



Birthdays

Jeannie Lingerfelt
March 7th

Krystal Rose
March 8th

Bill Hood
March 18th

Bryan Pearson
March 19th

Anniversaries

Bryan and Sharon Pearson
March 19th

Cary and Kathy Holst
March 23rd

Who is Bringing Snacks?

Margaret Henson has signed up to bring cake.

The Prez Box - March 2023



Hello All. The winter is progressing and we had a very good month last month. We received word back from Nipomo High School that the campus would be available for our show the first weekend in August. Renea is working to revamp the dealer contracts and food vendor contracts. She is hoping to start mailing them between the end of March or early April. If anyone would

like to help, contact Renea to see what you can do.

We had a really lousy January. It started with terrible attendance at both Board and General meetings. We had 3 officers for the board meeting and 13 club members at the general meeting. I think February made up for it. We had a full house for the board meeting and an amazing number of members plus 10 guests for our General meeting. We even had the pleasure of Sylvia and Don Nasholm's company! Sylvia looked healthier than she has in a long time! Spring is right around the corner and I am hoping people will continue to come out to our meetings!

One of our highlights for February was our field trip to Jalama Beach. Joey introduced us to a few of her favorite collecting areas and the weather was perfect. We had a fantastic turn out, most of our new members came and a few of our guests that attended the general meeting. Due to parking, it was difficult keep in contact with everyone. We were all scattered throughout the parking area so I am not positive of the exact number of Rock Hounders that came. There were

March

March 6 at 7:00 pm - Board Meeting in Wes Lingerfelt's garden.

March 11 at 8:00 am - Highway Clean-up at the Southeast corner of Highway 101 and 166.

March 14 at 7:00 pm - General Meeting at the Oasis Senior Center. **MEMBERSHIP FEES DUE!**

March 18 - Field Trip to Reyes Canyon - We will be leaving at 8:00 am from the southeast corner of Highway 101 and 166 (same place as our highway clean up.) We will be looking for pink Felspar and Pelona Schist. Please contact Joey Nichols or Sally Griffith for more information.

April

April 3 at 7:00 pm - Board Meeting in Wes Lingerfelt's garden.

April 11 at 7:00 pm - General Meeting at the Oasis Senior Center.

April 15 - Field Trip - TBD

Prez Box Continued from page 1

at least 12 that I can count and possibly more. Hopefully everyone will bring their Jalama treasures with them to the March meeting. I know Wes came home with a whale bone and a few nice rocks. As usual most of my finds were Chert. However, Joey found some Agates. Everyone had a good time and are looking forward to the next trip. The field trip scheduled for March 18th is to Reyes Creek. We plan to meet at the intersection of Highway 101 and Rt 166 E at 8:00 am. The Reyes Creek is best known for it's Pink Felspar, as well as Pelona Schist. I hope you will be able to join us. It was nice to have a large group on our field trip.

March 11th is our next Highway clean up. We could really use any extra help we can get! It has been 4 months since we have been able to clean the Highway. January we were rained out. So, provided weather will permit, we will have quite a bit more trash than normal to pick up.

I want to remind everyone that membership dues are due by the end of the March's General meeting, especially if you want your name and contact information put in the 2023 Red Book. Dues are \$24 for single members, \$34 for couples and \$5 for each additional family member as well as for Juniors (under 18).

Our program for this March meeting will be a video that has not been decided on yet. I am going to ask the board if we can form a program committee that can take the time to plan more diversity in our programs. If anyone would like to volunteer, please let me know! We are in need of presentations for September and October.

Our displays this month are Jalama collections and anything else someone would like to show. For those who do not know, when you bring a display, you get an extra ticket for the door prize drawing. A little extra incentive.

I also want to remind people of the upcoming Ventura rock show on March 4th and 5th. That show and others are listed in the newsletter.

I wish you all a happy spring and hope to see you at the highway clean up on March 11th, the general meeting on March 14th, and our field trip to Reyes Creek on March 18th.

