

Ore-Cutts

Volume XXXVIII, Issue III

March, 2003

Novices at Quartzsite

Dick and Bess Shields, OMS Members

Bess and I had heard about Quartzsite from friends and relatives for years. This year we had compelling reasons and time to devote, so we fueled up the ol' Sequoia for a new adventure. En route we spent a few spectacular hours in Joshua Tree National Park (note the abundant sunshine and calm conditions – our kind of winter).



Bess admiring the Joshua trees in the National Park

Bess reports, you'll know where to find me if I'm missing next January. Dick and I just returned from a memorable three day adventure in "Rockhound Heaven". We had some fun moments which included:

- Meeting miners from Mexico who entertained us with specimens and tales of the Naica Silver Mine.
- Going out after dinner to a roadside wash with Dick and Ralph Bishop to hunt for fluo-

- rescent materials near the Blue Water Casino in Parker. After an hour of collecting, we were greeted in pitch-darkness with, "Welcome to Indian Country!" by a local who obviously didn't want us on his territory!
- Meeting a cute little Gamble quail named "Button" who hatched out, and adopted the first creature he saw: a human mommy. Button's family is writing a book about him.



"Button" touring Desert Gardens

- Listening to Neil Bearce (author of the book, "Minerals of Arizona") talk about local field trips we could take, and attending his fluorescent rocks nighttime show and sale.
- Listening to Marshall Reeves, Wes Lingerfelt, and Ralph Bishop describe digging treasure

- out of mines near Quartzsite, and wondering how they would get it all back to Nipomo.
- Accompanying Bill Gardner as he traded Purple Passion, Hogan, Spectrum, and Prism mine materials and introduced us to his large circle of Quartzsite friends. Bill also shared his latest fluorescent lamp design, a 60 watt short wave version!



Bill Gardner with the 60 watt lamp at Quartzsite

 And, discovering the QIA dining hall on the last day for dinner: big portions, inexpensive, and great waitresses who loved to gab about doin's in town.

We filled the car with goodies the first day, and still had 500 pounds of Franklin NJ material which needed to be loaded... What to do? Rent a trailer? Slow down the shopping? If we could get it back to Santa Maria, we'd have lots to show and tell, plenty to share, samples for the classrooms, and donations for Treasure Chest... Yes, it did all fit, and the car didn't bounce all the way home...

We heard comments about how Quartzsite has changed, how the tailgaters have all raised their prices. That may be true, but we decided

that our experience proved that a Quartzsite visit can still be enjoyable and there are bargains to be found. Come on over to see our growing collection and enjoy, trade, and talk. Maybe we'll see you next year in Quartzsite!!!

2003 Field Trip #2

Dick Shields, OMS Field Trip Leader

Witnesses claim it was a sight to behold: boulders flying out of the pit; squeals of delight (some coming from under the dark tarp flung over my fluorescent lamp); and groans from strain as our team of rock hunters dug deep into Lucy's back yard. When the dust settled and Wes declared his truck was full, we estimated our load to be over 3000 pounds. (Well, maybe the truck wasn't actually FULL...all I know is, that guy who passed us on the way home couldn't dim his low beams!)

Our crew arrived in 3 vehicles (minus my expected utility trailer, which suffered an unfortunate encounter the evening before) and consisted of Wes Lingerfelt, Ralph Bishop, Marshall Reeves, Chuck Ferguson, Don Roberts, Lucky Virgin, Dee Dee Magri, John Von Achen, Geary Sheffer, Jan and Stan Ferguson, and me. Lucy had her industrial scale and cash box ready, and the clunk – clunk of rocks hitting the buckets was deafening!



Lucy triumphant with Dee Dee!

Lucy was especially pleased to see the emergence of material that was truly buried at the bottom of the pile, some rare material from Wrightwood.

Apparently we conducted ourselves well; Lucy has invited us back! We have a full field trip schedule this year, but I'm sure we can squeeze in another weekend if the interest is strong enough. Give me a call at (805) 937-0357 or email me at oms@ix.netcom.com if you want to participate.

Orcutt Mineral Society Board Meeting Mussell Senior Center, Santa Maria CA February 4, 2003

The Board Meeting was called to order by President Wayne Mills at 7:00 p.m. Board Members present were Bill and Deborah Hood, Wes Lingerfelt, Wayne Mills, Marshall Reeves, Bess Shields, Lucky and Lynda Virgin, and Past President Dick Shields.

Minutes of the January 2nd Board Meeting and January 14th General Meeting were approved as published.

