



# Ore-Cutts

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## July 11 Meeting

This will be the last general meeting before the show. We will have a speaker, Mineral Dealer **Richard Sittinger** will be there to show some of his treasures and tell us about them. He will also have some minerals to purchase. Since we want to leave him plenty of time, would the various show committee chairmen please come prepared to report on progress or any problems that need to be dealt with? Refreshments will be Pies

## 39<sup>th</sup> Annual OMS Rainbow of Gems Show

### Attention All OMS Members!

By Dee Dee Magri

It is that time once again to ask our members for their generous donations for the Treasure Chest at our annual gem and mineral show. All donations are greatly appreciated and can be brought to the July 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**We will have a contest for the best donation!** A big thanks to all of you.

It is that time again, folks, to be preparing for the show. At this month's meeting there will be sign up sheets for work shifts in the kitchen, country store, & hospitality booth. Please sign up to help out, and make a note of your commitments. Sylvia will again be asking for 2 Pies from everyone (no cream pies please.) The Country Store will need donations of clean, usable items, books and magazines, everything *but* used clothing or shoes. Also plants are wanted for the Store. The Treasure Chest is in need of donations [Remember that this is our big money maker for our Scholarships Etc., so please be generous.] And sell as many of the tickets as you can. To make things simple, *everybody's* on the list to set-up and teardown. If you are going to exhibit a case, now is the time to plan it and make sure you have labels and everything you need.

## OMS Bar-B-Q

By Debbie Hood

The weather was warm and sunny as Bill and I set out to pick up Kay Vollmer and my mother. We all arrived about 11:00am at Pioneer Park and the cooks and some other

members were already there setting up. Don Nasholm had his and Sylvia's new rockhound puppy, and is she ever cute! Erica & John brought their two dogs and new member Virginia Rogers had her dog, Maisy ("Pearl" in Greek,) it was a real rockhound roundup. There have been some changes to the park since last year, it is well kept up and constantly improved. The day was perfect to visit with old friends and get to know new members. The cooks did a great job, the side dishes and desserts were delicious, and the meat was done to perfection. Hats off to all the cooks! The silent auction drew spirited bidding, (I can attest to the fact that while Kay brought a basket full of rocks to donate, I carried much more weight home for her.) But the best item in the auction was a finished necklace donated by new member Gloria Dana. We have a very talented Wire wrapper and Beader in Gloria. In all there were about 40 of us there. We really missed the members who had to be in Angel's Camp for the CFMS meeting, and will try to schedule things for next year so they don't coincide. Around 3:00 pm the wind came up and started getting chilly and everybody started packing up. [And it seems someone covered my dish up with foil with an alien long-handled spoon in it, if you are missing such a spoon from the B-B-Q please call Debbie Hood.] It had been a lovely, relaxed day with friends and good food and rocks, how could it possibly be better?

## New Members-The Cochrane's

Wayne Mills, OMS Cub reporter

Last Friday night, I ran into Robert, Stephanie, and Molly Cochrane on Avila Beach. I had just attended Avila Farmers Market, and decided to check out the DeeDeeite location. Robert and family were headed in the same direction. Stephanie was looking for heart shaped rocks, a long-time passion, Robert wanted the big stuff, and Molly (age 1 on June 22) was "just along for the ride." I had the pleasure of talking to the Cochrane's in their lovely Oceano Condominium, appropriately on Beach Street. Kevin, age 14 was



building an organizer for his room, and proudly showed me the 3 boulders of DeeDeeite that Robert had in his yard. I am guessing they weighed 70 to 120 pounds, (underline guessing). When I began “interviewing” Robert and Kevin. I was surprised to find out that they were born in the same San Luis Obispo hospital, and both grew up in Oceano (well, Kevin has a few more years of growing to do)!

Robert met his wife Stephanie two years ago in San Luis, and for a year, she was his rock-climbing partner. (One of Robert’s favorite climbs was an overhang at the Pinnacles). Robert has also owned a Cal 28 sailboat for the last few years, and the family has enjoyed day sailing trips on it. When Molly is older, they will try longer ocean trips.

Robert owns his own plumbing business-RC Plumbing, and has been in the profession for 17 years. He and Kevin have shared an interest in rocks though only for the last couple of years, and from different aspects. Kevin wants to be a paleontologist; inspired by a 300 million year old Moroccan trilobite he won in the OMS raffle. Robert is interested in the hobby from the aspect of what the different rocks are, and how they got to the place where they were found. He has recently gotten into polishing big rocks with his wet-dry polisher, and has a couple of polished beauties in his yard. When I asked if the polish faded with the weather, he said “only in geologic time”. Stephanie did note that the marcasite in the DeeDeeite did tend to tarnish when exposed to the weather, even though it is encased in chalcedony.

Kevin’s favorite trip was to Vandenberg AFB last year. There, he found a piece of material containing pink Xonotolite, a rare hydrous calcium silicate. Robert’s favorite trip was one to Big Sandy, also last year. He was impressed with the variety of materials found there including brecciated jasper, fossils, and coal. As a long-term collecting goal, Kevin wants to hone his skills as a paleontologist. Robert just wants more time to collect. I’ll second THAT emotion!

### **July Birthdays & Anniversaries**

A wish for a happy birthday and another wonder filled year of collecting go out this month to Carl Tapper, Mike Henson, Bob Wright, Margaret Plagman, Bert McIntosh, and Frank Sausa. Congratulations on another “rocky” year of marriage also goes out to Frank & Mary Sausa.

### **Sunshine**

Mary Sausa was temporarily hospitalized for the insertion of a pacemaker, and is back home and doing well. Frank Sausa is continuing to recover but is still mostly chair bound.

