

Volume XLII Number 9

## **September General Meeting**

Sept 12, 2006 at 7:00 pm. The program will be presented by Wayne Mills on "Glaciers, Great Floods, Global Warming, and Pleistocene Man in America." The Display will be fossils-so bring any fossils you have to show. Refreshments will be cakes.

## SHOW RAMBLINGS 2006

By Wes Lingerfelt

Another show has been successfully completed. It could not have happened without the support of the few dedicated Society members. You know who you are! Pat yourselves on the back!

The local newspaper continues coverage a week after the event.



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#### Annual event draws people statewide

Adobe Staff

The Orcutt Mineral Society brought its 39th annual Gem and Mineral Show to St. Joseph's Church in Nipomo last weekend. The "Rainbow of Gems" fea-

tured craftspeople and lapidary artists from around the state who artists from around the state who work with rocks, gems and miner als, organizers said. Exhibits, demonstrations and an array of collectibles were on hand, along with tools ranging from rock pol-ishers to crimpers, pliers and cut-ters for making jewelry. In addition, a Santa Maria-style burbecue was served Saturday night.



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It all began on a Wednesday. The laying out of the field and parking lot for 50 spaces at the Church is like doing calisthenics all day long. There should be a little blue pill for tired aching bones and muscles so a person could quickly snap back to normal; but alas, there isn't. Each year it takes longer to recover. Once I acquire the soreness and aching muscles there are still five days of work ahead before rest is possible. I really want to thank Ron and Delores Millard from Bakersfield (Kern County GMS). Ron was a great help in moving the tables back to the storage locker after the show. Delores helped clean and vacuum the classrooms. If only there were more people like them in the world! The club did pretty well as far as the bottom line goes this year. We are well above the 2003 totals but just below those for 2004. The year 2005 was our best year so far. Expenses were up for the Saturday night BBQ and for advertising. Income was down from the dealers and very slightly in the Treasure Chest raffle. The full report should be available at the next regular meeting.

September 2006

Planning has already started for next year's show. The raffle registration has been completed and the report for this year has been submitted. We only have roughly three weeks to get the paper work into the State Attorney General by 1 September each year.

There are some planning steps required for next year that must be completed for parking the show visitors. In addition, if we want a Florescent Display then someone must take the lead and plan for it. I alone wasn't able to handle it this year. Overall the show went very smoothly. No one got a table dropped on their toes or sprained an ankle. Except for a few sore backs we came through it very well. There were a couple of incidents where dealers became very agitated. The first had to do with one dealer "claim jumping" another dealers spot. The second incident had to do with closing time and the



A few pictures from the show courtesy of Bill Hood & Wes Lingerfelt

inappropriate actions and comments of the cleanup crew. These are learning experiences and hopefully won't be long lasting impacts to the Society. One club member lost the rear window of his truck due to a table being pushed a little too hard. A new window has been ordered at club expense.

Some additional planning is needed for next year regarding the show signs placed in the community. We need better, cleaner, brighter signs. Also, those small signs placed on Thompson Avenue could use some updating. Some of the display cases are looking pretty ratty. We need to think about what we should have in the way of hats, shirts and pins to sell at the show office. We only sold \$20.00 worth of material this year. Perhaps a new layout for the office is in order. I would like to suggest the sale of BBQ tickets be accomplished at the office rather than the Snack Bar. The workers there have enough to do without that added burden. I hope all members involved with the show have some ideas to put



forward. How else can we improve and make for a better show every year?

How can we improve on this?

## "My First Showcase"

Joseph Martinez – Age 7

I put together my first showcase in this year's Orcutt Mineral Society Gem and Mineral Show. I have been collecting about two years now.

In September 2004 I was on a field trip with OMS members on highway 166 in San Luis Obispo County where I found my first rock. The rock was chert and my grandfather made it into a sphere.

This January I went with my grandparents to Quartzite. Some of the things I got were quartz crystal, Peridot, banded agate, petrified limb cast, Amethyst crystal and Ocean Jasper.

Some of my collection were raffle prizes won at our monthly rock club meetings. Mary Ellen jasper, petrified dinosaur bone, and desert rose are just a few of the prizes I won.

I had a good time setting up my display and I'm looking forward to having a display case next year.

