



# Ore-Cutts

Volume XL, Issue VI

June, 2005

## Avila Rhyolite (aka DeeDeeite)

By DeeDee Magri, OMS Board Member

*Presented at the May 2005 OMS General Meeting*

A few years ago, Aldo and I spent a lot of time sitting and reading on Avila Beach, and walking. All I saw were a few small jaspers here and there, but as I went more East on the beach I noticed a cliff side and a rock pile. As my husband read, I started searching through the rocks, and noticed that the smaller rocks were not that heavy and very fine grained with very microscopic type crystals. The color was white, gray, and almost blue looking. Some of the rocks had black areas on them.



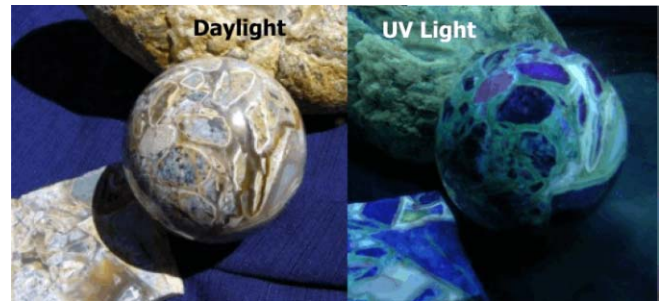
DeeDeeite as it appears on the beach

I really started analyzing all the rocks thoroughly. I had some of these rocks cut by Wes Lingerfelt (who's initial opinion was that it is an "Ugly Rock"), and this is what it came out like. Eventually the rock was made into spheres and turned out to be very interesting and beautiful.

The Avila Rhyolite is an igneous siliceous rock containing agate, chalcedony, white

quartz, and marcasite. When the stone is cut you can see Brecciated patterns, quartz inclusions, and agate banding. It is a fine-grained, acid, volcanic rock that may have phenocrysts giving off a perforated texture.

This is also a fluorescent rock, exhibiting orange, green, and some blue. Igneous rock is formed by the crystallization of once molten material. The molten rock is called magma, and once it reaches the surface, it is called lava. The magma or lava crystallizes to form silica minerals. Chalcedony and agate formed in cavities by precipitation from silica bearing ground water in rock cracks and cavities. With agate the beauty is in the juxtaposition of the bands of different colors.



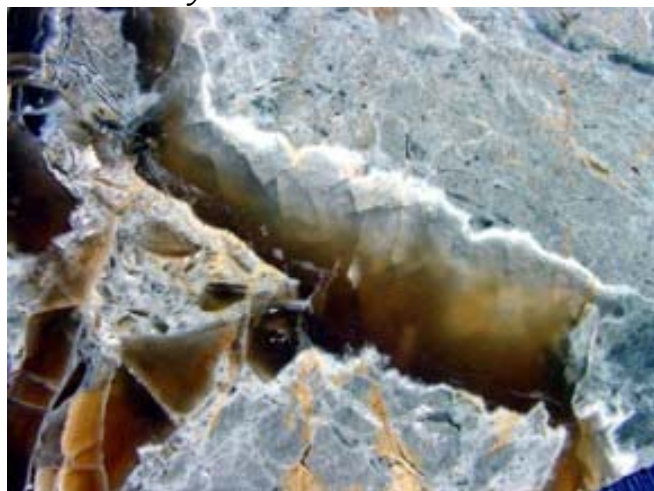
Daylight and UV views of DeeDeeite

Lots of volcanic activity occurred all over this area making this rock very gaseous when it was developing, coming up very slowly, and becoming a melting pot, it picked up limestone, sandstone, serpentine, and different sediments along the way. Like an acidic goulash slowly rising and eventually ending up as what you see today. The agate banding would have been a long, slow process that would have formed as time went on. During this time of volcanic activity there must have been an earthquake of great magnitude. It formed fis-

tures and large cracks, eventually forming thermal springs.

The faulting and volcanic activity ranged from Twitchell Dam east of Santa Maria, Figueroa Mountain area, Nipomo area, all the way up to Avila. Then it crossed the fault at Los Osos Valley, up to Morro Rock, continuing up Highway 46 to the Black Mountain area.

This large geode specimen belongs to Dick and Bess Shields. It is very similar to the Avila rock. This rock tells me that it must have floated its way to this area also.



Agate bands show amazing depth & rich warm colors

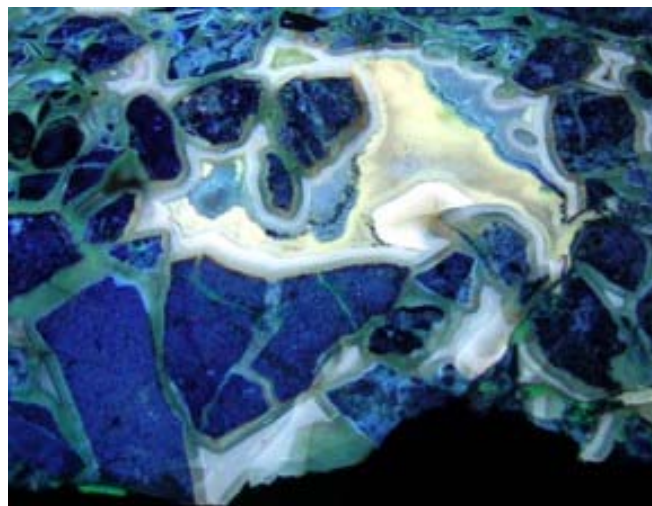
Grain size is one of the two main criteria used for identifying and classifying igneous rocks. In fine-grained lavas like Rhyolite and Basalt, the grains cannot be easily distinguished even with hand lenses. The other criteria are the chemistry and the mineral composition. Grain size is coarse, medium or fine. Mineral composition varies.

