



Ore-Cutts

Volume XLV Number X

October 2009

Come join us on October 10 2009 at 7:00pm at the Mussell Senior Center for a CFMS Program on The Story of Opal.

The display this month will be Opals, any kind of Opals.

The refreshments will be Cakes brought to us by Margaret Hensen, Sharon Duncan & Don Nasholm.

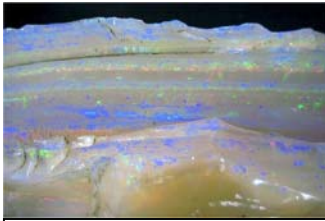


Photo by R. Weller/Cochise College

or ideas that should be considered for incorporation into next year's gem show, please let one of your Board members know, or you are always welcome to come and bring any concerns you have to the Board Meeting.

Field Trips:

I'M NOT DEAD YET ROCK SALE AND FIELDTRIP

By Jan Ferguson

The trip on Sunday the 16th of August, 2009 was attended by Sylvia (in the classic "Rockhound's pose" in the picture below,) and Don Nasholm, they arrived about 8:30AM to help with the sale (Sylvia said the only help they gave was to line their bucket with rocks) but she was wrong as they helped a great deal, as per usual. Jeannie and Wes Lingerfelt, along with Ralph Bishop came next and also helped with the sale. My husband, Stan, with the help of Wes, Jeannie and Ralph, spent three long days digging all the rocks up out of the ground that the gophers had buried them in. Without their fantastic help the sale would never have happened.



Prez Box

By Debbie Hood

The Nominating Committee for Officers and Board of Directors for 2010 have been appointed; it consists of Bill Hood, Elaine Von Achen, and Laura Gebhart. So far they have found at least one person to stand for each office, except for President Elect. *Editor's note, Gloria Dana has agreed to run for this office. I know you will all give Sylvia & Gloria all the help they need over the next two years!*

President Elect's job is to arrange for programs and displays, to be a member of the Board of Directors and to be available to step in and run a Board or General Meeting if the President is unable to. Arranging for programs is not such a hard job as we have a number of folks in the club who can give great programs and we have the CFMS program aids as well, both a speaker's bureau and a library of films. Running a meeting using our preset agenda is not too difficult, so maybe the hardest part is deciding what should be the theme for the display each month! (So many rocks, so few meetings!) All you need is to be a member, in good standing, for the last 2 years and willing to spend a little extra time to serve the club. So, if you think you might like to give it a try, let a member of your nominating committee know. The Board of Directors meeting in October will include a "Lessons Learned" session on our 2009 Rainbow of Gems Show. If you have any suggestions

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Mike and Margaret Henson, Sandy and Paul Berthelot, Paulette Mireles and Laura Kasteal and guests Bill and Jeannie Brown came with the field trippers. Laura led the fieldtrip, as Bob Bullock was not able to come. Sharon Duncan and Christine Clason came about 2 o'clock or so. Everyone left with lot of rocks they bought. Fun was had by all.

If you were unable to attend, but would like to obtain some great cutting materials that are no longer available, call Jan Ferguson at 474-9977 and she will be happy to make arrangements for a private fieldtrip.

Weekend in Paso Robles

Wayne Mills, OMS, pictures by Wayne Mills

Several OMS members attended the Santa Lucia Show in Pioneer Park, Paso Robles on the weekend of September 19-20. The show was competently run as usual, and all who attended had fun. There seemed to be fewer people than last year, but maybe that's just me.

OMS provided several of the displays, but we were not the People's Choice this year.

Wes, Jeannie, and Marty Lingerfelt all put in cases, as did Laura Kasteal, Don Nasholm, John Von Achen and myself. That counted for about half of the show displays.

first choice went to this colorful case by Don Pierce and Don Huntington.

Second place was a nice case of



spheres by Cliff Brewen. Third place was young Chris



The People's

Dreisbach's case of petrified wood from the western US.

