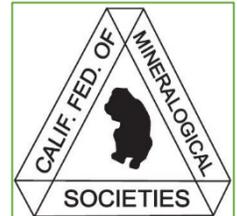


# OXNARD GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY



Original artwork by Brett Bednorz, 2014. Used by permission.

APRIL 2018 Volume 56, Issue 4



The Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society is a non-profit organization formed to increase our knowledge in geology, mineralogy and other such related fields in the earth sciences. We classify, cut, grind and polish rocks and minerals for our personal collections and to display at club shows. We learn from each other through club speakers, programs and organized fieldtrips. We co-operate with other clubs to encourage others to participate in our activity.

The Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society is a member of the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CFMS) and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS).

## Meeting Location:

Oxnard Performing Arts Center, Oxnard, CA  
800 Hobson Way (Thousand Oaks Room)

## Meetings are Held:

First Wednesday of each month, unless the date falls on a Federal holiday. Pebble Pups meet at 6:00 p.m. General meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. Potlucks are held in July and December, and start at 6:00 p.m.

## Yearly Dues:

Adults, 18 and over, \$15 per year.  
Juniors, 12 to 17, \$2 per year.  
Pebble Pups to age 12 FREE with paid adult.

## Follow us on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/Oxnard-Gem-Mineral-Society>

## For class information:

<https://www.facebook.com/OGMS.Classes>

See our Web page: [www.oxnardgem.com](http://www.oxnardgem.com)

General E-Mail: [info@oxnardgem.com](mailto:info@oxnardgem.com)

Google Phone: 805-394-8002

Mailbox: P.O. Box 246 Oxnard, CA 93032

## OGMS Elected Officers for 2018

<b>President</b>	Stephanie Hagiwara	805-986-2006 <a href="mailto:purplehawk@hotmail.com">purplehawk@hotmail.com</a>
<b>First Vice-President (Programs)</b>	Gail Sanford	818-371-2165 <a href="mailto:gailesanford@yahoo.com">gailesanford@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Second Vice-President (Show)</b>	OPEN (Committee)	
<b>Third Vice-President (Field Trips)</b>	Co-Chairs: Adrian Ruiz Carolyn Howe Larry Knapton	805-512-3383 <a href="mailto:pebpupdad@yahoo.com">pebpupdad@yahoo.com</a> 805-486-1185 <a href="mailto:cshowe60@yahoo.com">cshowe60@yahoo.com</a> 805-407-3968 <a href="mailto:dknapton@hotmail.com">dknapton@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	Kathy Sharf	805-488-0523 <a href="mailto:klsdance5678@msn.com">klsdance5678@msn.com</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Miriam Tetreault	805-642-5779 <a href="mailto:mltetreault@roadrunner.com">mltetreault@roadrunner.com</a>

## Appointed Officers & Committee Chairs

<b>Corresponding Secretary</b>	Laura Driskell	805-218-5160 <a href="mailto:driskellmom@yahoo.com">driskellmom@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Displays &amp; Exhibits</b>	Brett Allen Johnson	805-822-3836 <a href="mailto:bj9709@yahoo.com">bj9709@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Bulletin Editor</b>	Laura Driskell	805-218-5160 <a href="mailto:info@oxnardgem.com">info@oxnardgem.com</a>
<b>Education Director</b>	OPEN	
<b>Federation Director</b>	Jennifer Haley	707-332-3032 <a href="mailto:ladybuglane@napablogger.com">ladybuglane@napablogger.com</a>
<b>Historian</b>	OPEN	
<b>Hospitality</b>	Janice Albertsen	805-649-9149
<b>Librarian</b>	Kathy Sharf	805-488-0523 <a href="mailto:klsdance5678@msn.com">klsdance5678@msn.com</a>
<b>Member-At-Large</b>	Adrian Ruiz	805-512-3383 <a href="mailto:pebpupdad@yahoo.com">pebpupdad@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Membership</b>	Carolyn Howe	805-486-1185 <a href="mailto:cshowe60@yahoo.com">cshowe60@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Parliamentarian</b>	Laura Driskell	805-218-5160 <a href="mailto:driskellmom@yahoo.com">driskellmom@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Pebble Pup/Jr. Director</b>	Louisa Carey	503-309-6147 <a href="mailto:big_L76@yahoo.com">big_L76@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Refreshments</b>	Candace Marshall	805-701-8920
<b>Scholarship Chair</b>	Kay Hara	805-525-7634 <a href="mailto:kharaftdoc@icloud.com">kharaftdoc@icloud.com</a>
<b>Sergeant-At-Arms</b>	Lee Leighton	805-647-4594 <a href="mailto:ameritus@sbcglobal.net">ameritus@sbcglobal.net</a>
<b>Shop Steward</b>	Jean pSmith	805-382-4592 <a href="mailto:Bulletheadqx@gmail.com">Bulletheadqx@gmail.com</a>
<b>Ways and Means</b>	Larry Knapton	805-407-3968 <a href="mailto:dknapton@hotmail.com">dknapton@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Webmaster/Publicity</b>	Stephanie Hagiwara	805-986-2006 <a href="mailto:purplehawk@hotmail.com">purplehawk@hotmail.com</a>

