

NOC NEWS

Volume 15, Issue 1

January 1996

◆ by LORETTA OGDEN

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"We are each of us angels with only one wing, and we can fly only by embracing each other."

Well, the shopping is done and the mess is cleaned up. I guess it's time to think about the year ahead. It will be a big, busy year for us with our NOC show and DIAMOND DAZE too. I am looking forward to working and having fun with all of you!

I have a lot of ideas and I'm sure you do too. Let's share them at the January meeting.

HELP: Please send/call news to Vicki Marks, Ed, 310-434-8879 or 3200 East 1st St, Long Beach, CA. 90803



I need info for COMING ATTRACTIONS, our 1996 NOC SHOW, REFRESHMENTS, and any other contributions people would like to make.

◆ Program: Ken Marks

On January 9, 1996, at 7:30p.m. at the La Habra Sr. Center Assembly Room, **GINNY GRAFTON** will present a program on **THE HISTORY OF GLASS.**

Coming
Attractions 1996

NOC ACTIVITIES

1/9 Reg. Meeting, 7:30
Assembly room

1/14 Wire Jewelry class at Loretta's house with Sue Pastel \$20
11:00 'til 4:00 p.m. Call
(909)-598-2456 or (714)671-0588 {POT LUCK}

1/23 Board Meeting, 7:30
Assembly room



SHOWS AND EVENTS

Quartzsite:

1/13 to 1/28 - Main Event

1/15 to 2/15 - Clouds

Jamboree

(cont. on next page)

SHOW AND EVENTS (cont)

Quartzsite

2/7 to 2/11 POW-WOW QIA

1/19 to 1/24 Riverside Gem Faire/Riverside Convention Center

NOC 1996 show

8/9 to 8/11- 1996 AFMS/CFMS Show and Convention /Riverside Convention Center

NOC FIELD TRIP by BILL BURNS

Quartzsite, Arizona

for the NOC sign to CAMP. The Pot-luck will be Saturday night, Feb. 10 at 6:00 Arizona time. (5:00 CA time)



◆ Field Trip Report: L. Ogden

Surprises for My Eyes

We arrived about 10:00 p.m. on Friday night in the quaint, small town of Mariposa. I was anticipating a good time but I have to say, my expectations for once underestimated reality. We had the threat of bad weather over our heads, but woke up to glorious sunshine early Saturday morning. We were welcomed by Shirley Mitchell who gave us a quick orientation and introduced us to Jack, our resident prospector. We joined him at the trough for a gold panning lesson, and then on to the Merced River (which I am told is always cold) to try our hands at the real thing. Well, the weather was warm, the water was refreshing, and I have two flecks of gold to show for all that pleasure. Shirley and Jack appeared out of nowhere with sack lunches for us, so we put our gold fever on hold and settled down to eat and to get to know each other a little better. Dick Knox and Dana Metula brought friends, we had members from Santa Ana join us as did a couple traveling through by chance. Joe and Chyo Ishida and Joe Reed also

enjoyed the weekend with us.

After a short rest, we went back to the museum for a sumptuous repast, again prepared by Jack and Shirley. We ate among the treasures, and I DO MEAN TREASURES! The collection at the museum is indescribable and a must see. After dinner, we were given a guided tour. Have you ever seen a single gold specimen worth 1.2 million dollars? **WOW! We Did.** We all had a good night sleep (right Phyllis?) dreaming of the fun we were in store for the next day.

We got off to a rather winding start as we headed to the quarry to pick up some mariposite that makes very nice cabs, walls, fireplaces or just about any thing you want to make from it. We hit the road again, a little green, but at least I matched the rock we were collecting. One must gather up a few pieces of serpentine while you are surrounded by mountains of it since it is the California State rock. We all said good-bye to each other at the serpentine site, but Joe, Chyo, Joe Reed, Don and I went on to the History Center in Mariposa. We found it to be great!

