



**The Prez Box—
March 2021
Bill Brown, OMS President**

Hi all! It's March which kinda brings us into summer. Don't forget to set your clocks forward 1 hour on March 14.

We are in purple status so we are still limited on getting together, so I am afraid we will have to continue with phone conferencing for the board meeting for March.

Jeanne and I have appointments for our first Covid vaccination on March 1. See info on covid vaccinations on page 4. (thanks for the idea Sally)

The board has decided that we will hold the current slate of officers until after we have had two regular meetings (one for Officer nominations, and one for voting). I hope we'll be able to have a meeting in April, but that will be determined by the State deciding to open everything back up.

We will be having the scheduled board meeting on March 2, 2021. We will still have to meet remotely (teleconference). Call **1-612-746-7377**. When the machine answers, it will ask for a conference code. Enter **323428**

The general meeting for March is canceled due to Covid shutdown. I am hoping that we will be able to meet in April.

I hope that everyone will get vaccinated as soon as possible. A newsletter section (suggested by Sally), will be contain information about vaccination availability and how to get vaccinated.

The breakfast for March is scheduled for the 27th at the Hometown Buffet in Santa Maria.

Highway cleanup will be held on March 13 at the SE corner Route 101/166 East at 8:00 am. I am hoping that we can have a good turnout.

With the vaccines out, and the government pushing to get them out to people, I am hoping that we will be able to get things going!

Be healthy and take care of yourselves. We will make it through to a better 2021.

We have some communications on having the show that Wayne got. It looks like we may be able to hold a show, but we have to sign an agreement that we will limit attendance to allow for 6 feet social distancing. We will talk about this at the board meeting Tuesday.

Stay Healthy.

Bill

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Greetings go out to those folks who are having Birthdays and Anniversaries in

BIRTHDAYS

Jeanne Lingerelt	3/7	✕
Krystal Rose	3/8	✕
Bill Hood	3/18	✕

ANNIVERSARIES

None this month

***Congratulations!** If you don't see your name here when you should, then the information is not in The Red Book. Please write your important dates down and give them to **Wayne** so they will be included in the next edition (January 2021)*

March Birthstones

There are two birthstones for March: Aquamarine and Bloodstone.

Aquamarine's name comes from the Latin for seawater, and ancient mariners claimed the gem would calm waves and keep sailors safe at sea. This March birthstone was also thought to bring happiness in marriage. Beryl was believed to give the wearer protection against foes in battle and litigation. It was also thought to make the wearer unconquerable and amiable, and to quicken the intellect.



COURTESY: GLEN PREUS (LEFT)

Bloodstone, also known as heliotrope, is a variety of chalcedony (cryptocrystalline quartz) that is traditionally semi-translucent to opaque dark green jasper with red inclusions of iron oxides, especially hematite. Bloodstone's alternate name *heliotrope* comes from the ancient Greek word that means "to turn the sun." In ancient times, these March birthstones were believed to turn the sun red if they were placed in water. The name *bloodstone* derives from the belief by some that the color pattern has religious significance, representing the blood of Christ.

GIA article March Birthstones

Category	Beryl
Formula	$\text{Be}_3\text{Al}_2\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{18}$
Crystal system	Hexagonal
Crystal class	DiHexagonal DiPyramidal
Impurities (for color)	Iron
Category	chalcedony
Formula	SiO_2
Crystal system	Hexagonal
Crystal class	DiHexagonal DiPyramidal
Impurities (for color)	Chlorite, amphibol, pyroxene, hematite

Mindat.org

Aquamarine transparent or opaque

Aquamarine is best known as a highly transparent blue stone. High-clarity, fracture-free aquamarine is abundant and more affordable. High-clarity, fracture-free stones are

also more attractive and less likely to be damaged during wear.

Did you know that nice pieces of translucent aquamarine are also used in jewelry? Translucent aquamarine is often cut into beads and sometimes cut as [cabochons](#). Necklaces strung with beads of pastel blue aquamarine and pastel pink [morganite](#) (both color-varieties of the mineral beryl!) make a beautiful combination.

Fancy Jasper

It is unusual to find green chalcedony with markings that are only red in color. Usually there are dots, bands, or



Beryl Beads: This bracelet is made of translucent aquamarine and translucent morganite beads that are 8-millimeters in diameter. Translucent can be beautiful!

streaks of white, yellow, orange, and brown. If these other colors are less abundant than the red markings, the material is still called bloodstone by many people.

When colors other than red dominate, either alone or as a group, the material is usually called "fancy jasper." The name "jasper" is used because opaque chalcedony is, by definition, a jasper. Bloodstone is not called "jasper" because the name "bloodstone" is more specific.