## NOTES FROM “THE VAULT”

For me, March was all about seeing rocks. First, I attended the VGMS Show. Second, I had the opportunity to visit the Natural History Museum and see the Green Diamond display, and all their wonderful gemstones. And, there was the CFMS “Golden Bear” nugget (see it on page 5 of the bulletin).

I would like to thank Louisa Carey for her presentation on Green Diamonds. It was a wonderful introduction for our Vault Field Trip. Thanks to Carolyn Howe, Louisa Carey and Lyn MacPherson for the delicious refreshments.

I am also looking forward to our April 4<sup>th</sup> program, a return visit from Oxnard College Professor Manny Saenz on drought technologies in our county. See the Program Notes, below.

In April, we can all see more rocks at The Conejo Show, April 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>.

It’s never too early to think about our November Show. We will have precut fabric available to sew into grab bags for the kids.

Stephanie Hagiwara – President

### April program notes:

from the 1<sup>st</sup> VP, Gail Sanford



Subject: WATER

Oxnard College Professor Joseph M. “Manny” Saenz will discuss how our local cities are pushing the envelope using new and existing water-related technologies, Wednesday, April 4, 2018 at 7:30 pm, at the Oxnard Performing Arts Center, Thousand Oaks Room, 800 Hobson Way, Oxnard. Learn about Ventura County’s Cities Solutions to our unprecedented drought conditions in California. As 2014 was the driest in 119 years, the State of California expanded emergency urban water regulations and issued drought emergency declarations.

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Members, please send photos of field trips, interesting rock finds, your hobby, or events!

Share a tip you have come across in a magazine or book (give the author credit) or have come up with yourself!

Help keep your bulletin alive and fresh with new ideas.

Deadline to submit materials is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.

Thanks for your support!

Laura Driskell, Editor

## THOUGHTS AND THINGS, From the Editor

Thanks, from VGMS Show Chair (and OGMS member) Diane Cook, to the many OGMS members who exhibited and helped at the VGMS show! Every year, our hobby gets such good exposure from the wonderful cases and the smiling faces.

This, from Donna Knapton: "I have received so many thoughtful cards and calls during my recuperation. There were so many meaningful "well wishes" and "thinking of you" from the members. I really appreciate all the kind thoughts. Thank you all so much."

Our fellow member and friend, Ron Wise, has invited OGMS members to join him in a Memorial Celebration of Life for Jean Wise, who passed away in January. The event will be held in Arroyo Verde Park in the Vista Bluff area, Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. There will be wine, cheese and fruit, music, and memories.

The trip to the Los Angeles Natural History Museum was mind-blowing! Thank you, Stephanie, and Dr. Aaron Celestian, PhD, our gracious host and guide! To see the gems in the regular pavilion is exciting, but the quality of the specimens in the "Vault" and then the "Secret Vault", was beyond compare. Most of us took pictures, and you will see some scattered throughout the Rock Bag.

Speaking of Diamonds! The birthstone for April is the diamond (any color!) Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary to our friends celebrating in April.

The members and guests who traveled to The Natural History Museum on Tuesday, March 20<sup>th</sup> were:

Jean pSmith, Candace Marshall, Carolyn Howe, Ann and Brett Connor, Gail Sanford and her sister, Nancy Roth, Laura and Bob Driskell, and Debbie Sander (seen below, holding a new acquisition to the Museum.) Photo by Candy Marshall



Case inside the "inner sanctum" vault behind the museum lab. These are specimens not on display because of light, temperature, or humidity requirements, or because there's no room left in the display room. Photo by Candy Marshall.