One of my personal favorites was this two-foot tall rooster crafted by Pete Duckworth's wife. It is inspirational!

Aside from the displays, there were several of our favorite dealers outside, and a nice selection of rough and books to be had.



Saturday night, Wes and Jeannie, John and Elaine, Betty and I and Kim Noyes enjoyed a delicious Barbecue prepared by the San Miguel Chapter of the Native Sons of the Golden West and a delicious apple pie courtesy of Elaine Von Achen.

Though it was a bit of a hassle driving to Paso three days in a row, there were many pleasant moments, and a big adventure Friday night when we ran into a big traffic snarl near the top of Cuesta Grade. At Betty's suggestion, we took the old road right at Cuesta Grade, and passed up a ton of traffic and the scene of the accident that caused the back up.

I even got a few rocks and a 50¢ scorpion from the Wheel of Fortune as my show treasures. Good Show!

Sunshine

Sandy Berthelot is back home from the hospital and doing better-that pneumonia is a real drag! Sylvia Nasholm had her knee surgery, is home and making good progress. So I guess both Debbie Hood and Sylvia will be singing a new song:



*With the foot bone connected to the leg bone,
The leg bone connected to the knee bone
connected to the ceramic, plastic and
titanium prosthesis,
The knee bone connected to the thigh bone,
The thigh bone connected to the hip bone...*

A Visit to the World Heritage Riversleigh Fossil Fields.

By Sir Paul Howard.

Our planned two-month trip in our



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motorhome with car in tow to the Agate Creek Fossicking Field to attend to my mining claim for agate took us first to Mount Isa. This was 1922 kilometers from home. This huge



mining town boasts that it is the biggest city in the world, with an area of 41,000 square kilometers and a population of 23,500. In this huge copper, lead and zinc mining town we were to

teach 10 students the technique of wire wrapped jewelry at the Mount Isa lapidary club. They were talented students and finished early each day. While there, a visit to the Lawn Hill National Park and the World Heritage Riversleigh fossil fields was too good an opportunity to miss as it was only 250 kilometers from here by air in the Northwest corner of Queensland. It is only 140 kilometers further by sealed road most of the way. We were going in that general direction. So we went.

We camped at Adel's grove, right beside the lily covered billabong on Lawn Hill creek. This was a delightful camping spot, a real oasis in this drought affected savannah countryside. The four and a half hour tour to 'D' site to see the fossils that is the only area open to the public was in a comfortable air-conditioned coach.

Our driver and guide was very informative about the history of the area, the local vegetation, and pointed out items like the start of the dingo fence, which is the longest fence in the world and the tailings dump at Century mines that you could



see on the horizon some 20 kilometers away. This huge silver, lead and zinc mine is the second largest in the world employing 11,000 employees. After 47 kilometers of rough corrugated road we arrived at

the site where fossils were first discovered.

The fossils cover an area of about 10,000 hectares; it was inscribed on the World Heritage list of fossil sites in 1994 representing a major stage of evolutionary history of the

earth, particularly about Australian Mammals for the last 25 million years. The first part of the walking tour was through a huge cave like structure with a two dimensional sculpture of 'Big bird' and an oversize crocodile. It was most impressive.

It also had lots of panels explaining the history of the area and the creatures that lived here.

There are over 200 separate fossil sites. Scientists and paleontologists come each year to study them. For paleontologists this field represents a



treasure trove of opportunities to collect fossils, piece them together and discover new creatures that existed on the Australian continent up to 25 million years ago. Some of the fossil bones that have been collected are so strange that they have been put into a distinctive group of their own and given names like thingodontans, or yingabalanara. Their relationship to other animals is a real mystery.

For people who don't understand, or collect fossils, the bones you see in museums are the result of many years of work, putting pieces of bone together like a jigsaw puzzle without a picture of the finished article in front of you.

It is not a matter of finding a heap of bones and assembling them together, this is far from the truth. The fossils at Riversleigh are bones that are gradually being eroded out of the encasing limestone.

