

NOC GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWS

Vol, 18 No. 8

October 1999

Prez's Message *by Don Ogden*

Time is getting close to the selection of officers, and a place for the Annual Christmas Dinner and Officers Installation. There is a large room with adjoining kitchen in the La Habra Community Center (where we hold our meetings). We could hold it there and have it catered.

It's also time to start planning for the 2000 show. Jeff Parker is the Show Chairman and will need your support.

October Meeting

Date: October 12
Time: 7:30 PM.
Place: La Habra Community Center
101 W. La Habra Blvd
Program: **Eastside Reservoir Project**

Program *by Jane Livezy*

Don't miss the October 12 meeting! Our speaker, will be **Kathleen Springer**, senior curator of paleontology at the San Bernardino County Museum in Redlands. See the **Valley of the Mastodons** article on page 6.

Refreshments *by Oscar Veloz*

Virginia Grafton and Susan Hansen are on the refreshment list to bring goodies for our 12 October meeting.

Thanks to Jane and Don Livevey for the delicious refreshments we had at our September meeting.

NOC Club Activities

Cab Classes at Walt Messemer's; 7-10 p.m. every Wednesday Evening.
Board Meeting — October 12, 6:30 p.m.
Regular Meeting — October 12, 7:30 p.m.
Field Trip — October 9-10, Trona, CA
Oct/Nov ? — 1-Day Trip, Eastside Reservoir
November 11-13, Horse Canyon
Deadline for NOC News — October 21

Board Meeting - October 12, 1999

Meeting - There will be a board meeting at the La Habra Community Center on October 12 at 6:30 p.m. before the general meeting.

Only four members showed up for the September 21 Board Meeting. **Not enough for a quorum!**

Member Articles Needed

Write an article for the NOC News. See the "**Me? Write an article? Yes You Can!**" article on page 3.

Members in the News

HAPPY BIRTHDAY and have a wonderful day all of you who were born in October.

Susan Hansen - Oct 11
Ofelia Warthen - Oct 20

Your gemstone is Opal or Tourmaline.

Your flower is Larkspur Calendula or Cosmos

Shows and Events
via CFMS Web Page

October 9-10, **Lancaster, CA**
Valley Gems
Valley Gems; 9050 1/2 West Ave. J
Hours: Sat 9-5 Sun 9-4
Connie Wilhelm (661) 942-1570

October 9-10, **Trona, CA**
Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society
13337 Main St.
Hours: Sat. 8-5 Sun. 8-4
Bonnie Fairchild (760) 372-5356

October 10-16 **Earth Science Week (ESW) '99**
The CFMS voted to become a sponsor of ESW.
Our club to provide displays at librarys etc.
Julia A. Jackson (703) 379-2480
e-mail jaj@agiweb.org
web site <http://www.earthsciweek.org/>

October 16-17, **Whittier, CA**
Whittier Gem & Mineral Society
Golden anniversary Show
7604 Greenleaf Ave.
Hours: Sat. 10-6 Sun. 10-5
Jay Valle (626) 336-3714
1421 Latchford Ave.
Hacienda Heights, CA 91745
E-mail: jvalle@aqmd.gov

October 17, **Canoga Park, CA**
Woodland Hills Chippers, Inc.
Canoga Park Community Center
7248 Owensmouth Ave.
Hours: Sun. 10-5
Mary Backus (805) 578-9886
E-mail: mbackus@pacbell.net

November 6-7, **Anaheim, CA**
American Opal Society
Quality Inn Hotel; 616 Convention Way
Hours: Sat. 10-6 Sun. 10-5
Stan McCall (714) 827-5680
Or Fax (714) 827-2248

General Meeting - September 14, 1999
by Jane Livezey

Meeting – The meeting was called to order by 1st VP Susan Hansen at 7:30 p.m.

Flag Salute – Don Livezey led the flag salute.

Birthdays – Birthday cards and lottery tickets for September will be distributed in October.

Program – The program was presented by Virginia Grafton. She taught a geology lesson as she would to a fourth grade class.

Refreshments – The refreshments were provided by Jane and Don Livezey.

Minutes of Last Meeting. – The minutes of the June 8 meeting were in the bulletin.

Treasurer's Report – As Bill Burns was not present the treasurer's report was not given.

Hospitality Report – Irene gave the report There were 13 members and 3 guests (Jeanette Kava, Beatrice and Milton Fels) present at the meeting.

