

NOC NEWS

NORTH ORANGE COUNTY GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.

**ALL AMERICAN CLUB
1985, 1986, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1992**

*A member of the
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES
CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES*

Meetings

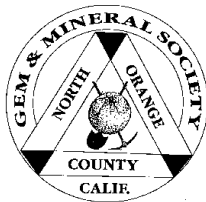
Day and Location:

**With the exception of July, August and
December, meetings are held at 7:00 p.m.
the second Tuesday of the month at the
La Habra Community Center,
101 W. La Habra Blvd., La Habra.**

**The La Habra Community Center
is located west of Euclid on La Habra Blvd.**

**For current meeting information,
please call (562) 943-8736**

**North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.
Box 653
La Habra, CA 90633-0653
<http://www.nocgms.com>**



<http://www.cfmsinc.org>

NORTH ORANGE COUNTY GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.

P.O. Box 653

La Habra, California

Regular meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month (excluding July, August and December) at the La Habra Community Center, 101 W. La Habra Blvd., La Habra (west of Euclid).

2007 OFFICERS

President	Don Eschbach	(562) 943-8736	donkathyesch@verizon.net
First Vice President	Nancy Bird	(562) 947-6845	nancyjbird@earthlink.net
Second Vice President	Kathy Eschbach	(562) 943-8736	donkathyesch@verizon.net
Secretary	Jay Valle	(626) 934-9764	res19pnb@verizon.net
Treasurer	Don Warthen	(626) 330-8974	warthen@earthlink.net
Federation Director	Loretta Ogden	(909) 598-2456	donogden@aol.com
Director	Ofelia Warthen	(626) 330-8974	warthen@earthlink.net
Director	Bill & Izzie Burns	(626) 288-2896	isnbll@aol.com
Director	Frank Winn	(626) 912-0404	fwinn@SempraUtilities.com
Director	Richard Schirer	(562) 944-9445	rich477@ca.rr.org
Director	Don Ogden	(909) 598-2456	donogden@aol.com

2007 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Operating Supplies	Virginia Grafton	(562) 865-2040	sunkaysen@aol.com
Budget & Finance	Don Warthen	see above	
Bulletin Editors	Don & Loretta Ogden	see above	
Displays & Education	Virginia Grafton	(562) 865-2040	sunkaysen@aol.com
Door Prizes	Loretta Ogden	see above	
Field Trips	Jay Valle	see above	
Historian	Susan Hansen	(562) 865-2040	sunkaysen@aol.com
Hospitality & Membership	Kathy Eschbach	(562) 943-8736	donkathyesch@verizon.net
Insurance	Don Warthen	see above	
Librarian	Ofelia Warthen	see above	
Oper. Regulations & By-Laws ...	Don Warthen	see above	
Programs	Nancy Bird	see above	
Publicity	Jane Hendrixon	(562) 691-9595	
Refreshments	Kathy Valle	(626) 934-9764	res19pnb@verizon.net
Show Chairmen 2007	Don Warthen	see above	
Social Secretary	Eleanore Pleines	(714) 997-5100	elezeber@aol.com

MISSION STATEMENT

The objective and purpose of the North Orange County Gem and Mineral Society is to disseminate knowledge of mineralogy and the earth sciences and to encourage study in these subjects through means of: the presentation of public exhibitions, lectures, slide programs; field trips for explorations, study and collection of specimens; the preparation, publication and distribution of articles and studies pertaining to mineralogy and the earth sciences; the promotion of scientific research in these fields; the encouragement of interest among young people and the fostering of classes in mineralogy and lapidary arts; and all other means which are appropriate to the accomplishment of the primary objectives set forth.

Annual Membership Dues: Individual, \$15; Family, \$20; Students, \$10.

(Initiation Fee: Individual, \$5; Family \$10)

Visitors are always welcome at our regular meetings and field trips.

The North Orange County Gem & Mineral Soc. does not yet have a Junior Division.

