

NOC GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWS

Vol. 29 No, 11

December 2010

President's Message

By Don Warthen

Well this is my last Presidents Message! Over the years, I have written over 80 presidents Messages and hope I didn't bore you to tears!

Some of the things that we have all accomplished (with a lot of help) over the years are; We moved our show from the Women's club to the Community Center in 2003 and after two years. We started expanding the show each year until we consumed the entire building. This last year we moved to Whittier Chiropractic College and put on a joint AFMS/CFMS Show and in spite of all the odds we pulled it off and even made some money.

We became members of the La Habra Chamber of Commerce and started the Friday night VIP before the show. This extra event helped promote the show to the business community and we participated in many Chamber events.

We started teaching classes at the La Habra Day Camp and then some classes at some public schools. We also brought the La Habra Youth Committee into our Kitchen at the show. We have since adopted the Youth committee and have help to support them each year. We donated \$1,500 to the Committee at the December City Chamber Meeting (see attached picture). We also have several programs in the works such as the shop/museum and the scholarship program. We conducted the Pearl Seminars and now are conducting some real top rate classes in wire wrap and other jewelry making and lapidary classes.

The North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society was started in 1981 by several hard working people with a dream of a club where families could belong and join in the pursuit of knowledge of the lapidary arts and earth science by study, practice and field trips into our wonderful desert to find rocks and minerals. Then in turn teaching the community what we have mastered. Many life time friendships have been forged over the years. I hope we have kept the founding members dream alive and moving forward.
(Cont. Pg.2)

NOC Society Activities

Board Meeting - to be announced

Field Trip - TBD

Deadline for NOC News - December 17

Refreshments

By Kathy Valle

Thanks to Randi Hetrick and Nancy O'Conner for bringing the goodies to the November meeting.

2011-2012 Officers Installation

by Randi Hetrick

Date: December 14

Time: 6::00 to 10:00 p.m.

Dinner will be served at 7:00 p.m.

Place: La Habra Community Center

Location: 101 W. La Habra Blvd.

La Habra, CA

See: Caribbean Holiday Dinner - Pg. 3

Members in the News

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

Janie Arp

Wendy Erskine

Pat Mogan

Charles O'Neil

Kathleen Turner

Barbary Woolfok

Ray Cooley

Natividad Farquer

Richard O'Conner

Jerry Turner

KathyValle

Your gemstone is Turquoise

Your flower is Holly or Narcissus

Shows and Events

January 28,29 &30: Redlands, CA
Mineralogical Society of Southern California
Micromounters Symposium
San Bernardino County Museum
2024 Orange Tree
Hours: Fri. 5pm - 10pm; Sat. 9am - 10pm
Sun. Field trip time to be set
Dr. Robert Housley (714) 697-4435
e-mail: rhousley@its.caltech.edu
Webpage: mineralsocal.org (click on micromounters)

February 18-27, 2011, Indio, CA
San Gorgonio Mineral & Gem Society
Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival
Gem amp;& Mineral Building Bldg #1
46-350 Arabia Street
Hours: 10 am - 10 pm
Bert Grisham: (915) 849-1674
Email: bert67@verizon.net

February 25-26, 2011, Northridge, CA
Del-Air Rockhounds
Northridge United Methodist Church
9650 Reseda Blvd.
Hours: Fri. 3pm to 9 pm - Sat. 10:am to 5 pm
Chris S. Ward
Email: chris_ward678@yahoo.com
Website: delairrockhounds.blogspot.com

March 5-6 2011, Arcadia, CA
Monrovia Rockhounds, Inc.
Los Angeles Co. Arboretum & Botanic Gardens
301 Baldwin Ave.
Hours: Sat. & Sun. 9-4:30
Jo Anna Ritchey (626) 359-1624
Email: vgms_editor@roadrunner.com
Website: www.Moroks.com

March 11-13 2011, Stoddard Wells, CA
Victorville Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Stoddard Well Tailgate (Stodrard Wells)
Bell Mountain/Stoddard Well exit from I-15
Hours: 8-5 daily
Brett Ward (760) 954-4323
Email: Bretts88@verizon.net
Club (760) 243-2330
Website: www.vvgmc.org