Treasurer's Report:

Wes Lingerfelt presented the Treasurer's Report. It was accepted as read. Wes Lingerfelt read the Audit Report for fiscal year 2002. It was accepted as read.

Committee Reports:

Bulletin (*Ore-Cutts*): Bess Shields reported that the February issue has been e-mailed/mailed.

Annual Dinner: Bill Hood confirmed that we will again be at Maria del Sol, but the price has gone up to \$13.00 per person. **Sunshine:** Debbie Hood reported that Kay Vollmer is ill. Marjorie Hoogenbosch needs more back surgery.

Refreshments: Wayne Mills still has not found a chairman for this committee.

Field Trips: Dick Shields will hold a field trip to Rosamond and Lucy Tunnell's rock pile on Saturday, February 15th . More information is in the Ore-Cutts.

Committee List: Wayne Mills will e-mail a list of committee chairmen to Wes Lingerfelt for inclusion in the Redbook, and to Bess Shields for the Ore-Cutts.

Correspondence:

- Tule Smoke Signals newsletter from Tule Gem & Mineral Club
- Dinny's Doins newsletter from Fossils for Fun.
- The Agatizer newsletter from South Bay (Torrance) Club.
- Petrograph newsletter from Peninsula Gem & Geology Society.
- Breccia newsletter from Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society.
- Rockonteur newsletter from Santa Lucia Rockhounds.
- Rocky Review newsletter from Conejo Gem & Mineral Club.
- Lapidarian newsletter from Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society.
- Rock Slab News from Searchers Gem & Mineral Society.
- Sun Valley Indian School newsletter.

- Rockhound Notes newsletter.
- Rock Shop notice from Bill & MJ Leslie of Shafter CA.
- Garden Festival invitation to participate May 3 & 4, El Chorro Park.
- Bonanza Opal Mines invitation to dig.
- Royal Rainbow Fire Opal Mine information.
- California State Mining & Mineral Museum invitation.
- Rockfinders.com advertisement.

Old / unfinished business: none.

New business:

Wayne Mills read membership application information and areas of interest/expertise about Stan, Jan and Brenna Ferguson. Debbie Hood moved, and Lynda Virgin seconded the motion to accept all three applicants for membership. It was passed unanimously.

The Program for next week's meeting will be Wes Lingerfelt's "How to Tumble (Rocks)".

Display table will be "a fistful of your favorite rocks", and short description of the items, or where they were found. Refreshments will be cakes and cupcakes.

The Board Meeting was adjourned at $7:38~\mathrm{p.m.}$ by President Mills.

Respectfully submitted, Bess Shields, Secretary, OMS

Orcutt Mineral Society General Meeting Mussell Senior Center, Santa Maria CA February 11, 2003

Call to Order at 7:05 p.m. by President Wayne Mills. Invocation was given by Bess Shields on 'Trust and Hope". Flag Salute was led by Stan Ferguson. Lynda Virgin reported that 31 members, and 2 guests were present.

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

Committee Reports:

Breakfasts: Dick Shields reminded members that the monthly OMS Breakfast will be at 8:30 a.m.

on Saturday, February 22nd at Baker's Square in Santa Maria.

Budget & Audit: Wes Lingerfelt and Don Nasholm have completed the audit, and it is on file with the OMS Minutes.

Bulletin (*Ore-Cutts*): Dick Shields reported another successful Ore-Cutt was published and he continues to solicit articles, ideas, and photographs for inclusion.

Field Trips: Dick reminded members of the trip to Lucy Tunnell's rock pile in Rosamond this coming Saturday.

Historian: Wayne is still looking for a volunteer.

Property: Geary Sheffer invites everyone to the April 5th Cleanup at our storage locker, followed by breakfast at Omelets and More.

Publicity: Wayne Mills sent an e-mail to Rock & Gem magazine announcing our August Gem Show.

Red Book: Wes Lingerfelt is assembling the Redbook, and it will be complete soon.

Refreshments: Wayne is still seeking a volunteer.

Sheriff: Bill Hood reports that everyone had a nametag tonight, so there were no fines.

Show: Plans for the August show are proceeding well. Chairmen are: Lucky Virgin -BBQ, Wes Lingerfelt - dealer contracts, Sylvia Nasholm - kitchen, Bess Shields -displays, Wayne Mills - inside affairs, and Dee Dee Magri - Treasure Chest.

Sunshine: Debbie Hood welcomed back John Mock. Kay Volmer is feeling better. Marjorie Hoogenbosch needs back surgery. Wes Lingerfelt reported that Robert and Thelma Reith are doing well at Oak Manor Home.

