

NOC GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWS

Vol, 21 No. 12

December 2002

President's Message

by Don Warthen

Mary Christmas and Happy New Year!

We've done a lot this year. A wet trip to Quartzite then a gratifying trip to Tucson, a successful show, a beading class, a few field trips and we started work on next years show in a new locations and time and don't forget the youth class in La Habra.

We also lost some old friends and good members this year. Earlier this Bob Henry passed on then last month Zeke Wilder.

We have big plans for this coming year. We will be holding the youth classes in Hacienda Heights this year on Saturday January 11th, a trip to Quartzite then in June we will be holding a lager show than in the past with a new adventure and challenges. We will also be helping with the youth classes again this year in La Habra and we want a both at the "I Love La Habra Day" this year in March.

I anticipate seeing everyone at the Christmas Party this year at the Hilton Hotel in Whittier on **Wednesday December 11th.**

December Meeting

Date: December 11
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: Whittier Hilton
Program: Annual Christmas Dinner

Refreshments

by Oscar Veloz

Thanks to Susan Hansen and Ginny Grafton for bringing the refreshments to the November meeting.

NOC Club Activities

Cab Classes at Walt Messemer's — 7-10 p.m.
every Tuesday Evening (except Wednesday on
Regular Meeting night).

Board Meeting — To be announced

Field Trip — To be announced.

Deadline for NOC News — December 17.

Annual Christmas Dinner — Dec 11, 6:00 p.m.

Whittier Hilton.

7320 Greenleaf Ave.

Whittier, CA

Autonetics club and spouses are invited.

Programs

by Irene Veloz

Our program for December will be the Annual Christmas Dinner followed by the installation of the Secretary and three Directors.



Members in the News

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

Pat Mogan - December 25

Jane Hendrixon - December 28

Your gemstone is Turquoise.

Your flower is Holly or Narcissus.

Shows and Events

via CFMS Web Page

December 7-8 2002, San Bernardino, CA
Orange Belt Mineralogical Society
Corner of E Street and 31st Street
Hours: Sat 10-6 Sun 10-5
Emma Couveau (909) 381-0089

February 14-23, 2003, Indio, CA
San Gorgonio Mineral & Gem Society
Riverside Co. Fair & National Date Festival
Gem & Mineral Bldg. (on the Fairgrounds)
46-350 Arabia Street
Hours: 10-10
Don Grisham (909) 795-7289

March 1-2 2003, Arcadia, CA
Monrovia Rockhounds, Inc.
The Arboretum of Los Angeles County,
Ayres Hall: 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia
Hours: 9-4:30 both days
Fee to enter the Arboretum
Jo Anna Ritchey (636) 359-1624 /
j.ritchev@verizon.net

March 8-9 2003, San Marino, CA
Gems, Minerals and Jewelry of the Southwest"
Pasadena Lapidary Society
San Morino Masonic Center
3130 Huntington Drive
Hours: Sat 10-6 Sun 10-5
Marlene Kyte (626) 794-0519

April 5-6 2003, Haciends Heights, CA
Puente Hills Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.
Magic In Rocks
Steinmetz Park
1545 Stimson Avenue
Hours: 10 - 5 both days
Bob Hess (562) 696-2270

June 5-8 2003, Ventura, CA
CFMS Show & Convention -
Seaside GEMboree
The Del Air Rockhounds
Seaside Park (formerly Ventura Co. Fairgrounds)
Show website: <http://www.afms-cfmsgemshow.org>

June 21-22 2003, La Habra, CA
North Orange County Gem & Mineral Soc.
World of Gems
La Habra Community Center
101 W. La Habra Blvd.
Hours: Sat 10-5 Sun 10-4
Bill & Izzie Burns isnbl@aol.com

Annual Christmas Dinner

Autonetics club members and spouses are invited.

When: **Wednesday**
December 11, 2001

Where: Hilton Hotel
7320 Greenleaf Avenue
Whittier, CA 90601
6 p.m. Social Hour (No host bar)
7 p.m. Dinner
Installation of Officers to follow

Cost: \$15 for NOC and Autonetics mem
bers each, \$30 per couple. \$30 for
outsiders.
Send check to or call
Don Livezey (714) 524-6280
by December 5

Gifts: For Operation Santa, bring
presents for Children (unwrapped)
and food.

Crossroads: Whittier and Greanleaf.

Federation Report

by Loretta Ogden

It is time to start the process of making everything official for the New Year to come. We pay our club dues and the club pays the Federation dues. This year they are \$5.50 per member. The break down of that is \$1.50 CFMS dues and \$4.00 Insurance. Membership also includes three newsletters to members of our club. These are to be shared with the general membership. I will be sending the executive secretary the club information for 2003 to be included in the Society Roster. This will be published in book form and displayed on the CFMS Website.

