



# Ore-Cutts

Volume XLVII Number 1

January 2011

Please join us on January 11, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the **Luis Oasis Senior Center 420 Soares Ave. in OLD ORCUTT.** The program will be a CFMS program on "**Mineral Fakes, Frauds, and Fantasies.**" A display that may coordinate with that could be "Pseudomorphs, look-a-likes, and fakes." As always you are welcome to share anything "rocky" that you would like. The Desert this month will be donuts provided by the club.



relaxed and thought of how my friends made me feel like family, it was great!

So on to the New Year some of it will be just like the last, but I have ideas running through my head that will make you say hhhhhhhhhmmmmmmmmmm. I also have more questions to ask too, so maybe I'll ask some at the next board Meeting. I'm eager, I'm curious, I'm ambitious, but mostly let's go to our meetings and learn and have fun!

Your Prez

**Gloria**

## THE PREZ BOX

By Gloria Dana

2010 was a wonderful year. And now it's 2011 and I'll be OJT for a while till I get the hang of this. I'll be working with Wes, Sylvia, Debbie, and most importantly Elaine. At the last board meeting in 2010, I found myself stuck on the idea of having a silent auction. We've had wonderful success with the one at the annual barbeque each year. I think we could do something really swell at our general meetings once in a while just for fun? *What do You think?* For all you some bodies going to Quartzsite, well, all I can say is 'think of *Me* working while you're driving down that loooong stretch of hwy crossing the desert.' And wave to the saguaro for me, I sure do miss that place, but I'll bet there's gonna be some Great deals for merchandise!

I liked the Christmas dinner, the food was good and we wound up having a lot of Fun! In the beginning all I could think of was how nervous I was. I guess it's because my Family couldn't join us, but later I

*There once was a rock club, the OMS,  
Whose members were really the best!  
They paid their dues early,  
Made address changes timely,  
So Wes got the Redbook out fast!*

Dues are due in January. Dues are \$24.00 for Individual, \$34.00 Per Couple, \$5.00 Each Additional Family Member, \$5.00 Juniors under age of 18. Please give your money to Elaine Von Achen. Remember dues *must* be paid by March for you to be included in the Redbook!



**Sunshine** The Lingerfelt's are back in their house and trying to get everything sorted out.

Elaine Von Achen and Donna Freeman are better after both had pneumonia. Stan Ferguson also had pneumonia requiring several days in the hospital but is better and has been cleared to go to Quartzite.

And for anyone else who is under the weather, we wish you well!

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

Celebrating birthdays in January are Paul Berthelot, Tom Chrones, Linda Kolasinski, Daniel L.,



DeeDee Magri, Joe Martines, Pat Nuereberg, Elaine Van Achen and a very *Happy Birthday!* to you all.

Celebrating an Anniversary for January is Don & Sylvia Nasholm -*May you enjoy many more!*



## **Proposed Changes To Orcutt Mineral Society, Inc. Standing Rules And Operating Regulations December 2010**

### 8.0 Committees

#### 8.1.15 Door Prize Committee

Purpose: The Door Prize Committee is established to enhance member attendance and shall not be a fund raising activity of the Society or any of it's functions.

- a. A Door Prize Committee is established to provide an outlet for lapidary and related materials to members and visitors. No Revenues from the sale of tickets is allowed (California Penal Code 320.5) The Committee shall provide for 10 but no more than 20 prizes per meeting that are lapidary in nature. Donations shall be placed and spread across containers for the 10 months for which meetings are held.
- b. The committee shall consist of at least three society members, one of whom will be the chairman. Their duties will be to set up a method of distribution of three (3) free tickets to all attendees, members or guests, and the actual running of the ticket picking and distribution of prizes. The Committee will be in charge of obtaining lapidary materials for prizes by encouraging donations, silent auction sales or other events as approved by the Board of Directors. All donations will be accepted and the chairman WILL write a notice to be published in the newsletter acknowledging ALL donations.

## **A Journey to Quartzsite**

By Wes Lingerfelt

Every year I hear questions about Quartzsite and when is the best time to go. The answer lies in why you want to go. If you are a dealer there is an optimum time however, if you just want to go to socialize and meet up with your many rockhound friends (Snowbirds) from across the country then

there is also an optimum time to visit Quartzsite such as during the QIA Pow-Wow.