Correspondence:

(Show fliers and notices announced under correspondence are at the hostess 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.
- Sun Valley Indian School newsletter.
- Mineral Messenger newsletter from San Luis Obispo Gem & Mineral Club.
- Rocky Review newsletter from Conejo Gem & Mineral Club.
- Dinny's Doins newsletter.
- The Agatizer newsletter from South Bay (Torrance) Club.
- Rockhound Notes newsletter.
- Searchers Gem & Mineral Society newsletter from Anaheim Club.
- Rockonteur newsletter from Santa Lucia Rockhounds Club.
- Lapidarian newsletter from Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Club.
- Petrograph newsletter from Peninsula Gem & Geology Society.
- Breccia newsletter from Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society.
- Rock Slab News from Searchers Gem & Mineral Society.
- Rock Shop notice from Bill & MJ Leslie of Shafter CA.
- Garden Festival invitation to participate May 3 & 4, El Chorro Park.
- Bonanza Opal Mines invitation to dig.
- Royal Rainbow Fire Opal Mine information.
- California State Mining & Mineral Museum invitation.
- Rockfinders.com information.
- Metal Stone & Glass magazine, Autumn 2002.
- Pick & Shovel from San Gorgonio Mineral & Gem Society.
- Lapidarian newsletter from Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society.
- Tumble Rumble from Capistrano Valley Rock & Mineral Club

Old / unfinished business: none. New business: none.

Following the break for refreshments, Wes Lingerfelt presented a talk on "How to Tumble (Rocks)".

The raffle was held after the program. Meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m. by President Mills.

Respectfully submitted, Bess Shields Secretary, OMS

Exhibit or Demonstrate

If you have a desire to share your treasures by exhibiting in a display case at our August Gem Show, or wish to demonstrate your unique rock-related skill, please call, or e-mail Bess Shields for an application. The display case registrations are already filling up, so get your slot soon. Demonstrators are always welcome, and are an inspiration to us all!

The Wanderer: It's Figueroa Time!

Spring is here once again, and it's time for OMS to check out the chocolate lilies, poppies, lupine, and alliums on the west side of Figueroa Mountain. This should be a perfect day for photographing the early season flowers, and a chance to bond with friends as we identify some of the geologic features in our own backyard.

We plan to meander our way up the western side of Figueroa, stop at the top for a picnic lunch break, then poke down the chaparral covered hills to Los Olivos via Happy Canyon Road. The loop will take most of the day, and dinner at Solvang or Buellton is not out of the question.



Spring view from Figueroa Mountain Road

This adventure requires that drivers have an Adventure Pass since it's on National Forest land, so we'll carpool where possible. Bring along a big bottle of water, a sack lunch, sunscreen, and a jacket in case it gets windy. We

plan to have a slow paced day with ample opportunity for photography, bird watching, picnicking, collecting, and identifying distant geologic features from the higher perspective.

You can expect to find brecciated jasper in hues ranging from deep purples, reds and brown to light cream, ochre, and orange. Soapstone Hill is just past our lunch spot on the south side of the road. Serpentine outcroppings are abundant in this area, and the material is grey, moss green, or hunter green. Franciscan formation chert (a cool, minty green), and agates are plentiful, too. We'll be pointing out a few new 'finds' since our trip last spring, and identify additional mineral sources.



Sierra Shooting Star on Figueroa Mountain Road

I'm going to insist on a collecting stop along Happy Canyon for cobbles! Last year I found some great pieces, and with our recent rains, who knows what else has turned up (my jasper boulder from last year's trip turned into a beautiful sphere!). We are so fortunate to have this beautiful countryside so close-by to explore! Care to join us?

Happy Hunting! Love, Bess

Campbell's "Labels For Education" Product Information

The Campbell's Labels for Education Program continues to be a real blessing to the Sun Valley Indian School. Thanks to your support and

the Campbell Company, this ongoing program allows them to receive equipment the school could not otherwise afford. This set of instructions is intended to help prepare the labels from products you might use. Please keep up the good work for the Ministry of Sun Valley Indian School!

Cutting Instructions: Please do not use tape on labels or staple labels. Please do not cut down the center of labels.