Remember the CFMS Show this year is in Ventura on June 5, 6, 7 and 8, 2003 It is sponsored by Del Air Rockhounds. It is not too early to start planning for that or possibly entering in competition. Ask me for any forms you may need.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



Eye Safety: SAFETY FIRST

by Bill Klose, EFMLS Safety Chairman

Most articles on rock hound safety invariably touch on eye safety in some form or another, whether it is protection from the sun on the way to a collecting site, protection from flying particles at a collecting site, or protection from dust, chemicals, or particles while processing the finds back in the shop.

Eye hazards include particles, mists, vapors, fumes, gases, laser light and ultraviolet light. At once you can see that not all of these hazards are commonly encountered by most rock hounds, but some will be encountered by all rock hounds.

Safety glasses or spectacles are designed to provide impact protection from flying particles and have heavier frames than normal spectacles and impact resistant lenses, usually of polycarbonate. They can be tinted to protect the eyes from laser or ultraviolet light. As most particles enter the eyes at an angle it is recommended that they accommodate and are worn with side shields. Safety glasses with prescription corrective lenses are available, even bifocal and "multifocal". Do not use spectacles intended for protection from radiation and glare from the sun indoors where your vision may be impaired by the tinted lenses. Spectacles should be fitted to your eye and bridge size and temple length. The temples should fit comfortably over the eyes. The frame should be close to the face and supported by the bridge of the nose. Keep spectacles clean and clear of scratches. Store your spectacles in a case in a dry, clean place where they will not fall or be stepped on. Scratched or damaged spectacles interfere with vision and do not provide protection. Safety spectacles alone do not provide adequate protection for the eyes from fumes, vapors, liquids and large particles. Safety goggles provide a secure shield around the entire eye area to protect against hazards coming from many different directions and spread the force of impact over a larger area around the eye. Goggles are most effective when worn with safety spectacles and are also provided with impact resistant and tinted lenses. Goggles that are unvented or indirectly vented will provide protection from splash hazards. Goggles can be provided with fog free coatings. Face shields should be worn with safety spectacles and goggles to provide additional protection of the face from sparks, splashes, splatter, and larger particles. Never wear a face shield alone. Face shields are available with protective head gear and chemical hoods. Typical rock hound usage of a face shield would include pouring hot liquids, use of acids to clean minerals or fossils, breaking rocks with hand and mechanical equipment, and dressing grinding wheels.

So whatever your pleasure while rock hounding, consider what potential hazards are present and select the appropriate face and eye protection required.

EFMLS News 01/01 via GNEISS GNEWS, 09/02

Cecil "Zeke" Wilder

February 1911 to October 2002

by Jay Valle - WGMS

On October 30, 2002, one of our Life Members, Cecil "Zeke" Wilder passed away at a convalescent hospital in Whittier. He was 91 years old. A grave-side service was held on November 6 at Rose Hills Memorial Park in Whittier. Zeke is survived by his son Don Wilder, daughter Sandra and his companion of almost 9 years, May Richardson. He was blessed with 7 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Cecil "Zeke" Wilder was born February 9, 1911, on the Rancho Del Saguaro which was located outside of Glendale (near Phoenix) in what was then Arizona Territory. His mother died as a complication of childbirth and his father left for work in California, leaving Zeke to be raised by his Grandparents. After bouncing around from farm-to-farm for 4 years, the family decided to move to California. They crossed the Mojave Desert at Needles in a Model-T Ford using the 2-car wide plank road in use at that time. Zeke claimed to still remember his first campout in the desert along that old rickety road and the pungent smell of mesquite smoke from their campfire that night.

The next few years saw Zeke and his Grandparents in Long Beach, Lynwood, Perris and Pomona. In 1917 he discovered the world of airplanes. He used to talk of his memories of big tri-planes, military SPADS (a type of bi-plane) and old Curtis JN4s (remember, this would be during or right after WWI. There weren't any 747s then).

Zeke started working in his teen years. During Junior High he bought a bicycle and took on a paper route delivering the Pomona Progress Bulletin. It was a 10-mile circle and he had to get up at 3:00 AM, finishing at 6:30 and finally to school by 8:00. He worked as a truck delivery man for the San Luis Obispo Slaughterhouse in 1927. That same year Zeke entered High School, majoring in drafting, applied industrial science, aviation and machine shop.

During his freshman year, Zeke bought a 1925 Harley-Davidson, kick-starting a lasting love affair with motorcycles. He joined the Pomona Valley Motorcycle Club which was a Police-sponsored alternative to gangs which were a problem then as now. He participated in many club rides and races over a lot of years.

