



Ore-Cutts

Volume XXXIX, Issue VI

June, 2004

NOVICE ROCKHOONDING in Arizona, New Mexico and California, Part 1

Mike & Margaret Hensen, Members, Orcutt Mineral Society

Since we began attending OMS meetings, Margaret and I have bought several books on where to locate various minerals and gemstones in California, Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, Colorado, and Oregon. Last year we went on a couple of exploratory trips to scout out several (as in many) of these collecting sites so we could plan future trips, and spend more time rock hounding at selected sites.

This year we joined OMS, talked to several members about tools and rock identification, and planned our first rock hounding trip.

On March 18 the truck fully loaded with maps, books, clothes, boots, camping gear, rock hammers, pick axe, soda, marlin spike [closest thing to a gad (what ever a gad is) that I could find], shovels, rake, buckets, burlap sacks, food and water. If I left anything out, we did have it - I just forgot what it was. We left asking ourselves where would we put any rocks?

Our plan was to go east on 166, jog up and over to I-40, take I-40 to 247, 247 to Joshua Tree National Park, go south through the park to I-10 and spend the first night near Wileys Well. This route had us going east on I-10, north on 25 from Deming, NM to Albuquerque, and I-40 home. Just after leaving Santa Maria we learned about the March heat wave and reversed our plan to 40 east, 25 south, and 10 west.

We spent the first night in Needles, then got on old Hwy 66, and went north to Oatman

looking for a place called Ed's Camp. We stopped in Oatman long enough to look around in a Rock Shop/souvenir store, and buy some post cards. We didn't stay because the boardwalks were still rolled up, and the burros hadn't come to work that morning.

We found Ed's Camp, and it was closed (best laid plans), and there were a lot of no trespassing signs in this area. So, rather than risk getting shot, we went on to a historical spot called Cold Spring. Here we found a few pieces of lava to take to our grandson who is studying volcanoes in school, and Margaret found a couple pieces of agate. There was a lot of construction going on at Cold Spring, and it looked to me like they were turning it into a rest stop.



Main Street in Chloride, Arizona

We stopped in Kingman long enough to have a nice lunch, and then went on to Chloride, about 22 miles north off Hwy 93. We did a drive-thru of Main Street, and found the general store. The proprietress was very nice and helpful, told us we could camp at the RV Park as you entered town, and where to eat the best pancakes ever outside of home. She said that the river bed at the end of 2nd St. was a good

place to look for rocks. We thanked her and went to the RV Park, got a camp site, and spent the rest of the afternoon setting up camp. After we were done, little doubts about camping started to enter our heads (Age? It didn't used to be this hard).

We went to the riverbed in the morning of day 3. According to the book we could find bornite, chalcocite, vanadinite, galena, stibnite, chalcopyrite, iron pyrite, feldspar, black tourmaline, rose quartz, molybdenite, silver, and gold. After reading this we realized we didn't have the foggiest what most of these looked like. Well, we weren't going to let that slow us down, and we headed for the riverbed. We spent most of the day picking up what we thought were minerals and probably lots of leaverite, and returned to camp.



Margaret at Woodruff Petrified Wood

The next morning we broke camp (day 4), went to breakfast, and headed for the Tennessee Mine at the end of town. This was the first time we had been to a major mine dump, and had no idea of how to search, or what we should do. All we saw were these giant yellowish cliffs of compacted, crushed debris and rock. We did find some interesting looking specimens, and were quite pleased with ourselves. We will return to Chloride when we have a little more experience and education.

Our next stop was Crookton Road for onyx. This location is off I-40 approximately 20 miles east of Seligman exit 139. We found plenty of onyx and several interesting looking pieces of sandstone with ridges of something that looks

like opalite. The road to the collecting area was good, and the scenery was beautiful. This was a pleasant site to visit.

From Crookton Road we went 5 miles east on I-40 to Ashfork, and on to Double A Ranch Road. There are two sites: "A" & "B". Site "A" was a volcanic bomb site, and site "B" was Ashfork Picture Stone. We had never heard of or seen a volcanic bomb, so we went to this site first. We were successful in finding it and, using a description in one of our books, found some volcanic bombs ranging in size from a few inches to one the size of a large football. It was getting late in the day, and we wanted to spend the night in Williams at a motel. We had pretty much decided we were getting too stiff and weathered for this camping business (not old mind you).

