



Birthdays

- Nancy Knapp
March 2nd
- Jeannie Lingerfelt
March 7th
- Krystal Rose
March 8th
- Bill Hood
March 18th
- Bryan Pearson
March 19th
- Joe Goetz
March 27th

Anniversaries

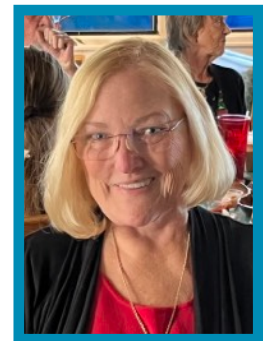
- Byran and Sharon Pearson
March 19th
- Cary and Kathy Holst
March 23rd

Who is Bringing Snacks?

The Azevedos have signed up to bring Cake along with Tara Machin. Other snacks and fruit are always welcomed.

The Passing of our President

As I was putting together this newsletter, we all had high hopes that our OMS President, Jeanne Watkins would be on the road to recovery after her fall in January. Unfortunately, she passed away on February 24th. We will let everyone know more details as we learn them. Please send condolences to Bill Brown and her family.



Thank you, Tara, OMS Newsletter Editor

The Prez Box - March 2024



By Joe Goetz for Jeanne Watkins Brown

Greetings, the February general meeting was unexpected for me considering I was not expecting to be leading it. So, I am writing this with my thoughts on Jeanne who would have led the meeting if not for her unfortunate accident. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers.

Our last meeting began with the greeting of new members and the giving out of membership badges and I know we have more badges to give out soon. It is exciting to see the club with so many new members ready to jump in and help. As I review the jobs and committees that we currently have in place, it is obvious that we could benefit from sharing the load. So, I would like to see us begin to bring onboard some of these wonderful new members and mentor them into the many roles that make a great club even greater.

March

March 4 at 7:00 pm - Board Meeting in Wes Lingerfelt's Garden

March 9 at 8:00 am - Highway Clean Up at the Southeast corner of Highway 101 and 166.

March 12 at 7:00 pm - General Meeting at the Oasis Senior Center - Correction to the last newsletter that listed the incorrect date.

March 16 -Field Trip TBD

April

April 1 at 7:00 pm - Board Meeting in Wes Lingerfelt's Garden

April 9 at 7:00 pm - General Meeting at the Oasis Senior Center - Correction to the last newsletter that listed the incorrect date.

April 20 -Field Trip TBD

Upcoming Dates

June 8 - Annual Picnic Pot Luck

August 2, 3, and 4 - Annual Rainbow of Gems Club Show



Prez Box continued from Page 1

Recently members have shared a desire for more field trips and more lapidary art lessons such as shaping and polishing stones as well as wire wrapping. You will be happy to know that I have bought the tools, wires and even some nice cabochons for our wire wrapping class. You are welcome to just show up or bring your own supplies. The first wire wrapping class was at 10am on Saturday, Feb. 24th in our new club workshop (thank you Joey and Steve).

At the March general meeting we plan on passing out the new "red book" with all our current information. We hope to see you at our next general meeting on March 12. If you haven't seen our new Facebook group page, check it out! Everyone in the club is welcome to post as long as it conforms to our club standards. Thank you and....

Let the rocks keep rolling!
Joe

Purple Gold???

What the heck is purple gold? It has been making its way around the internet lately. The gold is a very pleasing shade of purple and is being used in jewelry. Is it really gold, or just a scam?

It turns out that purple gold is actually a mixture of gold and aluminum with a composition of about 81% gold and 19% aluminum. It seems kind of difficult to make and can be brittle. You are therefore unlikely to see jewelry pieces made entirely of purple gold. Most jewelry uses purple gold as an accent to a larger piece.

As surprising as purple gold is, it shouldn't be. We are familiar with white gold as well as the pink and green gold in Black Hills Gold jewelry from South Dakota. Even pure gold has a slight red tint to it and is usually mixed with other metals to get a more pleasing color of yellow. However, there only seems to be one vendor of purple gold jewelry on the internet, Lee Hwa Jewelry. You can also purchase cabochons from Etsy and try your hand at making your own purple gold jewelry.

For more information, watch this YouTube video about making purple gold <https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=d6Pcp944sRI>.