Material contained in this newsletter may be used if credit is given.

Please send exchange bulletins to:

Don & Loretta Ogden, Co-Editors
NOC Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.
20904 Trigger Ln.
Diamond Bar, CA 91765
909-598-2456
donogden@aol.com

NOC GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWS

Vol, 26 No. 10

December 2007

President's Message

by *Don Eschbach*

Hi Everyone,

WOW! What a great fund-raiser! Don Warthen did an outstanding job as Auctioneer at our November 13 Annual Live and Silent Auction. He really kept the excitement going. It was also nice to see so many guests including members from the Whittier Gem and Mineral Society who have been friends to our club for many years. I want to thank all of you who brought in items to auction off at our fund-raiser because without your generous donations, it could not have been such a success.

Christmas time is almost here and we are all looking forward to our annual Christmas/Awards Party. Mike Beaumont has graciously volunteered to provide the music and lighting. This annual event is always a fun time to get together with all of our wonderful club members.

Just a reminder that the City of La Habra conducts their annual "Operation Santa," which is a program designed to give gifts to those in need. The North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society has always supported this event, but it is strictly voluntary on behalf of our club members. You can bring unwrapped toys, gifts, or can goods to the Christmas party and I will see that they are delivered to the Community Center.

The Christmas/Awards Party will begin promptly at 6:00 PM at Portofino Restaurant, 651 West Whittier Blvd., La Habra 90631. The restaurant, on Whittier Blvd., is between Idaho and Euclid. This is a "sit-down" dinner (not a buffet) so please be prompt. Following dinner, I will introduce honored dignitaries, ending with award distributions. Our gathering will end at 9:00 PM. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Eschbach at (562) 943-8736.

Refreshments

Thanks to Richard and Yolanda Schirer & Mary Villaescusa for bringing the goodies to the November meeting.

NOC Club Activities

Cab Classes at Loretta Ogden's — 6-9 p.m.

every Tuesday except meeting nights

Board Meeting — To be announced

Field Trip — To be announced

Deadline for NOC News — December 17.

Annual Christmas Dinner — December 11, 2007

Portofino Italiano Restaurant

651 W. Whittier Blvd. La Habra

Programs

Our program for December will be the Annual Christmas Dinner. For Operation Santa, bring presents for Children (unwrapped) and food.



Members in the News

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

Janine Arp

Wendi Erskine

Natividad Farquer

Jerry Frey

Bryant Higa

Pat Mogan

Charles O'Neil

Kathy Valle

Your gemstone is Turquoise.

Your flower is Holly or Narcissus.

Shows and Events

December 1-2, Barstow, CA

Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Soc.
Barstow Community Center
81 Barstow road
Hours: 10 - 5 both days
Gene Hines (760) 256-0595
Beth Pinnell (760) 255-1030

December 8-10 2007, San Bernardino, CA

Orange Belt Mineralogical Society
Rudy C Hernandez Community Center
222 North Lugo Ave. (2nd and Sierra Way)
Hours: Sat. 10 - 5, Sun. 10 - 4
Lyle Stayer (909) 887-3393 / ecobyrd@aol.com
Al Carrell (951) 961-5988
Emma Rose (951) 288-6182

February 15-24, 2008 Indio, CA

San Gorgonio Mineral & Gem Soc.
Riverside Co. Fair & National Date Festival
46-350 Arabia St. Indio
Hours: 10 - 10
Bill Grisham (951) 849-1674
Email: bert67@verizon.net

March 1-2, 2008 Arcadia, CA

Monrovia Rockhounds
Los Angeles Arboretum
301 N. Baldwin Ave.
Hours: 9 - 4:30 both days
Jo Anna Ritchey (626) 359-1624
Website: www.moraks.com

March 8-9, 2008 San Marino, CA

Pasadena Lapidary Society
San Marino Masonic Temple
3130 Huntington Drive
Hours: Sat. 10 - 6, Sun. 10 - 5
Drew Wilson (626) 449-4910
Email: TODREW@sbcglobal.net

