

NOC NEWS

**NORTH ORANGE COUNTY GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.**

**ALLAMERICAN CLUB**  
1985, 1986, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1992

*A member of the*  
**AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES**  
**CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES**

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**Meetings**

**Day and Location:**

**With the exception of December,**  
**meetings are held at 6:30 p.m.**  
**the second Wednesday of the month at the**  
**La Habra Community Center,**  
**101 W. La Habra Blvd., La Habra.**

**The La Habra Community Center**  
**is located west of Euclid on La Habra Blvd.**

**For current meeting information,**  
**please call (714) 342-1227**

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**North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.**  
**Box 653**  
**La Habra, CA 90633-0653**  
**<http://www.nocgms.com>**



**<http://www.cfmsinc.org>**

**DATED MATERIAL-DO NOT DELAY**  
**December 2017**

# NOC GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWS

Vol. 36 No, 12

December 2017

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## President's Corner

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Welcome to the December 2017 Presidents Corner.

This year has been very exciting to say the least, Your Board members have been striving to make this club the best in the world. All the activities and meetings have been paying off for sure. And for 2018 we are working hard to make it even better. The distant future is even looking better also.

Our long-range Chair Linda Chu and her team is working on ideas and goals as I write this paper, with the hopes of making every month more and more exciting.

The Fund-Raising Chair Beth Smith and her team are working on new and exciting events to get more members involved in the club and make money for our club. If you would like to help Beth out in the fundraising realm please contact her and maybe throw out some ideas on what kind of event you would like to see.

Next, we have Armando Pedroza and his team that are very busy putting together monthly general meeting with exciting speakers and events. Yes, events like the big show in June. Would you like to volunteer to help in this event? Please contact Armando I am sure he would love to hear from you.

Next up is Rose Pedrosa and her team, Rose is great at setting up the general meeting goodies. I know everyone love the food we have at the general meetings and we need to have People sign up each month to donate food for the meetings, so please sign up and give her a hand.

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## NOC Club Activities

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Board Meeting - 6:30 p.m. 3rd Wed. at La Habra Community Center *except Dec.*

**Field Trips** - Dec. none

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## Programs

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The program for this month is the NOCGMS HOLIDAY DINNER. It will be at the La Habra Community Center on December 6, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Menu: Turkey or Ham dinner with salad, grilled vegetables, rolls and desert. Tea, coffee, and water.

Our speaker for January 10th 2018 will be the renowned Renee Newman Author of many gem books and GIA graduate.

The program topic will be on Jade

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## Meeting Date

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**Date:** Wed. December 6

**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

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

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## DUES are DUE

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Another year is ended and our dues are again due. Please submit them within the next month. Thank you all for helping us spread the fun and joy of our hobby.

Jann Cohen

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## Shows and Events

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**2018**

**FEBRUARY 16 - 25: INDIO, CA**

San Geronio Mineral & Gem Society  
Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival  
82-503 Highway 111  
Hours: 10 - 10 daily  
Contact: Bert Grisham, (915) 849-1674  
Email: bert67@verizon.net

**MARCH 3 - 4: ARCADIA, CA**

Monrovia Rockhounds  
L. A. County Arboretum & Botanical Garden  
301 North Baldwin Avenue  
Hours: 9:00 - 4:30 daily  
Contact: Jo Anna Ritchey, (626) 359-1624,  
Email: joannaritchey@gmail.com  
Website: www.moroks.com

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## Education Program Report

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Jewelry class resumes in 2018 after a one year hiatus in 2017. The class did not have a smooth start. We could not get a room at the Community Center at the beginning of this year until mid May. Thanks to our member, Loretta Ogden, for graciously allowing us use her home to conduct the class. She also acts as our instructor. As the class progresses, we have a few core members who really support the program and really want to learn the basic of jewelry making. I thank them for their support.