Photo from luciteria.com

Orcutt Mineral Society Board Meeting - February 5, 2024

Call to Order: 7:10 pm by Joe Goetz, President
Elect

Members present: Wayne Mills, Tara Machin, Renea Sutcliffe, Cary Holst, Jan Ferguson and Joe Goetz - Absent: Wes Lingerfelt, Jeanne Watkins, Sally Griffith - on the Phone, Joey Nichols - Guest: Kathy Holst

Many thanks to Cary and Kathy for hosting our board meeting since Wes and Jeannie were sick!

Previous Minutes: No corrections

Treasurer's Report: Cary does not have the mail key so he has not paid any bills. He needs to get the mail key from Sally. He now has bank access and he has deposited the membership dues that were paid in January and he has the ability to do reimbursements for members expenses. We need to confirm that Jeanne paid the insurance for the show and the club. We also need to confirm the non profit forms for the annual show raffle tickets. Wayne will follow up on the insurance. Renea will follow up with Wes about the raffle ticket forms for submission to the state..

Correspondences: The mail from January was an announcement of the Ventura Show for display cases. Applications for that show is on February 15th. Sally was not present to tell us the correspondence from February.

Committee Reports:

1. **Bulletin**- No updates
2. **CFMS / AFMS**- Wayne and Tara both submitted entries to the CFMS bulletin contest.
3. **Membership**- Wayne ordered 6 badges for new members. Wes needs to glue on the OMS badges and have them ready for the February (or March) general meeting. Last day for membership dues will be the March 12th general meeting. Sally has agreed to help with membership along with Cary and Wayne.
4. **Field Trips**- Survey at the January general meeting. The number one interest for field trips was museums. Maybe Don and Silvia Nasholm can do a special silversmithing class, and Jeannie Lingerfelt may be able to do a special class in wire wrapping. Joey to follow up. Folks expressed interest in going to Jalama beach. Joe suggested that we go Benitoite hunting at the San Benito Mine, but the cost is \$75. We might do a Big Sur trip this year, but highway 1 is currently closed. Someone suggested a black light hike at night with our UV flashlights. The club is interested in purchasing some wire wrapping tools for field trip / training classes.
5. **Adopt-A-Highway**- The next clean up will be on March 9th. Wayne turned in our report to the state for the January clean-up so we should get \$250 from them.
6. **Annual Awards Banquet**- McKintock's might be an option. We don't have the results of the survey from the January general meeting. Spyglass, AJ Spurs, Rosa's, or Old Juans might be good. Renea and Jan to follow up.
7. **Education**- ABC's of Rocks by Wayne will be at the next meeting and he will also be the Rock Doc to identify unknown rocks.
8. **Library**- We need to advertise that we have one. The books and videos are in our storage and we need a way to get the media to meetings in totes. We will follow up.
9. **Sunshine**- Jeanne had a fall and is in the hospital. Wes and Jeannie are still recovering from the flu. Margaret is also under the weather. Jan will be picking up cards for the general meeting so everyone can sign.
10. **Scholarship**- No updates
11. **Show:**
 - High School has the contract signed, but we need to confirm the insurance. Wayne to follow up.

Continued on page 4

Board Meeting Notes Continued from page 3

- We might want to have some non rock demonstrators like rock carving, glass blowing.
- The board confirmed the 2024 prices for dealers, \$190 for a large space and \$105 for small spaces. This is a 10% increase over last year.
- Renea will go through the contracts to find out who needs to re-issue checks that were not deposited from last year. We will give the people who were inconvenienced the 2023 rate instead of the 2024 rate. The board approved.
- Display case contracts will go out with the regular dealer contract.

Old Business:

- Outreach with Facebook. We want to have a private member group that everyone can post to. This new group will be different

than our public page. We can also link to other club pages. Central California Rockhounds is a good Facebook page to post our advertising on.

New Business:

- Abused Children’s Fund - Jan made a motion start issuing checks to Casa instead of the traditional gift cards.
- Wayne went through the list of general meeting programs from 2017 to 2023. He gave the list to Joe so we can try to schedule programs for the year .

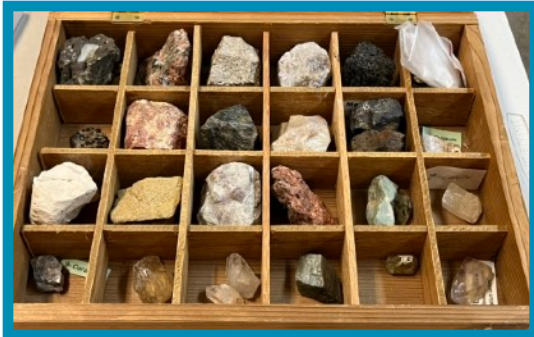
Program: The ABCs of rocks along with “What the heck is this rock?” - The Rock Doc, Wayne Mills

Display: Mystery Rocks or rocks you want to share.