Quartzsite lies in the Arizona desert about 20 miles east of Blythe, CA. on Interstate 10. During the summer when temperatures easily reach 120 degrees, there aren't very many people to be found in the area. During early winter when the snow starts to fall across the northern stretches of the country, the population of Quartzsite grows to well over a million like-minded people eager to dig for rocks and minerals and engage in the trade with others. From the early days of such gatherings sprang an industry of Gem and Mineral shows including Tyson Wells Gemorama, Desert Gardens, the Quartzsite Improvement Association (QIA) Pow-Wow and a host of other Rock and Mineral shows spread out over the desert. These "Snowbirds" begin arriving in Quartzsite in December and intend to stay until the snow melts in their home territory. Many of them pull up stakes and head for Tucson, AZ. in early February for the gigantic international shows there (but that's another story).

So when should you go to Quartzsite? Since I am a show dealer, I want to attend when the big importer warehouses first open so I can stock up on the latest and greatest rock related goodies being brought into the country. For this year the Tyson Wells show, where these importers are located, opens on the 7<sup>th</sup> of January 2011. That means every rock and gem dealer will be waiting at the door to shop and purchase the goods they need for the coming year of the show circuit. If you wait to shop these importers later in the month you will only find the scraps and leftovers. The QIA Pow-Wow is very similar to a Swap Meet of rock and mineral dealers covering about 20 acres. It usually is scheduled during the third week of January. By this time you will find what was once being sold in the importer warehouses is now being sold in the booths of the vendors at the QIA Pow-Wow. The one difference of the QIA is that many dealers have rocks they personally dug and are offering them for sale or trade. This is also true for the Desert Gardens show that is famous for new rock discoveries being for sale, especially among those vendors from Mexico. Desert Gardens opens in early January and normally runs for 2 months.

One final note to be aware of is that the weather in the desert can change drastically and rapidly from being sunny and warm to very windy and cold. You should monitor the weather closely and try to avoid

being out in the desert during any approaching storms. If you see a black cloud in the distance be aware that water can come crashing down a wash or canyon in the blink of an eye by way of a flash flood. You don't want to be walking or digging there when that happens.

### *Quartzsite Shows 2011*

**January 01 - February 28, 2011** Desert Gardens -  
*Gem & Mineral*

**January 07 - January 16, 2011** Tyson Wells Rock  
& Gem Show

**January 08 - January 23, 2011** Main Event

**January 21 - January 30, 2011** Tyson Wells Sell-A-  
Rama

**January 22 - January 30, 2011** Sports, Vacation &  
RV Show

**Quartzsite Qia Gem Show & Pow-Wow**

**January 19<sup>th</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup>**

**February 2 -February 6, 2011** Hobby Craft & Gem  
Show

**February 4 - February 13, 2011** Tyson Wells Arts  
& Craft Fair

**February 5 - February 6, 2011** Rock & Roll Car  
Show

**February TBA 2011** Blue Grass Festival at Tyson  
Wells

**February 26, 2011** Chili Cook-Off & State Salsa  
Championship

[www.tysonwells.com/rockshow.html](http://www.tysonwells.com/rockshow.html)

**January 15 & 16 — LAUGHLIN, NV. - Cloud's  
Jamboree Rock, Gem, Arts-Crafts & Mineral  
Show at the Avi Resort & Casino, Laughlin,  
Nevada.** Outdoor show January 1-31 9am to dusk at  
Avi Resort RV Park. Indoor show January 7-16  
10am - 6pm at Avi Convention Center. The Mt. San  
Antonio College Jewelry and Lapidary class will host  
an overnight bus trip to Clouds Jamboree. Leaving from  
the San Dimas area early Saturday, the 15<sup>th</sup>, and  
returning Sunday evening the 16<sup>th</sup> before the MLK  
Monday Holiday. Fare, including room is \$99 per  
person (double occupancy in 2 queen bed room) and  
\$129 (single room). Seats are limited. Contact Mark  
Nelson to reserve a spot. Email: mnelsonair@aol.com  
or Phone: (909) 592-1322.

## **Field Trip Schedule 2011**

Feb -Willow Creek- Meet at Mussell Senior Center  
Parking Lot. Observational trip to a classic location.  
Bring a Lunch and water. Some hiking required.