From Williams we headed for Parks (day 5), and a location called Parks Obsidian (at least we knew what obsidian looks like). We had a little trouble with this location because, when we used the mileage on the map in the book to get to Forest Road 107 from Forest Road 141, we ended up at Forest Road 100. We went a little further, backed-tracked, and still couldn't find Forest Road 107. We finally took Forest Road 100, and found there was a misprint in the book, or the road numbers had changed. We were then supposed to look for something called Obsidian Tank, and didn't see it. So we parked on a turnout called Obsidian Rd., and started hunting for pieces of obsidian. After finding a few pieces, I turned around, looked back toward the truck, and what should I spot through the trees on the other side of the road? A big sign that said "Obsidian Tank". Obsidian Tank is a big pond, and there was obsidian all over the ground. We collected a couple of freezer bags full, and headed for Winslow to spend the night.

This morning (day 6) after breakfast we headed south on Hwy 87 to Hwy 99 to our next collecting site. "Winslow Petrified Wood" was another item we had a good idea what we were looking for. It was easy to get to, and we

found lots of small pieces of petrified wood and Jasper over a large area. You just had to be real careful about getting stuck by the abundance of cactus growing around the rocks you were trying to pick up! After here we were going to stop at Rincon Basin Minerals, but when we got there, the road was blocked off (reason unknown), so we went on to Woodruff Petrified Wood.



Petrified wood from Winslow and Woodruff

To get to Woodruff Petrified Wood we returned to I-40, headed east to Holbrook, took 77 south 6.5 miles, and turned left toward Woodruff. The collecting area is on both sides of the road. We went about 3.5 miles, per book's suggestion, and started looking. We found a few small pieces, and it started to sprinkle. We could see a big rainsquall heading our way, so we decided to have lunch, and wait for it to pass. One of the biggest thunder and hail storms that Margaret had ever seen broke loose. Fortunately, we were sitting on hard ground, and didn't have to worry about getting stuck. After about an hour and a half it let up, the sun came out, and we could see beautiful pieces of petrified wood all over the ground. We spent about an hour picking up pieces from small to fist-sized.

It was getting late, and we wanted to go to the Petrified Forest National Park to get some posters before heading further east. It was quite comical when the attendant asked us at the entrance if we had any rocks in the truck,

and then asked about petrified wood. The ranger was very nice, and let us go on in after we told her what kind of rocks we had or thought we had. We went east, and spent the night in Chambers. Margaret said that it rained most of the night (thank goodness hearing aids are removable).

Next we stopped outside Grants, New Mexico at Grants Ridge. Here the book said you could find Apache tears, small topaz and garnet crystals. The crystals are generally concealed in gas cavities in rhyolite blocks from the higher cliffs. We found some small Apache tears, and clear small crystals, but not many.

From Grants we went to a place just west of Albuquerque called Rio Puerco. This location is littered with colorful agate, jasper, petrified wood and Apache Tears. On the west side of the river is the Canoncita Indian Reservation, and on the east side is the collecting area that consists of a bunch of gravel-topped hills. However, except next to the frontage road, the hills were fenced off and I couldn't tell if it was a highway fence or a property fence. When we go back I'll try to find out. As it was, we found plenty of wood and jasper, and a few pieces of agate next to the road.

Our next stop was a four-day rest in Los Lunas with some very dear and long time friends. We will give the truck a rest and head home next month.

LOOKING FOR THE GOOD STUFF

Wayne Mills, member, Orcutt Mineral Society

To a rock collector there is a big difference between looking for, and finding neat rocks. Often we have an idea of what occurs there, whether from friends or from a book. Finding what is there requires knowing where and how to look. A rock's true identity can be hidden by a weathered surface, caliche, dirt, and desert varnish among others.

At our last show, I enjoyed Dick Knox's display of ugly rocks for the same reason I enjoy the rough and finished displays you often see at shows. You get to see what the rocks look like in the field, then what the finished product

looks like. It helps to pay attention, and even to take notes when you see other people's neat rocks from areas you might like to visit.

When going into the field, some techniques for finding what's there are these:

1. Look in a creek or creek bed. A good representation of the area's rocks will be found there, and often in the approximate proportion they occur in the field. Remember about 90% of the people will be looking down to find rocks, don't neglect to look at the side walls of the creek.



