

NOC GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

NOC NEWS

Vol, 25 No. 6

June 2006

President's Message

by Nancy Bird

Hello to everyone of you busy club members. I hope I will see you at the show.

I'm sure our show will be a great success due in large part to Don and Ofelia Warthen. Thank you both for your hard work. An extra special thank you to all of you who not only plan on working at the show but also worked all year on the planning.

The plans for the Pearl Seminar are on hold for now. Hopefully I will be announcing that we ironed out all the kinks and it is full speed ahead for July 15, 2006.

The week after our show some of us will be jumping for the gold in Angels Camp at the CFMS Show. I know you can't all go but I am sure NOC will be well represented.

Kathy and Jay Valle have again offered to hold the summer picnic. Kathy will be mailing out flyers announcing the day. I hope you all can come to a great potluck and pool party.

Loretta Ogden and I will be doing the Christmas party this year.

I hope you all have a great summer.

Refreshments

Jay & Kathy Valle will bring the goodies for the June meeting. Thanks to Loretta & Don Ogden for bringing the goodies to the May meeting.

NOC Club Activities

Board Meeting — June 13, 6:00 p.m.

Field Trip — To be announced.

Deadline for NOC News — Aug.17.

June Meeting

Date: June 13

Time: 6:00 p.m. Board Meeting
7:00 p.m. Main Meeting

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

Program: An exciting and informative program on Opals by David Burton and his daughter from Lapidary International in Anaheim. The presentation will be in depth, so plan about an hour.

David Burton
1228 S. Beach Blvd.
Anaheim, CA 92804
(714) 827-5680
gemsandopals@earthlink.net

Members in the News

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

*Jerry Conley
Ken Marks
Harry Howe
Roger Loest*

Your gemstone is Pearl or Moonstone or Alexandrite or Agate.

Your flower is Rose or Honeysuckle.

Shows and Events

June 3-4 2006, La Habra, CA

North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society
Jubilee of Gems Show
101 W. La Habra Blvd.
Hours: 10 - 5 both days
Don Warthen (626) 330-8974
E-mail warthen@earthlink.net

June 3-4 2006, Glendora, CA

Glendora Gem & Mineral Show
859 E. Sierra Madre
Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4
Bonnie Bidwell (626) 963-4638
Email: YBidwell2@aol.com

June 9-11 2006, Angels Camp, CA

CFMS Convention and
Calveras Gem & Mineral Society Show
Calveras Co. Fairgrounds
Hours: 10-5 daily
Web Site: calaverasgemandmineral.org

July 1-2 2006, Culver City, CA

Culver City rock & Mineral Club
Culver City Veteran's Memorial Complex
Culver City Veteran's Memorial Auditorium
4117 Overland Avenue
Hours: Sat. 10 - 6; Sun. 10 - 5
Website: CulverCityRocks.org
Richard Shaffer (310) 391-8429
Email: maryellenandrick@aol.com

September 22, 23, 24 2006, San Bernardino, CA

Orange Belt Mineralogical Society
6th Annual Rock, Gem, & Jewelry Tailgate
Ball Park
6707 Little League Drive in San Bernardino
Hours: Fri./Sat. 9 - 6; Sun. 9 - 4
Mike Woolery (909) 882-6806
Al Carrell (951) 961-5988

September 23-24 2006, Downey, CA

Delters Gem & Mineral Society
Woman's Club of Downey
9813 Paramount Blvd
Hours: Sat. 10 - 6; Sun. 10 - 4
Teresa Widdison (562) 867-1521
Email: twiddison72@aol.com

October 14 2006, West Hills, CA

Woodland Hills Rock Chippers
Eighth Annual Gem & Mineral Show
22700 Sherman Way
Hours: 10 - 5
Virgina Rotramel (818) 790-7598
Email show@rockchippers.org

October 14-15 2006, Trona, CA

Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society
"Gem-O-Rama"
Searles Lake Gem & Mineral
13337 Main Street
Hours: Sat. 7:30 - 5; Sun. 7:30 - 4
Bonnie Fairchild (760) 372-5356
Email jbfairchild@verizon.net