Show Report – The March Show still needs members to volunteer. Jeff Parker was not present, so this is defered until October. It was questioned if any one had signed up for show times and banner.

Education Report - Ginny Grafton spoke on geology.

Federation Report – Izzie Burns report was in the May newsletter.

Field Trip Report – The field trip this month will be on September 25. We will help clean up Mule Canyon as part of the National Public Lands Day Volunteer Project.

Refreshment Assignment – Virginia Grafton and Susan hansen will bring refreshments to the October 12 meeting.

Old Business:

The August deaths of Bob Berg and harriet Breitman were remembered.

New Business:

The nominating committee members were chosen. Susan Hansen, Loretta Ogden and Don Livezey were nominated from the floor.

Selection of the Christmas party committe will be deferred until October. It was suggested that all members should check out possible places

where our party might be held and bring the suggestions to the October meeting.

Virginia Grafton will be providing information about the All-American Awards. The NOC board meeting will be at 6:30 PM at LHCC.

Kathleen Springer will be our speaker in October. Suggestion was made for a one day field trip to the Eastside Reservoir to see the fossil find. Norbierton Elicker will look into this.

Mike Maneth needs to find a home for the 24-inch saw which was donated to our club. The Warthens will measure to see if it could be put in their yard. Norbierto recommended the LA County Fair especially for the Dinosaur exhibit.

The Delver's show will be the weekend of Sept 25-26 at the Women's Club in Downey between Florence and the Santa Ana Freeway.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:30 p.m.

ME? WRITE AN ARTICLE? YES YOU CAN!

By Marie Zigler

via The Strada Data, September, 1999

What do you like the best about the gem and mineral hobby? Have you ever considered writing an article for the bulletin? Put the two thoughts together and you already have the basis for a good article.

These are some thoughts that may help to write a good article. Pick a topic that interests you, one that you are familiar with or maybe one you want to learn more about and are willing to do some research on. Imaginative stories are sometimes fun. A poem is wonderful tool

- Grab the readers interest by choosing a good opening paragraph. Intrigue them to want to read your story. An interesting title is also important.
- Try to put yourself somewhere in the story by telling what interests you or what you like about the subject. If you are writing about a

rock or mineral that you own or found, say how you cleaned and prepared it. If you purchased it, tell where or how you got it.

- Do some research on the subject, useful are encyclopedias, books, newspapers, magazine articles etc. Do not copy down references exactly, but rewrite using your own words, and then lost the references where you found your information at the end of the article. To copy exactly is a copyright violation.
- It is often beneficial to give directions to location for what you found.
- If you are writing about a mineral, do some research on it, give the composition of the mineral and its hardness on the Moh's scale. Use a reference book to look up the location(s) where a mineral is found.
- Sometimes illustrations make a story more interesting, you can include a picture you drew or a photograph you took.
- End the article with a paragraph that ties the story together.
- I found that it helps me to catch mistakes if someone else critiques what I have written. It is helpful to me, before I finish the final draft, to have another person read out loud to me what I have written. I sometimes then find the need to re-word it.

These are only ideas that may help to write a good article, but use your own judgement. I would just encourage you to write, I know you can!

Your editor is available to help you. Thanks to all who have written something in the past for our bulletin There have been so many excellent articles and field trip reports.

One Day Field Trip by Don Ogden

Norbierto Elicker is working on a One Day Field Trip to Eastside Reservoir. He will have information on the date and time at the October meeting. Also see the **Valley of Mastodons** article on page 6 for information on the site.

THIS COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE

*Health Cares, Rochester General Hospital via
Chapter 240's newsletter
"AND THE BEAT GOES ON
(reprint from The Mended Hearts,
publicaton "Heart Response")
via BRECCIA August 1999:
via CFMS Federation Newsletter*

Let's say it's 4:17 p.m. and you're driving home, (alone of course) after an unusually hard day on the job. Not only was the workload extraordinarily heavy, you also had a disagreement with your boss, and no matter how hard you tried, he just wouldn't see your side of the situation.

You're really upset and the more you think about it, the more up tight you become.

All of a sudden you start experiencing severe pain in your chest that starts to radiate out into your arm and up into your jaw. You are only about five miles from the hospital nearest you're home. Unfortunately you don't know if you'll be able to make it that far. What can you do? You've been trained in CPR but the guy that taught the course neglected to tell you how to perform it on yourself.