### **Profile in Courage**

#### **Meleagris Gallapavo vs. Homo Deflatus**

By Ralph Bishop

Our Central Coast of California from Figueroa Mnt to the San Francisco Bay area is composed of a very unique geological structure known as a Mélange, a French word for mixture. The reason for this situation is that we reside on the leading edge of a tectonic plate. Where we live, love and play is where the largest tectonic plate in the world, the Pacific plate, slams in to and is subducted under another sizeable piece of real estate known as the North American plate. When this subduction occurs on our central coast it causes...shall we say stresssss! Because of this stress our entire coastal area has shattered into a mélange of differing geological formations of different ages. The Pacific plate moves northeastward at about the same rate as our fingernails grow. On occasion the rock units of each plate lock and pressure builds. Sooner or later on a normal day of work or play the rock boundary breaks due to excess pressure and the earth moves. The most recent “earthquake” was near Paso Robles, a 6.0 on the Richter scale. Hearst Castle elevated 3” closer to heaven according to GPS readings. But that was a pipsqueak. One historic quake near Gorman, CA in 1862 was really...whoa! There was no way of gauging quake strength at the time but suffice to say this one was “Off the Charts”. The earth on the west side of the valley moved 36 feet to the north in 18 minutes. The west side remained stable. This event scared the Be-Jesus out of the Spanish settlement. Their journals documented 50’ sand spouts erupting in to the sky above the near by marshes. It was reported that the devil himself was “groaning in agony”. They were terrified for their souls; unable to stand they were “sick as if they were on the sea”. It was obvious by their journals that they all got “religion” on the spot. Then there was the San Francisco quake of 1909: The west side slid 18’ to the northeast in 5 minutes while the east side remained stationary. If it were not for this unusual geological energy on our coast a rare and unusual gemstone would not have formed. Brecciated Jasper. As far as I’m concerned this beautiful material represents the central coast, its energy and beauty better than any other material found locally. This Jasper forms in faults or cracks that form between the diverse rock formations. These faults are deep seated and allow pressurized hydrothermal waters to course upwards from great depths to the earth’s surface. We encounter them as sulphur hot springs like the ones near Avila beach. This hydrothermal water deposits silt in the fissures and given a little time, this silt would clog up the fissure like a rust filled pipe. Then another earthquake shatters this brittle mass leaving a myriad of smaller fractures in the siltstone. A subsequent influx of hydrothermal water saturated the silt and fills the many small fractures with silica (agate and quartz). Wah-Lah! When this silica-saturated silt hardens we have Brecciated Jasper. The multitudes of colors come from the diverse minerals brought up from the depths of

the earth by the pressurized scalding water. It was a quest for this material I will write about today.

San Simeon Creek is a beautiful spring fed stream that cuts through and flows along the Nacimiento Fault just to the north of Cambria, CA. I had permission from the landowner to hunt the lower reaches of the creek; the upper reaches were vast tracks of near vertical absentee ownership. Of course, that's where the jasper originated but what the heck; Mother Nature and the creek delivered the best material down stream in smaller manageable pieces closer to the truck. So...it was late in the day when I loaded up my sleeping bag, bar and hammer and started up to the 1 mile point where the broad valley pinched into a narrow gorge flanked by the rock escarpments of the Nacimiento fault. I intended to get a good night's sleep and get an early start and follow the creek where it flows directly along the fault scarp...into the belly of the beast. I had never been beyond the cataract before. When I got to my campsite it was late, the sun was low and I could smell the fog slowly rolling up the creek. A normal person would probably find it prudent to fix some grub, sit back and relax but I've always been abnormally impetuous. The sound of the falling water on the evening breeze was like Circes calling Ulysses into the breach. The breeze from upstream had the sweet smell of bay trees, a temptation to my senses. Black and white California Sykes flitted here and there; the orange spots on their wing tips were a bright accent against the green of the well-watered foliage. The serpentine sound of the spring fed water sang its siren song. "Jasis-purr, Jasis-purr". Unable to withstand the allure, temptation took over. Jasis-purr whispered as the sun hung low in the western sky. So up the cool fresh running creek I was led. Jasis-purr. There were interesting jaspers here and there stuck in the bank of the creek but the subdued light muted the colors. I was more mesmerized by the narrow canyon cloaked by Bay and Oaks. The creek soon became a series of short waterfalls and pools, riffles and pools. About 150 yards in to the gorge I came to a huge rock that overhung the creek and had accumulated a large clean sandbar, the only one I had seen in the creek. There under the overhang were deer parts. One was fresh and one was a week or so old. The fresh tracks in the sand made it apparent this was the den of a large cat. At the end of the sandbar was a large Alder tree. The cat had used this Alder tree for a scratching post. The shredded wood started at 4' up the trunk. This was a large well-fed kitty. Farther up the creek I found a few good pieces of jasper but all of a sudden the light dimmed. Suddenly it was black and I do mean suddenly black. Fog! Oh sh -t! I'd likened to the siren's call and she'd led me on...on to the rocks. Jasis-purr. So I wheeled sharply and in a hurried gait made my way downstream. A little late! The curtain of soupy fog dropped over the dark tree shaded canyon. In an instant it became blacker than the ace of spades. I

