



Ore-Cutts

Volume XLV Number 1

January 2009

Come join us on January 13, 2009 at 7:00 P.m. at the Mussell Senior Center, 510 E Park, Santa Maria, for a **program** by *Sharon Duncan* called “*All Wired UP*,” in which she will show us how she does Wire-wrap. It should be a good one!

The **Display** theme will be *anything Wirewrapped* by you or anyone else.

Desert will donuts provided by the club.

OMS Annual Meeting December 6, 2008 Presidential Wrap up for 2008

By Wayne Mills

Wow, what a year! From a rocky start, things continually improved, and we finished strong, with a great show, honors for the club, enthusiastic new members, appreciation from our community, and (our economy aside), a promise of a new year full of opportunities to grow in our hobby. For me personally, it has been an exciting year, with the CFMS show in Ventura in March; my trip to see the Terra Cotta Warriors at the Bowers Museum in June; our wonderful show in August; my first date with a lovely lady who has considerably brightened my life in September; the Jade Festival and gold panning in October; my retirement meeting with PERS, my 63rd birthday and a great trip to San Diego in November, and this, our annual meeting in December. In four months, I get to see what retirement is all about, and will embark on new adventures in that realm. It has mostly been a pleasure serving as your president this year, largely due to a capable and energetic board, and the abilities and willingness to help, of you, the OMS members we serve. I hope that you continue, and perhaps even expand, your participation in our activities in the year ahead, including displaying at our meetings and at our show next August, and even perhaps at the California Federation Show in San Jose in April. (Yes, we know the way to San Jose.) Believe me, it a rewarding activity, especially when you hear positive feedback from your peers.

So, what have we accomplished this year? We have cleaned up our stretch of Route 166-6 times, we donated about \$1500 in scholarships to our two local Junior Colleges, we donated about \$500 to Santa Barbara Social Services for abused and underprivileged children, we collected canned food to feed the local homeless, we collected Campbell's Soup labels to help Sun Valley Indian School in Arizona buy busses for its students, we collected Box Tops for Education to support our local schools, we (Wes) has given several talks at local elementary schools nurturing our youth in their appreciation for the earth sciences, we have enjoyed several field trips under the leadership of Bob Bullock, we have enjoyed some great presentations on a variety of earth-science related topics from Dee Dee Magri, Ralph Bishop, Richard Lewis, Steve Riegel (twice!), and others—all arranged by our Vice President/Program Chairperson Deborah Hood, we had one of our best shows ever, thanks to the efforts of most of our members. And finally, I hope we can all say we have grown in our knowledge of and appreciation for the Earth Sciences, one of the main goals of our society.

Awards: I have to thank the many of you who have made notable contributions to our society this year. My apologies if I forget anyone, but I have to try.

I hope that all members will join me in thanking all of the board members who have given their time to make our club run as well as it does, and to be one of the more respected mineral societies in California. These folks give extra hours every month to attend the Board meetings (both spellings of that are often appropriate), and they give extra effort at our show. This year's Board consisted of Mike Henson, Dee Dee Magri and her mid-year replacement Gloria Dana, Sandy Berthelot, Sylvia Nasholm, and Sharon Duncan. Your officers worked even harder. Wes Lingerfelt is both Federation Director and Treasurer, so he gets to attend four more meetings each year than the rest of us. Deborah Hood as President Elect was also program chairperson, and she arranged for some great programs. Elaine Von Achen our Secretary kept the minutes for all our meetings, and managed the

correspondence of the society. Please give these folks your personal thanks, and join me in expressing our thanks for their sacrifices on behalf of OMS this year.

My individual thanks go to **Geary Sheffer** who hauls nearly our entire library to each meeting, **Gloria Dana** who has done a wonderful and enthusiastic job of organizing our monthly breakfasts, **Dee Dee Magri** and **Sylvia Nasholm** who managed the Refreshments, and **Sharon Duncan** who was our gracious hospitality chair this year, **Jan Ferguson** who took over the Abused Children's Fund Activities, and **Deborah Hood** who has done a great job editing our newsletter this year, garnering a 2nd place in small bulletins from CFMS, and an honorable mention from the AFMS for her efforts. Both **Bill** and **Deborah Hood** are to be heartily thanked for organizing this annual meeting, as they have for the past several years, and **Bill** for continuing to be our club photographer.

As I have said before, our true member of the year is Wes Lingerfelt who is probably does more than anyone else on behalf of our club. He attends the Federation meetings for us, keeps our books straight, lays down the law when he thinks appropriate, keeps our dealers straight as Dealer Chair, prints up our tickets and handbills and "pdf's" the bulletin, brings the materials for our highway cleanups, maintains our website, helps neophytes with rock projects, makes several talks to local schools every year, organizes the publicity for our annual show, and performs numerous other club-related activities. To compare anyone else to Wes is unfair, because he has been doing these activities for a long time, he is good at them, and I think he enjoys the work.

