

NOC GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

NOC NEWS

Vol, 26 No. 5

May 2007

President's Message

by Don Eschbach

Hi Everyone,

Our last meeting had the largest attendance since I have been with the club. If you haven't been to a meeting recently, please come and join the rest of the club for a wonderful time with good friends, interesting programs, and refreshments too!

I would like to extend a big thank you to Izzie Burns for a terrific presentation on "Rocks Along the Lewis & Clark Trail" at our last meeting.

We are getting closer and closer to our "Jubilee of Gems Show," and we still need volunteers to help out with various jobs. We need two volunteers to work security on Saturday night at the La Habra Community Center. We also need to start selling raffle tickets, as this is one of our main sources of income for the show. We will have plenty of flyers and tickets at our next meeting.

We had a terrific Wire Wrap Class on April 16 attended by 13 club members. Everyone had a great time making Wire Wrapped Pearl Rings. Each club member made two very beautiful and stunning rings with White or Peacock Pearls. This is the fourth Class for several of our Club members and they have already become very accomplished Wire Wrappers. I am sure that many of our Wire Wrappers will be showing off their rings at our next club meeting. If there is any one else who is interested in future Wire Wrap Classes, please let me know.

Many of our members brought terrific display items that they have collected to our last meeting and it was wonderful for all of us to look at and ask questions about. Lets keep this great tradition going.

We also had many great suggestions regarding education at our last meeting. We will be working to have the best education program of any of the Gem and Mineral Clubs. If any of you have ideas that help us achieve our goals, please let one of the Education Committee Members know.

I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting on May 8.

NOC Club Activities

Board Meeting — TBD

Field Trip — May 26-28 Paul Bunyan Agate

Deadline for NOC News — May 17.

Show Meeting — TBD

May Meeting

Date: May 8

Time: 7:00 p.m. Main Meeting

Place: La Habra Community Center
101 W. La Habra Blvd.

Program: Pat LaRue will demonstrate on how to set up a showcase. Will need a case with liners, and club members to bring lapidary, jewelry & minerals to fill it.

Members in the News

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

Floyd Allen

Deb Frey

Dennis Arp

Bob Hess

Bill Burns

Lucille Howe

Isabella Burns

Jonas Ruzgys

Your gemstone is Emerald.

Your flower is Lilly or Valley or Hawthorn.

Refreshments

by Kathy Valle

Don & Ofelia Warthen will bring the goodies for the May meeting. Thanks to Bill & Isabella Burns for bringing the goodies to the April meeting.

Shows and Events

May 5-6 2007, Anaheim, CA
Searchers Gem & Mineral Society
2271 W. Crescent Avenue
Hours: 10 - 4:30 both days
Betty Nelson (714) 530-1365
Email betty@azteche.com
Website: www.searchersrocks.org

May 4-5-6 2007, Bishop, CA
Lone Pine Gem & Mineral Society
Eastern Sierra Gem & Mineral Show
Hours: Fri. & Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 10 - 3
Francis Pedneau (760) 876-4319 or
Jeff Lines (760) 872-6597
Email franceem@qnet.com

May 19-20 2007, Newbury Park, CA
Conejo Gem & Mineral Club
Borchard Park Community Center
190 Reino Rd., Newbury Park, CA
Hours: Sat. 9-5 Sun. 10-4:30
Robert Sankovich (805) 494-7734
Email rmsorca@adelphia.net

May 19-20 2007, Yucaipa, CA
Yucaipa Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Yucaipa Community Center
34900 Oak Glen Road
Hours: Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4
William Jochimsen (909) 790-1475
Email bjm2285@aol.com

June 2-3 2007, La Habra, CA
North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society
Jubilee of Gems Show
101 W. La Habra Blvd.
Hours: 9 - 5 both days
Don Warthen (626) 330-8974
E-mail warthen@earthlink.net

June 2-3 2007, Glendora, CA
Glendora Gem & Mineral Show
859 E. Sierra Madre
Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4
Bonnie Bidwell (626) 963-4638
Email: YBidwell2@aol.com

June 15-17 2007, Lancaster, CA
CFMS Convention and
Palmdale Gem & Mineral Club
Antelope Valley Fairgrounds
Hwy 14, exit Ave H
Hours: 9-5 daily
John & Susie Martin
(661) 916-9479
Email: pgms@antelopecom.net
Web Site: palmdalegems.org