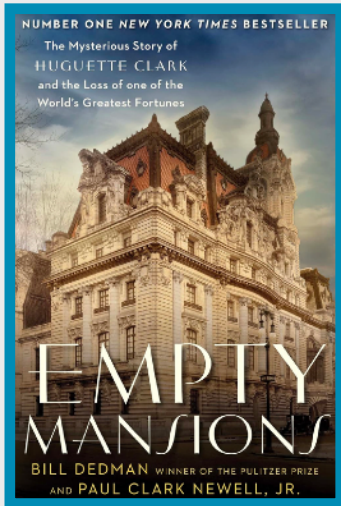
Adjourned: 8:23 pm

Respectfully Submitted by Tara Machin

Rock Displays from the February General Meeting



Empty Mansions - A Book About the Heir to a Copper Fortune



By Tara Machin

Have you ever heard of Huguette Clark? She was the youngest daughter of W. A. Clark, the copper king himself. Huguette was born when W. A. Clark was 67 years old and she grew up in the golden age of wealth in New York City and was considered one of the richest women in the world. Her other claim to fame was her desire to keep properties that she never lived in. One of these mansions is located in Santa Barbara, CA and was the reason that I picked up this book.

William A. Clark and his second wife Anna bought the property in Santa Barbara in 1923. In 1925, William died leaving the property in his wife's care. She tore down the original house and build a lavish home in 1933. It was mainly used as a vacation home for the Clark family until 1953 when they left the home and never returned. When Anna Clark passed away in 1963 Huguette inherited the home from her mother and she left strict

instructions for nothing to be changed in the house, ever! She kept a full staff at the house and they maintained the property until her death in 2011 when it was turned over to the Bellosguardo foundation.

Huguette's father, W. A. Clark, came into his copper fortunes almost by accident. He originally was a gold miner in Montana, but then changed careers and became a banker. As he repossessed failed mining properties he was thrust into the mining world once again. He started mining copper at a very pivotal time in American history. In 1882 household electricity was introduced in New York. Copper was the type of wire that was needed to electrify homes and businesses. Suddenly anyone who wanted electricity needed copper wire and W. A. Clark was in a prime position to sell it to them. The electricity cables also went hand in hand with the copper transatlantic telegraph wires that were being laid in the late 1800's. In 1894 Thomas Edison's telephone patent expired which allowed for the vast expansion of telephones across the country on copper wires that W. A. supplied. He truly became the Copper King.

The mansion in Santa Barbara is still there and still preserved as it was in 1963. You can tour of the property and see the home that copper built. Here is the link <https://www.bellosguardo.org/visit/>. You can also pick up a copy of the book on [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com). It was an amazing read.

Orcutt Mineral Society General Meeting - February 13, 2024

Call to Order: 7:04 pm by Joe Goetz, President
Elect

Members: 31 members / 5 guests

Pledge of Allegiance: Joe Goetz

Invocation: Cary Holst

Previous Minutes: No corrections

Treasurer's Report: Cary Got the mail and paid our post office box dues and late fees. Cary was accepting payments for 2024 memberships. Last day for membership dues is March 12th.

Correspondences: An ad to list our website on Domain Listings, Cuesta College Magazine, an invitation to the Santa Barbara City College Spring Gala, a card from the Santa Barbara City College Earth and Planetary Science department, Ventura Rock and Gem show exhibitor application plus a request for advertising in our newsletter, AFMS newsletter, Santa Lucia Rockhound newsletter, and the US Postal bill for our post office box.