Since Wes is aware of his value to our club, and has stated that he does not need the recognition, I am awarding the "member of the year award" that I am instituting this year to another rock hound who has been a great help to me and to our club this year. Last December, I said that our biggest challenge would be in the kitchen at our annual show, and this lady stepped forward to take charge of this activity. With Sylvia and Don's capable help, **Elaine Von Achen** did a masterful job of organizing two dinners and three days of foods and snacks for hundreds of participants. That alone is remarkable, but she has also kept the minutes of both our board and general meetings (24 per year), taken care of all our correspondence, participated in displaying at our show and at our meetings, and offered me sage advice during the year. For that, she is the first recipient of the **OMS Member of the Year Award**. With the award, comes possession of this box of Australian Agates polished by our own Sir Paul Howard for the coming year. Like the presidential agate displays that I will regretfully give-up tonight, this box is intended to be a revolving trophy that is given to a deserving member

selected by the president each year. Please give Elaine a warm hand.

This is my swansong as president of OMS. Thank you for your support of and participation in our activities this year. May we look forward to a great opportunity to grow in our hobby in the coming year.

The Pres Box

By **Debbie Hood**, OMS President

As incoming President, I thank Wayne for his leadership in 2008. The presidency is a 3-year commitment, and Wayne is on the downhill slope portion now as Immediate Past President, filling out the Board and backing me up. Our society has challenges ahead, predominately to find ways to make this year's show successful despite the sagging economy. We will need to advertise more aggressively and creatively, as well as economizing where we can.

I also called for everybody to be thinking about how we can get back into a shop where members can learn lapidary skills. Most successful Societies have some sort of facility where members can go to take classes, use equipment that they don't have, keep their library and generally have a place to hang out and visit. Already we have gotten a suggestion. Kathy Collison mentioned that the back area of her business in Los Alamos might be available. It is a generous offer and we will seriously consider it, but I fear it may be too far out for most folks to travel. But this is the kind of thinking we need to be doing.

Please be planning on participating in the monthly displays, sign up to bring refreshments, and help with our highway clean-ups, as well as attending the breakfasts, and field trips. These are all ways we develop camaraderie within the club, get to know each other better, and make new friends and memories.

I also ask members to give your support to their board members and officers for their efforts to make OMS an interesting and entertaining group to belong to. Members can share their ideas for further improving the society either by talking to a board member, an officer, or presenting it at our monthly or Board meeting. My e-mail address and phone number is in the Redbook and I am always interested in whatever your concerns or ideas may be. Thank you for your enthusiastic participation in OMS activities, because *That's* what makes our mineral society fun to belong to.

A GEM OF A SHOW

By **Wes Lingerfelt**

I was invited to attend the annual gem and mineral show of the Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society in Barstow, CA by none other than Mr. Bill Depue, the president of Diamond Pacific Corp. Bill, and Jeannie (the

Ore-Cutts

better half of our 50-year plus marriage) and I have been friends for many years. That includes some rather entertaining field trips together but that's another story. The weather looked good enough to make the 250-mile trip to Barstow so on the 7th of December 2008 (Pearl Harbor Day) we set off early in the morning before sunrise from Nipomo, CA. We arrived at 10:30 AM at the show on Barstow Road. The 4-hour trip over was uneventful except for some heavy rain from the Tehachapi Mountains and across the desert at Mojave, CA. We entered the Community Center and noticed right away that most of the people and dealers milling around were well-known friends and acquaintances. I saw Bill sitting at his normal place at gem shows demonstrating one of his small polisher machines. I walked up to his table and immediately notice a very big smile and a glow in his eyes that told me he was really glad to see me. We shook hands for a minute and then he saw Jeannie. His glow seemed to double. That's nice I thought to myself. I say down at his table and said, "Bill, I have an early Christmas present for you." Reaching into my pocket I pulled out a fist sized piece of polished Sagenite from Nipomo. When Bill saw that his glow tripled and the smile grew larger. I said, "This is from the Dana Ranch in Nipomo and was collected on our last field trip there."

Bill's Sagenite gift



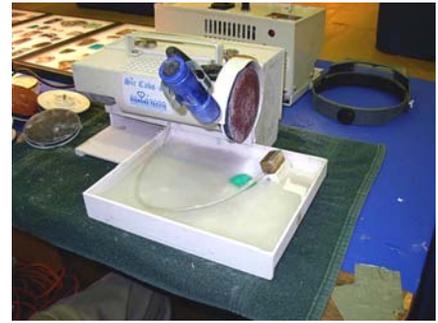
I noticed Bill was demonstrating a machine not yet available from Diamond Pacific. "Yes, this is something I'm field-testing before production", he said. I looked it over and

noticed it was labeled "The Cab-a-Lot". I also noticed the array of gem trays loaded with stones he had made with the new machine. "That's very interesting", I said. Bill described his plans and ideas with me and said he hoped to have the machine on the market sometime next year. I was glad to see that Diamond Pacific is trying to provide quality machines at a cost affordable by the average Rockhound. Bill said the new machine would sell for less than the current "Big Foot" machine Diamond Pacific sells.