Save Front Label from these items:

Campbell's Beans Products, Campbell's Condensed Soups (10 & 26 oz.), Campbell's Low Sodium Soup, Campbell's Soup At Hand, Campbell's Ready To Serve Classic Soups (18-19 oz. cans), Campbell's Tomato Juices (10, 46, 64 oz.), Campbell's Chef Kettle Soups (50 oz.), Campbell's Food Service Soups (50 oz.), Campbell's Low Sodium Soups (50 oz.), Campbell's Healthy Request Soups (50 oz.), Campbell's Chunky Soups, Campbell's Select Soups, Campbell's Healthy Request Soups, Campbell's Simply Home Soups, Campbell's Soup To Go (tub), Pepperidge Farm Soups, Swanson Broths, Swanson Food Service Broths (49.5 oz.), Swanson Poultry (paper label), Franco-American Gravies, Franco-American SpaghettiO's, A to Z & Pasta, Market Day (selected products tub/carton), Prego Pasta Sauces (14-28 oz.), V8 Healthy Request Vegetable Juice (46 oz.), V8 100% ACE Vitamin Enriched Juice (46 oz.), V8 Splash Juice Drinks (16, 46, 64, 96 oz), V8 Vegetable Juice (10, 46, 64 oz.), V8 Splash Smoothies (10, 46, 64 oz.)

Save Lids from these items:

Campbell's Ready to Serve Soups (plastic), Pace Salsa, Picante & Picante Con Queso, Prego Pasta Sauces (46 oz. & Larger), Prego Pasta Bake Sauce (27.75 oz.)

Save UPC Code from these items:

Campbell's Supper Bakes, Campbell's Soup & Recipe Mix (entire box bottom panel), Pepperidge Farm Breads, Croutons, Rolls, Stuffing (bag or carton), Pepperidge Farm cookies, Crackers, Goldfish Crackers, Goldfish Cookies, Snack Mixes (bag or carton), Pepperidge Farm

Frozen Garlic Breads, Cakes, Turnovers, Dumplings, Pepperidge Farm Puff Pastry & Phyllo Dough (bag or carton), Swanson Broths (carton), V8 Splash Drinks (6.75 oz. boxes/8 pack)

Save 2 Code Numbers from Outer Case:

Campbell's Tomato Juice (11.5 oz./24 cans/case, Campbell's Tomato Juices (5.5 oz./48 cans/case), Pepperidge Farm Food Service Products, V8, V8 Splash (11.5 oz./24 cans/case, 5.5 oz./48 cans/case), V8 Splash (16 oz. boxes/12 bottles/case)

Bring your labels, lids, and UPC codes to Wes Lingerfelt at our monthly meeting. We appreciate your help!

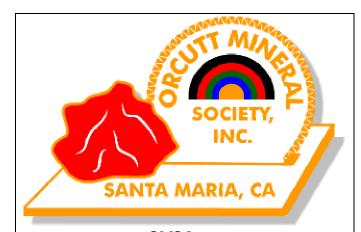
Thank You

We had a great selection of desserts at the February General Meeting. A hearty thank you to Nasholms, Sharon Duncan, Salty and Kelly Tapper for bringing cakes and cupcakes. March General Meeting features PIES.

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.

2003 OMS Elected Officers

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President	Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495
President Elect	Debbie Hood	(805) 481-6860
Secretary	Bess Shields	(805) 937-0357
Treasurer	Wes Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788
Immediate Past President	Dick Shields	(805) 937-0357
CFMS Represen-	Wes Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788
tative		

2003 OMS Board Members

Geary Sheffer	(805) 925-8009
Sylvia Nasholm	(805) 481-0923
Harold Virgin	(805) 481-0923
Linda Virgin	(805) 481-0923
Marshall Reeves	(805) 733-2775

Ore-Cutts Editors

Dick and Bess Shields	(805) 937-0357

Check our OMS web site at http://home.netcom.com/~shields6/OMS_2001.html or send email to oms@ix.netcom.com.

Making Arrows the Old Way

A recent donation to the OMS Library should be of interest to our knappers. "Making Arrows the Old Way", by Doug Wallentine, shows how to make the points and shafts, which feathers to use, and what knots are most effective. Check this one out soon!

Do you have email? You can save the club 63¢ per month by receiving your copy of *Ore-Cutts* via email. Notify us by sending a message to oms@ix.netcom.com.

It's time for another trip to Omelets and More! See the notice below for our OMS Roadside Cleanup on 15 March.