July 14-15 2007, Culver City, CA
Culver City Rock & Mineral Club
Culver City Veteran's Memorial Complex
Culver City Veteran's Memorial Auditorium
4117 Overland Avenue
Hours: Sat. 10 - 6; Sun. 10 - 5
Website: CulverCityRocks.org
Phone: (310) 836-4611

October 13-14 2007, Trona, CA
Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society
"66th Annual Gem-O-Rama"
Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society
13337 Main Street
Hours: Sat. 7:30 - 5; Sun. 7:30 - 4
Bonnie Fairchild (760) 372-5356
Email jbfairchild@verizon.net
Website: <http://www.l.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub/tronagemclub.html>

September 22-23 2007, Downey, CA
Delvers Gem & Mineral Society
Woman's Club of Downey
9813 Paramount Blvd
Hours: Sat. 10 - 6; Sun. 10 - 4
Steve Miller (562) 633-0614
Email: guynellallen@sbcglobal.net

via CFMS Web Site





Google 411

*by Don Ogden
via internet*

Have you heard about a service called Google 411? Yes it is called Google 411 or Google Voice Local Search.

It is a service that allows you to search for local businesses through a phone line. With it, you can search for a business by either its name or just a category.

It still is in the experimental stage and Google is trying it out first in the US. It's only available in English so far.

To try it for a local business:

1. Dial 1-800-GOOG-411 (1-800-466-4411).
2. A recording will ask for the business city and state.
3. Just speak on the phone to give the business city and state.
4. A recording will ask for the business name or category.
5. Just speak on the phone to give the business name or category.

For example;

1. I dialed 1-800-466-4411
2. Answered - Brea, CA
3. Answered Plumage Hair Salon
4. Bingo Tresa a stylist at the Plumage Hair Salon answered the phone.

Google Gives Personal Information from Phone No.

*by Don Ogden
via internet*

Google has implemented a new feature which enables you to type a telephone number into the search bar, hit enter and you will be given the person's name and address.

If you then hit "Map It", you will get a map to the person's house. Everyone should be aware of this! It's a nationwide reverse telephone book.

Anyone that can get your phone number can also look up where you live.

I tried my number and it came up along with the Mapquest and directions straight to our house. I filled out the removal form and encourage all of you to do the same.

In order to **test** whether your phone number is mapped, go to Google:<http://www.google.com/>), type your phone number in the search bar -- e.g. (702) 123-4567 and hit enter.

If you want to **BLOCK Google** from divulging your private information, click on your telephone number and then fill in the Removal form. Removal takes 48 hours.

Please share this information with family and friends.

Emerald Birthstone for May

Emerald is the birthstone for May and has been one of the most coveted of all gemstones. The infamous Roman emperor Nero found the color so soothing that he reputedly wore emerald glasses while watching the gladiators clash. Fine-colored emeralds without flaws are almost unknown. This faceted emerald crystal shown below is blue-green in color.

NOC General Meeting Minutes La Habra Community Center April 10, 2007

by Jay Valle

Call to Order: Don Eschbach called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and Jay Valle led the flag salute.

Minutes: Don Eschbach asked if there were any corrections to the February 13 Minutes published in the March Newsletter. There were none. The minutes will stand as read.

Program: Nancy introduced Bill & Izzy Burns who presented a program on Lewis and Clark.

Break & Drawing

Attendance: Kathy Eschbach introduced Guest Attendees, Mike Beaumont and Robin Hawks. There were 26 members and 2 guests in attendance.

March Minutes: Don Eschbach asked if there were any changes to the March Minutes as published in the NOC April Bulletin. No changes offered so the Minutes stand as read.

Treasurers report: Don Warthen gave the Treasurers Report.

Field Trips: Jay Valle told about the upcoming field trip to the Alvord Mountains on April 28-29. A map and signup sheet were left on the back table.

Federation Report: Loretta Ogden said we should give her suggestions for this year's "Rockhound of the Year."

Librarian Report: Ofelia Warthen said to check out the books, a selection of which were on a table in the back.

Programs: Nancy Bird informed us that Pat LaRue will present a program on "How to Present a Showcase."

Refreshments: Kathy Valle thanked Bill and Izzy Burns for the refreshments for tonight's meeting. Don and Ofelia Warthen will bring refreshments for the May 8 meeting.

Show Report: Don Warthen had the following comments:

- Kathy Eschbach is currently cataloguing the Show Donation Awards and asks that prizes be brought in early (before the show) to save us from the usual last minute rush to log in prizes at the show.
- Kathy Valle & Izzy Burns will be together on the Silent Auction.

