



Ore-Cutts

Volume XLVV Number 11

November 2013



Please join us on **November 12, 2013 at 7:00 pm** at the Luis Oasis Senior Center, 420 Soares Ave. in Old Orcutt for a Program on **The Fauna of the Rancho La Brea Terraces.**

• **The Display is our annual 1”x 1” Display—anything that you can display in a 1 foot square space. But as always, you are welcome to bring any rocks/minerals that you would like to share.**

(Remember, those who display receive an extra doorprize ticket.)

• **The refreshments will be cookies brought to us by Debbie Hood, Truman Burgess & Geary Scheffer.**

The Prez Box—November

Wayne Mills, OMS president

I hope that everyone enjoyed a happy “Rocktober” with all the fun rock-related events that were available in (and outside) our county. Beginning with our own meeting on the 8th, we had a nice display of mystery rocks and gold, and Mike Schmidt gave us a quick introduction to the art of prospecting followed by a video on a Colorado gold mine. The off again and on again Jade Fest (10/11-13) went off like a charm, and was enjoyed by many folks. Check out Kim Noyes Blog

(<http://eclecticarcana.blogspot.com/2013/10/22nd-annual-big-sur-jade-festival.html>) for some great pictures of the festival (whether or not you missed it!).

The following weekend (10/19-20), was the San Luis Rockhounds always fun Gem show in Cayucos. On both weekends, the SLO Arts Council held their Open Studio Tours that is one of my favorite events of the year. Many jewelers, silversmiths and lapidaries opened their studios to the public for this event. Also happening on the 19th, was our own field trip to the Benitoite mine. Check inside for more on that. Many thanks are due to Elaine Von Achen for planning that excursion—it was really fun. After the dig ended at 3:00, some of us went to the Baker Museum in Coalinga. .

At our October meeting, we presented a slate officers and board members for the upcoming year, and I requested for nominations from the floor. As per our bylaws, that will happen again in November, followed by a vote of the membership for the contested office(s). So please think about the direction you want the club to go in the coming

Please remember to purchase your tickets for the December Annual Dinner Meeting at the November meeting, or contact Bill Hood at 481-6860. Tickets are \$12.50 for adults and \$6.00 for children.

year, and make nominations (and vote) accordingly at our November meeting (November 12).

Our November meeting will feature a talk on the Rancho La Brea fauna found in the Marine Terraces. These animals inhabited our area some 24,000 years ago. The November meeting will also feature our "Best 1 x 1". Members attending the meeting will vote for their favorite display that would fit on top of a 1 foot by 1 foot diameter square. There may be a prize.

Two Saturdays after our meeting, (November 16) is our bi-monthly Highway Clean-up (postponed because of the Veteran's Day Holiday). We will meet at the southeast corner of Highways 101/166 East at 8 am to clean our little section of the Highway System and do our part to help maintain this pathway to our favorite rock collecting locations.

The next Saturday (November 23) is our field trip to Paso Robles; however it will be to Cliff Brewen's place for his annual Tail gate show, rather than to Joyce Baird and Kincy Scott's place. It is really hard to believe that it has already been a year since we (well, a few of us anyhow) went to Cliff Brewen's tailgate. It was well worth the effort for those of us who braved the rain to go to it. More details in this bulletin.

As usual, our last breakfast of the year will be held on the 4th Saturday of the month (November 23-note conflict with the tailgate). This one will be at Sunset Grill in Santa Maria at 9:00 am. Thanksgiving (as always) is on the 4th Thursday of the month, (November 28th). On behalf of the OMS Board, I wish all our members and their families a happy, safe, thank-full and delicious Thanksgiving Holiday.

Digging the Blues

Wayne Mills, OMS Field Trip Coordinator

As we promised at the beginning of the year, our 6th field trip of 2013 (averaging one every other month) will be held in November. Two of our field trip activities this year have been arranged by the Von Achen's, and they have both been wonderful activities. The recent trip to the California Gem (Benitoite) Mine near Coalinga was one of the most enjoyable activities I have done all year. Much of that was because I so enjoyed the repartee of John and Elaine going and coming from the mine, but also because of the

experience of digging for one of the rarest gems on the planet.

