

NOC GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWS

Vol. 32 No, 7

September 2013

President's Message

by Nancy Bird

WELCOME BACK!

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer. I did. The summer picnic at the Valle's was superb-a super shout out to them for hosting another great party.

Are you ready for some field trips, classes, and shows? We've worked on classes this summer and have a great line-up. Be sure to sign up!

The next show close to us is the Downey Delvers September 14 & 15. Since I belong to the Delvers, also, I will be there both days. I will no longer be doing plants for that club.

In October, the Whittier Club has their show and many of our members are members there, too. It's fun to go to other shows-they are all different. And don't forget to buy Donation Awards tickets, as this is how the clubs support themselves through the year.

One of the things we don't have is a hospitality chair, which means nobody to arrange the monthly drinks and treats and until we do, we are on our own. Please bring your own water, coffee, etc. We will have a mid-meeting 10 minute break.

Teri Heuer was installed, officially, as our Secretary over the summer as it was deemed necessary for State requirements. She is still our 2nd V.P. She and Alan have reorganized our storage shed-they are indispensable. Thank you.

The Pasadena Lapidary Society has agreed to hold the CFMS annual show next year a week before our show at the Pomona Fairgrounds. They will need help-if you want to experience a Federation Show and have extra fun-see me or Loretta Ogden, our Federation Chair.

NOC Club Activities

Board Meeting - 6 p.m. 3rd Tues. at La Habra Community Center (none in Jul & Aug)

Field Trip - TBD

Classes (Page 10)

September 30 -Begining Silvermithing

October 22 - Pearl Knotting

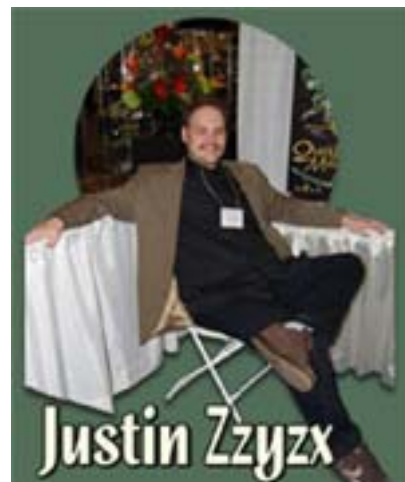
November 26 - Holiday Rock Painting

Members in the news on page 3

Programs

by Anan Heuer

Our September Guest Speaker will be Justin Zzyzx.



Refreshments

Hospitality Chair Needed

Thanks to Nancy Bird and Tero Heuer for bringing the goodies to the June meeting.

Since we don't have a Hospitality chair - the goodies are up in the air for September. See President's message.

Shows and Events

September 7-8 2013 DOWNEY, CA

Delvers Gem & Mineral Society
Woman's Club of Downey
9813 Paramount Blvd.
Hours: Sat 10-6; Sun 10-4
Jon Fults, (714) 856-7548
jphnfultz@verizon.net

October 5 - 6: BORON, CA

Mojave Mineralogical Society
Boron Community Building
South End of Boron Avenue
Hours: Sat 9 - 5; Sat, Sun 9 - 4
Contact: Steve Breckenridge, (760) 559-0872
Email: Rock5b@starband.net

October 6: FALLBROOK, CA

Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Facility
123 West Alvarado Street
Hours: 10 - 4
Contact: Angela Hicks, (760) 728-1130
Email: fgms@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.fgms.org

October 19 - 20: WHITTIER, CA

Whittier Gem & Mineral Society
Whittier Community Center
7630 Washington Blvd (corner of Mar Vista & Washington)
Hours: 10 - 5 daily
Marcia Goetz (626) 260-7239
Email: joemar1@verizon.net

November 2-3 2013, LANCASTER, CA

Palmdale Gem & Mineral Club
Antelope Valley Fairgrounds
2551 West Ave. H & Hwy 14
Hours: 10-5 daily
Email: pgms@antelecom.net
Website: www.palmdalegemandmineral.com

Tufa Towers

*from Palmdale
Hill And Gully Paydirt
September 2013*



On a hazy winter day, unique cathedral-like shapes float above a coppery layer of atmospheric dust with no apparent connection to the desert floor - part mirage, part reality. Cap-tain Kirk was suspicious of the appearance of 'God' here. Mark Wahlberg crashed his space ship here on the planet of talking apes. And Jack Robinson flew by a pitted monolith in search of his daughter Penny.

More than 500 tufa columns erupt from the Searles Dry Lake basin giving the area its otherworldly appearance, making it the perfect location for science fiction movies. Scenes from "Star Trek, The Final Frontier," the remake of "Planet of the Apes" and "Lost in Space" are only a few of the movies, TV shows and commercials filmed at this re-mote site in the Mojave Desert called Trona Pinnacles.

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NOC Board Meeting Minutes La Habra Community Center July 2, 2013

by Teri Heuer

Location: La Habra Community Center -

Board members in attendance: President Nancy Bird, Treasurer Don Warthen other board members present included Ophelia Warthen, Armando Pedroza, Janet Cohen, Teri Heuer, Alan Heuer, Don Ogden, and Loretta Ogden.

Meeting called to order by President Nancy Bird at 7:10 p.m.

Don Warthen opens the discussion for the appointment of the club secretary. This discussion included information on the requirements of the State of California such as the statement of information, time frames and how to appoint a new secretary.

A motion was made by Alan Heuer seconded by Janet Cohen and it was carried by the rest of the Board to appoint Teri Heuer as the new NOC secretary.