was able to grab onto a big rock just before I plunged over a short waterfall. Kuh-splash, into a hip-deep pool well over my brains I went. I halted momentarily but knew I must move on. Unfortunately the sense of touch (Braille) was the only way to tell where I was. As wet and cold as it was, staying in the creek was the best way to find my way in this inky darkness. I had gone a fair distance when I found a dry rock and stopped for a rest. Everything was quiet...except for a rustling in the brush just above me on the creek bank. I sat quietly listening. The rustling stopped. So I staggered down the creek, falling and grasping rocks splashing blind as a bat. On my next rest stop all was still...except for a rustling in the brush that immediately stopped. Dread filled my bones. The Cat! Was this it? Was my number up? With more urgency I stumbled down the narrow stream channel trying to close in on my camp and the possible safety of a fire. But my mind was swimming in fear. I knew the exact method of attack! From behind! Front paws, claws erect sinking into my chest while the cat's fangs sank into the back of my neck, a sudden violent shake of the 80-pound cat. Neck broke! Over! Meow mix! At least it would be quick I thought. My friends, this was stark, blind terror. I stumbled forward, splash, I was sure the cat could smell my fear, I could. Exhausted I stopped again. The rustle in the brush stopped but a twig snapped and then silence. Time hung in limbo. Then in the distance I saw an opening of the darkness in the ink black canyon. Camp! I clamored forward in a final blind sprint, falling, lunging forward. Only one thought – camp and a fire was in my head. I had set a fire ring and wood before I left on my odyssey. I finally reached camp where the darkness when compared to the gorge seemed like the light of day. I drug my wet bruised body up the mud bank and fumbled for the matches. I felt no cold, no pain, only the shock of terror. I threw a short handful of matches into the fire ring and lit them. The fire sprang forth. Maybe, just maybe I'd cheated Beelzebub again? Over the crackling fire I heard the rustling of brush again – at the mouth of the jet-black gorge – just above me. I picked up a firebrand oak branch from the fire and waved it boldly. I suddenly felt brave (a profile in courage), a man with fire. Primeval power! Was this how a Homo-Erectus stud felt when he warded off a Saber Toothed Tiger? With a surge of boldness I spoke firmly to the predator in the blackness. "Make my Day"! And I waved the firebrand brazenly. I was standing erect now, chest out. Just then a sharp sound burst forth from the blackness, shattering the silence after my arrogant challenge. This bold retort seemed almost on top of me. I reeled backwards shocked by the boldness of the reply; it rocked my world! Gobble, Gobble, Gobble, Gobble, What?? Turkeys!!! A whole flock of them were sounding off in reply to my bodacious challenge. What a moron, I thought, my chest and ego deflated. I was no longer Homo Erectus; the

firebrand stud ready to do battle with Smilodon Californicus waving my torch with impunity. No! Now I felt more like a dufus Homo Deflatus facing an overgrown-feathered titmouse.

The next morning I squeezed out of my wet clothes and made my way up the rocky gorge again. This time in the light of day. I quickly filled my pack with high grade Jasper. I came to the cougar's lair. There in the sand were fresh tracks; Turkey tracks. But superimposed on top of them and pointing down stream were the paw prints of the cat. Claw marks stood out like explanations points showing an aggressive stalking behavior. Is it possible that Felis Concolor (Mountain Lion) finds Meleagris Gallapavo (Wild Turkey) tastier than Homo Deflatus? Apparently so!

*I will bring some of the super quality Jasis-purr that I found on this infamous trip to the next meeting.*

Post Log: Just as I was finishing this true story of my "Profile in Courage" my two sons came over for Father's Day with some Chinese food. My tallest son was searching for some soy sauce on the top shelf of cupboards. On the top shelf in the back corner he found a ½ pint of vodka. "What's this Dad"? "Honest! I haven't had a drink for around 20 years since I'd graduated from Shick-Shaddel Alcohol Aversion Treatment Center!". There was some duct tape on the back of the bottle and some writing on it in black magic marker. "Mom, Please don't throw this out. I want to use it to catch turkeys on San Simeon Creek". A timely find for this story wouldn't you say? Almost – No I would say it was "meant to be". Now for the rest of the story: Right after my "Turkey Trip" I attended the Monday night lapidary class that used to be so popular at the Mussel Center. My longtime friend and elder of the OMS, Charles Azevedo was the instructor. I related my story of the weekend while some super jasper was cutting in the saw. It was hard and slick in yellow, red, black and white all in the same piece. But Charlie seemed more interested in culinary pursuits. "You say there's lots of them up there"? "Yup", I said. "Those darn turkeys are everywhere". "Say, next time you go up there, grab a couple, OK"? "They're good eatin'," Charles said. "Sure"! I said sarcastically. Both toms and geese and their peckers had chased me before and their beaks were just at the right height to –well you know, "Goose you". Now I was born at night folks but I wasn't born last night. Charlie could hear the cowardice in my voice. "No, No Ralph, it's no problem. I'll tell you how to do it". "When I lived in Hollister with my family we lived next to a turkey farm and you know somehow on a regular basis 1 or 2 would get out and we would have turkey dinner for a couple of days". "And they never pecked you"? I asked. "No, No, Dad would mix some sweet grain with some vodka and throw it out to them; they'd just gobble it up". "And", I said. "Well", he chuckled at his childhood memory; "you could tell when they were drunk

when their heads fell sideways". "Then you could just walk up and grab'em by the head and give a shake – Dinner"! "Sure Charlie", I said. He seemed puzzled by my questioning mood. Well, my friends, I never returned on the turkey mission but I'd planned to as evidenced by the archeological "artifact" found on the far reaches of the upper shelf. But having found it I may be able to muster the courage in my old age to confront the gobbling demons that struck fear in the heart of a younger man. Maybe! Or maybe I should leave well enough alone and like Ulysses tie myself to the ships mast of reason, enjoying the sirens call "jasis-purr jaspur", but not be tempted by culinary desires. Why rock the boat when your cat karma is "good"? After all Felis Concolor has a culinary desire as well. While I was probably rejected in my youth as too lean and stringy, now I have a much more robust "Profile" that might suggest a higher quality, aged and marbled meat. Tasty, like "Beef". So in a situation like this I must refer to a quote by Dirty Harry: "The cougar is the most powerful cat on the Central Coast and can snap your head plum off. In all the excitement of your youth you've tempted Felis twice!! So now in your advanced age you've gotta ask yourself this question!! "Do yah feel lucky? Well...Do Yah, Turkey?" Gobble, Gobble? Meow?