In 1931 Zeke joined the California National Guard and was discharged 2 years later as a Corporal. He went to Nevada and drove trucks for the Wilkerson Silver Mining Company. Always looking for excitement, he worked as the dynamiter's helper when he nothing to haul. During his time at the mine, Zeke explored every trail in the area on his "bike". Becoming homesick after 7 months, he was back in Pomona and working on the dynamite blasting crew with

the California Conservation Corp (CCC) as the local expert, making fire roads around Mt. San Antonio.

Zeke first met his future wife Manetta Hill in 1932 while still in High School. He traded in his "bike" in favor of a car which he promptly wrecked. OK, so it was back to motorcycles for the next few years. On September 29, 1935, Zeke and Manetta tied the knot at a garden wedding before family members and fellow bikers from the motorcycle club. It was the last day of the L.A. County Fair and the fairgrounds could be seen from where the wedding was performed.

In 1936, Douglas Aircraft hired Zeke to design equipment for various aircraft and top secret projects. He spent the next 13 years with Douglas. He tried his hand at starting his own business selling fish but only lasted 5 months (rumor has it that Netta couldn't stand the smell). Next was 13 years working for Diamond Machine Tool Company in Los Angeles designing new machine tools. This job gave him the opportunity to travel around the country making sales and engineering calls.

On one such trip he had the adventure of his life when he was given a chance to fly a jet aircraft. He flew over 45,000 feet during the performance of acrobatic maneuvers at over 1000 MPH. He talked about that experience for the rest of his days. It was during this period that he bought his Whittier home.

In 1961, he started work for Osco Corp of Santa Monica and 2 years later formed his own company, Wilder Engineering Co. in partnership with the president of Osco Corp. This was his last (and probably best) job until he retired as a mechanical engineer.

In or about 1990, Netta passed away and Zeke was having health problems. In 1993, he employed May Richardson to be a part-time care giver and eventually a 9 year relationship blossomed. On August 16, 2002 Zeke entered the Royal Court Convalescent Hospital (Berryman West) where he died October 30.

Zeke joined the Whittier Gem and Mineral Society after the October Gem Show in 1976. He jumped right into the club operations as a Director in 1978, and then as chairman of various and sundry committees thereafter. His main interest, though, was field trips; rock collecting and camping.

In 1979 he led his first field trip to Owl Hole Mountains and in 1980 was Field Trip Chairman. (As a side note, Zeke was Field Trip Leader on the first Club field trip I went on). He was active on trips as participant or leader until the late 1980s.

Zeke also brought his mechanical engineering skills to work on various problems in the Club. He designed our Spinning Wheel used during the WGMS Gem Show and also an identical one for the North Orange County Gem Club. He designed and built the metal field trip signs which were widely used during the 1980s. He designed and helped build Pappy Harwood's 36" walk-in slab saw which Pappy used to cut his giant petrified wood slabs. He also rede-

Cecil Zeke Wilder (Continued)

signed the saw-horses used during the annual Show to hold our Showcases (this is the first year that they were not used). Zeke was made a Life Member of Whittier Gem and Mineral Society in 1989.

Zeke is also remembered for some of his other "interests". Zeke loved to dance and is remembered as a fairly good dancer. His life-long love of airplanes led him into flying model airplanes, some of which he displayed at one of our Gem Shows.

Due to failing health, Zeke was not able to participate in Club activities for the last several years but he is remembered affectionately for his good humor and enthusiasm. He led an interesting and varied life and enjoyed many eclectic interests and experiences with the respect and admiration of those who knew him.

NOC General Meeting November 12, 2001

by Susan Hansen

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by President Don Warthen.

The flag salute was led by Al Hermosillo.

Minutes were in the bulletin, approved as printed.

Treasurer's report was given by Don Livezey. All deposits this month were from dealers for the '03 show.

Field Trip is scheduled for Thanksgiving weekend to the Whittier club claim, 5 miles past Barstow. There is a signup sheet on the desk. The gate is locked and they have to come out and open it and move the rocks blocking the road. Isabella and Bill will be out Friday, Saturday and Sunday, and come back Monday. The Saturday trip is to North Cady Mountains and South Afton Canyon. The Sunday trip is to the Barstow show. Potluck dinner Saturday night. Camp fires every night (bring wood). There was a washout that may not have been corrected, if not there will be signs once you are in the area. The gate is locked at night. A Map to area is in the bulletin.

Education report by Ginny Grafton - Hacienda Heights Youth Center Education day will be Saturday January 11th. We will have 3 cabbings machines, and several learning stations. We have some blanks for

cabbing, but can use more. Volunteers are welcome to come and help.