Bloodstone rough: Rough bloodstone from India with a nice dark green color and a red splatter of blood. This material is in pieces about one inch in size and was sold as a rough for rock tumbling.

BITS AND BYTES

MOUNT HOOD, Ore. - A swarm of small earthquakes beneath the summit of Oregon's Mount Hood this week is not a common occurrence but it doesn't mean that the volcano is about to erupt, the U.S. Geological Survey reports.

For more info check link: [Geologists investigate earthquake swarm beneath Oregon volcano | KOMO \(komonews.com\)](https://www.komonews.com/story/news/local/2021/03/22/geologists-investigate-earthquake-swarm-beneath-oregon-volcano/7071114002/)

Japan at Night



This photograph, taken by astronaut [Randy "Komrade" Bresnik](#) from the International Space Station (ISS), shows nighttime lights over Japan on November 6, 2017.

The area at the top is Tokyo, the Middle is Nagoya, and bottom is Osaka. Article at <https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/images/147987/japan-at-night>

42,000-Year-Old Trees Enable Accurate Analysis of Earth's Last Magnetic Field Reversal

The last complete reversal of the Earth's magnetic field, the so-called Laschamps event, took place 42,000 years ago. Radiocarbon analyses of the remains of kauri trees from New Zealand now make it possible for the first time to precisely time and analyze this event and its associated effects, as well as to calibrate geological archives such as sediment and ice cores from this period.

Article at: <https://scitechdaily.com/42000-year-old-trees-enable-accurate-analysis-of-earths-last-magnetic-field-reversal/>

UPCOMING SHOWS:

Due to the COVID crisis, masks and social distancing are required at all the event/show sites.

ALL SHOW DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE DEPENDING ON THE COVID STATS.

SANTA BARBARA MAY 21, 22, 23.... Gem Faire, Earl Warren Show Grounds

QUARTZITE Quartzite Market Place Street Fair Open until-March 31, 2021

Tyson Wells Market Center Swap Meet Open until - April 1, 2021 TUCSON SHOWS Some shows were cancelled and some have been postponed until April. Check the internet to find the show you want to attend.

CONFIRMED APRIL SHOW DATES:

1801 Oracle — Mineral Village Show (April 7 – 25, 2021) 22nd Street Show (April 8 – 25, 2021)

African Art Village (April 8 - 26, 2021)

Arizona Independent Warehouse Show

The Big Gem Show (April 10 – 24, 2021)

G&LW Tucson Gem Show / Gem Mall (April 10 – 18, 2021)

G&LW Tucson Gem Show / Holidome (April 10 – 18, 2021)

GIGM Red Lion Gem & Mineral Show (April 9 – 24, 2021)

GIGM Motel 6 Gem & Mineral Show (April 9 – 24, 2021)

GIGM Quality Inn Gem & Mineral Show (April 9 – 24, 2021)

JG&M Expo at Michigan Street (April 8 – 25, 2021)

JG&M Expo at Simpson Street (April 8 – 25, 2021)

JOGS Tucson Gem & Jewelry Show (exact April dates TBD)

Kino Gem & Mineral Show (April 8 – TBD, 2021)

Main Avenue Fossil & Mineral Show (April 8 – 25, 2021)

MORE CONFIRMED SHOW DATES:

April 10-11 Mariposa Gem and Mineral Club, Mariposa County Fairgrounds

May 1-2 Amador County Gem & Mineral Society, Jackson, CA

June 12-13 Palomar Gem and Mineral Club, Escondido, CA

August 14-15 Pasadena Lapidary Society, Arcadia,

CA October 9-10 Peninsula Gem and Geology Society, Los Altos, CA

Above information extracted from the March Mineral Messenger published by the San Luis Obispo Gem and Mineral Club. Their site is www.slogem.org. Visit their site if you get a chance!

SAFETY MATTERS: SAFETY IN THE NEW YEAR

By Ellery Borow, AFMS Safety Chair

Some believe COVID-19 is hokum. Some believe it is quite genuine. That will not be discussed here.... But what if.... What if mask wearing, social distancing and observing safety guidelines saves a life. What if minding state guidelines protects a club. What if protocols for COVID-19 keep from bringing it home or from taking it out of your home if it's already there. What if procedures for safety really do curb spread to one's family, friends, or community.

Does mask wearing violate rights? Does respectful distancing dishonor relationships? Does hand washing hurt the community? Only you can decide for yourself.... But it is not only just about yourself, it is for all those around you. What if... What if a price for COVID-19 is too high? What is the price? There are many such questions. The job of safety is to be mindful of what ifs and prepare for them.

