

NOC GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWS

Vol, 28 No. 5

May 2009

President's Message

by Don Warthen

It's almost show time! I think this year's show will really be first-class. We have some new ideas that should increase the excitement in the show this year. We will be hosting "Good Morning La Habra" breakfast on Thursday May 28th. This is a great time to meet some of the leaders in the City and a chance to promote our show and the club. And get a great free breakfast at the same time! We will also be hosting the Chamber VIP Friday night before the show again this year. Loretta is in charge and I bet it will be great!

The 2010 show is progressing nicely except that the school district is dragging their feet in firming up the facilities. Mike made the presentation at the CFMS meetings in San Jose and all the directors understand that we have very little time to put this show together. They are willing to work with us to pull it off.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find some proposed changes to the By-Laws by Izzie Burns and committee. One of the by-laws is a little confusing. What we are proposing is to move the election of officers up one month from Nov. to Oct. and we will move the nominations up one month also, from Oct. to Sept. The new officers will still be installed at the December meeting as they are now. By doing this we will give the new President, officers and committees more time to get all their programs setup before the January meeting. Please come to the meeting for a full discussion on this matter.

The educational classes have been a great success with wonderful member teachers (both Wire Wrap, the Geology & Fossil classes). As a result we will be scheduling more classes later this year. Please let us know what type of classes you are interested in. I talked to the city about possibly setting up a bus trip to the Borax Mine later this year sometime in Sept or Oct.

Ofelia and I are planning a club picnic in August at our house. There will be more details later.

NOC Club Activities

Board Meeting — To be announced
Yard Sale, Grab Bags, & Pot Luck
Lunch — May 16 at the Warthens.
Deadline for NOC News — May 17.
Field Trip — Owens Valley — May 23-25.
Hosting "La Habra Breakfast" — May 28
Chamber VIP Fri. night before show — June 5.
NOC Show — June 6-7.

Programs

by Mike Beaumont

Dave Carlberg, President of the Amigos de Bolsa Chica, will be the presenter for the May 12 meeting.

Refreshments

by Kathy Valle

Thanks to Don & Kathy Eschbach, and Bernie & Mary Ruiz for bringing the goodies to the March meeting. *Julia West* will bring the goodies to the April meeting.

Members in the News

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

Bill Burns
Izzie Burns
Lucille Howe
Jonas Ruzgy

Your gemstone is Emerald
Your flower is Lily of the Valley or Hawthorn

Shows and Events

May 2-3 2009, Anaheim, CA

Searchers Gem & Mineral Society
Brookhurst Community Center
2271 West Crescent Ave.
Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4:30
James Williamson (714) 995-9080
Email: showchair@searchersrocks.org
Website: <http://www.searchersrocks.org>

May 16-17 2009, Yucaipa, CA

Yucaipa Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Yucaipa Community Center
4900 Oak Glen Road
Hours: Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10 - 4
Bill Jochimsen (909) 795-2540
Email: webmaster@yvgms.org
Website: www.yvgms.org

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

July 11-12 2009, Culver City, CA

Culver City Rock and Mineral Club
Veterans Memorial Auditorium & Rotunda
4117 Culver Blvd.
Hours: Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5
Robert Thirlaway (310) 213-7677
Email: thirlawr@gmail.com
Website: CulverCityRocks.org/fiesta.htm

August 7-9 2009, Nipomo, CA

Orcutt Mineral Society
Hours: 9-5 daily
Wes Lingerfelt (805) 929-388
Email: Rocks4u@proigy.net
Website: www.omsinc.org

September 26-27 2009, Downey, CA

Delters Gem & Mineral Society
Womens Club of Downey
9813 Paramount Blvd.
Hours: Sat. 10 - 6; Sun. 10-4
Nancy Bird (562) 697-0636
E-mail: nancyjbird@verizon.net

October 10-11 2009, Trona, CA

Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society
Searles Gem & Mineral Show Building
13337 Mian Street
Hours: Sat. 7:30-5; Sun. 7:30-4
Jim & Bonnie Fairchild (760) 372-5356
Email: sigms@iwvisp.com
Website: www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub

October 17-18 2009, Whittier, CA

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

Dues are Due

Have you payed your dues for 2009.

Please pay them. They can be paid at the April 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.