Sally

Orcutt Mineral Society Board Meeting - February 6, 2023

Called to Order: 7:14 pm by Sally Griffith

Members Present: Sally Griffith, Tara Machin, Wayne Mills, Jeanne Brown, Renea Sutcliffe, Wes Lingerfelt, and Jan Ferguson, Absent: Betty Campbell, and Joe Goetz

Correspondence: Christmas card from SBCC Earth and Planetary Sciences, Santa Lucia Rockhounds newsletter, vendor application from Ventura Gem and Mineral Society, gem show flier from the 10th annual gem and mineral show in Laughlin, NV that happened in January of 2023, the Cuesta College magazine from fall of 2022, and the AFMS newsletter.

Previous Minutes: No corrections

Treasurer's Report: Jeanne presented an updated 2022 profit and loss sheet. Jeanne asked to move the club's bank accounts to Bank of America.

Committee Reports:

1. **Bulletin-** Joe Goetz's phone number was incorrect in the previous newsletter, but is now corrected.
2. **CFMS/AFMS-** Notes from the January and February newsletters will be put into the March newsletter since the February newsletter was published early.
3. **Membership-** Jan, Stan and Brenna are now lifetime club members. We have a few new members in the wing. Membership fees are due by the March general meeting.
4. **Field Trip-** Next field trip will be on February 18th to Jalama Beach.
5. **Adopt-a-Highway-** March 11th is the next clean-up. Meet at the southeast corner of highway 101 and 166 at 8:00 am.
6. **Annual Awards Banquet-** We are looking for a new venue this year. There

is no deposit at the Madonna Inn for the 2023 annual meeting.

7. **Education-** No updates
8. **Library-** No updates
9. **Sunshine-** No updates
10. **Scholarship-** Cuesta college to do the May general meeting to talk about their scholarship.

Show: Renea needs to make new signs for the show. The board approved spending up to \$500. The dates are locked in for the show and the contract has been approved by the Lucia Mar School District. The vendor rate prices will be raised \$15 for outside vendors and will be raised by 20% for the inside vendors.

Old Business: None

New Business: The board discussed changes to the bylaws and changes were discussed for article IV, article V, and article VII.

Program: Wes Lingerfield will surprise us

Display: Whatever you like.

Adjourned at 8:26 pm

Respectfully submitted by Tara Machin, OMS Secretary



Orcutt Mineral Society General Meeting - February 14, 2023

Called to Order: 7:05 pm by Sally Griffith

Invocation: Debbie Hood

Pledge of Allegiance: Sally Griffith

Members Present: 22 members and 10 guests

Correspondence: See board meeting notes from 2-6-23

Previous Minutes: No corrections

Treasurer's Report: Quarterly reports will be presented in April. Jeanne has updated 2022 reports if anyone wants to see them.

Committee Reports:

1. **Bulletin-** See board meeting notes from 2-6-23
2. **CFMS/AFMS-** No update
3. **Membership-** Jan, Stan and Brenna are now lifetime club members. Collecting dues for memberships soon. Due date is March 14th the general meeting - \$24 per person, \$34 for 2 people, plus \$5 for each additional membership. There is a \$10 extra charge for first time members.
4. **Field Trip-** The field trip will be Jalama Beach - take 2. The road was washed out in the January storms. We will be meeting at 10:00 am at the Lompoc Home Depot.
5. **Adopt-a-Highway-** March 11th is the next clean-up. Meet at the southeast corner of highway 101 and 166 at 8:00



am. Our November stipend of \$250 from Cal-Trans was overlooked, but we will be getting our check soon. Wayne talked to the new Adopt-a-highway coordinator to get everything straight.

6. **Annual Awards Banquet-** Jeanne has been contacting venues for the awards banquet. She has already called 14 places and the plate cost is around \$40. We will try to try to find something else. Jan and Debbie are helping to find more places to check out.
7. **Education-** The links to the videos from previous presentations are now posted on the website.
8. **Library-** No Update
9. **Sunshine-** Lisa Azevedo is having surgery on March 17th.
10. **Scholarship-** See board meeting notes from 2-6-23

Show (2023): See board meeting notes from 2-6-23. The applications need to be revised and they will not go out until the first of April for our August show.

Old Business: Wayne showed his yard flower that Robyn Burgess made with his metal detector finds.