We left the K-Mart parking lot about 7:00 am, and headed for the Wild Horse Café near King City. There we had some tasty eats, and met the rest of our group consisting of four folks from the Santa Lucia Rockhounds. We left the Wildhorse Café about 9:45 am, and arrived at the diggings about 11:00 am. (At the mine, we learned that there is a shorter route through Coalinga, and perhaps we will try that one next year...) The four hours that we were digging went by quickly and yes, several of us found (small) pieces of the elusive blue gem. Though we did not compare finds after the dig, I know that Elaine got at least 2 perfectly-shaped "stony" Benitoite crystals. The stonies are included with a mineral called Crossite, and are not gem-quality, but still exhibit the classic triangular shape of Benitoite. An interesting fact about this unique crystal shape (technically called trigonal bipyramidal) is that the shape was predicted by mathematicians before Benitoite (the only mineral crystallizing in this shape) was discovered in 1906, the same year another earth shaking event occurred.



*Jeannie
chucking a
Leaverite.*

Benitoite is a barium titanium silicate that in its purest form is a lovely, deep sapphire blue color and has a hardness of 6 to 6.5 on the Mohs Hardness Scale. It occurs in hydrothermal replacement deposits in association with Natrolite and Neptunite in this one location in San Benito County.

The Gem mine made recent news when an Australian Citizen found a rare 5 pointed star (penetration twin) at the same location that we visited. The twinned crystal was initially appraised at \$45,000 because of its rarity, and was confiscated by the Australian

Government upon their citizen's return for the same reason. Word is that the value of the crystal was significantly downgraded after this event (reasons for this are not clear though). At the recent Jade Festival, one of the dealers was David Clayton of Gems and Jade who has a claim on the creek below the Gem Mine. David often combs the creek for individual specimens that wash down the hill from the mine, and has found some wonderful pieces as shown in this picture. If memory serves me correctly, he has a price of about \$6-7,000 for his 6-rayed star penetration twin of Benitoite. The large single crystal on the left (though not gem quality) is close in size to the largest known individual crystal of Benitoite that is about 2" in diameter.

November Field Trip— Cliff Brewen's Tailgate

Wayne Mills, Field Trip Coordinator

The November Field trip will be another "Come When You Can" affair because of our members varied locations and schedules. The trip will be to Cliff Brewen's home in Templeton from 7:00 am to noon on Saturday, November 23. Several members from the Santa Lucia Club will have tables set-up, and will be selling some of their rock treasures. Joyce and Kincy will be there with a preview of the rocks that will be available when we have our field trip to their home sometime next year. (The promised field trip this year had to be cancelled due to a scheduling conflict).

Those of us who did make it to Cliff's Tailgate last year got some good rocks, and had a good time. Don't forget to look at Cliff's Rock Museum in his garage.

To get to Cliff's go north on Route 101 to Wellsona Road (north of Highway 46 east in Paso Robles), turn right (east) on Wellsona Road and proceed to its intersection with Monterey Road. Turn right (south) on Monterey Road until you get to 6384 Monterey Road on the left (east) side of the road. There will be signs. Have fun!

Sunshine

If you are 62 or older it might be wise to speak to your Dr. about getting the Pneumonia vaccine. It works to prevent bacterial pneumonias, but has no effect on viral pneumonia; however, it certainly will reduce



the number of bugs out there that you have to worry about.

Jan Ferguson is recovering from her knee replacement surgery.

La Brea Tar Pits

**From Wikipedia,
the free
encyclopedia**

The La Brea Tar Pits (or Rancho La Brea Tar Pits) are a



group of tar pits around which Hancock Park was formed, in urban Los Angeles. Asphaltum or tar (Brea in Spanish) has seeped up from the ground in this area for tens of thousands of years. The tar is often covered with dust, leaves, or water. Over many centuries, the bones of animals that were trapped in the tar were preserved. The George C. Page Museum is dedicated to researching the tar pits and displaying specimens from the animals that died there. The La Brea Tar Pits are a registered National Natural Landmark.