#### **Benitoite-California's Rare Blue Treasure**

By Wayne Mills, from a talk by Rick Kennedy. Photographs by Wayne Mills

Rick Kennedy has an ideal job. His is the ultimate of mixing business with pleasure. He digs and sells minerals for a living. In doing so, he has amassed an amazing and eclectic collection of faceted gems, including one of the 20 largest (and one of the 5 prettiest according to Rick) faceted Benitoite specimens in existence. Rick shared his expertise and his personal collection with us at our recent gem show, and gave at least one fascinating presentation on the history of Benitoite. Rick is a 42-year old graduate of the University of Santa Cruz in Geology. He makes his home in San Jose.

California's position at the edge of the continent has exposed it to tremendous tectonic forces. The rocks have been intruded, crushed, twisted, buried and exhumed. Terranes have been created, destroyed and transported. In the Diablo Range, Jurassic-Cretaceous aged serpentine, product of low pressure, low temperature metamorphism has been fractured and filled with highly mineralized fluids that have emplaced cinnabar and altered the serpentine to calcsilicate assemblages with Melanite and Topaziolite garnet, Diopside and Vesuvianite, and at the site of the Benitoite Gem Mine near New Idria in San Benito County, Benitoite (Barium titanium silicate), Neptunite (Potassium sodium lithium iron manganese titanium silicate), Joaquinite (Barium sodium cerium iron (titanium, niobium) silicate hydroxide), and

other minerals. Inhabitants of the hilly San Benito area had known about the sky-blue stones for many years before their "discovery" in 1906. Rod Dallas who grubstaked a local drifter named James Couch, to find a valuable



commodity that he could exploit, facilitated the discovery. Dallas was thinking about cinnabar, an ore of mercury, because it was known to exist in the area, or oil, but what Couch brought back to him was much more rare and beautiful. One morning in early 1907, Couch awoke in a valley near a stream that was lined with pretty blue crystals (this is a recurring dream of Rick's). A sample of the crystals was brought back to Dallas who had them faceted. The "lapidst" who faceted the gems sent a sample to George Eacret, the gemologist for a large jewelry store in San Francisco as a California Spinel. Mr. Eacret was not convinced of this fact after close examination, and took the sample to a friend of his, Dr. G.D. Louderback, head of the Department of Geology at University of California at Berkeley. About the same time, samples of the new gem had made their way across country to Tiffany's in New York. Mr. Eacret had a difficult time finding the source of the gems, but eventually wound up in Coaliga where he had an uncomfortable meeting with James Couch, now co owner of the yet unpatented gem mine with Rod Dallas. Shortly before leaving to go back to San Francisco, Eacret encountered Mr. Dallas, and the two came to a meeting of the minds where Eacaret and Louderback got permission to view the mine. After getting the information he needed for his research, there was a bit of a race between Dr. Louderback and Dr. Kunz (of Kunzite fame, and representing Tiffany's jewelry store) to identify and name the new mineral, but in the end, Louderback finished the report on the new find, and it was named Benitoite after the county in which it was found.

The gem mine operated until 1913 when it was closed. The mine was transferred to Mr. Cole who owned the mine in the 1930's, when collectors would hike 13 miles to get to the location and collect the rare gems. In the early 1960's, the mine was opened again, and a new mineral, <u>Jonesite</u> (hydrated barium (sodium, potassium) titanium aluminum silicate) was discovered there. Jonesite is not a spectacular gem, a good crystal being about 3.5 millimeters long, but it is another rare find in the suite of rare minerals that occurs in the New Idria area. The International Mineralogy Association (IMA) approved the new transparent mineral named Jonesite in 1977.

One of the more interesting facts about Benitoite is its crystal system. It is a triangular shaped crystal in the Trigonal bipyramidal crystal system. This system had been mathematically predicted, but until the discovery of this new stone, no minerals had been found to represent the system. To date, Benitoite is still the only representative of this crystal system. Benitoite was named the official state gemstone of California in 1985. *Crosstite (the gray Matrix,) Natrolite (the white vein material,) and Neptunite (dark red crystals.)* 

The largest known faceted Benitoite is 15.42 carats. Rick's faceted stone is a respectable 5.06 carats. Incidentally, his gem cutter, Jay, got an impressive



56% yield on Rick's 5-carat beauty. Normally, a cutter can get a 40% yield from a rough stone.