Treasurer -Don Warthen accepted the responsibility of filing the proper forms and paperwork that is required by the State of California

Old Business – none reviewed

New Business – Loretta Ogden opened a discussion concerning the La Habra Community Ag Fair and NOC participation in a mini gem show at the fair. Loretta Ogden was appointed to the position of chairperson for the La Habra Community Ag Fair event. Loretta Ogden will hold a meeting July 31st at 7:00 p.m. and will email confirmation when the meeting room is approved by the La Habra Community Center.

Armando Pedroza and Alan Heuer were appointed chairpersons of the Equipment committee which will involve the maintenance of the NOC equipment and tools.

Nov 1st & 2nd the NOC will be cutting Geodes for the Opal society gem show.

Scholarship Committee Chairperson Don Warthen will resign from the position as committee chair and suggested possible members for either head chairperson or a co-chair position for this important committee. The President Nancy Bird will elect the members to those positions.

A motion was made by Don Warthen and seconded by Loretta Ogden to have brought to the floor at the next General meeting to appoint Sue Hansen as a life member to NOC.

The By Laws committee will meet again after the clubs summer recess and a schedule for those meetings will be sent out via email to the members of that committee.

Adjournment- No further business the President Nancy Bird adjourn the meeting at 8:03 PM

Members in the News

HAPPY BIRTHDAY and have a wonderful day all of you who were born in July, August, and September.

Members in the news in July.

Norberto Elicker Ester Elliott
Kathy Eschbach Estela Kuethen

Your gemstone is Ruby.
Your flower is Larkspurt or Water Lily.

Members in the news in August.

Colin Arp John Erskine
Sandy Mogan Samantha Kilon
Austin Kilon Walton Wright
John Elliott II

Your gemstone is Sardonyx
Your flower is Poppy or Gladiolus

Members in the news in September.

Matthew Cooley Carolyn Duncan
Don Eschbach Stacy Graham
Randi Hetrick Lynn Johnson
Ben McKinstry Mark Nelson
Don Ogden Loretta Ogden
Eleanore Pleines Rose Mary Powers
Evelyn Smith Dave Swanston
Leonard Villaescusa Don Warthen

Your gemstone is Sapphire

Giant Concrete Arrows Aviation History

We need to go and find one!
They really exists: Giant Concrete Arrows that point
a way across America.



Courtesy of [Aviation Archaeological Investigation & Research](#)

Every so often, usually in the vast deserts of the American Southwest, a hiker or a backpacker will run across something puzzling: a concrete arrow, as much as seventy feet in length, just sitting in the middle of scrub-covered nowhere. What are these giant arrows? Some kind of surveying mark? Landing beacons for flying saucers? Earth's turn signals? No, it's.

The Transcontinental Air Mail Route



A re-creation of a 1920s map showing the route of airmail planes; the dots are intermediate stops along the course.

On August 20, 1920, the United States opened its first coast-to-coast airmail delivery route, just 60 years after the Pony Express closed up shop. There were no good aviation charts in those days, so pilots had to eyeball their way across the country using landmarks. This meant that flying in bad weather was difficult, and night flying was just about impossible.

The Postal Service solved the problem with the world's first ground-based civilian navigation system: a series of lit beacons that would extend from New York to San Francisco. Every ten miles, pilots would pass a bright yellow concrete arrow. Each arrow would be surmounted by a 51-foot steel tower and lit by a million-candlepower rotating beacon. (A generator shed at the tail of each arrow powered the beacon). Now mail could get from the Atlantic to the Pacific not in a matter of weeks, but in just 30 hours or so.

Even the dumbest of air mail pilots, it seems, could follow a series of bright yellow arrows straight out of a Tex Avery cartoon. By 1924, just a year after Congress funded it, the line of giant concrete markers stretched from Rock Springs, Wyoming to Cleveland, Ohio. The next summer, it reached all the way to New York, and by 1929 it spanned the continent uninterrupted, the envy of postal systems worldwide.

Radio and radar are, of course, infinitely less cool than a concrete Yellow Brick Road from sea to shining sea, but I think we all know how this story ends. New advances in communication and navigation technology made the big arrows obsolete, and the Commerce Department decommissioned the beacons in the 1940s. The steel towers were torn down and went to the war effort. But the hundreds of arrows remain. Their yellow paint is gone, their concrete cracks a little more with every winter frost, and no one crosses their path much, except for coyotes and tumbleweeds. But they are still out there.

American Legion & NOC Veterans at the 201NOC Show



NOC



2013 NOC Show









North Orange County Gem

& Mineral Society

Basic Beginner's Silversmithing, Monday September 30th, 2013 from 6:00 to 9:00 pm.

Cost **\$30.00** for class. Materials are included.



Pearl Knotting, Tuesday October 22nd, 2013 from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. Pearls and supplies are included **\$35.00**



Holiday Rock Painting, Tuesday November 26th 2013 from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. This class is only **\$25.00** including supplies.



**All Class are Held at the La Habra Community Center
101 W. La Habra Blvd. La Habra, CA**



REGISTRATION FORM:

Mail with your check made payable to NOCGMS.
Space is limited, please register early.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone No.: _____ Email: _____

Please Mark class: Silversmithing Pearl Knotting Holiday Rock Painting
\$30.00 \$35.00 \$25.00

Make check payable to NOGMS and mail to:



Ofelia Warthen
15051 Leffingwell Rd., Suite 103
Whittier, CA 90604

For more information call Ofelia (562) 946-0828
odwarthen@verizon.net www.nocgms.com

