

NOC GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWS

Vol, 28 No. 2

February 2009

President's Message

by Don Warthen

Good day everyone! We just got back from Quartzite. The weather was great and the crowds were huge. We bought some large geodes for the show. They are a little smaller than the ones we had last year, but still very good-looking ones.

Several weekends ago, Ofelia and I, joined the Victorville Club on a trip to the Cadies. NOC had a great turnout with Jay, Don Ogden, Frank Winn and Walt Wright. This could be the last time to this location as they are closing it down.

I want to commend all the Committees working on this year's program as follows:

- Jay has several field trips lined up; But would like to have anyone interested in helping out with the field trips or search for new locations. Please let him know.
- Ofelia and the Education Committee have several workshops scheduled and are working on more, if there are any classes or workshops you want, please let Ofelia know. See the schedule in the bulletin for dates, time and location.
- Richard has been working very diligent calling all the local newspapers to see if he can get coverage of our meetings in the papers. He has also been sending out letters on the show to all the magazines, and is working on our Club History. He need information of the clubs' history and if any of the older members have any stories they want to share, please let Richard know.
- Mike is lining up monthly programs and had a wonderful program last month. Mike is also heading up the Museum Committee and working on a Business Plan.
- Yolanda is our Club Librarian. She has organized the books and will have a new schedule at the next meeting.
- Izzie is heading a committee to look at our By-Laws and see what changes are needed, if any. Please send your written suggestions for her committee to analyze.
- Everyone is doing a great job in participating and I want to say Thank You! This is what makes our Club the greatest!

DUES ARE DUE! Remember to send them to John or me.

The Club received an invitation at the P.O. Box, for everyone in the club to attend Clarence Pool's 100th Birthday on February 7th starting at 1 PM. At 8321 Passons Blvd., Pico Rivera. This is a very special occasion to have one of our long time members celebrate 100 years; we will be doing a special exhibit at this year show commemorating Clarence's 100th Birthday.

NOC Club Activities

Board Meeting — To be announced

Field Trip — Wiley's Well Area — Feb. 14-16

Deadline for NOC News — Feb. 17.

Programs

by Mike Beaumont

Speaker: James Klein is the speaker He is an actor and writer who caught gold fever over 30 years ago. He has written much about the California Gold Rush and gold prospecting. He combines hands-on treasure hunting methods, historical information and stage presence to provide a fun and informative presentation about the past and present California Gold Rush.

Refreshments

Thanks to Kathy & Jay Valle and Nancy Bird for bringing the goodies to the January meeting. Dave & Fran Swanston, and Frank & Kim Winn will bring the goodies to the February meeting.

Members in the News

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

*Mike Beaumont
Nancy Bird
Al Hermosillo
Jeremy Newman
Linda Nelson
Clarence Pool
Del Smith
Chalmer Steed*

Your gemstone is Amethyst

Your flower is Primrose or Violet

Shows and Events

January 30 - february 1 2009, Redlands, CA

The Mineralogical Society of Southern CA
43rd. Pacific Micromount Conference
San Bernardino County Museum
2024 Orange Tree Lane
exit North on California St. from I-10
Hours: Fri. 3 p.m. - 10 p.m., Sat. 8 -6
Sun. Field Trip (TBD)

February 27-28, 2009, Northridge CA

Delair Rockhounds
United Methodist Church
9650 Reseda Blvd. (at Superior St.)
Hours: Fri. 3 p.m. - 9:30 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Julia Marin (818) 886-7190
Email: jomarin@disextreme.com

March 7-8, 2009 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 14-15, 2009 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

April 18-19 2008, Lancaster, CA

The Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Lancaster High School
44701 32nd St. W.
Hours: 9 - 5 both days
Vivian Watts (760) 373-1309
Email: vivlea22@yahoo.com
Website: www.geocities.com.av.gem

May 30-31 2009, 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

June 6-7 2009, La Habra, CA

North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society
La Habra Community Center
101 W. La Habra Blvd.
Hours: 9 - 5 both days
Don Warthen (626) 330-8974
Email: warthen@earthlink.net
Website: nocgms.com

October October 17-18 2009, Whittier, CA

Whittier Gem & Mineral Society
Whittier Community Center
7630 Washington Avenue
Hours: Sat. 10-5 both days
Jay Valle: (626) 934-9764
Email: res19pnb@verizon.net



Print Screen

by Don Ogden

Have you ever clicked the **Prt SC** key at the top of your keyboard to print the image on your screen. Why did it not print? You must do more than pressing the key.

