



# Ore-Cutts

Volume XLV Number 3

March 2009



Come join us on March 10, 2009 at 7:00 P.m. at the Mussell Senior Center, 510 E Park, Santa Maria, for a **Program**, **“Tapped Out?”** by Ralph Bishop on how to find good material at an over-collected site. Ralph is our resident *“expert”* on local

collecting so this should be a very informative talk. This is the talk scheduled for last month but unavoidably had to be switched at the last moment. The **Display** theme will be green rocks in honor of St. Paddy’s Day. **Desert** will be Cake: brought to us by Margaret Hensen, Laura Gebhart, & Elaine Von Achen.



## February Program Review

The program for February was a “surprise” talk and slide show by Wes Lingerfelt on the Quartzite Show this year. Due to circumstances beyond his control Ralph Bishop had to be elsewhere that night and Wes stepped up to the plate and filled in with a program that had been scheduled for this month. Thank you, Wes, for your flexibility and willingness to fill in.

Wes showed us what the Quartzite show looks like, and gave us a number of hints for making a trip to Quartzite a successful affair. He talked about the timing of various shows, where to stay, what you are likely to find at the various shows, the wholesaler where many of the dealers get their products, as well as some tips on how to avoid paying too much for some things. He also talked about some other shows that have popped up in the same general area at the same time as the Quartzite show. *A lot of comments were heard about folks having to plan to go next year!*

## Our Annual Trip To Quartzsite

By Elaine Von Achen

John, Joseph and I made a somewhat early getaway, 7:01 a.m., on Friday, January 2, 2009. We stopped in Arvin for a Mexican breakfast at a little restaurant we found a few years ago. The food is great.

Our next stop was the Diamond Pacific Co. in Barstow where they were busy getting merchandise and equipment together for the display they have in Quartzsite each year. Joseph made a small purchase of some rock marbles.

We arrived in Laughlin, Nevada around three in the afternoon and immediately checked out the “Cloud Show”. We visited with a few people we’ve met in the past and then decided to check into our room at the Avi Casino across the street from the rock show. After a “not so good” 99-cent breakfast the next morning we went back to the Cloud’s rock show and spent a few hours checking everything out. I purchased a couple of small pieces of wood and a beautiful piece of fossilized coral.

We needed to be in Phoenix by evening and we pulled into our hotel just after the sun had gone down. My daughter and granddaughter live in Phoenix and we visited with them on Sunday. Sunday night we went out to dinner at the “Claim Jumper” to celebrate my granddaughter’s 21’st birthday.

We were all gassed up and ready to head to Quartzsite. I must mention that we purchased a tank of gas at the Costco next to my daughter’s house for \$1.37 per gallon. I was so excited. I didn’t think that would ever again happen in my lifetime.

I think it was just a little over an hour and a half later when we pulled into Tyson Wells (Quartzsite). We walked around for a while and then decided to head to Parker where we were staying at the Indian Casino. After checking into our room we had dinner at the Casino buffet.

Tuesday was spent entirely at the Desert Garden’s show. We mostly looked around and didn’t really buy much. We wanted to check everything out first and then shop later. We had lunch at a café in Quartzsite to which we decided we would definitely not be returning. It was edible and that’s

all. After returning to the Casino, Joseph and I each had a hotdog on a stick for dinner. John passed and just ate munchies in the room.

We had plans to meet Wes, Jeannie and the gang in the afternoon on Wednesday to do a little rock digging at Bouse. They were going to Kofa in the morning but John said he's been there quite a few times and he decided to go back to Tyson Wells instead. I bought quite a few strings of beads, an iron pyrite heart, some earrings, some polished stones and I don't remember what else. Joseph was buying whatever he found that interested him and John made a few purchases, but nothing large. When we arrived in Bouse we found one site and checked it out but didn't find anything of interest. We waited for Wes to show up and then followed him to a site we had been to previously. We found a few small pieces of banded agate and John picked up some material he thought would polish well. It's always fun to collect with friends and it was a nice afternoon. Back at the Casino we had the buffet dinner once again and retired early.

Thursday morning found us on our way to Quartzsite once again and this time we were ready to buy as we were planning to leave the next morning. I got the last three strings of teardrop shaped Montana agate from the Australian fellows. I've bought a few strands the past two years and he said this was the end of it so I took all that was left. John bought a pretty good size Trilobite that he kind of liked but left a 250 pound piece of carnelian. Wes said he would haul it home for him and John went back and forth trying to decide if he was going to get it or not. Of course, on the way home he wished he had gone ahead and bought it. Oh well, too late. We all purchased little bits here and there but didn't really find anything that knocked our socks off this year. Evening found us once again dining at the Casino buffet.