HOW TO SURVIVE A HEART ATTACK WHEN ALONE (Since many people are alone when they suffer a heart attack, this article seemed in order.)

Without help, the person whose heart stops beating properly and who begins to feel faint, has only about 10 seconds left before losing consciousness. However, these victims can help themselves by coughing repeatedly and very vigorously.

A deep breath should be taken before each cough, and the cough must be deep and prolonged, as when producing sputum from deep inside the chest. A breath and a cough must be repeated about every two seconds without let up until help arrives, or until the heart is felt to be beating nor-

mally again.

Deep breaths get oxygen into the lungs and coughing movements squeeze the heart and keep the blood circulating. The squeezing pressure on the heart also helps it regain normal rhythm. In this way, heart attack victims can get to a phone and, between breaths, can for help.

1. Take a deep breathe
2. Cough deeply and prolonged
3. Breathe and cough every 2 seconds

Horse Canyon Field Trip Nov. 11th - 13th

*By Steve Blocksage
CFMS South Field Trips*

All arrangements, have been made for the trip to Horse Canyon on Nov. 11th -13th. The owner has kindly agreed to allow the group to stay at his campground which is under construction and near Horse Canyon without cost. I believe there to be some tables and water is available, but no hook-ups.

The elevation at the site is 4,800 feet and should experience cold nights and cool days at that time of year.

Owing to insurance requirements the following limitations will apply:

1. That only members of the CFMS will be allowed to go into Horse Canyon. Guests may stay in the campground area but will not be allowed into the collecting area.
2. All persons rock hounding will be equipped with and wear (safety glasses or goggles, gloves and sturdy shoes/boots) while collecting/digging.
3. There will be no fires of any kind in Horse Canyon.
4. You will be locked in Horse Canyon from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. or until darkness makes the situation unsafe but 5:00 p.m. at the latest.
5. I will set boundaries on the area for collection, which will be explained to you on site.

Horse Canyon Field Trip
Continued from Page 4

6. You will be responsible for your own sanitation facilities while in Horse Canyon so bring such facilities as you will require, they will not be provided. The campground has some toilets but I cannot guarantee their use during our stay.

7. We will have pot lucks on Thursday, Veterans Day and Friday, Saturday will be at your option.

8. The owner and his wife will attend these pot lucks as a guest of the CFMS and will be formally thanked on our behalf. It would be fitting though not required to give the owner a small lapidary gift on behalf of your group or individual parties. He is partial to belt buckles also remember his wife.

9. There will be a per capita charge for insurance as of this date the premium for this event is \$209.00 which will be divided amongst the attendees. At this date it looks to be under \$2.00 per person who are rock hounding.

General Information: for those of you who intend to go into Horse Canyon Thursday, the 11th, Veterans Day, will meet me at 9:00 a.m. sharp at the Sand Canyon exit off ramp from the HWY. 58. I will check you, in collect your insurance fee, verify your CFMS membership and have you sign a waiver form. I will be flying the CFMS LOGO. over my White Toyota Pickup truck. When you are checked in you will place a sticker on your vehicle windshield indicating you have been processed.

For those who will attend on Friday or Saturday I will meet you at Tanganda Road, off of Sand Canyon Road at 9:00 a.m. sharp. Where a similar processing will take place as was done on Thursday. I will provide a map of the Sand Canyon off ramp, the Tanganda Road turnoff and the campground location should you want to arrive early of late.

Facilities are available in Tehachipi for Hotel/Motel rooms and restaurants. Apples and other orchard products are grown in the area as well as antique shops/movies etc. and the Tehachipi rail

loop for rail buffs.

George Varney will be our host and has an extensive collection of prime Horse Canyon Agate, which he will part with at reasonable prices. His collection is a must see for Horse Canyon devotees.

As to collecting sites we will visit. We will range up to and past the pinnacles and will visit the fossil site of the Miocene era Horses for which horse canyon is named. We will also visit a sites in Sand Canyon for larger agate specimens of good quality also the Nellie's Nipple area of the national forest. Insurance is not required for the Sand Canyon sites so guests may collect at these sites. Collection within Horse Canyon is float for smallish pieces of agate, larger pieces require digging, the creek bottoms should be checked. The best material is high up in the canyon and requires climbing up steep slopes. Other items found there fossils, petrified palm wood, root, many types of agate.