During my tour of section 'D' of the field, our guide pointed



out bones of birds, some small and some very large, much bigger than our emus of today. 'Big bird' was more like the size of the New Zealand Moa, up to 3 meters high. We also saw bones of reptiles like snakes and turtles, even crocodiles and mammals that don't exist today.

All these were exposed on the limestone rocks by elements of nature. In the laboratory paleontologists do this with acetic acid in various degrees of strength? Collection by amateurs is strictly forbidden.

At one place during our walking tour, our guide was explaining the fossils in the rock, then hit the rock with another rock at different places and it rang like different size bells, like the musical mountain at Yangool on the coast in north Queensland, these are vertical columnular basalt

crystals. At another place he showed us evidence of Stromatolites, which are considered by scientists to be the first forms of life on this planet.

When you consider the age of other parts of the earth's crust, particularly areas like the Pilbara of Western Australia that checks out at about three billion years old, plus, this area is very young in the evolution of creatures from this part of the planet. The limestone that has encased these fossils came from the steams and lakes that were rich in lime, possibly from artesian waters. This area of Australia was also covered twice by inland seas after the Australian continent broke away from the super continent of Gondwanaland millions of years ago.



The tour ended with a late morning tea on an island in the middle of the Gregory River surrounded with cabbage tree palms, pandanus and melaleuca trees. The crystal clear waters were covered with flowering water lilies. Various fish could be seen swimming in the water. It was a great tour.

(Editor's Note: it is always a pleasure to hear from member Sir Paul Howard in Australia, he is well and working on a new book which will be a shop manual on wire wrapped jewelry, something to look forward to!)

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Celebrating October birthdays are Kevin & Robert Cochran, Don Nasholm and Al Wilcox. Happy Birthday, and many more.



I did not find any anniversaries for October, but if you were missed...Happy Anniversary!



Adopt A Highway

By Wayne Mills

Our September Highway Cleanup was a bit of a drag. The bags got heavy near the end. Only 7 loyal souls showed up for the event. These were Wes, Jeannie, and Marty Lingerfelt, Paulette Mireles, Bob Bullock, Don Nasholm, and myself. It took a little longer, because some of us had to do two sections! With about 12 of our members, the work would go much faster, and we

could get to our pie and coffee (or biscuits and gravy) at Francisco's quicker.

The highway was pretty dirty after the Labor Day weekend, and the trucker bombs were numerous- 5 just in the sections I did. As far as I heard, no one found anything else worthy of note.

For our new members, we have adopted the first 2-mile section of Route 166 east of Highway 101, and we clean it up on the second Saturday of every odd numbered month (1, 3, 5, 7 etc.). For more information on this program, check out our website at omsinc.org, or call Wayne Mills at 805-481-3495.

CFMS/AFMS

More Wilderness Proposals in the Wind

By John Martin, AFMS Conservation & Legislation Committee

You know the old saying "Keep your friends close and keep your enemies closer," well, I have just received the latest copy of the California Wilderness Coalition newsletter, and they are at it again. They are requesting donations to support their lobbying efforts to sway our Senators to create and pass legislation to create new wilderness areas throughout the deserts of California. In addition to the massive land grab represented by the Omnibus bill that passed earlier this year, they are requesting proposed legislation for over 400,000 more acres to be added as wilderness areas or, worse, to be included in national parks or monuments. Some of the new wilderness areas being discussed encompass over 260,000 acres that include the Avawats Mountains north of Baker and the Soda Mountains north of I-15 between Barstow and Baker; both areas contain prime collecting grounds. They propose another 80,000 acres between Fort Irwin and Death Valley National Park (an area known as the "Bowling Alley") be added to the national park. The creation of several new national monuments and national parks in the California deserts is also on their agenda, which would eliminate all collecting in those areas. Also under consideration are the Deep Creek area of the San Bernardino Mountains and Surprise Canyon of the Panamint Mountains for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic River Designations. The Castle Mountains are located along the California-Nevada border and are surrounded on three sides by the Mojave National Preserve, and over 30,000 acres are being considered for induction into that Preserve.