*I will bring the archeological artifact to the next meeting just to prove that the rest of the story was "meant to be".*

### **Rock Class at Shell Beach Elementary School** By Wes Lingerfelt

I received a call from the Carol Harvey Volunteer Network the last week of May with an urgent request. "Could you visit one more school this year?" The lady on the phone was trying her best to convince me to take on the task. I said "What the heck, Why not?" I have never been to the Shell Beach School before so it would be a chance to scope out the place. The scheduled class was to be held at 1pm on Wednesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>. I arrive a little early to allow for setup time and checked in with the school office. They were very friendly and directed me to

Mr. Dutra's class in room 24 (way in the back 40). I was glad I brought my cart with me this time. It took about 15 minutes to arrange my specimens and pretty rocks out on the table. The bell rang indicating recess was over and the kids came streaming in. I was just about to



*Dear Mr. Lingerfelt,  
Thank you so much for speaking to the fourth graders at Shell Beach Elementary. I understand that the class really enjoyed your presentation. We are so appreciative of the time given by volunteers such as you, and of your interest in education.  
Cordially,  
Kelli Veloz*



start my presentation when the fire drill bell sounded. The children knew exactly what to do and I was at somewhat of a loss as to just what I was supposed to do. I drifted out the door to watch the kids line up in the play area. In about ten minutes the drill was over they all filed back into the classroom. Mr. Dutra introduced me and I was off on my spiel. The kids loved it and were glued to my every word. I try to engage them in thought provoking questions and information about the benefit of the minerals and rocks in our daily lives. It's funny how most of them have never considered where things in the grocery store come from. Another intriguing question for them is "How does calcium get into the milk we drink that we buy from the grocery store?" I'm amazed at some of the answers I get to that one. I finished my presentation and then brought each child up to the table for a chance to touch and hold the specimens. They get to know just how heavy Glens or Realgar really is. Before leaving the table each one gets a bag of polished stones to start their own collection. I remind each one that if they have little brothers or sisters at home to be very careful and not let them have access to the small rocks. I remind them that little ones like to eat small objects and could easily choke on them. As I begin to wrap up a very bright and cheerful little girl comes up to the table and says, "Can I help?" She was so delightful I just couldn't say no. So the two of us wrapped up all the specimens as she merrily chatted about how she loved rocks and planned to build a big collection of her own. Ah! I thought to my self, a pebble pup and a rockhound to be someday. Don't you just love it!!!!

### **CFMS Show-Angel's Camp-June 9-11, 2006**

By Wayne Mills

From many angles, this was a great show. Some of the displays were world-class, the talks were first rate, the host-club was most accommodating (even providing a shuttle service from the front gate to the top of the hill!) and the fairgrounds were lovely, clean, and well manicured. The weather was comfortable and I saw a lot of friends from other clubs. Our Federation Director, Wes Lingerfelt spoke in glowing terms about the efficient brevity of the Board of Directors meeting, and my first Editor's Breakfast was wonderful. Plus, OMS "cleaned-up!"

I arrived Friday evening at 7:30 p.m., after a 5.5-hour drive from Arroyo Grande. The weather was nice, and my Subaru, "Hi o Silver" and I cruised along for most of the trip. After setting up my tent and table, I introduced myself to Jennifer from Peninsula Gem and Mineral Club, and Susan from Santa Rosa. They showed me some of the pyrite, quartz and Mariposite they had collected at the Carson Hill Mine that day, and I was even more anxious to collect there the next day.

After being serenaded by the red-legged frogs in the fairgrounds pond all night, (imagine a bunch of cows

blowing at each other all night long), I awoke about 5:30 a.m., heated up my coffee, and tried to kill time until the show opened at 10:00 a.m. The lecture I wanted to hear was at 11:00 a.m. Thankfully, they opened the doors a bit early and I got a chance to look around a bit before the talk. Saw a few more "buds" from Camp Paradise, and got the bad news that this may be the last year at that venue because the property was sold to the Greek Orthodox Church. There are, I understand still spaces left at the camp for both sessions this year.

Quickly walked around the dealers in the "dealer building", then the exhibits. One of the centerpieces was a beautiful display of minerals from the Smithsonian, and another, a bit smaller, of minerals from the LA County Museum. They were exhibited by Dr. Tony Kampf the mineral curator at the museum, and after a quick coffee and slice of pie in the Frogateria, I hurried over to Dr. Kampf's talk on the minerals of Minas Gerais Province in Brazil. Dr. Kampf has led several trips there, and after seeing his wonderful slides, I'm thinking about going on one myself. Maybe the trip will be a retirement present to myself in another couple of years.

We will do a separate article on Dr. Kampf's talk, but for the curious, his last tour cost about \$2,700 excluding airfare and mineral purchases. Those can range from \$300 to 30,000 depending on your budget. He does not have any trips planned yet, but I believe he is taking names. E-mail Tony Kampf at: [akampf@nhm.org](mailto:akampf@nhm.org) for further details.