October 21-22 2006, Whittier, CA

Whittier Gem & Mineral Society
Whittier Community Center
7630 Washington Avenue
Hours: 10 - 5 both days
Jay Valle (626) 934-9764
Email res19pnb@verizon.net

November 4-5 2006, Lancaster, CA

Palmdale Gem & Mineral Club
"Rock n Gem Roundup"
Antelope Valley Fairgrounds
2551 West Avenue H
Hours: 9 - 5 both days
Susan Walblom (661) 943-1861
Rodney Shillings (661) 400-5198
Email: slchaisson@yahoo.com
Website: pgmc@antelecom.net

Rare Deposit Found on Elephant Mountain

Hikers exploring around Elephant Mountain near Barstow, California last month discovered a deposit of the rare mineral Phulesapatite. Only one other deposit of this quality has ever been discovered and that was in a pegmatite in Maine. The mineral is found as fine pink to brown crystals of stout prismatic to tubular habit inside of round or log-shaped nodules. Note: These gems must be kept in the dark if their original color is to be maintained, otherwise they change to darker brown in prolonged sunlight.

Elephant Mountain derives its name from the view from a distance which resembles a reclining or sleeping elephant. These mineralogically interesting specimens occur on the north end of the formation which would roughly correspond to the tail region of the reclining elephant. Apparently mining has occurred sometime in the past because a hole of unknown depth is just above the deposits. Also, illegal dumping apparently has taken place sometime in the past because of the overwhelming foul smell permeating the immediate area.

The discoverer's said that they have no interest in actually mining the outcropping or exploring the tunnel themselves. But they do feel that the precise location should be kept a closely guarded secret to preserve the unique nature of the site for future generations.

Prof. Semoure Bottoms, University of Yermo

From The Rockhouser, April 2006

Membership Corrections

by Don Ogden

Bill & Izzy email - iznbill@aol.com

Valle, Jay & Kathy

email - res19pnb@verizon.net

Remove Phylis Radbaugh

Nancy Bright Ph - (909) 576-3288

Important Info About Area Code

via Chuck McKie, CFMS Safety Chair

Just in case its true - good morning everybody. This is true according to snoopes but the rates are exaggerated.

We actually received a call last week from the **809** area code. The woman said "Hey, this is Karen. Sorry I missed you—get back to us quickly. I Have something important to tell you." Then she repeated a phone number beginning with **809**. "We didn't respond".

Then this week, we received the following e-mail:

Subject: **DON'T EVER** dial area code **809** , **284** and **876**.

This is very important information provided to us by AT&T. Don't ever dial area code **809**

This one is being distributed all over the US . This is pretty scary, especially given the way they try to get you to call.

Be sure your read this and pass it on.

They get you to call by telling you that it is information about a family member who has been ill or to tell you someone has-been arrested, died, or to let you know you have won a wonderful prize, etc. In each case, you are told to call the **809** number right away. Since there are so many new area codes these days, people unknowingly return these calls.

If you call from the US, you will apparently be charged \$2425 per-minute.

Or, you'll get a long recorded message. The point is, they will try to keep you on the phone as long as possible to increase the charges. Unfortunately, when you get your phone bill, you'll often be charged more than \$24, 100.00.

Why It Works

The **809** area code is located in the British Virgin Islands (The Bahamas).

The charges afterwards can become a real nightmare. That's because you did actually make the call. If you complain, both your local phone company and your long distance carrier will not want to get involved and will most likely tell you that they are simply providing the billing for the foreign company. You'll end up dealing with a foreign company that argues they have done nothing wrong.