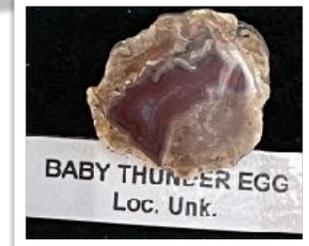
New Business: See board meeting notes from 2-6-23

Program: Video - The Worlds Greatest Geologic Wonders of the World Session 35 - 10 wonders in 30 minutes presented by Wes Lingerfelt

Special thanks to Lisa Azevedo who gave everyone Valentine's at the general meeting. How sweet! Also, thank you to Jeannie Lingerfelt who made extra pies for the snacks. Adjourned at 8:25 pm

Respectfully submitted by Tara Machin, OMS Secretary

Display from the February General Meeting - Thanks, Wayne



Terminology - Sulfides

Sulfides are a class of minerals that contain the element Sulfur. There are a great many mineral compounds that contain Sulfur and a metal such as lead or iron. Sulfides are one of the most important of chemical compounds in the mineral world and many are easily identified by beginning rockhounds. Pyrite (iron sulfide), galena (lead sulfide), and cinnabar (mercury sulfide) are all common minerals.

Sulfide minerals generally have a metallic luster to them which makes them sparkle. They can also have very unique and symmetrical crystal structures as well as bright colors. Pyrite is famous for its cubic shape while cinnabar is famous for its beautiful red color.



New Rock and Mineral Shop in Nipomo

In January a new rock shop opened in Nipomo. Mystic Nature opened in the old barber shop next to the Mayor's Place restaurant. Our OMS member, Wes Lingerfelt, has helped to decorate the shop with many of his specimens. Folks who have been say that the store is well worth checking out. The address is 191 West Teft Street.

Field Trip Photos from Jalama Beach - February 18, 2023



A Call for Tool Vendors in Montana

The Rockchucks rock club is located in Kalispell Montana, about 90 miles from the Canadian border. They are having their annual rock show on March 11th and 12th, 2023. They are looking for a vendor that sells tools for their show and they personally reached out to one of members, John and Elaine VonAchen looking for someone.

This is very short notice for this year, but it sounds like an amazing event for next year. Their show is always the second weekend of March and it sounds like a great trip to the Pacific Northwest. They usually have over 2,800 people in attendance. They really have a great kids program too. They provide activities like sapphire and garnet digging, as well as a rockhound bingo game.

If you are interested in selling in Montana, please contact Lloyd Fager at oldgrayelf@sbcglobal.net or Cathy Martin at catmar718@yahoo.com.

CFMS Bulletin Notes - February and March

Notes by Wayne Mills SLR CFMS Rep

CFMS Website - cfmsinc.org

February

President's Box - (Kimberly Fiala) Suggests that members try to get friends, family and neighbors interested in joining a rock club or donating to one.

Insurance - Insurance rates are now \$9 per member and is due by March 2023.

Juniors - (Jim Brace-Thompson) Help and materials are requested for the Juniors Booth at the 2023 CFMS Show in Lodi California (June 22 - 25). The junior's awards will presented at the show. [Click here](#) for the application information or go to the CFMS website.

Information on the 2023 CFMS Show was included. Pat La Rue needs volunteers for the effort.

2022 All-American Club Yearbook Award - (Diane Cook) Deadline for the application is March 10th, 2023. [Click here](#) for the application. Send applications to johnndianedaisy@yahoo.com.

2022 CFMS Bulletin Contest Entries - are due to Cecilia Churchill by February 15th, 2023.

Rockhound of the Year - Submit entries to Chris Ward at chris_ward678@yahoo.com anytime during the year. Winners get AFMS lapel pin, and certificates from both AFMS/CFMS.

Communicate Folks! - (Beverly Moreau, CFMS past president 1998) Make sure that assigned club tasks are getting done by communicating during the length of projects.

March

President's Box - (Kimberly Fiala) Looking for volunteers to help with the CFMS No-host Show to be held June 23-25 at the Lodi Grape Festival Grounds. Free admission to the show for volunteers.

Societies Dues and insurance is due - Officer change forms are also requested to be submitted.

Juniors - (Jim Brace-Thompson) How to find a champion to initiate or revitalize a Juniors Program.

2022 CFMS Bulletin Contest Entries were due by February 20, 2023.

Seeking entries for "Golden Bear" Awards. Instructions for filing are included in bulletin.

Rockhound of the Year - Submit entries to Chris Ward chris_ward678@yahoo.com

CFMS Show and Convention - Seeking exhibits both competitive and non-competitive for this event. Forms are posted on the CFMS Website.