Emerald is Birth Stone for May

Submitted by Ofelia Warthen

The name emerald derives from the Greek Smaragdos. It means “Green Stone” and in ancient times, referred not only to emeralds, but also probably to most green stones.

Emerald belongs to the beryl group being the most precious of the group. Its green is incomparable. The pigment is chrome, sometimes vanadium. The color is very stable against light and heat. Only the finest qualities are transparent.

Emeralds are found by rising magma and metamorphism. Deposits are therefore found mainly in or near pegmatite veins. Mining is nearly exclusively from host rock, where the emerald has grown into small veins or on walls of cavities. Alluvial mining would hardly be possible as the specific gravity is near that of quartz. The most important deposits are in Colombia, especially the Muzo Mine, which was first mined by the Incas. Mohs hardness is 7 ½-8 and refractive index is 1:576-1.582.

Lore and Legend has been attached to crystals. Emeralds were once thought to blind snakes. It probably means they couldn't see you.

Ref: Eyewitness books Crystal & Gems by Dr. R.F. Symes & Dr. R.R. Harding
Gemstones of the World by Walter Schumann

Education Report

by Ofelia Warthen

WOW! What a class on “All you want to know about Fossils” presented by our one and only David Swanston. So exciting and knowledgeable. Started with the Precambrian Era which encompasses the first 7/8 of the Earth's history. It is broken into three eons; the Hadean, Archaean, and Proterozoic. I bet you didn't know this.

All of us became so enlightened especially when David started exposing all of his fabulous display of fossils. I believe Fran, when she says they have skeletons in their closet!!! They are fantastic!

The next educational classes will be in September and another in October. More information to time, date and theme will be announced later.

Rare Red Diamond Returns to Natural History Museum

via internet by Susan Hansen



LOS ANGELES (CBS) - The “[Kazanjian Red](#),” a true blood-red diamond, is one of the rarest gems of all and only three large stones are known to exist.

The red diamond was purchased by Los Angeles-based Kazanjian Bros. Inc. in 2007 after many years of bouncing around in history.

Through the display and sale of the gem and the family's other private jewelry collections, the company's [Kazanjian Foundation](#) raises funds for scholarship programs for underprivileged youths.

The famed red diamond first appeared at the [Museum of Natural History](#) in Los Angeles in October of 2008 making it the gem's first exhibition in the U.S. It left four months later.

Now the diamond has returned for a second appearance in the Museum's Gem and Mineral Hall.

It will be on view from April 6 to May 29, 2009. The Museum is open seven days a week, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$9 for adults, \$6.50 for students and seniors, and \$2 for children ages 5-12. For 24-hour Museum information please call (213) 763-DINO or visit www.nhm.org.

The rare red diamond was originally purchased for only \$40 dollars back in the 1920's.



NOC General Meeting Minutes La Habra Community Center April 14, 2009

by Jay Valle, NOC Secretary

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

Membership: Mary Ruiz told us that the meeting was attended by 26 members & 7 guests.

Program: Orange County Geology, presented by Rick Lozinski, professor of geology at Fullerton College..

<Break & Drawing>

Announcements:

Thank You Letter: Don Warthen read a letter from the La Habra Youth Committee thanking us for money NOC donated last year to the Youth Committee.

Subscription Warning: Don Warthen warned us that if you receive a Rock & Gem Magazine renewal notice from The Subscription Billing LLC Company throw it away. It is a rip-off. They are not affiliated with Rock & Gem and frequently pocket your money, rather than send it on to Rock & Gem.

Committee Reports

Treasurers Report: John Erskine gave the monthly income and expense report for March. There were no corrections so the Treasurer's Report will stand as read.

March Minutes: No corrections were noted to the March Minutes as published in the Club newsletter so the Minutes will stand as published.

Education Committee: Ofelia Warthen told us that the classes are going great. Dave Swanston is scheduled to present a class on fossils – Thursday, April 23 from 9:30 AM to 12 Noon. On April 28, Loretta Ogden will teach a chain-making class at 6:00 PM.

2009 Show: Don Warthen passed around a signup sheet for Show Events Participation. He reminded the Banner Committee that the Banner needed the date changed and be delivered to the City by May 4. Don Warthen said that members need to start giving Donation Awards to Loretta now to give her time to log them in.

Loretta Ogden passed around a display case signup sheet for Nancy Bird who was not able to make the meeting.