Kelly Tapper and Bess Shields in the Big Sandy Creek

2. Take a piece of the rock you are looking for with you. Look at it often if you are having trouble spotting your quarry. When you find a small piece of the "good stuff", keep it until you find a better piece. I have spent several hours looking for pegmatite minerals in dirt that was fresh from the mine. When I looked closely at the ¼ inch material, and found blonde hairs, I knew someone had been there first, so try to make sure you're in "virgin territory".

3. Be careful turning over rocks. Wear gloves, and use an implement other than your hand for bigger rocks. Snakes and scorpions like the cool under or in the shade of larger rocks.

4. Having a partner helps, you have a safety net, and you can cover twice as much territory. An eagle eye like Sylvia Nasholm can spot great rocks from the car!

5. If you don't find good stuff near the parking lot, go farther afield. According to our best rockhound, if you walk a mile from the parking area you will be further than 90% or more of the collectors who have visited the area. At 2 miles, you are farther than about 98% of them.

This brings us to leaverites, garden rocks, and throwing rocks. In some rocks, like geodes, ugly is only skin deep. In other rocks it goes all the way to the core. To avoid carting unnecessary tonnage home, knock an end off the rock and wet it to see if it is something you would want to display, or even put in your garden. Of course, you might have a unique use for the material that would make it more desirable, like flint knapping, or some facet of the hobby you haven't discovered yet.

Another consideration is what do you want to do with the rock? If you want garden rocks, your choices are pretty unlimited. If you want rocks for cabochons, try fluorite, travertine and other carbonates. They are OK for pendants, but not for rings because they scratch easily. But they also polish easier. You can also polish jade by hand, but it will take a lot longer. If you want aquarium rocks, collect chert, agate, chalcedony, or basalt. Some other rocks will react with the water and can harm the fish.

HOW DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU FOUND?

With rocks, they will be beautiful or ugly without a name. While it is nice to keep a label on where the rock comes from, it is not vital information unless you enter a competition. Remember though, that specimens lose much of their value if you do not know where they came from.

Five minerals make up 90% of the rocks at the earth's surface. Ninety-five percent of these rocks are igneous-formed from lava, and five percent of these are sedimentary. That does not leave much room for metamorphic rocks (those changed by heat and pressure), does it? Both the continental crust (granite), and the ocean crust (basalt) are made primarily of these 5 minerals. The difference in appearance of the

two is mainly in the proportions of each mineral present. Knowing the appearance and forms of these 5 minerals can go a long way towards identification of most rocks you find.

WHAT ARE THEY?

The most abundant mineral is **Feldspar**. Gem varieties of feldspar include amazonite, labradorite, sunstone, and moonstone. These mostly occur in areas of igneous rock—think pegmatite.



Labradorite from Trey Woodward's Texas Ranch

Next most abundant is **Quartz**. Important varieties of this mineral (silicon dioxide) are: the crystalline varieties—amethyst, citrine, smoky, and clear; the microcrystalline varieties that include chert, flint, chalcedony (agate), and opal (hydrated chalcedony).

Calcite has many forms both terrestrial and marine. These include limestone, travertine, aragonite, cave onyx, caliche, and sea shells.

Mica—How many people have been excited to see golden sparkles in their gold pan? Often that is muscovite mica, rather than the object of their intentions. Mica comes in sheets up to several feet in diameter, in several colors including lavender (lithium) mica called lepidolite, and green (chrome) mica called fuchsite. Usually, you only find large flakes of mica in igneous terraines, near pegmatites.

Magnetite—This is the iron in basalt. It is an iron oxide like hematite that is the major ore of iron. So it is dense (as opposed to heavy).

Hematite is also part of the “black sand” that gold panners look for as an indication of gold.



Amethyst from 4 Peaks Mine in Arizona

FIGURING OUT WHAT'S THERE:

To get an idea of what you might find in an area, a geologic map can come in handy. If you see that an area is largely sedimentary, be on the lookout for fossils. If it is granitic, look for pegmatite minerals. If basaltic, look for forms of chalcedony (agate) in seams and amygdules (nodules and geodes).

In areas of metamorphic rocks, you might find garnets, marble, quartzite, jade and soapstone, among other neat rocks.

If you find a dense, metallic rock that is out of place, look at it closely, it could be a meteorite. They occur in all rock terraines.

When in doubt, ask. In a mineral society, you are probably rubbing shoulders with someone who has been collecting in the area longer than you, and can help identify most of your treasures.

Gem trail, rockhound, and fossil guides can help put you in the right place.