March 14 - 16, 2008 San Bernardino, CA
Orange Belt Mineralogical Society
Western Regional Little League Park
6707 Little League Drive
Hours: 10 - 5 both days
Emma Couveau (951) 288-6182

May 31 - June 1, 2008 Glendora, CA
Glendora Gem & Mineral Club
859 E. Sierra Madre
Hours: Sat. 10 - 5, Sun. 10 - 4
Bonnie Bidwell (626) 963-4638
Email: Ybidwell2@aol.com

New Member

by Kathy Eschbach

Julia West
2910 Descending Drive
Haceindia Heights, CA 91745-5001
Home Telephone: (562) 696-7009
Cell Phone: (562) 400-9902
E-mail: westjtm@aol.com



Editors Note

My computer crashed with all my programs and data. The December NOC news was done from scratch on my laptop.

Federation Report

by Loretta Ogden

We attended the business meeting for the CFMS in Visalia. The list of new officers is listed below. Several of the members of NOC are doing jobs for the CFMS this year. *Don Warthen* is serving on the Financial Committee. *Don Ogden* is the chairperson of the Internet Committee with *Jay Valle* also serving. I am the chairperson of the Member Recognition (Education Through Sharing) Committee with *Nancy Bird* assisting. *Bill* and *Izzie Burns* will be serving on several committees.

The CFMS is hosting their own show for 2008. It will be June 27-29, at the Ventura Fairgrounds. Hopefully we will have many members in attendance. There are also many jobs that need to be filled so if you have the time and want to get involved let me know. You will receive a pass for volunteering.

I would be happy to accept nominations for our Club Member of the Year for 2008. Call me 909 598 2456. Also I encourage anyone who is interested in becoming involved with the CFMS to do so. It is important work and very rewarding at the same time. Not to mention meeting new people and having fun at the same time.

I will be assuming chairmanship of the AFMS Rockhound of The Year Committee for 2008.

Fed Officers for 2008

Bural LaRue - President
QT Quitariano - 1st VP
Fred Ott - 2nd VP
Cal Classon - Treasurer
Jim Brace-Thompson - Secretary
Pat LaRue - Executive Secretary/Treasurer/
Printer



Knapping

(Excerpts from article by Nolie Bell
in *Rocket City Rocks and Gems 10/07*)
via *The Pegmatite 11/07*

Knapping was the method used by Native Americans and other cultures to make arrowheads, spear points, knives, hide scrapers and other tools for millennia before the arrival of Europeans on this continent.

The heat treating method used by Native Americans was to dig a large hole in the area where knapping material was found, and then to build a fire in the hole to dry out the surrounding earth. When the fire burned down to smoldering coals and ashes, they would fill the hole with sand and the chert, flint, and any other material they wanted to knap. Then they would build a fire on top of the fill material and keep it hot for a few days, then let it die down. After the fill was cool enough, they would dig it out and start knapping their tools and weapons. Roughing out the blanks on the spot would greatly reduce the burden they would have to carry back to their home places.

Modern knappers use kilns to achieve the same effect. The kiln is loaded with material, the temperature is brought up no faster than 50 degrees F per hour, and the rocks are kept hot in the kiln for three days. They are slowly cooled down before removing them. A copper alloy is used by modern knappers for flaking because it is very close to the hardness of the antlers, horns and bones used by Native Americans.



Field Trip Report

WGMS Club Claim

November 3-4, 2007

by Jay Valle

NOC Field Trip Chairman

The annual field trip to the Whittier Gem & Mineral Society's Honey Onyx Claim is one of the most popular and well-attended trips we go on during the year. It is close to home, 4-wheel drive vehicles typically are not needed, and there is a motel just a mile from the claim which a number of NOC members take advantage of.

I arrived on Friday and installed a combination lock on the gate at the entrance to the claim area. This property is mostly under claim by Brubaker-Mann, a gravel operation. They installed the gate and keep it locked for two main reasons. First off, people were bringing their trash and garbage and dumping it along the road inside the mine property. This by itself was not very nice but it got really ugly when the BLM came in and fined Brubaker-Mann for littering (the BLM administers all of this area). The other reason is that occasionally no-goodniks enter the property and steal batteries, etc. from or vandalize the earth moving machines used there. Hence, the locked gate. The evening was perfect for a campfire so the first of two spectacular fireside moments was enjoyed. This year 28 rock hounds braved the elements to join us out in the desert. (Actually, it wasn't as brave as all that - the weather was perfect all weekend long. We enjoyed bright, sunny days with daytime temperatures maybe pushing 80° F and nighttime temps dropping to around 50° F - perfect for rock hunting and camping.)

We started out at the honey onyx mine. The mine is a little weather beaten these days and needs some serious overburden removal to expose more of the golden-yellow seams of onyx. The gem material is solidly encased in limestone and requires considerable energy and motivation to extract. Last year, a couple of people brought out the sledgehammers and heavy tools and attacked the exposed seams. This year, no one had the inclination toward hard-rock mining. So we headed off to the red moss area, a mile or so away. This is a small but productive location with high

quality moss/sagenite agate available to the determined collector. The problem for most "newbie" rock hounds is that you cannot always spot a good rock by its looking at its outside ("can't tell a book by its cover" - get it - I paraphrased... oh well, anyway...). So the field trip leader provided an example of this phenomenon. A rock collected the week before from this location had been polished on one side, thus displaying the gorgeous colors and inclusions of both sagenite and moss on the inside, and the other side left natural and as found - rough looking and unappealing. As always, teaching new rock enthusiasts our hobby is a hands-on experience and those who were interested found agate.

One of my favorite locations, the Paul Bunyan Agate Mine was next on the agenda. Here, the collecting is either in the tailings with minimal effort required or attacking the main seam in the trench with medium-heavy tools. I led the "tailings contingent" while Paul Wendling (Pasadena Club) led the assault on the exposed seam. Both groups collected agate (ask Loretta to show you her PB agate I polished for her and Don). Just around the corner from Paul Bunyan is another moss agate location, which can occasionally produce some spectacular lapidary cutting material. Mostly small stuff was found on this day, though. This location, as is true for many of the local spots, needs a couple of good pounding rains to expose new agate.

Returning to camp, a consensus of opinion was that, rather than an outdoor potluck dinner, we should instead adjourn to Peggy Sue's Diner, a local favorite eatery, which we did (saved on pot cleanup, that's for sure.) Afterwards, the campers and a few of the motel denizens returned to camp at the WGMS Club Claim and enjoyed a first-class campfire, the last of the weekend (we ran out of wood!)

Sunday morning, Dave Kely (Pasadena & WGMS Field Trip Leader) led us to two locations on the eastern side of the Calico Mountains where rock was collected by all who were collecting. At least one participant was more into taking pictures than collecting rocks, which is cool - I try to do both but it is usually necessary to concentrate on one or the other in order to be successful at either. Most of the remaining 'hounds left by around 2:00 P.M. to beat the traffic. Paul & Julie Wendling and I decided to stay until Monday before breaking camp.

Monday morning, the three remaining field trippers (Paul, Julie & I) tried to get to a mine we could see across the freeway from camp. It turned out to be *very interesting* (but schtupid...sorry - must be thinking of "Laugh In" again). We parked behind a small mountain and climbed to the top looking for way to get to the mine area. Turned out it was below us on the OTHER SIDE of the hill. And it had a road going straight to it, painfully obvious to us from our

high and very scenic overlook. As we were by now running out of time, we did a quick explore inside and outside of the fairly extensive mine complex. We found several tunnels for future exploration and a few bats to try to photograph on a return visit.

So that is how the field trip went. A number of our favorite field trippers were absent (you know who you are) but we still had a great time on the perfect weekend.



Potluck At Peggy Sue's