March- Field Trip to Carrizo Springs- Meet at  
Mussell Senior Center Parking Lot. Trace the San  
Andreas Fault from Highway 166 north through the  
Carrizo Plains to Soda Lake. If we are lucky, we'll  
hit the highlights of wildflower bloom. Bring lunch  
and water. Short hikes possible.

April - Coleson Canyon, off of Tepesquet Rd.  
Down into the camping area, good vehicles and  
USFS day pass required. Bring food water, bedding,  
survival gear, etc. Round up at The VA parking lot a  
Suey and East Main St. SM. All vehicles must be up  
to snuff that go and this isn't for the weak of heart  
either. Folks should bring several days worth of food  
just in case.

May - Avila Beach - Meet at Mussell Senior Center  
parking lot. Enjoy a warm spring day on the beach  
collecting DeeDeeite. Bring lunch, water and a good  
eye for the local odd stuff. Easy access to an  
excellent collecting area.

June - Field Trip to Jalama Beach: Meet at Mussell  
Senior Center parking lot. Spend a summer day at the  
beach collecting agate, travertine and fossils. Bring a  
lunch and water, or enjoy a Jalama Burger, Can be  
very windy, rattle snakes have been collected and  
photographed.

July - Field Trip to Santa Barbara Natural History  
Museum- Meet up At Mussell Center. Bring your  
lunch and cameras.

Aug - Our Field trip will be the show...

Sept - If you have a suggestion/request for this  
month, please contact Bob Bullock at 928-6372 to  
discuss it with him.

Oct - Field Trip to Clear Creek or what we can  
drum up- If the CCMA is open, meet at Mussell  
Senior Center parking lot. A long day to hunt in a  
prized California gem collecting area. We can find  
botryoidal jade, orbicular pieces of jasper, chatoyant  
material, serpentine, cinnabar and turtle jade. Bring  
lunch and water, sturdy shoes for short hikes. We'll  
eat dinner at a restaurant on the way home. If Clear  
Creek remains closed Bob Bullock will entertain  
suggestions for an alternate.

Nov - Field Trip to Avila, Cayucos, and Morro  
Bay- Meet at Mussell Senior Center parking lot.  
Observational trip to classic locations. Bring a lunch

and water. Some hiking required

Dec - Field Trip to Refugio and Gaviota: Meet at Mussell Senior Center parking lot. Entrance fee required for an all-day pass covering both parks. Bring a lunch and water.

Contact Bob Bullock at 928-6372 for details

What to take on a field trip: a collecting bucket and wrapping materials for delicate specimens at that site, rock hammer and any other tools needed at the site like pry bars or gads, map of the area, food, water, cell phone, sunscreen, hat, first aid kit, snake bite kit, pocket knife and your *common sense*. It is best to wear layers of clothing that can be added and removed to suit the temperature, and heavy shoes or boots to protect your feet from injury. Bring anything you personally may need such as medicines due while on the trip, or a cane if you need one, a book to read, whatever you might need. Don't forget your sense of adventure, good nature, good manners, respect for the law, cooperation, good sense and sense of humor. Have fun and HAPPY HUNTING!

### The Stanislaus Law Suit

**What:** Filing for Defendant-Intervenor status to defend the rights of motorized recreation enthusiasts, against the suit filed against the Stanislaus National Forest, by the Wilderness Society, PEER and the Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center.

**When:** This is happening now!

**Who:** The California Association of 4 Wheel Drive Clubs (CA4WDC) is taking the lead on this filing, *to defend the rights of motorized recreation enthusiasts throughout the state*. We are forming a strong coalition of motorized recreation enthusiasts of all kinds - hunters, fishermen, campers, and all types of off-highway vehicles to stop this lawsuit from taking away our right to enjoy our National Forests.

**What can you do:** We need your support and your donations.....to protect your access!

All donations will go into a dedicated fund that will go for the costs of just this lawsuit, just for the Stanislaus. Donations can be sent to CA4WDC, please write Stanislaus Legal Fund in the subject line

of your check;

CA4WDC, 8120 36th Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95824

Questions? Call Amy Granat , 916-710-1950 or email [amy@cal4wheel.com](mailto:amy@cal4wheel.com)

This is the info and now I feel this needs a clear, concise plan. What do you plan to do? What is your conceptual outcome? How much money will it take? How can people help? Where does the \$ go to?

I know you are really wound up over this but now is the time to get a plan together and sell it to the public.