What else can a mask do? One can go a few days without shaving and no one in public will care. One could wear a mask that looks like a majestic orangutan's jaw and lips. One can wear a mask to make a statement of art - there are a great many artful mask designs out there. One can wear a mask to be brave in facing a pandemic and take charge of one's care. One can wear a mask because the CDC, WHO, NIH, NIAD say it is a good idea...and they care about saving people. One might wear a mask because a friend got sick... or worse. One can wear a mask to make a stand because the numbers are not going down. One can wear a mask till vaccines start taking effect. One can wear a mask to help keep the flu numbers down. One can show one's bravery by wearing a mask. Masks can do a great deal. How about making them work for you? How about making them work for those around you?

I'm not here to judge, but to simply help people stay safe. It seems the right thing to do. The alphabet soup:

WHO - World Health Organization

CDC - Center for Disease Control

NIH - National Institute of Health

NIAD - National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases

The disclaimer - understand that this article does not profess to offer medical advice but merely compiles data from several sources about masks and the COVID-19 virus. For current information please check with trusted sources.

From AFMS Newsletter Feb 2021

Covid 19 News

I promised to provide some Covid Vaccination information, but failed to do so last month.

County Vaccinations

SLO county has three vaccination sites:

- Cuesta College (Performing Arts Center)
- Paso Robles at PR Event Center
- Arroyo Grande High School (Clark Center)

SLO county also has several private providers that you can get appointments with including Vons/Albertsons, Ralphs, Cayucos Pharmacy, CVS Arroyo Grande, and Rite Aid Arroyo Grande. (Jeanne and I got our appointments through CVS Arroyo Grande.)

You can go to [Vaccine Registration - San Luis Obispo County \(recoverslo.org\)](#). There is a block for first dose appointments and a block for second dose appointments. I haven't seen it say that 1st dose appointments are available. I have seen 2nd dose appointments available. It should update based on whether appointments are available. I have heard that Thursday Morning at 9:00am is the best time, but you should probably check every morning at around 9:00.

There is a gray block below the county reservation. If you click that it will take you to the private providers (such as CVS Arroyo Grande). You should check all of them for available appointments. You can call (805)543-2444 or (805)781-4280 if you don't have computer availability or if you need help.

Santa Barbara County

As far as I can determine, they don't have vaccinations given by the county. All providers are private pharmacies or health providers.

Go to [Vaccine Appointments 65+ – County of Santa Barbara \(publichealthsb.org\)](#) for a full list of vaccination locations. Hopefully you can find one that has appointments available. Marion Medical Centre is one of the locations in Santa Maria. You can probably call them at (805)739-3000 if you can't use a computer for getting an appointment.

Good Luck!!

ORCUTT MINERAL SOCIETY

BOARD MEETING

Teleconference

Feb 2, 2021 (7:00 p.m.) Call to Order 7:08 p.m.

Members present: 2021 Officers & Board: Bill & Jeanne Brown, Wayne Mills, Betty Campbell, Jan Ferguson, Sally Griffith, Renea Sutcliffe,

Absent, Dick Bazzell, Debbie Hood

MINUTES: (Wayne) January Minutes are in yet to be published bulletin

TREASURER'S REPORT:—(Jeanne) No income, but we are still solvent

CORRESPONDENCE: (Wayne) Mail from Cuesta College (catalogues), Jan, Dec. SLR Newsletter, AFMS Newsletter (Feb), Salvation Army (donation request), Pat Nurenburg (\$10 for bulletin), Chase Bank for Bill, Nipomo of C (window sticker)

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Bulletin- Don't have bulletin out yet, but it is coming. It was on line 3 days after Board Meeting. Hope everyone received their copy by mail or e-mail..

CFMS- (Renea) No report. Wayne reported receipt of AFMS Pins, and certificated for Elisabeth and Wayne from Bulletin Contest. Wayne read his AFMS-CFMS notes from the Santa Lucia Club

Membership - Anything new? Nothing

Field Trip – (Sally) Kim Noyes has led 3 unaffiliated field trips lately. One is planned this weekend (Feb 8) to Montano Del Oro.

Adopt-a-Highway – Highway cleanup will be held on Saturday March 13 at 8:00 am on the SE corner of the US101/Hwy 166 interchange.

Annual Awards Banquet: Our deposit at Madonna Inn rolled over. WE will be notified in advance if our Annual meeting for 12/11 is a go.

Breakfast- February 27 8:30 a.m. at Country Kitchen in Arroyo Grande.

Education None to report.

Library- (Alexis) Nothing

Sunshine- We lost one of our dealers David Walbloom. Wayne contacted David's widow (Susan Chaison--Walbloom) with our condolences, and found out that she will carry on the business at gem shows.