Committee Reports:

1. **Bulletin-** No updates

Continued on page 7

Upcoming Rock and Mineral Shows

March 1-3, 2024 - Newark, CA
The Mineral and Gem Society of Castro Valley
Website: <http://mgscv.org>

March 2-3, 2024 - Ventura, CA
Ventura Gem & Mineral Society
Contact: (805) 312-8467, info@vgms.org
Website: <http://www.vgms.org>

March 8-10, 2024 - Victorville, CA (Stoddard Wells area)
Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club
Contact: (760) 243-2339, president@vvgc.org
Website: <http://vvgmc.org>

March 9-10, 2024 - Turlock, CA
Mother Lode Mineral Society of CA
Website: <http://www.turlockgemshow.com>

March 17, 2024 - Fallbrook, CA
Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society
Contact: (760) 728-1130, info@fgms.org
Website: <http://www.fgms.org>

March 16-17, 2024 - San Jose, CA
Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Contacts: (408) 265-1422, info@scvgms.org
Website: <http://www.scvgms.org>

March 16-17, 2024 - Lemoore, CA
Lemoore Gem & Mineral Society
Contact: [Facebook Lemoore Gem and Mineral Club](#)

March 16-17, 2024 - San Jose, CA
Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society
Contact: (408) 265-1422
Website: <http://www.scvgms.org>

March 22-24, 2024 - Clovis, CA
Fresno Gem and Mineral Society
Website: <https://fgms.rocks/>

March 23-24, 2024 - Angeles Camp, CA
Calaveras Gem and Mineral Society
Contact: (209) 736-4892, dbrooks49@att.net
Website: <http://CalaverasGemandMineral.net>

April 6-7, 2024 - Vista, CA
Vista Gem and Mineral Society
Contact: info@vistarocks.org
Website: <https://vistarocks.org/>

April 13, 2024 - Lake Elsinore, CA
Lake Elsinore Gem & Mineral Society
Contact: (909) 208-6956, berylman50@aol.com

April 13-14, 2024 - Mariposa, CA
Mariposa Gem and Mineral Club
Website: <http://mariposagemclub.org>

April 13-14, 2024 - Placerville, CA
El Dorado County Mineral and Gem Society
Contact: (530) 676-2472, office@edcmgs.org
Website: <http://edcmgs.org>

April 20-21, 2024 - Thousand Oaks, CA
Conejo Valley Gem & Mineral Club
Website: <http://www.cgamc.org>

April 27-28, 2024 - Santa Cruz, CA
Santa Cruz Mineral and Gem Society
307 Church St., Santa Cruz, Ca 95060

April 27 - 28, 2024 - Anaheim, CA
Searchers Gem and Mineral Society
Contact: nancybird68@gmail.com
Website: <https://www.searchersrocks.org>

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

General Meeting Notes Continued from page 5

2. **CFMS / AFMS**- No Updates
3. **Membership**- Wayne gave our name tags to all our new members.
4. **Field Trips**- Wire wrapping class this month with Joe Goetz. February 24th at 10:00 am. Contact Joey for more information. We will figure out the liability forms for this class. Joey to email out more information later.
5. **Adopt-A-Highway**- The next clean up will be on March 9th at 8:00 am at the southeast corner of Highway 101 and 166.
6. **Annual Awards Banquet**- December 7th. We took a vote on where to have the banquet. The club is not in favor of having a pot-luck so we will continue to look for a place to have our banquet.
7. **Education**- ABC's of Rocks by Wayne will be at the next meeting and he will also be the Rock Doc to identify unknown rocks.
8. **Library**- We need to organize the list and Renea said that she would go out to the storage for them if anyone wants to see what we have out there.
9. **Sunshine**- Jeanne is being moved to an extended care center in Santa Maria and she is recovering. Wes and Jeannie are still recovering from the flu. Cards went around for the everyone.
10. **Scholarship**- No updates
11. **Show:**
 - Please read the board meeting notes from February 5th.
 - We need clarification on the tree trimming and the policy on dogs at the show.
 - Renea brought a map of the show so we could look at it.
 - Joe and Wayne are looking into the insurance to make sure that it was paid.

- Wayne is looking into the 2 non-profit status forms from the state and Federal government to make sure they are paid and submitted
- We might bring in 4 non-rock vendors. They would only be allowed one small pop-up tent. We would give preference to rock people, but we could fill empty spaces with non-rock people. Renea to jury the vendors who are non-rock people to approve them.
- Some folks voiced concerned that the non-rock vendors taking away profits from the rock vendors, but allowing the non-rock vendors seemed favorable to most people.
- Cary has all the checks from 2023 and he will be working on that.

Old Business:

- Private Facebook groups. Members only. Joe to figure out the rules of membership and posting.

New Business:

- We are honored three new members
- The board voted to spend \$100 on supplies for the February 24th field trip.