Chalcedony is  $\text{SiO}_2$ , and is a microcrystalline variety of silicon dioxide containing very small crystals or pores usually botryoidal or mammilated. Botryoidal is like a bunch of grapes. Mammilated are like large, gently rounded aggregates. The color appearing in most of this rock is white, gray, and blue. Due to the marcasite trace elements it almost appears to be blue in certain areas.

Marcasite  $\text{FeS}_2$  nodules have a radiating internal structure. Its brassy, yellow color darkens with exposure to the atmosphere. The streak is

greenish black. It is an opaque mineral with a metallic luster. Marcasite forms from acidic solutions permeating beds of shale, clay, limestone, and chalk.

Porphyritic andesite has a fine-grained matrix with a composition similar to diorite. When examined microscopically the groundmass is fine grained plagioclase ranging from oligoclase to andesine can be identified with amphibole and biotite. Andesites are generally not as dark as basalts and are erupted from rather violent volcanoes.



The agate fluoresces light tan to white under SW

At this point in the program DeeDee turned the floor over to Wes and Ralph who demonstrated the colors and patterns found in the Rhyolite under a black light. It is truly amazing that some stones exhibit great colors and patterns while just inches away in the same rock, nothing glows at all. These zones are mineralized to the degree necessary for the fluorescent effect to occur while the other zones are not.

Editors Note: The program DeeDee presented was well received and enhanced the desire to make an Avila Beach trip in the near future. Well done, DeeDee!

### Field Trip To Salty's

By Sharon Duncan, OMS President Elect

It all started with a beautiful warm day on May 14<sup>th</sup> when approximately 19 of us headed for San Miguel. Our course took us through San Miguel to Indian Valley Road, then right on to Big Sandy where we continued on a dirt road ending up at a ranch where Carl "Salty"

Tapper, and his wife, Kelly, are caretakers. Our group included Dick and Bess Shields, Ralph Bishop, Lucky Virgin, Wes and Jeannie Lingerfelt, Sharon Duncan, Christine Clason, DeeDee Magri, Geary Sheffer, Bob Bullock and his brother Rick, Peggy Johnsen, Brian Shull, Marshall Reeves, John and Matkuda Belzel, David Warren, and one guest.



Hunting the creek at Big Sandy

The creek was still running due to late rains but we were still able to get around it, through it, or over it. The large boulders from last year, that were going to be the high point for rocking this year, had been dispersed from all the rain we had. However, there were still plenty of choices, and I noticed that many of them made it to Wes' big F-350 Crew Cab truck.

At noontime everyone gathered in a nice shady spot to relax, eat their lunches, or take advantage of Dick's fluorescing machine to see if their particular rock fluoresced.

Types of rock that come out of that particular area include granite, basalt with agate spots, chert, moss agate, actinolite, orbicular jasper, brecciate jasper, and agate. The area is also known for interesting fossils and turritellas.

I understand Bess had to leave the "big one" behind, as it was just a little too big to bring home.

We certainly want to thank Salty and Kelly for allowing us to visit the ranch, and partake of the treasures that exist there. We look forward to more field trips to the Big Sandy area.

I believe everyone had a great time, and came away with a special rock or two. O.K., so I will speak for myself. I did!!!

## Arizona in May

By Wes Lingerfelt, OMS Treasurer

I had been watching the Internet news groups and noticed a broadcast of a pending field trip to Arizona to collect petrified wood on a private ranch adjacent to the Petrified Forest. I told myself that would be a good trip to go on but time just wouldn't allow it right now. So, I filed it away and forgot about it. And then, the President of Diamond Pacific Corp, Bill Depue, calls me up about a week before the event scheduled for 28 May 2005. After much discussion and out of a little guilt for turning him down so many times in the past, I agreed to make the trip.



The one in the middle is a keeper

Jeannie and I scheduled rooms in Kingman, AZ for the 26<sup>th</sup>, and in Holbrook for the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of May for Bill and us. We had no idea what to expect once we got there, as we have never been to this particular ranch before. Apparently the government is lusting after the fellow's ranch to expand the national park, so the rancher is selling off his wood logs as fast as he can before he loses the property. We knew there had been several groups of people visit the property before us so, for all we knew, there might not be anything left to collect.

We made Holbrook by mid-day on the 27<sup>th</sup> giving us time to visit the rock shop – museums in the area, as well as a quick visit to the Sun Valley Indian School. I donated a nice Stone Canyon Jasper sphere to the school, and had a nice visit with a dear friend there, Dale Johnson. Our children used to play together when we lived in Lompoc in the 1970's.