One of my personal favorites, the opal display in the vault. Just some of the most spectacular examples of opal in the world... Photo by Laura Driskell

**Minutes of the OGMS Board Meeting, 14 March 2018 Meeting called to order at 7:14 pm**

Stephanie Hagiwara presiding. The quorum requirement was met. In attendance: Stephanie Hagiwara, Jennifer Haley, Carolyn Howe, Jean pSmith, Gail Sanford, Kathy Scharf, and Miriam Tetreault.



The Golden Bear Nugget, on display at the Natural History Museum, Exposition Park. It is a 1.04-ounce piece of natural gold, California's state mineral, and was discovered in this shape in 1871 in Placer County. It was purchased by the CFMS in 1939, and is mounted on a slab of serpentine, the CA state rock. The Bear is used in the logo of CFMS and appears at annual CFMS conferences and events.

**1<sup>st</sup> VP Programs.** (Gail Sanford, presented by Stephanie Hagiwara). The April program will be a presentation by Manny Saenz, Oxnard College Geology Professor. Possible future presentations may be by grad students on subjects such as anthropology of local native people. A budget is in place for payment to outside speakers for our general meetings but a revisit of how the funds are to be used is to be discussed at a later meeting.

**2<sup>nd</sup> VP Show.** (Open, Stephanie Hagiwara presented). The theme of 2018 Gem and Mineral Show, scheduled for 17 and 18 Nov, is "Calcite." Post cards were provided to the Ventura show along with exhibit forms. Miriam is in the process of forming a show committee; Miriam will perform the duties of the 2018 show treasurer (also see Treasurer report below regarding show account).

**3<sup>rd</sup> VP Field Trips.** (Carolyn Howe/Adrian Ruiz/Larry Knapton) Interest was great enough for Stephanie to set up two trips to the Natural History Museum to see the green diamond display on 20 and 23 March. Carolyn Howe requested someone to accompany her to scout out Greenhorn Mountains for rose quartz for a field trip later in the year.

**Treasurer.** (Miriam Tetreault) Treasurer's report was presented. Accounts are in good standing. A motion was made by Kathy Scharf to pay the four presented bills; motion seconded by Carolyn Howe and passed. Currently OGMS accounts are at Union Bank; the show account is at RaboBank. Miriam made a motion to have all accounts at one bank (Union Bank), motion seconded by Jennifer Haley, and passed. Maintenance in the form of signatory update is needed for all accounts, as follows:

1. OGMS accounts: Miriam Tetreault (current), Stephanie Hagiwara (current), Louisa Carey (current), Kathy Scharf (add), and Bob Driskell (remove).
2. Show accounts: Miriam Tetreault (current), Stephanie Hagiwara (current), Louisa Carey (add, upon her concurrence), Kathy Scharf (add), and Diane Cook (remove).

A motion was made by Gail Sanford to make the signatory changes, seconded by Kathy Scharf, and passed.

**Corresponding Secretary.** (Laura Driskell) Laura absent; no report. Jean pSmith now has possession of the key to the PO box; it was requested that she have two additional keys made.

**Membership Secretary.** (Carolyn Howe) Carolyn presented two potential members for consideration. Miriam made a motion to accept both; motion seconded by Gail Sanford and approved.

**Federation Director.** (Jennifer Haley) Jennifer has obtained Federation bars for 2016 and 2017 officers; bars to be handed out in May. Jennifer will provide a sample waiver for use with field trips.

**Library.** (Kathy Scharf) Anticipate a few new items to be added to the library in the coming months.

**Refreshments.** (Candy Marshall) Not present. Carolyn Howe and Kay Hara will provide refreshments for the April meeting. It was noted, however, that since the speaker for April usually has some of his students attend, it is anticipated that more than the usual amount of refreshments may be needed; Gail Sanford and Jean pSmith also volunteered at the board meeting.

**Shop Steward/Classes.** (Jean pSmith) Classes are full and only one student has dropped so far this session. The request by Miriam at the last meeting to review the past few years of class material costs, resulted in the material fees for classes being slightly raised to cover the current costs. Would like to find a way to capture how students are hearing about the OGMS classes; Jean would also like to have some OGMS brochures available for when students request them.