I wanted everyone in the group to read it and understand the Stanislaus lawsuit. I need help in taking this to the masses, getting the right defendant-interveners, and funding our fight. I really see this as a fight for our access lives, there's no other way to look at it - by now, we should have learned our lesson about what happens when we aren't front and center in forest decisions.

So, use or improve on these words, pass them on.

*I have personally taken my stand on being intimidated by enviro groups who are well funded, sometimes by taxpayers, and foundations from Washington D.C. who are rolling in dough. I am off the fence, I'm not going to stand by this time and let someone else do the heavy lifting. I should have gotten involved back in 1970s when Sierra Club made plans for our Southern California Desert; I blame myself for not getting active then. (Source Unknown)*

If you think this is only about 4-wheelers, think again. This means everyone, bikers, campers, hunters, ranchers, and rockhounds, all of us. If you know an organization within California, like the Cattlemen's Assn, or you are a member of NRA, etc, please contact them for help. We desperately need to stand together.

*(Source Unknown)*

*I have sent a personal check to the fund below for \$200. I hope you will think about this and help. Shirley Leeson*

*This was a call from the leadership of the California Federation to get involved in all the closures taking*

*place in the Western United States. I agree that it only takes a very small percentage of the people using the desert to get the access closed for the rest of us. I simply don't understand why they have to close everything out there because of bad actions by a very small group. Most 4-wheelers and Rockhounds are responsible people and I believe they should find a better way to police and control those that do the damage. It's supposed to be public land for the benefit of the public but here lately it seems the land is being used only for the benefit of the government. We will soon find that the government is the only ones allowed on public land. It seems very unfair and especially so for the handicapped among us.*  
 Wes Lingerfelt

*This is a tough one. I understand how you feel. I personally feel the actions of the irresponsible 4x4 offroaders who HAVE done environmental damage have spoiled it for the rest of us who respect nature and don't act like a bunch of yahoos trampling everything and littering and also threatening gentler folk who just want some peace and quiet and enjoy the beauty.*  
 Leah Gundy



**Orcutt Mineral Society Board Meeting Stan & Jan Ferguson Home, Arroyo Grande, Ca. December 7, 2010.**

President Sylvia Nasholm called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m.

Members present were Wes Lingerfelt, Debbie Hood, Gloria Dana, Don Dana, Sylvia Nasholm, Elaine Von Achen, Sandy Berthelot, Jan Ferguson and Sharon Duncan. Guests included Bill Hood, Jeannie Lingerfelt, and Paul Berthelot.

**Minutes:** Minutes of the November general meeting were approved as printed.

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

**Correspondence:** Elaine Von Achen reported a request for food items from the Salvation Army.

**Committee Reports:**

**Abused Children:** Jan Ferguson will pick up the \$5.00 Wal-Mart gift cards this Thursday.

**Annual Gem Show:** None.

**Breakfast:** There will be no breakfast in December.

**Bulletin:** The Bulletin has gone out and is on line as well.

**CFMS:** Wes Lingerfelt reported that he had talked with Mike Kokinos (CFMS Tax Advisor) regarding our door prize/raffles. OMS has been holding the monthly door prize outside the state guidelines. In order to comply with the law, we have to apply for a permit for each raffle held. There is a \$20.00 fee to apply for the permit. After the raffle, an accounting has to be submitted to the state. You are only allowed, by the state, to use 10% of the funds collected to purchase new items for the next raffle. After much discussion, the board decided that it would not be cost effective to continue the activity as we have been doing. However, as it is the goal of OMS to give members the chance to attain lapidary materials it was decided that we would still have a door prize. We will have between 10 - 20, items per month, which have been donated. Each person attending the meeting will receive three tickets as they sign in, and everyone will have an equal chance at the prizes and no money will be exchanged.

Debbie Hood made a motion to that effect that was seconded by Jan Ferguson. Motion passed.

**Education:** Moksha Badarayan gave a talk on "Dinosaur Bones" to kids at the Boys and Girls Club of Lompoc. Quoted directly from a passage in their December newsletter "The Boys and Girls Club of Lompoc had a very special treat when volunteer Moksha Badarayan brought her amazing collection of bones and fossils to share. Children were lined up outside the computer lab to get a peek at the artifacts. A simple one-hour visit brought a unique experience for a lot of children - the opportunity to touch a real dinosaur bone! "Thanks to Ms. Moksha, several boys and girls have found a new passion for discovery."

