill Brown, Geary Sheffer, and Wayne Mills. Wes Lingerfelt won his own prize again! Wayne had no report on **education**, but was asked to make presentations to both the Santa Lucia and San Luis Obispo Clubs later in the year.

Jeanne Watkins mentioned her efforts to find an institution that would accept our **Earth Science scholarship** in exchange for a presentation during the year. Geary Sheffer had no report on **Property**, and Alexis Van Natta mentioned that our **Library list** is now posted on our web site.

Renea mentioned that she had donations from Tara Machin and Wayne Mills for the **Door Prize Activity**.

Our February Breakfast will be on the 22nd at the Country Kitchen in Arroyo Grande.

The application for our show venue (Nipomo High School) has been submitted and is awaiting a certificate of named insured from McDaniels Insurance Co. to be complete. This requires a payment of (about \$450) for an activity with more than 500 people in attendance.

Under **Old Business**, Bill thanked the 2019 Board members (many of whom are also on the current Board) for their hard work in making our show and last year a success.

Under **New Business**, President Brown asked the members for their thoughts on permanently changing the order of business (as we have occasionally done in the past. This could encourage the attendance do younger members and the retention of guests. Parliamentarian Wes Lingerfelt said that a permanent change like that would involve a lengthy process of changing our Bylaws and having them approved by CFMS, but that having a vote to “change the order of business” at each meeting is a “legal”: way to accomplish the same goal. President-Elect Jeanne Brown said that she has a tentative list of programs for the year. She asked Wes Lingerfelt and Wayne Mills to be the “Roc Docs” for the February Program on Mystery Rocks. Members should bring one or two rocks to the meeting to be identified.

Sylvia Nasholm mentioned that clubs have placed show ads (for free) in **Westways Magazine** (with a circulation of 18 million). The notices must be sent to **Westways** 5 months in advance of the event.

Meeting was adjourned about 8:50 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,
Wayne Mills, OMS Secretary

OMS CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 2020

Tuesday, February 4 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting, Nipomo Chamber of Commerce meeting room. All members are welcome at this meeting.
Tuesday, February 11 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm	General Meeting —Luis Oasis Senior Center. Program —TBD Display —TBD Refreshments -Pie—
Saturday, February 15	FT —TBD
Saturday, February 22 8:30 a.m.	OMS Monthly Breakfast— Country Kitchen , Arroyo Grande

MARCH 2020

Tuesday, March 3 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting, Nipomo Chamber of Commerce meeting room. All members are welcome at this meeting.
Tuesday, March 10 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm	General Meeting —Luis Oasis Senior Center. Program —Dara Rosenwasser of D.Lea Design Studio on Electroforming (adding copper) to jewelry Display —Homemade jewelry, Anything Refreshments -Cake—
Saturday, March 14 8:00 am	Highway Clean-up at southeast corner 101/166 East
Saturday, March 28 8:30 a.m.	OMS Monthly Breakfast— Hometown Buffet, Santa Maria

SAVE THE DATE

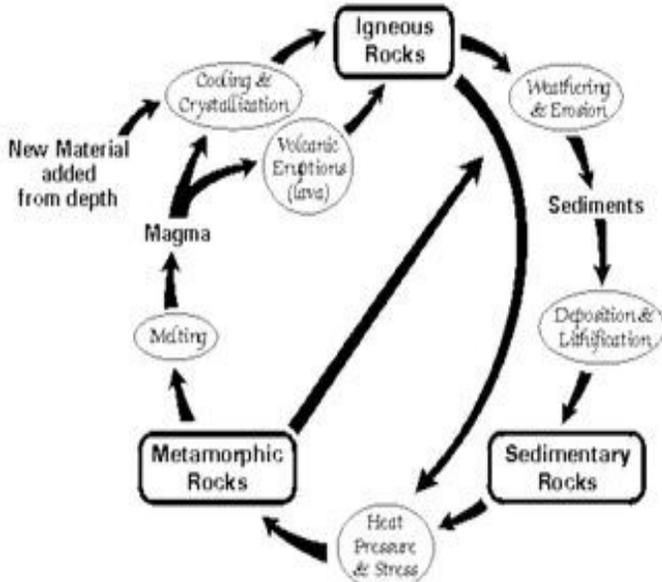
Feb. 4—**Mitchell Park (SLO) Senior Center**—Wayne Mills will do presentation on **Brazil (2009) to SLO Club.**

May 16-- Field Trip to Ozena
Meet at 101/166 East at 8:30 a.m.. Details to follow.