The La Brea Tar Pits and Hancock Park are situated within what was once the Mexican land grant of Rancho La Brea, now part of urban Los Angeles in the Miracle Mile district, adjacent to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and the Craft and Folk Art Museum.

Tar pits are composed of heavy oil fractions called asphaltum, which seeped from the earth as oil. In Hancock Park, crude oil seeps up along the 6th Street Fault from the Salt Lake Oil Field, which underlies much of the Fairfax District north of the park. The oil reaches the surface and forms pools at several locations in the park, becoming asphalt as the lighter fractions of the petroleum biodegrade or evaporate.

This seepage has been happening for tens of thousands of years. From time to time, the asphalt would form a deposit thick enough to trap animals, and the surface would be covered with layers of water, dust, or leaves. Animals would wander in, become trapped, and eventually die. Predators would enter to eat the trapped animals and also become stuck.

The tar pits visible today are actually from human excavation. The lake pit was originally an asphalt mine. The other pits visible today were produced between 1913 and 1915, when over 100 pits were excavated in search of large mammal bones. Various combinations of asphaltum and water have since filled in these holes. Normally, the asphalt appears in vents, hardening as it oozes out, to form stubby mounds. These can be seen in several areas of the park.

As the bones of dead animals sink into the asphalt, it soaks into them, turning them a dark-brown or black color. Lighter fractions of petroleum evaporate from the asphalt, leaving a more solid substance, which encases the bones. Apart from the dramatic fossils of large mammals, the asphalt also preserves microfossils: wood and plant remnants, rodent bones, insects, mollusks, dust, seeds, leaves, and even pollen grains. Examples of some of these are on display in the museum.

Radiometric dating of preserved wood and bones has given an age of 38,000 years for the oldest known material from the La Brea seeps. The pits still ensnare organisms today, so most of the pits are fenced to protect humans and animals.

The Native American Chumash people living in the area distinguished themselves as the finest boat builders among the California Natives. Pulling fallen Northern California redwood trunks and pieces of driftwood from the Santa Barbara Bay, Chumash ancestors soon learned to seal the cracks between the boards of the large wooden plank canoes using the natural resource of tar. This unique and innovative form of transportation allowed access up and down the coastline and on the Channel Islands.

The Portolà expedition, a group of Spanish explorers led by Gaspar de Portolá, made the first written record of the tar pits in 1769. Father Juan Crespi wrote, "While crossing the basin the scouts reported having seen some geysers of tar issuing from the ground like springs; it boils up molten, and the water runs to one side and the tar to the other. The scouts reported that they had come across many of these springs and had seen large swamps of them, enough, they said, to caulk many vessels. We were not so lucky ourselves as to see these tar geysers, much though we wished it; as it

was some distance out of the way we were to take, the Governor [Portolá] did not want us to go past them. We christened them Los Volcanes de Brea "the Tar Volcanoes".

For some years, tar-covered bones were found on the Rancho La Brea property but were not initially recognized as fossils, because the ranch had lost various animals, including horses, cattle, dogs, and even camels, whose bones closely resemble several of the fossil species. The original Rancho La Brea land grant stipulated that the tar pits be open to the public for the use of the local Pueblo. Initially, they mistook the bones in the pits for the remains of pronghorn antelope (*Antilocapra americana*) or cattle that had become mired.



Union Oil geologist W. W. Orcutt is credited with first recognizing that fossilized prehistoric animal bones were preserved in pools of asphalt on the Hancock Ranch in 1901. In commemoration of Orcutt's initial discovery, paleontologists named the La Brea coyote (*Canis orcutti*) in his honor

Contemporary excavations of the bones started in 1913–1915. In the 1940s and 1950s, public excitement was generated by the preparation of previously recovered large mammal bones. Subsequent study demonstrated the fossil vertebrate material was well preserved, with little evidence of bacterial degradation of bone protein.

By the 1970s, research attention had shifted to smaller specimens, such as preserved insects and plant parts, including microfossils, such as pollen grains. These remains have contributed to an understanding of the Los Angeles basin during the glacial age, revealing a cooler and moister climate.