FINDING WHAT'S THERE:

An axiom of collecting is that the more dirt you move, the more ground you cover, and the more rocks you turn over (or cap), the more “good stuff” you find. In the field, look for rocks with odd weathering patterns or shapes (knobby, gnarly, spherical), colors that are dif-

ferent from most of the others, or rocks that are the size you want. After all, you only have so much daylight...

Orcutt Mineral Society

Board Meeting

Mussell Senior Center, Santa Maria CA

4 May, 2004

Call to Order at 7:01 p.m. by President Deborah Hood. Board members present were Sharon Duncan, Bill Hood, Debbie Hood, Wes Lingerfelt, Marshall Reeves, Geary Sheffer, Bess Shields, Lucky Virgin, Wayne Mills, Immediate Past President, and Dick Shields, member.

Treasurer's Report was read by Wes Lingerfelt, and accepted as read. Minutes of the previous Board Meeting were approved as published.

Correspondence:

- Sun Valley Indian School newsletter.
- *Dinny's Doins* newsletter.
- *Rockonteur* newsletter from Santa Lucia Rockhounds Club.
- Fortress Secure Mini Storage, an increase in storage fees.
- Cuesta College Foundation in thanks for our \$400 scholarship.
- Hancock College in thanks for our \$475 scholarship.

Committee Reports:

Adopt-a-Highway: Marshall Reeves stated that the next cleanup will be on May 15th.

Bulletin (Ore-Cutts): Bess Shields reported that the bulletin was mailed and emailed last weekend. Members have been contributing interesting articles.

Education: Wayne Mills has the Arroyo Grande library reserved for a July OMS display. Marshall Reeves announced that the Lompoc library will host a July display. Dick Shields has reserved the Santa Maria library for June and July.

Show:

- Advertising was discussed by Wes Lingerfelt. Lapidary Journal, Rock & Gem, and the CFMS Bulletin will have our OMS show announcements published
- Wes Lingerfelt says that the grass is tall, and squirrel holes abound, so he will talk to Rosie at the church to see what needs to be done in preparation for the Gem Show.

Sunshine: Debbie Hood reported that OMS members attended the Oleta Ross funeral. Wayne moved that OMS donate to the CFMS Endowment Fund in Oleta Ross' memory. Bill Hood seconded the motion which passed. Fred Summerson will have more cancer tests this week.

Old / unfinished business:

- Debbie Hood reminded us that the May General Meeting competition for best Treasure Chest donation

will win the donator a beautiful lepidolite sphere made by Wes Lingerfelt.

New business:

- Debbie Hood read an application for membership from John Belzel. Wes Lingerfelt moved that we accept John as a member, seconded by Sharon Duncan. John was unanimously accepted as our newest member.

- Debbie Hood reminded members of the Glass Beadmaking class on the 13th and 27th at DeeDee Magri's home. Also, the Wire Wrap class is at Elaine VonAchen's home on the 20th.

- Debbie Hood will present the May General Meeting program. It will be on "Getting Started in Wire Wrapping". Bring your awesome rocks for the display. Also, remember the competition for best Treasure Chest donation. The refreshments will be cakes and cupcakes.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:31 p.m. by President Hood.

Respectfully submitted,

Bess Shields, Secretary, OMS

Orcutt Mineral Society

General Meeting

Mussell Senior Center, Santa Maria CA

11 May, 2004

Call to Order at 7:07 p.m. by President Deborah Hood. Invocation was given by Bess Shields on "Good Days". Flag Salute was led by Truman Burgess.

Sharon Duncan reported that 28 members, and 2 guest were present. Guests were Madoka Belzel and Bob Wright.

Treasurer's Report was read by Wes Lingerfelt, and accepted as read. Minutes of the previous Board Meeting were approved as read.

Committee Reports:

Adopt-a-Highway: Marshall Reeves invites everyone to the May 15th cleanup at Highways 101 and 166. It begins at 8:00 a.m., and ends with coffee and a pastry at Omelets & More.

Breakfast: Debbie Hood announced the May 22nd breakfast at Omelets & More beginning at 8:15 a.m.

Bulletin (Ore-Cutts): Bess Shields thanked members for recent submissions of travel stories, techniques, and articles.

Education: Wayne Mills was asked to be "the Old Prospector" at the Dana Adobe Days on 12 June. He needs volunteers to assist him.