All these new proposals would put a real damper on our ability to drive in, collect at, camp on and enjoy our public desert lands if enacted. Please consider

contacting your elected officials before it is too late, or the only displays to fill our cases at rock shows in the future will be photographs we have bought from the lobby groups, like the Sierra Club or California Wilderness Coalition. We have our own Lobby group and I encourage you to help support our effort to counter these other groups by supporting, joining or donating to the American Lands Action Association (ALAA) and help save our collecting areas and keep our Public Lands open to all public users.

Talk, Talk, Talk...

Wayne Mills, OMS, picture by Wayne Mills

I have been asked to talk to the Santa Lucia Gem Club at their November 16 meeting. They weren't particular about the topic, so I guess I will show some of the pictures from my recent trip to Brazil. The Paso club meets at Pioneer Park Historical Society room in the back of the Museum at 7:00 p.m. on the 3rd Monday of the week. I showed most of the minerals I brought back from the trip at the Santa Lucia Club Show in Pioneer Park on the weekend of September 19-20.



Two different colors of Imperial Topaz from Minas Gerais, Brazil, a sherry topaz from Utah, and a blue topaz from the Minas

Gerais province. The pink color (second from left) is the most desirable color of Topaz.

BIZARRO



Orcutt Mineral Society Board Meeting Elwin Mussell Sr. Center, Santa Maria, Ca. September 1, 2009



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

Members present were Wes Lingerfelt, Debbie Hood, Gloria Dana, Jan Ferguson, Sylvia Nasholm, Wayne Mills, Mike Henson, Elaine Von Achen and

Sharon Duncan. Guests included Bill Hood and Linda Redford.

Minutes: Minutes from the August Board Meeting were printed in the September, 2009 bulletin and approved as printed. Minutes from the August General Meeting were printed in the same bulletin and Sylvia Nasholm noted that under the abused children committee report it listed a donation from Steve Riegel for an Arkansas crystal. It should have shown Steve as donating the fish fossil with the crystal being donated by Don and Sylvia Nasholm. Sylvia also noted that Don Nasholm and Gloria Dana had brought cookies and they were not listed in the Refreshments report. Elaine will have the minutes amended by the next general meeting.

Treasurer's report: Wes Lingerfelt gave the treasurer's report. It was accepted as given. Wes also gave a preliminary report on the annual Gem & Mineral Show. There will be a few small adjustments as he gets in last minute receipts, but as it stands to date we netted \$5,997.74 on the show.

Correspondence: Elaine Von Achen read a flier from Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society inviting us to their 68th Gem-O-Rama October 10-11, 2009. They have at least five field trips planned. This is a once a year opportunity for mineral collectors to collect from the Searles Lake private lands. We also received a newsletter from Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society.

Committee Reports:

Annual Gem Show: Elaine Von Achen noted that thank you cards had been sent to everyone who had a showcase this year. She asked if there were any other thank you cards that needed to be sent. It was decided that we needed to send cards to Don Dana, Mike & Margaret Henson's grandson's and to Joseph Martinez. We also are going to give special 'thank you' to the Joe Martines' kitchen staff for their wonderful work.

Breakfast: Gloria Dana reported that the September 26th breakfast will be held at 9:00 a.m. at Sunset Ridge at 1424 Fairway Drive in Santa Maria

Bulletin: The bulletin is out on the web and mailed bulletins have gone out.

CFMS: None

Education: None

Field Trip: September's field trip has not been set yet but will be on September 19.

Highway Clean-up: The next clean-up will be held September 12. Members will meet at highway 101 and 166 at 8:00 a.m.

Membership: Elaine Von Achen read an application for membership from Krissa Klein. Wayne Mills made a motion that we accept Krissa for membership.