The visit to the rock shops resulted in spending cash for some nice rounds of petrified wood (a little over 200 pounds) since we hate to travel so far, and possibly get skunked on the field trip. The Best Inn in Holbrook provided a very nice room for a reasonable price of \$36.00 plus tax per night. It was good to get away from the bustle of the shop at home, and just relax before we headed out in the morning.

The night passed too quickly, but the next day was cooler than yesterday which bode well for the dig in the desert. I stopped at the Chevron station on the North end of town to get some ice and sandwiches for lunch. They only had one sandwich left in the cooler along with a few Chilidogs. I asked Jeannie if she wanted a chilidog, and she said, "Hell, NO!" So I popped the ice and sandwich in the cooler, and climbed into the truck.

Just as I was about to turn onto the freeway entrance Bill turned to me and said, "Uuh, Wes, don't you think you should wait for Jeannie?" in his slow drawl form of speech. With great alarm I looked in the back seat, and sure enough Jeannie wasn't there! I said, "OOPS!", turned the truck around, and parked on the other side of the Station to wait for her to come out. "I'll never ever live this one down," I thought to myself.

We drove the 28 miles out to exit 320 on the Interstate, and found several people already there. A lady named Mary came up and gave me a big hug (I knew her from other trips that Jeannie didn't get to go on), leaving Jeannie wondering what I had been up to all those years. Anyway, we signed the papers and then made the 10 miles plus journey south across the desert, railroad tracks, and rivers to the collecting area.



Bill Depue on his trek through the "forest"

Upon arrival we could hardly contain ourselves. We had been worrying for nothing. There was petrified wood everywhere, mountains of it! It was about 9 a.m. with some high clouds cutting down on the bright sun light, and the temperature was about 77 degrees. Just right for digging!

Bill took off on his trek to find that perfect log, and Jeannie and I took off across the desert as well. Pretty soon Jeannie stubbed her toe on a piece of round wood and said, "Hey, Wes, what about this one?" I took a look, and it was indeed a premium piece of wood. I began to dig it out, and after about two feet of digging, I realized it was going to take something bigger than me to uncover it. I placed a marker on it so the Backhoe could locate it later in the day.

We continued our trek across the desert, and we each found a small piece of completely round limbs, which quickly went into our bags.



Slices off the extremely rare small limb

I soon found another complete round log, mostly buried except for a beautiful knot sticking up out of the ground. This intrigued me, so I began to dig it out. I soon realized it would take my big bar (Big Bertha) to pry it loose, so I began the walk of a mile or so back to the truck to retrieve it. Jeannie said, "Why don't you just bring the truck down here?" Realizing she was smarter than the average bear, I said, "Good idea!"

I notified the Backhoe driver of our need for assistance, and took the truck back across the desert to where Jeannie was standing guard over my log. About this time Bill arrived from his trek with his 60 pounds of small pieces in a bag. Together we pried the log out of the ground, and waited for the Backhoe driver to arrive.

Bill had brought along a real nice, juicy cantaloupe that we proceeded to slice up and eat. It was

really tasty out there in the middle of nowhere. The driver arrived, and we offered him some of the tasty treat, which he readily accepted.

We loaded up the 365-pound log into the backhoe's bucket, and then proceeded across the desert to the other log we had marked. The driver got off course a little, and we had to call him over to the correct location where he proceeded to set up the backhoe. Using the long arm of the machine, he started to dig out the log Jeannie had stumbled over.

About this time Bill noticed a really big log lying nearby. As I heard the crack of the log the backhoe was uncovering, Bill said, "Hey, Wes, what do think of this one?" I walked over and looked at the log, and thought to myself, "Jesus Christ! He can't be serious!" "That is one monster of a log, and I doubt that it would ever fit into my truck!" I inspected it carefully, hoping to find some reason to say, "It's a Leverite!" As luck would have it, it was a beauty! At least a one-ton plus beauty!

We walked over to the driver of the backhoe and said, "UH! Do you think you could get that one out of the ground?" He looked at it and said, "I'll need to go get my straps and chains, but I doubt it will fit into the bucket". He proceeded to take my log back to the parking area and the scales. In short order he was back with the necessary equipment, and we soon had the log loaded on the bucket (just barely).



Too big for the collecting bag! (And at a ton, too big for our truck. Bill's hiring a bigger rig soon!)

As he climbed the ridge to the parking area with it, we noticed he was sliding sideways. For a moment there we thought he was going to lose it along with the backhoe. But, he skillfully re-adjusted his

angle of attack and made it up the hill, and over the top. Since there was no way to officially weigh the log, it was placed on the lowboy trailer owned by the ranch so the ranch hands could weigh it at the local truck scales. I was glad to hear that Bill would come back later to retrieve the log with his own trailer.

Earlier Bill had seen some logs lying near a ridge, and wanted me to take a look at them. So we drove over to the location, and sure enough, there were a couple logs that we just couldn't leave behind. So, off we went to get the backhoe driver to come back down and help us carry them up to the scales.