We visited the dealer booths for a while and visited with old friends (not age but rather long term) and that was a great thing! I told Bill I wanted a large piece of Silver Lace Onyx to make a sphere around 8 or 10 inches in size. He said there might be one over at the Diamond Pacific plant or if not we would go out to the ranch and check there. So we three packed into the SUV and traveled to the plant.

Orecutts- Newsletter of the Orcutt Mineral Society

We looked through about two-dozen *The Cab-a-Lot machine* barrels but didn't find anything of



size. Then we traveled west to the large storage area Bill has on the family ranch. The barrels looked more promising here. The big problem was we had to unload each barrel because the bigger blocks of rock were on the bottom. Bill and I worked for hours going through each barrel while Jeannie sat in the car and read her book. After about 2 and ½ hours Bill says, "Why don't you take 8 small pieces and glue them together?" I said, "It looks like that may be the only way I'll get a large ball out of this stuff". We did find a couple of larger pieces but they were of doubtful quality with mostly mud in the middle. It began to rain and if we continued we would be seriously soaked. So I threw the few pieces we had thrown out on the ground into the back of the car and off we went to the show again. We still had some shopping to do.

The show had about 17 dealers and a lot of high quality displays put up by the club members and guest exhibitors. There was even a three-piece band playing old-time country music.



John & Helen Dahnke's Booth

Once we were back inside out of the rain it was hard to shop due to all the "long term" friends wanting to chat with us. It is so nice to be greeted with smiles and neighborly chat but time was growing short and we had a 4-hour drive home. Jeannie found some Bruneau Jasper cabs just the right size for wire wrapping. We had a BBQ sandwich at the snack bar and visited more while we ingested our late lunch. I looked at the clock and advised Jeannie it was time to roll. The trip home was also uneventful (We didn't see a single CHP going or coming) over the long miles home. We both agreed that the show was worth attending and made a good one day trip. Perhaps next year we might even request a selling space there.

Sunshine

Betty Reyburn will be having a second surgery for breast cancer in January, Lee asks for your prayers for her recovery.



Tourmaline!!

By Wayne Mills

My birthday this year happened to fall on the weekend that Betty had a conference in San Diego, so we figured out a neat detour that would take us past 2 tourmaline mines—the Stewart in Pala, and the tailings of the Himalaya Mine at Lake Henshaw Resort near Mesa Grande, San Diego County.

After a long night at the Marriot in Monrovia, my hometown—listening to traffic on the highway (something I do for a living), we headed out on the morning of my birthday for Pala. Betty's good humor, as well as a tasty breakfast at Burger King kept me from getting too grumpy, and good music revived my spirits as we finally arrived at Gems of Pala just past the Casino on Route 76. There we met Betty's friend, Angelina, and we proceeded to try to get the bag of primo pocket material that the Stewart mine had advertised on their website, and that I had reserved over the internet. Only—they had no \$50 bags. For \$20 each, they had a pile of rocks from somewhere in some mine, and a 2.5-gallon bucket that you had to fill in 2 minutes or less. You could only use the shovel (no hands), and you had to use the small, 1 x 2 foot screens that the mine provided. The material was scooped from the bucket with a soup can, and washed with water from a #10 can that you could only fill three times. Too many rules.

Wayne and Angelina at the Stewart (photo by Betty Kern)



On the plus side, we all found some pink tourmaline. On the minus side, it was all small! We found a selection of some of the materials that occur at the mine, (lepidolite, pegmatite, and graphic granite), but from what I saw on the other folk's tables, nobody got anything special. My best find was a ½ inch piece of bright pink crystal with two faces. Betty's best was a ¾ x ½ inch piece of aquamarine that she found in the driveway! Bottom line, it was only \$20 for the small bucket, and possibly we had that much entertainment, but I wouldn't pay \$20 for the rocks we found. Maybe for the aquamarine after it is polished. I did get to meet Blue Sheppard, the owner of the Stewart Mine, and showed him a tourmaline crystal I was given in 1959 or so (the big one shown below). Blue said it probably came from the Stewart or from a Brazilian mine. I'm thinking it was the Stewart.

Betty's and Wayne's best crystals from the Stewart (photo by Wayne Mills)



I will also add that the Stewart had a nice gift shop with minerals and rock specimens from various locations, including some nice tourmies from Brazil, and from the Himalaya Mine.