After the lecture, I did a little more browsing, and headed back to the Frogateria for a tasty Turkey sandwich and more coffee. I was REALLY disappointed to find out that BOTH the field trips scheduled for Saturday were cancelled, but managed to fill out the afternoon checking out the exhibits and dealers, and talking with friends. About 5 p.m., I hustled over to Sierra Hill Soapstone, but found nobody there. They have a pretty impressive piece of soapstone carved into a bear out front, so "captured" an image of it for the bulletin.



Since I still had a couple of hours of daylight, "Hi o silver" and I headed for the town of Murphys. At the CFMS show last year, I heard a lecture on Suiseki that mentioned the excellent specimens that occur there. Murphys is about 7 miles east of Angels Camp on Route 4. I talked to a couple of folks in a nursery there about where a guy could find this cool limestone, and was told "it's all around us, and a lot of folks have stacks of it in their yards". I was given vague directions to go out on Parrots Ferry Road toward Columbia State Park, and actually found a promising road cut. I picked up a few pieces of trash (my homage to the highway goddess), and was rewarded with a couple of pieces of weathered meta-

limestone that are sorta' like what I was looking for. For Saturday dinner, I stopped at Blondie's Frosty at the corner of Routes 4 and 49, for a burger and a root-beer shake, one of my long-time favorite meals. Both were great, and really hit the spot, but I really enjoyed their collections of turtles. All KINDS of turtles. She must have the best collection in Angels Camp, and those folks are really into their turtles. She also had murals costing a couple of thousand dollars depicting the various recreational activities and festivals that occur in the town. Then I heard the sad news. Caltrans is planning to take the restaurant out as part of a bypass project.

As I passed through the historic town on my way back to the fairgrounds, I had to stop and walk around the old business district around the theater that was featuring 6 movies! After looking at several storefronts, I took a closer look at the brass plaques set into the sidewalk. They honored many of the winners of the Celebrated Jumping Frog Contest that was held on May 16 this year. It was fascinating to see the different names of the frogs, and the ever-increasing length of their jumps. The oldest plaque I found was for "The Pride of San Joaquin" and was dated 1928. I think that is the first year the event was sanctioned, though it started with Mark Twain's



"Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County" about 150 years ago. Pride jumped 3'9", which is approaching what I could do. The plaque picture I included is for "Free Willy" who leaped 15'\*\*\* in 1985, and the

current World Champion leap is "Rosie the Ribbeter" who did 21'5 3/4" in 1986. Jennifer from the Peninsula Club, who knows a lot about a lot, said that there was some controversy with Rosie though, as she was an African Frog, and caused the rules to be changed. I am told that most of the frogs that are used in the contest are red-legged frogs that are on the endangered species list. (But NOT in Calaveras County...) I should also note that the totals above are actually the measurement of three-frog jumps.

Saturday night, I slept better with wads of paper towel in my ears. Sunday morning, I was up bright and early, got a refreshing, warm shower (nice bathroom facilities by the way, the combination to the rooms is...), got in my go to meetin' duds and club vest, and headed to the Editor's breakfast. Hitched a ride up the hill to the Frogateria, and

**The awards presented to OMS are:**

**\*Best Small Bulletin\***

**1<sup>st</sup> - Dick Shields, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Wayne Mills, and 3<sup>rd</sup> - Sir Paul Howard in Adult Advanced articles.**

**And in Adult articles: 1<sup>st</sup> - Ralph Bishop, 4<sup>th</sup> - Bob Bullock, 6<sup>th</sup> - Mike and Margaret Henson, 8<sup>th</sup> - Bess Shields and 10<sup>th</sup> - Wes Lingerfelt**

**Congratulations!**

grabbed a cuppa' coffee.

The tables all had creative frog theme centerpieces, a frog pen/ruler, a book mark, notepaper, agenda, and a cute little dangly frog thing that I hung on my bolo slide. After almost everyone arrived we were served a wonderful



breakfast of scrambled eggs, sausage, bacon, sweet-rolls, honeydew, strawberries, juice and coffee. Then CFMS Editor Terry Yoschak presented the CFMS Bulletin awards, many of which I had to retrieve to bring back to our members.

After the awards, Jonathan North made a Power Point presentation entitled "Working with Microsoft Publisher", and Terry Yoschak made a Power Point presentation on "Finding other Club bulletins". Both presentations were very well organized and presented. WE were pleased to hear that Terry has agreed to fill the CFMS Editorship next year as well.

Back in the daylight, I hit the silent auction a few more times and lost my bid on a nice, polished piece of Graveyard Point Agate by a quarter. The soapstone piece I bid on got away too. But I got lucky at Rick Kennedy's booth finding a specimen of crystalline gold for five bucks (50% off its original price.) I am looking forward to Rick's display and participation in our August (4-6) show, as he has a lot more lovely gems and minerals this year than I remember from last year.

Some of the other displays that were eye-catching, were the Mesozoic Reptiles exhibited by Doctor Alan Shaffert from Merced (I think). The collection is worth about \$400,000, and was a spectacular treat for a CFMS Show. The display included mounted skeletons of Ichthyosaur, Plesiosaur, Toxichelys (sea turtle), and Mosasaur, and several members of the ammonite family, including a spectacular plate from France (see picture page). The Pleistocene mammals (Cave Bear, Rhino and Mammoth) displayed by Applegate Lapidary were amazing too, but the Cretaceous marine stuff was just exquisite. A couple of other cases that caught my eye were the nice case from



Inyo county Gem and Mineral Club, and the lovely agates from Nevada's Black Rock Desert shown by Lyle Ressler. There was a case of elegant hard and soft rock carvings by Francis Musser whose work is prominently displayed in the

Indian Valley Museum in Taylorsville, Plumas County. I had the opportunity to see the museum open the last day it was open last year.