2010 AFMS/CFMS/NOC SHOW: Mike Beaumont told us that we would be hosting a booth at the AFMS/CFMS Show in San Jose this next weekend advertising our 2010 Show. The theme is "Hidden Treasures." The Chiropractic School is going to provide us a quote for using their facilities on Thursday. He said that a 2010 Show Meeting had been held and a lot of ground covered.

Don Warthen told us that the only downsides of hosting the 2010 AFMS/CFMS Show was:

1. It will be very LABOR INTENSIVE. It was pointed out that the City of La Habra, The La Habra Youth Committee and many other individuals from many other clubs will volunteer to help out.
2. It is not yet known how much money we will need to "invest". He noted that only one AFMS show in recent memory had lost money, all others had come out ahead. Izzy Burns said that the "losing" club was up in Washington, a part of the Northwest Federation and pointed out that they had to draw their guest from a huge geographical area and that gas was over \$4.00 per gallon at the time.

Mike B. informed us that he was planning something different for after the show, a rockhound cruise.

Field Trips: Jay Valle presented a field trip report for the March Lavic Siding Trip which was attended by Don & Ofelia Warthen. Jay said that he was unable to attend the April trip to Castle Butte but Tony Fender of the Pasadena/Palmdale Clubs had apparently done a fine job of leading. That trip was attended by NOC member, Pat Mogan. The Memorial Day field trip is going to be to the Owens Valley and information will be in the bulletin and at the May Meeting.

Jay also provided field trip information for 3 upcoming CFMS trips and encouraged NOC members to participate. For more information, go to the CFMS webpage <http://www.cfmsinc.org> and read the current newsletter.

By-Laws Committee: Izzy Burns and the By-Laws Committee have come up with some suggested changes to our By-Laws.

1. Under Objectives and Purpose of our Club – we would add “development and execution of plans for an Earth Science Museum and Lapidary Arts Workshop.”
2. Suggested changing the Article 4 Fees & Dues structure.
3. Changing Article 8, Section 1 to read – Refreshments and Supplies from Artist and Supplies.
4. Change the date we begin New Officer selection forward by a month so that we hold our final vote for Officers in October rather than November which conflicts with the Annual Auction Event.

Federation Report: Loretta Ogden said that the CFMS Show at San Jose was this weekend and hoped a lot of NOC people would come.

Fund Raising Committee: Loretta spoke for Nancy Bird – A yard sale will be held at the Warthen’s house on May 16. We need lots of help and some people need to arrive as early as 5:00 AM to help set up for the early shoppers and to price items. Grab bags will be stuffed at this time and Don Warthen said that no new grab bag rock is needed right now due to a couple of donations of rock recently received. If you

can’t make the yard sale, bring rock and sale items to Nancy’s house before the sale weekend. Lunch will be potluck so bring something to share. Loretta sent around a sign-up sheet for the yard sale.

Scholarship Committee: Don Warthen asked the Scholarship Committee members to stay a minute after the meeting to schedule a date for a committee meeting.

Librarian: Yolanda Shirer informed us that Ofelia Warthen had donated 2 books to the NOC library. She also reminded us that we have videos to loan. A list of available books and videos is available and can be perused.

Publicity/Club History: Richard Shirer has articles being published in 5 newspapers and he needs articles to submit. His deadline is the 3rd weekend of every month.

Programs: Mike Beaumont is still working on the program for May and has several ideas for our meetings later in the year.

Social Secretary: Kathy Valle was injured in a fall down the stairs at home but is recovering from the incident.

Refreshments:

Other Business:

Richard Shirer told us that the Club need a bigger storage place, even though we just moved into the new, larger location. It was noted that there was still equipment being stored at Don & Loretta Ogden’s house. Richard suggested we raise the dues as a way to pay for a larger storage location.

Mike Beaumont passed on the special news that at the end of September or early October he was going to be a father (he was roundly congratulated by all present.)

Meeting adjourned.

NOC By-Law Changes

by Izzie Burns, NOC By-Laws

Changes recommended by Bylaws Committee

The Committee recommends the changes printed in italics. Any member can recommend changes at the May meeting and the final change will be voted on at June Meeting.

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Article II

Section 1 OBJECTIVES AND PURPOSE

The objectives and purposes of the North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society is to disseminate knowledge of mineralogical and earth science and to encourage study in these subjects, through means of::

- * the presentation of public exhibitions, lectures, slide programs;
- * field trips for exploration, study and collection of specimens.;
- * The preparation, publication, and distribution of articles and studies pertaining to mineralogy and earth sciences;
- * the promotion of scientific research in these fields;
- * the encouragement of interest among young people and the fostering of classes in mineralogical and lapidary arts;

- * *The development and execution of plans for an earth science museum and lapidary arts workshop.*

- * And all other means which are appropriate to the accomplishments of the primary objectives set forth.

There are three suggestions for this change. The one the committees selected is listed below

ARTICLE 1 V INITIATION FEES AND DUES

Section 1

- A. Individual membership dues shall be ___ per year
- B. Family Member ship dues shall be ___ per year.
- C. Junior Membership Dues shall be ___ per year.

B. Family Membership shall be \$15.00 per year for the first person and \$10.00 per person per year for each additional family member. Initiation fee \$10.00 per person.

ARTICLE 8 Section I

These were two separate committees. This drops the Artist section and combines the two.

Chairman should be changed by combining Artist and Supplies and Refreshments Committees be changed to Refreshments & Supplies

ARTICLE V OFFICERS

Section 2 Nominations

This time is being changed; so that there is not a election at the same meeting as the auction program that we have in November.

- A. *Change September to June*
- B. *Change October to September*
- C. *Change October to September*
- D. *Change October to September and November to October*

Section 3 *Change November to October*

Mike Beaumont at the CFMS Show in San Jose



Happy 100th Clarence Pool

via Whittier Rockhounder 3/09

Clarence Pool celebrated the 1 century mark on Sunday, February 8 surrounded by family and friends.

Clarence is a member of the North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society and the Whittier Gem & Mineral Society and gravitated toward the field trips. Later, he was the leader on several of the long, memorable trips to Oregon, Nevada and New Mexico, to name a few.

He had an interest in making cabochons and tumbling stones, so he invented his own vibratory tumbler and cab performer under the Tagit product name. Clarence sponsored cabochon making competitions in the Club and created the Tagit Trophy for the winners. For many years he and Frieda hosted the annual summer pool parties.

So congratulations to Clarence on his many achievements and longevity. It is an amazing milestone in an amazing life.

NOC Publicity

by Richard Schirer

For all members' information, I am placing club activities into five newspapers and chamber sites.

I NEED to have the info PERSONALLY, by the end of the second week of the month, PRIOR to the following club's activity. The newspapers require this time frame!

If I do not receive the info by that time frame, the activity will not be posted. An example is the Wire Wrapping Workshop info for March, 2009 was never received by me

How to Clean the House

via the internet

1. Open a new file in your PC.
2. Name it "Housework."
3. Send it to the RECYCLE BIN.
4. Empty the RECYCLE BIN.
5. Your PC will ask you, "Are you sure you want to delete Houework permanently?"
6. Calmly answer, "Yes," and press mouse button firmly
7. Feel better?



Works for me!

Best Friend Test

via the internet

This is a fool proof Best Friend Test. If you don;t believe it, just try this:

Put our dog and wife in the trunk of the car for an hour.

When you open the trunk, who is really happy to see you?

I seldom end up where I wanted to go, but almost always end up where I need to be.

A common mistake that people make when trying to dessign something completely foolproof is to underestimate the ingenuity of complete fools.

Douglas Adams

Yard Sale, Grab Bags, and Pot Luck Lunch

by Nancy Bird

Come join your fellow members May 16 at the Warthens, 15455 Tetley St., Hacienda Hts. for all of the above. We need things to sell and people to sell it. Usually the public starts arriving around 6 a.m. I will need some help to set up and some more tables.

This year we are combining it all-while some help with the yard sale, others will be filling grab-bags and then we will have a pot-luck lunch around noon. The yard sale will be over by 1 or 2

Sign up sheets are at the meeting or you can call or email me. Nancy Bird (562) 697-0636 or nancyjbird@verizon.net

Display at Community Center

by Nancy Bird

Robyn Hawk will be doing the Community Center display April 1 through June 1. Mike Beaumont will be filling the library case this year for the month of May.

Show Cases

by Nancy Bird

Do you want to display anything this year at our show? We have space for 22 and I will need to know if you want a space and if you have your own case or not. I will be bringing a sign-up sheet in March or you can call or email me.