About 12:45 PM, we parted-company with Angelina, and headed for the Himalaya diggings. They are located near Lake Henshaw, about 25 miles south of Pala on Route 76. The drive took longer than anticipated and by the time we found the resort, got directions to the Himalaya dig and I filled my first bucket it was about 1:30 PM. Because we arrived after 1:00 PM, the cost of digging was only \$50 per person. The 4 other guys there had been digging since 10 AM *Wayne digging at the*



Himalaya dig (Photo by Betty Kern--)



when the dig opened. They had each found a nice pile of pink and green crystals already. So I started filling the bucket from the 6 yards of material that had been hauled from the mine for the days dig.

(The five of us hadn't made much of a dent in the pile by the time the 3:00 PM arrived). As I started digging, I asked Betty to get my ½ inch and 1/8-inch screens from the car. That system worked well. Fill the bucket, pour half the (3 gallon?) bucket on the screens, shake them, dip the ½ inch screen in the plastic basins and check the big rocks, (we found a couple of keepers this way, including my prize smoky), then shake the sand out of the 1/8 inch and dip it. We got a small bag of crystals this way, but 3:00 PM came way too soon, and the young man (from near Herkimer New York) gave us a bonus 15 minutes because we were having so much fun!

Finally we packed up and headed south on 76, then turned onto Route 78 for Santa Ysabel where we filled up on \$2.08 per gallon gas, the best price I have seen in 2

years! Then we drove slowly through the quaint town of Julian and turned onto Route 79 that took us through the surreal landscape of western Anzo-Borrego National Monument. Trees burnt in the terrible fires of a couple of years ago are starting to grow back from the trunks amid their charred branches.

Wayne's best crystals from the Himalaya (Photo by Wayne Mills)



The landscape is similar to that of the Pala area, huge granitic boulders that have been jointed and weathered into huge marble-shaped rocks. We made it onto Route 8 about 5:15 PM as the sunset lit the sky with a fiery orange glow, mocking the fires that had scorched the area to the north in the recent past. We were tired and relieved when we pulled into the Seven Seas Motel in San Diego, ready to continue our San Diego Adventure after a good dinner and a better night's rest.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Very happy returns of the day go out to Dee Dee Magri, Paul Berthelot, Pat Nuernberg, Dave Sumpter, Linda Kolasinski, Charlie Azevedo, Elaine Von Achen, Daniel Limon, Jean McIlvanie, & Virginia Rogers who all celebrate January birthdays!



Anniversary congratulations are in order to Linda Kolasinski and her husband, & to Don and Sylvia Nasholm
May you all have many more!

The Geologist's Bucket List

From <http://geology.about.com/b/2008/12/19/the-geologists-top-100-list.htm?nl=1>

A bucket list is a list of things one wants to do before they kick the bucket. For geologists the top 100 things might be:

- __1. See an erupting volcano.
- __2. See a glacier.
- __3. See an active geyser.
- __4. Visit the Cretaceous/Tertiary (KT) Boundary.
- __5. Observe a river whose discharge is above bankful stage.
- __6. Explore a limestone cave.
- __7. Tour an open pit mine.
- __8. Explore a subsurface mine.
- __9. See an ophiolite, such as the ophiolite complex in Oman or the Troodos complex on the Island Cyprus (Coast Ranges of California).
- __10. An anorthosite complex, such as those in Labrador, the Adirondacks, and Niger (there's some anorthosite in southern California too.)

- __11. A slot canyon.
- __12. Varves.
- __13. An exfoliation dome.
- __14. A layered igneous intrusion, such as the Stillwater complex in Montana or the Skaergaard Complex in Eastern Greenland.
- __15. Coastlines along the leading and trailing edge of a tectonic plate (That's easy, just visit the east and west coasts of the USA.)
- __16. A ginkgo tree, lone survivor of an ancient group of softwoods that covered much of the Northern Hemisphere in the Mesozoic.
- __17. Stromatolites.
- __18. A field of glacial erratics.
- __19. A caldera.
- __20. A sand dune more than 200 feet high.
- __21. A fjord.
- __22. A recently formed fault scarp.
- __23. A megabreccia.
- __24. An actively accreting river delta.
- __25. A natural bridge.
- __26. A large sinkhole.
- __27. A glacial outwash plain.
- __28. A sea stack (better, an ancient stack.)
- __29. A house-sized glacial erratic.
- __30. An underground lake or river.
- __31. The continental divide.
- __32. Fluorescent and phosphorescent minerals.
- __33. Petrified trees.
- __34. Lava tubes.
- __35. The Grand Canyon.
- __36. A Meteor Crater.
- __37. The Great Barrier Reef.
- __38. The Bay of Fundy, to see the highest tides in the world (up to 16 m.)
- __39. The Waterpocket Fold, Utah, to see well exposed folds on a massive scale.
- __40. Banded Iron Formation, in Michigan, to better appreciate the air you breathe.
- __41. The snows of Kilimanjaro, Tanzania.
- __42. Lake Baikal, Siberia, deepest lake in the world (1,620 m) with 20 percent of the Earth's fresh water.
- __43. Ayers Rock (Uluru), Australia, the classic inselberg.
- __44. Devil's Tower*, northeastern Wyoming, a classic example of columnar jointing.
- __45. The Alps.
- __46. Telescope Peak, in Death Valley National Park, from whose summit you can look down onto the floor of Death Valley 11,330 feet below.
- __47. The Li River, China, to see the fantastic tower karst that appears in much Chinese art.
- __48. The Dalmatian Coast of Croatia, to see the original karst.