This is the fourth year in a row the three of us have been to Quartzsite and stayed at the Casino and Joseph has never used the pool. If you haven't been, the pool is 5 stories high with a water slide and approximately 5 pools. He didn't plan to miss out this year, so after dinner he got his trunks on and John and I watched while he swam and went down the water slide. You need to climb stairs to the top in order to use the slide and the pool you use has not been heated. Needless to say he only went down once, but at least he can now say he did it. The other pools were semi heated and he swam for about an hour. We got to bed early as we were headed home in the morning.

We spent one night in Yorba Linda where we visited with John's son and daughter-in-law and the three grandkids. The next afternoon we started for home and about four hours later we pulled up in front of Joseph's house.

John says this is the last year we are going to Quartzsite as he's been 7 years in a row. But he said that last year too, so maybe we'll get there again next year.

## CFMS News

### JUNIOR ACTIVITIES Encourage Kids to Enter Displays in CFMS Show

By Jim Brace-Thompson

Exhibiting is fun! It lets us share what we've found, bought, or made. When displaying at a gem show, we not only get to "show off" our own collections and handiwork but also to learn from others, getting advice, sharing tips, and forging bonds of friendship through mutual interests.



You should encourage the kids in your club—either individually or as a group—to gather together the best of their rock, mineral, or fossil collections or their lapidary artwork and enter them into our upcoming statewide show in San Jose, as well as in your own local club shows. In addition to the adventure that participating in the CFMS Show will provide kids, if they enter competitive displays, they may win prizes! And whether entering within competitive or noncompetitive categories, they'll be able to receive a "Showmanship Badge" from the AFMS Future Rockhounds of America Badge Program. (Call me for details on that: 805-659-3577.)

The deadline for submitting applications for CFMS Show exhibits is March 25, so there's still time, but only if you hurry! Go to the CFMS web site and click on "CFMS Show – San Jose 2009" to access and download the entry forms. Then get together with your club's kids, fill in the forms, and send them off (addresses are listed right on the forms). I can guarantee the kids will find that it's rewarding—and fun! - Jim

## Prez Box

By Debbie Hood

I am always impressed by how helpful and willing to step up and help out Rockhounds tend to be! This is one of the greatest things about "Rockies," not only do they share their love of Earth's beauties but they are also willing to share themselves as well. The February meeting went on seamlessly despite our scheduled speaker's inability to be there, because one of our numbers had his talk ready and was willing to move it up. Thanks, Wes!

My attempt to streamline the business portion of the meeting was not quite as seamless! Several committee chairmen missed their cue to speak up if they had reports NOT covered in the minutes. So, notice to all committee chairmen and others...if you have something to report,

please be *listening* for me to ask if there are reports to be made. I will *try* to be more directive about those whom I *know* should have a report to make. I have received some feedback that folks liked the extra time to socialize and to look over the displays and to check out books, so I will continue to try to keep the business to a minimum. *This means that if you should want to know what's going on, you will need to read the minutes printed in the monthly bulletin.* ☺

## OMS Treasure Chest

By Wayne Mills

One of our big fund-raisers at our annual show is the Treasure Chest. The "booty" in our chest consists of rock-related items that are donated by members and show dealers. In past years, the chest has held over 100 items including mineral specimens, spheres, belt buckles, necklace and earring sets, pendants, books, jewelry boxes, and fossils among others.

This year, Wayne Mills will chair the Treasure Chest activity, hopefully with the enthusiastic help of Dee Dee Magri, (last years Treasure Chest chairperson- and Chief Treasure Collector). Other volunteers will be needed to sell tickets at the show, organize prizes, and deliver prizes that are not picked-up at the show.

It is not too early to be on the prowl for attractive rock-related items for the Treasure Chest. Please bring your items to our meetings or drop them by my house. Please include your name and/or business for recognition. Call 805-481-3495 if you have any questions about the process.

## Sunshine

Wes Lingerfelt's Father died in February and our condolences go out to him and to his family. Pat McKay, Keith's mother, has been in the hospital after passing out and falling. With a medication change we hope all will now be better!



## Major Earthquakes On San Andreas Happen More Frequently Than Previously Thought

By Jia-Rui Chong, 4:34 PM, January 23, 2009, *Photo: U.S. Geological Survey*

Large earthquakes have rumbled along the southern section of the San Andreas fault more frequently than previously believed, suggesting that Southern

California could be overdue for a strong temblor on the notorious fault line, according to a new study.

The Carrizo Plain section of the San Andreas has not seen a massive quake since the much-researched Ft. Tejon



temblor of 1857, thought to have been about magnitude 7.9, which is considered the most powerful earthquake to hit Southern California in modern times.