Before I headed home, I checked out the gold panning activity at the top of the hill, and helped a little girl pan a gold flake out of the black sand in the free trough

(leftovers from the “buy a bag and screen it” operation).



Then chatted with George McCann in the grab bag area about local soapstone areas. On the way out of town, I stopped at the Storied in Stone Gallery in the old town, and talked with the owner Russ Shoemaker. I was so pleased that I did, because Mr. Shoemaker is a

fascinating person. His store has some wonderful earth materials for sale, but the real treasure is his museum in the back housing the collection of materials from his Bakersfield property that contained the “bone bed” formation found at Sharks Tooth Hill. His collection was well organized and I especially liked the Riker Mounts containing teeth from about 37 different species of sharks that occur in the Round Mountain Silt (Middle Miocene age) Formation in Bakersfield. Also fascinating was Mr. Shoemaker’s presentation on the Earth in A Nutshell, and his discussion of why man cannot live without rocks. Perhaps more about that topic in a later bulletin too! It was fun listening to Russ, and I hope to get the opportunity to again. I left Angels Camp about 3:45 p.m., stopped at a couple of road cuts I had heard about, and made it home about 9:00 p.m., a pretty good run. I still have a hunger for some good mineral collecting, and hope to slake it in two more weeks at Cerro Gordo with Francis and Francie Pedenau and the Lone Pine Club. But that is another story.

Hats off to the Calaveras Gem and Mineral Society for a pleasant and well run show!

### **2006 FEDERATION REPORT – June 10,**

Wes Lingerfelt

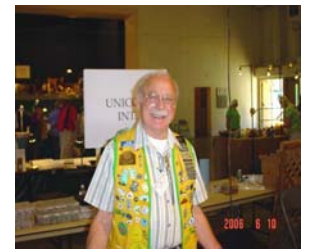
First, let me get the boring stuff out of the way:

1. There were 66 Directors, 25 Chairpersons and 5 Officers present for the meeting.
2. The 2007 CFMS Convention meeting/show will be held at the Palmdale Fairgrounds on June 15 – 17, 2007
3. The 2008 CFMS Convention/Show will be at Ventura Fairgrounds and will be conducted solely by the Federation, Tentative schedule is June 20 – 23, 2008
4. A change was approved to the CFMS Operations Regulations governing the Rules Committee.
5. There were 35 entries covering 25 articles entered in the CFMS Bulletin Contest.
6. The CFMS Slide, Video & CD-ROM library is busy converting the old slide programs to CD format. A call for assistance was made at the meeting for anyone skilled in accomplishing this task.

A myriad of reports were presented for the Directors to review and approve. There was nothing of exceptional

interest included and all of the reports are available to the membership. Just ask me if you want to read them. Now for the good stuff

We left the house in Nipomo about 9 am on Friday, June 9<sup>th</sup> and by 1 pm we were in Stockton. Jeannie’s little BMW-Z3 buzzed down the highway like a hummingbird. It’s really a fun car to drive and I feel lucky she lets me sit behind the wheel. We checked into the Angel Inn at Angels Camp and rested a bit before heading over to the fairgrounds. I needed to find the location of tomorrow’s Directors meeting. We paid our \$10.00 entrance fee with a little over one hour left before closing time. I met with most of the dealers there and handed out our show flyers to all that wanted them. I was a little concerned about having enough to pass out at the Directors meeting the next day. Jeannie shopped around and found some very nice beads that she intends to make into jewelry. She was on the prowl for some Montana Agate but unfortunately no one had them. In our travel through the show I spotted a long time friend by the name of Jack Williams. He is the person who took over the CFMS Treasurer position from me back in 1999. He was



demonstrating his considerable talents of wire wrap jewelry at the Demonstrators table. There lying on the table was a very elaborate pendant that he had made containing a Smoky Quartz faceted stone. Feeling that Jeannie deserved a reward (for letting me drive her car among others) I decided to purchase it for her.

She was thrilled! By closing time I had determined the location of the meeting, met up with many old friends, and delivered most of the show flyers, so it was time to go to the room. We decided to try the restaurant next door to the motel called “Perko’s Café” that advertised family dining. I devoured my order of Liver and Onions that was excellent. I recommend this Café if you are ever around Angels Camp in the future.

We ate breakfast at Perko’s Café (It was good also) and went to the fairgrounds arriving about 8 am. I registered for my meeting packet and passed out flyers to all the tables and had many left over. That was a relief. Jeannie decided to stay with her car up on the hill behind the meeting hall where a cool breeze was keeping the temperature to cool mid-eighty degrees. She got to visit with many rockhounds walking by the car including our friends, the Bilyeu’s from Paso Robles. I went to visit with Jeannie at





the car during our morning break to find that she had already made another round of the show to purchase more beads (*How many beads does a person need anyway?*). (*Ed's. Note: Why would you even ask such a question?*) The meeting was running ahead of schedule, as there were no long discussions or contentious items on the agenda. The Directors decided to press on into the scheduled two-hour lunch break to complete the meeting early. By 12:30 pm it was over. Jeannie said "Oh good! We can go get some more of those cheap beads!" So we went back to the show for one more round of shopping. We met up with long time friends Vi and Gerry Wells. It was so good to see them again. They promised to come to our show in August (Gerry & Vi are long time OMS dealers as well as close friends). We also met Wayne Mills in the shows outside dealer area. Wayne related how disappointed he was that the field trips he had planned on going to have been cancelled. What a drag that must have been! Jeannie found the beads she was seeking so we departed the show to find a restaurant and some fuel for the car. Once the car and we were fed we drove toward Stockton on CA4 about 1:30 pm for the long drive home. We took the scenic route home arriving about 7 pm feeling tired and weary from the journey but satisfied with a good trip full of good friends, good beads and good weather. Life is good!