**Old Business.**

- The PACC Rental Credit Grant Program application, due 1 March, was submitted and accepted.
- Miriam has an 8-foot display case that she would like to see removed from the OGMS inventory. It has become increasingly hard to store and has not been used in a long time. Potential organizations to contact are Conejo Gem and Mineral or the Ventura Fair Grounds. A motion was made by Gail Sanford to remove the case from inventory, seconded by Jean pSmith, and passed.
- The OGMS patches that go on the back of vests are currently in the possession of Stephanie; Donna has the bolt of blue material for making adult vests. People are needed to sew the vests.
- People are needed to start sewing grab bags. Jennifer stated she has cut pieces already from last year; these pieces will be handed out in lots of 25 for people to take home and sew.
- People are needed to put openings in table skirts.

**New Business.** None.

**Announcements.** Next meeting scheduled for 11 April 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

**Adjournment.** Stephanie Hagiwara adjourned the meeting at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Kathy Scharf, Recording Secretary 20 Mar 2018.

## Minutes of the OGMS General Meeting 7 March 2018

Meeting called to order at 7:37 pm, Stephanie Hagiwara presiding.

**Sergeant-at-Arms.** (Lee Leighton) Lee led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Recording Secretary.** Minutes of the Jan 2018 meeting printed in the Rock Bag. Lee Leighton moved to accept the minutes as printed; motion seconded by Candy Marshall and passed.

**Hospitality.** (Janice Albertson) Twenty-four members and ten guests were signed in.

**1st VP Programs.** (Gail Sanford) Tonight Louisa Carey will discuss green diamonds, which is the exhibit currently at the Los Angeles Natural History Museum. The April program will be a presentation by Manny Saenz, Oxnard College Geology Professor, on "An Overview of Water Resources, Water Systems, Conservation, and Careers in Water."

**2nd VP Show.** (Open) No report.

**3rd VP Field Trips.** (Adrian Ruiz reporting). Nothing new to report; next schedule trip is in April to Cady Mountains (CGMC/VGMS). There were signup sheets available for a field trip to the LA Natural Museum to see the green diamond display and take a vault tour, which will either be Tuesday 20 March or Friday 23 March, depending on the outcome of the signups this evening. The field trip is being coordinated by Stephanie Hagiwara.

**Treasurer.** (Miriam Tetreault) We are solvent, and bills are paid.

**Corresponding Secretary.** (Laura Driskell) Several pieces of routine correspondence have been received which will be reviewed at the next board meeting.

**Membership Secretary.** (Carolyn Howe) No report.

**Federation Director.** (Jennifer Haley) Jennifer brought two flyers to share information. One was on the upcoming CFMS 2018 Annual Convention and the Feather River Lapidary & Mineral Society Show to be held Sept 15 & 16 at the Silver Dollar Fairgrounds in Chico, CA. The second was regarding the AFMS and their continued efforts to promote and ensure the rights of amateur fossil and mineral collectors and the use of public and private lands for educational and recreational purposes.

**Library.** (Kathy Scharf) Nothing new to report.

**Refreshments.** (Candy Marshall) Tonight's refreshments were provided by Carolyn Howe, Louisa Carey, and Lynn MacPherson. Next month's refreshments will be provided by Carolyn Howe and Kay Hara.

**Pebble Pups.** (Louisa Carey) Tonight's topic was all about diamonds. Next month the Pebble Pups will be making magnetic silly putty.

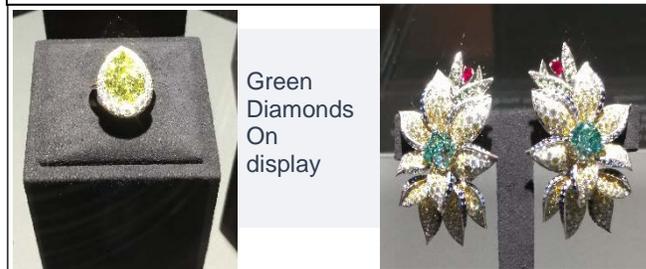
**Shop Steward/Classes.** (Jean pSmith) New classes are underway and all are full. Brett Johnson stated that he changed the structure of fees between the Monday and Thursday classes so that now all pay the same for the class and for materials, for a total of \$60 per student.