By this time it was getting close to 1 p.m. in the afternoon. The temperature was in the mid-eighties, not bad at all for the Arizona desert. With the help of the backhoe we soon had all the logs (except for the monster log of Bill's) loaded in the truck, and ready to head back to the museum to pay for the load.



The 365-pounder with knots that came home

The desert was exceptional with lots of flowers blooming. We were well pleased with ourselves for a wonderful day in the desert. We had found some real treasures, and at only a dollar a pound, practically a gift. By the time we arrived at the museum, the wind was blowing a gale, at least 45 mph. We paid for the wood, and headed back to the motel for some much needed rest.

For supper we found the Butterfield Stage Co. Steakhouse in Holbrook. The waiter took us to a table, and we sat down. Upon looking at the wall

next to our booth we saw something that startled us both. There on the wall was a collage of pictures about our hometown of Guthrie, Oklahoma. On one of the pictures a date of May 28<sup>th</sup>, but no year was displayed. The date we were there was May 28<sup>th</sup>. That was a little scary!

The next day found us heading home (685 miles) with a stops only at the Cracker Barrel in Flagstaff for breakfast and in Barstow to unload Bill's log. We made it home by 6:30 p.m., 12.5 hours after we departed Holbrook.

We have some great memories to carry around now, and we've heard rumors that another trip to this ranch might be in the works. If it comes about, I recommend everyone go. It's a great adventure!

### Changing Times

## **Farewell Glenda and Marshall**

Please join us at the Bon Voyage celebration for Glenda and Marshall Reeves on Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup> immediately following the regularly scheduled OMS Board Meeting. Glenda and Marshall are relocating to Sherwood, Oregon this month, and this is our opportunity to bid them adieu. We owe them a huge debt of gratitude for years of service to Orcutt Mineral Society as hunting partners, instructors, officers, and board members.



Marshall talking with Charlie Azevedo at Ralph's.  
Glenda is on the right.

Glenda has already started her new position, and is setting up their new home in a beautiful horse ranchette neighborhood. Marshall will have plenty of room for his rocks, and the gals can have horses on premises. Please check Marshall's website to keep in touch with them at <http://www.spheresrocksandmore.com> and send email to [betthehorn@msn.com](mailto:betthehorn@msn.com) or to [info@spheresrocksandmore.com](mailto:info@spheresrocksandmore.com).

## **Revelations 22 & 26 according to Ralph**

By Ralph Bishop

My first memory of a young Marshall and Glenda, bailing out of their overstuffed vehicle with the two most strikingly beautiful children I'd ever seen. Stonewall Pass, 500 miles from home, a never before erected tent, sharp rocks cemented by alkali into a not-too-level hard surface. A dusty wind blowing, I had just recently watched National Lampoon "Summer Vacation". I checked the rear bumper of their vehicle for a dog leash. I found none.

Since that time, we have "tripped" together on many occasions. There are many Marshall stories I can tell (ricochet in Zion, the nine foot cricket, the quarter hitchhike, etc., etc.). I feel, however, that I should strive for moral high ground. One learns many lessons in life, love, humor... how about discretion. Marshall taught me a lesson in discretion that I have never forgotten.

Wes, Marshall, and I were headed home along that long stretch of desert, and, as usual, I did my best to entertain the driver so that we would not crash and burn. I'd gone through a litany of true stories (my life has been colorful enough so that fiction is just too boring). I went through the midnight flame-out at the Tar Volcano, the lost rhodonite at Limekiln, the midnight train at Biggs Junction, and a few others from the foggy recesses of my mind.

These tales of grandeur had exhausted my cerebral cortex. I was in DUUUH mode! But, it was vital we keep "leadfoot" awake, and alert. I thought to myself, if we don't, we're dead men riding.

In desperation, in a pleading voice, I cried in anguish, "Marshall,.... tell me a story." (as in Nick Nolte and Eddie Murphy, in the movie "48 Hours"). Well, he started out about this and ho-hum, that, and I saw Wes's head bob, Merchant Marines. Gawd, I thought, we'll never breathe marine air again. Then, out of the mist of time, I heard the words, "San-Fran-Cisco in the Summer of Love." My mind raced back. WOW! Psychedelic, I must admit, the colors woke me up! But, Wes was a "straight arrow" (his nickname in the military). It was up to me to prod Marshall into verbiage, our lives hung in the balance. So I said, "MARSHALL, WHAT DID YOU DO IN SAN-FRAN-CISCO?" An eerie silence ensued.

I heard the whine of the tires on that long asphalt ribbon. Stars glistened on that dark, moonless

night. UFO's were ascending from Area 51. Chuckawallas were eating their dinner.... One second before the next asteroid impact, the words came from his lips, "A VARIETY OF THINGS!" he said in his quiet voice. I was struck dumb. How could I have been so indiscrete as to ask such a pointed question? How could I have been so indiscrete, especially being a man of the cloth?