### The SLO Show in Cayucos

Wayne Mills, OMS Roving Reporter

The San Luis Obispo Club had their annual show in Cayucos this weekend, and OMS was there to support them. As I walked up to the Veteran's Hall about noon, Debbie and Bill Hood were sitting out front, already having made their (well, Debbie's) purchases. Inside, the hall was a beehive of activity, with many visitors buzzing around the tables.

There were about 12 dealers, selling a variety of materials. On stage was Richard Sittenger, of Mineral of the Month fame, and he had a nice variety of lapidary and mineral materials for sale. Near



Richard I found Paul and Sandy Berthelot of OMS. I told Sandy that I expected to see her put a case in our show this year after hearing of her Rutilated Quartz purchase.

Soon after my arrival, I also spotted Mattie and Dick Bezel, OMS members who have recently joined the SLO Club. I was happy (for them) to hear that they had

recently bought a home in Atascadero. (So maybe you guys can carpool with Truman Burgess to our meetings)

Later, I drifted into a conversation with Vicki Abrisz of the SLO Club, and before I knew it, she had me signed-up to give a talk at their November meeting. They meet on the first Monday of the month at The Senior Center at 1455 Santa Rosa Street in San Luis Obispo. Their membership has grown recently, and they now have about 35 members.

I made a couple of circuits of the show, but didn't see anything I had to have, although there was plenty of interest. I thought the jewelry shown by the couple from Mendocino was very good quality workmanship and nice stones, so have included a picture of it.

Also saw Dave Richter and Becky from Paso Robles. They were fresh from Angel's Camp, and as usual had a nice mix of materials. I believe they had the best fossils at the show, and I admit, I was tempted to acquire a couple of their ammonites.

I also had the opportunity to talk with Bob Hurlless from San Luis Obispo. Bob has organized the last several shows the SLO Club has put on at the Vet's hall, and has done a fine job of it. We talked about his group putting a club case in at our show, since they do not have room for displays at Cayucos. A fine idea I think.



Another stunning display was this one of elegantly carved stone birds on beautiful mineral specimens (from

Brazil I think). Didn't get the dealer's name, but their material was colorful and well displayed.

As I was leaving I spotted Wes and Jeannie who had just driven up in Jeanie's BMW sports car. Boy would I like a ride in that little beauty! Jeannie was wearing the lovely, wire-wrapped (about 24-carat) faceted Smoky Quartz that Wes bought her for letting him drive the Beamer up to Angels Camp last weekend.

Sun Valley Thank You!

We received a Thank you from the Sun Valley Indian School for the donation of Campbell's Soup labels to them. They are able to trade them for items that are needed for the boarding school for Indian children. They do a lot of good, so keep turning those labels in to Wes Lingerfelt. For info about the program go to:

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

### Orcutt Mineral Society Board Meeting

**Mussell Sr. Center, Santa Maria, CA June 6, 2006**

President Bob Bullock called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Board members present were: Bob Bullock, Wes Lingerfelt, Elaine Von Achen, Lucky Virgin, Gary Sheffer, Debbie Hood, Wayne Mills, Dee Dee Magri, Jill Nelson and Sylvia Nasholm. Guests: Bill Hood.

Minutes of the previous board meeting were approved as published in the June 2006 newsletter.

By the way, I just came across a cool website that allows you to estimate the carat weight of a stone based on its measurements. It is: <http://dendritics.com/scales/carat-weight>. How did I do Wes?



**Treasurer's report** was read by Wes Lingerfelt and accepted as read. Wes also noted that we had income from cans and bottles from the road clean up totaling \$26.11. Of that amount \$17.36 was from cans, plastic bottles \$6.21 and glass \$2.54. The glass weighed 31 pounds and only garnered \$2.54. It was recommended that we leave the glass for the Cal Trans road maintenance crew. Receipts went to the abused children's fund.

**Correspondence:** Elaine Von Achen reported newsletters from Pick 'n' Shovel, Capistrano Valley Rock & Mineral Club, Sun Valley Indian School and Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society. In addition there was a memo from Madras, Oregon Gem and Mineral Club on their show to be held June 28 thru July 2, 2006.

**Committee Reports:**

**Scholarship Fund:** Wayne Mills reported that he and Debbie Hood attended the Hancock Scholarship Award Banquet as representatives of OMS.

**Field Trips:** There will be no field trip for June, as we will be having the annual Bar-B-Q at Pioneer Park on June 10, 2006 at 10:00 a.m.

**Raffle:** Wayne reported the raffle is doing well.

**OMS Gem Show:** Wes reported that we had 37 show cases last year and that we hope to have at least that this year. There was discussion on trophy's for this year. It was decided that we would have a contest for the best donation to the treasure chest at the July meeting.

**Membership:** Elaine Von Achen read an application for membership from Virginia Rogers. Wayne Mills made a motion to accept; motion was seconded by Wes Lingerfelt and passed.

**Library:** After some discussion Jill Nelson made a motion to buy a soft cover book for our library titled "The Beauty of Banded Agates" by Michael Carlson. Motion was seconded by Bob Bullock and passed.

**Sunshine:** Sylvia said her mother had a pace maker installed and is home and doing well.

Wes Lingerfelt received a visa credit card in the clubs name with an expiration date of May 2010.