Ore-Cutts

- __49. The Gorge of Bhagirathi, one of the sacred headwaters of the Ganges, in the Indian Himalayas, where the river flows from an ice tunnel beneath the Gangatori Glacier into a deep gorge.
- __50. The Goosenecks of the San Juan River, Utah, an impressive series of entrenched meanders.
- __51. Shiprock, New Mexico, a large volcanic neck.
- __52. Land's End, Cornwall, Great Britain, with fractured granites that have feldspar crystals bigger than your fist.
- __53. Tierra del Fuego, to see the Straits of Magellan and the southernmost tip of South America.
- __54. Mount St. Helens.
- __55. The Giant's Causeway and the Antrim Plateau, Northern Ireland, to see polygonally fractured basaltic flows.
- __56. The Great Rift Valley in Africa.
- __57. The Matterhorn, along the Swiss/Italian border, to see the classic "horn."
- __58. The Carolina Bays, along the Carolinian and Georgian coastal plain.
- __59. The Mima Mounds near Olympia, Washington.
- __60. Siccar Point, Berwickshire, Scotland, where James Hutton (the "father" of modern geology) observed the classic unconformity.
- __61. The moving rocks of Racetrack Playa in Death Valley.
- __62. Yosemite Valley.
- __63. Landscape Arch (or Delicate Arch) in Utah.
- __64. The Burgess Shale in British Columbia.
- __65. The Channeled Scablands of central Washington.
- __66. Bryce Canyon.
- __67. Grand Prismatic Spring at Yellowstone.
- __68. Monument Valley.
- __69. The San Andreas fault.
- __70. The dinosaur footprints in La Rioja, Spain.
- __71. The volcanic landscapes of the Canary Islands.
- __72. The Pyrenees Mountains.
- __73. The Lime Caves at Karamea on the West Coast of New Zealand.
- __74. Denali (an orogeny in progress.)
- __75. A catastrophic mass wasting event.
- __76. The giant crossbeds visible at Zion National Park.
- __77. The black sand beaches in Hawaii (or the green sand-olivine beaches.)
- __78. Barton Springs in Texas.
- __79. Hells Canyon in Idaho.
- __80. The Black Canyon of the Gunnison in Colorado.
- __81. The Tunguska impact site in Siberia.
- __82. Feel an earthquake with a magnitude greater than 5.0.
- __83. See dinosaur footprints in situ.
- __84. Find a trilobite (or a dinosaur bone or any other fossil.)
- __85. Find gold, however small the flake.

- __86. Find a meteorite fragment.
- __87. Experience a volcanic ashfall.
- __88. Experience a sandstorm.
- __89. See a tsunami.
- __90. Witness a total solar eclipse.
- __91. Witness a tornado firsthand.
- __92. Witness a meteor storm, a particularly intense (1000+ per minute) meteor shower.
- __93. View Saturn and its moons through a respectable telescope.
- __94. See the aurora borealis, otherwise known as the northern lights.
- __95. View a great naked-eye comet.
- __96. See a lunar eclipse.
- __97. View a distant galaxy through a large telescope.
- __98. Experience a hurricane.
- __99. See noctilucent clouds.
- __100. See the green flash.

Ed.'s note: Okay; now we know what we need to plan fieldtrips around. Tunguska, anyone?

Orcutt Mineral Society Board Meeting Elwin Mussell Sr. Center, Santa Maria, Ca. December 2, 2008

The Meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by President, Wayne Mills.

Board members present were Elaine Von Achen, Debbie Hood, Wayne Mills, Wes Lingerfelt, Sylvia Nasholm, Sandy Berthelot, Mike Henson, Sharon Duncan and Gloria Dana. Guests included Bill Hood, Bob Bullock and Paul Berthelot.

Minutes from the November 9, 2008 general meeting were approved as printed in the November, 2008 newsletter.

Correspondence: None

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

Committee Reports:

Abused Children: Debbie Hood said that Jan Ferguson had purchased \$500.00 worth of \$5.00 gift cards and has delivered them to the Department of Social Services for children in need.