Sharon Duncan seconded the motion. Motion passed

Scholarships: Wayne Mills reported having received thank you letters from both Allan Hancock College and Cuesta College for our scholarships this year. He also received a letter from Matthew Thomas, recipient of the OMS scholarship from Cuesta, thanking us for his scholarship. He plans on a career in the science of geology.

Elaine Von Achen made a motion that we round out the amount put into the scholarship fund from our annual gem show to equal \$1,000.00. Wayne Mills seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Sunshine: Sandy Berthelot is in Marian Hospital recovering from pneumonia. Sylvia Nasholm will be having knee surgery on the 15th of September and Debbie Hood had knee surgery and is on the mend.

Old Business: It was agreed that we would bring rocks to the general meeting to be sent to Aaron Hendricks, a ten year old who sent a letter asking if anyone would be interested in sending him rock samples from our area. He is a budding rock hound and needs these specimens for a long-term science project.

New Business: Wes Lingerfelt asked the board if we want to continue our insurance for Directors and Officers. The cost is \$250.00 per year and the premium goes to McDaniel Insurance Services. The board agreed that we would continue coverage.

Wes also noted that there is a sound wall being installed in the main hall at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. This wall will interfere with the two dealers we currently have situated on either side of the main entry. Wes passed out a diagram of our show set-up for this past year and there was some discussion on how we might move tables to still accommodate these dealers.

Our meeting was running long and it has been decided that we would save our "Lessons Learned" list (from the show) for our next board meeting.

It was noted that the nominating committee needs to get started for the coming year, as nominations for positions have to be called three times.

Wayne Mills has agreed to make reservations for the Mussell Sr. Center for our meetings for the next year.

Wayne Mills donated some specimens from Brazil to the abused children's door prize drawing. Don and Sylvia Nasholm donated a shark tooth to the same drawing.

Our program for September's general meeting will be a CFMS program titled "Those Fabulous Thunder Eggs".

The display for September will be Fossils and Fake Fossils.

Refreshments will be pies and coffee/tea.

The meeting was adjourned by President, Debbie Hood at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Elaine Von Achen, Secretary, OMS

Orcutt Mineral Society General Meeting Elwin Mussell Sr. Center, Santa Maria, Ca. September 8, 2009

President Debbie Hood called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Mike Henson gave the invocation.

Daniel Limon led the flag salute.

Sheriff, Bill Hood, said everyone had badges.

Minutes: Elaine Von Achen read the minutes of the September 1, 2009 board meeting. Minutes were approved as read.

Treasurer's report: Wes Lingerfelt gave the treasurer's report. It was accepted as given. Wes also gave a report on our Annual Gem Show. He noted that the 2010 show will be held August 6, 7 & 8.

Correspondence: Elaine Von Achen reported newsletters from Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society and The Carmel Valley Prospector. She also read a flier for the Feather River Lapidary & Mineral Society's 2nd Annual Rock Show to be held in Oroville on October 3 & 4, 2009 as well as a flier for the Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society's 68th annual show to be held in Trona on October 10, 11, 2009.

Committee Reports:

Abused Children: Jan Ferguson reported the evening's prizes for the September drawing are a fossilized fish donated by Steve Riegel and a Mica/Feldspar specimen from Brazil donated by Wayne Mills. The fish fossil was won by Alexis Van Natta and the Mica/Feldspar specimen was won by Jeannie Brown.

Breakfast: Our next breakfast will be held at Sunset Ridge, 1424 Fairview Dr. in Santa Maria on the 26th of September at 9:00 a.m.

Budget & Audit: None.

Bulletin: None.

CFMS: None.

Door Prize: Bob Bullock reported a Sphere donated by Lucky Virgin, some slabs donated by Tom &

JoEllen Chrones, an amethyst crystal and much, much more as door prizes for September.

Education: None.

Historian: None.

Hospitality: Sharon Duncan reported 41 members and 8 guests. Guests were Laura Spann, Michael Spann, Blake Martines, Amber Laughton, Taye Sidberry, Jeanne and William Brown and Leslie Badarayan. Guests were greeted and thanked.