But the new research by UC Irvine scientists, to be published next week, found major quakes occurred there roughly every 137 years over the last 700 years. Until now, scientists have believed big quakes have occurred along the fault roughly every 200 years. The findings are significant because seismologists have long believed this portion of the fault is capable of sparking the so-called "Big One" that officials have for decades warned will eventually occur in Southern California.

"That means it's been long enough since 1857 that we should be concerned about another great earthquake that ruptures through this part of the fault," said Ken Hudnut, a geophysicist at the U.S. Geological Survey in Pasadena, who was not involved in the study.

Many scientists thought the Carrizo area produced relatively infrequent earthquakes — but ones on the massive scale of the Fort Tejon temblor.

The new work suggests the area produces more quakes but also ones of a smaller magnitude than Ft. Tejon, said Ray Weldon, a University of Oregon geologist who was not involved in the research, but reviewed the paper for the *Journal of Geophysical Research*. Still, experts warned, such temblors would likely be at least the size of the 1994 Northridge quake, which had a magnitude of 6.7.

"The most significant thing to come out of the work is recognition that there's a greater variety of earthquake sizes that occur on the San Andreas," Weldon said. "But even moderate earthquakes on the San Andreas can cause considerable damage, so the overall hazard and risk has gone up."

*(Editor's Note: I hope all of you have thought about the possibility of earthquakes and made preparation. If you have not, or would like to review yours, here is an excellent website resource:*

<http://www.shakeout.org/dropcoverholdon/> )

## February Fieldtrip

The February fieldtrip had to be canceled due to a death in the family of the substitute Wagon Master, Wes Lingerfelt. No one else has been willing to try the job, and this was a good example of why *every* job needs more than one person able & willing to do it! If you have been thinking about trying it, speak to Bob Bullock; you will be given all that you need to be able to lead a successful fieldtrip. Go On! Be a hero or heroine to the rest of the club!

## Rockhound Rendezvous

By Wayne Mills

I have been to this show and it is worth the trip. One of the first rock adventures of the year (outside Quartzite and Tucson), and it's a lot closer).

San Joaquin Valley Lapidary Society

**7th Annual Rock and Gem**

**Rendezvous 2009**

Friday-Sunday April 3-5 2009

9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

KERN COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS

Bakersfield CA (Corner South P. and Bell Terrace).

Indoor /Outdoor Rock And Gem Show

Rocks, Gems, Fossils, Beads, Lapidary Supplies, Jewelry, new and used Equipment, Knapping Supplies, Great Food (**Indian Fry Bread, yummy!**). FREE PARKING, FREE ADMISSION, Free hourly drawings, Silent Auction, Spinning Wheel, End Of Show Raffle. Come join us for a fun filled weekend the whole family will enjoy!

AND BEST OF ALL, IT'S FREE!

**VENDORS WANTED** (If you are a vendor or would like further information about this great show please contact Lew Helfrich (661) 323-2663)

E-mail him at: [lewsrocks@bak.rr.com](mailto:lewsrocks@bak.rr.com).

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthday greetings go out to Jeannie Lingerfelt, Bill Hood, & Roger

Lehman who are having birthdays this

month. Happy Birthday & Many more!

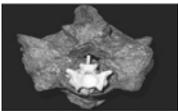
Celebrating an anniversary in February are Lee & Betty Reyburn, and Carl & Kelly Tapper. We wish you all much happiness!



## Land Snakes (Dead or) Alive!

By Wayne Mills

Recent news features snakes. One was a 26-foot long reticulated python (native of southeast Asia) that escaped his owner in downtown San Luis Obispo in late January 2009, and



*The picture compares the vertebrae of a modern green anaconda (white) to a vertebra from the Titanoboa (brown). From Nature Magazine*

another featured a discovery in Columbia, South America of the largest fossil snake found to date. At 45 feet long and as big around as a refrigerator, that specimen is related to the modern Boa Constrictors that also live in South America, only it is twice as large as the biggest of the modern Boas, and he lived about 60 million years ago. Researchers named the new find *Titanoboa cerrejonensis* ("ty-TAN-o-BO-ah

sare-ah-HONE-en-siss"). That means "titanic boa from Cerrejon," the region where it was found.

Today's current record holder is the reticulated python at 33 feet in length, though the anaconda is far larger in girth, and South American natives have reported seeing specimens of Anacondas up to 50 feet long. The illustration is of a reticulated python in Curugsewu village on Indonesia's main island of Java that is claimed to be 49 feet long. Who wants to be the one to stretch it out and measure it?

*Indonesian python. Picture from: <http://www.clubava.lanche.com/forums/pimages/pimg>*



## New Cave Men (and Women)

Excerpted by Wayne Mills

One of my favorite parts of the San Luis Obispo County New Times (the News and Blues Column) had a recent article stating that 20,000,000 people are living in caves in China. In many cases, the caves have been in their families for generations. There are many advantages to this. For one, it never freezes. Average temperatures are 59 degrees, year round, there's no rent to pay, and some caves have electricity plumbing and cable TV. In some cases interconnected caves form a community of modern-day cavemen (women and children too).