Adopt-a-Highway: Wayne Mills reported that the January, 2009 clean-up will be probably have to be cancelled as the new vests, required by Cal Trans, are not yet available.

Annual Christmas Luncheon and Meeting: Bill Hood reported that 49 people are signed up to attend the luncheon. Members were again reminded to bring canned food for the Salvation Army and donations for the abused children's fund. Also, they were reminded not to forget their gift for the gift exchange.

Monthly Breakfast: Gloria Dana said that the January breakfast will be held at an as yet undecided location. It will be in Orcutt and she is currently working on it.

Refreshments: We are in need of a refreshment committee chairman to replace the vacancy left by Dee Dee Magri. If anyone has any interest in this committee we could use the help.

Membership: Elaine Von Achen read an application for membership from Joe Martines. Debbie Hood made a motion that we accept Joe for membership. Sandy Berthelot seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Sunshine: Debbie Hood said that Bill had not been feeling well but other than that she had nothing to report.

Scholarship: Wayne Mills and Betty Kern, representing OMS, attended a reception for scholarship donors at Alan Hancock College.

Bulletin: Debbie Hood has the December newsletter out on the web and is preparing to mail them tomorrow.

Old Business:

Wes Lingerfelt said we have quite a bit of business to get through at the luncheon meeting and may have to do it in two parts, having a break for the singers in between.

Debbie Hood said that she will have the bulletin articles for this year's CFMS competition submitted by the deadline of December 10.

There was much discussion regarding raising the dues this coming year. Wes checked with some of the other clubs and said that OMS currently has the lowest dues of those he checked with. We will pay \$8.00 to AFMS in dues for each person this year. The breakdown is \$6.00 for insurance and \$2.00 for dues. The newsletter and the postage add quite a bit to member costs. Debbie Hood made a motion that we raise the dues to \$24.00 for adults and \$10.00 for junior members 17 and younger. Sandy Berthelot seconded the motion. Motion carried. This motion will be brought before the general membership to be voted on at the December meeting and luncheon.

New Business:

Wes Lingerfelt read the proposed budget for 2009. He went line by line and there were three items that the board thought should be raised. It was suggested that we budget \$850 versus \$650.00 for the monthly bulletin, as we would like to buy a large supply of anytime stamps. In addition it was suggested that we budget \$75.00 rather than \$50.00 for the refreshment committee and \$150.00 rather than \$100.00 for the monthly breakfast. The proposed budget will be brought before the members at the December meeting and luncheon.

Wes Lingerfelt had e-mailed board members with an Internet Acceptable Posting Policy for officers and members. He requested that board members acquaint themselves with the policy so that we could vote to adopt this proposal. After some discussion Debbie Hood made a motion to adopt the Internet Acceptable Posting Policy.

Sandy Berthelot seconded the motion. Motion carried. As not all board members had had the opportunity to read the policy before the board meeting he asked that anyone having any objections to please get with him before December 15.

Wayne Mills noted that the CFMS annual show will be held April 17 to 19, 2009 in San Jose. The AFMS annual show will be held August 9 to 10, 2009 in Riverside, Calif.

Wes Lingerfelt noted that the "Oklahoma Rocks" DVD he donated to the OMS library has been written up in this months Rock and Gem.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 p.m. by president, Wayne Mills.

Respectfully submitted:

Elaine Von Achen, Secretary, OMS

**Orcutt Mineral Society General Meeting
Santa Maria Terrace, Santa Maria, Ca.
December 6, 2008**

President Wayne Mills called the meeting to order at 12:20 p.m.

Mike Henson gave the invocation.

Shelly Dana led the flag salute.

Wayne asked all guests to stand and introduce themselves. Guests were welcomed.

Members and guests shared a very nice luncheon buffet consisting of both ham and turkey and dressing with all the trimmings.

Wayne Mills gave the presidents annual report. He gave an overview of the accomplishments OMS has attained for the past year. He thanked board members and chairpersons for all of their work and he thanked members for the privilege of being our president in 2008.

Treasurer's report:

Wes Lingerfelt gave the treasurer's report. It was accepted as given. Wes read the proposed budget for 2009. Bob Bullock made a motion to adopt the proposed budget. The motion was seconded by Mike Henson. Motion passed.

Wes also told members about a "Web Masters Contest" sponsored by AFMS. He would like to enter the contest and let the members know about a proposal for an Internet Acceptable Posting Policy that the board had adopted at the December board meeting. He asked each member to send him an e-mail telling what benefits that person feels they have derived from being a member.

Committee Reports:

Adopt-a-Highway: Wayne noted that Cal Trans is requiring workers to have new vests after the 24th of November. They are currently on order and should be here before the next scheduled clean up.

Membership: Elaine Von Achen welcomed Joe Martines as a new member.