Methane gas escapes from the tar pits, causing bubbles that make the asphalt appear to boil. Asphalt and methane appear under surrounding buildings and require special operations for removal to prevent the weakening of building foundations.

In 2007, researchers from UC Riverside discovered that the bubbles were caused by hardy forms of bacteria embedded in the natural asphalt. After consuming petroleum, the bacteria release methane. Of the bacteria sampled, about 200 to 300 were previously unknown species.



The George C. Page Museum, part of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, was built next to the tar pits in Hancock Park on Wilshire Boulevard.

Construction began in 1975, and the museum opened to the public in 1977. It tells the story of the tar pits and presents specimens from them. Visitors can walk around the park and see the tar pits. On the grounds of the park are life-size models of prehistoric animals in or near the tar pits. Of more than 100 pits, only Pit 91 is still regularly excavated by researchers and can be seen at the Pit 91 viewing station. Paleontologists supervise and direct the work of volunteers.

On February 18, 2009, George C. Page Museum formally announced the 2006 discovery of 16 fossil deposits which had been removed from the ground during the construction of an underground parking garage for the Los Angeles County Museum of Art next to the tar pits. Among the finds are remains of a saber-toothed cat, six dire wolves, bison, horses, a giant ground sloth, turtles, snails, clams, millipedes, fish, gophers, and an American lion. Also discovered is a nearly intact mammoth skeleton, nicknamed Zed; the only pieces missing are a rear leg, a vertebra and the top of its skull, which was sheared off by construction equipment in preparation to build the parking structure.

These fossils were packaged in boxes at the construction site and moved to a compound behind Pit 91, on Page museum property so that

construction could continue. Twenty-three large accumulations of tar and specimens were taken to the Page Museum. These deposits are worked on under the name "Project 23". As work for the public transit Metro Purple Line is extended, museum researchers know more tar pits will be uncovered, for example near the intersection of Wilshire and Curson.

Among the prehistoric species associated with the La Brea Tar Pits are mammoths, dire wolves, short-faced bears, ground sloths, and the state fossil of California, the saber-toothed cat (*Smilodon fatalis*).

Only one human has been found, a partial skeleton of the La Brea Woman dated to approximately 10,000 calendar years (~9,000 radiocarbon years) BP, who was 17 to 25 years old at death and found associated with remains of a domestic dog, and so was interpreted to have been ceremonially interred. John C. Merriam of the University of California led much of the early work in identifying species in the early 20th century.

The park is known for producing myriad mammal fossils dating from the last glacial period. While mammal fossils generate significant interest, other fossils, including fossilized insects and plants, and even pollen grains, are also valued. These fossils help define a picture of what is thought to have been a cooler, moister climate in the Los Angeles basin during the glacial age. Among these fossils are microfossils, which are retrieved from a matrix of asphalt and sandy clay by washing with a solvent to remove the petroleum, then picking through the remains under a high-powered lens.

Tar pits around the world are unusual in accumulating more predators than prey. The reason for this is unknown, but one theory is that a large prey animal would die or become stuck in a tar pit, attracting predators across long distances. This predator trap would catch predators along with their prey. Another theory is that dire wolves and their prey may have been trapped during a hunt. Since modern wolves hunt in packs, each prey animal could take several wolves with it.

Rancho La Brea is the most famous, but two other asphalt pits in southern California contain fossils: the Carpinteria Tar Pits in Carpinteria,

Santa Barbara County and the McKittrick Tar Pits in McKittrick, in Kern County. Other asphalt deposits can be found in Texas, Peru, Trinidad, Iran, Russia, Venezuela, and Poland.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthday greetings go out to those who are having birthdays in November: Joe Azevedo, Dick Bazzell, & John Von Achen. Happy Birthday to all of you & many more!



Congratulations go out to members celebrating an anniversary in November: Bill & Jeanne Brown, Mike & Margaret Henson, & Marshall & Glenda Reeves.



If you don't see your name here when you should, then the information is not in the Red Book. Please write it down and give it to Wes Lingerfelt to get it.