- We are now full up on Dealers and only a few are left needing to make the final payment.

- Sell donation award tickets!

- There are still show positions which we need to fill
- please volunteer.

Other Show Comments:

- * Nancy Bird: She has 7 more display cases to fill - Izzy Burns took 1. She will also be hosting a "Grab Bag Party" at her house on May 19 at 11 AM. Jay Valle offered un-tumbled Apache tears from Burro Creek for grab bags.

- * Izzy Burns: Rocks, tools and "knick-knacks" all went well at the silent auction last year.

- * Genny Grafton held a training class for NOC members wishing to help out at the Kid's Activities table during the show. Attendees learned to make toothpaste and other projects.

Social Secretary: Nothing reported.

New Business

Award Presented: Don Eschbach presented an award to Don Ogden for his continued hard work on the excellent NOC Newsletter and the terrific new NOC Webpage.

Genny Grafton asked if anyone from her training class had tried to grow the crystals from the provided recipe. Apparently, some people had trouble with the recipe and Genny asked for participants to complete the crystal growing and to document any problems and solutions that they encountered. They are to bring these documents and their crystals to the Show to hand out to teachers. She also requested that members save their empty toothpaste boxes for her.

Genny discussed a training seminar being offered to teachers and being held in San Diego and Sacramento. The estimated cost is \$500.00. It was suggested that Genny, who used to teach high school geology classes, could "teach the teachers" grade levels 1-4 geology curriculum, perhaps using a room at the La Habra Community Center.

New Colored Information Cards - an update: Ofelia Warthen found a printer who will produce 1000 information cards for \$80.00.

Chalmers had a warning about an article in the current NOC Newsletter about using muriatic acid to clean geodes. The fumes are very bad and this process should be done in a well ventilated place. He also said that placing the geodes in the dishwasher to clean does a pretty good job.

Meteorite Display

by Don Ogden

Bob Verish will display his meteorites in our large case at our Jubilee of Gems show in June. He has a vast knowledge of meteorites and can educate us in the search of them.

Jay Valle and I had the pleasure to go on the Buck Mountain Wash Meteorite (Franconia AZ) hunt with him in April.

We learned a lot of techniques: magnets, detectors, visual inspection, and good tips for searching. A number of people had the opportunity to have their previous finds reviewed and assessed.

It was a very nice group of rockhounds, and everyone seemed to have a good time.

Following are some photos of the meteorite hunt and Mitchell Caverns we visited on the way.



NOC Pearl Ring Wire Wrap Class

April 16, 2007

by Don Eschbach

The pearl ring wire wrap class was held at the La Habra Community Center and hosted by the North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society. Principal teacher were: Don Eschbach, and Don Warthen.



Everyone had a great time. Each club member made two very beautiful and stunning rings with White or Peacock Pearls.

This was the fourth Class for several of our Club members and they have already become very accomplished Wire Wrappers. I am sure that many of our wire wrappers will be showing off their rings at our next club meeting. The following members were in attendance: Ofelia Warthen, Kathy Eschbach, Estela Kuethen, Dave Swanston, Fran Swanston, Jay Valle, Randi Hitrick, Richard Schirer, Marilyn Kline, and Don Rees.

Untried Shop Tips

via *The Pegmatite* 3/2007

Picking Prepolish:

Tip from John Franke of The Facet Shoppe

Faceters, prepolish at 3,000 and finish at 50,000. If you use 8,000 diamond to prepolish, your material will pit and take 10 times as long to polish!

Removing Lacquer:

Tip from SDMG member Mary Jane Dunn, who says it really works

Ever want to remove a lacquer coating from an otherwise nice piece of lapidary material? Want to avoid using harsh chemicals? Here is a tip for you. Obtain some apple cider vinegar, the brown colored kind. Submerge the lacquered object in it, leave for a week, then remove and scrape off the lacquer with your thumbnail or other appropriate blunt tool. Repeat if necessary.

Emerald May Gemstone

*by Joan Greenlees Abramson
from GEMSTONE ADVENTURES IN VERSE
permission granted by Joan for incorporation in NOC bulletin*

Emerald.—it conjures up a place
Of misty vales and verdant hills of green.
The Isle is well named, a land of grace
And beauty, but with hardness 'neath the scene.

Nature can be stingy with this hue,
For jade and chrysoptase both fail to catch
Its deeper glow, and peridot's not true,
And varicite, though pretty, does not match.

The depth of emerald is unique and pure.
When found in living things, it does amaze:
With sparkling eyes of green did Scarlet lure
Her many beaux, and even Rhett gave praise!