In Windows XP and Vista, you can print and/or save the screen. Here's HOW:

First You Need to Send the Screen Display to Clipboard (Windows Memory)

1. Select the screen display that you want to save.
2. Hold down the **Alt** key and press **Prt Sc** (Print Screen) key.

RESULT: A picture of current screen display (window) is sent to Clipboard for pasting.

Next View the Clipboard Display on the Paint Screen

1. Left click **start**.
2. Left click **All Programs**.
3. Left click **Accessories**.
4. Left click **Paint**.
5. Left click **Edit**.
6. Left click **Paste**.

RESULT: Picture of current screen display (window) is displayed on Paint screen.

To Print

1. Left click **File**.
2. Left click **Page Setup**.
 - a. In *Scaling* box: Set *Adjust to* ___ % normal size box to a percentage that shows an entire square in Preview window. (Example: 40%.)
 - b. Click **OK**.

NOTE

If the scaling box adjustment is not set, you may print parts of the page up to 8 times.

3. Left click **File**.
4. Left **Print Preview**.

RESULT: A preview of the current window to be printed is displayed with the adjustment set in step2.
5. Left click on **CLOSE** to return to Paint screen.

Repeat step 2 if the desired results are obtained.
6. Left click **File**.
7. Left click **Print**.
8. Select printer: ___
9. Left click **Print**.

RESULT: Picture of current screen display (window) is printed.

To Save as .jpg

1. Perform steps 1 thru 2 above (to send screen display to clipboard) and steps 1 thru 6 above (to view clipboard display).

RESULT: Picture of current screen display (window) is displayed on Paint screen.
2. Left click **File**.
3. Select **Save As**.
 - a. Save in: ___
 - a. File Name: ___
 - b. Save as file type: jpg
4. Click **Save**.

NOC Education

*from Education Committee
Ofelia Warthen, Chairman*

Committee consists of following members:

Ofelia Warthen - (626) 330-8974 or
(562) 946-0828

Loretta Ogden – (909) 598-2456

Fran Swanston – (626) 912-1531

Wendi Erskine – (562) 697-1140

The Committee met on January 6, 2009 to discuss education programs as follows:

February 24 – Make a Suspended Briolette Pendant

March 24 – Make Simple Wire Wrap

April 28 – Make a Memory Wire Project.

All above projects will be conducted at the La Habra Community Center from 6 to 9 p.m.

Fee: \$20 each project. Reservations are required.

Seating is limited.

Other Pending Educational Projects:

Basic Geology I01 - Dates to be announce in March,
April and September

NOC General Meeting Minutes La Habra Community Center January 13, 2009

by Jay Valley, NOC Secretary

Call to Order: President Don Warthen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the flag salute.

Membership: The meeting was attended by 26 members.

Program - "Visiting Classical Geological Sites in North America and Europe", presented by Dr. Richard Lozinsky, Fullerton College

Break & Drawing

Announcements: Don Warthen reminded everyone present that it is dues time. Also, NOC Board Meeting probably next Wednesday - will confirm by email.

Committee Reports:

Treasurers Report: John Erskine told us that 25 people had paid their dues so far. He updated us on the finances and our bank accounts. Seven of our show dealers have paid so far. Mike Beaumont asked how much we were charging for tables this year. Don Warthen said that it was \$80/table. There were no additional comments on the Treasurer's Report so the Report will "Stand As Read".

Budget Committee: Don Warthen informed the members that a Budget Committee was needed for the new year. As Treasurer, John Erskine is Chairman and Don Warthen is already on the committee. Dave Swanston, Randi Hetrick and Susan Hansen volunteered at the meeting to serve on this committee. John E. will inform the committee members of the meeting date(s) by email. Don Warthen also wants the Show, Education and Museum Committees to submit a budget for their proposed expenses for 2009.

Education Committee: Ofelia Warthen said that the Education Committee met last week. Jewelry Making Classes had been scheduled for February 24, March 24 & April 28 from 6-9 PM at the La Habra Community Center. Ofelia asked for help with the

workshops and programs. You can contact any of the members of the committee, Ofelia Warthen, Loretta Ogden, Fran Swanston or Wendi Erskine. The cost per class is \$20 and everyone is invited, members and public. You must sign up for the classes as space is limited - a signup sheet will be at the next meeting or you can contact Ofelia to let her know you will be coming. The first project will be a simple wire wrap project. More information will be in the next bulletin. Don Warthen asked members to provide feedback as to the projects they would like to do.

Field Trips: Jay Valle informed the membership present that the official Club field trip will be to Quartzsite, January 21 - 25, for QIA & Pow-Wow. He also told us that the Tri-Club Field Trip meeting had been held and provided a list of proposed field trips for 2009. Contact Jay for more details or if you have a particular place you would like to go.

Federation Report: Izzy Burns gave the Federation report. She informed us that the 2009 CFMS Show is coming up in April this year and will be held in San Jose by the Santa Clara Club. The club which had been scheduled to host the 2010 CFMS/AFMS Show has backed out and she asked if NOC would be interested in doing the show. Walt Wright **MADE A MOTION** that we explore the possibility of the NOC hosting the 2010 show. Sue Hansen **SECONDED THE MOTION. The MOTION CARRIED, NONE OPPOSED.**

Program for February: To be announced.

Refreshments: Nancy Bird and Jay & Kathy Valle brought the refreshments to the January meeting. Next month our snacks we will be provided by Dave & Fran Swanston and Frank & Kim Winn. A sign-up sheet was set out for members to sign up for bringing snacks to the upcoming 2009 meetings.

New Business:

Don Warthen told us about a Mixer next Wednesday with the Lion's Club and Breakfast on the last Thursday of the month. Don also said that he wants to start a committee to design orange vests for members to wear. Bernie & Mary Ruiz brought in an orange web-type safety vest as a possibility.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

Lapidary

from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The word lapidary means “concerned with stones”. A lapidarian is an artisan who practices the craft of working, forming and finishing stone, mineral, gemstones, and other suitably durable materials (amber, shell, jet, pearl, copal, coral, horn and bone, glass and other synthetics) into functional and/or decorative, even wearable, items (e.g. cameos, cabochons, and more complex faceted designs). The adjectival term is also extended to refer to such arts. Diamond cutters are generally *not* referred to as lapidaries, due to their highly specialized techniques which are required to work diamond successfully.

The arts of a sculptor or stonemason are generally too broad in scale to fall within the definition, though chiseling inscriptions in stone, and preparing laboratory ‘thin sections’ may be considered lapidary arts. The term is most commonly associated with jewelry and decorative household items (e.g. bookends, clock faces, ornaments, etc.) A specialized form of lapidary work is the inlaying of marble and gemstones into a marble matrix, known in English as “pietra dura” for the hard stones like onyx, jasper and carnelian that are used, but called in Florence and Naples, where the technique was developed in the 16th century, *opere di commessi*. The Medici Chapel at San Lorenzo in Florence is completely veneered with inlaid hard stones. A lapidary specialty developed from the late 18th century in Naples and Rome are the “micro-mosaics” assembled out of many minute slivers of stone to create still life, cityscape views and the like.

In China, lapidary work specializing in jade carving has been continuous since the Shang dynasty.

Procedures

There exist three broad procedures of lapidary arts. These are

- tumbling
- cabochon cutting
- faceting

The distinction is somewhat loose, and leaves a broad range within the term cabochon.

At present, most lapidary work is accomplished using motorized equipment and resin or metal bonded diamond tooling in successively decreasing particle sizes until a polish is achieved. Often, the final polish will use a different medium, such as tin oxide, glasitite or cerium(IV) oxide. Older techniques, still popular with hobbyists, used bonded grinding wheels of silicon carbide, with only using a diamond tipped saw. Diamond cutting, because of the extreme hardness of diamonds, cannot be done with silicon carbide, and requires the use of diamond tools.

There are also many other forms of lapidary, not just cutting and polishing stones and gemstones. These include: casting, faceting, carving, jewellery, mosaics (eg. little slices of opal on potch, obsidian or another black stone and with a clear dome (glass or crystal quartz) on top. There are lapidary clubs through-out the world and in Australia there are numerous gemshows including an annual gemshow, the Gemborree which is a nation-wide lapidary competition. There is a collection of gem and mineral shows held in Tucson, Arizona at the beginning of February each year. This group of shows constitutes the largest gem and mineral event in the world. The event was originally started with the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society Show and has now grown to include dozens of other independent shows.

Secondary Lapidary meaning

A secondary meaning of lapidary is pertaining to, about, “of inscriptions.” Since inscriptions were laboriously chiselled to stone, a “lapidary” writing style is crisp, accurate, formal, and condensed. Only the most accomplished can express themselves verbally in a lapidary style: “Brevity is the soul of wit,” as Polonius told Claudis.

Another meaning in a treatise on the subject of precious stones, one example being the so-called *Old English Lapidary*, a tenth or eleventh-century translation into Anglo-Saxon of earlier Latin glosses on stones mentioned in *The Book of Revelation*.

Theft from Vehicles

via Jonathan North, NCG&MS

The following was an E-mail from a friend and it has a useful warning that I think you might want to know about. Please read this and if you think others might be interested, you may pass it along.

New way criminals are getting into locked cars:

I locked my car — as I walked away I heard my car door unlock I went back and locked my car again three times. I looked around and there were two guys sitting in a car in the fire lane next to the store. When I looked straight at them they did not unlock my car again.

How to lock your car safely:

While traveling, my son stopped at a roadside park. He came out to his car less than 4-5 minutes later and found someone had gotten into his car, and stolen his cell phone, laptop computer, GPS navigator briefcase...you name it. He called the police and since there were no signs of his car being broken into, the police told him that there is a device that robbers are using now to clone your security code when you lock your doors on your car using your key-chain locking device.

They sit a distance away and watch for their next victim. They know you are going inside of the store, restaurant, or bathroom and have a few minutes to steal and run.

The police officer said... Be sure to manually lock your car door by hitting the lock button inside the car. That way if there is someone sitting in a parking lot watching for his next victim it will not be you. When you hit the lock button on your car upon exiting...it does not send the security code, but if you walk away and use the door lock on your key chain—it sends the code through the airwaves where it can be stolen—something totally new to us.

Be aware of this and please pass this note on. Look how many times we all lock our doors with our keys...just to be sure we remembered to lock them....and bingo someone has our code...and whatever was in the car...can be gone.

Field Trip Schedule for 2009

by Jay Valle, NOC Field Trip

The 2009 field trip meeting was held at the home of Joe & Marcia Goetz (WGMS/PLS/NOC) on Saturday, January 10. The three clubs - Whittier, Pasadena and North Orange County, and joined by a representative of the Palmdale Club, met to produce the official field trip schedule for the coming year.

The following list is the result. As always, when other field trips opportunities arise during the year, such as various CFMS trips, I will try to keep you up to date and informed. The bulletin you are currently reading will (hopefully) have the latest field trip information and should be your first source to look at when you have field trip questions. Contacting your field trip leader can get you better info.

Jan 21-25 Quartzsite, Arizona - Huge
tailgate, lots of field trips
Feb 14-16 Wiley's Well Area - President's
Day Weekend
Mar 21-22 Lavic/S. Cadys
Apr 11-12 Castle Butte
May 23-25 Owens Valley
Jun TBA
Jul TBA
Aug TBA
Sep Big Bear (TBA)
Oct 10-11 Searles Lake Club Gem Show
Oct 31 - Nov 1 Whittier Club Claim
Nov 26-29 Afton Canyon
Dec Gem Hill (near Palmdale) -
1 day trip (TBA)

For more information on these or other field trips contact:

Jay Valle at (626) 934-9764 **Field Trip**

Wiley's Well Area February 14 to 16, 2009

by Jay Valle, NOC Field Trip

On February 14-16 our monthly field trip will be to the spectacular and historic Wiley's Well area of the southeast corner of our state. The camp area is approximately 12 south of I-10 and 87 miles east of Indio.

If you want a short break in your trek, the Date Festival in Indio is in progress, with a wonderful gem and mineral display sponsored by the local clubs.

In the Wiley's Well area we will collect: geodes, chalcedony, agates, jaspers, fire opal etc.

This will be dry camping with all its aspects so be prepared for all kinds of weather. For more information contact Jay Valle at (626) 934-9764.

Look for the club signs for directions south of the Bradshaw Trail.

See you in the desert.

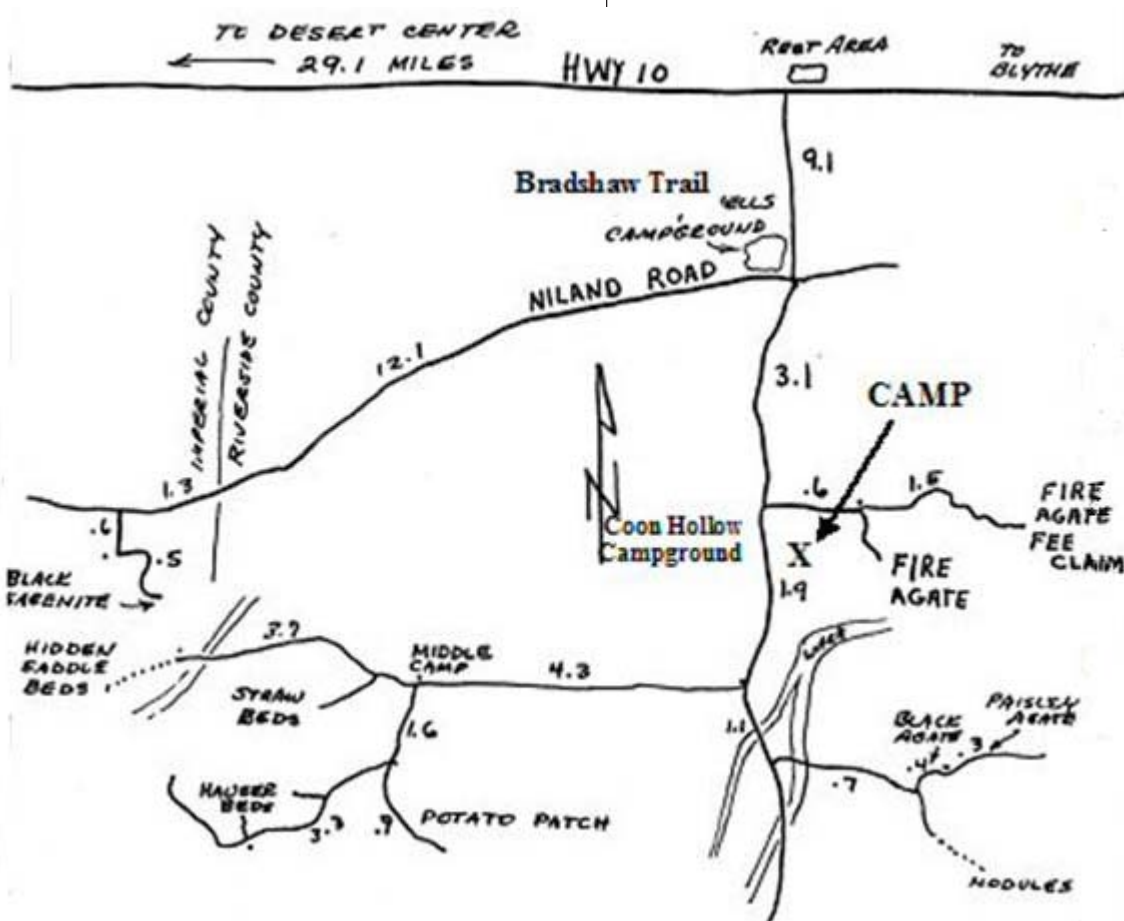
Removing Lacquer

from Del Air Bulletin December 2008
Via Pegmatite March 2007 (SDMGS member Mary Jane Dunn 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.



**Diamont Pacific Parking Lot --
Do You recognize the car with the open door?**



Aggie Getting ready for the climb



Frank, Ofelia, and Don W Loading



Don W Looking for Christmas Tree Agate



Ofelia has a bag full of beautiful rocks



Frank & Jay Observing the Pisgah Crater



Scribe Meeting at Quartzsite



QIA Cases at Quartzsite



Amethyst Birthstone for February

The gemstone Amethyst is the Birthstone for February. It is also the zodiac stone for the constellation of Pisces.

Amethyst is the purple variety of the mineral quartz and is a popular gemstone. If it were not for its widespread availability, amethyst would be very expensive. The name “amethyst” comes from the Greek and means “not drunken.” This was perhaps due to a belief that amethyst would ward off the effects of alcohol, but most likely the Greeks were referring to the almost wine-like color of some stones that they may have encountered. Its color is unparalleled, and even other, more expensive purple gemstones are often compared to its color and beauty. Although it must always be purple to be amethyst, it can and does have a wide range of purple shades.

Amethyst can occur as long prismatic crystals that have a six sided pyramid at either end or can form as druzes that are crystalline crusts that only show the pointed terminations. As a mineral specimen, amethyst is popular for its color and nice crystal shapes that produce a handsome, purple, sparkling cluster.

However, amethyst is not the same everywhere. Different localities can produce a unique amethyst to that particular region or even to that particular mine. Experts can often identify the source mine that a particular amethyst came from. The key to this is the specimen’s color, shape of the crystal, inclusions, association and character of formation.

Found in geodes in alluvial deposits. The most important deposits are in Brazil and Uruguay. Other more noteworthy locations are Mexico, Canada, USA, and Ural Mountains, Russia, which has a very clear and dark variety that is cut for fine expensive gemstones.

The Moh’s hardness is 7, Refractive Index is 1.54 – 1.55. Ref: Amethyst Galleries, Inc. & Gemstones of the World by Walter Schumann.

Earth Science Class

*by Ofelia Warthen,
Education Committee Chairman*

A very exciting earth science class entitled “Fundamentals in Rock & Fossil Identification” will be conducted by Mike Beaumont on March 12, 2009 at the La Habra Community Center from 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon. There will be a small fee of \$10.00. Members and the public are invited to attend but need to register because space is limited.

Also, mark your calendars for April 23. We will have another educational class scheduled at the Community Center, from 9 AM to 12:00 Noon. The name of the class and teacher will be announced at a later time.

We are so fortunate to have wonderful knowledgeable members that are able to teach these basic educational classes to our members, and the public is invited to attend. For more information, call Ofelia Warthen at 562-946-0828 or e-mail at warthen@earthlink.net. Let her know what other classes you are interested in having.

Dues are Due

by John Erskine

Dues for 2008 are now due. They can be paid at the February meeting or you can mail them to:

John Erskine
341 Dexford Drive
La Habra, CA 90631-4339

Dues are \$20.00 for Family, \$15.00 for individual, and \$10.00 for Student Member.

Welcome New Members

**John & Esther Elliot
Carolyn Duncan
Mark & Linda Nelson
Jennifer Cook**