**Field Trip:** The December field trip will be held on the 18<sup>th</sup> and will be to Refugio and Gaviota. Members will meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Elwin Mussell Senior Center.

**Highway Clean-up:** The next clean-up will be held in January. Members will meet at Highway 101 and 166 on the South East corner at 8:00 a.m.

**Library:** None.

**Membership:** None.

**Refreshments:** Our General Meeting for December will be a luncheon.

**Scholarship:** None.

**Sunshine:** None.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** Wes Lingerfelt went over the proposed budget for the next year line item by line item. Sylvia Nasholm asked that we increase the amount budgeted for Gem Show & Festival by \$500.00 to allow for extra advertising in the north county next year.

Debbie Hood made a motion that the \$1,735.77 currently in the “Monthly Door Prize” be re-named and called “Building Fund.” The motion was seconded by Jan Ferguson. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned by President, Sylvia Nasholm at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Elaine Von Achen, Secretary, OMS.

### **Orcutt Mineral Society General Meeting Santa Maria Terrace, Santa Maria, Calif. December 11, 2010**

President Sylvia Nasholm called the meeting to order at 12:23 p.m.

Mike Henson gave the invocation.

**Introduction of guests:** The following guests were introduced: Renea Sutcliffe, VelvaDeen Elder, Todd Mills, Betty Reyburn, Cornelia Robinson, Lisa Guerrero Donald Parker and the Pete Dettelis Family. Sylvia welcomed the guests and thanked them for coming.

**President’s Annual Report:** Sylvia Nasholm gave a report hitting on the highlights of the past year. She also thanked her fellow officers and board for all their hard work during the year.

**Minutes:** Elaine Von Achen read the minutes of the December 7<sup>th</sup> board meeting. Minutes were approved as read.

**Treasurer’s report:** Wes Lingerfelt gave the treasurer’s report. It was accepted as given. He noted that each table had copies of the proposed budget for 2011 and asked members to read along as he went over the proposal. Roger Lehman made a motion that we accept the proposed budget for 2011 as given. Lee Reyburn seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Correspondence:** None.

**Old Business:** Sylvia gave an overview of what had been discussed at the board meeting regarding raffles vs. door prizes. It was decided by the board that we could no longer hold the door prize activity as we had been doing, but would give each person who attended the general meeting three tickets for a drawing of

donated items. Everyone will have an equal chance at the prizes and no money will be exchanged. She asked that a motion be made to that affect to change the Rules and Regulations. Sally Griffith made the motion. Lucky Virgin seconded it. Motion passed.

**New Business:** None.

**Awards and Recognition:** President Nasholm asked Margaret and Mike Henson to the stage where she presented them with the *President’s Award* for outstanding service over the past year. They received a plaque with their names and date engraved and a small box of Australian agates that were donated to the club by Sir Paul Howard. They will keep the plaque and agates for one year until a new recipient is named.

**Installation of Officers:** Wes Lingerfelt gave the oath of office to the following elected officers and board:

President: Gloria Dana

Secretary: Elaine Von Achen

Treasurer: Wes Lingerfelt

Board Members: Mike Henson, Debbie Hood, Jeannie Lingerfelt, Sylvia Nasholm and Jan Ferguson.

Don Dana, President Elect, and Sandy Berthelot, Board Member, will be sworn in at a later date, as they were unable to attend.

**New President** Gloria Dana thanked everyone for electing her as our new president and said she plans on having a good year with help from the members.

**Gift Exchange:** Sylvia Nasholm hosted the gift exchange and everyone had a lot of fun checking out what might be available to “steal” **OR** the excitement of the unknown.

Wes Lingerfelt awarded the poinsettias having members participate in a “Guess What Number I’m Thinking Of” game.

Thanks to Bill Hood for taking pictures of the event.

The meeting was adjourned by President Gloria Dana at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Elaine Von Achen, Secretary, OMS

**Rockhounding is MORE than a hobby; it’s a  
PASSION!**

## Bench Tips

By Brad Smith

JUMP RINGS-It's better to use a round jump ring on the end of a chain instead of an oval one. Oval rings will wear faster because of tension on the chain concentrates wear on the smaller ends of the jump ring. Wear is distributed evenly on a round jump ring because it can rotate through the last link of the chain and the clasp. This gives the ring a longer useful life.

