

NOC NEWS

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

**ALL AMERICAN 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 July, August and December, meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. the second Tuesday 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 (909) 598-2456

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North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.  
Box 653  
La Habra, CA 90633-0653



<http://home.inreach.com/o-nocgms>  
<http://www.cfmsinc.org>

**DATED MATERIAL - DO NOT DELAY**  
November 2003

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

*P.O. Box 653*

*La Habra, California*

Regular meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month (excluding July, August and December) at the La Habra Community Center, 101 W. La Habra Blvd., La Habra (west of Euclid).

2003 OFFICERS

President .....	Don Warthen .....	(626) 330-8974
First Vice President .....	Open .....	
Second Vice President .....	Jane Livezey .....	(714) 524-6280
Secretary .....	Susan Hansen .....	(562) 865-2040
Treasurer .....	Don Livezey .....	(714) 524-6280
Federation Director .....	Loretta Ogden .....	(909) 598-2456
Director .....	Virginia Grafton .....	(562) 865-2040
Director .....	Floyd Allen .....	(714) 777-5159
Director .....	Izzie Burns .....	(626) 288-2896
Director .....	Ofelia Warthen .....	(626) 330-8974
Director .....	Bill Burns .....	(626) 288-2896

2003 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Operating Supplies .....	Virginia Grafton .....	see above
Budget & Finance .....	Don Livezey .....	(714) 524-6280
Bulletin Editors .....	Don & Loretta Ogden .....	see above
Displays & Education .....	Virginia Grafton .....	(562) 865-2040
Door Prizes .....	Verle Stadel .....	(562) 696-1677
Field Trips .....	Bill & Izzie Burns .....	see above
Historian .....	Susan Hansen .....	see above
Membership .....	Jane Livezey .....	(714) 524-6280
Insurance .....	Don Livezey .....	(714) 524-6280
Librarian .....	Pat Felix .....	(714) 970-1496
Operating Regulations & By-Laws .....	Don Warthen .....	see above
Programs .....	Ofelia Warthen .....	see above
Publicity .....	Jane Hendrixon .....	(562) 691-9595
Refreshments .....	Nancy Bird .....	(562) 947-6896
Show Chairmen 2003 .....	Bill Burns .....	see above
Assistant Show Chairman .....	The entire club	

The objective and purpose of the North Orange County Gem and Mineral Society is to disseminate knowledge of mineralogy and the earth sciences and to encourage study in these subjects through means of: the presentation of public exhibitions, lectures, slide programs; field trips for explorations, study and collection of specimens; the preparation, publication and distribution of articles and studies pertaining to mineralogy and the earth sciences; the promotion of scientific research in these fields; the encouragement of interest among young people and the fostering of classes in mineralogy and lapidary arts; and all other means which are appropriate to the accomplishment of the primary objectives set forth.

*Annual Membership Dues: Individual, \$10; Family, \$15; Juniors, \$3.*

*Visitors are always welcome at our regular meetings and field trips.*

*The North Orange County Gem & Mineral Soc. does not yet have a Junior Division.*

*Material contained in this newsletter may be used if credit is given.*

Please send exchange bulletins to:

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 NOC Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.  
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 909-598-2456  
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<http://www.cfmsinc.org>

# NOC GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWS

Vol, 22 No. 10

November 2003

## President's Message

by Don Warthen

It has been a busy year so far, we held classes at the La Habra Day Camp we also moved the show to June and to the Community Center and had the best show ever, then we held a pearl seminar and it was a complete sellout, we have had some great programs this year and were not done yet and we have had several fine people join the club.

At our November meeting we will be having the auction (a noisy and a silent auction). Remember that this meeting is on third Tuesday Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget to bring along some goodies for the auction. Then we will be going to Lavic Siding over Thanksgiving come and join us, if you can't make it for the weekend then come on out for the day.

This year we will be having our Christmas Party at the Community Center on our regular meeting night of Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>. Bring an unwrapped toy to donate to the cities children.

On January 10<sup>th</sup> we will be conducting the youth program at Hacienda Heights once again. We will need some volunteers and cabs.