March 12-13 2011, San Marino, CA
San Marino Masonic Center
3130 Huntington Drive
Hours: Sar. 10-6; Sun. 10-5
Bud & Marcia Goetz / (626) 260-7239
Email: joenmar1@verizon.net

April 30, May 1, 2011, Anaheim, CA
Searchers Gem & Mineral Society
Brookhurst Community Center
2271 W. Crescent Avenue
Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun 10-4:30
Beth Pelfrey (714) 774-2754
Email: martin.swiderski@jacobs.com
Website: www.searchersrocks.org

May 13-15 2011, Anderson CA
CFMS Convention & Show sponcered by
Northern California Treasures
Superior California Gem & Mineral Society
Shasta Gem & Mineral Society
Paradise Gem & Mineral Club
Shasta District Fairgrounds - Anderson, CA
Near Redding, CA - Off Highway 273
Hours: Fri. & Sat. 9 - 5, Sun. 10-4
Show Chairman: Steve Puderbough -
steve@applyaline.com
Website: www.superiorcal.com
Forms are on this site.

June 4-5, 2011, La Habra, CA
North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society
La Habra Community Center
101 W. La Habra Blvd.
Hours: 9 - 5 both days
Dave Swanston (626) 912-1531
Email: swanni3@roadrunner.com
Website: nccgms.com

Presidents Message Cont.

Last week, we had a meeting of the new leadership of this great organization and they are all enthusiastic and geared up, ready to meet the challenges of the future. I think the club is in great hands.

I will see everyone at the Installation.

Don Warthen

Installation/Christmas Dinner

by Randi Hetrick

Caribbean Holiday Dinner

Date: December 14
Time: 6::00 to 10:00 p.m.
Dinner will be served at 7:00 p.m.
Place: La Habra Community Center
Location: 101 W. La Habra Blvd., La Habra, CA

Join us in a Central American fiesta. Cost is \$10.00 per person including dinner and entertainment The club will pay the remainder of the cost.

Our dinner will be catered Nicaraguan style with *gallo pinto* (beans and rice), chicken al horno (a marinated chicken), *Nacatamales* (a kind of central American tamale) Plátanos Fritos (crisp plantains), Nicaraguan cabbage salad and salsa de cebolla con chile y vinagre, rolls and butter.

Assorted desserts from Tropicana bakery in Downey Senioritas Napoleons, Tornillos, Eclairs, 3 Leches, Flans, tropical fruit tarts

Coffee, ice tea and hot tea

Entertainment -The glass armonica or bowl organ is a type of musical instrument that uses 37 glass bowls graduated in size to produce musical tones by means of friction, we will have a special guest appearance by “Mr. Ben Franklin” who invented the armonica to charm us with seasonal music and bring us a little up to date on Ben’s life.

For **reservations** call (310) 251-7292. Send check payable to NOCGMS to:

Randi Hetrick
2011 Toledo Place
La Habra, CA 90631

We must have all reservations made and paid for by December 7. I hope to see every member there. I promise a good time.

Randi Hetrick
Installation Dinner Coordinator

Scribe Meeting

by Doug Arnold SCRIBE President

If you’re headed to Quartzsite, Ariz., you have an opportunity to hear Rock & Gems magazine senior editor Bob Jones. Mr. Jones will be the guest speaker at the SCRIBE meeting on January 22 at the Senior Citizen’s Centre - on Moon Mountain Road.

SCRIBE (Special Congress Representing Involved Bulletin Editors) is an international organization of current and former Bulletin Editors, Writers and Webmasters of amateur gem, mineral and earth science societies.

The Community Center where the meeting will be held is on Moon Mountain Road just north of Main Street in Quartzsite. There is a \$2 registration for the meeting which helps pay for refreshments and building rental. Registration begins at 9 a.m. MST which is 8 a.m. PST.

If you come, bring a rock or mineral with you to share. We always try to have a drawing at the end of the meeting and hope to have enough rocks and minerals to share with everyone attending. Bring your bulletins, too, to share with the other editors.