Field Trips, Safety: Dick Shields reported that the Big Sandy field trip on May 8th was very successful. Sphere material, fluorescent pieces, marble, turritella, and jaspers were abundant. June 12 will be the field trip to Brea Creek via Colson Canyon to Miranda Pines (Rock Front

Ranch). Also, remember the Vandenberg AFB beaches trip on July 10th.

Historian: Sharon Duncan will hold a scrapbooking party soon to assemble our OMS History Books. There will be more information next month.

Library, Books, Videos: Bess Shields brought beading and jewelry books, plus beading tapes for tonight's library selections. Dick Shields reminded members to start preparing for our Santa Maria Public Library display in June and July.

Property: Geary Sheffer remarked that the locker now looks the cleanest he's ever seen it after our cleanup efforts last month.

Raffle: Marshall Reeves has a nice selection of prizes for tonight's raffle.

Refreshments: Sharon Duncan thanked Margaret Hensen, Elaine Von Achen, Bess Shields, Al Wilcox, and Wayne Mills for bringing desserts this month.

Sheriff: Bill Hood found that everyone wore nametags this month.

Sunshine: Debbie Hood circulated a get well card for Fred Summerson, and a card of condolence for Oleta Ross' family. Debbie's knee surgery went well.

Correspondence:

(Show fliers, exchange bulletins, and notices announced under correspondence are at the front table following the business portion of the meeting, and during refreshment time, for members to view.)

- *Tule Smoke Signals* newsletter from Tule Gem & Mineral Club.
- *Rockonteur* newsletter from Santa Lucia Rockhounds Club.
- *Dinny's Doins* newsletter.
- Sun Valley Indian School newsletter.
- *Rocky Review* newsletter from Conejo Gem & Mineral Club.
- *Pick & Shovel* newsletter from San Geronio Mineral & Gem Club.
- *Tumble Rumble* from Capistrano Valley Rock & Mineral Club.
- *The Agatizer* newsletter from South Bay (Torrance) Club.
- *Rockhound Notes* newsletter.
- *Metal Stone & Glass* magazine, Winter 2004.
- San Francisco Gem & Mineral Gem Show invitation.
- Jefferson County OR Gem Show announcement.
- Fortress Secure Mini-Storage, increase in fees letter.
- Cuesta College Foundation letter in thanks for the OMS \$400 scholarship.
- Hancock College letter in thanks for the OMS \$475 scholarship.
- US Dept of Agriculture, Forest Plan update.

Old / unfinished business:

- Marshall Reeves announced that the OMS Gem Show raffle tickets will be distributed at the June Picnic.
- The Treasure Chest Competition will take place at the June Picnic instead of during this meeting.

New business:

- Debbie Hood welcomed our newest member, John Belzel.

Debbie reminded members about the June 5th Picnic in Pioneer Park from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. A silent auction will also be conducted. Following the break for refreshments, Debbie Hood gave an informative talk on "Getting Started in Wire Wrapping".

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. by President Hood.

Respectfully submitted,
Bess Shields, Secretary, OMS

ALFRED F. RYZNER

Alfred F. Ryzner passed away on May 15, 2004 in Santa Maria. Al served in the US Army Air Corp during World War II, then worked for Union Oil Company until his retirement in 1976. Louise, the love of his life, passed away March 31st of this year. Al and Louise were longtime members of Orcutt Mineral Society. Al was known for his beautiful jewelry creations. He was buried in the veterans section of Los Osos Veterans Memorial Park.

FRIENDSHIP CLASSES



Join our beaders at the Beading Class on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at DeeDee Magri's home. For further information, call DeeDee at 595-2755.

Wire Wrapping Classes are being held on the 3rd Thursday of each month at Elaine VonAchen's home. For further information, please call Elaine at 929-1488.

The Wanderer

Showing Off in Mariposa

Dick and I will return to Mariposa, land of his ancestors, after many years of absence. We look forward to visiting the Butterfly Market, Chibchas Restaurant, and old friends. But, our main objective is to support the CFMS Show, and the Fluorescent Mineral Society displays. Our displays are instructional in nature, not competitive.



Benitoite crystal with characteristic form

Dick's display will feature "Benitoite: the California State Gemstone", and its related crystals (Joaquinite, Neptunite, and Natrolite). Viewers to his fluorescent exhibit will see mine run material, acid etched pieces, rough crystals, and prized collector specimens.