BLM Sponsored Field Trip to Hauser Geode Beds - Story included from January 28, 2023 event.

Earth Science Camp Paradise - August 21-26 and August 2-September 2 at Strawberry Valley, Yuba Co., CA. Details and application in March Bulletin.

2022 All-American Club Yearbook Award - See February notes.

2023 CFMS Website Contest - Tentative deadline is March 19. See March Bulletin for details.

COOP CFMS Director and CFMS Field Trips - North Seminar March 4, 2023. Women's Thursday Club, 10625, Fair Oaks, CA 95628.

Remember to update CFMS and your club Website with your new show dates.



AFMS Bulletin Notes - February and March

AFMS Website- amfed.org

February

President of AFMS - (Cheryl Neary). Ring in the New Year with number of new minerals. [Click here](#) to read about two new ones found in a meteorite. AFMS has a new committee dedicated to renovating the Uniform Rules for Competition Display. Updates will be in the next several AFMS Bulletins. Thanks to our new bulletin editor, Linda Jaeger, and our retiring editor, Suzanne Webb.

Juniors - A new AFMS Juniors website has been launched. Find it at www.juniors.amfed.org. Read more about the Juniors website on page 5 of the bulletin.

The next AFMS Convention will be held in Billings, Montana on August 3-6, 2023.

The AFMS Executive Committee Meeting was held December 8, 2022. Minutes are in the Bulletin. Jim Brace-Thompson was named Chair of the AFMS Public Relations Committee.

All American Club Awards - Deadline for entries for the 2022 contest is March 30, 2023. Winners from each Federation are forwarded to AFMS. Send submissions to writteninwood@gmail.com.

2022 Rockhound of the Year Awards were announced for several Federations.

File Keeping - (Jennifer Haley, Historian) Plastic containers are preferred for storing historical records. They are more likely to protect against spiders and mice.

Safety - (Ellery Borow) Always read the safety manuals that come with your equipment. If you have questions, ask the company. Also, ask local experts, the fire department, or the Red Cross.

The 2023 AFMS Annual Show will be combined with the NFMS (Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies) in Billings, Montana on August 3-6, 2023.

March

President of AFMS - (Cheryl Neary from Long Island, New York). Interesting observation about calendars and the Ides of March. Kim's point is that you should mark your calendars for upcoming meetings, shows and other important deadlines.

New Programs Competition Deadline - Details are in the bulletin. The Deadline is April 5, 2023. Send entries to DeLane Cox delanec@earthlink.net.

All American Club Awards - See February notes.

Communing with Rocks - (Mike Nelson). The mental and physical benefits of field collecting.

When Pyrite Goes Bad! (Darrell Powell) Means of preservation of pyrite specimens

Publicity Relations - (Jim Brace Thompson) Jim is seeking ideas for publicizing AFMS. He researched previous writers, and he plans to create an e-pamphlet of publicity ideas for the AFMS Website. If anyone has ideas on publicity to share, contact Jim at jbraceth@roadrunner.com.

Juniors - The Junior Rockhound Program has 20 different badges covering a wide variety of rock-related topics. Completing all 20 badges takes dedicated effort that is rewarded with the AFMS Rockstar award. The most recent two winners are Delaina Cook and Olivia Long from the Indian Mounds Rock and Mineral Club located in Wyoming, Michigan (seriously, it's a place!).

2022 Rockhound of the Year Awards were announced for several Federations. Two clubs from the California Federation announced winners. Conejo Gem and Mineral Club, and San Gorgonio Mineral and Gem Society. Judy Allison, AFMS Rockhound of the Year (ROY) Chair has a nice

Continued on page 9

article about the value of awarding a ROY. The article includes a list of contacts for ROY in each Federation. The contact for California is Chris Ward at chris_ward678@yahoo.com.

Safety - (Ellery Borow) Everybody can use good backing. We would be in sad shape without it! In this article Ellery lists several ways we can protect our backs.

The 2023 AFMS Annual Show will be combined with the NFMS (Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies) in Billings, Montana on August 3-6, 2023.

All About Cinnabar

Cinnabar is the most abundant ore of for mining elemental mercury. It is usually red in color, but can be many shades from scarlet red to brown to a dull grey. It has a hardness of 2 to 2.5 and a density of 8.1 which makes it one of the heaviest minerals on earth. It also has one of the highest refractive indices of any mineral.