This is a great opportunity to visit with collectors from all parts of the country. In the past we have had members from California, Arizona, North Carolina, Idaho, Washington State, Utah and even Alberta, Ontario and Nova Scotia, CANADA.



Heat Treating Rocks

Source: Glacial Drifter, August 1997
via Pick & Pack, May 2001

You have just cut a slab from some agate rough and are disappointed with the color. The overall color is a washed out white. At this point, most rockhounds would toss both the slab and the rough into their spouse's rock garden and write off the investment in the piece.

Well, there may be life yet in that nondescript piece of rough. Before consigning it to the rock garden, try heat treating petrified wood, agate, jasper, and many other types of rocks. Almost any rock can benefit from the process. A recent example was a piece of dull brown agate. After heat treating, it became a deep red.

How, you ask, does one go about heat treating a piece of rock? The process is fairly simple, but is a trial and error process. The slab should be immersed in a small pan of sand and placed in a range oven (NEVER in a microwave oven). Turn the oven temperature to warm, about 200 degrees for about one hour to expel any moisture trapped in the stone. Then raise the temperature 25 degrees every half hour until the temperature is up to 350 degrees. Leave it at this setting for two hours. Turn off the oven and allow the rock to come to room temperature without opening the door.

Now you can check the results. If you are satisfied, you can slab the rough and heat treat the lot. If not, return the slab to the oven and repeat the process. You can skip the time at 200 degrees since all the moisture has already been baked out by now. Raise the temperature to 400 degrees this time. Continue raising the temperature by 50 degrees until the results you want are reached. Most ovens will go up to 500 degrees. If you need to go higher, some special oven will be required.

If your wife balks at your using her oven, borrow a neighbor's roaster oven and use that. They work even better.