Please forward this entire message to your friends, family and colleagues to help them become aware of this scam

Sandi Van Handel

AT&T Field Service Manager

(920) 687-904

cld

UV Light & Fluorescent Minerals

via Rocky Review, 5/2006

The hobby of collecting and enjoying fluorescent minerals is of recent origin. It really got its birth as the result of the search for strategic mineral ores during and after World War II. Thomas Warren founded the Ultraviolet Products Company just as Roosevelt was elected in 1932. He had to petition Congress to allow him to continue to buy ample supplies of copper and steel during WWII so he could produce UV bulbs. They were being used to find deposits of Scheelite, a much-needed tungsten mineral. Now let's take a look at UV light.

We have invisible light at both ends of the visible light spectrum. Our visible light lies in the range of 400 nm to 700 nm, an nm or nanometer being 1/1,000,000 of a meter, with violet being 400 nm and red light being 700 nm. Infrared light lies beyond 700 nm, and while invisible, it is sensed as heat. UV or ultraviolet light lies below the 400 nm and while invisible,

Shop Hint

Original source unknown via Rocky Tales 2/2005

When polishing, do not use a saucer, dish, or pan and messy brush to apply the polishing agent. Such methods invite contamination.

Instead, procure a plastic bottle with a long tip (Hair dressers dispose of many of them every day). Put the polishing agent into the bottle and add water and also a small stone or some buckshot.

The purpose of the stone or buckshot is to agitate and stir up the polishing powder when you shake the bottle. Shake well and squirt the solution on the felt, leather or canvas.

No more contamination. There is no waste of polishing agent and the agent may be applied exactly where you want it.

NOC Board Meeting Minutes May 9, 2006

by Jay Valle

Nancy Bird called the meeting to order.

The Summer "Kid" Programs were discussed. Don said that we still needed some volunteers to teach cabochon. A bus trip to Jurupa and/or Boron we considered and it was decided that we would ask to City to provide a bus for a field trip to the Jurupa Cultural Center on June 26 or 27.

Don Warthen discussed selling one of our two skirting rollers to the Ventura Club which had at one expressed an interest in buying them. Ofelia moved that we offer 1 roller to the Ventura Club for \$150.00 and the motion carried. Loretta will call Bob Stoltz to see if they are still interested.

A lot of the yard sale material was left over at Nancy's and has since been donated to the salvation Army. Thanks go to the Autonetics Club which provided rocks for the sale or free to members.

Loretta was asked about scheduling a workshop and she said that she would do so.

A "Pearl Seminar" Committee was formed by Nancy Bird, Loretta Ogden and Kathy Valle to make the arrangements with Francis Lau and the City of La Habra for this summer event. Don Warthen is to provide a list of things they need to do to make it happen.

"Rockhound of the Year" nominations are in and only one name was submitted. Loretta will "surprise" us and the recipient of the honor with this member's identity when the presentation is made.



NOC General Meeting Minutes May 9, 2006

by Jay Valle

Nancy called meeting to order and led flag salute. Twenty Members, and 2 guests were present.

Program: "History of Benitoite".

After a break, the door prizes were drawn.

Minutes: No corrections to the April Meeting minutes.

Treasurer's Report: The NOC yard sale was a success, bringing in \$723.25.

Show Report: The banner dates are being changed and will be delivered to the City when done. 10 cases are going to be brought over from the La Puente Club storage for use at the show. We have 13 dealers with the last one taking Walt Wright's area for this year. Gold Panning and geode cutting will be outside. If you want to put anything in the Club case, contact Izzy and let her know what you will be bringing (see May bulletin for maximum dimensions).

Club members without a physical handicap should park on the street or other parking lots nearby including the library or the City lot across the street, reserving Community Center parking for guests.

Friday, June 2 is setup. Don Eschbach will pick up the U-Haul truck early, we will pick up the cases and rock at Nancy Bird's house and deliver it all to the Community Center. Then we'll be at the warehouse by 10 AM to get the rest of the show stuff. We will get the room for setup at 2:30 to 3:00. There will be food for the workers after setup.

Note: security is still an issue - we are looking at and comparison shopping security companies.

Saturday: The doors will open at 6 AM to allow the Art Gallery to set up their displays.

Note: Show hours are 10 AM to 5 PM both days.