The emerald frog upon the lily pad
Enjoys full life within its island lodge.
Birds fly to trees for sanctuary, clad
In emerald green—so safe a camouflage.

The Emerald City in the Land of Oz
A wond'rous place with gemstone studded streets
A fantasy that lures us to the cause
Of rich imagination's magic treats.

This gem so noted for its lustrous shine
Has known a place in Aaron's breastpiece old;
Millenniums ago an ancient mine
Produced this gem, as history has told.



Make a Set of Coasters

*Author unknown from the Post Rock 5/02,
via the rockcollector 9/05
via The Coral Geode 10/05 via Breccia 12/05*

1. Get out that box of slabs you plan to use someday and blow off the dust.
2. Pick out six that you can trim to four inch squares.
3. Then, round the corners and bevel the edges so that the squares will have smooth edges.
4. Polish the best side—either on your equipment or by spraying with a waterproof acrylic.
5. Back the other side with self-sticking felt.
6. The thickness of the squares does not have to match.
7. Finished?

You now have a set of six unique coasters in a variety of colors and patterns. Of course if you have a huge supply of slabs and want a matched set of coasters, go for it. They make nice gifts.



Safety (Think Health)

From Dr. Shealy's Newsletter

by *Chuck McKie, CFMS Safety Chair 2007*
via *May CFMS Newsletter*

Each Monday you can tune-in and talk online with Dr. Shealy at Voiceamerica.com. Check Health & Wellness channel, March 19, at 11 AM, Central Time. The call-in number is:

866-472-5792

UN-EQUAL ©

C. Norman Shealy, M.D., Ph.D. ©

One of the many karmic debts of our ex-Secretary of War is his fostering aspartame on the world. EQUAL is anything but equal, as if being equal to sugar is good!!

And of course the FDA is a co-conspirator in the crime of allowing this potentially poisonous material over the counter.

Aspartame **UNEQUIVOCALLY** worsens:

Hypertension

Migraine

Epilepsy

Obesity

Taken together these 4 major illnesses affect well over two-thirds of Americans. Other than the known biochemical damage in patients with the first 3 of these illnesses, aspartame contributes to excess weight and obesity because it artificially:

Stimulates your appetite

Increases carb cravings

Stimulates fat storage and weight gain!

Indeed, drinking a can a day of "diet" pop provides the average consumer an opportunity to add about 15 pounds per year. Indeed the calories in one can of regular "Coke", 139, will also add only 15 pounds per year. But since people think diet is good, they are more likely to drink even more of this toxin. Now instead of a can of junk pop, you could enjoy the following for approximately the same number of healthier calories:

One banana

Two and a half apples

7 oz of whole milk and skim would be better!

4 teaspoons of butter

A whole grain roll

A container of yogurt

An oz of Bailey's Irish Cream (still better than pop!!)

The next great hoax, according to a recent news report, is the planned introduction by Coca-Cola in the spring of diet coke with added vitamins! **JUNK IS JUNK** and no amount of vitamin supplementation will make it healthy! Of course all "artificial" sweeteners have the same effect of fooling your hypothalamus and stimulating appetite, carb craving, and increased fat storage. We do not know yet whether the latest scam, Splendor, will have the additional harmful effect of worsening hypertension, migraine and epilepsy. But it has no health value. Real food is the answer.

The bottom line is:

Un-Equal is indeed a war upon your health! You can't afford the luxury of eating or drinking this reported ant poison. Or any other non-food junk!

Grab Bag/Potluck

by *Nancy Bird*

We sold a lot of grab bags last year! We will meet at Nancy Bird's house on May 19 at 11:00 a.m. to make more grab bags and have a potluck lunch and then work. We still need more rock-petrified wood, quartz, agate, and anything else small enough to be put in our neat homemade bags.

Signup for Show Cases

by *Nancy Bird*

Nancy Bird said that there are 8 cases available. Twenty four have been spoken for already. This is our opportunity to "show our stuff" to the community so lets do it. Call Nancy at (562)947-6845 or email her at nancyjbird@earthlink.net. Let her know if you have your own case or need one of the clubs.

Comment on Feb CFMS President's Message

by *Diana Paradis*
via *May CFMS Newsletter*

In the February CFMS Newsletter our president, Mr. Pankey, discussed the need for more rockhounds to display exhibit cases at rock shows. I wholeheartedly agree with him. When attending a show, one of the big attractions for my family is the display cases. Not only do we get to see a wide variety of fossils, rocks, gems and minerals, but we also get new ideas for methods in which to use these lapidary materials.