This chair position is on a yearly basis. The president assigns a member to take up the job at the beginning of each year. I have decided not to continue for another year. The class is designed to focus on skill building. Taking the class continuously is essential. To schedule the class during the day on a week-day is also a compromise to the availability of the Community Center. Whoever the 2018 chair may be, I wish the program to have a successful year.

Linda Chu  
Education Chair

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## Camp Zzyzx

### CFMS Earth Science Study

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New members - NOC is a member of the CFMS and it offers opportunities to learn lapidary and jewelry-making techniques at Camp Zzyzx.

Camp Zzyzx is located in Southern California's Mojave Desert near Baker.

Camp Zzyzx is on March 25 thru March 31, 2018  
Application is on Page 7.

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## What About December

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*By Don Warthen*

This is the season to be jolly. Everyone knows that Christmas comes on December 25 and that New Year's Eve in on December 31, but what about the rest of the month?

There are many things that happens in December that most people have forgotten.

December 7 - Pearl Harbor Day

December 13 – Hanukkah

December 9, 1992 was "Operation Hope" was American's Intervention in Somalia Began.

December 15 is Bill of Rights Day

December 16, 1944 the "Battle of the Bulge" began.

December 20, 1989 was "Operation Just Cause".

December 24, 1964 (Christmas Eve) USAF began air strikes on Laos.

December 31, 1946 (New Year's Eve) was the Official End of WWII.

And of course, the big one, December 21 is the first day of Winter. The 21st is Winter Solstice, the shortest day of the year.

And around the world December 6th is known as "St. Nicholas Day".

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## NOCGMS MINUTES OF THE MEETING November 8, 2017

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Location: La Habra Community Center

President – Kevin Smith open the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

5, 4, 3, 2, 1. . . . Bidding has closed, pick up your prize(s). That was the sound we heard all evening as members and our guest participated in our November Silent Auction. All the tables were full of donations by our members and our surrounding communities, which gave plenty of items to bid on.

Our “Summer Break Jewelry Classes” did a fantastic job creating and designing jewelry for our auction. Everyone who created jewelry for this event, either purchased their created item on the spot or they would be able to bid on their piece at the auction (if they were the highest bidder) If you were unable to attend last summer, mark your calendars as “Summer Break Jewelry Classes” Chairperson Beth Smith said she is already working on what project we will be working on this summer in 2018.

Kevin Smith was our Auctioneer and he had the most beautiful items to bid on. I myself bid on an item and won. The item I won by highest bid was donated by our 1st Vice President Armando Pedroza. It was a big chunk of Elimia/ Turritella Agate and a cabochon from the “Chunk of Agate”. I selected to bid on this item as it was a great example of a rough stone and what it could be turned into in which this example was a perfect cabochon. Plus it was designed by Armando which made it extra special to me. I plan on putting it on display in my 2018 “Big Gem Show” case.

BIG, “THANK YOU” to all our members that either helped before, during or after the event for your time and energy into our 2017 November Silent Auction. Another BIG, “THANK YOU” to everyone whom donated items for bid at our auction. Of course another BIG, “THANK YOU” to every member that brought something for the “pot luck dinner” and for all the members that organized, set up and cleaned it up afterwards. One more BIG, “THANK YOU” to our 2017 November Silent Auction Chairperson Beth Smith, she did a fabulous job. We cannot give a read

further without giving a shout of a BIG, “THANK YOU to Nancy O’Connor for signing up and collecting the money for our annual Christmas Dinner during the auction.