I was so embarrassed, but Marshall being the gentleman he was continued, "Well, ..... ". More stars, more highway, then, "I was hitchhiking one time, and this guy picked me up. He had a bag full of quarters.... (but that's another story)." That story got us to Tehachapi, 200 miles from home. We stopped at a restaurant there for a much needed meal. It might have been our last if it hadn't been for Marshall's sharp eye. It was late and only a few truckers shared the table in this establishment. We ordered between yawns. Wes ordered liver and onions with bleu cheese dressing. Was I worried? Well, I thought we'd led a good life, we got lots of good rocks.

Just when I thought about the downhill Arvin Spur Road, Marshall spoke in a quiet, but commanding voice, "Hey, guys, you notice these waitresses in Tehachapi have flat rear ends?" It was like being struck by lightning. Wes sat erect, I blinked, the waitress brought the salads. Wes said, "Where's the ranch dressing?" There was a light at the end of the tunnel. Then another one sauntered by. Shazam, he was right, that's two of them. We might breathe foggy air once again. Then the main course came with the bleu cheese on Wes' liver and onions. Wes was stymied, but Marshall and I had loftier thoughts. Then we saw a third and a fourth. Marshall was right, we'd lived to see the foggy bottoms again.

To make a long story short, our homeward journey was successfully completed. Our lively discussion for 200 miles included such esoteric subjects as primitive man as a philosopher, and what happened to Wes when he saw his first bikini (but that's another story).

## Marshall the Hero

By Ralph Bishop with help from Wes Lingerfelt

Then thar was the time I was a ridin' shotgun for the Marshall near the turn of the century. And, that was the time the Marshall single-handedly saved the life of one of our most 'lustrous clubmembers.

The Marshall and I was a runnin' drag on a set of ore wagons, runnin' late and hard out of Tuscarora, Golconda District, northun Neevader, Payute country. We'd strucker rich, shallow-red gold, Tuscarora T(ree).

Just west of the Hernia Club Claim on Toe Jam Creek (think I'm full of it? Check yo' map.) We was pullin' hard for Winnemuc with a cloud of dust on our back trail. I was locked and loaded, but my mind was wanderin' to the casino, and the young Chinese Payute of my dreams (but that's another story!, purely scientific).

The Marshall was some worried 'bout the dust. We didn't want to run afoul of the Black Legged Mob, their brand ran BLM, but they was usually bushwhackers, and would never show a dust sign.

So we was runnin' strong and hard on the straight stretch, east of Golconda, Wes was runnin' point, whippin' the neih leader into a lather. (The quarters in his pocket were a burnin' a hole, poor boy, the casino slots usually ate his lunch and his dinner, but maybe not this time.) We was loaded to the gunnals with red gold. We was some worried about range cattle..... (but that's another story!, a filthy one.)

Next in the train were some tenderfoots, Ted and Marge, they rode tahl in the saddle. Ted was the strong, silent type. Marge, now she was a sweetheart, but don't give her no lip! Wayne was keepin' the pace afore us. So, as I was asayin', we was runnin' smooth, well ahead of the dust when it happened.

The Marshall, sharp as a tack he was, was first to notice, and hollered, "Wayne's startin' to werve and sweeve. Think he's tail-loaded again?"

"Yup", I said, "Wayne makes them Mills hum, but he ain't used to haulin." Now we always figgard Wayne was a teetotaller, maybe a nip of "medicine" in the outhouse now and again, and we never seed him dip no snoose, but his wagon was all over the road puttin' a drunkard to shame.

So Marshall got on the CB (what's that?). "Breaker breaker 1-9, slow the teams down, and puller over." Well, we got together for a conflag, and I posted the perimeter, and watched the back trail. Wayne's rear driver was shot to hell, only seen the likes of it onect before on a wagon outta Coarsegold (BTA story). Why, there was silver cords sticken out everywhere. What tread?

Ohmygawd, as the rear driver was changed, Ted came back to spell me, and water down the

dust. The dust on the back trail was commin' up fast, real fast, but we couldn't roll! Con-sarned-it, Wayne's front, right tar was likewise shot! Same problem, now this was gettin' nervy.

The "Big Brown Wagon" carried the UPS brand, and slowed down to eyeball Ted. OhMyGawd, 'twas a female, and a long, lanky one at that, rare in these parts. Now, as I said, she eyed Ted (BTAS, one of the best). But, when she come up by Marge, she got the worst bad eye I ever seed, and she made tracks, whippin' her team without mercy. It weren't the Black Leg Mob - but? Made us all a mite skittish.

Now Wayne was a movin'. He set the jack on the front axle. Up she come, the lugs was spun, folks, the fat was in the fire, the tar comed off. We was all standin' round like CalTrans employees (what?). Wayne was a movin' and a shakin'. Now slow down, Ralph.

Now picher this, well, the hub she was too low. Wayne was a sittin' injun stahl, his crotch ('scuse me, I'm mite 'barrased here) was below the hub, yup, rot there! The wheel wouldn't go, so Wayne reached for the jack handle. Now folks, the man of the hour spoke forward, "STOP!" The Marshall said in a voice of 'thority, "reset that there jack, pilgrim, or your voice'll change!"