Christmas Party will be Wednesday, December 11th, at the Whittier Hilton. Trini reports there will be a turkey dinner or veggie plate is available. \$15 a person, \$30 per couple, and \$30 for other guests.

Federation report by Loretta. ZZYX is full, they have a stand-by list. Theme for the Federation show this year will be Mermaids. Insurance is going up \$1 a year. Don Warthen has some of the yellow Rockhound stickers for sale. Don also brought some BLM literature and maps from a program by a BLM ranger. The Palmdale club will be putting on its first show at the Palmdale Elks, December 16th and 17th. Support them by going if you can.

Election: Slate is the present officers for re-election; 1st VP had declined and seeking additional nominations from floor. Trini recommended that we rotate the assignment of getting a program so one person doesn't have to do it all. Ginny moved we accept the slate and vote a unanimous ballot for the slate. This was seconded and passed.

NEW OFFICERS:

President - Don Warthen

1st VP - Open

2nd VP - Jane Livezey

Secretary - Susan Hansen

Treasurer - Don Livezey

Federation Dir. - Loretta Ogden

Dir. - Izzie and Bill Burns

Dir. - Ginny Grafton

Dir. - Floyd Allen

Dir. - Ofelia Warthen

Refreshments: cake and ice cream in honor of Jerry Grafton's 90th birthday on the 19th.

Hospitality: 28 members present and 4 guests (2 children).

Program: silent auction material from Autonetics in the back. Verbal auction material on the front tables. Don Warthen was the auctioneer.

Announcements: Zeke Wilder passed away. Many members attended his services last week. Walt Abramson was in the hospital, he is home now, but activities are limited. Cards would be appreciated.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

See you at the Christmas Party. - Susan

NOC Officers Meeting November 20, 2002

President Don Warthen called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. Seven members were present. Don presented a list of officers and committees for 2003. Ofelia will help out with the programs, but we still need a 1st Vice President. Irene has been ill for several weeks.

A budget committee will be formed and meet in January to make a budget for the year including the show budget. One item to be included is joining or not the La Habra Chamber of Commerce.

It was noted that our meeting scheduled for November 11, 2003 in on Veterans Day and the Community Center will be closed. It was suggested that we move that meeting to Wednesday November 12, 2003.

There was considerable discussion on whether the 2004 show should be scheduled for June again or back to March. The feeling was that we should have two shows in June (2003 and 2004) and then reevaluate.

Meeting was turned over to the Show Chair.

Bill Burns displayed the lay out for the show and several changes were suggested.

Discussion of publicity was led by Izzie - A report of Santa Clara Valley Show publicity for the last three years and publicity of the 88 NOC/CFMS Show was reviewed. Some suggestions that will help us were:

- Target Home Schooling students in Orange and LA County (Superintendent's Office.)
- Contact Scouts, Summer Day Camps, Realtor Mailings, and Dealer Distribution of flyers.

Plans are, (unless costs are prohibitive), to make a replica of our little man advertisement and take pictures of children posing at the La Habra Days.

Placing articles in the event columns and newspaper or such, as La Habra Journal, for all of North Orange County or articles for the newspapers. If you know of a prospective paper let Pat Felix know as she has volunteered to help with this.

In regard to the flyers. It was decided to print them on orange paper. (The Burnses will buy orange paper at Kelleys.) Floyd said that he would help

with the printing;. Don Ogden will send him the copy of four flyers to the pages with the little man on the back in black and white. Flyers will be needed in December.

It was recommended that we have T-shirts. They could be done either by a commercial company, or we could do them on PCs and ironed on. These would be sold to members and worn to other shows, fairs, etc. We would need them by The Quartzsite Show.

It was decided to have a precious faceted stone set in gold necklace for the main door prize. Floyd sought the talents of Jonas to facet the stone. Jonas agreed, but wants to consult with the gold crafter about the design, before he decides on the stone and style of facet. He is one of the best known faceters. At the last meeting he showed me a gorgeous stone that he faceted from some rare green garnet material. It had more sparkle than most garnets, but I am sure that the material is expensive. Any suggestions on a design or a gold crafter.

Eight (8) of the 9 dealers have sent in their payment. I have not received the deposit from the Chinese people who have the carvings. They were interested, but I had requested a deposit by December 1. Several dealers want flyers; and we will need them for Quartzsite.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20.

Izzie

Membership Report

by Jane Livezey - Membership Chair

What a great joy it was to see so many members at the November meeting. We had rather a slow start this year. Most of us are very excited about our June show. Bill and Izzy Burns are dedicated to making this a special year for NOC.

Every year we have a wonderful time putting on our show. THIS year is a chance to make more of a financial gain as well. Being in the community center should be a big shot in the arm for our club! Let's all be there!