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ORGANIZING SMALL PARTS - With all the little components we use for our projects, it makes sense to have a good way to keep them organized and preventing them from getting lost. A great small container to use is available in numbers and for free at your local drugstore. Ask at the photo processing area for some of the 35mm plastic film cans. They have a tight fitting lid and are great for carrying beads, findings, jump rings and silver scraps.

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Most jewelers treat motorized equipment with caution. We've all heard stories about work pieces coming loose in the drill press or about getting long hair or clothing caught in the polishing machine. It stands to reason that a machine with a motor of half a horsepower or so is going to win out over its operator. We all know that, and I'm not going to harp on it. That's not the point of this story.

The point here concerns cautions about the smaller powered machines we often use, the ones with little 3-inch diameter motors. For instance, these small motors are used in flexshafts and micro buffers. They're so small that many of us forget caution when using them. I'm guilty of it myself sometimes, and believe me it can get you in trouble.

One friend had a polishing bur bend in the handpiece and then whack the thumb that was holding the work piece so badly that it seemed the bone might be broken. The swelling was substantial, and it took several weeks to regain normal use. A small underpowered motor? I don't think so.

Another friend was using one of the small buffing machines, the kind you can stop when you apply too much pressure to the wheel. Not to worry about such an underpowered beast you say. Wrong, it literally jumped up and bit the hand that feeds it!

Buffer was set on a low table to do a quick polish, so was not mounted or clamped. A buff was installed on the right spindle, no buff on the left. Friend was wearing a tight-fitting, long-sleeved sweater. While

buffing on the right wheel, the left tapered spindle caught a thread on the friend's left sleeve and started grabbing more and more threads and sleeve. Rather than pulling the arm into the machine, the light buffer quickly lifted off the table and started climbing up the underside of the friend's arm. There was no way to get a hand of the on/off switch because the unit was spinning wildly and battering my friend like a club wielded by a mad man. Only when my friend could grab the gyrating power cord and yank it from the wall did the mayhem stop.

So in this New Year, please think safety. Don't take even those little motors for granted!

More BenchTips by Brad Smith are at

[groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/)

or [facebook.com/BenchTips](http://facebook.com/BenchTips)

## Strange Mineral Tales

*Via Diablo Diggins April 2005*

A long time ago, if you wanted a candle, you went to a beekeeper. His wax and your wick made a candle. In modern times, candles are mass-produced from paraffin, which is a commercially refined product of petroleum. What is not widely known is that wax can also be mined!

There are very few places where wax has been mined on a commercial basis, because of the quantities available. A location in Austria was the only place where wax was being mined in the last century, until a discovery was made at Soldier Summit, Utah.

The wax is related to petroleum and is called ozokerite. It is apparently a high-quality form of natural paraffin, developed from the residue of crude oil percolating through fissures in rocks. Compared to beeswax and man-made paraffin, its melting point is much greater (between 155 and 190 degrees). Ozokerite was sometimes found in large veins that were almost 100% pure. The majority, however, is found in a brecciated form, bound up with sandstone and shale. Once mined, it must be crushed, then dumped into tanks of boiling water, where the wax is skimmed and pureed into molds

The "wax belt" of ozokerite covers an area of about 12 miles in Utah. Large tailing piles from the mining operation of the American Ozokerite Co. are strewn alongside U.S. 50 near Soldier Summit.

## THE CALIFORNIA POPPY – AN INDICATOR OF COPPER

By Edgar B. Heylum, PhD. & Richard Pearl

Plants have been used by prospectors searching for minerals since the Middle Ages. Some plants favor soil that contain or have an abundance of a particular element. Many prospectors use the desert trumpet as a gold indicator even though it has not been proven to be a true gold indicator. Plants of the mustard family excel in absorbing uranium and may be of use to the geobotanical prospector who is searching for uranium minerals.

The California poppy is a known indicator of copper as it requires copper to exist. Some copper compounds are soluble in water and can be carried for miles by groundwater, so the presence of poppies does not necessarily indicate that there are copper minerals in the immediate area. Roadside occurrences of poppies should be ignored because of the roadside drainage and the presence of various contaminants from passing cars and trucks.

