

# NOC GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWS

Vol. 32 No, 9

November 2013

## President's Message

*by Nancy Bird*

Hi All-

This should be an exciting meeting with the Annual Silent and Live Auction. I hope all of you will come and bring friends!!! And things to donate and money to spend. I am going with Loretta O. this week to Jewel Tunnel, and I have already gotten some nice pieces of jewelry and, of course, plants, and a rock or two.

THIS IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND WILL START AT 6 P.M. FOR THE SILENT AUCTION.

If you were at the October meeting, you saw Loretta Ogden still doing the raffle. She has decided to remain in the club, but with reduced work. Glad she's back! And John Erskine has joined the Board, so we are just a few people shy of a full ensemble.

The fall CA. Federation of Mineralogical Societies meeting is the weekend after our meeting in November and will be Teri Heuer's 1<sup>st</sup> time as a representative of our Club. Let's wish her well. She will be riding with me and Jo Anna Ritchey from Monrovia. Many of you know I'm the Fed. Director for the Delvers and have taken over Loretta's job as Chair of Education through Sharing for the last few years. This has been a rewarding job, and next year I will be expanding it to cover a Junior Rockhound of the Year award. Too bad we don't have any juniors! For newbies, the Edu. Through Sharing is a way for individual clubs to honor couples or singles who have worked so hard for the betterment of their club. They get nominated and the nomination gets written up in both the CA. and American Federation newsletters and they get pins and a parchment. This year, we honored Richard and Nancy O'Conner.

Hope to see you in November-  
Nancy

## NOC Club Activities

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

Field Trips - November 2 - 3 - Whittier Claim Classes (Page 10)

November 26 - Holiday Rock Painting

## Programs

*by Alan Heuer*

Our November program will be the Silent Auction and Live Auction.

## Refreshments

*Hospitality Chair Needed*

Thanks to Kim Winn and Teri Heuer for bringing the goodies to the October meeting.

Armando Pedroza and Heather Bates will bring the goodies to the November meeting.

## Members in the News

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

### Members in the news in November

Andrew Cooley	John Elliott
Jane Livezey	David J. Miller
Mary Ellen Ruiz	Richard Schirer
Fran Swanston	Ruth Szczeszinski
Maryellen McCracken	Armando Pedroza
Carol Larson	

Your gemstone is Topaz  
Your flower is Chysanthemum

## Shows and Events

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### November 2 - 3: ANAHEIM, CA

American Opal Society  
Festhalle at The Phoenix Club  
1340 South Sanderson Avenue  
Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5  
Contact: Veronica Purpura, (714) 501-9959  
Email: [info@opalsociety.org](mailto:info@opalsociety.org)  
Website: [www.opalsociety.org/](http://www.opalsociety.org/)

### November 2 - 3: RIDGECREST, CA

Indian Wells Gem & Mineral Society  
Desert Empire Fairgrounds  
520 West Richmond Road  
Hours: 9 - 5 daily  
Contacts: John DeRosa, (760) 375-7905; Vickie Black, (760) 371-4416  
Website: [www.indianwells.weebly.com](http://www.indianwells.weebly.com)

### November 16 - 17: OXNARD, CA

Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society  
Oxnard Performing Arts Center  
800 Hobson Way (*note correction to location*)  
Hours: Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4  
Contact: Brett Johnson, (805) 822-3836  
Email: [show\\_info@oxnardgem.com](mailto:show_info@oxnardgem.com)  
Website: [www.oxnardgem.com](http://www.oxnardgem.com)

### December 13 - 15: SAN BERNARDINO, CA

Orange Belt Mineralogical Society  
Western Regional Little League Ball Park  
6707 Little League Drive  
Hours: 9 am to Dusk daily  
Contact: Ken, (909) 381-0089  
Email: [kengard@roadrunner.com](mailto:kengard@roadrunner.com)  
Website: <http://OBMSrocks.yolasite.com>

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### February 15 - 24: INDIO, CA

San Gorgonio Mineral & Gem Society, Banning  
Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival  
46350 Arabia Street  
Hours: 10 - 10 daily  
Contact: Bert Grisham, (915) 849-1674, (951) 288-9025 cell  
Email: [bert67@verizon.net](mailto:bert67@verizon.net)

### March 1 - 2: ARCADIA, CA

Monrovia Rockhounds  
Los Angeles Arboretum & Botanic Gardens  
301 Baldwin Avenue  
Hours: 9:00 - 4:30 daily  
Contact: Jo Anna Ritchey, (626) 359-1624  
Email: [joannaritchey@gmail.com](mailto:joannaritchey@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.Moroks.com](http://www.Moroks.com)

### March 1 - 2: VENTURA, CA

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society  
Ventura County Fairgrounds  
10 W. Harbor Blvd.  
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4  
Contact: Krishna Juarez, (805) 323-6725  
Email: [abaris2007@gmail.com](mailto:abaris2007@gmail.com)

### March 8 - 9: SAN MARINO, CA

Pasadena Lapidary Society  
San Marino Masonic Center  
3130 Huntington Drive  
Hours: Sat 10 - 6, Sun 10 - 5  
Contact: Marcia Goetz, (626) 260-7239  
Email: [joenmar1@verizon.net](mailto:joenmar1@verizon.net)



# Falls of the Ohio Fossil Beds Jeffersonville, Indiana

*by Don Ogden*

Dating back to the Middle Devonian Period, about 387 million years ago, the fossils found here are the remains of marine animals. If you could go back in time for this Period, you would find yourself treading water in a warm, tropical sea.

Why are there no fossil fish here? The environment was too dynamic. Dead fish were consumed by scavengers, their remains scattered by ocean currents. The only fossils found are those with fairly robust exoskeletons. Soft corals, seaweed, jellyfish and creatures without a skeleton were not preserved.





## HOLIDAY DINNER AT PORTORINO'S

\$25.00 Dinner for \$15.00!!!!!!!

December 10 at 6 P. M.

We will be doing the Operation Santa again this year, so please bring canned goods and an unwrapped toy.

The choices are Lasagna w/ Meatballs, Chicken Masala, Fish w/ Lemon & Capers, or Eggplant Parmesan. Please send your money and choices to Nancy Bird.

I hope to see everyone there.

**Nancy Bird**  
**1001 W. Lambert Road #18**  
**La Habra, CA 90631-1368**  
**(562) 697-0636**

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## Holiday Rock Painting Class

### Tuesday November 26, 2013

(Registration form *on page 10*)

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# Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall

## *“The Wall that Heals”*



The Wall was setup by 3:00 pm on Wednesday July 10<sup>th</sup>. Even though the official opening was not until Thursday July 11<sup>th</sup>, the Wall was open for visitors right after it was setup. It remand open until Sunday evening. It was open 24 hours a day and many visitors came to see the wall all night, every night. There were over 200 volunteers working at the wall. Ofelia and I were there every day the wall was here, and we even worked all night one night.



The Wall came to town with a lot of pomp and circumstance. Police sirens were announcing its arrival, crowds were lining the street and waving flags. The fire department greeted the wall with the largest American Flag you've ever seen.

We're talking about the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall; a ½ scale wall was setup in the La Habra High School football field on Wednesday July 10<sup>th</sup>. This is not just any wall, it is the property of the Veterans Administration and when it is set up the U.S. Government takes title to the property that the wall is set on. In other words the U.S. Government did not just rent the football stadium from La Habra High they took over ownership of the property.



The emotional effect that the Wall has on people was totally unexpected and surprising. People just wanted to walk the Wall and be close to it, not just people that had loved ones or friends on the Wall but everyone. There were hundreds of veterans there, and not just from the area but from all over the state and even some from out of the state. There were veterans there from World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Kuwait, Iraq and Afghanistan.





There were three separate Ceremonies held over the four days of the event. At the Opening Ceremony the bleachers were full and the Air force did a fly over.

I heard several people say that this was the most significant event ever held in the city of La Habra. There were the city officials from all the surrounding counties, county supervisors and state assemblymen.

At the Candle light Ceremony, we honored the 14 men from La Habra that were killed in Vietnam. The families of three of the men were present and came on to the field and placed a candle by the name of their loved one. After that members of the American Legion Post 267 placed candles by the remaining names. I was privileged to place a candle by “John Macy Birch” the last man from La Habra to die in Vietnam. Most of the men from La Habra were graduates of La Habra High.



At the Closing Ceremony all the sponsors of this event were recognized. Ofelia Warthen went to the stage and represented the North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society.

## Some Interesting Facts About The Wall

There are over 59,000 names on the Wall. The first soldier killed in Vietnam was Air Force T-Sgt. Richard B. Fitzgibbon Jr. was killed in 1956. His son Richard Fitzgibbon Jr. was also killed in Vietnam (one of three sets of father/sons named on the Wall)

The first battlefield fatality was Specialist 4 James T. Davis killed on December 22, 1961.

The Last Soldier killed was Kelton Rena Turner, an 18-year old Marine on May 15, 1975 (two weeks after the evacuation of Saigon in what is known as the Mayaguez Incident.

Three others listed as the last to die are, Gary L. Hall, Joseph N. Hargrove, and Danny G. Marshall. Three US Marines that were mistakenly left behind on Koh Tang Island during the Mayaguez Incident.

Their fate is unknown to this day; they are located on panel 1W lines 130-131.

The youngest to die in Vietnam is Dan Bullock age 15. US Marines.

The oldest is Dwaine McGriff at age 63.

There were 5 men listed at 16 years of age and 12 at 17 years.

The average age of men killed was 19.

38 sets of brothers

997 killed on their first day in Vietnam

1,448 Killed on their last day in Vietnam

8 Women on the Wall (there are 67 other women that died in Vietnam, but they were civilians)

16 Chaplains were killed.

226 Native Americans.

120 persons who are listed on the Wall are from 22 other countries that were fighting in our US Armed forces.

11 Generals

151 Medal of Honor recipients.



I believe the club can be very proud to have been a sponsor of this great event, and for all the club members that attended and have called me to say what a great experience they had.

Don Warthen



# City of La Habra

"A Caring Community"

## COMMUNITY SERVICES

101 W. La Habra Blvd.  
La Habra, CA 90631  
Office: (562) 905-9708  
Fax: (562) 905-9711

September 30, 2013

Don & Ofelia Warthen  
15455 Tetley St.  
Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Warthen,

On behalf of the City of La Habra, we would like to express our appreciation for your outstanding volunteer work at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial: *The Wall That Heals*. Without all the volunteers contributing hundreds of hours, the event would not have been such a success.

As token of our appreciation, we would like to invite you to our annual Veterans Day program to be recognized for your service at *The Wall*. The program will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, November 11, 2013 at the La Habra Community Center. Please check in with Cheryl Cooley at *The Wall That Heals* table by 10:15 a.m. You are also invited to a special "military style" breakfast being prepared and served by the La Habra Host Lions Club. The breakfast will be served from 9:30- 10:15 a.m. at the same location as the program.

In addition, we would appreciate it if you would write a paragraph about your personal experience being a part of *The Wall* event (250 words or less). You can email your submission to [ddeleon@lahabracalifornia.gov](mailto:ddeleon@lahabracalifornia.gov) or mail it to City of La Habra, Attn: David De Leon, 201 E. La Habra Blvd., La Habra, CA 90631. The deadline for submissions will be Friday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, but you are encouraged to submit yours as soon as possible.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (562) 905-9649. We thank you again for your dedication and support in hosting the Vietnam Veterans Memorial: *The Wall That Heals* and we look forward to seeing you at the Veterans Day program!

Sincerely,

David De Leon

## WGMS Field Trip Whittier Club Honey Onyx Claim November 2-3, 2013

by Jay Valle

After the WGMS Show, our field trip is typically an outing to the Whittier Gem & Mineral Society's Honey Onyx Claim, located just east of Barstow. The honey onyx is still there but it is hard rock mining. If you have any or have seen it, you know that it is well worth the effort involved.

Usually we use our Claim as a base of operations (campers and trailers) for daily field trips to the surrounding collecting areas. The access to the camp area requires unlocking a combination lock and opening a locked gate. You will find a combination lock on the gate.

The combination is "4321". After you pass through the gate, you must lock it behind you. Follow the 'W' or 'PLS' signs to camp.

There will be guided field trips on both Saturday and Sunday and we will leave from the Oak Tree Inn (each day) at 8:00 - 8:30 AM. To get to the Oak Tree Inn, take the Ghost Town Rd exit off the 15 freeway, turn right, turn right again and go past the

gas station, and you will see the Inn on the right. Saturday evening we will meet at Peggy Sue's Restaurant for dinner.

**Materials which may be collected:** Honey onyx, red moss agate, petrified wood & palm root, algae agate, and other unnamed agates, jasp-agates, jaspers, fossils, etc.

**Tools:** Rock pick & bag for general collecting; Sledges, wedges, chisels, pry bars, etc. for those rockhounds who really want to get serious with the honey onyx.

**Supplies:** Barstow is very close. For beginning rockhounds (without campers, trailers, etc.) you may wish to stay in a motel in town and drive to the Oaktree Inn each morning or stay at the Oaktree Inn. This is also an easy way to get to know the "workings" of a rock club field trip.

Contact: Jay Valle at (626) 934-9764 for questions or further information.

**Information on the Oaktree Inn** for those who would like to stay in a room for the two nights:

### Oaktree Inn

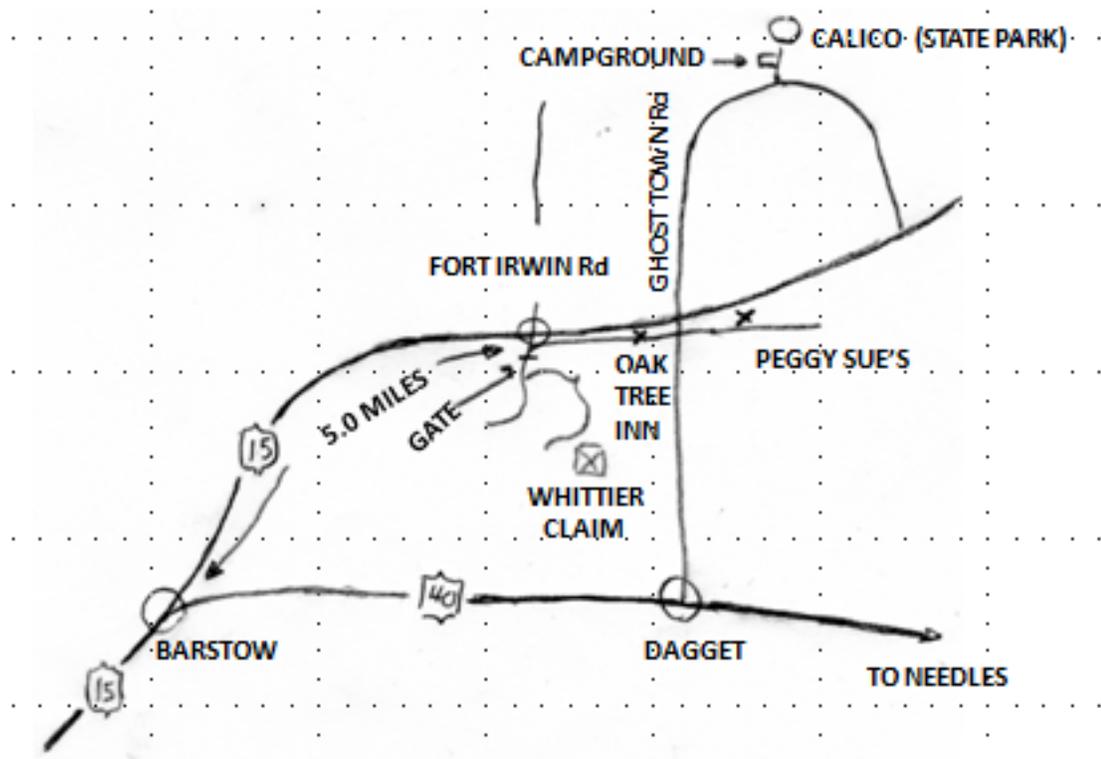
35450 Yermo Dr.

Phone: (760) 254-1148

Take the Ghost Town Road Turnoff

AARP or AAA Discount \$79.75 per night

Dinner is open 24 hours a day



# North Orange County Gem

## & Mineral Society

Basic Beginner's Silversmithing, Monday September 23rd, 2013 from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. Cost \$30.00 for materials. Materials are included.

Completed



Pearl Knotting, Tuesday October 1st, 2013 from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. Cost \$35.00 for materials. Materials are included.

Completed



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 Community Center \*

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](mailto:odwarthen@verizon.net) [www.nocgms.com](http://www.nocgms.com)