My fluorescent case is an informational, kid-oriented display of locations where kids, beginning rockhounds, and pebble pups can collect their own specimens. Remember, we all had to start our rockhounding experience somewhere, and this show provides an excellent opportunity to show off the minerals we can collect in California.

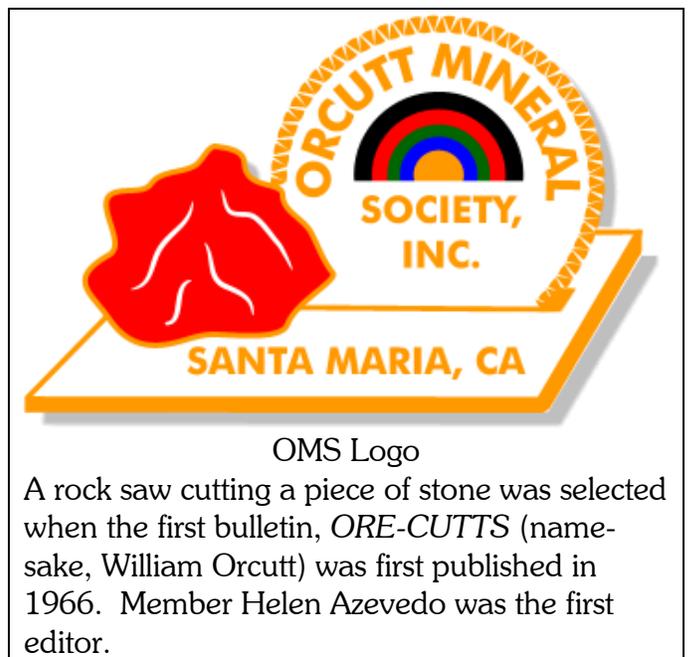
A comment of "I can do that, and I can go there!" would be the best response possible from newcomers to our hobby. If the displays spark the interest of even one person, our efforts will have been rewarded. Care to join us in Mariposa?

Happy Hunting, Love, Bess

Official Stuff

OMS Purpose

Founded in 1958, and is 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, Orcutt discovered the fossil wealth of the La Brea Tar Pits, one of the most significant fossil finds in paleontological history. The Society is a non-profit club, dedicated to stimulating an interest in rocks and minerals. The club offers educational programs, field trips, youth activities, and other opportunities for families and individuals to pursue an interest in collecting and lapidary treatment of rocks, fossils, gems, minerals, and other facets of Earth Sciences. In addition, a 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 purposes. Affiliations: California Federation of Mineralogical Societies and American Federation of Mineralogical Societies.



OMS Logo

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

2004 OMS Elected Officers

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| President | Debbie Hood | (805) 481-6860 |
| President Elect | Lucky Virgin | (805) 929-9525 |
| Secretary | Bess Shields | (805) 937-0357 |
| Treasurer | Wes Lingerfelt | (805) 929-3788 |

| | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Immediate Past President | Wayne Mills | (805) 481-3495 |
| CFMS Representative | Wes Lingerfelt | (805) 929-3788 |

2004 OMS Board Members

| | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Geary Sheffer | (805) 925-8009 |
| Sylvia Nasholm | (805) 481-0923 |
| Bill Hood | (805) 481-6860 |
| Sharon Duncan | (805) 929-2209 |
| Marshall Reeves | (805) 588-8932 |

Ore-Cutts Editors

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Dick and Bess Shields | (805) 937-0357 |
|-----------------------|----------------|

Webmasters

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Dick Shields | (805) 937-0357 |
| Wes Lingerfelt | (805) 929-3788 |

June 2004 Calendar

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| Tuesday June 1, 2004 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM | OMS Board Meeting -- Mussell Senior Center. All members are welcome at this business meeting. |
| Saturday June 5, 2004 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM | OMS Annual Picnic -- Pioneer Park, Santa Maria Meat, bread, and sodas are provided. We start the fire about 1000 and will be ready to serve about 1230. Bring your own plates and silverware a side dish to share. We also suggest bringing a lawn chair for comfort. Bring rocks for the silent auction! |
| Saturday June 12, 2004 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM | Field Trip to Brea Creek -- Meet at Mussell Senior Center Parking Lot Explore the northern edge of the San Rafael Wilderness area. Plan to get your shoes wet in the creek, fill your gas tank (no services in the canyon), and bring plenty of bottled water and a lunch. Wilderness Pass required. |
| Saturday June 26, 2004 8:15 AM - 9:15 AM | OMS Monthly Breakfast -- Omelets and More, Nipomo Call Ken Kreh at 343-7749 for details. |