Our next big event will be our 2018 “Big Gem Show”, we would like for all our members to participate in some way at our “Big Gem Show” in June. We will be setting up our meetings for our “Big Gem Show” so keep an eye out for those meeting dates; they are for all members that want to help put this show together. Yes, we do ask our members to donate items for our fundraisers for our club. Yes, as a club member I am so thankful that our members donate as we use their donations to give as prizes for our events, which in turn off-sets many of our cost so we can continue to have speakers for our general meetings, scholarships for students in our surrounding communities and all cost of running such a fun and wonderful club. In the time leading up to our 2018 “Big Gem Show” to all our members, please remember to continue to set aside items that you would like to donate for the 2018 “Big Gem Show”. I do know that I live over in Fullerton and I am starting to ask around my neighborhood businesses if they would like to donate to our non-profit organization. I do know that many gift cards purchase during the Holiday season usually have a buy so many gift cards and the business gives a gift card back free to the purchaser, if you do not use that gift card, maybe that would be something you would like to donate to the 2018 “Big Gem Show” as our raffle ticket winners love to win “Gift Cards”. Last year we were able to add a stone necklace created and donated by our member Loretta Ogden to each of our gift card prizes, which made them extra special. Remember any type of donation is appreciated, it is usually best to donate something you would like to win.

Again a BIG, “THANK YOU” to everyone and I look forward to seeing all of you at our January 10, 2018 General meeting.

General meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Minutes by NOC Secretary – Teri Heuer

Please contact Teri Heuer for comments, corrections or feedback or for anything

Email [terishelp@yahoo.com](mailto:terishelp@yahoo.com)

Subject Line: NOC Member... (So I know to look at it right away)

Call/Text Teri 951-640-2923 Meeting

# 2018 Camp Zzyzx

## CFMS Earth Science Study

March 25 - March 31  
Application on Page 7.

CFMS offers opportunities to learn lapidary and jewelry-making techniques at Camp Zzyzx:

Camp Zzyzx is located in Southern California's Mojave Desert near Baker.



Interstate 15 exit sign for Zzyzx Road

### Camp Zzyzx



Zzyzx is in the Mojave Desert near Baker, California



Zzyzx, formerly Soda Springs, is an unincorporated community in San Bernardino County, California, United States, within the boundaries of Mojave National Preserve



THE CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES, INC.



DEDICATED TO THE ADVANCEMENT AND ENJOYMENT OF  
THE EARTH SCIENCES  
**CAMP ZZYZX**



We invite you to join us at the Earth Science Seminar being held at the Desert Studies Center, Soda Springs (Zzyzx) located approximately 50 miles Northeast of Barstow, CA. Off I-15 at Zzyzx Rd.

Facilities are rustic, dormitory style rooms with bed, mattress & desk. Cleaning is the occupant's responsibility. You must bring bed linen or sleeping bag, and any creature comforts you may desire i.e. lamp, throw rug, ice chest. RV parking is approximately 1/4 mile from the Center and has no facilities of any kind. All restrooms and showers are in separate buildings at the center and are communal.

The Earth Science Committee reserves the right to accept or deny applications as they deem appropriate. This area is designated by the Government as a Desert Studies Center; consequently, **NO PETS ARE ALLOWED**. A limited number of reservations are available and an early application is recommended. Subject to change these classes will be offered:

LAPIDARY READING WIRE ART FIELD TRIPS SILVER FABRICATION ADVANCED WIRE ART  
PRECIOUS METAL CLAY SOFT STONE CARVING FACETING ALTERNATIVE CASTING

The fee for the week is \$400.00 per person and includes quarters or RV space, three meals per day, and classes. Additional charges may be assessed for material furnished by instructors.

**IF YOU USE YOUR RV YOU CAN SAVE \$50.00 / NEW Day Trippers Cost is \$250 for the week**

**NO CANCELLATIONS AFTER MARCH 1, 2018 unless a replacement is provided.**

A \$25.00 Administration Fee will be assessed for cancellations prior to March 1, 2018.

Please complete the Registration form and Mail with full payment; Payable to CFMS

<b>MAIL APPLICATION TO:</b> <b>AUDREY HARVEY</b> 3363 Tuxford Place Thousand Oaks, CA 91360 805-427-2447	<b>CAMP ZZYZX</b>  MARCH 25th - MARCH 31st, 2018	<b>FOR INFORMATION ONLY</b> <b>CONTACT:</b> Marion Roberts 209-538-0197 email: mvroberts1@comcast.net
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**REGISTRATION FORM DEADLINE MARCH 1, 2018**

Applications received after this date will be placed on a stand-by list and considered only when a vacancy exists.