Sunday: Doors open at 7 AM. At 3 PM Don Eschbach will go get truck and at 5 PM the show closes. After the truck is loaded we will leave at the Community Center until Monday morning when we will pick it up and deliver the show items back to storage.

The final Show Meeting will be held Tuesday, May 16 at 6:00 pm at the Community Center.

Chamber Report: Don Warthen reported that several Chamber events are coming up including the following:

May 17: Chamber Mixer - 5 - 7 PM, with a cover charge of \$5.00. This is the big one that we don't want to miss. Location: HBIC, 981 N. Euclid St. La Habra.

May 23: Senor Campos Night at 5 PM- this is just fun and good food, and our waiter is a member of the City Council. Contact Don Warthen if you want to go as we need to make reservations. Address: 1220 W. Whittier Blvd., La Habra.

May 25: "Good Morning La Habra" - breakfast at 7 AM at the Westwood Country Club.

Upcoming Shows: see bulletin

Displays & Education: Jay Valle displayed fortification agate from Burro Creek and a geode from the Ramsey Mine near Quartzsite, both locations in Arizona. Don Ogden displayed pictures and petrified wood from the recent Holbrook, Arizona field trip.

Federation Report: Loretta talked about the upcoming CFMS Show at Angels camp. Info is available from Loretta, CFMS Bulletin or CFMS Webpage.

Field Trip: Jay Valle said that the field trip would be to Kramer Junction over Memorial Day Weekend, May 27 - 29. Contact Jay Valle for directions and information if you plan to go. We are joining the Whittier and Pasadena clubs on this combined trip.

Refreshments: Jay & Kathy will be bringing refreshments next month.

Displays : Jonas' fine faceted stones and Floyd's displays which were placed in the display case by the front door of the Community Center last month have been **stolen**. Don Warthen has sent a letter to the City of La Habra informing them of the unauthorized removal. It was noted that the case had been opened to allow some artwork to be placed inside and was still unlocked when we arrived for our meeting.

New Business: GIA is having a lecture on Wednesday May 24th in Carlsbad.

How Wood Turns to Stone

*via a poster on the wall at the International Petrified Forest Museum of the Americas
Dinosaur Park Holbrook, AZ*

From a living tree to semiprecious stone, fossilization seems like magic. But the magic of petrification is just the magic of chemistry.

Like *any* chemical reaction, petrification starts with raw ingredients: wood, water and mud. The wood was from primitive conifers that tumbled and battered their way down stream. This driftwood came to rest at the bottom of the murky waters in what is now Petrified Forest and was quickly buried by mud and sand.

It was the mud that was the real key to petrification. Nor just any mud would do. These ancient muds contained volcanic ash, belched from volcanoes to the south and west. The volcanic ash decomposed, releasing chemicals into the water. As the water seeped through the buried logs, these chemicals reacted to the wood, and tiny crystals began forming. Little by Little, the crystals grew, encasing the wood and turning the trees to stone.

As the chemical magic of petrification worked on, the streams added more mud and sand, burying *the logs* beneath hundreds of feet of sediment, where they were protected from the ravages of time and decay.

Safety

by Chuck McKie, CFMS Safety Chair

This is the time of year we start going on field trips. Often we or our guest do have small injuries, which may require some first aid. Following is the current recommendation of the HSA for a first aid kit.

Adhesive plaster, Sterile-eye-pads (Bandage attached), Individually wrapped triangular bandages, Safety pins, Medium individually wrapped unmedicated wound dressing (approx. 10 X 8 cm), Large individually wrapped sterile-unmedicated wound dressing (approx. 13 X 9 cm). Extra large individually wrapped sterile-unmedicated wound dressing (approx. 28 X 17.5 cm), Individually wrapped wipes, Paramedic shears, Pair of latex gloves, and Sterile eye wash.

How to Saw Montana Agate

via Rocky Review 4/06, via Del Air Bulletin 3/06

People not familiar with working with Montana Agate have, perhaps, wondered how to “setup” to saw the first nodules they acquire.

