

NOC GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWS

Vol, 26 No. 1

January 1, 2007

President's Message

by Don Eschbach

Hello Everyone,

The Christmas party was a terrific success. The food was great, the banquet room was just the right size, and the ambiance was perfect! I would like to thank Nancy Bird and Loretta Ogden for doing a fantastic job with the planning and the wonderful decorations. I also want to thank **Mayor James Gomez** for his kind words and for doing the Installation of Officers. **Vanna Sharp**, President of the La Habra Chamber and **Mark Sturdevant**, Executive Director of the Chamber Staff, also had very nice things to say about our clubs partnership with the La Habra Chamber of Commerce. I want to thank them very much for their participation in our Christmas program.

I am very excited about working with the club in 2007. There is a lot that needs to be done in 2007. Thanks to our Show Chairman, Don Warthen, we are already off to a great start with our June Show. We have already purchased a beautiful large Amethyst Geode for our grand prize. The Geode is 12 inches at the base and 16 inches tall. I have also made up a flyer with a picture of the Geode that can be displayed to help sell tickets and encourage attendance.

The first thing on my agenda as President is to set up various Committees. The first Committee we will need is a "Budget Committee."

Other top priorities will be Membership and Education. I welcome any and all suggestions that you may have. Your participation will be greatly appreciated.

In closing, I would like to say that I feel privileged and honored to serve as your club President for the next term.

NOC Club Activities

Board Meeting — Jan 4 at 6:00 p.m.
Field Trip — TBD at Jan Meeting
NOC Show — June 2-3, 2006
Next Show Meeting — Jan 26 at 6:30 p.m.
Deadline for NOC News — Jan 17
CFMS Show & Convention — June 15-17, 2006
Lancaster, CA

January Meeting

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

Program

The program this month will be a CD on the CFMS show to be held June 14, 15, and 16 at the Antelope Valley Fairgrounds in Lancaster hosted by the Palmdale Gem & Mineral Club.

Refreshments

Nancy Bird will bring the goodies for the January meeting like she did last January.

Members in the News

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

Don Livezey

Jane Hendrixson

Your gemstone is Garnet

Your flower is Carnation or Snowdrop

Shows and Events

via Internet

January 26-28 2007, Redlands, CA

Southern Calif. Micromineralogists
42nd. Pacific Micromount Conference
San Bernardino County Museum
2024 Orange tree Lane
(Exit North on California St. from I-10)
Hours: Fri. 7 - 10; Sat. & Sun. 8 - 10
Paul M. Adams (310) 336-6927
Hours: Fri. 3 - 10; Sat. 10 - 10, Sun 9-12

February 16-25 2007, Indio, CA

San Gorgonio Mineral & Gem Club
"Date Festival" Riverside Co. Fair & Date Festival
Gem & Mineral Bldg. #1
46-350 Arabia Street
Hours: 10 - 10 daily
Gert Grisham (951) 849-1674
Email: grish1@msn.com

March 3-4 2007, Arcadia, CA

Monrovia Rockhounds, Inc.
LA Co. Arboretum & Botanical Garden
301 North Baldwin Ave.
Hours: 9 - 4:30 both days
Jo Anna Ritchey
E-mail: j.ritchev@verizon.net or
Janie Duncan (626) 358-8151
janieducan@altrionet.com
Website: www.moroks.com

March 16-18 2007, San Bernardino, CA

Orange Belt Mineralogical Society
Western Regional Little League Ballpark
6707 Little League Drive
Hours: Fri & Sat 9-Dusk; Sun 9-4
Al Carrell (951) 961-5988
Emma Rose (951) 288-6182
Lyle (909) 887-3394

June 2-3 2007, Glendora, CA

Glendora Gems
859 E. Sierra Madre
Hours: Sat 10-5; Sun 10-4
Bonnie Bidwell (626) 963-4638
Email: Ybidwell2@aol.com

June 2-3 2007, La Habra, CA

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

June 15-17 2007, Lancaster, CA

CFMS Convention and
Palmdalw Gem & Mineral Club Show
Antelope Valley Fairgrounds
Hwy 14, exit Ave. H
Hours: 9-5 daily
John/Susie Martin (661) 916-9479
Website: pgmc@antecom.net

Quartzsite, AZ 2007

41th Annual QIA Pow Wow Gem & Mineral Show

January 24 - January 28, 2007
Website: qiaaz.org

SCRIBE Meeting & Editors Symposium

Senior Citizen's Center
Moon Mountain Road
Saturday, January 27 - 8:30 a.m. MST
Website: scdibsite.home.att.net

Laughlin, NV 2007

6th Annual Clouds Jamboree

Jan 1- Feb 1 at Avi Resort & Casino
Jan 12 - 21 at Don Laughlin's Riverside Resorts
Website: cloudsjamboree.com

Read Out Loud

via Internet

It is possible to have Adobe's Acrobat Reader read the contents of your documents for you. That's awesome, isn't it?! If you're interested in learning how to make this happen, keep reading, because this is such a good tip and I'm so excited to tell you all about it. Here we go!