July 2004 Calendar

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| Tuesday July 6, 2004 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM | OMS Board Meeting -- Mussell Senior Center. All members are welcome at this business meeting. |
| Saturday July 10, 2004 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM | Field Trip to Vandenberg Beaches -- Meet at Mussell Senior Center Parking Lot Bring a valid government issued picture ID (i.e., CA driver's license) and proof of auto insurance for each vehicle. Also bring plenty of water and a lunch. Call Dick Shields at 937-0357 for details |
| Tuesday | OMS General Meeting -- Mussell |

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| July 13, 2004 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM | Senior Center. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program: "Displaying" by Wayne Mills • Display: Best 1 X 1 (foot) Display • Refreshment: Pie |
| Saturday July 17, 2004 8:00 - 10:00 AM | OMS Highway Cleanup -- Intersection of Highway 101 and 166 After the cleanup we have coffee and pastry at "Omelets and More" in Nipomo. Contact Marshall Reeves at 733-2775 for details. |
| Saturday July 24, 2004 8:15 AM - 9:15 AM | OMS Monthly Breakfast -- Omelets and More, Nipomo Call Ken Kreh at 343-7749 for details. |

August 2004 Calendar

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| Tuesday August 3, 2004 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM | OMS Board Meeting -- Mussell Senior Center. All members are welcome at this business meeting. |
| Friday - Sunday August 6-8, 2004 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM | 37th Annual OMS Gem Show - St Joseph's Church, 298 South Thompson Avenue, Nipomo. For details go to http://www.omsinc.org/tailgate.html For reservations call Wes Lingerfelt at (805) 929-3788 or Debbie Hood at (805) 481-6860 |
| Tuesday August 10, 2004 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM | OMS General Meeting -- Mussell Senior Center <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program: OMS Gem Show Recap, Pictures from Show • Display: Agates from everywhere • Refreshment: Cookies |
| Saturday August 28, 2004 8:15 AM - 9:15 AM | OMS Monthly Breakfast -- Omelets and More, Nipomo Call Ken Kreh at 343-7749 for details. |

Web Sites of Note:

June 2004

National Geographic web site on Archaeology and Paleontology:

<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/archaeology.html>

Virtual Reality Panoramas:

<http://virtualguidebooks.com>

Mama's Minerals (for beginner's supplies):

<http://mamasminerals.com/>

California Federation of Mineralogical Societies:

<http://www.cfmsinc.org/>

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies:

<http://www.amfed.org/>

Check our OMS web site at
<http://omsinc.org> or send email to
oms@ix.netcom.com.

Highway Cleanup

Highway Cleanup was accomplished quickly last month since there were so many volunteers. Those crew members were: Christine Clason, Lucky Virgin, Chuck Ferguson, Bob Bullock, Wes Lingerfelt, John VonAchen, Mike and Margaret Hensen, Dick and Bess Shields, Geary Sheffer, Stan and Brenna Ferguson, Sharon Duncan, Marty Lingerfelt, and Marshall Reeves. During breakfast at Omelets & More, the "cleanup participation prize drawing" won Margaret Hensen a beautiful faceted 8x10 amethyst. Many thanks to the participants of the May Cleanup!

OMS 2004 ANNUAL PICNIC

June 5th 10 am to 3 pm

Silent Auction

Pioneer Park,

West Foster Road, Orcutt

Meat, bread and soda provided

Please bring a dish or dessert to share

37th Annual OMS Gem Show

Earth's Treasures - Rocks - Minerals - Gems
Exhibits - Tailgaters - Demonstrations - Lapidary Equipment
St Joseph's Church
298 South Thompson Avenue
Nipomo, California

3 Big Days! 10 AM-5 PM

August 6th, 7th, 8th 2004

ONE-OF-A-KIND CRAFTED STONE
MERCHANDISE FROM ALL OVER THE
WORLD. ROCK BOTTOM PRICES!

RAFFLES! PRIZES!

FOOD ON SALE!

MONSTER SANTA MARIA STYLE BBQ ON
SATURDAY NIGHT ONLY \$7.50 FOR
ADULTS, \$3.50 FOR KIDS 12 AND UNDER.
Free Parking – Free Admission!

Orcutt Mineral Society
P.O. Box 106
Santa Maria, CA 93456

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED