

NOC GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

NOC NEWS

Vol, 26 No. 9

November 2007

President's Message

By Don Eschbach

Our field trip to the Bowers Museum was a terrific success. What a tremendous display of gem stones. Thank you Don Warthen and Jay Valle for organizing a wonderful day.

The La Habra Expo was also a success. We signed up new members and have several other interested future club members. The Expo also allowed our club to gain more recognition as a supportive member of the La Habra Chamber of Commerce. We were also able to display our conceptual drawing of our proposed Earth Science Museum, which also sparked a lot of interest.

I would like to remind everyone that our live and silent auction will be at our November 13 meeting. Please be thinking of items you would like to donate for either the live or silent auction. We will not have the usual business portion of our meeting. The entire meeting will be dedicated to our annual live and silent auction fund-raiser. This event is a lot of fun, so bring your money and your friends. You won't be disappointed.

I would also again like to thank everyone for the wonderful displays of jewelry and rock samples that they brought in for display at our last meeting.

Just a reminder to contact Kathy or Don Eschbach at (562) 943-8736 for reservations to our Christmas Party/Awards Dinner on December 11, 2007, at Portofino Italiano Restaurant, 651 W. Whittier Blvd., La Habra 90631, Telephone (562) 690-1765 from 6:00pm – 9:00pm. The cost is \$13.00 per person. Time is running out and we need to reserve your seat. Please mail your check made payable to: "North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society," and mail it to Kathy at 12430 S. Maybrook Ave., Whittier, CA 90604, or you may bring it to the General Meeting.

Refreshments

Richard & Yolanda Schirer & Mary Villaescusa will bring the goodies for the November meeting. Thanks to Frank & Kim Winn for bringing the goodies to the October meeting.

NOC Club Activities

Board Meeting — TBD
Field Trip — Nov. 3-4, Whittier Club Claim
Field Trip — Nov 21-25 Willey Wells
Deadline for NOC News — Nov.17.
Show Meeting — TBD
Christmas Party — Dec. 11
Jade Cruise — Jan. See Izzie

November Meeting

Date: November 13
Time: 7:00 p.m. Main Meeting
Place: La Habra Community Center
101 W. La Habra Blvd.
Program: Auction - Members should donate to the auction. Bring Rocks, finished projects etc. (See page 3.)

Members in the News

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

Jane Livezey

Jerry Grafton

Pat Felix

David Miller

Helen O'neil

Mariana Rodriquez

Richard Schirer

Fran Swanston

Your gemstone is Opal or Topaz

Your flower is Chrysanthemum

Shows and Events

November 3-4 2007, Lancaster, CA

Palmdale Gem & Mineral Club
Antelope Valley Fairgrounds
2551 West Avenue H
Hours: 9 - 5 both days
Susan Walblom (661) 943-1861
Email: slchaisson@yahoo.com
Website: pgmc@antelecom.net

November 3-4 2007, Anaheim, CA

American Opal Society
Clarion Hotel Anaheim Resort
616 Convention Way
Hours: Sat. 10 - 6; Sun. 10 - 5
Website: opalsociety.org
Jim Lambert (714) 891-7171
Email: jlamb777@yahoo.com

November 17-18 2006, Victorville, CA

Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club
San Bernardino County Fairgrounds
14800 7th Street
Hours: Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 9 - 4
Jo Ann McPurdy (760) 217-2628
Website: www.gbeal5084@aol.com

December 1-2 2007, Barstow, CA

Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society
Barstow Community Center
841 Barstow Road
Hours: 10 - 5 both days
Gene Haines (760) 256-0595 or
Beth Pinnell (760) 255-1030

December 8-10 2007, San Bernardino, CA

Orange Belt Mineralogical Society Inc. Rudy C Hernandez
Community Center 222 North Lugo Ave (2nd and Sierra Way)
Hours: Sat. 10 - 5, Sun. 10-4
Lyle Strayer (909) 887-3394
Al Carrell (951) 961-5988
Emma Rose (951) 288-6182

November Auction

by Don Warthen

Our popular annual auction is this November meeting. Please bring your beautiful items to be auction off and your monies to bid on items of great value!

This great event will help with the Awards Banquet in December. Last years event was very exciting and thanks to Randi Hitrick donating her Condo in Sedona, made it possible for Don and Ofelia Warthen, high bidders, to experience a wonderful vacation in October. So, again, we look forward to having a great Auction at our next November meeting!

Classes

by Loretta Ogden

Cabochon and bead stringing workshop at the Ogden's home is held on each Tuesday evening from 6 to 9 p.m., unless there is a meeting or other workshop scheduled.

Tentative Schedule:

Tuesday November 6, 20, 27.

Tuesday December 4, 18.

Please call Loretta at (909) 598-2456 if you are planning to attend.

Pots, Rocks, & Dirt

by Nancy Bird

Nancy needs 3 things from our members in the next few months to grow plants for our 2008 show..

1. Good potting soil either L&M or Cactus mix from Blue Hills (it must be potting soil).
2. Six-inch or larger nursery pots (she's out).
3. While out on field trips, extra rocks for the grab bags (very, very important)

Any questions call or email Nancy:
(562) 697-0637 or nancyjbird@earthlink.net



Member's Homes in Smiley Park Still Stand After Wildfire

by Don Ogden



Virginia, Susan, Jerry
Hanson/Graftons



Don & LorettaOgden



Eleanore Pleines

Stone for Month of November is Topaz

by Ofelia Warthen

The dedicating of a special stone to each month of the year was first suggested in the 1st century A.D., and was linked to the twelve stones in the breastplate of the high Priest of Israel. The custom of wearing such stones became popular in the 18th century.

The stone for November is TOPAZ. The mineral we know as topaz was only given the name in the first half of the 18th century. The name topaz is said to come from Topazius, the Greek name for Zabargad, an island in the Red Sea. This island is, however, a source of what we now call peridot.

The hardness is 8 and specific gravity is 3.52 – 3.56. Although it is very hard, topaz can be broken easily because it has one direction of perfect cleavage. If topaz is used in jewelry, the setting must therefore provide protection from accidental knocks.

One of the best and finest golden topaz come from the Ouro Preto area in Brazil. Gems containing a hint of pink are often called imperial topaz.

Topaz is an aluminum silicate containing about 20 percent water and fluorine. Those crystals with more water than fluorine are golden brown or, rarely, pink; those with more fluorine than water are blue or colorless.

Happy Birthday all of you born in November!!



NOC General Meeting Minutes La Habra Community Center October 9, 2007

by Jay Valle

Call to Order: Don Eschbach called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. Don Warthen led the flag salute.

Membership: The meeting was attended by 26 members and 1 guest.

Program - The Geology of the San Diego Formation, presented by Mike Beaumont

<Break & Drawing>

September Minutes: Don Eschbach asked if there were any corrections to the September Minutes as published in the October Newsletter. There were no corrections so the minutes will stand as read.

Treasurers Report: Don Warthen gave the Treasurers Report. No corrections so they will stand as read.

Field Trips: Jay Valle reminded us that the Club is joining the Monterey Park Club at the Bowers Museum on Saturday, September 13 at 1 PM. Jay also described the November 3 & 4 field trip to the Whittier Honey Onyx Claim and pointed out sign-up sheet for both events. The Searles Lake Show is also happening the weekend of October 13-14 and is famous for their field trips to collect minerals at Searles Lake.

Federation Report: Don Ogden has forms available for ZZYZX, which is scheduled for March 23-30, 2008. Izzy Burns described the program and some of the workshops were listed. If you wish to go you need to send your application in as soon as possible as it fills up fast.

Librarian Report: Magazines and books are available on table for checkout. Ofelia Warthen asked for members who have books checked out to please

return them. Dave & Fran Swanston handed the book, "Wirewrapping Made Easy" to Don Eschbach as a donation to the NOC library.

Program for November: Nancy Bird told us that we will be enjoying the NOC annual SILENT & LIVE AUCTIONS next month. Members are reminded to donate items for these auctions.

Refreshments: Kathy Valle thanked Kim & Frank Winn for bringing the refreshments (note: it is Kim's birthday.) Next month we will be refreshed courtesy of Richard Shirer.

Show Report (June 7 - 8, 2008): Don Warthen told us that the 1st show meeting had been held. The following was discussed:

Layout of rooms used during the show: Main room pretty much the same as last year.

Across the hall we will be adding 2 or 3 more dealers, maybe 1 large dealer and 1 super-large dealer or 1 large dealer and 2 small dealers.

Art Show Room. Move Kid's Programs in there, projects, etc. and a "digging for fossils" sand pile out on the patio. We are going to make a new game, similar to the spinning wheel but smaller. It will be set up out in the hall leading to the kid's area to help attract attention and draw people in to the room.

Silent Auction Same location as before.

In another room. A "3-D Art Show" which will feature sculpture, gourds that are carved, a couple of jewelry makers, stained glass, quilts, etc.

Dealer Fees: The cost for dealers will increase to \$240.00

Show Committees:

Publicity: Mike Beaumont, assisted by Richard Shirer who will do the magazines again this year. Mike plans to do some advertising on the Internet.

Dealers - Ofelia Warthen

Demonstrators - Don Eschbach

Donation Awards - Loretta Ogden

Silent Auction - Kathy Valle & Izzy Burns

Truck - Don Eschbach

Security - Volunteers - Friday: Richard Shirer/
Don Ogden, Saturday: Frank Winn/???? (note: need
another volunteer for Sat.)

Greeter - Kathy Eschbach & Barbara Steed

Display Cases - Nancy Bird

Plants - Nancy Bird - she will need people to
donate plants this time as she does not have the stock
of plant she had available before.

Chamber Rep. - Don Warthen -

Note: BIG CHANGE - On the Friday before the
Show, we will be hosting an *open house for the
Chamber*. The dealers will have to set up by 5:00
P.M. and we will be hosting a *Mixer* that we will try
to get a local restaurant to cater.

We will do a drawing for them and do a short
presentation, then we'll open up the Show to allow
the Chamber Members to see the Show and shop
early.

It is also an opportunity for our dealers to sell their
wares on Friday, not just on the weekend. We expect
a turnout of 2-3 dozen for the mixer.

Youth Activities - We will need a lot of help with
the programs.

Note - if you want to serve on the Show
Committee, give Don Warthen your email address
so he can notify you about meetings, etc.

Social Report: No report.

Other Business - Supplemental:

**The La Habra Expo will be held at the La Habra
Community Center on October 17:** It costs
\$125.00/table; NOC could use this event as an
opportunity advertise our club and maybe get some
new members.

Setup is at 4:30 P.M. and it runs from 5:00 to 8:00
P.M.

Note: NOC cost for the table will be \$50.00
because we are a non-profit organization (Don E.).
Nancy Bird offered to go see Clarence Pool about
getting some donated tumbled rocks to hand out to
the booth visitors.

Richard Shirer made a Motion to do the Expo.

Misha Farinech Seconded the Motion.

After discussion of volunteers, Motion carried -
none opposed.

**Don Eschbach told us that he still has some Club
patches in 2 sizes** : Both types are \$1.50 each. Also
Don E. asked if anyone had any ideas about a Club
vest or uniform that might be good for the Club. Please
be thinking about it and if you come up with anything,
let us know.

Christmas Party reminder: Need to contact Kathy
Eschbach to reserve tables and pay.

New Business: Richard Shirer told us that Nancy
Bird helped with plants at the Show and asked that
the Club support her in some way. Frank Winn is
checking on a source of mulch to help her out.

Mike Beaumont had 2 items to talk about.

1. He informed us that he will be a guest speaker the
"Good Morning La Habra" breakfast in May. He is
going to talk for about 20 minutes about our Club.

* Mike Beaumont made a Motion that NOC sign
up for the "Good Morning La Habra" program which
will happen on May 29.

* Nancy Bird Seconded the Motion.

* Discussion: Izzy Burns was concerned that this
event might interfere with the other outreach activities
NOC will be participating in on that day. Don
Eschbach said that the "Good Morning La Habra"
event was in the morning and would not interfere with
the other publicity events which all happen in the
evening.

* Motion carried, none opposed.

2. Mike will also be doing a presentation to the La
Habra Business Connection tomorrow morning
between 7:30-8:30 AM. at the La Habra Community
Center.

Nancy Bird went to the Fallbrook Show: she said
it was a nice show with a really good silent auction -
they also have a great museum and gift shop. She
said that the Stewart Mine is close to the show and
you can purchase buckets of mine concentrate there
for \$50.00. The Oceanview Mine is also nearby.

Ofelia Warthen said that we had 24 members and
one guest.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

From E.S.S. Chair

by Marion Roberts
via CFMS Newsletter 11/07

I am writing this article in part out of desperation, part informational, part educational and, part to put pressure on the editors and federation directors. Camp Paradise has just concluded with good but not great results. We only had 100 participants but, 100 great participants. Out of the 100 there were 33 first timers, which is a fantastic ratio. Everyone went home with new knowledge and some fine accomplishments. On the 2nd week at the show and tell evening I counted over 500 finished items.

I'm also here to thank all of the people who came a week early to work at the camp where some 45 gallons of paint was applied along with the cleanup and old paint scraping and removal.

Now, this part of this article I want read by the federation directors at the meeting and I want it printed in your newsletter.

The Earth Science Studies Program is a committee that is dedicated to the promotion and the education of the Earth Sciences, and directed strongly toward the lapidary arts and various disciplines pertaining to it, such as the collecting of material and making of jewelry with lapidary results. This committee has been and is responsible for 3 weeks of classes a year, 1 week in March at a desert studies center near Baker, CA on Zzyzx road, and 2-1 week programs at camp paradise which is just out of Clipper Mill, CA north of Marysville CA in September.

These programs are available at a cost of \$300 per person per week, which includes instruction, room and board. Instruction includes classes in Lapidary (cabochon making), silver fabrication, wire art, soft stone carving, hard stone carving, field trips, copper enameling, and evening programs at both camps, also where space is available, primarily at Camp Paradise we teach faceting, silver and gold casting, glass bead making along with other disciplines as the cycles change.

One of the toughest thing for us to overcome, and I hope this will be a step in that direction, is the rumors and lack of information getting to the general membership. Now is where the pressure comes in. I have been a federation director over 10 years so I know what it is to pass on information from the newsletter and it is a privilege to do so. The rest of the people want to know as much as you do or possibly more, and you and you are their link.

To the Editors: Print this information so they can get the stories straight from the chairman's fingers instead through rumor mill. When you print this in your newsletter, send me a copy and let's see how many I get.

Send to
Marion Roberts
1505 Plumas Ave.
Modesto, Ca. 95358

Remember Zzyzx will fill fast. Send applications early. See you there.

Awards Dinner/Christmas Party

by Kathy Eschbach
(562) 943-8736

Where: Portofino Italiano Restaurant,
651 W. Whittier Blvd.,
La Habra 90631

When: December 11, 2007
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Cost: \$13.00 per person

Please mail your check made payable to:
"North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society".

Mail it to:
Kathy Eschbach
12430 S. Maybrook Ave.,
Whittier, CA 90604

Or you may bring it to the General Meeting.

Big Bear Field Trip September 29-30

by Don Ogden



La Habra Expo

by Don Ogden

NOC at the La Habra Expo held at the La Habra Community Center on October 17.



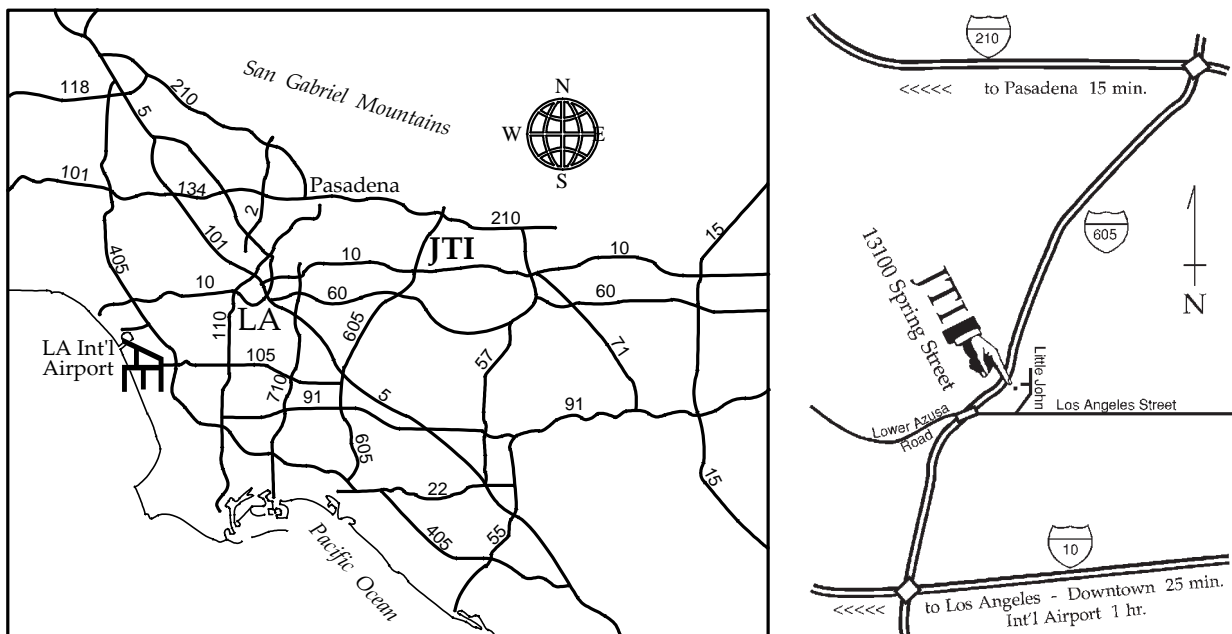
**An invitation for the members and friends of the
 North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society
 to attend an openhouse at
 Jewel Tunnel Imports
 Saturday, December 1, 2007, 10 AM to 4PM
 13100 Spring St., Baldwin Park, CA 91706, 626-814-2257
 Map available at jeweltunnel.com
 Refreshments will be served.**

Jewel Tunnel Imports is a leading wholesale distributor of mineral specimens, crystals, fossils, tumbled stones and many different kinds of lapidary items like balls, eggs, jewelry etc. made from different minerals. We have a warehouse in excess of 10,000 sq. feet full of mineral related natural history items, perhaps the largest of its kind in the United States.

Historically Jewel Tunnel Imports has had limited open house parties for mineralogically and geologically oriented groups such as the students and faculty of various university geology departments and members of certain gem and mineral societies. These open houses, by invitation only, on a few weekends just preceding Christmas, offer a chance for individuals belonging to these groups to buy minerals and crystals at wholesale prices and to learn something about the wholesale gem and mineral business.

The owner of Jewel Tunnel (Rock Currier) is also interested in learning about new sources of mineral specimens and has been known to buy and trade such items. He is a micromounter and always interesting in trading for good micromount material not represented in his collection.

Directions to Jewel Tunnel Import's warehouse.



Whittier Claim Field Trip November 3-4

by Don Ogden



Tri-Federation Field Trip

by Dick Pankey, Inter-Reginal Field Trips

The Northwest, Rocky Mountain and California Federations will host a Rockhound Rendezvous to Texas Springs, NV over Memorial Day Weekend, 2008 and all AFMS members (this includes the NOCG&MS) are invited to attend. We had such a great time in 2003 we decided to do it again.

The date is set - May 21 to 26, 2008. The place is picked - the Texas Springs area for spectacular pink agate limb casts, as well as other agate and petrified wood. Arrangements are being made; details are being finalized and the flier will be issued next month. Watch for the fliers and information in the AFMS Newsletter and on the web site, as well as the host federation's Newsletters (CFMS and NOCNEWS) and web sites.

Late spring is a beautiful time of year to be in northern Nevada's high desert. The days are warm and the evenings are cool. Great weather for rock hounding and for our rendezvous. We will collect at 4 to 6 different sites: pink limb casts, small limb casts and bogwood, snakeskin agate, jasp/agate limb casts, geodes, and more. Our Rendezvous will include daily collecting trips, potluck dinners, daily Happy Hours, evening campfires, map exchange and tailgate displays.

This area has been popular with rockhounds for many years, and prized material can still be found for those who are willing to dig for it. And many were successful! In 2003 we had over 200 rockhounds from 14 western states representing 55 clubs of the three federations.

Come join us for a great Tri-Federation Rendezvous of collecting, fun and fellowship. Mark your calendar, schedule your vacation, and plan to join us next May 21st to 26th.