The presence of poppies in the open desert is much more meaningful. Near the San Manuel Mine, north of Tucson, poppies grow in profusion on the ground known to be mineralized ground. On non-mineralized ground, the poppies terminate abruptly, and the fault line can be traced by means of the poppies. Often, dumps at copper mines are completely covered by poppies. Since gold, silver and other metals are frequently associated with copper, the presence of the California poppy can be a clue to the possible presence of valuable metal deposits. For the Rockhound, many of the primary and secondary copper minerals are of interest: including chalcopyrite, turquoise, malachite and many more.

Source: *California Mining Journal*, date unknown, via *Strata Gem*, 8/97, via *The Rollin' Rock*, 10/02 via *Fire and Ice*, 04/03

### January 2011 Calendar

Tuesday January 4, 2010 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting- All members are welcome at this business meeting. This meeting will be held at the Rabobank Bank at 615 West Tefft Street, Nipomo.
Saturday January 8, 2011 8:00 to 9:30 a.m.	Road Side Clean Up-meet at the junction of Highway 101 and Highway 166.
Tuesday January 11, 2011 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.	OMS General Meeting- This meeting will be held at <b>Luis Oasis Senior Center 420 Soares Ave. in OLD ORCUTT</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program – a CFMS Program</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Display- pseudomorph look-a-likes and fakes.</li> <li>• Refreshments-Do-Nuts</li> </ul>
Saturday January 15, 2011 8:00 am to 5:00 pm	OMS Field Trip - To be announced at the meeting. For information call Bob Bullock at 928-6372.
Saturday January 22, 2011 8:15 to 9:15 a.m.	OMS Monthly Breakfast- The Girls Restaurant, 1237 E Grand Ave. Arroyo Grande. For information call Sylvia Nasholm at 481-0923.
<b>February 2011</b>	
Tuesday February 1, 2011 7:00– 8:00 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting at the Rabobank at 615 West Tefft Street, Nipomo. All members are welcome at this business meeting
Tuesday February 8, 2011 7:00. to 9:00p.m..	OMS General Meeting- This meeting will be held at <b>Luis Oasis Senior Center 420 Soares Ave. in OLD ORCUTT</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program – Facetting</li> <li>• Display- Facetted Stones</li> <li>• Refreshments- Pies</li> </ul>
Saturday, February 19, 2011 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	<b>OMS Field Trip- Willow Creek-</b> Meet at Mussell Senior Center Parking Lot. Observational trip to a classic location. Bring a Lunch and water. Some hiking required. Contact Bob Bullock at 928-6372 for details.
Saturday, February 26,2011 8:15 to 9:15 a.m..	OMS Monthly Breakfast-Sunrise Café. For information call Sylvia Nasholm at 481-0923.

## CFMS SHOWS 2011

### January 15-16 2011, Exeter, CA

Tule Gem & Mineral Society  
Exter Memorial Bldg.  
324 N Kaweah (Hwy 65), Exter  
Hours: Sat. 10 - 5, Sun. 10-4  
Marshall Havner (559) 562-4133  
Charles Reed (559) 784-6394  
Webpage: tulegem.org

### January 28, 29 & 30: Redlands, CA

Mineralogical Society of Southern California  
Micromounters Symposium  
San Bernardino County Museum  
2024 Orange Tree  
Hours: Fri. 5pm - 10pm; Sat. 9am - 10pm  
Sun. Field trip time to be set  
Dr. Robert Housley (714) 697-4435  
e-mail: rhousley@its.caltech.edu

## Ore-Cutts

Webpage: [mineralsocal.org](http://mineralsocal.org) (click on Micromounters)

### February 18-27, 2011, Indio, CA

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

### February 25, 26, 27, 2011, Newark, CA

Mineral and Gem Society of Castro Valley  
Newark Pavilion  
6430 Thornton Avenue  
Hours: Fri. and Sat. 10:00 am to 6:00 pm - Sun.  
10:00 am to 5:00 pm  
Larry Ham, show chair - (510) 887-9007  
Email: [showchair@mgscv.org](mailto:showchair@mgscv.org)  
Website: [www.mgscv.org](http://www.mgscv.org)

### February 25-26, 2011, Northridge, CA

Del-Air Rockhounds  
Northridge United Methodist Church  
9650 Reseda Blvd.  
Hours: Fri. 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm - Sat. 10:00 am to  
5:00 pm  
Chris S. Ward  
Email: [chris\\_ward678@yahoo.com](mailto:chris_ward678@yahoo.com)  
Website: [delairrockhounds.blogspot.com](http://delairrockhounds.blogspot.com)