Most Montana nodules are found in two shapes, flat and slightly curving, or round and elongated. As this material probably has rolled hundreds of miles down turbulent streams, nearly all of it is cracked, so take this into consideration when sawing to get the largest slab.

First, look into the rocks with a strong light to determine which way the moss or banding layers lie. Light cuts taken off an end, or side, at right angles to the layers, will then reveal whether you should slab from end to end or side to side.

Many people who are used to sawing thunder eggs get used to sawing each nodule through the center to expose the pattern. While this method works well with nodules, it cannot be used to the best advantage with Montana material. It will probably ruin the best sprays as the larger and best ones usually lie toward the center. Sawing across them will render them valueless.

Only a very few specimens carry fine large sprays, so do not be disappointed if the first few do not have them. About the time you are ready to give up, one of the poorest looking pieces may have the fine spray you are looking for.

Trick for Cutting Mexican Jelly Opal

via Rocky Review 4/06, via Ghost Sheet 3/06

When cutting Mexican opal with transparent or clear (that’s most of it) base color, cut a high dome on the top side and a moderate dome on the back. The reasons are two fold.

1. If you get the top and bottom domes just right, the light will refract within the stone as it does in the properly cut faceted stone. The effect will be as though light is trapped within the stone and the color will “glow” in a seemingly bottomless stone. It works great with or without play of color. Try it.

2. Polishing the back of the opal helps the stone to last longer. A polished surface tends to retard water loss from the opal over time. A rough surface has many times more surface area per given dimensions, than a polished surface, thus increasing the potential for physical and chemical interaction.

The President's Corner

By Colleen McGann, CFMS President

The CFMS annual show is here at last, hosted by Calaveras G&MS at Angels Camp. So many activities, dealers, field trips, programs, special exhibits and most of all a Special CFMS 70th Birthday celebration on Friday night and the Directors meeting on Saturday.

I look forward to meeting all the club directors who come, representing their clubs, to learn new information about the Federation activities. These Directors will bring back to their clubs the specific information reported by all the various committees and any new subjects that come up for discussion. Opportunities also abound to network with other clubs to share ideas. The information packets will be mailed to clubs that do not attend. Please attend and save CFMS the mailing costs.

Best of all is viewing the many exhibits our fellow mineralogists and rockhounds provide to share their interests with others. I salute all the brave ones who will step up and put their work into competition. There are so many areas to compete in minerals, lapidary, faceting, carving, fossils, jewelry, education, scrimshaw, petrified wood and fluorescent minerals. Competition cases are judged on their own merits, looking for excellence in the chosen category. During the earliest years of the California Federation, only minerals were competed. Lapidary came next. Now there are numerous categories to choose from.

I personally invite all California Federation club members to attend the show this year. JUMP FOR THE GOLD the famous Calaveras jumping frog contest, will occur during this 3 day show, June 9-11.

Last month, I asked for information on what activities your club provides for the general public and for your members. I have heard back from a few clubs and I hope to get reports from some Directors at the meeting. This information will be compiled and reported later this year. I need to hear from more than 6 clubs when there are over 100 clubs, please help. This information will be useful for all our clubs.

Note from Shirley Leeson, CFMS Historian

This is the month we celebrate the Birthday of the CFMS. We are a strong and healthy 70 years old and proud of it! With that in mind, we have invited our living past presidents to celebrate this event with us on Friday evening at 7pm at the Fairgrounds. There will be ice cream and cake and a commemorative surprise given to those who attend. See you all there!!

September 3-9 & 10-16

By Jack Williams, Coordinator

I believe my opening line last year was "as always at Camp Paradise we are changing a few things", we are hoping to make it the best experience for everyone. Changes are because of various things we have to deal with every year; such as different classes, different dates the camp is available to us, different buildings the camp will let us use, number of camp sites that will be available to us, different rental fees to use the camp, and so on and so forth. These are only a few of the concerns that your Earth Sciences Committee has to deal with to bring you these great camps each year.