**Education.** (Open) No Report.

**Ways & Means.** (Larry Knapton) Gifts were provided to the guests. There were 8 drawings this evening plus the drawing for a crystal owl on a branch. Brett Johnson won the drawing for membership badge.



Louisa Carey presented on Green Diamonds



**Scholarships.** (Kay Hara) Scholarship selections are pending receipt of qualified applications to review.

**Program.** This month's program on green diamonds was presented by OGMS member Louisa Carey. Louisa has received her Diamond and Color Gem Certificates from the Gemological Institute of America (GIA) (Congratulations!). She presented an overview on the different types of diamonds, treatments, cutting, manmade stones, and ways to tell a fake from a genuine. Of particular interest was green diamonds and how even a slight bit of color would classify a diamond as green. The green color comes from diamonds being exposed to radiation underground during their formation. After millions of years, they are not radioactive. The current process to create man made green diamonds also results in non-radioactive diamonds. Generally, there is only a spot or two that is actually green, and it is up to the planner and cutter to cut the diamond in a way that allows the entire stone to look green. The presentation was very informative, entertaining, and a good primer for those who will be attending the field trip to the Natural History Museum. Thank you, Louisa.

**Announcements.** Memorial to be scheduled for Bonnie Thaanum 16 March at 1:00 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus in Oxnard. Next General Meeting April 4th at 7:30 pm. Pebble Pups meet at 6 pm.

Stephanie Hagiwara adjourned the meeting at 9:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Kathy Scharf,  
Recording Secretary, 8 March 2018

## April Pebble Pups Program

Calling all Pebble Pups!

Let's check out the wonderful world of magnetics.

We will be making our own magnetic silly putty!

How fun you say? Come by and whip up a batch of your own. Looking forward to seeing you!!

**Newcomers welcome, no Pebble Pup goes home empty-handed.**

The meeting will be held in the Thousand Oaks room of the Oxnard Performing Arts Convention Center (800 Hobson Way, Oxnard) the first Wednesday of the month at **6:00pm.**

Rocks ROCK! Louisa



Pebble Pup Brett and mom Ann check out a sponge that has its own fiber optics!



### Mineral of the Month - Gypsum

Gypsum is a very soft mineral. It is Number 2 on the mineral hardness scale (which is also called Mohs' Hardness Scale). When it is found in massive beds, it is mined and used to make plaster (Plaster of Paris) and boards that are used to make walls. When gypsum is clear and glassy, it is given the informal name "Selenite."

Chemical Formula:  $\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$

Crystal System: Monoclinic

Color: When it is pure, gypsum is colorless or white.

When it has impurities in it, it can be green, yellow, tan, blue, pink, brown, reddish brown or gray.

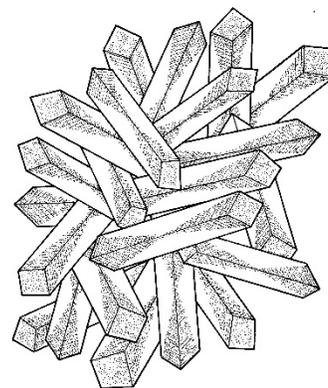
Physical Properties:

Mohs scale of Hardness: 2

Luster: Silky to Glassy

Streak: White

Specific gravity: 2.3



Hey, kids! Ask a parent to print out the Mini Miners Monthly for you. The link is below! You can color crystals, do puzzles and learn about how crystals form. (Like the monster crystal, right, at the Natural History Museum!)



Drawing & text courtesy of Diamond Dan's Mini Miner Monthly.

[www.diamonddanpublications.net](http://www.diamonddanpublications.net)

# OGMS Library – Book of the Month

Title: *Gemstones of the World*

Author: Walter Schumann

Publisher: Sterling Publishing Co, Inc, New York

The book of the month for April, entitled “*Gemstones of the World*” introduces gemstones on such topics as classification, structure, properties, production, and cutting. Most of the book is a reference tool for various types of gemstones and includes pictures and specific properties for each covered gemstone. The book also contains reference tables for properties such as refraction, absorption, fluorescence, and dispersion. Great reference book and interesting to just thumb through and look at the great photos!

This book was provided from the estate of Bonnie Thaanum.

Take a few minutes to look over the OGMS Library at the next regular meeting – Kathy Scharf, OGMS Librarian



Actual photos from the book.