Joe, Chyo, Don and I headed to Yosemite where Chyo and (cont. on page 4)

*Hello Virginia
all your hard
work on the
newsletter is
much, much
appreciated
by me. Vicki
Marks, the
new
Editor!!!!!!!!!!!!*

Dear Members,

Please forgive my late bulletin. This turned out to be more time-consuming than I thought...but it is really fun. I will be trying several formats, just so you know what is happening...and my timing will be better, I promise!

Sincerely,
Vicki

A THANK -YOU MESSAGE FROM VIRGINIA PAGE

Overwhelmed is putting it mildly when searching for words to express how I feel about all your generous gifts and loving wishes. Words cannot be found to tell what I feel in my heart. Much love and gratitude to you all.

It was lots of fun plowing into that huge fruit basket. It had so much in it! The flowers were lovely.



MEMBERS IN THE NEWS



garnet

A very HAPPY BIRTHDAY and wonderful year to follow is wished to the following members with January birthdays.

- Mark Clevenger
- Leona Hughs 1/5
- Alice Livezy 1/16
- Don Livezy 1/17
- Earl Shea 1/19
- Pat Maggs 1/23
- Jane Hendrixson 1/27

(Please let me know if your name does not appear, we are working on record up-dates. Thank you, Vicki)

OH, NO!

Izzy Burns is getting ready for the two-man sack races at Quartzsite. In preparation, she broke her foot on the Thanksgiving trip so she could make one leg stronger than her other. Then she cracked her

head open 4 inches in a fall at home so she could get an implant to be the bionic woman. Oh, Izzy, just teasing, we are all sympathizing and hope you are feeling well and ready to traipse around Quartzsite.

(cont. L. Ogden/3)

I had the pleasure of surprising our eyes for the first time there. All I can say is...**OHHHH!** Thank you GOD, and right here in California, too.

The bad part of this trip is that you were not all able to go, but the good news is we may plan another trip. Let's make this happen in 1996.

◆ Christmas Party 1996

BIG "THANK-YOU'S" TO...

STEPHANIE SHAY for the beautiful raffle prize baskets.

TRINI LOPEZ for the holiday table centerpieces that everyone wanted, but only a few won...and maybe some won more than one!

THE CODY BRYANT WESTERN BAND featuring Rick Dunham on the bass guitar, Landon McCoy on percussion, and Cody on guitar/banjo and singing all those great songs. We enjoyed singing along.

Just so you all know, the band had a great time too.



LORETTA, THE PREZA, and **JOAN ABRAMSON** for the installation of officers.

AND ALL THE PEOPLE WHO MADE THE ARRANGEMENT FOR THE FOOD, GIFTS FOR AND GETTING TO THE CHILDREN, AND THE PARTY ROOM AND SET-UP.

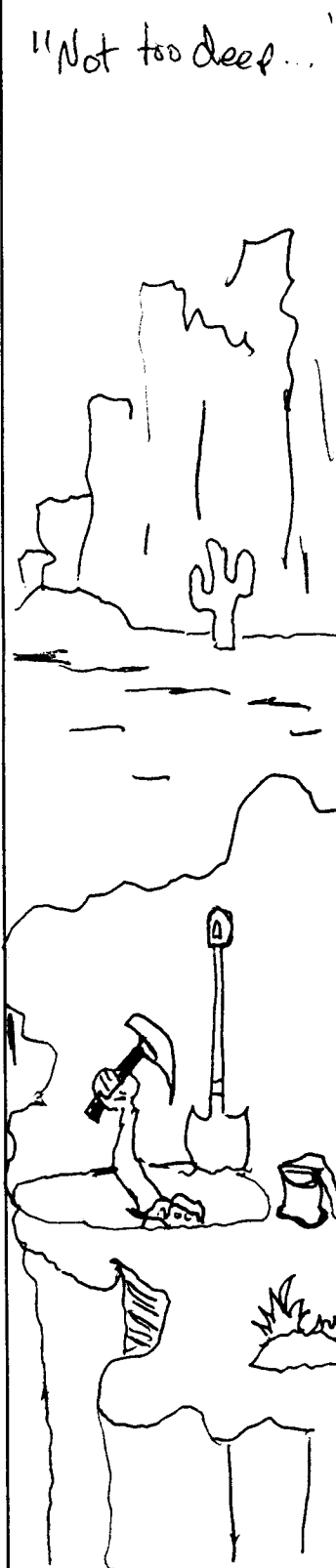
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We saw many dressed-up people that we didn't know at this party. I really don't believe they were the same people I saw on the last trip digging six-foot hole with shovels, dressed in old, somewhat faded clothes and very dusty boots.