December Education Report

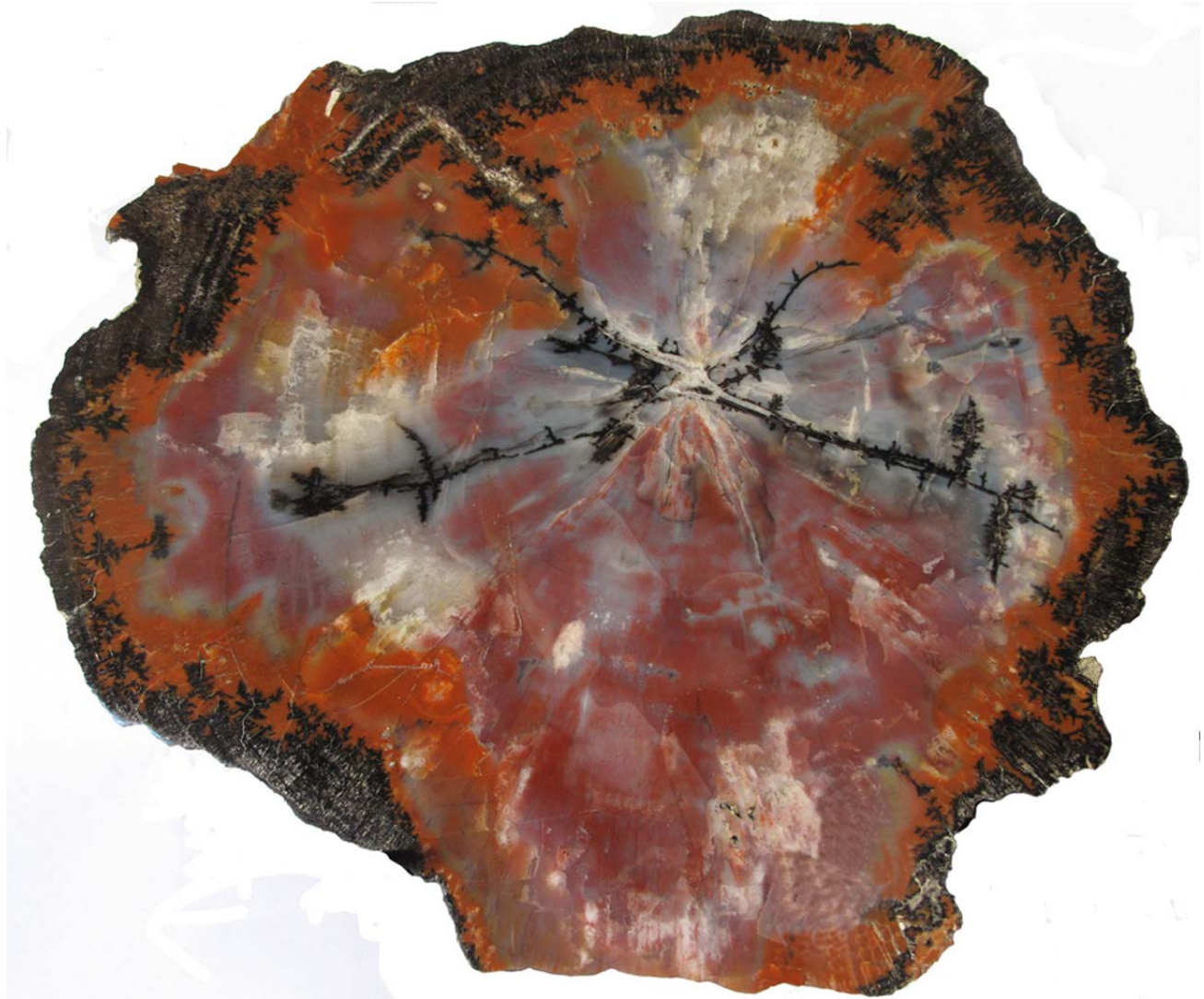
By Ofelia Warthen, Chairman

As this year comes to an end, the education accomplishments have been great! The committee members were out teaching school children about earth science and grown ups learning basic elements of rocks and gems and putting them into beautiful jewelry.

The committee will continue to volunteer, teaching more great projects already in progress for the coming year. We will send out the outline of classes in January. My many thanks to each member of the committee and volunteers for a wonderful job well done. I'm very proud of you! Happy holidays!

Petrified Wood & Jade





Petrified Wood
Araucaria Chinle Formation
Triassic 219 MYBP
Parron/Dubell Ranch, AZ

The Petrified Forest in Arizona is known for its fossils, especially fallen trees, that lived in the Late Triassic, about 225 million years ago. The sediments containing the fossil logs are part of the widespread and colorful Chinle Formation, from which the Painted Desert gets its name.

Beginning about 60 million years ago, the Colorado Plateau, of which the Petrified Forest National Park is part, was pushed upwards by tectonic forces and exposed to increased erosion.

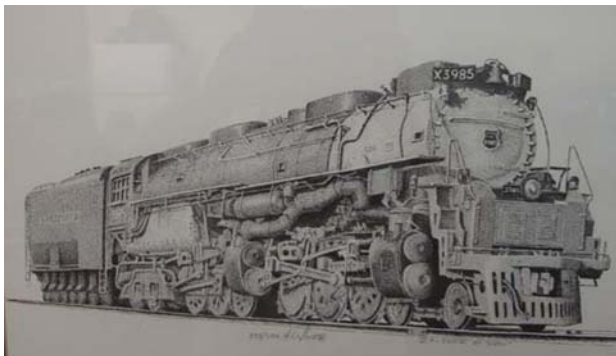
All of the park's rock layers above the Chinle, except geologically recent ones found in parts of the park, have been removed by wind and water.

In addition to petrified logs, fossils found in the park have included Late Triassic ferns, cycads, ginkoes, and many other plants as well as fauna including giant reptiles called phytosaurs, large amphibians, and early dinosaurs. Paleontologists have been unearthing and studying the park's fossils since the early 20th century.

Whittier Claim Field Trip November 5-7, 2010



Whittier Claim Field Trip November 5-7, 2010





Don and Ofelia Warthen came to the November 1 La Habra City Council meeting to present the Youth Committee with a check for \$1,500 in appreciation for the work the group did to help with last spring's huge Gem and Mineral Show. Committee chairman Nolan Casey and member Andrew Cooley were there to accept it.

Thank you for allowing us to participate in your annual Gem Show. This year's event was a great success and we are looking forward to next year's event.

Sincerely,

City of La Habra
Youth Committee Members