We have already started working on next years show, there are some field trips in the works and we are lining up some great programs. We want to here from you. What would you like to see in the way of field trips, programs, the show or what other ideas do you have? Let us hear from you.

See you at the meeting.

## November Meeting

Date: November 18 \*\* (Nov 11 is a Holiday and the Community Center will not be open, so the date wa changed.)  
Time: 7:30 p.m.  
Place: La Habra Community Center  
101 W. La Habra Blvd.

## NOC Club Activities

Cab Classes at Walt Messemer's — 7-10 p.m.  
every Wednesday Evening.

Board Meeting — To be announced

Field Trip — To be announced

Deadline for NOC News — Nov 17.

**Annual Christmas Dinner** - Dec. 9, 2003

La Habra Commubity Center  
101 W. La Habra Blvd.

**Autonetics** club members & Spouses are invited

**Annual Youth Science Event** — Sat. Jan. 10, 2004  
10 a.m. to 1p.m.

Wedgeworth Elementary School, Hacienda Hts.  
(Details will be Dec. NOC News)

## Programs

The November meeting presents you multiple reasons to attend. Elect your 2004 officers. Bid on bargains at the now famous NOC auction.

Members should bring rocks, finished products, fossils, etc. to donate for the auction sale. Bring money to take things home.

## Members in the News

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

**Jane Livezey - November 11**

**Jerry Grafton - November 19**

Your gemstone is Topaz

Your flower is Chysanthemum

## Refreshments

Don and Jane Livezey will bring the goodies for the November meeting. Thanks to Jerry and Jinney Grafton for bringing the goodies to the October meeting.

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## Shows and Events

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### November 15-16, 2003, Palmdale, CA

Palmdale Gem & Mineral Club  
Palmdale Elks Lodge  
2705 E. Ave. Q  
Hours: 9-5 both days  
Gail Becker (661) 256-4689  
Email: Gail1010becker@aol.com

### November 22-23, 2003, Victorville, CA

Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club  
San Bernardino County Fairgrounds  
14800 7th Street  
Hours: Sat 9-5 Sun 9-4  
Bob Harper (760) 947-6383

### November 29-30, 2003, Barstow, CA

Mojave Gem & Mineral Soc.  
Barstow Community Center  
841 S. Barstow Road  
Hours: 10-5 both days  
Bob Depue (760) 255-1030

### December 6-7, 2003, San Bernardino, CA

Orange Belt Mineralogical Soc.  
San Bernardino Women's Club  
503 31st Street  
Hours: Sat. 10-6 Sun. 10-5  
Lyle Strayer (909) 887-3394  
E-mail echobyrd@aol.com

### February 13-22, 2004, Indio, CA

San Gorgonio Mineral & Gem Society  
"Riverside Co. Fair & National Date Festival"  
Gem & Mineral Bldg. Fairgrounds  
46-350 Arabia St.  
Hours: 10-10  
Bert Grisham (909) 849-1674  
E-mail: grish1@msn.com

### March 6-7, 2004, Arcadia, CA

Monrovia Rockhounds  
Los Angeles County Botanical Gardens  
301 N. Baldwin Avenue  
Hours: 9 - 4:30 both days  
Jo Anna Ritchey (626) 359-1624

### March 13-14, 2004, San Marino, CA

Pasadena Lapidary Society  
San Marino Masonic Center  
3130 Huntington Dr.  
Hours: Sat. 10-6 Sun. 10-5  
Marlene Kyte (626) 794-0519

### June 19-20 2004, La Habra, CA

North Orange Co. Gem & Mineral Soc.  
World of Gems  
La Habra Community Center  
101 W. La Habra Blvd.  
Hours: Sat 10-5 sun 10-4  
Bill & Izzie Burns isnbl@aol.com

via CFMS Web Site

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## Christmas Party/ Installation of Officers

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By Don Warthen

We will be celebrating the Christmas session this year on December 9<sup>th</sup> at the Community Center at about 7:00 p.m. We will be located at the East end of the Main Ball Room.