There was a wonderful turn-out for our annual Christmas party with visitors from other clubs as well. The tree was beautiful, the warmth flowed around the room in the spirit of the holidays. A very Happy and Healthy New Year is wished to all.

V. Marks, Editor

JEFF PARKER - THAT IS A GREAT LITTLE GUY AT THE END OF YOUR EDUCATION ARTICLE--WHY HE IS EVEN FAT AND SASSY! HE MUST HAVE GONE OUT TO EAT A LOT FROM THE MONEY HE MADE ON SELLING THAT HUGE DIAMOND!



EDUCATION



Rocks, Minerals, Etc.

By Jeff Parker

Rocks, to begin with, are made up of minerals. Just what is a mineral? The definition may sound complex, but actually it's not so bad. A mineral is a chemical element or compound occurring naturally as the result of inorganic processes.

The world contains more than 1100 kinds of minerals. These can be grouped in three general classes.

1. Metallic minerals. These include things that most of us would know if we were asked to name some minerals. Familiar examples are copper, silver, mercury, iron, nickel and cobalt. Most of them are found in combination with other things like ores. We get lead from galena, or lead sulfide. Tin comes from the ore cassiterite; zinc from sphalerite and zincblende, or blackjack. Chromium, or chrome as it's commonly called, comes from chromite. And many minerals yield aluminum. Uranium occurs in about 50 minerals, nearly all of them are rare. Twenty-four karat gold is a metallic mineral, and is pure. 18 karat gold contains 75.0%, 14k = 58.5%, 12k = 50%, and 10k = 41.7% gold.

An average sample of earth contains 9% aluminum, 5.5% iron, .01% zinc, .008%

copper, .004% tin, .002% lead, .0005% uranium, and .000006% gold or platinum. It would be hopelessly expensive to recover such metals from an average ton of earth. That's why metallic minerals are taken from concentrated deposits in mines.

Many valuable minerals are found in veins running through rocks. Veins can be formed when: (a) mineral-laden ground water seeps into cracks, evaporates, and leaves mineral grains that build up into a vein; (b) hot water from deep within the earth fills cracks, then cools and deposits much of the mineral in solution as minerals in a vein, sometimes including metals such as gold and silver; (c) molten gaseous material squeezes into cracks near the earth's surface, then slowly hardens into a vein.

2. Nonmetallic minerals. These are of great importance to certain industries. You'll find them in insulation and filters. They are used extensively in the ceramic and chemical industries. They include sulfur, graphite (the "lead" in pencils), gypsum, halite (rock salt), borax, talc, asbestos and quartz. Undoubtedly, you'll have some nonmetallic minerals in your collection.

3. Rock-forming minerals. These are the building materials of the

EDUCATION (continued)

earth. They make mountains and valleys, and also make up the ingredients of soil and the salt of the sea. They are largely silicates, that is, they contain silicon and oxygen. Silicon is a nonmetallic element and is always found in combination with something else. It is second only to oxygen as the chief elementary constituent of the earth's crust.

Some of the other rock-forming minerals are the large family of micas, with names like, muscovite and phlogopite. And there are the feldspars, including albite and orthoclase. Others are amphiboles, pyroxenes, zeolites, garnets and many others.

A rock may be made almost entirely of one mineral or of more than one mineral. Rocks that contain different combinations of the same minerals are different. Even two things made of the same single mineral can be quite different. Carbon may turn up as a Diamond, or just a lump of Coal.

How Minerals Got Their Names

Names of most minerals end with "ite". Like apatite, calcite, dolomite, fluorite. But many do not, copper, (the most common pure metal in rocks), feldspar, galena, gypsum, hornblende, mica and quartz.