Tourmaline from CA. Photo by Laura Driskell

## Please remember to follow these guidelines when checking out a library book:

1. You must be a current member with your dues paid.
2. Up to three (3) books may be checked out at one time.
3. Books may be checked out for one month at a time. Check-out at one monthly meeting and return the book(s) at the next monthly meeting. If you wish to extend your check-out, please arrange it with the librarian.
4. Books must be returned in good condition! Any damage should be reported as soon as possible. If a book is lost, please make every effort to recover it, or replace it. Some of our books are very valuable.
5. If books are overdue, you will receive a reminder call to bring them back.
6. Donations are welcomed! Books and DVDs (no VHS tapes, please) that are in good condition, relevant to our hobby, and contain fairly current information may be donated and will be appreciated.

## Brad Smith's Bench Tips

### NO - MAR PLIERS

Pliers can often leave nicks and scratches on your work. If this is giving you a problem, first take a close look at the plier jaws. New tools can be a little rough. I typically relieve any sharp edges, sand away any tool marks, and give working areas a quick polish.



If that doesn't solve the problem, you probably need to cover the jaws. Plastic electrical tape provides a quick fix but can leave messy adhesive on the jaws, and dips don't seem to last very long.

A quick and easy solution is to slip a length of 1/8 diameter vinyl tubing over each jaw. It works well and leaves no sticky residue. The tubing can be found in a store that sells aquarium supplies. Note that this will increase the size of the plier jaws a bit, but I haven't found that to be a problem.

### PATINA RECIPES

Sometimes it's fun to explore some new patinas. If this appeals to you, here are a couple web sites that have ideas particularly for copper and bronze.

The first is The Science Company at <http://www.sciencecompany.com/Do-It-Yourself-Patina-Formulas-W12C672.aspx> with plenty of formulas for a variety of colors. And there are more formulas at Tim McCreight's Brynmorgen Press web site at <http://www.brynmorgen.com/resources.html>

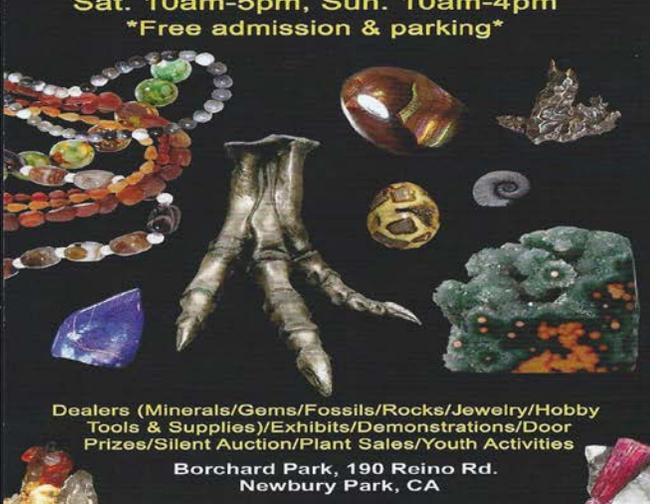
Small quantities of chemicals for making your own patinas are available from The Science Company at <http://www.sciencecompany.com/Patina-Chemicals-Patina-Book-C672.aspx>

If you prefer to buy the patinas ready for use, one of the best sources I've come across is Sculpt Nouveau at <http://www.sculptnouveau.com/> Don't miss all the instructional pdf's on the site and be sure to take a look at the videos showing how to use the products at <http://www.youtube.com/sculptnouveau>

For more tips or to learn new jewelry skills see [Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](http://Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith)

**44<sup>th</sup> Pageant of a Thousand Gems**  
**Conejo Gem & Mineral Club Gem Show**

**April 21<sup>st</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018**  
**Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm**  
**\*Free admission & parking\***

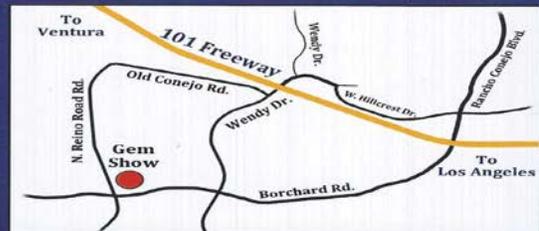


Dealers (Minerals/Gems/Fossils/Rocks/Jewelry/Hobby Tools & Supplies)/Exhibits/Demonstrations/Door Prizes/Silent Auction/Plant Sales/Youth Activities