Ore-Cutts

Refreshments: Sylvia Nasholm announced that new member, Paulette Miereles, has agreed to chair the refreshment committee for the coming year. Thank you, Paulette.

Old Business:

The San Luis Obispo Gem & Mineral Society has a new web site. Members were encouraged to check it out.

Wes Lingerfelt announced a proposed dues increase for 2009. He explained why we need to increase the dues and that the proposal would be \$24.00 per year for adults and \$10.00 for children 17 and under. He asked for a show of hands and the proposal was passed.

Wes asked any member who planned on going to Quartzsite this year, and who would like to buy items for the monthly drawing, to please get with him at the end of the meeting.

Minutes: Elaine Von Achen read the minutes from the December 2 board meeting.

The meeting was put on temporary hold so we could enjoy the afternoon's entertainment. The "Sweet Adelines" serenaded us with many old Christmas favorites as well as a few new songs.

Wayne instituted a "member of the year award" this year. The 1st recipient of this award was Elaine Von Achen. With this award comes the possession of a box of Australian Agates polished by our own Sir Paul Howard for the coming year.

Installation of Officers: Wayne Mills called his past board of officers to the stage and presented each with a bottle of wine in appreciation for their efforts in helping make his year as president go smoothly. Wes Lingerfelt presented each of last year's elected officers with a pin. Elected Officers for the coming year were called to the stage and Wes Lingerfelt installed each officer. Officers included Debbie Hood as President, Sylvia Nasholm as President Elect and Elaine Von Achen as Secretary. Debbie Hood, in turn, installed Wes Lingerfelt as Treasurer for 2009. Board members were asked to the stage and were installed for 2009. Board members include Gloria Dana, Sharon Duncan, Sandy Berthelot, Mike Henson and Jan Ferguson.

Debbie Hood, our new president, thanked Wayne for a job well done. She outlined her goals for the upcoming year touching on our community services, field trips and programs. She talked about the annual show as well as our award-winning newsletter. And last, but not least, she talked about a goal she's had for a number of years now; to have a lapidary shop.

We had beautiful poinsettias for table decorations and these were raffled off to some very lucky members.

Following the poinsettia raffle we had our first (annual?) gift exchange. After much merriment and stealing of gifts the afternoon came to a close.

The meeting was adjourned by President, Deborah Hood.

Respectfully submitted:

Elaine Von Achen, Secretary, OMS

January 2009 Calendar	
Tuesday January 12, 2009 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting- Moved to second Tuesday due to lack of a Quorum.
Tuesday January 12, 2009 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.	OMS General Meeting- Elwin Mussell Senior Center. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Sharon Duncan "All Wired up" • - Display-Wirewrap • Refreshments-Do-Nuts
Saturday January 17, 2009 8:00 am to 5:00 pm	Field Trip To Be Announced
Saturday January 24, 2009 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.	OMS Monthly Breakfast- site to be announced
Saturday January 31, 2009 8:00 to 10:00 a.m.	Roadside Clean up After the cleanup, coffee and pastry at "Francisco's Country Kitchen" in Santa Maria.

February 2009 Calendar	
Tuesday February 3, 2009 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting Mussell Senior Center. All members are welcome at this business meeting.
Tuesday February 10, 2009 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.	OMS General Meeting Elwin Mussell Senior Center. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program- Ralph Bishop on <i>Collecting on the Central Coast</i> • Display- Central Coast Rocks • Refreshments Pie
Saturday, Feb 21, 2009	Field Trip To Be Announced
Saturday, Feb 28, 2009 9 to 10 a.m.	OMS Monthly Breakfast-site to be announced

CFMS Show Schedule 2009

January 17-18 2009, Exeter, CA

Tule Gem & Mineral Society

Exeter Memorial Bldg.

420 N Kaweah, Exeter

Hours: Sat. 10 - 5, Sun. 10-4

Margaret Buchmann (599) 739-0401

Email: mab@mindinfo.com

Web page: tulegem.org

February 13-22, 2009, Indio, CA

San Gorgonio Mineral & Gem Society
Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival
Gem amp; & Mineral Building Bldg #1
46-350 Arabia Street
Hours: 10 am - 10 pm
Bert Grisham: (915) 849-1674
Email: bert67@verizon.net

February 27 - March 8 2009, Imperial, CA

Imperial Valley Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.
Gem and Mineral Building on Fairgrounds
Hours: Fro., Sat. & Sun. Noon - 10
Mon. thru Thur. 4pm - 10pm
Jim Strain (760) 356-2361

March 6, 7 & 8 2009, Hayward, CA

Mineral and Gem Society of Castro Valley
Centennial Hall
22292 Foothill Blvd.
Hours: Fri. & Sat. 10 - 6, Sun. 10-5
Larry Ham (510) 887-9007
E-mail: showchair@mgscev.org
Website: <http://www.mgscev.org>