### March 5-6 2011, Arcadia, CA

Monrovia Rockhounds, Inc.  
Los Angeles Co. Arboretum & Botanic Gardens  
301 Baldwin Ave.  
Hours: Sat. & Sun. 9-4:30  
Jo Anna Ritchey (626) 359-1624  
Email: [vgms\\_editor@roadrunner.com](mailto:vgms_editor@roadrunner.com)  
Website: [www.Moroks.com](http://www.Moroks.com)

### March 5-6 2011, Ventura, CA

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society  
Seaside Park, Ventura Co. Fairgrounds  
10 W. harbor Blvd.  
Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4  
Andy Anderson (805) 987-0043 /  
[lilliananderson@juno.com](mailto:lilliananderson@juno.com)  
Email: [vgms\\_editor@roadrunner.com](mailto:vgms_editor@roadrunner.com)  
Website: [vgms.org](http://vgms.org)

### March 12-13 2011, Salinas, CA

Salinas Valley Rock & Gem Club  
Veteran's Hall Spreckels, CA  
5th & Llano Streets  
Hours: Sat. 10-5 daily  
Karen Jones (831) 678-0337 /  
[KenKAren0337@att.net](mailto:KenKAren0337@att.net)

### March 19-20 2011, Bakersfield, CA

San Joaquin Valley Lapidary Society

Kern County Shrine Club  
700 south P. Street (P & Bell Terrace)  
Hours: 9-5 daily  
Lewis Helfrich Home (661) 323-2663  
Cell: (661) 378-4450  
Email: [lewsrocks@bak.it.com](mailto:lewsrocks@bak.it.com)

### March 26-27 2011, Angels Camp, CA

Calaveras Gem & Mineral Society  
Calaveras Co. Fairgrounds (Frog Town USA)  
Hwy 49 in Angels Camp  
Hours: Sat. 9-5 - Sun. 9-4  
Tak Iwata (209) 928-5579  
Email: [Tak2me@msn.com](mailto:Tak2me@msn.com)  
Website: <http://www.calaverasgemandmineral.org>

## Mother Lode Mineral Society's

# ROCK & GEM SHOW

## MARCH 12 & 13<sup>TH</sup>

Saturday 10 am-6 pm & Sunday 10 am-5 pm

Admission \$5.00 - 12 & under free

- 40+ Dealers, 100 Exhibits
- 35 Demonstrators!
- Large Children's Area
- Free Parking
- Fluorescent Tent
- Great Food



### Speakers:

 (Check website for dates, times and additional info)

Bob Jones will talk about California Minerals.

Mike Kokinos will be talking about the benefits of 501(c)(3) non-profit status.

Larry Martin will be discussing Mammoth and other fossils found in the Madera Land Fill.

Gregg Wilkerson from BLM will speak on Land Claims.

Richard Wade will present fossils and dinosaurs for children of all ages.

**Turlock Fairgrounds** 900 North Broadway Turlock CA

[www.turlockgemshow.com](http://www.turlockgemshow.com)

Chairman: Bud & Terry McMillin 209-524-3494

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**OMS Webmaster** - Wes Lingerfelt -(805) 929-3788.

Check out our OMS web site at <http://www.omsinc.org> or send e-mail to [info@omsinc.org](mailto:info@omsinc.org).

## Ore-Cutts

**OMS Membership** \$24.00 for Individual, \$34.00 per couple, \$5.00 Each Additional Family Member, \$5.00 Juniors under age of 18, \$10.00. One time initiation fee for new members.

Membership Chairperson is Elaine Von Achen (805) 929-1488

### 2010-OMS Officers

Pres.	Gloria Dana	(805) 929-6429
Pres. Elect	Don Dana	(805) 929-6429
Secretary	Elaine Von Achen	(805) 929-1488
Treasurer	Wes Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788
Immed. Past Pres.	Sylvia Nasholm	(805) 481-0923
Federation. Rep.	Wes Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788

### 2010-OMS Board Members

Jeannie Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788
Jan Ferguson	(805) 474-9977
Sandy Berthelot	(805) 349-3977
Debbie Hood	(805) 481-6860
Mike Henson	(805) 934-1308



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

### OMS Editor

Debbie Hood	(805) 481-6860	<a href="mailto:debilhood1@sbcglobal.net">debilhood1@sbcglobal.net</a>
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***ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED***

