

# NOC GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWS

Vol. 33 No, 09

November 2014

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## President's Message

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*by Nancy Bird*

Arrivederci-Until we see each other again.

Cooler weather has finally come and it's a great time to go on a Field Trip or to another Club's show. Usually, the editor posts this info, others can be found on the CA. Federation website, cfmsinc.org.

The Victor Valley show is not listed at the cfms site. It's their 1st show in Nov. in 4 years, the 15 & 16th, at the Victor Valley Museum in Apple Valley, with over 30 vendors. The Museum will be free this weekend, too. It doesn't take much more than 1 hour to go over the mountains and it should be a great show.

Over Thanksgiving weekend the CFMS getaway to Wiley's Well is happening, and on Dec. 6, there will be a combined Field Trip to the Himalaya Mine in No. San Diego Co.-this is a reduced fee dig and well worth the trip. Check out our website, nocgms.org, for lots of information.

Hope to see you at our Silent Auction at the next meeting, which will be Wednesday, Nov. 12, in the Coyote Hills room (next to the kitchen) at the Community Center. The day is changed, as Tues. the 11th, is Veteran's Day.

And our Holiday Dinner and installation is being ably organised by Yolanda Shirer. If you are coming, please bring dry food and a toy for Operation Santa. It has been a pleasure being your President for my 2nd 2-year term. Best of luck to Ofelia Warthen and her team.

Nancy

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## NOC Club Activities

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Board Meeting - November 18, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Community Center

Field Trips - Nov 28-30 Wiley's Well Area:  
Annual CFMS field trip for geodes, agates and other good stuff.

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## Programs

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The November program will be the Silent Auction. It will be Wednesday, Nov. 12, in the Coyote Hills room (next to the kitchen) at the Community Center. The day was changed because Tuesday the 11th is Veteran's Day.

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## Refreshments

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Thanks to Grace Piccone and Loretta Ogden for bringing the goodies to the September meeting. Linda Mencken and Nancy O'Conner will bring the goodies to the October meeting.

**Date:** Wednesday November 12

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Place:** La Habra Community Center  
101 W. La Habra Blvd.

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## Members in the News

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

*Marijorie Bush*

*Jane Livezey*

*Richard Schirer*

*Fran Swanston*

## Shows and Events

**November 8 - 9, 2014: ANAHEIM, CA**  
American Opal Society, Garden Grove  
The Phoenix Club - Festhalle  
1340 S. Sanderson Ave.  
Hours: Sat 9 - 6; Sun 9 - 5  
Contact: Veronica Purpura, (714) 501-9959  
Email: [info@opalsociety.org](mailto:info@opalsociety.org)  
Website: [www.opalsociety.org](http://www.opalsociety.org)

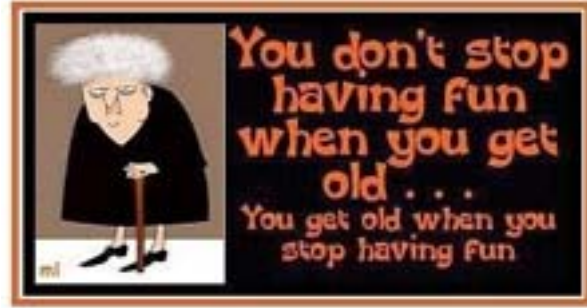
**March 7 - 8, 2015: ARCADIA, CA**  
Monrovia Rockhounds  
Los Angeles Arboretum  
301 Baldwin Avenue  
Hours: 9:00 - 4:30 daily  
Contact: Jo Anna Ritchey, (626) 359-1624  
Email: [joannaritchey@gmail.com](mailto:joannaritchey@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.Moroks.com](http://www.Moroks.com)

**March 7 - 8, 2015: VENTURA, CA**  
Ventura Gem & Mineral Society  
Ventura County Fairgrounds  
10 West Harbor Blvd.  
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4  
Contact: Krishna Juarez, (805) 323-6725  
Email: [info@VGMS.org](mailto:info@VGMS.org)  
Website: [www.vgms.org](http://www.vgms.org)

**March 14 - 15, 2015: 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)  
Website: [www.pasadenalapidarysociety.org](http://www.pasadenalapidarysociety.org)

**May 1, 2, 3, 2015: La Habra CA**  
*North Orange Co. Gem & Mineral Society*  
La Habra Community Center  
101 W. La Habra Blvd.  
Hours: Fri 4 - 8; Sat/Sun 10 - 5 both days  
Contact: Don Warthen (562) 330-8974  
Email: [odwarthen@verizon.net](mailto:odwarthen@verizon.net)  
Website: [nocgms.com](http://nocgms.com)

## Getting Old



# PRINTING

421 S. Cypress St.  
La Habra, CA 90631  
**(562) 697-8207**  
(562) 697-4501 fax  
[tntprinting@roadrunner.com](mailto:tntprinting@roadrunner.com)

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## Meeting Minutes October 14, 2014

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*by Teri Heuer*

President Nancy Bird called the meeting to order. Nancy Bird presented our speaker Andrew Hookstraw. Andrew provided an excellent presentation on the Lake Powell area Arizona.

Minutes stand as printed.

Treasurers Report was given by our Treasurer Don Warthen.

Field Trips – Advisor Frank Winn - Absent Note: Our thoughts are with Kim and Frank and their family.

Raffle – Coordinator-Loretta Ogden

Refreshment Provided by Grace Piccone, Lorretta Ogden Next month Refreshments for the NOC November 11, 2014 Meeting will be provided by Nancy O'Connor and Linda Mencken.

Portofino Installation dinner will be December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014. The cost for this event will be \$15.00 which is a great price for this annual event. Hope to see all the members attend the installation dinner as it will be a nice social event too! A registration form is on page 8.

Education Chairperson – Ofelia Warthen Updated everyone on the Nov 18<sup>th</sup> class Ming trees Xmas style... We are looking forward to that exciting class.

Don Warthen also reminded everyone of the Chinese Knotting class on Oct 18, 2014.

October 27, 2014 Show meeting

President Nancy Bird Adjourned the Meeting at 8:50 p.m.

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Hello everybody, A new Directors orientation meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 12, 2014 at La Habra Community Center at 6 to 9 p.m.

Please let me know if you will attend. Food will be provided. Thank you:

Ofelia

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## Last SCRIBE Meeting at Quartzsite AZ

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*from SCRIBE Web Site*

**Please Note:** This (January 24, 2015) will be the last official meeting held in Quartzsite. The SCRIBE board has voted to move the meetings to one of the 7 regional AFMS Shows each year.

In 2015, there will be two S.C.R.I.B.E. meetings. The first meeting will be the one in Quartzsite, AZ on January 24, 2015.

The second will be held in Austin, TX in October. Watch this space (or see the SCRIBE bulletin) for details.

Time and location of last Quartzsite meeting:

Saturday, January 24, 2015 (9:00 a.m' MST)  
Senior Citizen's Center  
Moon Mountain Road  
Quartzsite, Arizona



Lifting a Marine Ammunition Box at the La Habra High School Band Buster Car Show



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## **Houser Geode Beds** **Located on BLM Land,** **Near Wiley's Road**

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*by Lynn Bremner  
via Internet*

On a recent trip to the [Hauser](#) Geode Beds near Blythe, CA, memories of my first visit came to mind. I was twelve years old the first time I went geode hunting with my family. My father had learned about the beds from an old prospector who frequently rockhounded there. The old man said we could easily find the famous Hauser Geode Beds by driving east on Interstate 10 through the Coachella Valley until we saw a sign pointing the way to the geodes. The prospector said we'd know we were there when we saw geodes abundantly scattered upon the ground. You can imagine how excited we were to learn of such a location.

The geode beds seemed like a fairly easy find, so my father packed us up into his 4x4 Jeep and we headed out of San Diego eastbound on Interstate 10. After a tiresome search for the geode sign we finally decided to stop and ask a local gas station attendant if he knew where the Hauser Geode Beds were located. It didn't take long to jot down yet another set of simple directions which led us to the Wiley's Well Road exit and down a washboard dirt road toward the Wiley Well and Coon Hollow campgrounds.

After a few hours of unsuccessful exploration down unmarked dirt roads, we finally found the Hauser Geode Beds. It was only an hour until sunset, and a lone prospector who had been digging all day was packing his gear to leave. He was kind enough to show us the hole where he had found buckets full of fist-sized geodes. He even took a few minutes to show us how to extract them.

The prospector explained that geodes are found in groups located in volcanic ash beds, which is why they are referred to as geode beds.

He showed us sample geodes from his bucket so we could easily identify them. At first glance geodes look like sphere-shaped, brown, muddy rocks and can easily blend in with the landscape. They are lighter in color than the darker varnished rocks which cover the land surrounding the geode beds, so they can easily be identified once you know what to look for. Geodes vary in size. Some are as small as a cherry and others are as large as a grapefruit.

We thanked the fellow for his help and began to dig. The excitement was overwhelming and the tedious hours we spent searching for the geode beds were forgotten in the thrill of discovery. As my brother eagerly dug out the geodes, my father and I cracked a few open to discover beautiful crystals inside. It was a moment of pure delight.

We left the Hauser Geode Beds with a bucket full of geodes and huge smiles. It was the first of many successful rockhounding trips to Wiley's Well. Every Thanksgiving we returned to Coon Hollow campground at Wiley's Well to camp and search the desert floor for geodes and other rocks and minerals. Although I never forgot the excitement of the first geode expedition, I still feel a charge of mystery and anticipation each time we revisit the Hauser Geode Beds and the Potato Patch, another nearby collecting site.

Although our annual Thanksgiving trips to the Hauser Geode Beds have ceased, during a recent visit there I found myself digging in the volcanic ash beds with the same enthusiasm I had experienced years ago. Cautiously I tapped around an embedded geode with my pick. Each strike loosened the geode a little more from its thousand-year resting place. Finally, the geode fell into my hand and I broke it open to discover its contents. To my disappointment the geode didn't contain any crystals — so I continued to dig and search for the next one.

On one visit to the Hauser Geode Beds we met up with a field trip from Quartzsite, AZ. We took a few pictures to show that there are still many geodes waiting to be found.

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## Wed. Nov. 12 Silent Auction

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by Don Ogden

Our silent auction is here. Get ready for a lot of fun. It always proves to be a great program because we have a great variety of items to bid on. Items have been donated by our members. If you have never been to one of our silent auctions, make sure you get to this meeting and participate.

For the *silent auction*, the donated items are put out on tables with slips of paper next to the item for you to bid on. The timer is set and the silent auction begins (only one person knows the exact time). You then make bids on the items you would like to have. BUT watch your items closely because other people may also like it and could be outbidding you. The last bid listed on the paper when the timer goes off - GETS THE ITEM.

Be sure to bring your donation for the silent auction early that evening. This is a fabulous fund raiser and the club needs your donation to achieve success, and bring your friends.

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## Houser Geode Beds Note

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### Location:

1. Take the Wiley's Well Road exit from Interstate 10 and continue driving south to the graded dirt road just past the state prison.
2. You will pass Wiley's Well campground (9 miles south of I-10), and Coon Hollow campground (12 miles south of I-10).
3. You will see a dirt road on the right with a marker indicating the route to the Hauser Geode Beds. (This is also the Imperial and Riverside county border.)
4. Turn right on the dirt road and follow for about 4 1/2 miles, and take a right when the road splits again.
5. This road will lead you to the two locations of the Hauser Beds.

### Tools:

Make sure you take collecting buckets, hand picks, and a shovel. also take plenty of food and water. Don't go in the summer, it's very hot.

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## Getting a Ticket!

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via the web

*Study the picture first and then read the story.*



This happened to an Englishman in France who was totally drunk. The French policeman stops his car and asks the gentleman if he has been drinking.

With great difficulty; the Englishman admits that he has been drinking all day, that his daughter got married in the morning to a Frenchman, and that he drank champagne and a few bottles of wine at the reception and quite a few glasses of single malt thereafter.

Quite upset, the policeman proceeds to alco-test (breath test) him and asks the Englishman if he knows, that under French Law, why he is going to be arrested.

The Englishman answered with humor: No sir I do not! But while we're asking questions, do you know that this is a British car and my wife is driving ... on the other side?

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## 2014 Field Trip Schedule

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**Nov 1-2 Whittier Claim Area:** honey onyx, agate, jasper, palm root, etc.

**Nov 28-30 Wiley's Well Area:** Annual CFMS field trip for geodes, agates and other good stuff.

For up-to-date info call Frank Winn (626) 912-0404



## Craft Fair

On Nov.1 a group of NOC member sold thier handiwork at The First Methodist Church in La Habra.



We swam in under a beautiful double rainbow. After we dried ,we had a wonderful time.

As you can see Ofelia, Nancy, Clyeda, Don & Loretta, Jan and Carol are all smiles.

We should not leave out the photographer Don Warthen. You know the photographer is always absent but never fogotten.



# NORTH ORANGE COUNTY GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY



**MING TREE CLASS – NOV. 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2014  
6 TO 9 PM**

Space is limited, please register early! Please arrive promptly!

Classes are held at:

The La Habra Community Center

101 La Habra Blvd.

La Habra, California

For more information call Ofelia Warthen @ (562) 946-0828 or (626) 330-8974

Email: [odwarthen@verizon.net](mailto:odwarthen@verizon.net)

REGISTRATION FORM: Mail with your check made payable to NOCGMS

*(Ming Tree by Don Warthen)*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Class and materials **\$20.00** for member. Non-Members **\$25.00**. Open to the public.

Make check payable to NOGMS and mail to:



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



**North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society**

**2015-2016 INSTALLATION OF OFFICER**

**Wednesday, December 10, 2014**

**Happy Hour 6 PM – Dinner 7 PM**



**PORTOFINO**  
651 West Whittier Blvd.  
La Habra, Ca. 90631  
Tel: 562-690-1765



Please RSVP by November 15<sup>th</sup> Contact person, Yolanda Schirer, 562-944-9445

MENU (please select one)

- Lasagna "Portofino" special – With Ground Meat (Name \_\_\_\_\_)
- Melanzana Parmigiana – Breaded Eggplant (Name \_\_\_\_\_)
- Pollo Marsala – Chicken Breast W/Mushrooms & Marsala Wine (Name \_\_\_\_\_)
- Sogliola Piccata - Sole Sautéed W/Lemon and Capers (Name \_\_\_\_\_)

Dinner includes Brochetta, Salad, Pasta, Polenta, and Dessert. Coffee & Tea will be served upon request. Two (2) complimentary WINE (one blush & one white) DECANTER will be provided on each table. NO HOST BAR

Come Help us "Celebrate Good Times" and Enjoy a Happy evening with Laughter and Delightful friends!

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**Payment Information:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I would like to attend for \_\_\_\_ people @ \$15.00 per person

Check enclosed for \$\_\_\_\_\_ (checks payable to NOC)

**Send payment to: Yolanda Schirer, 14602 Calpella Street, La Mirada, Ca. 90638**

No. Orange County Gem & Mineral Society (NOC) is a 501(c) (3) Organization, Helping the La Habra Youth Committee & Scholarships

**NOTE: BRING A CHRISTMAS TOY AND/OR CAN FOOD DONATION  
GIVEN TO NEEDY FAMILIES IN THE LA HABRA COMMUNITY**



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## NOC November Education Report

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*by Ofelia Warthen, Chairperson*

The October 28<sup>th</sup> Chinese Knotting class brought a few students. This was a first time class in this type of jewelry making. Chinese knotting is a decorative handicraft art that began as a form of Chinese folk art in the Tang and Song Dynasty. Thanks to teacher, Don Warthen, all the students were amazed how fast they learned making their necklace; a piece of art they can wear as one of a kind peace of jewelry.

### Coming Events by President Elect, Ofelia Warthen

The Education Committee met on September 17<sup>th</sup> to discuss 2015 class schedule. A new Committee was appointed with Loretta Ogden as Chairperson and Clyeda Tezak, Linda Mencken, and Donald Warthen as Committee members. New class schedule dates were submitted to La Habra Community Center for approval. The dates will be published at a later date. Also, we are coordinating a new venture with the City of La Habra, advertising our classes in the City quarterly magazine. The first quarter magazine will go out sometime in December.

Your elected 2015 Board Members met early October to set up and discuss very important future events. Items discussed were 2015 Gem Show scheduled for May 1, 2, 3; Selected Don Warthen as show chairperson and Loretta Ogden as co-chair & dealer chairperson. The City will lend fossils found in La Habra to be displayed at the Gem Show making it the Show Theme.

The Education Committee met on October 27<sup>th</sup>. to further discuss 2015 Gem Show. Also, the application to advertise our 2015 first quarter classes in the La Habra City quarterly publication was submitted. We will try this venture with the City to gain more awareness to what our organization does and bring in more students that will also bring in new members. The Committee is excited but still hold reservations to needing more volunteer help.

We have a great organization with members having great talents. We need you and encourage all to come share your talents. Our classes have encouraged new members to join.

Further discussion to change the 2015 General Meeting date from Tuesday to Wednesday, same 2<sup>nd</sup> week of each month was approved. New date schedule was submitted to La Habra Community Center for approval and has been approved with a few changes. We will publish the new dates later in the bulletin.

Our new 2015 officer installation will be held on Wednesday, December 10, 2014 at Portofino's in La Habra. Yolanda Schirer has been very helpful in making all the arrangements to this event. Please call her if any questions and sign up right away for reservations. See attached menu form.

A calling committee to remind members of upcoming meetings and events was brought up and was approved, it will be called "Sunshine Committee".

Update on Future Rock Hounds of America: The La Habra 4-H youth group, led by its leader, Ms. Castillo, made a field trip to preview the Whittier Gem Show on October 19<sup>th</sup>. So much excitement prevailed with all the youth asking questions and doing hands on touching rocks, viewing cases and demonstrations. It was a great day for everybody. Thanks to all members of Whittier Gem and Mineral Club.

We look forward to a super fun and exciting new 2015 year! Join in for fun.