Orcutt Mineral Society Board Meeting

John & Elaine Von Achen Home,
Nipomo, CA October 1, 2013



President Wayne Mills called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members present were Wes Lingerfelt, Jeannie Lingerfelt, Elaine Von Achen, Sandy Berthelot, Mike Schmidt, Wayne Mills, Sharon Duncan, and Jan Ferguson. Paul Berthelot and John Von Achen were guests.

Minutes: Minutes of the September general meeting were approved as published in the October newsletter.

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

Correspondence: Elaine reported a postcard from Dan Clark thanking OMS for the picture of his showcase. There was also a postcard for a 2014 calendar of agates.

Committee Reports:

Annual Gem Show: None

Breakfast: October's breakfast will be held on the 26th at The Girls Restaurant, 1237 E. Grand Avenue, Arroyo Grande, CA at 9:00 a.m.

Bulletin: Wes reported a few errors in the newsletter regarding dates and he is going to send out an e-mail with all the corrections.

CFMS: Wayne noted that the annual Zzyzx Earth

Science Camp for 2014 will be March 30th through April 6 and will be held near Baker, CA. You can get on the CFMS website for applications and further information.

Education: None

Field Trip: Elaine Von Achen has put together a field trip to the Benitoite Mine located near Coalinga, Ca. It will be on the 19th of October and members will meet in the Kmart parking lot in Arroyo Grande at 7:00 a.m. So far Wes and Jeannie Lingerfelt, Wayne Mills, Jan, Stan and Brenna Ferguson, Jeanne and Bill Browne as well as the Von Achen's will be going. Anyone interested in attending will need to notify Elaine and she will give you an information sheet on what you are required to bring and all other pertinent information.

Highway Clean-up: The next highway clean-up will be held Saturday, November 16th. Members will meet at Highways 101 and 166 on the south east corner at 8:00 a.m.

Library: Wayne inquired of Mike Schmidt if all of the library materials are currently stored at the Luis Oasis Senior Center. Mike said "yes as far as I am aware everything that is in inventory is located at the Senior Center".

Membership: None

Refreshments: Refreshment for the October General Meeting will be "cake" donated by Elaine Von Achen, Bonnie Ward and Sharon Duncan.

Scholarship: None

Sunshine: None

Rainbow of Gems Show: Wes reported that he was still waiting for the statement from the school after which he will prepare the final report.

Old Business: Wayne talked to Bill Hood, who is chairman of the election committee for this coming year, and Bill said the following individuals have agreed to run for the following positions:

President: Elaine Von Achen

President Elect: Dyanna Cridelich

Secretary: Elaine Von Achen

Treasurer: Wes Lingerfelt

Immediate Past President: Wayne Mills

Board Members: Jan Ferguson, Sandy Berthelot, Jeannie Lingerfelt, John Von Achen, and Mike

Henson.

Wayne will present the above slate of officers to the members at the general meeting and open the floor to nominations.

New Business: Wes noted that he will make a donation to the Luis Oasis Senior Center for their willingness to let OMS use their facility for the general meetings. He plans on doing this right around the holiday.

October's program will be on "Prospecting for Gold".

Our display for October will be Mystery Rocks and members will try and identify what they are.

November's program will be given by Dr. Gray on the "Marine Terraces at VAFB and the display will be Best 1 x 1 with members voting and the winner receiving a prize.

The meeting was adjourned by President Wayne Mills at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Elaine Von Achen - Secretary, OMS

**Orcutt Mineral Society General Meeting
Luis Oasis Senior Center, Orcutt, CA
October 8, 2013**

President Wayne Mills called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Roger Lehman gave the invocation.

Mariah Martinez led the flag salute.

Minutes: Elaine Von Achen read the minutes from the October 1, 2013 board meeting. Minutes were approved as read.

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

Correspondence: Elaine reported show fliers from West Coast Gem & Mineral whose show is in Santa Ana on November 8-10th, Sacramento Gem & Mineral Society whose show is in Sacramento on November 9 and 10th and Peninsula Gem & Geology Society whose show is in Los Altos on October 26th and 27th, all 2013. She also noted a letter from The Salvation Army and asked members to be sure to bring canned food to the December luncheon which will be donated to the Salvation Army. Elaine noted that we had finally received the bill from Nipomo High School for this

past Augusts' gem show and that it was \$1,100 less than last year.