Cinnabar has a very interesting history. It has been used as a pigment in paint, cloth dyes, Chinese lacquer, and makeup. It is sometimes know by its other name, vermilion. Although they are the same chemical compound, cinnabar refers to the mineral while vermilion refers to the pigment. It has been used by the Romans and the Greeks for thousands of years as well as by neolithic cultures around the world. Practically any society that lived near a volcano would have had access to and would have used cinnabar in their culture. The red color is captivating, but the mercury containing cinnabar is also highly toxic. It was slowly phased out of use as a pigment once mercury poisoning was associated with it.

Elemental Mercury made from cinnabar had a commercial use in gold and silver refining starting as early as 1558 and was widely used for this purpose up until the 1960s when it finally came to an end due to health and environmental concerns. Mercury as a product is now limited to thermometers, barometers, mercury vapor lights and some electrical components. However, those products are slowly being removed as well. Old school "black lights" were made with mercury vapor and you may have seen your mineral collections fluoresce under its UV light.

If you have specimens of cinnabar, know that they are relatively safe. The mercury is bound to sulfur in the mineral form. However, take precautions to limit your exposure. Do not breathe the dust when cutting or polishing the mineral. Also be sure to wash your hands after handling it.



Photos from:

<https://mineralexpert.org/article/cinnabar-mercury-sulfide-mineral-ore>

<https://geology.com/minerals/cinnabar.shtml>

<https://www.britannica.com/science/>

Upcoming Rock and Mineral Shows

March 4-5, 2023 - Ventura, CA

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society

Contact: (805) 312-8467, info@vgms.org

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

March 3, 4 & 5, 2023 - Newark, CA

Mineral and Gem Society of Castro Valley

Contact: showchair@mgscv.org

Website: <http://MGSCV.org>

March 10-12, 2023 - Stoddard Wells

Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club

Contact: (909) 657-7200,

marklantz53@gmail.com

Website: <http://vvgmc.org>

March 11-12, 2023 - Turlock, CA

Mother Lode Mineral Society

Website: <http://www.turlockgemshow.com>

March 18-19, 2023 - Lemoore, CA

Lemoore Gem & Mineral Club

Website: <https://facebook.com/AndLemoore>

March 18-19, 2023 - San Jose, CA

Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society

Contact: info@scvgms.org

Website: <https://www.scvgms.org/>

March 24, 25 & 26, 2023 - Clovis, CA

Fresno Gem and Mineral Society

Contact: danielblom096@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.fgms.online>

March 25-26, 2023 - Angeles Camp, CA

Calaveras Gem and Mineral Show

Contact: clairemathison1@gmail.com

Website: <https://calaverasgemandmineral.net/>

April 1-2, 2023 - Vista, CA

Vista Gem and Mineral Society

Website: <https://vistarocks.org>

April 8-9, 2023 - Mariposa, CA

Mariposa Gem and Mineral Show

Website: <http://mariposagemclub.org>

April 15-16, 2023 - Placerville, CA

El Dorado County Mineral and Gem Society

Website: <http://edcmgs.org>

April 22-23, 2023 - Thousand Oaks, CA

Conejo Gem & Mineral Club

Contact: conejogemandmineral@gmail.com

Website: <https://cgamc.org>

April 29-30, 2023 - Anaheim, CA

Contact: nancybird68@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.searchersrocks.org/>

April 29-30, 2023 - Santa Cruz, CA

Santa Cruz Mineral and Gem Society

Contact: scruzmgms@gmail.com

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

More information can be found on the CFMS website at cfmsinc.org



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President	Sally Griffith	(805) 928-6848
President Elect / Treasurer	Jeanne L. Watkins	(805) 481-1811
Immediate Past President	Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495
Secretary	Tara Machin Joey Nichols	(805) 863-5992 (805) 714-7108
Orcutt Mineral Society Board Members		
	Jan Ferguson	(805) 474-9977
	Betty Campbell	(805) 929-5344
	Renea Sutcliffe	(805) 929-2783
	Joe Goetz	(408) 707-8005
	Wes Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788
CFMS Federation Director		
	Renea Sutcliffe	(805) 929-2783
OMS Membership		
Membership	Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495
Membership is \$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.		
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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.