Please use block printing:

(A) Mr. Mrs. Ms \_\_\_\_\_

(B) Mr. Mrs. Ms \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

ROOM ASSIGNMENT FOR SINGLE APPLICANTS ONLY. RV \_\_\_ DORM \_\_\_ Day Tripper \_\_\_ ROOM REQUEST FOR MEDICAL OR PHYSICAL REASONS. PLEASE DESCRIBE \_\_\_\_\_ SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS \_\_\_ DRABETIC

OTHER \_\_\_ EXPLAIN \_\_\_\_\_

**DO NOT MAIL REGISTRATIONS PRIOR TO NOVEMBER 1ST !! REGISTRATIONS POSTMARKED PRIOR TO NOVEMBER 1ST WILL BE PLACED ON THE "WAITING LIST"**

By attending this activity you are giving your consent for CFMS, to make photographs, videotapes, films or other likeness of me. I hereby grant to CFMS unrestricted right to copyright any of the above-mentioned materials containing images of me as well the unrestricted right to use and reuse them, with their caption information, in whole or in part. These rights include, but not limited to, the right to publish, copy, distribute, alter, license and publicly display these materials and images for editorial, trade, marketing and/or advertising purposes. I also grant CFMS and its licenses the unrestricted right to use and disclose my name in connection with use of the above material.

Tax Update by  
Don Warthen J.D.

Merry Christmas to all and to all, a new Tax Year is upon us.

With new tax reform looming, it's time to think about what all these changes will mean to us. First, the NOC, CFMS & AFMS are all Tax-Exempt Organizations and as such there will be little or no effect on these organizations. But what about those of us that are members and tax payers, what effect will all this have on us?

The short answer is we don't know yet, Both the House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate have their own version of Tax Reform. But we can take a quick look at the two Bills and have some idea of what is coming.

Both the House and Senate Bills call for elimination of the State Income Tax Deduction, and in both versions Tax Rate will theoretically go down and the standard deduction will be greatly increased. ( There are many changes in Itemized deductions, too many to list here.)

**House Version**

Rate	Married Filing Joint	Single	Head of Household
12%	Under \$90,000 Of Income	Under \$45,000 Of Income	Under \$67,500 Of Income
25%	\$90,001 - \$260,000	\$45,001 - \$200,000	\$67,501 - \$200,000
35%	\$260,001 - \$1,000,000	\$200,001 - \$500,000	\$200,001 - \$500,000
39.6%	\$1,000,001 and over	\$500,001 and over	\$500,001 and over

**Senate Version**

Rate	Married Filing Joint	Single	Head of Household
10%	Under \$19,050 of Income	Under \$9,525 of Income	Under \$13,600 Of Income
12%	\$19,051 - \$77,400	\$9,526 - \$38,700	\$13,601 - \$51,800
22%	\$77,401 - \$140,000	\$38,701 - \$70,000	\$51,801 - \$70,000
24%	\$140,001 - \$320,000	\$70,001 - \$160,000	\$70,001 - \$160,000
32.5%	\$320,001 - \$400,000	\$160,001 - \$200,000	\$160,200 - \$200,000
35%	\$400,001 - \$1,000,000	\$200,001 - \$500,000	\$200,001 - \$500,000
38.5%	\$1,000,001 and over	\$500,001 and over	\$500,001 and over

**Proposed Standard Deduction**

Filing Type	House Version	Senate Version
Married Filing Joint	\$24,400	\$24,000
Single	\$18,300	\$18,000
Head of Household	\$12,200	\$12,000

Please Note: The Senate Bill retains the additional deduction for seniors and the blind, whereas the House does not.

*(If this sounds overwhelming, remember that this is what is going on in Congress)*

I have left out some categories i.e. Married Filing Single, to save space. if you want further information please email me at [odwarthen@outlook.com](mailto:odwarthen@outlook.com) thank you Don.