May Field Trip Owens Valley Collecting May 23-25, 2009

by Jay Valle

Our next field trip will be from May 23-25 and will be to the Owens Valley. We will collect ammonite casts in Union Wash, visit the "Haystack" and collect amazonite and beryl specimens. There are many collecting places to choose from so we shouldn't get bored.

The planned campsite is at Diaz Lake, 3 miles south of Lone Pine, a county run campground, at \$10.00 per night. There are motels in Lone Pine for those who prefer this method of camping.

The plan is for all of us to meet Saturday morning (May 23), between 8:30 - 9:00 AM, at the visitor's center located at the intersection of Hwy 395 and Hwy 136 (at the south end of Lone Pine).

Contact Jay Valle at (626) 934-9764 or res19pnb@verizon.net



All You Wanted to Know About Fossils - 23 April Class

by David Swanston



Doping Wax Problem

via LA Rocks

Hello Group

I am having problems with my black dop wax not sticking to the stone (it sticks nicely to the wooden dopsick.) Since I have had similar problems in the past with green and red dop wax, I am thinking there may be something I am doing wrong or else there is something about the nature of dop wax of which I am not aware. My wax was purchased two or three years ago at a rock show and I use a Diamond Pacific wax dop-pot to heat and melt the wax (presumably to the correct temperature - although I have the same problem when I heat it with a propane torch.) I keep the dop-pot covered when not in use to keep out any dust or debris.

Does dop wax get old and lose effectiveness?

Does it lose effectiveness by being melted too many times in the dop-pot?

Is there a trick (add a drop of vinegar, dance a jig, recite a poem) that I need to know???

HELP! I can't figure it out and I have lost a few good stones from flying off the dopstick while they were being sanded. Any advice will be much appreciated!

Jim

Ken's Advise

If you follow these steps, you should not have problems with your stone adhering to the dop wax:

1. First, the stone must be completely clean and oil free. Use soap and water or acetone or lacquer thinner to remove oil from the stone.

NOTE: Your cleaning method will depend on the type of cutting fluid, type of stone, and the stone's porosity.

2. After cleaning, water should not bead up on the stone, indicating the stone is completely oil-free.

3. Choose a dop stick that is as large as possible to use with your stone. The dop stick diameter should be at least 50 percent of the diameter of the stone. 75 percent is better.

NOTE: This gives more area for adhesion and also minimizes bending forces on the dop wax.

4. Next, the stone must be heated for wax to stick.

NOTE: Are you heating the stone before putting it on the hot wax? That is a critical step.

5. Put the stone on the flat surface of the wax heater, face down, with a small bit of wax on the back side of the stone.

6. When the small bit of wax starts to melt, the stone is hot enough to dop properly.

7. Now, dip the dop stick in the hot wax, gather a good sized glob of wax and press it onto the back of the stone.

8. Center the stick as accurately as possible on the back of the stone, and align it perpendicular to the rear of the stone.

NOTE: The stone is very hot now, so be careful.

9. As you lift the stone off the heating area, hold the stick straight up, and you will be able to manipulate the stone to get it centered and at a perfect right angle to the stick.

10. Wet your fingers and form the wax into a fillet around the base of the stone, giving more support.

11. Blow on the stone and wax to cool it off. The wax will harden rapidly.

12. After the wax is no longer soft, set the dopped stone aside and let it cool further.

13. When the stone has cooled to room temperature, apply medium pressure on it with your fingers, to verify adhesion. If the stone has been dopped properly, it will not come off the stick easily.

14. After the stone is completely finished, I have found the best way to remove the dop stick is to place the stone in the freezer for about 5 minutes.

NOTE: The stone and the wax have different rates of thermal expansion, and when the wax and stone are cooled, stress is placed on the wax which loosens it.

15. After 5 minutes in the freezer, the stone should pop off the end of the dop stick with finger pressure. I hope this helps you out.

Ken

Thanks

Thanks to all of you who responded to my dop wax question (and there were a LOT of you!) Numerous issues were identified and I think I may have been guilty of not doing any of them correctly! I was heating the stone - but just a little and definitely not enough. I cut with oil in my trim saw and was not doing a proper job of cleaning (now I am using acetone to really get it clean). There were some really excellent additional suggestions on how to determine if stone is hot enough (chip of dop wax on the stone will melt when the stone is hot enough, etc). this is a fantastic forum and I thank everyone for their time and kind advice.

Jim