## Neanderthal

Excerpted by Wayne Mills

The February 19 -26, 2009 edition of the San Luis Obispo County New Times carried a fascinating item under their News and Blues Column. It seems that the New Your Times reported that a researcher at Harvard Medical School, Dr. George Church, speculated that using modern technology, a Neanderthal could be brought to life for a mere \$30,000,000. Now, I would pay to see one of those! I bet a sports team would sponsor this as a possible future draft pick. Alex Rodriguez (Yankees) made \$28,000,000 in 2008.

## Bits and Bytes

Compiled by Wayne Mills

**Plumbum** is the Latin term for lead, hence its' symbol (Pb). *Plumbiferous* means containing lead, *plumbism* means lead poisoning. (Source: Wikipedia-Lead).

At Marienglashöhle Show Mine, near Friedrichsroda, (southwest of Berlin) Germany, selenite was mined. Selenite was commonly used in Germany during mediaeval times for glass panes in windows and, in particular, for coverings of pictures of the Madonna - in Germany, this

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form of selenite was usually referred to as Marienglas or Mary's Glass. For contrast, look up isinglass (mica) also used as windows "in the olden days", and currently as windows in wood stoves.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Selenite#cite\\_note-3](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Selenite#cite_note-3)

**Fossil News—Journal of Avocational Paleontology** is a monthly magazine published specifically with the fossil enthusiast or avocational paleontologist in mind. Check out the website for a free copy of the April 2007 newsletter

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

Recently published-***North America Through Time: A Paleontological History of Our Continent***, Lynne M. Clos (\$35-free shipping in the US) order at:

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

Neat website with photos of beautiful agate inclusions.

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

**Photo Ops**

Here is a place for photos that you would like to share with our members. Please add a caption to tell us a little about your photo.



*Rhodochrosite bowl, crystals, slabs and bird. Bowers Museum, Santa Ana. June 2008. Photo by Wayne Mills  
Member Betty Kern and the biggest quartz crystal I have yet seen from Arkansas. Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. January 2008. Photo by Wayne Mills*



**The Feather River Gem and Mineral Society proudly announce The First Annual World Rock Tumbling Championship 2009 APPLICATION FORM**

Open to everyone interested in rocks and tumbling! The Feather River Gem and Mineral Society in Oroville, California cordially invites every rock enthusiast as well as gem and mineral club across the country to sponsor the top rock tumblers from their club membership to participate in this contest. The tumbling material chosen for the 2009 championship is jasper from a well known northern California location. *All rocks submitted for competition become the property of FRGMS.*

**1st Place Prize \$250 Cash and trophy inscription**

**2nd Place Prize \$100 Cash**  
**3rd Place Prize Lortone Model 33B Twin Barrel Rock Tumbler**

The rules of the competition are simple. **Fill out this application or one printed from the website below, and mail it to the contest headquarters with an entry fee of \$40 postmarked no later than May 1, 2009.** Each contestant will receive almost four pounds of crushed rock to tumble-polish. The contestants must then select at least one-half (1/2) pound of polished rock from this material to submit to contest headquarters no later than September 15, 2009. All entries will be judged for smoothness, shape and shine by a panel of judges selected from CFMS (California Federation of Mineral Societies) members in Northern California. **The winning entries will be announced at the Feather River Gem and Mineral Society's (FRGMS) Rock and Gem Show in Oroville at 2:00 pm on Sunday, October 4th.** Prizes will be awarded by mail if the winner is not present. Additionally, the first place winner will have their name inscribed on a perpetual trophy maintained by the FRGMS. Contact [contest@orovillerocks.com](mailto:contest@orovillerocks.com) for more information.

**Mail applications with a check or money order for \$40 to:**

**FRGMS Contest Headquarters  
C/O Steve Hart,  
200 Oliva Ave.  
Oroville, CA 95966**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address (US Mail) \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

**Orcutt Mineral Society Board Meeting  
Elwin Mussell Sr. Center, Santa Maria, Ca.  
February 3, 2009**

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President, Debbie Hood.

Board members present were Elaine Von Achen, Debbie Hood, Wayne Mills, Wes



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Lingerfelt, Sylvia Nasholm, Sandy Berthelot, Jan Ferguson, Mike Henson and Gloria Dana. Guest included Bob Bullock, Bill Hood and Paul Berthelot.

Minutes from the January 13, 2008 board meeting were approved as printed in the February 2009 newsletter.