Moss, tube, saganitic, banded are most sought after and I and George will have samples for you to see before each trip. George and I will attempt to recover some agate veins for everybody, others can help as well. Therefore the tools required will be digging equipment, small sledges, gads pry bars for those who seriously want larger specimens, rockpicks for surface collection. I cannot describe the exteriors of this material since the worst looking stuff can have the best agate interior.

P.S. If you have the Family Service Radios bring them they are of great help in locating sites and then vectoring people into great material.

National Public Lands Days

On september 25, four members from our club joined in with thousands of volunteers to clean up Mule Canyon. Thanks to Don and Ofelia Warthen, Oscar Veloz, and Don Ogden for helping out. After the cleanup, music and lunch was under a cool desert storm like camouflage screen.

VALLEY OF THE MASTODONS

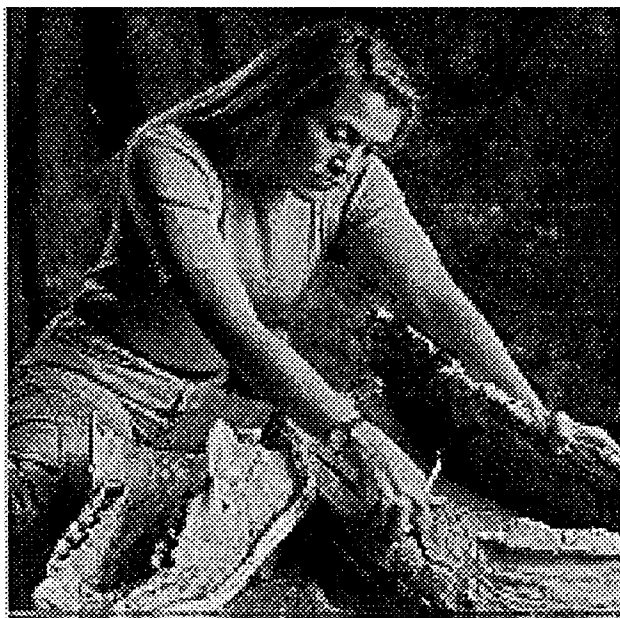
by Anette Winters

Westways July/August 1999

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Construction excavating equipment at the new Eastside Reservoir near Hemet has allowed paleontologists to unearth a treasure trove of Ice Age fossils that include the skull, jaw, and tusks of the largest mastodon ever discovered in the western United States. The remains of the giant, affectionately dubbed Max by project paleontologists, are on view at the Eastside Reservoir Project Visitor Center along with bones of an ancient sloth that grew to the size of a car. Other discoveries include the remains of horses, camels, bison, saber-toothed cats, dire wolves, mammoths, and lions. "The fossils are from the same time period as those found at the La Brea Tar Pits and are enormously important in terms of their numbers and condition," says Kathleen Springer, senior curator of paleontology at the San Bernardino County Museum in Redlands, where the bulk of the fossils are being catalogued. Museum visitors can watch technicians clean the fossils, view a small exhibit, and see a movie about the reservoir project. For museum hours and location, call (888) BIRD EGG (the museum also has the world's fourth largest collection of bird eggs).

Also at the Visitor Center are exhibits on local archaeology and history and samples of the various rocks being used to construct the reservoir walls. You can drive eight miles to the actual construction site for a panoramic view of the excavation area. The reservoir, which will serve the area from Ventura south to the Mexican border, could take four years to fill once the water starts flowing next year. With 4,500 surface acres and a 25-mile shoreline, it will be the largest freshwater lake in Southern California, with parks, marinas, and an interpretive center. The Visitor Center is open Friday through Monday from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; for information, call (909) 765-2612. - A. W.



Kaathleen Springer

Quartzsite

by Don Ogden

Even though its still months away, it is not too early to start planning your trip to Quartzsite.

The QIA and Tyson Wells Shows are running a week earlier than this year. The QIA Pow Wow runs Tuesday, Jan 25 to Saturday Jan 29.

The CFMS has a field trip to Wiley Well in conjunction with Quartzsite. Information on the field trip will be in the November issue of the NOC News.

Preliminary NOC CALENDAR 1999

Oct	12	Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m.
	12	General Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
	9-10	Field Trip Trona, CA
Nov	09	General Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
	11-13	Field Trip, Horse Canyon
	25-28	Field Trip (Thanksgiving)
Dec	14	Annual Christmas Dinner and Officer's Installation