Hospitality: There were 34 members and 2 guests in attendance. Guests were Debbie Sprague and Wayne Johnsen. Guests were introduced and welcomed.

Refreshments: Donna Lehman, standing in for Margaret Henson, thanked Sharon Duncan, Dick Bazzell and Elaine Von Achen for bringing cakes for the evening's refreshment. She also thanked Elaine for helping her set-up and cut cake.

Committee Reports:

Annual December Luncheon Meeting: This year's luncheon will be held on Saturday, December 8 at the Santa Maria Terrace at noon. Bill Hood has sign-up sheets and members can sign-up at this meeting or the November meeting. Meals will be \$12.00 for adults and \$6.00 for kids under 12. He said that in addition to signing-up the meal has to be paid for and you will receive a ticket. There will be no tickets sold at the luncheon. This has had to happen as people signed up last year and didn't show up and OMS had to pay an additional \$125.00. Members voted to again have the gift exchange this year.

Abused Children: None

Breakfast: October's breakfast will be held at The Girl's Restaurant, 1237 E. Grand Ave., Arroyo Grande, CA at 9:00 a.m.

Bulletin: The bulletin is on the web as well as having been mailed. Debbie Hood apologized for getting the wrong dates for some up-coming shows in the newsletter.

CFMS: Wayne noted that applications for the ZZYX Earth Science Camp in April can be obtained on the CFMS website. Wes said he will be attending the next meeting in November.

Door Prizes: Mike Schmidt reported that Lucky Virgin donated a sphere of Graphic Granite from Yucca Valley. There were also some slabs and a couple of glass "diamonds" as well as a lot of miscellaneous.

Education: none

Gem Show: None

Field Trip: Elaine reported that October's field trip will be on the 19th and we will go to the Benitoite mine near Coalinga. Members will meet

at 7:00 a.m. in the parking lot at Kmart in Arroyo Grande. We will caravan to King City where we will have breakfast at the Wild Horse Cafe and then on to the mine. Elaine noted the people who had already signed up and asked anyone else wanting to go to please get in touch with her as she has a packet for each person going giving specifics as to the trip.

Highway Clean-up: The next highway clean-up will be held Saturday, November 16th. Members meet at highways 101 and 166 on the south east corner at 8:00 a.m.

Library: None

Membership: None

Junior Members: None

Political Action Committee: None

Property: None

Scholarship: Wayne read a thank you letter from Randi Ring for her scholarship through SBCC which was donated by OMS.

Sunshine: Renea Sutcliffe reported that new member Amy McDaniel will be having neck or back surgery soon. Debbie Hood passed around a get well card for members to sign.

Old Business:

President Wayne Mills read the slate of officers nominated for 2014 as follows:

President: Elaine Von Achen

President Elect: Dyanna Cridelich

Secretary: Elaine Von Achen

Treasurer: Wes Lingerfelt

Immediate Past President: Wayne Mills

Board Members: Jan Ferguson, Sandy Berthelot, Jeannie Lingerfelt, John Von Achen and Mike Henson.

He then called for nominations from the floor. Jan Ferguson nominated Debbie Hood for President Elect. Voting will take place at the November general meeting.

New Business:

Wayne reminded members that the Jade Festival was this weekend up highway 1 at Jade Cove. He also noted that the Open Art Studio Tour was this weekend and said that it is a really nice event to attend. Wes said that the Trona show was this

weekend as well and is in Death Valley. He and Jeannie will have a booth there.

Our program for the evening was an insightful presentation on gold mining by Mike Schmidt. He showed us different kinds of mining pans, various sizes of screens and a sluice for sluice mining. He also demonstrated a metal detector and told about different types of detectors and why he liked the type he had. He followed that by a video on mining. Thank you Mike.

Displays for the evening were Mystery Rocks with members trying to identify what the rock was.