Links for lovely pictures of Benitoite and its relatives, and more information:

http://www.benitoite.com/benitoite/benlinks.shtml http://www.mip.berkeley.edu/geology/benitoite/ http://www.mip.berkeley.edu/geology/benitoite/Loud erback/1909\_toc.html

## The Don Dana Family

Wayne Mills, Ore-Cutts Staff

I had the privilege of visiting the Dana Family, among the newest members of OMS on a Sunday morning in mid-August. I was welcomed into their comfortable Nipomo home, (you could tell that rock folk lived there by the rocks and polishing equipment on the patio.) I soon learned that both Gloria and Don were descended from families that have deep roots in our country. Gloria is from the Little Traverse Band of the Ottawa tribe of Michigan (her ancestors lived here before there was a country), and Don is a direct descendant of Captain William Dana who built the Dana Adobe on Rancho Nipomo (one of California's most recent state landmarks) between 1839, and 1851. The William Dana's watched the birth of California from their comfortable Nipomo adobe (abode).

**Gloria** was raised in Michigan with two younger brothers, and attended college at Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA) in Virginia. There she majored in parks and recreation, but when she came to California about 1993, she got a job as a deep-sea



fisherperson! She enjoyed the trips far out to sea on a 55-foot motor sailor, and longlining for rock and ling cod and other rockfish. When Shelly was born in 1995, Gloria ended her fishing career, and stayed home to raise her daughter.

**Don** was born in Nipomo, but moved to the San Francisco Bay area at an early age. Don has one sister and two brothers. He completed high school in Redwood City, but went to college at UC Santa Barbara, where he majored in Political Science and Spanish. For a while Don worked as a fisherman out of Port San Luis, and he met Gloria on the docks while they pursued their exciting vocations. Don is a soft spoken and articulate man who works for People's Self-help Housing based in San Luis Obispo. His non-profit company administers 1200 low-cost housing units on 32 properties between Carpinteria and Paso Robles.

**Shelly** begins the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade at Dana Elementary School on August 21. She enjoys school, has a lot of friends, and was named one of the two most popular girls in her school. Her self-confidence is evident, and she has honed her people skills in the several plays she has been in. She keeps fit with gymnastics in which she has won several awards. Her favorite part of school is socializing and science, where she enjoys seeing reactions such as the vinegar and baking soda volcanoes. Her career goal is to open a restaurant where meals are presented aesthetically. It would probably be called "Food Art".

The family approaches lapidary from different angles. Gloria has been beading for the last 25 years, and has started selling her beaded necklaces in the last 3 years. Her business is called "Hook Line and Glamour". Her clients include the actress Jane Russell. Gloria selects rocks with pictures, and creates elegant beaded bezels that flow into intricate patterns in the rest of her piece. Her work has been selected for display at the prestigious Gallery 113 in Santa Barbara. **Don** has long had a fascination with rocks and fossils, but began studying them again a couple of years ago. Last year he bought a faceting outfit, and has begun turning out some lovely gems, including amethyst, topaz and peridot. His favorite gem is tourmaline because of its variety of colors, but he wants to perfect his technique before he dives into some of his gem rough "turmies". Shelly loves to pick up rocks, fossils, shell and bone on the various field trips the family takes. She has 3 divided trays with a surprising variety of specimens she has acquired at shows (and won in our raffle). She even had a specimen I had not heard of before called *Mawsitsit*, an electric green relative of serpentine

from China. Shelly carries a rock bag with her when she hikes. So she is prepared when she comes across "neat rocks". Some of Shelly's favorite rocks are onyx and dyed agate, but her birthstone is Alexandrite, and she would sure like a piece of that rock!

# OMS Breakfast meeting, 8/26/06

#### By Wes Lingerfelt

Another chance to check with friends and likeminded rockers was had at the Francisco's restaurant on North Broadway this morning. Those attending were Don & Sylvia Nasholm, Lucky Virgin, Marty, Wes and Jeannie Lingerfelt. Don did his usual thing to get people laughing and we enjoyed ourselves. More members should join in on the fun.

#### **Report on three New Zealand Gem Shows** by Sir Paul Howard.

This year, 2006, the New Zealand National Gem mineral and Fossil show was held in Christchurch, the Capitol of the South Island, on the weekend of 15th and 16th July. Two other Lapidary club shows were held on the shoulder weekends to the main show. This arrangement was made for the convenience of members of Lapidary and Mineral clubs, commercial dealers from both Islands, as well as the public. We were invited to attend all three shows to display and demonstrate wire wrapped jewelry by our Gold Coast School of Wirecraft. Billets and trading space were provided. Everyone was very friendly to us. This was the third time we have attended these shows. We arrived at Christchurch airport mid afternoon to a wet, windy cold day of 8 degrees. The weather was as expected so we had a good supply of winter woollies.

The first show was at Oamaru, about 300 Kilometers to the South. Along the way we witnessed massive snow damage to trees and power lines which occurred from the heavy snow falls in mid June. One huge gum tree had only one branch left on it. The Rockhound club in the historical seaport town of Oamaru was holding their annual Swap and Brag show over two days. With the unpredictable weather all trading was done indoors, there were no outside tailgaters. This was the format for all three shows. Rockhound and Commercial traders filled the big hall to capacity from both Islands. Both days were very busy. Crystals (especially Amethyst,) Minerals and Agates being the most popular items of purchase. Local agates from the Mount Somers region have a very enthusiastic following and sold well. Each

Rockhound trader had a showcase of his/her latest finds or acquisitions as well as the items for sale. Some specimens were fantastic. Prices seemed cheap to us; I purchased many pieces of agate for my New Zealand collection. The hall was heated continuously till someone complained that it was too hot, then it was turned off. Free tea and coffee was provided to everyone and on the Sunday free sandwiches and yummy hot vegetable soup was provided also. It was a very friendly and affable show. It did not snow while we were there, but it was cold enough to. On the Saturday night it is traditional for all traders to go to the show dinner. Everyone gathered at a popular buffet restaurant for a nice meal, then the fun began with music, songs, jokes, poetry, stories and a sing along which made for a very memorable night.

The following weekend the Canterbury Lapidary Club held the National show in the huge Horticultural hall in Hagley Park in Christchurch over three days. There were 343 entries into the competitions, which were displayed in very well lit cabinets. Dozens of rockhound and Commercial traders packed the hall. Very courteous and friendly catering staff handled all needs and wants by the traders, food wise. No one had to leave his or her stand. Presentation of all trophies was at the hall before the show dinner on the Saturday night. There were demonstrations of carving, porcelain painting, sphere making, cabochon making, flat-lap grinding, silver smithing, faceting and wire wrapped jewelry. It was a very well organized and successful show.

The following weekend meant a five hour drive north through the snow covered Marlborough Mountains to Stoke, a town if the Nelson district of south Island. The scenery along the way was spectacular. It even snowed a little on us as we passed over the Lewis pass. The show was run very successfully by the Nelson, Marlborough and west coast clubs and was similar in set-up and presentation as the two previous shows. The gregarious nature of these shows prevailed. The billet accommodation and hospitality here was superb. One of the things that was different about this show was a spruiker that roamed the hall all day telling everyone what was happening and where the bargains were. Raffles and a silent auction were a big part of the revenue activities with most items being donated by the traders or local businesses. It all ended too quickly

Next years Nationals will be held in New Plymouth on the North Island and in 2008 they will be held at Greymouth on the West coast of the South Island in October, which will be springtime. I can recommend a visit, we will be going, accommodation has already been arranged. See you there.

## Scholarships—OMS Recognized

Wayne Mills, Scholarship Chairperson

Orcutt Mineral Society was recognized at a reception for Donors held at Cuesta College on August 8, 2006. This reception was a new and more enjoyable format with the scholarship recipients being seated with the donors. I had the opportunity to chat with our very personable scholarship winner, Eliza O'Rourke. Eliza is from Jimenez Valley in New Mexico, and has the goal of attaining a degree in Environmental Science and Technology, with the hopes of helping businesses attain environmental compliance. In addition to her scholarship, Eliza is also working at a local bookstore to help finance her college education.

The reception lasted from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m., and consisted of several speeches recognizing the accomplishments of the scholarship winners, and appreciation for the value provided by the donors. Baked goods and fruit were served. About \$200,000 in scholarships was given to 260 deserving students at the affair. Students are selected for the OMS Earth Science Scholarship according to financial need, scholastic achievement, and studies in a branch of the Earth Sciences.

#### S(word) Play

Wayne Mills, co-editor, Ore-cutts

Another old adage is "the pen is mightier than the sword". Your chance for literary fame is only an article away. The California Federation of Mineral Societies (CFMS for short) annually awards plaques, pins and certificates in several categories. OMS was fortunate last year to win several of those awards (see Ore-cutts, July, 2006), including Best Small Bulletin, Best Adult Advanced Article (Dick Shields), and Best Adult Article (Ralph Bishop).

To be judged, the articles need to have been published in a society bulletin during the past year. The categories that are judged include:

- > New Editor
- Adult Advanced Article
- Large Bulletin
- Small Bulletin
- Adult Article
- Youth Article
- Poetry

The editors of Ore-cutts urge you to get your articles in soon. Remember the December Bulletin is your last opportunity for this year. The bulletin goes to press about the  $25^{\text{th}}$  of the month, and the deadline for submissions is generally about the  $21^{\text{st}}$  of the month. The possible range of topics in the earth science field is only limited by your imagination.

# **Birthdays & Anniversaries For September**

Sharon Duncan, Karen Dry, Marshall Reeves, Margaret Henson, Molly Kerlick, Peter Dettelis are all celebrating birthdays this month. Happy Birthday, and many more!

Dick & Bess Shields, and DeeDee & Aldo Magri are celebrating anniversaries...Congratulations!

## Orcutt Mineral Society Board Meeting Mussell Sr. Center, Santa Maria, CA August 1, 2006

President Bob Bullock called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Board members present were: Bob Bullock, Wayne Mills, Gary Sheffer, Debbie Hood, Lucky Virgin, Dee Dee Magri and Elaine Von Achen. Guests were: Bill Hood and Don Nasholm.

**Minutes** of the previous board meeting were approved as published in the August 2006 newsletter.

**Treasurer's report** was read by Wes Lingerfelt and accepted as read.

**Correspondence:** Elaine Von Achen reported newsletters from Sun Valley Indian School, Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society and Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Sunshine:** Debbie Hood reported Herta Borm passed away.

**Abused Children:** At the July meeting Wes Lingerfelt won a mineral specimen and Kevin Cochran won a crystal in the raffle.

Library: Nothing new to report.

Newsletter: Nothing new to report.

**CFMS:** Nothing new to report.

**Education:** Wes Lingerfelt is going on a field trip with a Boy Scout troop on September 9th. Wayne Mills did the Arroyo Grande library display and Lucky Virgin did the Nipomo library display. Wayne also had a 10-minute interview with Amy Jacobs from KVEC radio regarding the gem show.

**Field Trips:** There won't be a field trip in August due to the gem show. We are planning a trip to the Los Padres National Forest (Colson Canyon) for September.

**Gem Show:** Wes Lingerfelt reported that the field has been mowed, that he still has people wanting to display and that the Bar-B-Q tickets are printed. There are news releases going out to 30 newspapers. Elaine Von Achen and Dee Dee Magri volunteered to do the club case this year.

### **Old Business:**

Bob Bullock will get the meat for the Bar-B-Q, Wes Lingerfelt will get the corn, Don Nasholm will do the beans, Truman Burgess will bring the wood and Elaine Von Achen will get the salad, butter, salad dressing, salsa, garlic, paper plates and garbage bags.

New Business: None

President Bob Bullock adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Elaine Von Achen, Secretary, OMS

## Orcutt Mineral Society General Meeting Mussell Sr. Center, Santa Maria, CA August 8, 2006

President Bob Bullock called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Shelly Dana led the flag salute.

Mike Henson gave the invocation.

**Minutes** of the August 1, 2006 board meeting were read by Elaine Von Achen and approved as read.

**Treasurer's Report** was given by Wes Lingerfelt and accepted as read.

**Correspondence:** Elaine Von Achen reported newsletters from Sun Valley Indian School, Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society, Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society and Capistrano Valley Rock & Mineral Club.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Hospitality:** Sharon Duncan reported 30 members and 3 guests present. Guests included Jennifer Barrett, Jose Garcia and Carol Bowen.

#### Sunshine: None

**Abused Children:** Debbie Hood reported that tonight's auction would include a crystal as well as mineral specimens.

**Highway Clean up:** Wayne Mills will be point of contact person until this position is filled.

#### Library: None

**Newsletter:** Debbie Hood asked that anyone having anything for the newsletter to please get the information to her by the 24<sup>th</sup> of each month.

**CFMS:** Wayne Mills will pass out awards for the 2006 Bulletin Competition. Wes Lingerfelt reported

that he would go to a CFMS business meeting in Visalia, Ca. November 12, 2006.