Before I go any further, you need to make sure you have a couple of things already on your computer in order for this process to work. Here are the requirements. You must have Adobe Acrobat Reader 6.0 or higher installed on your computer and you must have a speaker connected to your computer with the volume turned up. (It's good to have the speaker turned on too!) :)

Once you have both of those things, you can move on. So, now, let's see how we can make Acrobat Reader do your reading for you. Just follow the directions below.

1. Open any PDF file that you want to read.
2. If you want Acrobat Reader to read the complete PDF file, press **Ctrl + Shift + B** and it will start to read the file.
3. If you want Acrobat Reader to read a selected page, click on the page you want to hear and press **Ctrl + Shift + V**. It will then read only the page you have selected.
4. To pause the reading, press **Ctrl + Shift + C**. To continue reading from a pause, press the same combination of keys again and it will start back up.
5. To stop the reading, press **Ctrl + Shift + E**.

Note: If you're not sure exactly what a PDF file is, check out the following link from WorldStart's archives: worldstart.com/tips/tips.php/442. It will explain everything.

Another Note: Adobe Acrobat Reader 6.0 and higher will only read the contents if the PDF file is in English.

This may be the coolest thing you've heard in awhile. Check it out now!

Pearls and X-Rays

summarized from *GIA Insider* 02/24/06
via Pegmatite 11/06

X-ray images of pearl necklaces can reveal the inner pearl structure, allowing the observer to distinguish between the concentric growth rings of natural pearls, and the distinct mother-of-pearl beads under the nacre layers indicative of cultured pearls. Also, natural and cultured freshwater pearls will luminesce strongly (similar to fluorescence) in the presence of X-ray radiation, due to the manganese usually found in the nacre layer. Saltwater pearls generally do not luminesce.

WARNING

ROCK POX

Very Contagious to Both Sexes

SYMPTOMS — Continual complaint as to need for fresh air, sunshine and relaxation. Patient has blank expression, sometimes inattentive to the family. No taste for work of any kind. Frequently checks lapidary and mineral shops and their catalog longer than usual. Makes secret phone calls to rock pals. Mumbles to self. Lies to rival collectors. There is only one known cure.

TREATMENT — Medication is useless. Disease is never fatal. Victim should go agate hunting, immediately and often, at beach, mountain and desert areas.



Christmas Party



Christmas Party



Christmas Party



Opal Mountain Petroglyphs



Opal Mountain Petroglyphs



Opal Mountain Petroglyphs



Spell Cheque

via email

Eye halve a spelling chequer
It came with my pea sea
It plainly marques four my revue
Miss steaks eye kin knot sea.

Eye strike a key and type a word
And weight four it two say
Weather eye am wrong oar write
It shows me strait a weigh.

As soon as a mist ache is maid
It nose bee fore two long
And eye can put the error rite
Its rare lea ever wrong.

Eye have run this poem threw it
I am shore your pleased two no
Its letter perfect awl the weigh
My chequer tolled me sew.

NOTE: The above message **passed the computer Spell Check**. No spelling errors detected.

Dues are Due

by Don Warthen

There was considerable confusion at the last meeting as to how much dues are for 2007.

CFMS Dues are \$1.50 per member and Insurance is \$6.00 per member, that is \$7.50 per member to be sent to the CFMS but the bottom line is that the club dues will remain the same. That's \$15.00 for single and \$20.00 for families.

For all those coming over from Puente Hills. An amount equal to one year's dues will be taken out of the monies coming over from your treasury to cover your dues for 2007. The rest of the treasury will be placed in a separate account which will be used to setup a scholarship fund. As a result, you owe no dues for 2007.

Flat Lapping Without A Machine

from The Pegmatite 12/06

The process of flat lapping is so simple that anyone can do it, even if you don't have a flat lapping machine. So go to it and polish the bookends you want, or that clock face.

Just get a piece of aluminum about 12-14 inches square. (Larger for larger pieces.) Place it on a flat surface. Take a teaspoon of 120 grit (or even 90 grit, if you have saw marks on your slab.) Mix your grit with Vaseline or water. (I like Vaseline because it holds the grit better, doesn't dry out and doesn't splash).

Now take your slab to be polished and dop a piece of wood to it so that you have a handle and can hold it down on the grit. Just keep twisting it over and around on the grit. Be sure that your grit is always under the slab. Don't run it over dry aluminum. Move the slab in any pattern you wish, adding grit, as you feel necessary.