Wes also suggested we transfer our Internet domain name from Australia to the United States.

Wes received e-mail from the "Sea Goddess" in Cambria. She is holding a sale of rocks and minerals on June 17<sup>th</sup> discounted to club members. It was suggested that this could be a field trip.

Locker clean up was changed from June 17 to June 24 to start right after the OMS breakfast.

**Old Business:** none

**New Business:** none

President Bob Bullock adjourned the meeting at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elaine Von Achen, Secretary, OMS



A saw cutting a piece of stone was selected when the first bulletin, ORE-CUTTS (namesake, William Orcutt) was first published in 1966. Member Helen Azevedo was the first editor.

Orcutt Mineral Society was founded in 1958, and was named after William Orcutt, a geologist and Civil engineer who worked in the Santa Maria Valley as a District manager for Union oil

Company in 1888. In 1989, 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 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.

**2006 OMS Officers**

Pres	Robert Bullock	(805) 928-6372
Pres. Elect	Debbie Hood	(805) 481-6860
Secretary	Elaine Von Achen	(805) 929-1488
Treasurer	Wes Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788
Immed. Past Pres	Lucky Virgin	(805) 929-4525
CFMS. Rep.	Wes Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788

**2006 OMS Board Members**

Geary Scheffer	(805) 925-8009
Sylvia Nasholm	(805) 481-0923
Dee-Dee Magri	(805) 595-2755
Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495
Jill Nelson	(805) 925-2550

**Ore-Cutts Editors**

Deborah Hood	(805) 481-6860
Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495

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

Ore-Cutts Photo Credits:\_ Wes Lingerfelt, Wayne Mills.

**OMS Membership** (dues) is \$18 per year. Junior memberships (under 18) are \$9 per year. Membership dues are due January 1, and are prorated for each month thereafter. Membership Chairperson is Elaine Von Achen (805) 929-1488

**July 2006 Calendar**

Tuesday July 4, 2006 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. <b>Rescheduled due to holiday</b>	OMS Board Meeting-Elwin Mussell Senior Center. All members are welcome at this business meeting.
Saturday July 8, 2006 8:00 a.m. to ?? p.m..	Field Trip To be announced
Tuesday July 11,2006 6:00-p.m. to 7:00p.m. 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting OMS General Meeting-Elwin Mussell Senior Center. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program-Richard Sittinger, Mineral Dealer</li> <li>• Display-Local Rocks</li> <li>• Refreshments-Pies</li> </ul>
Saturday July 15, 2006 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	Roadside Clean up After the cleanup we have coffee and pastry at "Francisco's Country Kitchen" in Santa Maria.
Saturday July 2,2006	OMS Monthly Breakfast-

8:15 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.	Francisco's Country Kitchen in Santa Maria. For details, call Ken Kreh at 343-7749.
<b>August 2006 Calendar</b>	
Tuesday August 1, 2006 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting Mussell Senior Center. All members are welcome at this business meeting.
Thursday August 3, 2006 8:00 a.m. till complete	Show set up at St Joseph's Church 298 S. Thompson Ave. Nipomo. All members are cordially invited!
Friday, Saturday & Sunday August 4, 5, & 6, 2006 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	<b>OMS Rainbow of Gems Show</b> Post show victory dinner 7:00 p.m. at the Golden Dragon Restaurant, 151 Dana St. Nipomo
Tuesday August 8, 2006 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.	OMS General Meeting Elwin Mussell Senior Center. Program- Show wrap up Display- Show acquisitions & Foreign rocks.

**July 1-2 2006, Culver City, CA**  
Culver City rock & Mineral Club  
Culver City Veteran's Memorial Complex



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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Culver City Veteran's Memorial Auditorium  
4117 Overland Avenue  
Hours: Sat. 10 - 6; Sun. 10 - 5  
Website: [CulverCityRocks.org](http://CulverCityRocks.org)  
Richard Shaffer (310) 391-8429  
Email: [maryellenandrick@aol.com](mailto:maryellenandrick@aol.com)

**August 4-6 2006, Nipomo, CA**  
Orcutt Mineral Society  
"Earth's Treasures"  
St. Joseph's Church  
298 South Thompson Avenue  
Hours: 10 - 5 daily  
Wes Lingerfelt (805) 929-3788

**September 23-24 2006, San Diego, CA**  
San Diego Lapidary Society  
Bernado Winery  
13330 Paseo Del Verano Norte  
Rancho Bernardo  
Hours: 10 - 4 both days  
Kim Hutsell; (619) 294-3914  
Website: [www.sandiegolapidarysociety.org](http://www.sandiegolapidarysociety.org)

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

**39th Annual OMS Gem Show**  
Earth's Treasures - Rocks - Minerals - Gems  
Exhibits - Tailgaters - Demos - Lapidary Equipment  
St Joseph's Church  
298 South Thompson Avenue  
Nipomo, California  
3 Big Days! 10 AM-5 PM  
**August 4th, 5th, 6th 2006**  
**ONE-OF-A-KIND CRAFTED STONE**  
**MERCHANDISE FROM ALL OVER THE**  
**WORLD. ROCK BOTTOM PRICES!**  
**RAFFLES! PRIZES!**  
**FOOD ON SALE!**  
**SANTA MARIA STYLE BBQ ON**  
**SATURDAY NIGHT ONLY \$8.00 FOR**  
**ADULTS, KIDS \$4.00 (12 AND UNDER).**  
**Free Parking – Free Admission!**  
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Santa Maria, CA 93456  
<http://www.omsinc.org>