Now the rest of us seed the problem. The roundy part of the jack was on the roundy part of the axle. It was the eagle eye of the Marshall that saved the day. That thar hub, and the tons of ore above 'er was a hair's breath from changin' Wayne's voice in the choir of life - WOULD A DROPPED ROT THAR! Wayne wudda had to move to 'Frisco whar they sing a diffrent tune.

To make a long story short, the tares were switched, we made it to Winnemuc in time fer grub, Wes lost all his hot quarters, and I laid eyes on the most remarkable specimen of ladyhood in the Neevader territory, all in the name of science.

And that's how the Marshall did it, folks, saved the day. Wayne stands today, a piller of masculinity, thanks to the Marshall.

In all seriousness, I can say, because of my new-found psychic awareness, Marshall, I see a definite Karmic upswing for you and your family. I am assured that the slings and arrows of adversity are at an end. Now, hear me, Oregon – pronounced "Organ" – is spoken quickly, not "Ore-eee-gone." They don't really need to know you are from California. I speak from experience. I lived in Cascadia

for 10 years. Imagine the entire state being a Christmas fruitcake, one so rich in fruit (agate, wood, and jasper) your teeth ache just thinking about it. Well, Marshall, that's what you have to look forward to, you lucky stiff, and old collections behind every fir tree (on the wet side), and every juniper (on the dry side). Vaya con dios, amigos.

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

### The Wanderer

#### **It's a BLAST!**

With great anticipation, Dick and I prepare for the CFMS Gem Show in Roseville. If you get a chance, come on up to the Roseville (Placer County) Fairgrounds between June 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> where the Roseville Rockrollers are hosting this years' Gem Show! For information, please see <http://www.rockrollers.com> or call 916-630-1000.



Bill and Dick finishing the Ultrarev in 113 degree heat!

The Annual CFMS Show gives rockhounds an opportunity to share the knowledge we have acquired, do some bartering, and catch up with old friends. This year Dick and I will be exhibiting four cases (including two "Ultrarevs") in the fluorescent tent, sell a few fluorescent items, and host a demonstration table so that others will have a convenient place to view their new fluorescent Gem Show finds.

OMS will be well represented at our state get together. Wes Lingerfelt serves as CFMS Director, and is our liaison who carries concerns, congratulations, and ideas to-and-from the state level. Dick and I serve on CFMS committees, will attend meetings, and will represent OMS at the Editors' Breakfast. I have received word from the Awards Com-



mittee that some of our articles submitted for newsletter competition have won awards!

There will be 40 vendors, numerous demonstration stations, silent auction, gold panning, and food. You can either camp nearby, or find a hotel. It's not that far to Roseville, so we hope to see you there, and I promise, you'll have a BLAST!

Happy Hunting,  
Love, Bess

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### Orcutt Mineral Society

Board Meeting  
Mussell Senior Center, Santa Maria CA  
3 May 2005

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by President Lucky Virgin. Present were Lucky Virgin, Sharon Duncan, Wes Lingerfelt, Bess Shields, Sylvia Nasholm, Geary Sheffer, DeeDee Magri, and Marshall Reeves. Guest attending was Dick Shields.

**Minutes** of the previous General Meeting were approved as printed in the *Ore-Cutts*.

**Treasurer's Report** was read by Wes Lingerfelt, and accepted as read.

#### Committee Reports:

**Adopt-a-Highway:** Marshall Reeves reported that the next highway cleanup will be on May 21st at 8:00 a.m.

**Bulletin (Ore-Cutts):** Bess Shields thanked everyone for helping to locate email addresses for most of our members. It costs \$.63 to print and mail each Ore-Cutt, and we now mail fewer than 30 copies out each month.

**Field Trips:** Bob Bullock invites us to the Big Sandy field trip on May 14th. He will announce the gathering arrangements at our General Meeting next week.

**Library:** Geary Sheffer will bring more books and videos to meetings since members checked out everything he brought last month.

#### Correspondence:

- *Dimny's Doin's* newsletter.
- *Lapidarian* newsletter from Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society.
- *Rocky Review* newsletter.
- *Pick & Shovel* newsletter.
- *Rockonteur* newsletter.
- Fortress Secure Locker correspondence.
- *Agatizer* newsletter.

#### Unfinished Business:

Wes Lingerfelt rewrote the Standing Rules and Operating Regulations section regarding reimbursement for club-related and supported events. Marshall Reeves moved that the rewritten paragraph (section 1.3) be adopted as rewritten. Sylvia Nasholm seconded the motion. Motion passed and will be presented to the general membership next week for approval. Wes Lingerfelt will provide copies of the new amendment for members to review prior to the meeting.

#### New Business:

1. Storage Locker: Sharon Duncan will investigate costs and locations of other locker storage since our current provider has increased the rent AGAIN.
2. Marshall Reeves cashed in all of the recycled materials we have been collecting at the Highway Cleanups, and gave the treasurer \$121.74. Monies will be split 50/50 between the Abused Children's Fund and Scholarship Fund.
3. Annual Picnic: there is a date conflict with the CFMS Annual Show in Roseville. Wes Lingerfelt will check with the St. Joseph Catholic Church in Nipomo to see if we can use their facilities on June 18th. Pioneer Park is booked up until August, so rescheduling at that facility is not possible.