Borchard Park, 190 Reino Rd.  
Newbury Park, CA

### Gem, Jewelry, Mineral and Fossil Show

April 21<sup>st</sup> 10 AM to 5 PM and  
April 22<sup>nd</sup> 10 AM to 4 PM, 2018



Borchard Park - 190 N. Reino Rd. at Borchard Rd.  
Newbury Park (4 miles from Thousand Oaks), CA

Visit us at one of our Club Meetings:  
2nd Thursday of the month  
(No meeting in December)

Hillcrest Arts Center  
403 Hillcrest Drive  
Thousand Oaks, CA

6:45 - 7:30 PM Youth program  
7:30 PM Club meeting and program

AFMS HISTORIAN  
Our Hobby's History  
It Started with a Passion, and a Sharing of Ideas  
by Jennifer Haley

I've been hitting the books again, investigating the earliest AFMS Historian files to see what gems of information I could write about for you. 1928 is a year to remember. The first radio and telephone connection between the Netherlands and U.S.A. occurred, American aviator Amelia Earhart became the 1st woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean, sliced bread was sold for the first time, and Scottish bacteriologist Alexander Fleming discovered penicillin while studying influenza.

And in 1928 an earth science teacher noticed the need to have the earth sciences taught at schools below the college level. Unfortunately, I do not have the gentleman's name, but what we do know is that he started a club for his students and community. The club was such a big hit, he hoped something similar could go national. Peter Zodac, founder and first editor of Rocks & Minerals Magazine was a big supporter of the idea, and began writing monthly articles which appeared in his magazine about forming earth science clubs. In those articles were ideas for programs and activities, and of course information about minerals. Learning about minerals and collecting minerals was becoming extremely popular, and was the main focus of our hobby in the beginning. Individuals and families were fascinated with what they could learn, and were enchanted by the adventures they were exploring.

Mineral societies slowly but in a big way began to spring up around the country. The first two in California in 1931, 1932, and the third in Oregon in 1933 which was called the Oregon Agate and Mineral Society.

The Oregon club got busy promoting themselves and started a bulletin. The club grew by leaps and bounds its first year, becoming what was believed to be the largest club of its kind in the world at that time. The monthly bulletin was called the Oregon Mineralogist. By its second year a person you are now familiar with from a recent AFMS Historian article, Dr. Dake, became their editor and renamed the bulletin The Mineralogist Magazine.

Two other publications were born from the excitement of the hobby, Earth Science Digest and Mineral News and Notes. Advertisements for lapidary equipment became a popular aspect of the magazines. Clubs across the country were corresponding with one another, visiting each other's club meetings and venturing out together to collecting sites for minerals.

With so many clubs forming an idea was sparked to form a Federation. Those first visionaries of our hobby wanted to keep the spirit and the knowledge of the science and the hobby alive instead of seeing it dwindle over time. As a synergy, they felt their combined efforts would be far greater than the sum of what an individual club could do on their own.

Backed by the eagerness and the efforts of the clubs over a course of years, the seven federations one by one were formed. California Federation-1936; Northwest Federation-1938; Midwest Federation-1940; Rocky Mountain Federation-1941. During the time of WWII efforts to advance the federations was suspended. In 1946 came the inspiration for forming a national federation, and by 1947 the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies was born. Two other federations followed with the formation of the Eastern Federation of Mineralogy and Lapidary-1950, and the Southwest Federation-1976.

When you hear society members asking why we have the federations and the AFMS, you now have a great story to tell them that they can take to heart.



## **Future Field Trips:**

**(CGMC/VGMS) Lavic Siding/Cady Mountains.** Sat., April 28th. Lead by Chuck Borchard, chuck.cgmctrips@gmail.com; John Cook, cookjohnr@sbcglobal.net; and Luther Brown, ravenwolf2@att.net.

**(CGMC/VGMS) Basin Road.** Sat., May 19th. Lead by Chuck Borchard. Information coming soon.

**(CGMC/VGMS) Wiley's Well Campout.** Sat.-Sun., May 25-27. (tentative). Lead by Chuck Borchard. Info. coming soon. Agates, chalcedony roses, psilomelane, petrified wood, fire agates.