Web Sites of Note:

March 2003

Dichroic bead history:
http://cornucopia-of-colors.com/history.html
The Original Route 66:
http://www.historic66.com/california/detca.html
Current Earthquake Information:
http://www.scecdc.scec.org/recenteqs
Arizona geologic resources:
http://www.azgs.state.az.us/minerals.htm
Atomic Rocks:
http://www.atomicrocks.com/index3.htm
Dinosaurs in San Diego:
http://www.sdnhm.org/research/paleontology/dinossd.html
Thomas S. Warren Museum of Fluorescence:
http://www.sterlinghill.org/warren/
The Fluorescent Mineral Society:
http://www.uvminerals.org/
Fluorescent Minerals from Greenland:
http://www.minershop.com/
Bill Gardner's Fluorescent Minerals and Lamps:
http://www.fluorescents.com/

March 2003 Calendar	
Thursday March 06, 2003 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	OMS Board Meeting Mussell Senior Center. All members are welcome
Tuesday March 11, 2003 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	at this business meeting OMS General Meeting Mussell Senior Center • Program: Dick Shields will present, "Fluorescent Rocks" • Display: Green Stones • Refreshment: Pies
Saturday March 15, 2003 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM	OMS Highway Cleanup Intersection of Hwy 101 and Hwy 166. After the cleanup we have coffee and pastry at "Omelets and More" in Nipomo. Contact Marshall Reeves at 733-2775.
Saturday March 22, 2003 8:30 AM - 9:30	Monthly OMS Breakfast Girl's Restaurant, Arroyo Grande Breakfast location alternates between

AM	Baker's Square in Santa Maria and The Girl's in Arroyo Grande. Call Dick Shields at 937-0357 for details.
Saturday March 29, 2003 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Field Trip to Figueroa Mountain Meet at Mussell Senior Center Parking Lot. Explore old jasper trails, serpentine outcroppings, and wildflowers in full bloom. Fill your gas tank (no services on the mountain) and bring a lunch. Wilderness Pass required.

April 2003 Calendar	
Thursday April 03, 2003 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	OMS Board Meeting Mussell Senior Center. All members are welcome at this business meeting
Tuesday April 08, 2003 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	OMS General Meeting Mussell Senior Center • Program: Wes Lingerfelt will present, "How to Create a Lapidary Display" • Display: One by One Foot Display (practice) • Refreshment: Cookies
Saturday April 12, 2003 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Field Trip to Santa Agueda Creek Meet at Mussell Senior Center Parking Lot Franciscan formation chert, brecciated jasper, and agates. Bring a lunch or eat later in Los Olivos, Solvang, or Santa Ynez.
Saturday April 26, 2003 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM	Monthly OMS Breakfast Girl's Restaurant, Arroyo Grande Breakfast location alternates between Baker's Square in Santa Maria and The Girl's in Arroyo Grande. Call Dick Shields at 937-0357 for details.

May 2003 Calendar	
Thursday May 01, 2003 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	OMS Board Meeting Mussell Senior Center. All members are welcome at this business meeting
Saturday May 10, 2003 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Field Trip to Brea Creek Meet at Mussell Senior Center Parking Lot Explore the northern edge of the Dick Smith 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.
Tuesday May 13, 2003 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	 OMS General Meeting Mussell Senior Center Program: Wayne Mills will present, "Soapstone Carving and Bead Making" Display: Best One by One Foot Display (competition) Refreshment: Cakes and Cup Cakes

Saturday May 17, 2003 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM	OMS Highway Cleanup Intersection of Hwy 101 and Hwy 166 After the cleanup we have coffee and pastry at "Omelets and More" in Nipomo. Contact Marshall Reeves at 733-2775 for details.
Saturday May 24, 2003 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM	Monthly OMS Breakfast Girl's Restaurant, Arroyo Grande Breakfast location alternates between Baker's Square in Santa Maria and The Girl's in Arroyo Grande. Call Dick Shields at 937-0357 for details.

1st Annual Rock and Gem Rendezvous

Bakersfield, CA, at the Kern County Fair Grounds March 8th and 9th, 2003 Free Admission -- Free Parking (Gates 28-30) Contact Lew Helfrich (661 323-2663) or email lewsrocks@netzero.net

AFMS/CFMS Seaside GEMboree

Thursday through Sunday, 5, 6, 7 & 8 June, 2003
Thurs-Sat 10 am - 6 pm and Sun 10 am - 5 pm
Seaside Park (formerly Ventura Fairground)
10 W. Harbor Blvd, Ventura
info: http://www.afms-cfmsgemshow.org

Bring donations for the OMS Gem Show Treasure Chest to our March General Meeting. We will award a prize for the best donation. Also, we will announce plans for a contest to reward the member who sells the most raffle tickets for the Treasure Chest.

36th 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 8th, 9th, 10th 2003**

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 SATUR-DAY 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