The **program** for next week's General Meeting is a presentation by DeeDee Magri on "DeeDee-ite". Display will be Avila Beach rocks. Refreshments are cakes and cupcakes.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m. by President Virgin.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bess Shields, Secretary, OMS

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### Orcutt Mineral Society

General Meeting  
Mussell Senior Center, Santa Maria CA  
10 May 2005

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by President Lucky Virgin.

Flag salute was led by Bill Hood. Invocation was given by Bess Shields on "Traipsing".

**Minutes** of the previous Board Meeting, and General Meeting were approved as printed in the *Ore-Cutts*.

**Treasurer's Report** was read by Wes Lingerfelt, and accepted as read. Due to the diligence of our collectors at Highway Cleanup, the recycle donations submitted were \$121.74, and will be equally divided between the Abused Children's Fund and Scholarship Funds.

Elaine VonAchen reported 35 members and 11 guests were present. Guests were Brett Newman, Erica Erskine, Todd Cralley, Robert Cochran, Kevin Cochran, Dick Bazzell, Lisa Barton, Justin Abercrombie, Jane Kametani, Peter Vicencio, and Sherry Moore.

#### Committee Reports:

**Abused Children:** Debbie Hood reported that they received a \$20.00 donation. Purchase tickets for the Abused Children Fundraising Raffle "crystal" at \$1.00 per ticket at break time.

**CFMS:** Wes Lingerfelt invited members to attend the Roseville CFMS Annual Gem Show between June 10 and 12. Many of our members are exhibiting, demonstrating their rock-related talents, attending Committee Meetings, and enjoying the yearly event at this statewide rockhound event.

**Field Trips:** Bob Bullock invites members to attend the field trip to Salty Tapper's ranch on May 14th.

**Library, Books, Videos:** Geary Sheffer has numerous books and tapes that members can check out tonight. There is a good turnover in materials, and Geary asks that you return materials promptly after your month of use is over.

**Refreshments:** DeeDee Magri thanked Elaine VonAchen, Peggy Johnsen, Jan Ferguson, Lee Reyburn, Bob Bullock, the Shields, and Lucky Virgin for bringing tonight's refreshments.

**Scholarship:** Wayne Mills will attend the Awards Banquet at Hancock College, and will present the OMS Scholarship at that time.

**Sunshine:** Debbie Hood reported that everyone is doing well at this time.

#### Correspondence:

- *Dinny's Doin's* newsletter.
- *Lapidarian* newsletter.
- *Rockonteur* newsletter.
- *Rocky Review* newsletter.
- *Pick & Shovel* newsletter.
- *Agatizer* newsletter.
- *Tumble Rumble* newsletter.
- Sir Paul Howard correspondence.
- All Rockhound Pow Wow show ad.

#### Unfinished Business:

None.

#### New Business:

Wes Lingerfelt read the proposed changes to membership. Questions were taken from the floor. Motion was made by Dick Shields that the amendments be accepted. Motion was seconded by Maida Williams. Motion passed.

Lucky Virgin asked for a show of hands to see who will be attending the OMS Picnic. There is a conflict of dates with the CFMS Show in Roseville, and many of our members will be exhibiting, demonstrating, and attending committee meetings at the show. It appears that 18 members will attend the picnic this year at the Pioneer Park potluck. Bring rocks for the auction, remember to bring a comfortable lawn chair, and a potluck dish to share. Meat, bread, and soda are provided by the club. See *Ore-Cutts* for additional information about the Picnic.

Following refreshments, DeeDee Magri presented a wonderful program about the DeeDee-ite being found at Avila Beach. Her display included slabs, spheres, and rough samples of the material.

Displays were on "favorite rocks and minerals". Refreshments were cakes and cupcakes (in abundance!). The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m. by President Virgin.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bess Shields, Secretary, OMS

#### 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* (namesake, William Orcutt) was first published in 1966. Member Helen Azevedo was the first editor.

#### 2005 OMS Officers

President	Lucky Virgin	(805) 929-9525
President Elect	Sharon Duncan	(805) 929-2209
Secretary	Bess Shields	(805) 937-0357
Treasurer	Wes Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788
Immediate Past President	Debbie Hood	(805) 481-6860
CFMS Representative	Wes Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788

#### 2005 OMS Board Members

Geary Sheffer	(805) 925-8009
Sylvia Nasholm	(805) 481-0923
Robert Bullock	(805) 928-6372
DeeDee Magri	(805) 595-2755
Marshall Reeves	(805) 588-8932

*Ore-Cutts* Editors

Dick and Bess Shields	(805) 937-0357
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## Webmasters

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

*Ore-Cutts* Photo Credits: "DeeDee-ite" and "Salty's" by Dick Shields; "Wanderer" by Bess Shields, and "Arizona" by Wes Lingerfelt.

OMS Membership dues are \$18 per year. Junior Membership is \$9.00. New membership dues are pro-rated from January 1<sup>st</sup> of the first year.

