

NOC GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWS

Vol, 23 No. 11

November 2004

President's Message

by Don Warthen

We just returned from a fantastic field trip to the Calico Mountains, one of the best in a long time, thank you Don Eschbach! There were several NOC members together with Whittier and Puente Hills Club members.

The 2005 Show is shaping up fine! There are going to be several exciting changes, like the City of La Habra joining us as partners to promote more community involvement. I will be acting as Show Chairperson and liaison with the City this year. Don Eschbach will be Assistant Chairperson. We also have Nancy Bird, Bill & Izzie Burns, Kathy Eschbach, Don & Loretta Ogden and Ofelia Warthen on the committee so far, but we still need more help. I am sure everybody will come forward and help as you have all done in the past to make this a fantastic show! So call me to see where you want to help!

Last night we had a joint meeting with the Whittier club, there was a good turn out from the NOC and we had an interesting and informative presentation and demonstration on "CLAY SILVER".

Our Christmas Party/Installation will be on December 14th at the La Habra Community Center with social hour at 6:00 pm. Call either Nancy Bird or myself to insure your reservations.

At this months meeting we will hold nominations from the floor. (See page 3 for nomination committee report) .

Following the election, we will hold our **annual auction**. Remember to bring items you want to auction. We have always had a great time and this year should be no different and lots of fun. See everyone there!

NOC Club Activities

Board Meeting — To be announced
Field Trip — To be announced
Deadline for NOC News — November 17.

Programs

At the Nov meeting - Elect your 2005 officers. -
Bid at our auction. Members should bring rocks, finished projects, etc. to donate for the auction.
Also to bid, bring money, that's the same as cash

November Meeting

Date: November 9
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: La Habra Community Center
101 W. La Habra Blvd.

Refreshments

by Nancy Bird

Loretta will bring the goodies for the November meeting. Thanks to Jenny & Jerry for bringing the goodies to the October meeting.

Members in the News

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

Pat Felis - November 9

Jane Livezey - November 11

Jerry Grafton - November 19

Your gemstone is Topaz

Your flower is Chrysanthemum

Shows and Events

November 6-7, 2004, Anaheim, CA

American Opal Society
Anaheim Clarion Hotel
616 W. Convention Way
Hours: 10-5 both days
Fran Todd (310) 721-5614 / Toddle@aol.com

November 13-14, 2004, Palmdale, CA

Palmdale Gem & Mineral Club
Palmdale Elks Lodge
2705 E. Ave. Q
Hours: Sat 9-5 Sun 9-4 John (661) 942-8336

November 20-21, 2004, Victorville, CA

Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club
San Bernardino County Fairgrounds
Victorville, CA
14800 7th Street
Hours: Sat 9-5 Sun 9-4
Mavis Mushaney (760) 241-8282

November 27-28, 2004, Barstow, CA

Mojave Gem & Mineral Soc.
Barstow Community Center
841 S. Barstow Road
Hours: 10-5 both days
Bob Depue (760) 255-1030

Dec 4-5 2004, San Bernardino, CA

Orange Belt Mineralogical Society
59th annual *Rocks Galore in 2004*
San Bernardino Woman's Club
503 W 31st Street; 31 st. & E Streets
Hours: 10-5 both days
Pat Wind (909) 381-0089 or (909) 792-0668

April 9-10 2005, Hacienda Heights, CA

Puenta Hills Gem & Mineral Club
Steinmetz County Park Recreation Building 1545
S. Stimson Avenue
Hours: 10 - 5 both days
Paula Hess (562) 696-2270
E-mail: rphess@adelphia.net

April 23-24 2005, Lancaster, CA

Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral Club
Antelope Valley Fairgrounds
2551 West Avenue H
Hours: 9 - 5 both days
Armin Nimmer (661) 945-5769

June 4-5 La Habra, CA

North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society
Jubilee of Gems Show
101 W. La Habra Blvd.
Hours: 10 - 5 both days
Don Warthen (626) 330-8974
E-mail warthen@earthlink.net

June 10-12 2005, Roseville, CA

CFMS & Roseville Gem & Mineral Blast
Roseville (Placer County) Fairgrounds
00 All American City Blvd
(916) 630-1000
Web Site: www.rockrollers.com
Show Web Site: www.rockrollers.com/show.html

via CFMS Web Site

You Are Invited!!!

What: A friendly get together

When: Sunday November 21st at 3:00 pm

Where: Our house 15455 Tetley, Hacienda Heights

Why: Ofelia and I wish to invite you to our house for a special 'thank you'. Over the last four years, we have received so much support and help from everyone in the club, and this is a small way to express our thanks to you. Come and enjoy a little wine and cheese together with a special snack. Remember this is not a potluck but if you have an extraordinary wine or cheese you want to share, please bring them along.

Please RSVP

Don and Ofelia Warthen

CFMS Insurance Report

By Fred Ott CFMS Insurance Committee Chair

Several important changes have been made to the Federation's Insurance Program beginning October 16, 2004 (which is the annual renewal date of the Federation's insurance policy).