Program: The ABCs of rocks along with "What the heck is this rock?" - The Rock Doc, Wayne Mills

Display: Mystery Rocks or rocks you want to share.

Adjourned: 8:48 pm

Respectfully Submitted by Tara Machin





Contact: (805) 312-8467, info@vgms.org
 Website: <https://2024cfms-afms.com/>
 Deadlines for Displays / Exhibits are due by May 1st

CFMS / AFMS Convention

May 24-26, 2024 - Ventura, CA
 Ventura Gem & Mineral Society and The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
 AFMS/CFMS GEM AND MINERAL SHOW AND CONVENTION
 Ventura County Fairgrounds, 10 W. Harbor Blvd., Ventura, CA 93001
 Hours: Friday and Saturday 10 AM - 5 PM, Sunday 10 AM - 4 PM
 CFMS-AFMS National Show and Convention. 100 gem, mineral, fossil & lapidary arts exhibits; speakers & programs; on-going demos of lapidary arts, jewelry making and gold panning; raffle prizes & silent auctions; 50 dealers; children's activities & free resources for teachers. Proceeds support scholarships to college students in the earth sciences and/or jewelry arts & also support free educational outreach for schools, teachers, home-schoolers & youth groups.
 This regional and national federation show is being run and sponsored by the Ventura Gem & Mineral Society

AFMS / CFMS News - March 2024

By Wayne Mills, SLR CFMS Rep.

The following summaries are intended to give the reader a hint of what is contained in the current newsletters. If any of these topics are of interest, PLEASE take the trouble to look up the newsletter on the AFMS or CFMS website.

CFMS Notes cfmsinc.org

President's Box (Marcia Goetz) March's Birthstone is Aquamarine. There are several places in California where you can find these, including the 2024 AFMS/CFMS Show (May 24-26) at the Fairgrounds in Ventura.

Non-Profit Tax Forms are due May 15, 2024. (Page 1)

Information on insurance contacts, newsletter subscriptions, CFMS Website, Editor's Notes, Donations and the Co-Op Field Trip Seminar in Sacramento on March 3, 2024. (Page 2)

Juniors—(Jim Brace-Thompson) Applications for 2024 AFMS Juniors Achievement Awards are due to Jim by March 1. Applications are included in the December and February CFMS Bulletins and on the CFMS

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Website. The Prize will be awarded at the AFMS Ventura Show May 25.

Nominees for the Golden Bear Award (Jim Brace-Thompson) for outstanding service to CFMS. Deadline for nominations is April 30.

Dues are Due as of January 1, and delinquent March 1. A \$50 late fee is charged if postmarked after April 1. Send to Pat LaRue, CFMS Treasurer. (Page 3)

CFMS Rockhound of the Year Award (Chris Ward) There are 3 awardees from the Central Coast–All in the Oxnard Club. This is because someone took the time to write-up their accomplishments, and submit them to the CFMS ROY Chair. In California, that is Chris Ward–chris_ward678@yahoo.com (Page 4)

AFMS/CFMS Show (Jim Brace-Thompson) Follow the Mermaids to Ventura Part 5 included in this issue. Check out the last 4 issues of the AFMS Bulletin to find all the Mermaids and (maybe) win a prize at the Ventura Show.

AFMS Endowment Fund (Sharon Rogow) How to help with the Raffle and purchase tickets for same prior to the AFMS/CFMS Show in May. (Page 5)

CFMS Scholarship (Diane Cook) Scholarship opportunities are available. Guidelines and contact information area contained in the March Bulletin.

All-American Club (Diane Cook) Consider entering the 2025 Contest for your club activities in 2024. Winners of the 2023 Contest will be announced at the Ventura Show.

Officer Change Form Please send in your current list of officers to Diane Cook soon! CFMS Club Rosters will be distributed at the Ventura Show. The packages will no longer be mailed. (Page 6)

Rules Committee (Jim Brace-Thompson) Jim is encouraging club members to enter a competitive or non-display for the upcoming Federation show in Ventura. Deadline is May 1. Read article in March Bulletin for more details.

Co-op Field Trip to Hauser Geode Beds, Wiley Wells (Jim Barton, Field Trips North) April 19-21. Details in the Bulletin. Contact Jim Barton at 916-847-7321 or geologist1@surewest.net. (Page 7)

Junior's Program - Helpful tips for publicizing your junior's Program. (Page 8)

Upcoming Club and Federation Shows

Lacnm Mineral Hall Field Trip (9/17/2023) Report by Cecilia Barnett.