March 7 - 8 2009, Ventura, CA

Ventura Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.
47th Annual Gem, Mineral, Lapidary & Fossil Show
Seaside Park
Ventura County Fairgrounds
Hours: Sat. 10 - 5, Sun. 10-4
Website: <http://www.vgms.org>

March 13, 14, 15 2009, Stoddard Wells, CA

Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club
33rd Annual Tailgate
Held off Stoddard Wells Road in Apple Valley
Hours: 10-5 Daily
Tailgate Map (Google): N34.670650 W117.108983
(760) 243-2330
Website: www.vvgms.org

March 14-15 2009, Turlock, CA

Mother Lode Mineral Society
Stanislaus County Fairgrounds
900 N. Broadway, Turlock
Hours: Sat. 10 -6, Sun 10-5
Bud & Terry McMillin (209) 524-3494
Email: terry.mcmillin@yahoo.com
Website: www.motherlodemineralsociety.com

March 14-15 2008, Spreckels, CA

Salinas Valley Rock & Gem Club
Veteran's Memorial Hall
5th & Liano Streets
Hours: 10-5 daily
Teri Beck (831) 679-2896
Email: taitani@cencentric.net
Website: salinasrockandgem.com

The OMS wishes to thank Mr. Chuck Hammond of Santa Ynez for his donation of two boxes of slabs for the Pebble Pups in the group! They are appreciated.

Shop Helps

Hi members of OMS. As many of you may know, I like to cook and bake. I am just as happy curling up with a cookbook, reading recipes, as with a novel. In months where we could use an extra column in the newsletter I thought I would share a recipe that might lend itself to the season.

As January can be cold and rainy in these parts my mind went to comfort food and what could be better than good old "Rock Hound Macaroni & Cheese" after a day of rock hunting in the rain? The following recipe is from a "Good Housekeeping Recipe Book" given to me for a wedding gift by my mother in 1963. The few teaspoons of minced onion add a little extra touch.

"Rock Hound Macaroni & Cheese

2 Cups macaroni
4 Tsp. minced onion
2 Tbsp. butter
1 Tbsp. flour
add dash of pepper
2 Cups milk
2 cups grated cheddar cheese

Pre-heat the oven to 375 degrees. Cook macaroni as package directs; drain. In a saucepan combine onion, butter, flour, salt and pepper. Over low heat melt butter until flour and butter make a smooth paste. Stir in milk; cook, stirring often, until smooth. Add cheese; stir until melted. Add cooked macaroni. Pour into 1 1/2 quart casserole. Grate some cheese over the top. Bake 30 minutes.

Bon Appetite! Elaine Von Achen

*There was a young lady from A.G.
Who managed her membership badly,
She didn't pay her dues,
Now she's singing the blues,
Because she missed her Ore-Cutts sadly!*

It's time to pay your dues! They are \$24.00/adults -\$10.00/youths 17 years and under.

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.

OMS Membership (dues) is \$24 per year. Junior memberships (under 18) are \$10 per year. Membership dues are due January 1, and are prorated for new members for each month thereafter. Membership Chairperson is Elaine Von Achen (805) 929-1488

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

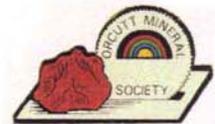
2009 OMS Officers

President	Debbie Hood	(805) 481-6860
Pres. Elect	Sylvia Nasholm	(805) 481-0923
Secretary	Elaine Von Achen	(805) 929-1488
Treasurer	Wes Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788
Immed. Past Pres.	Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495
Federation. Rep.	Wes Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788

ORE-CUTTS (named after William Orcutt) was published in 1966.

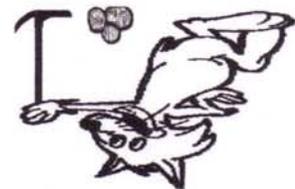
Member Helen Azevedo was the first

editor. Orcutt Mineral Society was founded in 1958 and was named after William Orcutt, a geologist and civil engineer who worked in the Santa Maria Valley as a District manager for Union Oil Company in 1888. In 1889 William Orcutt discovered the mineral and fossil wealth of the La Brea Tar Pits on the property of Captain Alan Hancock. The La Brea Tar Pits are one of the most significant fossil finds in paleontological history. The OMS is a non-profit club dedicated to stimulating an interest in the earth sciences. The club offers educational programs, field trips, scholarships and other opportunities for families and individuals to pursue an interest in the collecting and treatment of lapidary materials, fossils, gems, minerals, and other facets of the Earth Sciences. In addition, another goal of this Society is to promote good fellowship and proper ethics in the 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. Affiliates of the OMS include the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies



OMS Editor

Debbie Hood 805-481-6860 debilhood1@sbcglobal.net



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Orcutt Mineral Society, Inc.
PO Box 106
Santa Maria, CA. 93456-0106