I hope each of you understand why we make some of the changes we have to make each year. The cost this year will remain the same as it was last year. However due to some big changes we are faced with for the future, I feel I must advise you prices are bound to go Up.

Download the "Registration Form" from the CFMS web site and get in on one of the best bargains you'll ever find. We, by the way, do have another fantastic line-up of classes and instructors for you again this year, even better than last year. I hope to see many new faces along with many familiar ones as well this year. It's a great time.

Proposed Speaker Schedule Friday June 9 to June 11, 2006 at Angels Camp

Anthony Kampf - Mineral Flakes, 3 p.m. Fri
Gem Mines of Brazil, 3 p.m. Sat
Bob Jones - Agates, 1 p.m. Fri
Crystallized Gold, 3 p.m. Sun
Bob Watters - Geologic Hazards, 11 a.m. Sat
Volcanoes, 1 p.m. Sun
Jeffery Post - Smithsonian Min. Highlights, 1 p.m. Sat
National Gem Collection, 11 a.m. Sun
Russ Shoemaker - World of Fossils, 5 p.m. Fri & Sat

From the Peanut Gallery...Did you hear? Johnny Depp is starring in another swashbuckling movie about robbery on the high seas. This time the gold treasure turns out to be "fake". It's called Pyrites of the Caribbean!

Submitted by Fred Ott

Mature Driving Traffic Quiz

by Don Ogden

via Mature driver Improvement Course
NOC Community College District

Following is a quiz Loretta and I took at the Mature Driving Class in Brea. There are about 18 different DMV tests.

To study for the DMV test, use the 2006 California's Drivers Handbook.

Answers:

- | | | |
|----------|---------|----------|
| 1. T | 7. b | 13. left |
| 2. c | 8. T | 14. T |
| 3. 70 | 9. 300 | 15. 15 |
| 4. b | 10. 10 | 16. F |
| 5. T | 11. 100 | 17. b |
| 6. Blind | 12. 100 | 18. 18 |

MATURE DRIVING TRAFFIC QUIZ

1. T F In a car pool lane, a driver must cross the solid lines to exit the lane, if an emergency vehicle with its lights and/or siren activated is behind them.
2. By law, the earliest point at which you can enter a bicycle lane to make a right turn is:
 - a. At the broken lines
 - b. 100 feet from the intersection
 - c. 200 feet from the intersection
3. The fastest posted speed limit in California is (55) (65) (70).
4. _____ may not enter an intersection on a yellow light.
 - a. Motorists
 - b. Pedestrians
 - c. a & b
5. T F A U-turn is legal anywhere in a residential area as long as it is done safely.
6. Pick one (Blind) (Disabled) (All) pedestrians always have the right of way.
7. All drivers involved in a collision must provide all other involved drivers with
 - a. The name of their auto insurance company
 - b. Their auto insurance policy number
 - c. A completed SR-1 form
8. T F All children under 6 years of age and under 60 pounds must be in a child seat.
9. The minimum following distance behind an emergency vehicle which has its red lights and/or siren activated is (100) (300) (500) feet.
10. Address changes in California must be reported to the DMV within (5) 10 (30) days.
11. A lane change or turn on a street must be signaled for at least (100) (200) (300) feet.
12. A lane change on a freeway must be signaled at least at (100) (200) (300) feet.
13. At a 4-way stop, when two vehicles arrive at the same time, the vehicle on the (right) must yield.
14. T F A driver can be convicted of "Driving Under the Influence" of a prescription drug when taking it according to a doctor's orders.
15. What is the minimum parking distance from a fire hydrant? (15) (18) (30) feet.
16. T F It is illegal to turn left into a driveway across double yellow lines.
17. The "Basic Speed Law"(c.v.c. 22350) says that a motorist may not drive faster than:
 - a. The posted speed limit
 - b. Is safe under existing conditions
 - c. The motorist believes to be safe
18. Parallel parked vehicles must be no more than ____ inches from the curb.