**Correspondence:** Elaine Von Achen reported newsletters from Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society, South Orange Co. Gem & Mineral Society, Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society and San Geronio Mineral & Gem Society. We also received a notice from Ventura regarding their up-coming show.

**Treasurer's Report:** Wes Lingerfelt read the treasurer's report. The report was accepted as read.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Bulletin:** It was noted that Betty Kern did not receive her bulletin. It was further noted that the Cayucos Gem Show will be June 12 through June 14, 2009 and that Maria Del Sol has changed their name to Santa Maria Terrace.

**CFMS:** Wes Lingerfelt has been judging some of the web sites submitted for a contest by the AFMS. He noted that the Willamette, Oregon web site could stand as a model for other sites.

**Calendar:** There were some up-dates to the calendar and it will be re-sent.

**Monthly Breakfast:** Gloria Dana reported that the February breakfast will be held at Pappy's Restaurant on February 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. located at Hwy. 101 and W. Betteravia Rd.

**Annual Gem Show:** Wes Lingerfelt said the contracts are out and he has already received some of them back.

**Field Trips:** Bob Bullock reported the next field trip will be to Figueroa Mountain on February 21<sup>st</sup>. Members will meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Elwin Mussell Sr. Center. You will need an adventure pass.

**Scholarship:** Wayne Mills requested a check in the amount of \$750.00 by April 1 to be paid to Hancock College for this year's scholarship. There was some discussion as to possibly opening the scholarship to the Tri-Counties college's and having interested students apply to OMS directly. We would review the applications and award the scholarships to the persons we felt best exemplified what OMS stands for.

### **Old Business:**

Debbie Hood said she is still working on job descriptions. She plans to work on the Office of the Treasurer next.

We are in need of a chairperson for the snack bar for our August gem show.

### **New Business:**

It was noted that we need a place for the June board meeting. Elaine Von Achen said it could be held at her house.

Debbie Hood said that she had heard from a few members that they would like to see less meeting (reports, etc.) and

more free time to visit with other members as well as possibly making the programs a little longer. There was some discussion as to how we might streamline the committee reports and shorten minutes and the treasurer's report.

The cost of stamps is going to increase again and it was decided that we buy a years worth of the "anytime" stamps for the newsletters and save some money. Sylvia Nasholm made a motion that we buy 1 year's worth of stamps. The motion was seconded by Bob Bullock. Motion carried.

The program for February will be given by Ralph Bishop and is titled "Collecting at Picked Over Sites". Refreshment will be pie. Display will be central coast rocks.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m. by president, Debbie Hood.

Respectfully submitted:

Elaine Von Achen, Secretary, OMS

## **Orcutt Mineral Society General Meeting Elwin Mussell Sr. Center, Santa Maria, Ca. February 10, 2009**

President Debbie Hood called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mike Henson gave the invocation.

Joseph Martinez led the flag salute.

Elaine Von Achen read the minutes of the February 3, 2009 Board Meeting. Minutes were approved as read.

**Correspondence:** Elaine Von Achen had flyers available for the Ventura Gem Show to be held March 7 & 8, 2009. She also had free admission cards for the Santa Barbara Gem Show to be held February 20 through 22, 2009.

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

**Sheriff Bill Hood** said everyone was wearing a nametag.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Hospitality:** Sharon Duncan announced 40 members and 3 guests. Guests were asked to stand and were introduced and welcomed.

**Field Trips:** Bob Bullock announced the field trip on February 21<sup>st</sup> will be to Figueroa Mountain. He noted that he will not be available to lead this trip and Wes Lingerfelt said he would be going and would be happy to take charge. We will meet in the parking lot of the Mussell Sr. Center at 8:00 a.m. Bring a jacket and a sack lunch. Members will need an adventure pass.

**Bulletin:** Debbie Hood announced that the bulletin has been mailed.

**Door Prize:** Bob Bullock has all kinds of items this month.

**Refreshments:** The evening's refreshment will be pie provided by Sandy Berthelot, Jan Ferguson, Jeannie Lingerfelt, Christine Clason and Sylvia Nasholm. Bud Burgess brought some candy to share.

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**Historian:** Elaine Von Achen has started a scrapbook for 2009 and invited members to look at pictures from Quartzsite in January and the OMS January field trip.

**Highway Cleanup:** We have still not received the required new vests and clean up is on temporarily on hold.

**Public Lands Access Committee:** Dick Bazzell reported on the OMNIBUS Land Management Act currently before the Senate restricting areas of collecting. He noted that it includes 795,000 acres out of Southern California.

### Old Business:

Debbie Hood said she is still working on job descriptions.

### New Business:

Debbie Hood said she could no longer accept any picture files larger than 100 KB for the newsletter. (*Editor's note: if you have a larger file you wish to use, consult Wes Lingerfelt on reducing it.*)

Wayne Mills said he is already collecting donations for this year's treasure chest.

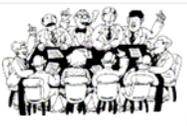
The program for the evening is a slide show on Quartzsite this January; prepared and presented by Wes Lingerfelt.

The Display for February is local rocks.

The meeting was adjourned by President, Debbie Hood at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Elaine Von Achen, Secretary, OMS

Tuesday April 7, 2009 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting Mussell Senior Center. All members are welcome at this business meeting.	
Tuesday April 14, 2009 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.	OMS General Meeting Elwin Mussell Senior Center. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program- Geologist <i>Steve Pavlak</i> will talk about <b>Uranium Exploration</b></li> <li>• Display-Self-Collected Rocks</li> <li>• Refreshments-Cookies</li> </ul>	
Saturday April 18, 2009 8:00 a.m. to?? p.m.	Field Trip To Be Announced	
Saturday March 28, 2009 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.	OMS Monthly Breakfast – For information call Gloria Dana at 929-6429.	

## Shop Helps

**Martha Elmore** of the Sacramento Mineral Society knows of a product that she claims can take iron stains out of mineral specimens as well as ceramics, clothes, and carpeting. It's non-toxic and worked as well as oxalic acid. Available at hardware stores (and some markets,) Super Iron Out® worked on fire agate, chalcedony roses, and some amazonite. It is quick to work, and is safer for the environment and our sewer systems. Be sure and wear gloves and follow label directions



### Tarnish-Busting Formula

1. Choose a plastic or glass (never metal) pan that is deep enough so that when filled with water your tarnished jewelry will be covered.
2. Put a piece of aluminum foil in the bottom of the pan.
3. Pour near-boiling water into the pan.
4. Add a couple tablespoons of baking soda to the water.
5. Place the tarnished jewelry onto the piece of aluminum.
6. If necessary, add more baking soda to the dish until you see the tarnish coming off your piece. You should get a slight bubbling effect with an odd odor.

As soon as I got home that day I tried it, and guess what? It worked like a charm! I found I needed to take a soft toothbrush to some of the metal beads to get the tarnish completely off, but it didn't take much. I'm not sure how the chemical reaction would affect gemstones or other beads, and I would never try it with a piece strung on silk, cotton, or nylon thread because of the hot water. But it went perfectly for this bracelet made of sterling silver, freshwater pearls, and crystals strung on beading wire.

I've heard of other at-home tarnish remedies, too:

March 2008 Calendar	
Tuesday March 3, 2009 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting-at Elwin Mussel Senior Center All members are welcome at this business meeting. 
Tuesday March 10, 2009 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.	 OMS General Meeting-Elwin Mussell Senior Center. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program-"Tapped Out" by Ralph Bishop on how to find good stuff in over-picked sites.</li> <li>• Display-Green Rocks</li> <li>• Refreshments-Cake</li> </ul>
Saturday March 14, 2009 8:00 to 10:00 a.m.	Highway clean up: On Hold - until Cal-Trans safety vests are received
Saturday March 21, 2009 8:00 a.m. to?? p.m.	Field Trip To Figueroa Mountain. Adventure Pass required.
Saturday March 28, 2009 9:30 to 10:00 a.m.	OMS Monthly Breakfast- IHOP, In Santa Maria. For information call Gloria Dana at 929-6429.
April 2008 Calendar	

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- Mix mild soap, water, and a drop of ammonia. Rub the tarnished piece with the mixture and wipe clean with a soft cloth.
- Place clean silver in a plastic zip bag with a piece of white chalk inside. This keeps new tarnishing at bay.

Cover newly cleaned silver with car wax to inhibit tarnishing

### CFMS Show Schedule 2009

#### March 6, 7 & 8 2009, Hayward, CA

Mineral and Gem Society of Castro Valley  
Centennial Hall  
22292 Foothill Blvd.  
Hours: Fri. & Sat. 10 - 6, Sun. 10-5  
Larry Ham (510) 887-9007  
E-mail: [showchair@mgscv.org](mailto:showchair@mgscv.org)  
Website: <http://www.mgscv.org>

#### March 7 - 8 2009, Ventura, CA

##### Ventura Gem & Mineral Society's 47th Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Lapidary Show

Is coming to the Ventura County Fairgrounds  
(10 W. Harbor Blvd, Ventura)  
Sat., Mar. 7 (10 AM to 5 PM)  
Sun., Mar. 8 (10 AM to 4 PM).

There are going to be beautiful displays, the annual Country Store & Plant Sale, silent auctions and a raffle for great prizes, Kids Activities, demonstrators showing rock cutting and jewelry-making techniques, and all sort of dealers selling rocks, fossils, minerals, jewelry, and lapidary arts supplies.

Jim Brace-Thompson VGMS Pres. & Show  
Publicity Chair

Contact for more info. (805) 659-3577

Website: <http://www.vgms.org>

#### March 13, 14, 15 2009, Stoddard Wells, CA

Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club  
33rd Annual Tailgate  
Held off Stoddard Wells Road in Apple Valley  
Hours: 10-5 Daily  
Tailgate Map (Google): N34.670650 W117.108983  
(760) 243-2330  
Website: [www.vvgms.org](http://www.vvgms.org)

#### March 14-15 2009, Turlock, CA

Mother Lode Mineral Society  
Stanislaus County Fairgrounds  
900 N. Broadway, Turlock  
Hours: Sat. 10 -6, Sun 10-5  
Bud & Terry McMillin (209) 524-3494  
Email: [terry.mcmillin@yahoo.com](mailto:terry.mcmillin@yahoo.com)

Website: [www.motherlodemineralsociety.com](http://www.motherlodemineralsociety.com)

#### March 14-15 2008, Spreckels, CA

Salinas Valley Rock & Gem Club  
Veteran's Memorial Hall  
5th & Liano Streets  
Hours: 10-5 daily  
Teri Beck (831) 679-2896  
Email: [taitani@cencentric.net](mailto:taitani@cencentric.net)  
Website: [salinasrockandgem.com](http://salinasrockandgem.com)

#### March 28-29 2009, Torrance, CA

South Bay Lapidary and Mineral Society  
Torrance Recreational Center  
3341 Torrance Blvd. Torrance, CA  
Hours: Sat. 10 - 5, Sun. 10-4  
Roger Mills (310) 377-6226  
Email: [roger\\_mills@acm.org](mailto:roger_mills@acm.org)  
Website: <http://www.palosverdes.com/sblap/>

#### March 28-29: Angels Camp, CA

Calaveras Gem & Mineral Society  
Calaveras Frog Town USA Fairgrounds  
Highway 49 in Angels Camp  
Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4  
Tak Iwata (209) 928-5579  
Website: [Calaverasgemandmineral.org](http://Calaverasgemandmineral.org)

#### March 28-29: Roseville, CA

Roseville Rock Rollers  
Placer County Fairgrounds  
800 All America City Blvd., Roseville  
Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4  
Gloria Marie (530) 367-2262  
Email: [Gloria.Marie@Conservation.ca.gov](mailto:Gloria.Marie@Conservation.ca.gov)  
Website: [www.rockrollers.com](http://www.rockrollers.com)

#### April 3-5 2009, Bakersfield, CA

San Joaquin Valley Lapidary Society  
Kern County Fairgrounds  
1142 South P. Street - Corner S. P & Belle Terrace  
Hours: 9-5 Daily  
Contact: Lew Helfrich (661) 323-2663 / cell (661) 378-4450  
Email: [lewsrocks@bak.rr.com](mailto:lewsrocks@bak.rr.com)

#### April 17, 18, 19, & 6 2009, San Jose, CA

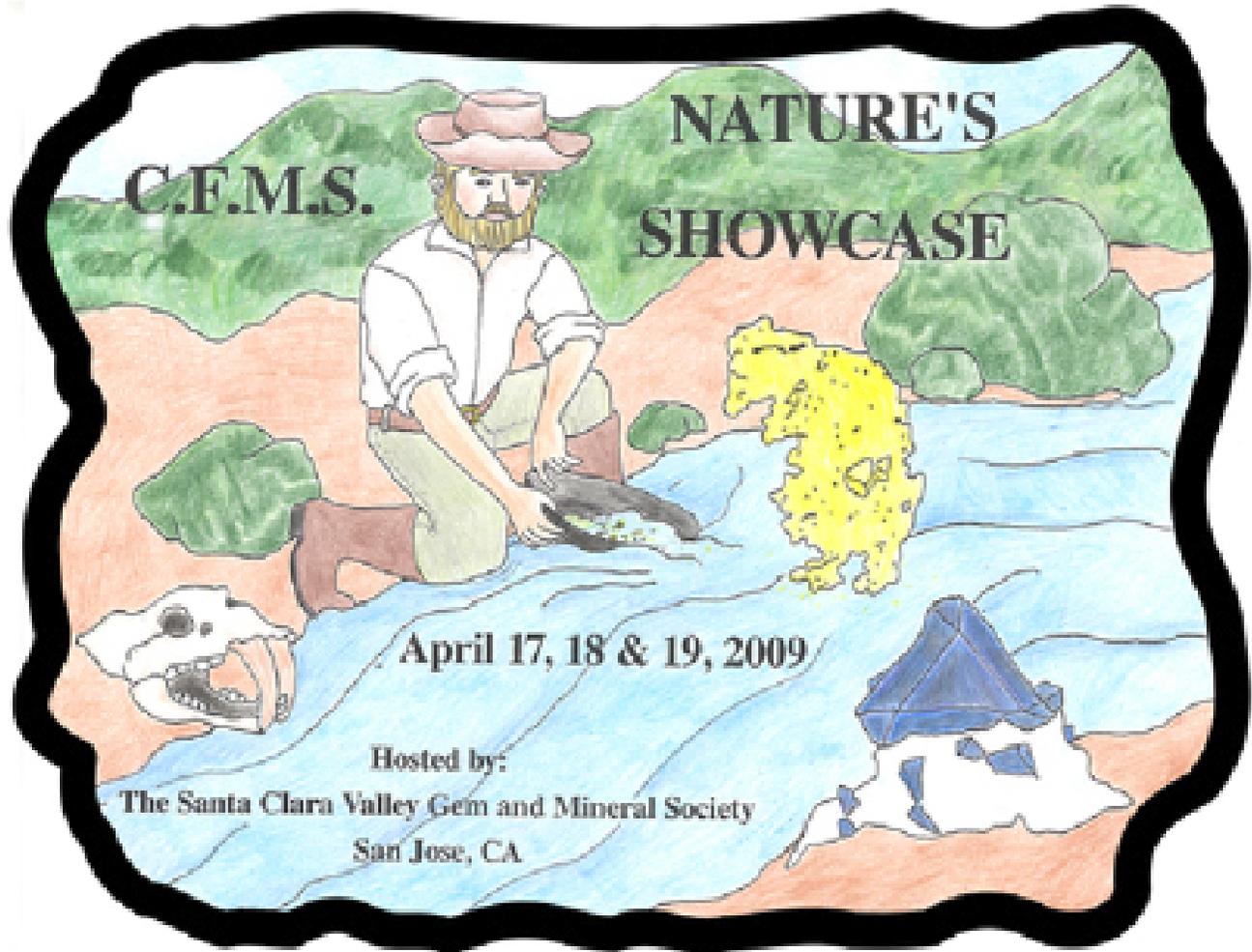
**54th Annual CFMS Show, Nature's Showcase Hosted by the Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society**  
**Santa Clara County Fairgrounds**  
**334 Tully Road**  
**Hours: 10-5 Daily**  
**Frank Mullaney (408) 265-1422**  
Email: [info@scvgms.org](mailto:info@scvgms.org)

Ore-Cutts



# 2009

54th ANNUAL SHOW



# Ore-Cutts

<p><b>OMS Webmaster - Wes Lingerfelt –(805) 929-3788.</b></p> <p>Check out our OMS web site at <a href="http://omsinc.org">http://omsinc.org</a> or send e-mail to <a href="mailto:info@omsinc.org">info@omsinc.org</a>.</p>
<p><b>OMS Membership</b> (dues) is \$24 per year. Junior memberships (under 18) are \$10 per year. Membership dues are due January 1, and are prorated for new members for each month thereafter. Membership Chairperson is Elaine Von Achen (805) 929-1488</p>
<p>Ore-Cutts Photo Credits: Photographs used in this bulletin were taken by Wes Lingerfelt, &amp; Wayne Mills except where noted</p>

## 2009 OMS Officers

President	Debbie Hood	(805) 481-6860
Pres. Elect	Sylvia Nasholm	(805) 481-0923
Secretary	Elaine Von Achen	(805) 929-1488
Treasurer	Wes Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788
Immed. Past Pres.	Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495
Federation. Rep.	Wes Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788



ORE-CUTTS (named after William Orcutt) was published in 1966. Member Helen Azevedo was the first editor. Orcutt Mineral Society was founded in 1958 and was named after William Orcutt, a geologist and civil engineer who worked in the Santa Maria Valley as a District manager for Union Oil Company in 1888. In 1889 William Orcutt discovered the mineral and fossil wealth of the La Brea Tar Pits on the property of Captain Alan Hancock. The La Brea Tar Pits are one of the most significant fossil finds in paleontological history. The OMS is a non-profit club dedicated to stimulating an interest in the earth sciences. The club offers educational programs, field trips, scholarships and other opportunities for families and individuals to pursue an interest in the collecting and treatment of lapidary materials, fossils, gems, minerals, and other facets of the Earth Sciences. In addition, another goal of this Society is to promote good fellowship and proper ethics in the pursuit of the Society's endeavors. Operating Rules have been set forth to guide the Officers and members of the Society in accomplishing these aims. Affiliates of the OMS include the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies

## OMS Editor

Debbie Hood 805-481-6860 [debilhood1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:debilhood1@sbcglobal.net)



*ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED*

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