Scholarship (Jeanne) Decision postponed until after we have a show.

Show—Bill got the papers to fill out for using the High School for our 2021 Show. Application fees are waived this year.

Old Business- Current officers and board will maintain their positions until we can have 2 face to face meetings. We need to report our "new": officers to CFMS by March 31.

New Business- We previously agreed to carry dues over from last year.

Adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

ORCUTT MINERAL SOCIETY

General Meeting February 9, 2021

The February General Meeting was cancelled due to the Coronavirus shutdown.

Respectfully Submitted

Wayne Mills, OMS Secretary



PINTEREST—Geology Page



OMS CALENDAR	
Check August Bulletin for COVID Updates	
February 2021	
Tuesday, March 2 7:00 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting, Tele-conference. See Prez Box.
Tuesday, March 9 7:00 p.m. Oasis Senior Center	General meeting (Canceled due to COVID)
Saturday, March 13 8:00 a.m.	Highway Cleanup SE Corner Hwy101/166 Junction.
April 2021	
Tuesday, March 2 7:00 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting, Nipomo Chamber of Commerce meeting room or Teleconference.
Tuesday, March 9 7:00 p.m. Oasis Senior Center	General Meeting. I'm putting this here because I'm Optimistic. May be Canceled

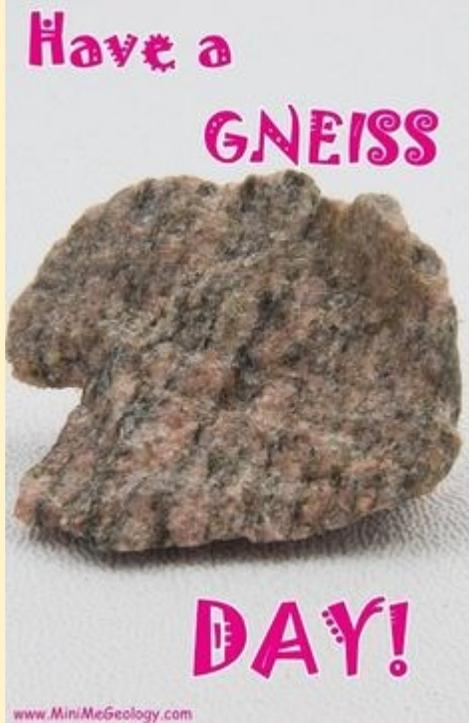
2020 / Interim 2021-OMS OFFICERS		
President	Bill Brown	(805) 481-1811
President-Elect	Jeanne Brown	(805) 481-1811
Secretary	Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495
Treasurer	Jeanne Brown	(805) 481-1811
Imm. Past Pres.	Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495
2020 / Interim 2021 -OMS BOARD MEMBERS		
	Dick Bazzell	(805-757-9123
	Jan Ferguson	(805) 474-9977
	Sally Griffith	(805) 928-6848
	Debbie Hood	(805) 481-6860
	Renea Suttcliffe	805) 929-2783
CFMS FEDERATION DIRECTOR		
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OMS Membership \$24.00 for Individual, \$34.00 per couple, \$5.00 Each Additional Family Member, \$5 for Juniors under age of 18. One time initiation fee for new members is \$10.00. OMS Membership Chairperson is: Jeanne Brown		
OMS Webmaster –Bill Brown– (805) 481-1811 Check out our OMS web site at: http://www.omsinc.org or send e-mail to: info@omsinc.org .		
Ore-Cutts Editor/Publisher		
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Well, this is #3. Starting to get a handle on Publisher software! Please remember that I would be happy if anyone wanted to take a shot at it. Until then, I'll try to keep up something that we can at least use.

Note: If you want to contribute to the Abused Children's fund, I'm sure Jan would appreciate you sending donations via US Mail!

Check-out the OMS Web page at: omsinc.org for our old bulletins (since 2002) and a wealth of other information We have a Bibliography to help your bulletin search.. Our bulletins look much better in COLOR!

Check-out our Facebook page. Elisabeth does a great job keeping that up. (Search for Orcutt Mineral Society in Facebook Search).



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



The ORE-CUTTS (named after William Orcutt) was first published in 1966. Member Helen Azevedo was the first editor. The Orcutt Mineral Society was founded in 1958, and was also named after Orcutt who was 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 in Los Angeles. The La Brea Tar Pits are one of the most significant fossil finds in paleontological history.

OMS is a non-profit organization 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 pursuit of the Society's endeavors. Operating Rules have been set forth to guide the officers and members of the Society in accomplishing these aims. Affiliations of the OMS include American Federation of Mineral Societies, and California Federation of Mineral Societies.