**Web Sites of Note:**

June 2005

Jim Gray's Petrified Wood Company

<http://www.petrifiedwoodco.com/>

Diamond Pacific Tool Corporation

[http://www.diamondpacific.com/photo\\_gallery.html](http://www.diamondpacific.com/photo_gallery.html)

Oregon Geology Map

[http://geotest.oit.pdx.edu:2003/website/OR\\_Geology/viewer.htm](http://geotest.oit.pdx.edu:2003/website/OR_Geology/viewer.htm)

Oregon Department of Geology & Mineral Industries

<http://sarvis.dogami.state.or.us/>

Evolving Earth Foundation

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

The Petrified Forest of Calistoga, CA

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

California Federation of Mineralogical Societies:

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

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies:

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

**OMS 2005 ANNUAL PICNIC****June 11<sup>th</sup> 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

Silent Auction

**Pioneer Park,****West Foster Road, Orcutt**

Meat, bread and soda provided

Please bring a dish or dessert to share

Help Needed

Dear Members,

Once again it is time for me to beg, plead, cajole, and outright BRIBE you into volunteering in the kitchen for our Rainbow of Gems show! Seriously, we do all the difficult work - all you have to do is smile at the people, chat, and serve up the food of choice! You get to enjoy chatting it up with all the rock hounds around, and get to sample some great food too! I will need helpers on Thursday (set

up dinner), and in the snack bar Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. I will have sign-up sheets at the July meeting. Meanwhile, keep in mind that I will need a pie donation from each family, delivered Thursday p.m. or Friday sometime. If you need other arrangements, please contact me at 481-0923.

I am looking forward to the event this year, and to spending time with all of you!

Sylvia Nasholm,

Snack Bar Chairman

**June 2005 Calendar**

Saturday June 4, 2005 8:00AM – 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. Adventure Pass required. Contact Bob Bullock at 928-6372 for details.
Tuesday June 7, 2005 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	OMS Board Meeting -- Mussell Senior Center. All members are welcome at this business meeting. Farewell to the Reeves following the board meeting.
Saturday June 11, 2005 10:00AM – 3:00 PM	OMS Annual Picnic -- Pioneer Park, Santa Maria Meat, bread, and sodas are provided. Bring your own plates and silverware, and a side dish to share. We also suggest bringing a lawn chair for comfort. Bring rocks for the silent auction!
Saturday June 25, 2005 8:15 AM - 9:15 AM	OMS Monthly Breakfast – "Francisco's Country Kitchen" in Santa Maria. Call Ken Kreh at 343-7749 for details.

Reserve the dates**Roseville Gem and Mineral Blast**

The CFMS show this year is called the Roseville Gem and Mineral Blast and takes place from June 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> at the Roseville (Placer County) Fairgrounds. See you there!

**July 2005 Calendar**

Tuesday July 5, 2005 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	OMS Board Meeting -- Mussell Senior Center. All members are welcome at this business meeting.
Saturday July 9, 2005 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. Contact Bob Bullock at 928-6372 for details.

Tuesday July 12, 2005 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	<p><b>OMS General Meeting</b> -- Mussell Senior Center.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program: CFMS Video on "Amazing Caves of New Zealand and Australia"</li> <li>• Display: Best 1 foot X 1 foot display</li> <li>• Refreshment: Pies.</li> </ul>
Saturday July 16, 2005 8:00 - 10:00 AM	<p><b>OMS Highway Cleanup</b> -- Intersection of Highway 101 and 166 After the cleanup we have coffee and pastry at the "Francisco's Country Kitchen" in Santa Maria. Contact Lucky Virgin at (805) 929-9525 for details.</p>
Saturday July 23, 2005 8:15 AM - 9:15 AM	<p><b>OMS Monthly Breakfast</b> – "Francisco's Country Kitchen" in Santa Maria. Call Ken Kreh at 343-7749 for details.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Display: Agates from Everywhere</li> <li>• Refreshment: Cookies</li> </ul>
Saturday August 27, 2005 8:15 AM - 9:15 AM	<p><b>OMS Monthly Breakfast</b> – "Francisco's Country Kitchen" in Santa Maria. Call Ken Kreh at 343-7749 for details.</p>

<b>August 2005 Calendar</b>	
Tuesday August 2, 2005 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	<p><b>OMS Board Meeting</b> -- Mussell Senior Center. All members are welcome at this business meeting.</p>
Friday - Sunday August 5-7, 2005 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM	<p><b>38<sup>th</sup> Annual OMS Gem Show</b> -- St Joseph's Church, 298 South Thompson Avenue, Nipomo. For details go to <a href="http://www.omsinc.org/tailgate.html">http://www.omsinc.org/tailgate.html</a> For reservations call Wes Lingerfelt at (805) 929-3788 or Lucky Virgin at (805) 929-9525.</p>
Tuesday August 9, 2005 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	<p><b>OMS General Meeting</b> -- Mussell Senior Center.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program: "OMS Gem Show Recap with Slides"</li> </ul>

**38<sup>th</sup> 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 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> 2005**  
 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 \$8.00 FOR  
 ADULTS, \$4.00 FOR KIDS 12 AND UNDER.  
 Free Parking – Free Admission!

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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED