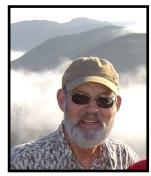


Volume LI Number 7

July 2017

The Pres Box—July 2017 Wayne Mills



Our **Semi-Annual Meeting** was held in Pioneer Park in Santa Maria on Saturday, **June 10**, and on that same weekend (the 9th through 11th) the **AFMS-CFMS show** was held at the Fairgrounds in Ventura. Several of our members attended both!

It was fun to see Bill and Jeanne Brown down in Ventu-

ra, but I missed seeing Sharon Duncan who was also there on Sunday. Wes and Jeannie Lingerfelt, Jeannie Beattie (one of our newest members) and Ralph Bishop were down there on Friday. Who else made it? It will be interesting to hear your impressions at our July meeting. And we will be packing a lot into that meeting, with last minute show prep (please come prepared to sign up for helping at the various areas of OUR show), and a interesting talk about the California Blue (Aquamarine) mine by its' owner, David Schmidt.

The SLO Club show in Cambria was a fun event as well, and I talked to a couple of dealers there who are looking forward to our show. **PLEASE** come to the July meeting **prepared to sign up** for time slots in these areas: **Kid's Activities, Pie Booth, Hospitality and Treasure Chest**. With our small club we need **EVERYONE's help** to have our show a success. **And PLEASE get your treasure chest items to me before the show**. It is an accounting nightmare doing that list during the 3 frenetic days of the show.

Please don't forget that our next Highway Cleanup is July 8 at 8 am. Hope to see several of you there! (See Calendar on page 8 for time and location)

Wayne

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Greetings go out to those folks who are having Birthdays and Anniversaries in **July**.

BIRTHDAYS

	Month	Day
Mike Henson	7	17

ANNIVERSARIES

	Month	Day	
Lisa Azevedo	7	8	

Congratulations! If you don't see your name here when you should, then the information is not in <u>The Red Book</u>. Please write your important dates down and give them to **Wayne** so they will be included in the next edition (April 2018)

MINERAL OF THE MONTH

Story and picture by Wayne Mills_

Joe &

Since it is starting to get warm in July, and since I just bought some of Sandy Berthelot's gems including a specimen of (yellow-red) Orpiment / Realgar, let's choose that one. Orpiment is formed from the decay of Realgar which has the same chemical formula. Their formula is *Arsenic sulfide*, so they are NOT the kinds of rocks (OK, minerals) that Rockhounds want to lick or handle very much. Especially if the specimen develops a powdery coating (which happens when it is exposed to light for very long). Remember that arsenic is what folks use to kill rats (and lonely old bachelors, as in "Arsenic and Old Lace").

Orpiment is found in volcanic fumaroles, low temperature hydrothermal veins, and hot springs. While the specimen that I bought is from Russia, both minerals are widely

disseminated.

Yellow-orange Orpiment grading into Red-orange Realgar. Elbrussky Mine, Caucasus, Russia

The Getchell Mine in Nevada is a famous location, as is the Twin Creek Mine also in Hum-



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boldt Co., Nevada. Other sources occur in China, Iran, France and Peru.

Why would anyone want to collect these minerals other than the fact that they are kind of dangerous? Perhaps the main thing is their interesting crystal forms and another factor is their bright, contrasting colors—Orpiment is usually a bright yellow orange, and Realgar a bright red orange.

LOCAL ROCKS--WHALEBONE

Wayne Mills, Ore-Cutts Editor, picture by Wayne Mills

A year or so ago, I was working on an archaeology project in Los Osos. The project was part of the Los Osos Sewer project, and was mandated by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because there are known Native American artifacts that have been discovered in that area. As I was helping to excavate one of the trenches, a large brown rock was unearthed. It really stood out in that pale sand! It was about a foot long, and 4 inches or so in diameter. I took it to the bone expert on the project and asked her if she knew what it was, and she said "just a rock". I said that I begged to differ with her, because it was one of the most well-agatized pieces of fossil whale bone that I had ever seen! I hope that it was saved as part of the collection.

I have found agatized whale bone on Atascadero State Beach, and at Jalama Beach, as well as near the new south-bound on-ramp (to Highway 101) from Spring Street in Paso Robles. My yard rocks include a brain case from a fossil whale found in the Sana Ynez Valley. A far as I know, this bone is derived from the **Monterey Formation** (Middle Miocene age marine shales), and this formation has also produced fossilized whale skulls in concretions that have been found along the Gaviota Coast in Santa Barbara.

While this material is not very colorful, it is an interesting reminder of the (geologically) recent past (about 15 million years ago) when our part of California was under the ocean.



OMS REMEMBERS "LUCKY" VIRGIN

Condensed by Wayne Mills from the original Memorial by Sherrell Baulsey

Several OMS members recently attended the lovely memorial service for our member Harold "Lucky" Virgin who passed away on May 27, 2017. The event was at Lucky's home in Nipomo that he shared with his daughter Sherrell. Lucky has been a member of OMS since 2001 and he always shared his characteristic warmth and generosity with members of the club. He quickly became adept at the art of sphere making, and, when (at his service) it was asked how many folks had spheres from Lucky, several of those pre-



sent raised their hands.

According to the memorial brochure produced by Sherrell, Harold Leroy Virgin was born in Wichita, Kansas on August 11, 1932 in the midst of the Depression. His family moved to Southern California when he was 8, and to Watsonville when he was 10.

At age 18 (in 1950), Lucky enlisted in the US Naval Reserves as a radio communications specialist. In 1954, he be-

gan work for GTE as a lineman. In 1957, he married the love of his life, Lynda Dugan to whom he remained married until her death in 2003 (46 years). In 1964, Harold and Lynda moved to Crestline (on a transfer with the phone company), and while there, Lucky became involved in church activities, and to bringing women's softball to Crestline (on his daughter's behalf). To make this happen, he agreed to be President of the league for 5 years.

In 1979, Lucky asked for another transfer, this time to Lompoc, CA. He did not miss the snow, and he and his family that by now numbered 4, loved the fields of wildflowers.

He retired from GTE in 1982, and moved to Nipomo in 1983, where he and Lynda started a craft store at the Nipomo Swap Meet. With no experience in construction or design, between 1985 and 1987, Lucky designed, and with his family's help built a 2bedroom, 2-bath house on 5 acres that he had previously purchased in Nipomo. In the next year (1988), Lucky suffered a second massive heart attack, and in 1994, required open-heart surgery and a triple bypass. In 2001, Lucky joined OMS and gave himself over to the many colors and patterns of the rocks that he collected and polished. He has imparted that love of rocks to at least one of his 3 great granddaughters, Sophie (age 4) who was such an entertaining hostess at her great grandpa's memorial service. Lucky is survived by a brother, two sisters, a son and daughter, 2 grandsons and 3 granddaughters, 3 great granddaughters, and an adoptive daughter and her

family. Lucky will be missed by all whose lives he has touched, including Renea Sutcliffe, an OMS member who has been his companion and helpmate for the last 9 years.

One of my favorite stories from the brochure was a game Lucky invented to enter-

tain his Awan students while he lived in Crestline. It was called "Garbage Pail". Players chose a foil wrapped package from a pail, and ate whatever was inside. If a player did not eat the item he selected, his team was penalized. The game was a big hit with his students! (Ed.--)



SANDY BERTHELOT COLLECTION AT SPHEREHEAVEN

Sandra Berthelot's collection of rocks and crystals is for sale on Wes Lingerfelt's web site: <u>Sphereheaven.com</u>. Look for "Sandy's Treasures". There are a LOT of them, and at very reasonable prices. Please check the pages out! More specimens added each day.

Sandy's collectibles will be sold at Wes's home on June 30-July 4, 2017. Call 805-929-3788 for more details.



BIRTHSTONE(S) FOR July

The traditional birthstone for July is **Ruby** (*Aluminum oxide*), the rarest mineral. A substitute for Ruby is **Carnelian**, a red form of chalcedony (that is cryptocrystalline quartz).

The **Ruby** represents love, passion, courage and emotion. For centuries this

gem has been considered the king of all gems. It was believed that wearing a fine red Ruby bestowed good fortune on its owner. Rubies have been the prized possession of emperors and



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kings throughout the ages. To this day the Ruby is the most valued gemstone. <u>http://</u>

www.wixonjewelers.com/education/gemstones/ gemstone-guide/#ruby, picture from <u>birthstones.me</u> Carnelian is also considered July birthstone. Carnelian comes in red, yellow, orange, and brown colors. It can be striped in part, and is usually polished to a higher luster. Carnelian is a variety of Chalcedony capable of boosting energy and passion. It also brings psychic vitality and joy.





Sapphire is the traditional July Birthstone in the Hindu Calendar *Picture <u>orlandojewel-</u> <u>ers.net</u>. Sapphire will be discussed in more depth in the September Ore-Cutts, as it is the traditional birthstone for that month.*

Turquoise is another traditional July Birthstone. Turquoise is also a traditional birthstone for December, and we will talk more about it then. <u>Picture manacul-</u> <u>ture.com</u>



The stones for **Cancer** 6/21-7/22)

and **Leo** (7/23-8/22) that both occur in June are **Pearl** and **Alexandrite** and **Ruby**, respectively. See the discussion of **Pearl** and **Alexandrite** on page 3 of the June 2017 Ore-Cutts.

BITS AND BYTES

Eighth Wonder of the World rediscovered in New Zealand

http://www.msn.com/en-us/travel/news/eighthwonder-of-world-rediscovered-in-new-zealandafter-years-of-painstaking-research/

Beautiful images of rocks and minerals https://www.pinterest.com/topics/agates/

An amazing glass artist <u>http://www.kentlauer.com</u>

OMS ROCKS PIONEER PARK

Wayne Mills, Dyanna Cridelich OMS

OMS had a fun Semi-Annual Meeting/Picnic in the Park on Saturday, June 10. About 35 folks showed up and brought some tasty side dishes, and some nice rocks. Wes Lingerfelt bought the meat, his wife Jeanie made the beans, and Sylvia and Don Nasholm brought the coffee and sun tea.





Truman Burgess (left) brought the seasoned oak wood and helped get the fire going about 10 am. Wes, Dick Bazzell,

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and Don Nasholm cooked the (top sirloin) to a "T". We had some really tasty barbecued sausages served by Bill Hood tided us over until lunchtime. The food was served just after noon, and by about 12:30 p.m., 33 piles of some pretty nice rocks had been labeled and laid-out on the silent auction table. Thanks to Debbie and Dyanna for their help doing this. The "prizes" included a bottle of Chardonnay that our Secretary Dyanna had recently won at Hancock College for being the college's "Most Caring Employee". Congratulations Dyanna!

The side dishes included everything from chips and guac to Alexis's delicious lime jello salad, beans, pasta salad, cakes and pies. Thanks to all who helped make this a really tasty meeting (though no business was conducted other than introducing our newest members—Moniah M. and Jeannie Beattie). Moniah was voted in by unanimous vote of the Board at the Semi-annual meeting.

We started the silent auction about 12:30, and called it about 1:30. There was some spirited bidding for some of the items, and I hope we see some of these treasures polished and displayed at an upcoming meeting. I thought that I did well getting a \$20 bottle of wine for \$5, and a stack of rocks including a chunk of Laguna Agate for \$6. At the Ventura show, some similar-sized pieces were going for over \$100! The silent auction brought in about \$126, and the two club vests that we auctioned off brought in an additional \$20.

By about 1:40 p.m., the dust was starting to clear, and I packed the car to head to the Ventura Show ("Ventura Rocks the Nation" (JB Thompson of the Ventura club came up with that one). My thanks to all 33 folks (by my count) who helped make this a special day.

AFMS/CFMS SHOW ("VENTURA ROCKS THE NATION") Wayne Mills, OMS

I left Pioneer Park about 2, and headed south to do a little metal detecting on my way to Ventura. I was hoping to sneak into the Editor's Breakfast on Sunday Morning at 8, so had booked a hotel for the evening. Detecting was OK, but nothing to brag about, and I made it to the Viking Hotel about

7 pm, close to dinner time. I had a good dinner and a great margarita at Casa de Soria just up the street, and slept well. Up about 6 on Sunday and walked to the Corner Café where I had a great half of a breakfast burrito (all I could eat) then checked out of the room and headed to the Fairgrounds. Made it into the room where the Editor's Breakfast was to be held, and was able to get a seat and hear the presentations. Mostly, the results of the Bulletin and Webmaster Contests were read off. The deadline for those entries had been January 7 of this year, and that was well before I was prepared to send in my entries. Next year will be even worse, as the AFMS Meeting is scheduled in April (2018), so Bulletin entries are due On October 1 (2017!!) That is going to cut out at least two issues from consideration.

Anyhow, Ventura and Oxnard Societies did really well in the CFMS Contest, as did the Pasadena Lapidary Society. One family from Pasadena (The Nishimuras) won about 6 awards for their articles! The show was huge, taking one large building for displays (about 85) plus club and kids activities. The other large building housed the Dealers and there were dozens with a vast array of treasures for sale! (But I resisted the urge.)

I really enjoyed the displays, and took a few pictures. But like the guys Arnold shot in "True Lies" (one of my favorite movies), "they were all bad". See for yourself.





ORCUTT MINERAL SOCIETY Board Meeting Nipomo Chamber of Commerce Office Nipomo, CA June 6, 2017

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm.

Members present: Alexis Van Natta, Wayne Mills, Dyanna Cridelich, Jan Ferguson, Sylvia Nasholm, Sally Griffith, Sharon Duncan and Renea Sutcliffe

MINUTES for general meeting of May were in the June bulletin.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Copies were handed out by Jan Ferguson. Money from PAC is in a check waiting to go to Chase. Officers need to go and put their signatures on file for the deposit.

CORRESPONDENCE: News letter from AFMS, Bill Brown a bill to pay for our web site, letter from SBCC Foundation to Wayne thanking us for our donation, and advertising asking for donations.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Bulletin- Out-no comments? All is well.

2. **Refreshments-** Sally Griffith : No refreshments for June due to the annual Bar-B-Q.

3. **Membership**- Wayen Mills requested an updated of member list from Dyanna. Wayne motioned and Renea second and the board voted to except new member Jean Beattie. Renea wants her son involved as a member as a memorial to Lucky who introduced him to the love of rocks.

4. **Field Trip**- Wayne is leading a trip to Bishop's Rock Fantasy Land on June 17 at 10:00 AM Meet at Ralphs' house. The 9th, 10th and 11th is the AFMS/ CFMS double show in Ventura. Camp Paradise is from August 27 to September 9th. Registration is in the CFMA Bulletin on line.

5. **Adopt-a-Highway** on July 8th at the corner of Highway 166 and 101 at 8:00 am.

6. Breakfast at Dennys in Santa Maria at 8:00 am.

7. Education-None

8. **Library-** Librarian Alexis Van Natta had no requests. Alexis, Dyanna and Sharon will be putting in a rock display at the NIPOMO Library on the 17 of June for the month and next year for all of June. Alexis and Dyanna will place a display in the Santa Maria Library for the month of July and August.

9. Scholarship: See thank you letter from Doctor Gray.

10. **Sunshine**: A motion by Alexis Van Natta and seconded by Jan Ferguson and passed to donate \$100.00 in memory of Lucky Virgin to the CFMS Endowment fund . Services for Lucky will be on June 17 from 1 to 5 pm at his home.

11. **August Gem and Mineral Show**: Wayne has the signed contract from Nipomo HS in hand. Sharon Duncan: the dealers applications are coming in with some new people and some unable to come. Renae's son is building a safer spin wheel for the children's booth. Jeanne Brown sent an e-mail to Tanner Jack's for confirmation for 3 days of catering and the Saturday night Bar-B-Q. Sylvia is checking for an after show place to have dinner at Ranch Nipomo.

Old Business: A reminder for the upcoming Semi -Annual Meeting in Pioneer Park from 11-3 on June 10. New Business: **No board meeting on July 4th**. **Quick board meeting on July 11th** before the general meeting.

New Business: Dave Schmidt will talk about the California Blue Mine in July. Sally announced there will be a estate sale of Sandy Berthelot's collectables at Wes Lingerfelt on July 1st and 2nd. C&G Gem Crafts under "Sandy's Treasures" will have all her rocks and crystals for sale. Shirley Contreras is seeking history information on our club. Sylvia has searched the club storage and has found only 8 old news letter from the 90's. If anyone has old memorabilia please contact Sylvia. The Lehman vests will be auctioned at the June 10th Bar-B-Q.

Adjourn: 8:02PM

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Respectfully Submitted, Dyanna Cridelich , Secretary, OMS

ORCUTT MINERAL SOCIETY General Meeting

No General meeting this month! See report under Semi-Annual meeting —Picnic in the Park.



EXHIBIT AND DEMONSTRATION APPLICATION

OMS **50th**, Annual Rainbow of Gems Show & Rock Festival August 4th & 5th, 2017- Show Hours 10 AM to 5 PM August 6^{th,} 2017 Show Hours 10 AM to 4 PM Nipomo High School, 525 N. Thompson Avenue, Nipomo, CA 93444

Dear Friends:

The Orcutt Mineral Society will be honored to have you exhibit at our 50th Annual Rainbow of Gems Show & Rock Festival. We eagerly look forward to your participation this year and welcome newcomers to our event. Please complete, detach, and return the coupon (below) by July 1st, 2017 to assure that we will have a space reserved for your case. Set up time will be 1:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 3, 2017, or prior to 10:00 a.m., or after 5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 4th, 2017. For those of you who cannot arrive until later on Friday, please advise me what time you will be arriving so that I may reserve your case display area. Cases must remain intact during show hours. In the event of an emergency, a member of the Orcutt Mineral Society must accompany you if your case is opened or removed. Dry camping will be available, and we ask that you vacate the camping area prior to 8:00 a.m. on Monday, August 7, 2017. Dinner will be served to exhibitors, demonstrators, and all dealers from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., Thursday evening. Sylvia will have a welcoming packet ready for you. Also, we ask that demonstrators be good neighbors and not demonstrate in the main hall any procedures that make a loud noise. The Orcutt Mineral Society does not carry insurance for the loss or damage to your exhibits. Your homeowners insurance should cover this. The OMS will not be responsible for any loss. Watchmen are provided Friday & Saturday nights. Please indicate below if you can demonstrate your special talents to the public at our show. Your participation has made our show a very special event over the years, and we thank you for your continued support! Please complete the form below and return to Sylvia Nasholm 1205 Pomerov Rd. Arrovo Grande, CA. 93420. Telephone 805-481-0923. E-mail is sylviandon@cs.com or OMS e-mail is: info@omsinc.org or visit our web page at www.omsinc.org for helpful information. Reminder - School policy- no alcohol, no tobacco, and no pets other than service animals allowed.

CutHere

OMS 50 th Annual Rainbow of Gems Show & Rock Festival EXHIBIT AND DEMONSTRATION APPLICATION OMS					
Name		e-mail or Phone:			
dress(PLEASE	<u></u>			I will	
exhibit o	case(s) entitled				
			My case outside dimer	sions are:	
Length	Depth		Height		
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l have my own	exhibit case(s)	_I will need to bor	row an OMS case		
I will attend Th	ursday night dinner _	persons	I will demonstrate		
	Orcutt Mineral Society	is a Public Benefit, N	Non-Profit Corporation founded in 1	958	

OMS CALENDAR		2017-OMS Officers		
JULY 2017		Duraldant		
Saturday, July 8 8:00 am	Highway Clean-up at south- east corner 101/166 East	President President-Elect	Wayne Mills Sharon Duncan	(805) 481-3495 805) 478-9359
0.00 am				,
		Secretary	Dyanna Cridelich	(805) 937-4347
Tuesday, July 11	OMS Board Meeting, Oasis	Treasurer	Jeanne Watkins	(805) 481-1811
6:00 to 7:00 p.m.	Sr. Center (change in nor-	Imm. Past Pres.	Alexis VanNatta	(805) 937-4347
	mal schedule)	2017-OMS Board Members		
Tuesday, July 11			rguson	(805) 474-9977
7:00 to 9:00 p.m.	Oasis Senior Center. Program -California Blue	Sally ((805) 928-6848
	Mine—Dave Schmidt	Debbie		(805) 481-6860
	Display—Minerals, anything! Refreshments-Cake—A. Van	Sylvia N		(805) 481-0923
	Natta, J. Watkins, S.	Renea Suttcliffe		805) 929-2783
Coturdov, July 22	Nasholm, W. Mills		IS Federation Dir	
Saturday, July 22 8:30 a.m.	OMS Monthly Breakfast Lil' Bits Café, Grover Beach	Wayne		(805) 481-3495
			rcutt Mineral Socie duplicated provided	
AUG	SUST 2017	this publication and	the author(s). For c	ommercial use, the
Tuesday, August 1	OMS Board Meeting, Oasis		must be contacted.	
7:00 to 8:00 p.m.	Sr. Center	0106, or via club w	O. Box 106, Santa N eb site omsinc.org .	lana, Ca. 93450-
Wednesday, August	OMS 50 th Annual Gem Show	OMS Membership	\$24.00 for Individu	ial, \$34.00 per cou-
2—August 7	Set-up (Wed, Thurs), Show		ditional Family Mem ne time initiation fee	
	FriSun., Takedown and din-		mbership Chairpers	
	ner (Sunday), Clean-up	delich (805) 937-43	347	-
	(Monday). Plan time to help with ALL activities			481-1811 Check out
Tuesday, August 8	General Meeting—Luis	to: info @omsinc.o		<u>c.org</u> or send e-mail
7:00 to 9:00 p.m.	Oasis Senior Center.	Ore-Cutts Editor/Publisher		isher
	Program -Aussie Rocks-Sir Paul Howard Display —Fave		05) 481-3495 wwm	
	rocks-impress our guest	Wayne Mills (8	05) 48 1-3495 <u>wwm</u>	<u>nills50@hotmail.com</u>
	Refreshments-Cookies —D. Hood, T. Burgess, J&L Azeve-			
	do & Krystel Rose, D. Bazzell		FMS SHOW	S
Saturday, August 26	OMS Monthly Breakfast-	JULY		
8:30 a.m.	Hometown Buffet, Santa			
	Maria	July 8 - 9: CULVER	R CITY, CA Rock & Mineral Club	、 、
Sł	IOW REQUESTS		emorial Auditorium)
It's show time again!!	I will be buying pies from Co-	4117 Overla		
	the SLO County rules. I am	Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5 Contact: Janice Metz, (310) 850-4398		
	epeat last year's success and	Email: janicemtz@yahoo.com		
			vw.culvercityrocks.o	<u>rg</u>
	ies for sale. Last year you	August 4 - 6: NIP	OMO, CA	
	park and it would be great to	Orcutt Mine	eral Society—50 th A	Anniv. Show
	pation this year. I will accept	Nipomo High School		
	uly meeting or you may mail it sted in the red book or bring it			
	have a club case again this			2405
year and I encourag	e all of you to participate by	Contact: Wayne Mills, (805) 481-3495 Email: wwmills50@hotmail.com		
bringing a piece you	vould like to display, identified	Website: www.omsinc.org		
	e, to the meeting on July 11 at			
	it to set up on Thurs. AM. <i>ria Nasholm</i>			
Syn		J L		

August 19 - 20: SAN FRANCISCO, CA

San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society San Francisco County Fair Building 9th Avenue & Lincoln Way Hours: Sat. 10 - 6; Sun. 10 - 5 Contact: Ellen Nott Email: <u>ellen nott@yahoo.com</u> Website: www.sfgemshow.org Show Page

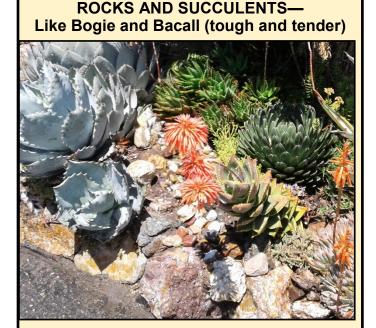
DISPLAYS DO NOT HAVE TO BE HARD, AND THEY CAN BE FUN!!

Wayne Mills, Ore-Cutts Editor (and President)

A plea from your president. Part of the fun of being in a rock club is looking at rocks, both ones you have found and ones that others have found (or bought or traded for). When the displays have labels, they help fulfill our society's goal of promoting education in the Earth Sciences. Our show is a great time to share your treasures with others. There is a certain joy that one feels when they hear kind words that someone has said about something they have done (a work of art, a display or a kindness). So please fill out the attached form and return to Sylvia Nasholm soon!

Much of what I have learned about rocks, fossils and minerals I picked-up from grazing through the cases at local (and not-so local) gem shows, and by asking questions. Displays can impart knowledge, elicit a chuckle, or form the basis for a future field trip. Creating an interesting display can also give the creator a sense of pride in the accomplishment, and fulfill an individual's NEED for self-expression.

I saw this display at the Ventura Show a couple of weeks ago. Not only did it give me hope for the younger generation, it was cause for a few tension easing chuckles. Now, see if you can top this! (I wish I had the young pebble pup's name to attribute this case, but I am guessing they are from the Ventura club!



Agaves, aloes and rocks in Arroyo Grande



MY FIRST ROCK COLLECTION: Dull rocks, Rough Rocks, Smooth Rocks, Sparkly Rocks, Glossy Rocks (and maybe ugly or icky rocks!)

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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



The ORE-CUTTS (named after, William Orcutt) was first published in 1966. Member Helen Azevedo was the first editor. The Orcutt Mineral Society was founded in 1958, and was also named after Orcutt who was a geologist and civil engineer who worked in the Santa Maria Valley as a District Manager for Union Oil Company in 1888. In 1889, William Orcutt discovered the mineral and fossil wealth of the La Brea Tar Pits on the property of Captain Alan Hancock in Los Angeles. The La Brea Tar Pits are one of the most significant fossil finds in paleontological history.

OMS is a non-profit organization dedicated to stimulating an interest in the earth sciences. The club offers educational programs, field trips, scholarships, and other opportunities for families and individuals to pursue an interest in the collecting and treatment of lapidary materials, fossils, gems, minerals, and other facets of the Earth Sciences. In addition, another goal of this Society is to promote good fellowship and proper ethics in pursuit of the Society's endeavors. Operating Rules have been set forth to guide the officers and members of the Society in accomplishing these aims. Affiliations of the OMS include American Federation of Mineral Societies, and California Federation of Mineral Societies.