**Education:** Wayne Mills and Debbie Hood attended a recognition dinner at Hancock College where they presented a scholarship from OMS. Wayne Mills attended a recognition program at Questa College on August 8, 2006 where he presented a scholarship to Eliza O'Rourke from OMS.

**Field Trips:** Don Dana said that he had permission from Eric Michaelson for a field trip to Los Osos Valley Road and Clark Road. Bob Bullock said that might be a consideration for October or November.

**Raffle:** Wayne Mills announced some of tonight's raffle items would include Bamboo Coral, Ocean Agate, Mariposite, Travertine egg, bead case and various minerals.

#### **Old Business:**

Elaine Von Achen will follow-up on plans to show at the Town Center Mall for Santa Maria History Week sponsored by the Pioneer Association and the Santa Maria Historical Society. She asked that anyone who would be willing to sit with our booth to please contact her. It will run from September 19 through the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**New Business:** Dee Dee Magri announced that dessert for tonight's meeting will be cookies donated by Don Nasholm, Gary Sheffer, Debbie Hood and Truman Burgess.

It was decided that we would break for refreshments and coffee after which we would go over the show results.

#### Show:

Annual Orcutt Mineral Society Gem and Mineral Show "Rainbow of Gems" was held August 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Wes Lingerfelt reported that our show had a write-up on the front page of the "B" section of the Santa Maria Times. That, as well as \$938.00 in ads, helped bring the people in. Wayne Mills had a 10minute interview with Amy Jacobs, of KVEC radio, as well.

We had many good comments regarding the show from both dealers and guests alike.

Wes Lingerfelt said we need to be very careful, in dealing with our vendors, in what we say and how we act. They are very important to our show and need to be treated with respect.

Wes Lingerfelt reported receipts for the show. It was noted that the number of dealers was down this year. Lucky Virgin said that we had 26 exhibits. Wayne Mills reported that the San Luis Obispo Mineral Society put in a case and they don't even have showcases at their show.

Sylvia Nasholm thanked everyone for his or her help in the kitchen.

## **OMS Bulletin Awards for 2006**

Wayne Mills announced the winners for this year and handed out awards. They were as follows: Small Bulletins

-First Place-Ore-Cutts-Dick and Bess Shields Original Adult Articles, Adult Advanced -First Place-"Finding Needles in the Desert"-Dick Shields

-Second Place-"How I Spent My Summer Vacation-Oregon on \$80 per day"-Wayne Mills

-Third Place-"Agates in Munich"-Sir Paul Howard

Original Adult Articles, Adult Advanced

-First Place-"Pseudomorphs-Meow!"-Ralph Bishop

-Fourth Place-"Seriously Safe"-Bob Bullock

-Sixth Place-"Rock hounding in the Southwest with Novice-Plus-One-Year Rock hounds"

Mike & Margaret Henson

-Eighth Place-"Tourmaline Dreams"-Bess Shields -Tenth Place-"Arizona in May"-Wes Lingerfelt

Wayne Mills presided over the raffle.

President Bob Bullock adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Elaine Von Achen, Secretary, OMS



A saw cutting a piece of stone was selected when the first bulletin, ORE-CUTTS (namesake, William Orcutt) was first 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 1989, 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 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.

## 2006 OMS Officers

Pres	Robert Bullock	(805) 928-6372
Pres. Elect	Debbie Hood	(805) 481-6860
Secretary	Elaine Von Achen	(805) 929-1488
Treasurer	Wes Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788
Immed. Past Pres	Lucky Virgin	(805) 929-4525
CFMS. Rep.	Wes Lingerfelt	(805) 929-3788

#### 2006 OMS Board Members

Geary Scheffer	(805) 925-8009
Sylvia Nasholm	(805) 481-0923
Dee-Dee Magri	(805) 595-2755
Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495
Jill Nelson	(805) 925-2550

#### **Ore-Cutts Editors**

Deborah Hood	(805) 481-6860
Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495

**OMS Membership** (dues) is \$18 per year. Junior memberships (under 18) are \$9 per year. Membership dues are due January 1, and are prorated for each month thereafter. Membership Chairperson is Elaine Von Achen (805) 929-1488