Don't Forget to Update Your Club Show Information at cfmsinc.org and Rock & Gem Magazine - www.rockngem.com/showdate-submissions. (Page 9-10)

2023 - 2024 Committee Chairs (Page 11)

AFMS Notes amfed.org

President (Roger Buford) Roger and his wife went to Quartzite and Tucson, and camped all the way. They brought a LOT of rocks back home with them.

AFMS/CFMS Show (Jim Brace-Thompson) Follow the Mermaids to Ventura Part 5 included in this issue. Check out the last 4 issues of the AFMS Bulletin to find all the Mermaids and (maybe) win a prize at the Ventura Show. (Pages 1- 2)

Public Relations (Jim Brace-Thompson) Tips to help publicize your Junior's Program and encourage participation. Use social media, use QR codes at events to help promote your club/show. He will have a test in the March AFMS Bulletin.

AFMS Scholarship Foundation (Sandie Fender) Scholarship honorees will be presented at the Federation show in Ventura (Deadline for entries was January 15 (Page 3)

Updated Uniform Rules Committee Documents (Terry Halstrom)–Updated (2024) rules for putting on a show, exhibiting and judging can be found at <https://www.amfed.org/contests/Rules>.

- Quick Tips for Editors (Linda Jaeger, AFMS Editor)** Sit back, relax, and write your best. (Page 4)
- Safety (Ellery Borow)** In depth explanation of the aims and interpretation of the AFMS Code of Ethics.
- AFMS Rockhound of the Year (Judy Allison)** There are 3 awardees from the Central Coast–All in the Oxnard Club. This is because someone took the time to write-up their accomplishments, and submit them to the CFMS ROY Chair. In California, that is Chris Ward–chris_ward678@yahoo.com
- March is Mermaid Month (Cheryl Neary)** Information on the “Shellabration” in the Ventura Harbor in anticipation of the Ventura Federation Show.
- AFMS Endowment Fund** and ways you can contribute to it. Also information about the EFMLS (Eastern Federation of Mineralogical Societies) Wildcat Acres Convention at Sterling Hill Mine, Ogdensburg, New Jersey. (May 13-19)
- Venturing to Ventura Part 5 (Cheryl Neary)** More of Cheryl’s fascinating series on the history of Ventura and surrounding areas.
- Show Puns**–Watch out, they are slick! (Pages 6-8)
- Flatirons Mineral Club Donations**–Describing the history of a historic coin.
- April is National Poetry Month**– Get your members to write a poem for April 18–Poem in your Pocket Day.
- Upcoming AFMS and Regional Conventions and shows.**
- AFMS Purpose and Subscription Information (Page 10)**
- Standard Features of the Bulletin Include:** AFMS Land use Policies, AFMS Code of Ethics. Junior Rockhound’s Poem included in this issue. (Page 11)
- AFMS Committees (2023-2024) (Page 12)**

February 24th Field Trip - Wire Wrapping

We started the morning off with waffles made by Joey’s daughter. They were amazing with fresh strawberries on top. After breakfast we started our wire wrapping class. Joe Goetz was our instructor and he would prefer to call our class a “group” instead as we can all learn from each other. There were 8 members in attendance, but we were really hoping for more. If you have ideas for field trips, please let Joey know. Her contact info is on page 11.



Orcutt Mineral Society Officers		
President	Vacant	
President Elect	Joe Goetz	(408) 707-8005
Immediate Past President	Sally Griffith	(805) 631-9955
Secretary	Tara Machin	(805) 863-5992
Treasurer	Cary Holst	(805) 345-0883
Orcutt Mineral Society Board Members		
	Jan Ferguson	(805) 474-9977
	Joey Nichols	(805) 714-7108
	Renea Sutcliffe	(805) 929-2783
	Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495
	Wes Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788
CFMS Federation Director		
	Renea Sutcliffe	(805) 929-2783
OMS Membership		
Membership	Sally Griffith	(805) 631-9955
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.		
OMS Online Contacts		
OMS Webmaster	Wes Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788
Website	omsinc.org	
Email	info@omsinc.org	
Ore-Cutts Information		
Editor and Publisher	Tara Machin	(805) 863-5992
Email	taradmachin@gmail.com	

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Orcutt Mineral Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 106
Santa Maria, CA 93456-0106

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.