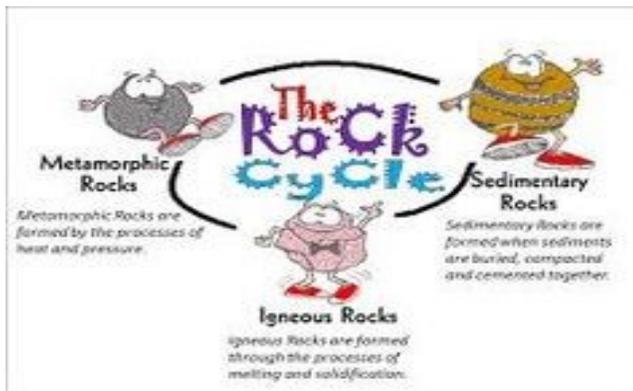
August 7-9— **OMS 53rd Annual Gem Show plan to help set-up August 5-6 and clean-up August 9-10.**

KID'S COLUMN

The Rock Cycle



<https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/600x315/39/7b/68/397b685a873e31368f4200c5ea2aba0d.jpg> (Pinterest.com)



<https://www.pinterest.com/sciencewear/rock-cycle-teaching-strategies/>

Some Igneous Rocks (formed from melted rock) are: Granite (formed inside the Earth from magma), Basalt, Pumice and Rhyolite (formed outside the Earth from lava).

Some Sedimentary Rocks are: Sandstone, Limestone, Siltstone, Shale

Some Metamorphic Rocks (formed by heat and pressure) are: Quartzite (from Sandstone), Marble (from Limestone), Slate (from shale)

2020-OMS OFFICERS		
President	Bill Brown	(805) 481-1811
President-Elect	Jeanne Brown	(805) 481-1811
Secretary	Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495
Treasurer	Betty Campbell	(805) 929-5344
Imm. Past Pres.	Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495
2020-OMS BOARD MEMBERS		
	Dick Bazzell	(805-757-9123
	Jan Ferguson	(805) 474-9977
	Sally Griffith	(805) 928-6848
	Debbie Hood	(805) 481-6860
	Renea Suttcliffe	805) 929-2783
CFMS FEDERATION DIRECTOR		
	Renea Suttcliffe	805) 929-2783
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OMS Membership \$24.00 for Individual, \$34.00 per couple, \$5.00 Each Additional Family Member, \$5 for Juniors under age of 18. One time initiation fee for new members is \$10.00. OMS Membership Chairperson is: ?		
OMS Webmaster –Bill Brown– (805) 481-1811 Check out our OMS web site at: http://www.omsinc.org or send e-mail to: info@omsinc.org .		
Ore-Cutts Editor/Publisher		
Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495	wwmills50@hotmail.com



From Geologist 10/69

CFMS SHOWS

FEBRUARY (2020)

February 14 – 23: INDIO, CA

San Geronio Mineral & Gem Society
Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival
82-503 Highway 111
Hours: 10 – 10 daily
Contact: Bert Grisham, (951) 849-1674
Email: bert67@verizon.net

February 15 – 17: ANTIOCH, CA

Antioch Lapidary Club
Contra Costa County Fairgrounds
1201 West 10th Street
Hours: 10 – 5 daily
Contact: Brenda Miguel
Email: brenda.miguel@yahoo.com
Website: antiochlapidaryclub.com

February 22 – 23: VALLEJO, CA

Vallejo Gem & Mineral Society
McCormack Hall, Solano County Fairgrounds
900 Fairgrounds Drive
Hours: 10 – 5 daily
Contact: Debra Duhon, (415) 254-1506
Email: dduhonvgms@gmail.com
Website: vjgems.org

MARCH (2020)

March 6, 7 & 8: NEWARK, CA

Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley
Newark Pavilion
6430 Thornton Avenue
Hours: Fri 10 – 4, Sat 10 – 6; Sun 10 – 5
Contact: Cathy, (510) 305-4196
Email: cdmiller59@gmail.com
Website: www.mgscv.org [Show Page](#)

March 7 – 8: VENTURA, CA

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society
Ventura County Fairgrounds
10 West Harbor Blvd.
Hours: Sat 10 – 5; Sun 10 – 4
Contact: Richard Slyker, (805) 312-8467
Email: info@vgms.org
Website: vgms.org

March 13, 14 & 15: VICTORVILLE, CA

Victorville Valley Gem & Mineral Club
44th Annual Rockhound Tailgate

Stoddard Wells Road/Dale Evans Pkwy
Hours: 9 – 5 daily
Contact: Ruben Martinez, (760) 429-8263
Email: rmstonewalk54@gmail.com
Website: vvgmc.org [Show Page](#)

March 14 – 15: 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: bud.mcmillin.B7YJ@statefarm.com
Website: motherlodemineralsociety.com

March 21 – 22: SAN JOSE, CA

Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Santa Clara County Fairgrounds
344 Tully Road
Hours: 10 – 5 daily
Contact: (408) 265-1422
Email: info@scvgms.org
Website: www.scvgms.org

March 29 – 29: ANGELS CAMP, CA

Calaveras Gem & Mineral Society
Calaveras County Fairgrounds
101 Frogtown Road
Hours: Sat 10 – 5; Sun 10 – 4
Contact: Robin Williams, (209)-728-8277
Email: robinski@yahoo.com
Website: www.calaverasgemandmineral.org

March 28- 29: ROSEVILLE, CA

Roseville Rock Rollers Gem & Mineral Society
@the Grounds
800 All American City Blvd
Hours: Sat 10 – 5; Sun 10 – 4
Contact: James Hutchings, (916) 995-7380
Email: jhutchings22@hotmail.com
Website: www.rockrollers.com

**Orcutt Mineral Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 106
Santa Maria, CA 93456-0106**

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



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

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