Most-importantly, requests for insurance coverage for gem shows and other "special events", as well as requests for insurance coverage for "premises liability" and "property" (such as lapidary equipment, club supplies, buildings, trailers, etc.), are now to be sent (via email, fax or snail-mail) directly to McDaniel Insurance Services, Inc.

No longer are such requests to be "filtered" through the Federation's Insurance Committee Chairperson. I am confident that this new procedure will greatly improve the efficiency of the entire program.

A lot of work has been done to update all of the insurance-related information for the Federation; many thanks to Patt McDaniel (Insurance Services) and to Don Ogden, our Federation Web Master, who has done a great job of getting all of the insurance-related information onto the Federation's web site at cfmsinc.org. Pat Larue will also include a complete set of these pages in your Director's packet provided at the November meeting in Fresno.

In order for these new forms and procedures to work effectively, it will be very important that your club follows the procedures outlined by Patt McDaniel. I'd strongly suggest that you review the entire 2004-2005 Insurance Program information with the members of your club as soon as possible.

All these mentioned forms and information are on the web site <http://www.cfmsinc.org>.

Nominate Your Officers for 2005

by the Nominating Committee

Nancy Bird -Chair

Loretta Ogden

Floyd Allen

Don Eschbach

Kathy Eschbach

The Nomination Committee officer nominations for 2005 are:

President 2 yr - Nancy Bird

1st VP 2 yr - Loretta Ogden

Treasure 2 yr - Open

Director 2 yr - Don & Kathy Eschbach

Director 2 yr - Bill & Izzie Burns

Director 1 yr - Ofelia Warthen (will replace Nancy Bird for remaining year)

Fed Director 3 yr - Loretta Ogden

There will be nominations from the floor at the November business meeting.

Voting shall be by secret ballot at the November business meeting.



Report on NOC Field Trip to Mule Canyon Oct. 22-24, 2004

by Don Ogden

We had a wonderful field trip to the Whittier claim and Mule Canyon about 10 minutes from Barstow California. The North Orange County club sponsored the joint Field Trip with the Monterey Park, Puente, and Whittier Clubs. The NOC and other clubs camped at the RV park right next to Calico Ghost Town. The RV Camp has 261 Tent, RV Sites, Cabins and a Bunkhouse. Others camped at the Whittier Claim and at the Paul Bunyon sites.

Friday, October 22nd.

The weather was fantastic when I arrived. Being the first one there, I had to wait for the field trip leader, **Don Eschbach**, to find out where to pitch my tent. It was to be next to his RV. Boy was that a task, it took 5 people to figure out how the tent went together. On Friday afternoon, we enjoyed a fun day at the Calico Ghost Town. Admission is \$6 and free to those registered at the RV site. We went through many shops, an old mine shaft, and enjoyed a shootout between two bad guys and a sheriff.

Friday night, **Robert Hilburn** - a *Paleontologist and President of the Mojave River Valley Museum in Barstow* - presented a slide show on the geology of the Calico/Mule Canyon area, desert animals, and desert flowers. Then we enjoyed a nice camp fire. Campers arriving late at night made it hard to sleep.

Saturday, October 23rd.

The group and *Robert* met at the entrance to Calico Ghost town. We were led to the Whittier claim by **Jay Valle** who had a key to the gate. *Robert* again gave a lecture to the group on the Calico/Mule Canyon area. Then, the group searched through the claim for Honey Onyx. **Bill Burns** honked the horn

three times, and we went on to an other area to look for jasper. We had lunch about 11:30, and decided to go on to Mule Canyon. It was perfect weather for rockhounding, no wind, clean air, and moderate temperature.

When we arrived at the entrance to Mule Canyon, large portions of the road was washed out by the previous rain storm. The passengers in one car that did not have 4-wheel drive loaded into another car and off we went. As we stopped along the way, *Robert* described the geology of the Canyon. We stopped at the entrance of the old borax mine. We ventured up the gully leading to the borax mine. There was an abundance of minerals to collect. We saw a rock foundation for a railroad crossing built by Chinese Coolies in the 1800rds. Further along, we saw Elephant foot prints on the side of the mountain. On the other side of Mule Canyon, we searched the area near the Early Man site for Agate and Petrified Palm Wood. The day ended with a Pot-Luck Dinner Get-Together in the Calico RV area. **Don Warthern** strummed the guitar and we joined in signing.

Sunday, October 24th.

We met up with members of the Whittier Club at 9 am and went to one of **Bill Burns** favorite sites for rockhounding. After collecting in his favorite area, it was time to return home.

For myself and the group, I would like thank **Don & Kathy Eschbach** for leading a wonderful field trip.





Flood, Fire and Post Hurricane Safety Tips

By Chuck McKie, CFMS Safety Chairman 2004

Sunday, September 05, 2004 - When authorities say it is safe to return home, the Red Cross offers these safety tips for residents of the disaster area.

Returning home: Check your home by walking around the outside first before entering. If you seek cracks along the foundation, contact a home construction professional to inspect your home before going into it. When you do enter your home, use a flashlight, not an open flame, to inspect for damage. If you smell gas, leave your home immediately and call the fire department once outside.