Many minerals take their names from a Greek word referring to some type of outstanding property of the mineral. For example, hematite, an oxide of iron, was named about 325 B.C. from the Greek word, *haima*, or *blood*, because of the color of its powder.

Some minerals are named for the locality in which they were discovered.

Coloradoite was first found in Colorado. Benitoite turned up in San Benito County, California. And so with labradorite and brazilite. And other minerals get their names from famous people. Willemite was named in honor of Willem I, King of the Netherlands. A great German poet and philosopher, named Goethe, could turn up in your collection as goethite. And there is smithsonite, named for James Smithson, founder of the Smithsonian Institution.

Rocks From Space

Some minerals come to us from outer space. They are called meteorites, which are rock fragments. Every day, hundreds of millions of them enter the earth's atmosphere. Most of them, however, are burned up by the heat from air friction and never reach the ground. Meteors large enough to reach the earth are called meteorites. Most minerals found in meteorites are the same as those we have on earth. But there are some rare types of minerals known only in meteorites. Two of them are cohenite and schreibersite.

Well, that's it for this article. I hope everyone had a *Merry Christmas*, and hope you all have a *Happy New Year*.

JEFF PARKER,
NOC CLUB MEMBER AND WRITER



MINERALOGICAL TERMS FOR GOLD JEWELRY

PRECIOUS METALS: Gold, silver platinum and palladium are known as the precious metals in the jewelry industry. They are also called the Noble Metals by craftsmen.

BASE METALS: Copper, zinc and brass are called base metals by jewelers.

KARAT: A measure of fineness for gold. 24 karat is fine gold. one karat equals 1/24 part. Thus, 14 karat gold is 14/24ths fine gold and the balance (10/24ths) is alloy. If the gold content of an object is less than 10/24ths, the object cannot be represented as karat gold.

COLORS OF GOLD: Yellow, green, rose and white gold are produced by variations in the alloy. Silver and zinc tend to give gold a green color; copper gives a rose color; nickel a whitish color.

SOLID GOLD: The term 'gold' and 'solid gold' means fine gold or gold of 24 karats. The term should never be applied to articles of lesser quality.

GOLD FILLED: This is made by joining a layer (or layers) of gold alloy to a base metal alloy and then rolling or drawing it out to the thickness required.

ROLLED GOLD PLATE is the same as gold filled, but usually of a lower quality.

GOLD ELECTROPLATE is usually made by electrolytically depositing fine gold on a base metal. The plate thickness must be at least 0.000007 inches of fine gold. Items with a gold thickness less than that can be labeled 'gold washed' or colored.

from *The Benitoite* 6/93; via *Rock Writings*, 1/95

MINERALOGICAL TERMS FOR SILVER JEWELRY

FINE SILVER: This is commercially pure silver and contains no alloy material.

STERLING SILVER is 925/1000 (92 1/2%) fine silver and 7.5 % copper. This proportion is fixed by law.

COIN SILVER is 900/1000 or 90% fine silver and the balance copper. This alloy was used for U.S. Silver coins before 1966. New (from 1966) dimes and quarters contain no silver. Half dollars contain 40% silver.

COMMERCIAL SILVER: This is a term applied to silver that is 999% fine or higher.

FOREIGN SILVERWARE: Contains several varying percentages of silver. In some cases, the fineness is as low as 70%.

DANISH SILVER: Silverware manufactured in Denmark is 83% fine silver if made to minimum Danish standards; 92% fine silver is made for export out of Denmark.

SILVER-PLATED WARE is made by electroplating fine silver on a base metal alloy - usually nickel silver or Britannia metal, and sometimes brass or copper. The inexpensive process was perfected for industrial purposes around 1840.

SHEFFIELD PLATE: Originally it was made by bonding sheet silver to copper, then rolling and forming it into hollow-ware. The original process was abandoned about 1840 for the new method of electroplating. Imitations are made by plating silver on copper and sometimes erroneously advertised as 'Sheffield Plate'.

NICKEL SILVER: So-called, it is a composition of nickel, copper and zinc. it contains NO silver.

from *The Benitoite*, 6/93; via *Rock Writings*, 1/95