Field Trip: It was decided that Santa Lucia Club's show in Paso Robles on the 19th and 20th would serve as our September field trip.

Highway Clean-up: Our next clean up will be September 12. Members will meet at Highways 101 and 166 at 8:00 a.m.

Library: None.

Locker Clean up: None.

Membership: Elaine Von Achen announced that Krissa Klein was accepted as our newest member having been voted in at the September board meeting. Krissa was not present and will be welcomed at our next meeting.

Political Action Committee: None.

Property: None.

Refreshments: Paulette Miereles thanked Sylvia Nasholm, Jan Ferguson, Wayne Mills, Laura Kasteal, Jeannie Lingerfelt, Lucky Virgin and Elaine Von Achen for their donations of pie for the evening's refreshment.

Scholarships: None.

Sunshine: Sandy Berthelot was at the meeting and is doing much better. Sylvia is on schedule for knee surgery for the 15th. Debbie Hood is recovering from knee surgery and is doing much better.

Old Business: Wayne Mills agreed to collect and mail rock specimens for Aaron Hendricks in Colorado.

New Business: Bill Hood agreed to head up a nominating committee for the 2010 elected officers as well as the board of directors and Elaine Von Achen and Laura Gebhart agreed to help.

Sylvia Nasholm presented thank you gifts to Marion Martines, Blake Martines and K Tel, for all their hard work in the snack bar at our annual gem show.

The program for the evening was a movie on Thunder Eggs. Wes Lingerfelt presided.

Our October program will be on "Opals" and the display will be "Anything Opal".

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

Respectfully submitted:

Orecutts- Newsletter of the Orcutt Mineral Society

Elaine Von Achen, Secretary, OMS

October 2009 Calendar

Tuesday Oct. 6, 2009 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting-Elwin Mussell Senior Center. All members are welcome at this business meeting.
Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2009 7:00 to 9:00 pm.	OMS General Meeting-Elwin Mussell Senior Center. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Opals • Display- Opals • Refreshments- Cake
October Saturday, October 17, 2009 8:00 am till?	Field Trip to be announced. For Field Trip - information call Bob Bullock 928-6372.
Saturday Oct. 24, 2009 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.	OMS Monthly Breakfast- Antonio's Italian Restaurant, 626 W Tefft, Nipomo For information call Gloria Dana at 929-6429

November 2009 Calendar

Tuesday Nov. 3, 2009 7:00 to 8:30 pm	OMS Board Meeting-Elwin Mussell Senior Center. All members are welcome at this business meeting.
Tuesday Nov.10, 2009 7:00 to 9:00 pm	OMS General Meeting-Elwin Mussell Senior Center. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program- • Display- • Refreshments-Cookies
Saturday Nov. 14, 2009 8:00 a.m. till?	Field Trip to be announced. . For Field Trip - information call Bob Bullock 928-6372.
Saturday Nov. 21 2009 8:00 to 10:00 am	Roadside Clean up After the cleanup, coffee and pastry at "Francisco's Country Kitchen" in Santa Maria.
Saturday Nov. 28, 2009 9:00 to 10:15 am	OMS Monthly Breakfast- For information call Gloria Dana at 929-6429

CFMS Show Schedule 2009

October 3-4 2009, Fallbrook, CA

Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Society
 Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Museum
 123 W. Alvarado Street
 Hours: 10 - 4 both days
 Mary Fong-Walker (760) 728-1130
 Email: ikonmiming@gmail.com

October 3-4 2009, Oroville, CA

Feather river Lapidary & Mineral Club
 Oroville Municipal Auditorium
 1200 Myers St.
 Hours: 10 - 5 both days
 Connie Rossetto (530) 59-1840

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Email: crossetto@aol.com

Website: www.orovillerocks.com

Show Flyer: [click here.](#)

October 10-11 2009, Grass Valley, CA

Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society
"Earth's Treasurers"