If water has been inside your home, Turn off the power with a dry stick to prevent you from getting shocked while inspecting for damage. This will also let you be in control of your home's electrical service. Listen to local radio or TV for instructions about utilities serving your community. If sewer or water utilities have been damaged, do not run water or flush toilets until utilities have been repaired. Make sure that electrical appliances and equipment are dry before turning them back on.

If power is out: Fire can be caused by the use of candles to light homes without electrical power. Use battery-powered lanterns and flashlights only. If you use a generator, use it outdoors only. Keep it in a dry area away from open windows. Do not run it in a garage or basement. Plug what you need to power directly into the generator, and do not connect it to your home's electrical system. Doing so is often against local codes and could cause backfeeding that can injure electrical repair technicians.

Food safety: For the first two days, start by eating the food out of your refrigerator, then the food in your freezer and then the non-perishable foods. If power has been out for two days (48) hours or more, it is likely that the food in your refrigerator and freezer has spoiled. Discard food from the refrigerator. Food in the freezer that still has ice crystals in it may be okay, but food that has thawed, or is above 40° F, should be discarded.

Water for healthy living: Drink plenty of water and non-alcoholic liquids - eight glasses per day. Avoid drinking alcoholic beverages, as they are dehydrating and can make you more thirsty. Drink bottled water, or water you have stored in advance until you know if the water is safe. If that runs out and you need more water, drink water from melted ice cubes or from the water heater once it has been turned off and is cool.

Do not drink water from the toilet bowl or tank, or water from a bathtub. You can use water stored in a bathtub for cleaning and to flush the toilet, but not for drinking or cooking. Water will be provided in communities if local water service is not working by the Red Cross, local governments and other agencies. Listen to local news for information on water availability.

Christmas Party

by Nancy Bird

The Christmas Party will be **December 14** at the **La Habra Community Center** starting at 6:00 p.m.

The food will again be provided by Gaetano's in La Habra. This year will be buffet style so those not wanting chicken or pasta may chose what they want. The menu will be tossed baby greens, Chicken Marsala, Baked Manicotti with marinara sauce, rolls + butter, and those great cheese cakes. You will need to bring your own wine.

The cost will be **\$10 per person**-please send your checks to Don Warthen asap. Make checks payable to NOC Gem & Mineral Society.

Don Warthen
15455 Tetley Ave.
Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

As part of our entertainment, we are asking everyone to write on a slip of paper 5 little known facts about yourself. And that's all we're saying about it right now.

Anyone not contacted or who has changed their mind-please let me know-Nancy Bird (562) 947-6845 or nancyjbird@earthlink.net



Useful Keys

by Don Ogden

WINDOWS KEY

While pressing the Windows key, the 'd' key will toggle your Desktop. Also, the letter 'e' will toggle Windows Explorer.

ALT-KEYPAD TRICK

This trick has been around since the days of DOS. Now with Windows, however, it's far more versatile and useful.

The Alt-Keypad Trick enables you to "type" any character from the keyboard. Weird. Foreign. Symbols. Just about anything.

There are 96 possible characters you can type using the character keys alone or in combination with the Shift key.

By using the Alt-Keypad trick you can type hundreds of characters at the keyboard. But two problems lie in your path: First, you need to know how the Alt-Keypad trick works. Second, you need to know the codes for the characters you type.

To work the Alt-Keypad trick, first ensure that the Num Lock light is on. The trick only works when the numeric keypad produces numbers, not cursor commands.

Next, press and hold the Alt key. Then you can type in the codes, which are four digits long. For example, code 0188 displays the 1/4 symbol. Type each of those numbers on the numeric keypad, all while holding the Alt key down.

Finally, after entering the code, release the Alt key. This displays the character on the screen.

Of course, the grand problem with this scheme is that no human will ever keep track of all the codes. There are hundreds, if not thousands, of them. But

look on the bright side: the codes are not a secret. Windows can tell you exactly which codes belong to which symbols. For that all you need is the Character Map program:

1. From the Start button choose Programs (or All Programs).
2. Choose Accessories, System Tools, Character Map.

The Character Map program serves many interesting and trivial purposes. First, it shows you all the characters in a given font. It lets you collect those characters and then paste them into Windows' clipboard if you like. And it also lets you see the codes associated with each character.

For example, look through the display in the Character Map program, searching for the "Yen" symbol. It looks like a Y with an = (equal sign) over typed. "Yen" is in the 5th row of the right hand column.

If you click on the Yen symbol, it gets larger so that you can closely examine it. But also, look in the lower right corner of the Character Map program. There you'll see the Alt-Keypad combination and code to produce the Yen character: Alt+0165.

Of course, rather than have you do the work, I have a handy cut-and-paste list right here for your keyboard:

Symbol	Code	Display
Cents	0162	¢
Copyright	0169	©
(R) Symbol	0174	®
1/4	0188	¼
1/2	0189	½
3/4	0190	¾
Multiply	0215	×
Divide	0247	÷
Plus/Minus	0177	±
Squared	0178	²
Cubed	0179	³