Nomination's committee report:

1st VP (finish out 1 year term) - Isabella Burns

2nd VP - Pat Felix

Treasurer - Don Livezey

Directors - Angie Harwood

- Nancy Bird

- Bill Burns

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## Earth Science

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*By Cal Clason*

Another successful two week sojourn at Camp Paradise, with approximately 120 very dedicated participants. Learning new skills, refreshing acquired ones, and producing a beautiful array of finished products. As Wayne Mills once described them "Over Achievers". I would have to agree with his comment. We, as usual, have the Camp reserved for the two weeks immediately following Labor Day for those of you who need to make long range plans.

April 11-18, 2004 are the dates for Zzyzx and again **(SOLD OUT)** I would recommend early reservations to ensure availability of openings. As in the past we will limit attendance to 60 people. Most of the planning is done so the staff is now engaged in keeping it all together. We will again have soft stone sculpture, Lapidary classes, wire art, bead stringing and the ever popular silver fabrication class; and an array of Field Trips to some prime collecting areas. Sites that have been productive in the past may be revisited and new sites investigated. Francis Pedneau will again lead all the Field Trips. The Desert Studies Center (Zzyzx) is a part of the Park System, under the Bureau of Land Management and operated by a Consortium of State Universities. So we have many rules and regulations to adhere to, the main ones being food storage and preparation, **NO PETS ALLOWED**, and No Collecting within the preserve.

Our endeavor to start a **new Seminar at Big Pine** is progressing with the help and input of many people, the initial budget indicates a fee of \$200.00 per person. The dates are **August 1-8, 2004**. The committee has recommended that this Seminar emphasize areas that would be of interest to and performable by **children ages 8 - 18**. With areas enjoyable by Adults, in that we will require adult supervision when classes are not in session; and have hopes that the adults will volunteer to assist the instructors during class. Some of the things we contemplate offering are: Lapidary, basic wire art, soft stone sculpture, bead stringing and baroque jewelry making, constructing rock critters, and painting rocks with acrylic paints. The preliminary applications should be available in December 2003

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## From Your Insurance Chair Good News - Bad News

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*By Fred Ott, Insurance Chairperson*

The Good news is that the Federation has been able to obtain a renewal insurance policy from Chubb Insurance, covering each of the member societies, for the policy period 10-16-03 through 10-16-04. The bad news is that the cost of coverage is: a) higher than last year and b) the policy does not automatically provide liability coverage for certain events (such as gem shows) without an additional fee (ranging from approximately \$80.00 to over \$400.00, depending on several factors).

As I've mentioned before, it's almost impossible to obtain quotes from other carriers (although we've tried very diligently); in the past five years alone, claims filed by clubs within our Federation have cost the insurance companies almost \$250,000.00 in losses - not a "track record" that would motivate "other" insurance companies to give us lower rates than we are currently paying.

I will be mailing invoices to each society that has purchased optional premises liability and/or property coverages through Chubb Insurance, as well as invoices to those societies who have returned the completed Renewal Questionnaire and for whom gem show liability insurance is needed. The "per member" cost of insurance for Comprehensive General Liability Insurance (provided by the Chubb policy) will be included in the amount determined by the Federation's Board of Directors at the November meeting for payment by each society in January as part of the annual dues payment.

I will provide a more thorough explanation of the insurance program at the November Directors meeting in Fresno. Hope to see you there!

**P.S.** It's now more important than ever that your club address Insurance-related activities *well in advance* of the scheduled date(s). Last-minute requests for certificates of insurance and additional insured endorsements may not be processed in time for your event.

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## NOC General Meeting October 14, 2003

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by Susan Hansen

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m. by President Don Warthen.

Oscar Veloz led the flag salute.

Don announced that Ofelia has been volunteered to be Show Chairman for 2004, Show dates June 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>. Hometown buffet has already said they will donate dinners again.

Nominating Committee Report-the committee met Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> and prepared the following slate:

1<sup>st</sup> VP – Izzie Burns

2<sup>nd</sup> VP – Pat F.

Treasurer-Don Livezey.

Directors: Angie Harwood; Nancy Byrd; Bill Burns.