## September 2006 Calendar

Tuesday Sept. 5, 2006 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting- Elwin Mussell Senior Center. All members are welcome at this business meeting.	
Saturday Sept. 9, 2006 8:00 a.m. to ?? p.m	Field Trip to the Los Padres Forrest	
Tuesday Sept. 12, 2006 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.	<ul> <li>OMS General Meeting- Elwin Mussell Senior</li> <li>Center.</li> <li>Program-"Glaciers, Great Floods, Global Warming, and Pleistocene Man in America," by Wayne Mills</li> <li>Display: Fossils</li> </ul>	
	Refreshments-Cakes	
Saturday Sept. 16, 2006 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	Roadside Clean up After the cleanup we have coffee and pastry at "Francisco's Country Kitchen" in Santa Maria.	
Saturday Sept. 23 2006 8:15 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.	OMS Monthly Breakfast- Francisco's Country Kitchen in Santa Maria. For details, call Ken Kreh at 343-7749.	
October 2006 Calendar		
Tuesday Oct. 3, 2006 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	OMS Board Meeting-Elwin Mussell Senior Center. All members are welcome at this business meeting.	

Tuesday, Oct. 10, 2006 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.	<ul> <li>OMS Board Meeting</li> <li>OMS General Meeting-</li> <li>Elwin Mussell Senior</li> <li>Center.</li> <li>Program-</li> <li>Display- Crystals</li> <li>Refreshments- Pies</li> </ul>
Saturday Oct. 21, 2006 8:00 a.m. to ?? p.m	Field Trip to Clear Creek
Saturday Oct. 28 2006 8:15 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.	OMS Monthly Breakfast- Francisco's Country Kitchen in Santa Maria. For details, call Ken Kreh at 343-7749.

#### 2006 Shows

## September 1-4 2006, Fort Bragg, CA

Mendocino Coast Gem & Mineral Society Town Hall, Main & Laurel Hours: Fri - Sun. 10 - 6: Mon. 10 - 4 Don McDonell (707) 964-3116 643 N. Mcpherson; Fort Bragg 95437 September 16-17 2006, Paso Robles, CA

Santa Lucia Rockhounds Pioneer Park and Museum 2010 Riverside Avenue Hours: 10 - 5 both days

Joyce Baird (805) 462-9544

Email: liloysee@charter.net

## September 16-17 2006, Redwood City, CA

Sequoia Gem & Mineral Society Community Activities Building 1400 Roosevelt Avenue Hours: 10 - 5 both days Show Website: www.freewebs.com/seggmsociety/index.htm Carol Corden (650) 248-7155/ ccorden@earthlink.net

# September 22, 23, 24 2006, San Bernardino, CA

Orange Belt Mineralogical Society 6th Annual Rock, Gem, & Jewelry Tailgate Ball Park 6707 Little League Drive in San Bernardino Hours: Fri./Sat. 9 - 6; Sun. 9 - 4 Mike Woolery (909) 882-6806 Al Carrell (951) 961-5988

### September 23 2006, Los Altos, CA

Peninsula Gem & Geology Society Recreation with Rocks Rancho Shopping Center Foothill Expressway & Springer Road Hours: Sat. 9:30am - 4:45pm Jennifer House (408) 243-7025

September 23-24 2006, Carmel, CA Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society

Monterey Fairgrounds 2004 Fairgrounds Road Hours: Sat. 10 - 6; Sun. 10 - 5 Sky Paston (831) 755-7741 Email: sky@familystones.net Website: www.cvgms.org

## September 23-24 2006, Downey, CA

Delvers Gem & Mineral Society Woman's Club of Downey 9813 Paramount Blvd Hours: Sat. 10 - 6; Sun. 10 - 4 Teresa Widdison (562) 867-1521 Email: twiddison72@aol.com

#### September 23-24 2006, Monterey, CA

Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society Monterey Fairgrounds 2004 Fairgrounds Road Hours: Sat. 10 - 6; Sun. 10 - 5 Sky Paxton (831) 755-7741



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED Orcutt Mineral Society, Inc. **PO Box 106** Santa Maria, CA. 93456-0106

Email: sky@familystones.net

September 23-24 2006, San Diego, CA San Diego Lapidary Society Bernado Winery 13330 Paseo Del Verano Norte Rancho Bernardo Hours: 10 - 4 both days Kim Hutsell; (619) 294-3914 Website: www.sandiegolapidarysociety.org October 1 2006, Falbrook, CA

Falbrook Gem & Mineral Society 123 W. Alva (FGMS Headquarters) Hours: 10 - 4 Club Web Site: www.fgms.org There is a map on web site Janice Bricker (760) 728-1333

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