**(OGMS) Himalaya Mine, San Diego, CA** Sat., June 23rd. Lead by Adrian Ruiz. Tourmaline digs.

## **SHOWTIME!**

### **April 6, 7 & 8: VISTA, CA**

Vista Gem & Mineral Society  
Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum  
2040 North Santa Fe Avenue  
Hours: 9 - 5 daily  
Contact: Kelly Hickman, (760) 622-6501  
Email: kellyahickman@hotmail.com  
Website: www.vistarocks.org

### **April 7 - 8: MARIPOSA, CA**

Mariposa Gem & Mineral Society  
Mariposa County Fairgrounds  
5007 Fairgrounds Road (South of Mariposa  
off Hwy 49)  
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4  
Contact: Meredith Meehan, (559) 868-3535  
Email: mgmc@sti.net  
Website: mariposagemclub.org

### **April 21 - 22: THOUSAND OAKS, CA**

**Conejo Gem & Mineral Club**  
**Borchard Park Community Center**  
**190 Reino Road**  
**Hours: 10 - 5 Saturday; 10 - 4 Sunday**  
**Contact: Chuck Borchard, (805) 551-9946**  
**Email: chuck@cgmctrips@gmail.com**  
**Website: www.cgamc.org**

### **April 21 - 22: PASO ROBLES, CA**

Santa Lucia Rock Hounds  
Paso Robles Event Center  
2198 Riverside Ave.  
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4  
Contact: Tina Clark, (805) 305-0246  
Email: slrockhounds@gmail.com  
Website: slrockhounds.org

### **April 28 - 29: LANCASTER, CA**

Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral Society  
Lancaster High School  
44701 - 32nd Street West, Hours: 10 - 5 daily  
Contact:  
Susan Chaisson-Walblom, (661) 406-0143  
Email: slchaisson@yahoo.com  
Website: www.avgem.weebly.com

### **April 28 - 29: RENO, NV**

Reno Gem & Mineral Society  
Reno Reno/Sparks Livestock Event Center  
1350 North Wells Avenue  
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4  
Contact: Daniel Ellis, (775) 359-6068  
Email: sailondan55@aol.com  
Website: www.renorockhounds.com

### **May 4, 5 & 6: YUCAIPA, CA**

Yucaipa Valley Gem & Mineral Society  
Yucaipa Music & Arts Festival  
Yucaipa Blvd. and Adams St.  
Hours: Fri 6 pm - 9 pm; Sat 12 noon - 10 pm,  
Sun 12 noon - 7 pm  
Contact: Lee Peterson, (909) 794-0731  
Email: res09ayd@verizon.net  
Website: www.yvgms.org

### **May 5 - 6: ANAHEIM, CA**

Searchers Gem & Mineral Society  
Brookhurst Community Center  
2271 W. Crescent Avenue  
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4:30  
Contact: Margaret Hogarth, (909) 815-3045  
Email: hogarth.m@gmail.com  
Website: [www.searchersrocks.org](http://www.searchersrocks.org)



**The Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society**  
**P O Box 246**  
**Oxnard CA 93032**

## April 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Easter Sunday April Fool's Day	2	3	4 OGMS Pebble Pups meet @6pm OGMS Member Mtg 7:30pm PACC	5 VGMS Bd Mtg 7:30pm Poinsettia	6 Vista, CA Show	7 Vista, CA Show Mariposa, CA Show
8 Vista, CA Show Mariposa, CA Show	9	10	11 OGMS Board Mtg 7pm PACC	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Thousand Oaks, CA Show Paso Robles, CA Show
22 Thousand Oaks, CA Show Paso Robles, CA Show	23	24	25 VGMS Member Mtg 7:30pm Poinsettia	26	27	28 Lancaster, CA show Reno, NV show
29 Lancaster, CA show Reno, NV show	30	1	2 OGMS PP 6pm OGMS Member Mtg 7:30pm PACC	3 VGMS Bd Mtg 7:30pm Poinsettia	4 Yucaipa, CA show	5 Yucaipa, CA show Anaheim, CA show
6 Yucaipa, CA show Anaheim, CA show	7	<b>NOTES</b>		April 28: CGMC/VGMS Lavic Siding/Cady Mtns Field Trip May 19th: Basin Road Field Trip with CGMC		