Keep at it until all the saw marks are well gone. Wash the stone and aluminum between grades of grit, using progressively finer grits as you go. The slab should now be ready for polishing.

To polish, use a piece of leather about 12x12 inches. Stick it to a board and keep it for polishing only. Don't tack it down because the tack heads can scratch. Put your favorite polishing mix all over the leather and start polishing your stone. This is the oldest way to polish slabs and it still works well, if slowly.

In answer to the statement that it will take a long time, a question: "What else would you be doing, anyway?"

Disposing Sludge

via
[LA-Rocks] Rock sludge thank you
From: timothyprime@hotmail.com

Following Question and Answers via the LA Rocks.

Question to those of you that have a shop, either with your club or privately: in California, how have you been legally disposing of the sludge (rock and oil) that accumulate in the bottom of you saws? Thank you.

First I would suggest that you filter out as much oil as you can so you can reuse it. Use a shopping bag as a filter. Use a 5 gallon bucket. Support a shelf inside the bucket about half way up from the bottom. Place the bag on the shelf and put the sludge in the bag. Let it sit for days if necessary to get as much oil out as you can.

Hopefully, you can take the concentrated rock dust/oil mix to a local domestic hazardous waste pickup. I don't know if you will have a problem convincing them that it is a household product because it is a hobby that you practice in your home.

I have considered making a centrifuge to concentrate the dust/oil mix further. Have anybody heard of someone doing this?

I have heard of another step: Fold the tops of the bags back down, forming a brick of partly filtered sludge. Stack the bricks in a pan allowing gravity to squeeze out that last tablespoon of oil.

It doesn't get you past that last step of discarding the brick though.

Yes, that does sound like an improvement. Then as the oil flows out and the brick becomes more solid you may be able to stack bricks on top of each other and add weights to get more oil out.

Also, I forgot to mention that you need PAPER shopping bags. When I first heard about this, all shopping bags were paper. Now most are plastic and I doubt plastic would work very well ;)

Thank you to all that responded with what to do with rock sludge. Most advised filtering the oil and taking the sludge to the local government toxic waste center. One advised saving the filtered oil and burn the remaining brick - I know outdoor burning is illegal in California and probably not a safe thing to do in an indoor fireplace (many firemen in my family and a fire house down the street).

*** More ***

Our club, Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society, has a Lapidary shop that is open to public. When it is time to change out the oil from the saws, I drain/scoop the sludge into a 5 gallon bucket which is lined with a standard paper grocery bag. This has acted as a filter for the oil.

To preform another filter, I will pour the first batch from under the paper bag into a different paper bag/bucket. After the oil has been filtered, we can use it again. We have been using this process for many years and when the bags are half full, we drain/press them dry and toss them in the trash. I hope this helps, Brett FTC-OGMS

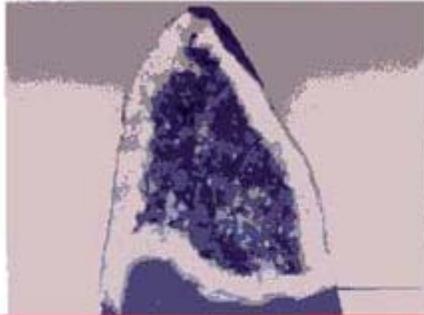
Show Report

by Don Warthen

We have scheduled a show meeting in January, Friday the 26th at 6:30 p.m.. I know that this is the same weekend as Quartzite but this was the only day available.

If you are not going to quartzite and have something you would like to see at the show, or if you just want to see what goes on at these meeting, please plan on attending.

North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society Presents
"Science of Rocks"
Grand Prize is a beautiful Amethyst Geode



Jubilee of Gems Show

Many Dealers with beautiful jewelry,
Demonstrations, Displays, Spinning Wheel,
Children's Activities, Good Food, & Hourly
Drawings.

Demonstrations

- Wire Wrapping
- Lapidary
- Faceting
- Carving

Show Chairman, Don Warthen

Phone: 626-330-8974
Email: don@ofeliawarthen.com

Date: Saturday, June 2 & Sunday June 3, 2007

Time: 10 a.m. — 5 p.m.

**La Habra Community Center
101 W La Habra Blvd.
La Habra, CA 90631**



City of La Habra Community Services
Department
101 W. La Habra Blvd.
(562) 905-9708

Dues Are Due

HAVE YOU SENT YOURS IN FOR THE NEW YEAR?

NOC YEAR 2007 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

\$15 Individual;

\$20 Family

\$10 Student

ENTER CHANGES, OR NEW: Name, Address, Phone, or Email. (Birth Month only for NOC News.)

NAME: _____

NAME: _____

PLEASE send Membership Renewal to:

Don Warthen
15455 Tetley Ave.
Hacienda Heights, CA 91745