President Wayne Mills adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Elaine Von Achen, Secretary, OMS

November 2013 Calendar	
Tuesday November 5, 2013 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting- At the home of the Hansen's. All members are welcome at this business meeting. For information or directions please call Mike at 934-1308.
Tuesday November 12, 2013 7:00. to 9:00 p.m.	OMS General Meeting- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program: Flora of the Rancho La Brea Terraces • Display: 1"x1" Display • Refreshments: cookies
Saturday November 16, 2013 8:00. to 10:00 a.m.	Highway Clean Up- meets at the corner of 101 & 166. Meet for a snack afterwards at Francisco's Country Kitchen. For information call Wayne Mills at 481-3495.
Saturday November 23, 2013 9:00. to 10:00 a.m.	OMS Monthly Breakfast- The Sunset Grill, 1424 Fairway Dr., Santa Maria.
December 2013 Calendar	
Tuesday December 3, 2013 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting- At the home of the Hansen's. All members are welcome at this business meeting. For information or directions please call Mike at 934-1308.
Tuesday	Annual Meeting at Santa Maria

December 7, 2013 Noon to 3:00 pm.	Terrace. Bring canned Food for Salvation Army Food Drive, money for the Abused Children's Fund, and a (\$10.00 or less) gift for the gift exchange. <i>Please purchase your tickets in advance. There will be no selling of tickets at the door. For information call Bill Hood at 481-6860.</i>
	Field Trip -there is no field trip scheduled for this month
	Breakfast -there is no breakfast scheduled for this month.

November 16 - 17: OXNARD, CA. Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society Oxnard Performing Arts Center 800 Hobson Way (note correction to location) Hours: Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4 Contact: Brett Johnson, (805) 822-3836 Email: show_info@oxnardgem.com Website: www.oxnardgem.com

November 23 - 24: LIVERMORE, CA. Livermore Valley Lithophiles The Lithorama 3131 Pacific Avenue, off So. Livermore Ave Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4 Contact: Lee Davisson, (925) 371-0699 Email: linfo@lithophiles.com WebSite: www.lithophiles.com

**CFMS Society Shows
NOVEMBER 2013**

November 2 - 3: ANAHEIM, CA. American Opal Society Festhalle at The Phoenix Club 1340 South Sanderson Avenue Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5 Contact: Veronica Purpura, (714) 501-9959 Email: info@opalsociety.org Website: www.opalsociety.org/

November 2 - 3: CONCORD, CA. Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society Centre Concord 5294 Clayton Road (near Ygnacio Valley Rd.) Hours: 10 - 5 daily Contact: Harry Nichandros, (925) 289-0454 Email: show-c@ccmgs.org Website: www.ccmgs.org

November 2 - 3: RIDGECREST, CA. Indian Wells Gem & Mineral Society Desert Empire Fairgrounds 520 West Richmond Road Hours: 9 - 5 daily Contacts: John DeRosa, (760) 375-7905; Vickie Black, (760) 371-4416 Website: www.indianwells.weebly.com

November 9 - 10: SACRAMENTO, CA. Sacramento Mineral Society Scottish Rite Temple 6151 H Street Hours: Sat 9 - 5; Sun 9 - 4 Contact: Joe Shook, (916) 224-7248 Email: joeshook08@gmail.com Website: www.sacramentomineralsociety.org

November 9 - 10: YUBA CITY, CA. Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds - Franklin Hall 442 Franklin Avenue Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4 Contact: Kartie Slightam, (530) 673-9649 Email: mktalternatives@comcast.net Website: www.sutterbuttes.net

DECEMBER 2013

December 13 - 15: SAN BERNARDINO, CA. Orange Belt Mineralogical Society Western Regional Little League Ball Park 6707 Little League Drive. Hours: 9 am to Dusk daily. Contact: Ken, (909) 381-0089 Email: kengard@roadrunner.com Website: <http://OBMSrocks.yolasite.com>

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JANUARY 2014

January 18 - 19: EXETER, CA. Tule Gem & Mineral Society, Visalia Exeter Veterans Memorial Building Highway 65, 324 N. Kaweah Avenue Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4 Contact: Pepper Okada, (559) 733-5842 Email: Pepperok@clearwire.net Website: www.tulegem.org

OMS Editor		
Debbie Hood	(805) 481-6860	debihood1@sbcglobal.net



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



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, 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