Putting together a display case is actually fun and easy. My daughter did her first display case when she was 12. We have found that absolutely NO ONE cares if, as a beginner in lapidary, your cabs, jewelry, or crafts aren't perfect. After all, everyone, at one time, was just starting out. Seasoned artisans are just as proud of their first pieces as you are. If you are not just beginning lapidary work, then your beautiful display cases will inspire others to greater efforts and teach them new ideas and methods.

In his message, our president was baffled by a reluctance of members to exhibit at shows. Some members are getting older, are tired, and don't do as much lapidary work as they used to. They are waiting for younger members to step up, "take the banner", and run with it. As one of these younger members I would like to comment on why many of us don't exhibit display cases at shows.

Rockhounds in their 30's, 40's and even 50's fall into the group of people that have full time jobs and full time families. For most of us this means eight hour days, five days a week of work, plus evenings and Saturdays filled with running the kids to sports and academics. When I have displayed at shows it meant setting up at a specific time on a Friday, or early Saturday morning, and taking down on a Sunday. Between work and family there just isn't the time to drive two or three hours to a show and set up a display, especially at smaller shows that only have a small window of time to set up in. Picking up a display generally isn't a problem, as one can go early, get in on end of the show bargains, and then pack up the display.

I feel that, by cooperating within or between clubs, we can overcome this problem. If someone in a club, or even from another club in the near area, offered to be a coordinator and pick up (or just receive), drive to a show, and set up exhibits for the younger generation of rockhounds, more of us would be able to exhibit at a wider variety of shows. I know that I would be happy to create an exhibit to send to a show if I had help getting it there and getting it set up. It would be simple to create a pre-made display that just popped into a display case in three or four pieces. This display could still be a beautiful example of lapidary work, but one simple to set up and dismantle.

For all you old timers that are thinking that I am just making excuses, remember how much time work and family can involve. Then think about how nice it is to have younger lapidary members take an interest and get involved in all aspects of the club. Volunteering to take a few simple displays to a show that you may already be driving to will help bridge the gap between young and old rockhounds, create new friendships, and ensure that exhibits at shows do not become a fable of the past.

New Club Member

from Rock Talk 3/49 via AFMS Newsletter

I'm a new member in the club,
And I'm a timid guy,
But, I'd no sooner found my seat
Than someone called out, "Hi!"
You must be Brown from over West.
So glad you came tonight.
If you've a problem, man, speak out;
We'll help you set it right.
A copy of their Bulletin
He thrust into my hand.
He welcomed me to the Club Show
And made me feel just grand.
Then I had cake and coffee,
And paused to talk and joke
I enjoyed every moment
With these friendly, happy folk.
Their kindness and their courtesy
Are things I won't forget.
And when they meet again next month
I'll be there, you can bet.

Field Trip - Memorial Day Weekend May 26-28 Paul Bunyan Agate

by Jay Valle

The Paul Bunyan Agate area is an excellent camping location with many collecting sites nearby, including the Silver-lace Onyx Mine and Mule Canyon. The famous red plume agate named for this site can still be collected, though the tailing piles have been much diminished. The weather is usually nice - though you should plan for warm weather, last year was cool, so be aware of that possibility too (this is the desert after all!)

On both Saturday and Sunday evenings, we are planning to enjoy a potluck dinner and campfire (Mother Nature permitting.)

For those who do not wish to camp, Barstow is nearby with motels and restaurants, and this trip is suitable for those who can only come out for the day (Saturday or Sunday). If you are planning a day trip, though, you should contact us so we know you are coming and can wait for you.

Directions:

- Take I-15 past Barstow to the Fort Irwin Rd. turnoff.
- Go left over the freeway (North) for 7.1 miles to Irwin Rd.
- Turn left and go 1/2 mile to dirt road on the right, Kolath Rd on the left.
- Turn right on dirt road and go 1.9 miles to a road from the right at the base of a small hill.
- Go right (it is a sharp turn) and follow for 1.1 miles.
- Turn left and go just 0.3 miles to the turnoff on the right to camp, about 0.1 miles further.

Note: If you know this area, there are a lot of "short cuts". These directions guarantee that you will arrive at our camp, not that you will cover the shortest distance. Look for signs - either the Orange/Blue NOC, or Blue/Yellow PLS/WGMS. They will lead you to camp.

For questions and further information contact: Jay Valle at (626) 934-9764.