Nominations were opened to the floor. closed with no additional nominations. The slate will be published in the bulletin, election in November. President Don, Secretary Susan, have 1 more year in 2 year terms.

Christmas Party – installations will be held at the party. We have the room for 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday for our meeting, we can have the larger hall and the kitchen here at the Community Center. They will set up tables, we need decorations and a caterer. Izzie can get a caterer, Loretta volunteered to do the table decorations.

Field Trips – Geol trip still pending. Trip Thanksgiving weekend to Lavic Siding. There is a show in Barstow, Iz and Bill will be putting a case in so will have to leave Sunday. The CFMS field trip to Basin Road/Afton Cyn is this coming weekend. Info in the Bulletin. Map available. After the rain, want to dig in the wash and under the sand to see what washed out. Possible Agate, Jasper, Amethyst, Fluorite. It was suggested we have a committee to plan/scout field trips. Don W., Bill B., Oscar V, Don R.

Discussion of plans for Geol trip, Can we do two-1 to beach and fossils; 1 to Saddleback Mts. areas. One by car/CBs, one by bus.

This weekend is also the Whittier show at the Whittier Community Center.

Chalmer Steed said he had a catalog of field trips that he gave to the club several years ago, does anyone know where it is? It was in a red notebook. We should keep it up, and have available for members.

Program – Don introduced Tony Fender of CalTech, who introduced the Speaker, Will Heltsley, who presented a program on “Cueva de Villa Luz” an unusual cave in the Mexican Rain Forest. He was with a group trying to analyze the cave and track the source.

Refreshments provided by Ginny and Jerry Grafton – cake for Susan’s birthday. Happy Birthday was sung.

Jane announced 24 members, “guests” Jonas & Harold. Sandy & Tony Fender.

Ofelia conducted the drawings. Don W. presented two white elephant ‘prizes’.

The minutes were in the Bulletin and were approved as printed.

Treasurer Don L. doesn’t have report-Don W. had the checkbook in Don L’s absence.

Federation Report by Loretta-they are looking for a Federation Secretary. Next month is the business meeting in Fresno instead of Visalia this year. Zzyzx is filled/closed. There will be a third camp at Big Pine next year in August. for youth 8-18 must be accompanied by adults.

Education- Ginny reports we will have another youth class Jan 10<sup>th</sup>, (2<sup>nd</sup> Tues.) will need help that day, also make up cab blanks for the kids to finish. Wire wrap class is in planning stage, we would like to have a workshop/class every quarter.

November meeting will be 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday due to the Holiday. The meeting will be an auction.

Nancy announced that this next weekend is also the “Arborfest” at the Fullerton Arboretum, Cactus show/sale and “bug fair” at same time, behind CSU Fullerton.

The meeting adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

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## Safety - Home Heating

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*By Chuck McKie, CFMS Safety Chairman - 2003*

Winter is coming and we need to take heed of the dangers this entail, because I want you all to be hale and hearty for the holiday season ahead of us and for you to be healthy and safe for our field trips next year. Here are some tips from the American Red Cross.

### **Inspect Fireplaces -**

Have your chimney inspected by a professional prior to the start of every heating season. Creosote, a chemical substance that forms when wood burns, builds up in chimneys and can cause a chimney fire if the chimney is not properly cleaned. Always protect your family and home by using a sturdy screen when burning fires. Remember to burn only wood - never burn paper or pine boughs, which can float out of the chimney and ignite a neighboring home. Never use flammable liquids in a fireplace. If you are purchasing a factory-built fireplace, select one listed by a testing laboratory, and have it installed according to local codes.

### **Watch Your Wood Stoves.**

Be sure your wood or coal stove bears the label of a recognized testing laboratory and meets local fire codes. Follow the manufacturers' recommendations for proper use and maintenance. Chimney connections and chimney flues should be inspected at the beginning of each heating season and cleaned if necessary.

Follow the same safety rules for wood stoves as you would for space heaters. Burn only wood, and be sure the wood stove is placed on an approved stove board to protect the floor from heat and hot coals. Be sure to check with your local fire department and check the local codes before having your wood stove installed.