Nevada County Fairgrounds

11228 McCourtney Road

Hours: 10-5 both days

Kim Moore (530) 470-0388

Email: kmoore160@comcast.net

Website: www.ncgms.org

October 10-11 2009, Trona, CA

Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society

Searles Gem & Mineral Show Building

13337 Main Street

Hours: Sat. 7:30-5; Sun. 7:30-4

Jim & Bonnie Fairchild (760) 372-5356

Email: sigms@iwvisp.com

Website: www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub

October 17 2009, Woodland Hills, CA

Woodland Hills Rockchippers

first United Methodist Church

22700 Sherman Way, West Hills

Hours: Sat. 10-5

Email: show@rockchippers.org

Show Flyer: [click here.](#)

October 17-18 2009, Anderson, CA

Shasta Gem & Mineral Society

Shasta District Fairgrounds

Near Redding off hwy 273

Hours: Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4

Steve Puderbaugh (530) 365-4000

October 17-18 2009, Lakeside, CA

El Cajon Valley Gem & Mineral Society

Lakeside Rodeo Grounds

12684 Mapleview Ave.

Hours: 10-5 daily

Carolyn Boland (619) 561-7498

Email: bobpeggy99@aol.com

Website: www.ECVGMS.com

October 17-18 2009, Placerville, CA

El Dorado County Mineral & Gem Society

El Dorado County Fairgrounds

100 Placerville Drive

Hours: 10-5 daily

Jackie Cerrato (530) 676-2472

Email: info@rockandgemshow.org

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

Show Website: <http://www.rockandgemshow.org>

Show Flyer: [click here.](#)

October 17-18 2009, Santa Rosa, CA

Santa Rosa Gem & Mineral Society

Santa Rosa Veterans Building

1351 Maple Ave. (Opposite Fairgrounds)

Hours: Sat. 10-6; Sun. 10-5

Website: www.gem-n-i.org

Show Flyer: [click here.](#)

October 24-25 2009, Los Altos, CA

Peninsula Gem & Mineral Society

Los Altos Civic Center Youth Center

One San Antonio Road

Hours: 10-5 daily

Dave Muster (408) 245-2180

Email: mustersgems@yahoo.com

November 7-8 2009, Concord, CA

Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society

Center Concord

5298 Clayton Road (Corner of Ygnacio & Clayton Rd)

Hours: 10 - 5 both days

Harry Nichandros

Email: show2009@ccmgs.org

Website: <http://ccmgs.org>

November 6-7-8 2009, Eureka, CA

Humboldt Gem & Mineral Society

Redwood Acres Fairground

3750 Harrie Street

Hours: Fri. 9-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5

Tony Tyson (707) 502-9574

Email: bluiis911@msn.com

November 7-8 2009, Lancaster, CA

Palmdale Gem & Mineral Society

Antelope Valley Fairgrounds

2551 W. Ave. H, Hwy 14

Hours: 9 - 5 both days

Susan Chassin-Walblom (661) 943-1861

Email: SLChaisson@yahoo.com

Website: palmdalegemandmineral.com

November 7-8 2009, Ridgecrest, CA

Indian Wells Gem & Mineral Society

Desert Empire Fairgrounds

520 S. Richmond Rd.

Hours: 9 - 5 both days

John DeRosa (760) 375-7905

Email: schiller@ridgecrest.ca.us

November 14-15 2009, Victorville, CA

Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Society

San Bernardino Co. Fairgrounds

17800 - 7th Street

Hours: 9-5 daily

Vigil Melton (760) 900-0507

Website: www.vvgmc.org

November 14-15 2009, Yuba City, CA

Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society

Franklin Hall, Yuba/Sutter Fairgrounds

442 Franklin Ave.

Hours: Sat. 9-5; Sun. 9-4

Bruce Roberts (530) 675-2864

November 21-22 2009, Livermore CA

Livermore Valley Lithophiles

At the "Barn"

Pacific Ave. at So. Livermore Ave.

Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4

Email: info@lithophiles.com

Website: www.lithophiles.com

Show Flyer: [click here.](#)

November 21-22 2009, Oxnard, CA

Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society

Oxnard Performing Arts Center

800 Hobson Way

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Hours: Sat. 9-5; Sun. 10-4
 Norb Kinsler (805) 644-6450
 Email: info@oxnardgem.com
 Website: www.oxnardgem.com

December 5-6 2009, Barstow, CA

Mojave Gem & Mineral Society
 Community Center
 841 Barstow Road
 Hours: 10-5 daily
 Gene Haines (760) 256-0595
 Email: janetwentz@earthlink.net
 Website: www.mdgms.org

which we will put into the Calendar listing and use when announcing the Field Trip. Please let us know what you think about this idea. Would it be helpful to you? –Editor

Walter Pepper, a member of the Pleasant Oaks and the Dallas Gem and Mineral Society, has devised a "Degree of Difficulty Table" to help us prepare for each trip. The table uses a 1 -10 rating system working it's way from easy to difficult and is as follows;

Walter's Field Trip Degree of Difficulty Table

	Surface Conditions	Incline/Effort	Kid Friendly
1.	Hard	30 degree incline or less	Yes
2.	Soft	30 degree incline or less	Yes
3.	Hard	45 degree incline	Yes
4.	Soft	45 degree incline	Yes
5.	Muddy	45 degree incline	Yes
6.	Steep	60 degree incline	NO
7.	Muddy	60 degree incline	NO
8.	Steep	60 degree incline, some climbing required	NO
9.	Steep	Significant climbing, walking and/or crawling	NO
10.	Steep and Muddy	Significant climbing, walking and/or crawling	NO

Are you confused? Carat, karat, caret, carrot
Carat = a standard unit of mass used for precious stones, especially diamonds, and is equal to 200 milligrams.
Karat = a unit of proportion of gold in an alloy equal to 1/24 part of pure gold.
Caret = a mark made on printed or manuscript material to show where something such as a letter or word should be inserted. In the United States, the caret is usually made just under the line. Other cultures invert the caret and place it above the line.
Carrot = the favorite food of Bugs Bunny.
How can these be remembered?
 The homeowner hid her 7-**carat** stone in a coffee carafe; a true carat carafe!
 Karen practiced karate to ward off thugs who were after her 18 **karat** gold watch.
 If you drink too much claret, you will need to insert too many **carets** into your missive.
 Do parrots munch on **carrots**?
Via Breccia, July 2009

Field Trip Difficulty Table

I would like to propose that we adopt the following Degree of Difficulty Table for use when we are planning a field trip. This would help our members immensely when they are trying to decide if a particular trip is within their capabilities. I have found myself several times in the last year wishing I had known a bit more about the terrain before I decided to go! While everybody has been very good about helping me over the tough spots, had I hurt myself it would have ruined everybody's day. This way, I would be able to decide if it is a trip I should take, as well as clue me in to bringing any adaptive equipment I might need, such as a cane or walking stick, or a couple of big, strong paramedics! Since our Fearless Fieldtrip Leader or his Able Assistant have already been over the basic area, it should be fairly simple to assign a number for difficulty

- AT AN OPTOMETRIST'S OFFICE
If you don't see what you are looking for you have come to the right place.
- OUTSIDE A MUFFLER SHOP
No appointment necessary. We hear you coming.
- IN A VETERINARIAN'S WAITING ROOM
Be back in 5 minutes. Sit ! Stay !
- IN A RESAURANT WINDOW
Don't stand there and be hungry. Come on in and get fed up.

OMS Webmaster - Wes Lingerfelt –(805) 929-3788.

Check out our OMS web site at <http://omsinc.org> or send e-mail to info@omsinc.org.

OMS Membership (dues) is \$24 per year. Junior memberships (under 18) are \$10 per year. Membership dues are due January 1, and are prorated for new members for each month thereafter. Membership Chairperson is Elaine Von Achen (805) 929-1488

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2009 OMS Officers

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



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

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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