### **Be Cautious With Portable and Space Heaters.**

Place space heaters at least three feet away from anything combustible, including wallpaper, bedding, clothing, pets, and people. Never leave space heaters operating when you are not in the room or when you go to bed. Don't leave children or pets unattended with space heaters and be sure everyone knows that drying wet mittens or other clothing over space heaters is a fire hazard.

### **Cook with Care.**

When cooking, do not wear loose fitting clothing, which can be ignited by hot burners. Always turn pot handles in. Don't store items on the stove top, they could catch fire. Keep kitchen appliances clean and in good condition, and turn them off after use. Don't overload electrical outlets and don't use appliances with frayed or cracked wires.

### **Prepare a Winter Storm Plan.**

Have extra blankets on hand, and ensure that each member of your household has a warm coat, gloves or mittens, hat and water-resistant boots. Stay tuned for storm warnings by listening to NOAA Weather Radio and your local radio and television stations for up-dated storm information.

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## Are Our Dues Enough

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*By Don Ogden*

Dues per year:

\$03.00 - Junior

\$10.00 - Individual

\$15.00 - Family

Some Expenses per Year:

\$12.00 - Newsletter paper copy

\$00.00 - E-mail copy

\$06.00 - CFMS dues and insurance (cost **per member** including **honorary** members)

**Think about it!**

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## Which Gems Are Of Organic Origin?

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*By Patricia Roebuck*

**Pearl, Coral, Amber and Jet** are the four organic gems. Although they contain calcium carbonate, a mineral substance, pearls are the product of certain mollusks whose secretions allay the discomfort of an irritation caused by disease, a parasite, or a foreign particle. The result is the "Queen of Gems" formed inside the protective mantle that surrounds the soft parts of the animal's body, within the shell.

Coral is the accumulated skeletal material of tiny marine animals called polyps, which live in branching colonies. Extracting calcium carbonate from the water, they deposit it in their tissues and build their framework of hollow tubes, which remain after their death.

Whereas pearl and coral are of animal origin, Amber and Jet are derived from plants. Amber is the fossil resin of ancient coniferous trees. These trees flourished during the Oligocene Epoch of the Tertiary Period - nearly 40 million years ago, and were species of pine (Pines Succinifer). Most properly speaking, amber is a fossil resin containing Succinic acid. Hundreds of species of insects and other invertebrates of the Oligocene Age are found beautifully preserved in amber, caught in the sticky sap as it dripped down the bark of trees.

Jet is a compact black variety of lignite coal. Lignite is the lowest rank of coal, having been least changed. The best quality of Jet is velvety black. All coal has a plant ancestry, having formed from the remains of ancient vegetation. During many centuries vegetation thrived and died. Progressive changes of heat and pressure carried these plants through peat, then to lignite, which we know as jet. Jet was most popular during the Victorian Era and was mainly used as mourning jewelry.

*The above information was taken from "1001 Questions Answered About the Mineral Kingdom": by Richard M. Pearl and "Precious Stones" by Bauer. -via The Rollin' Rock, 10/03*

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## All American Awards Program

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*By Dot Beachler, Chair*

A gentle reminder to all clubs:

Although summer is past and fall is here, don't fall down on preparations to enter your club in the All American Club Award program.

Entry forms are available through the CFMS website (cfmsinc.org) or by snail mail from me (310) 325-3139.

Submission deadline is February 28, 2004

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## Irritant

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*By Jean Chisholm in - "Together" Magazine, via The - "Pegmatite ", 10/03*

When Oysters are annoyed by grit,  
They lift their lids a little bit,  
Admit the grit, then calmly sit  
And start to make a pearl of it.  
This seems to me quite ample proof  
It pays sometimes to raise the roof!

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## Our Annual CFMS Show

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*By Elizabeth Provost, member of Mother Lode Mineral Society*

Our annual CFMS show  
is coming soon - so you should go!  
There's rocks and gems and minerals too.  
bright jewelry, prizes, all for you.  
Three days in May, 2004  
In Mariposa, we'll have more  
Than you could ever hope to see.  
Y'all come, enjoy the revelry