

# The Rock Bag

JANUARY 2009 Volume 47 Issue 1

Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society  
Oxnard, California



M. Tetreault  
OGMS Editor  
1134 Sunnycrest Ave.  
Ventura, CA 93003

## Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society

P. O. Box 246  
Oxnard, CA 93032

**Web address:** [www.oxnardgem.com](http://www.oxnardgem.com)

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 monthly 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 State of California Federation of Mineralogical Society and the National Federation of Mineralogical Society.

**Meeting held:** 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7:30 P.M.

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

**Dues:** \$15.00 per adult; \$2.00 per junior member (age 12 to 18 years)

### OGMS Officers for 2009

President	Kay Hara	<a href="mailto:kharaftdoc@aol.com">kharaftdoc@aol.com</a>	W 525-5415 H 525-7634
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President (Programs)	Brett Johnson	<a href="mailto:bj9709@yahoo.com">bj9709@yahoo.com</a>	882-3836
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President (Show)	Norb Kinsler		644-6450
3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President (Field trips)	Ron Wise	<a href="mailto:clintwise@hotmail.com">clintwise@hotmail.com</a>	647-4393
Recording Secretary	Lee Leighton	<a href="mailto:ameritus@sbcglobal.net">ameritus@sbcglobal.net</a>	647-4594
Treasurer	Stephanie Hagiwara	<a href="mailto:purplehawk@hotmail.com">purplehawk@hotmail.com</a>	986-2006

### Appointed Standing Committee Chairmen

Corresponding Secretary	Louisa Carey		(503) 309-6147
Displays/Exhibits	Brett Johnson	<a href="mailto:bj9709@yahoo.com">bj9709@yahoo.com</a>	8823836
Editor	Miriam Tetreault	<a href="mailto:miriamtetreault@hotmail.com">miriamtetreault@hotmail.com</a>	642-5779
Education Director	Donna Knapton	<a href="mailto:dknapton@hotmail.com">dknapton@hotmail.com</a>	647-8762
Federation Director	Jim Brace-Thompson	<a href="mailto:jbraceth@roadrunner.com">jbraceth@roadrunner.com</a>	659-3577
Historian	Marjorie Frey		482-1504
Hospitality	Louisa Carey		(503) 309-6147
Librarian	Karen Bialobreski		(707) 648-7634
Member at Large	Miriam Tetreault	<a href="mailto:miriamtetreault@hotmail.com">miriamtetreault@hotmail.com</a>	642-5779
Membership Secretary	Anne Lewis		485-6356
Public Relations	Norb Tackman		647-2538
Parliamentarian	Miriam Tetreault	<a href="mailto:miriamtetreault@hotmail.com">miriamtetreault@hotmail.com</a>	642-5779
Refreshments	Louisa Carey		(503) 309-6147
Sergeant at Arms	Larry Knapton	<a href="mailto:dknapton@hotmail.com">dknapton@hotmail.com</a>	647-8762
Ways & Means	Jean Wise		647-4393

### Classes

Silversmithing & Casting:	Lois Allmen, Nancy Bogart & Albert Rubio
Lapidary, Opal & Wirewrap:	Kay Hara, Dan Gealy, Brett Johnson & Don Minster
Location:	Durley Park, 800 West Hill Street, Oxnard, CA 93030

**Editor:** All members are encouraged to offer an article of interest. Articles can be submitted by e-mail or in writing by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month. Thanks, Miriam

## **The Prez Sez**

By Kay Hara

This year's OGMS show appears to be the best and the most well attended one that I am aware of! I want to thank and acknowledge all of you who worked so long and hard to make it so.

This year the raffle ticket sales exceeded my goal of a thousand dollars and I want to thank all of you who purchased pre-show tickets! Thanks for your generosity and I hope you won a prize.

Also, to those who donated prizes to the raffle - thanks, thanks, thanks! I have to apologize for not listing you individually this year - somehow, somewhere I misplace my list. When I locate it, I will place it in the Rock Bag.

Take care, have a great holiday season and the best for the coming New Year!

### **January Program**

Our January 7, 2009, OGMS program will herald the Quartzite season for rockhounds.

If you are not aware, Quartzite is a large gathering of rockhounds during January and February. It is also a giant flea market.

However, few are aware that there are nearby collecting sites that abound in the Quartzite area. You don't have to buy all your specimens there, you can take field trips and collect your own! Some of the specimens available are zircon, alundite, epidote, quartz, ribbon barite, included agates, etc. Collecting areas are the planet mine, BDC mine and areas near Bouse, Brenda and Parker.

So for a greater insight about Quartzite, come and enjoy this very informative video presentation.

Brett Johnson, OGMS Programs

**A Happy Garnet Birthday for you January babies! May you receive lots of Carnations!**

January 2009

## **OGMS Power at CFMS**

At the installation of our officers at our December meeting, I missed an excellent opportunity to remind members of the importance of a club's Director to CFMS.

Did you realize that the Club's Directors are more powerful than the CFMS President and Board? It's true!

In most organizations the power is with the president, his board and on down through the hierarchy.

In CFMS your Directors are the decision makers. Any decision made by the President and his Board, or that comes up at the Directors' Meeting must be passed or vetoed by the Directors.

This is why it is so important to know what is going on at CFMS, how we are involved, and have a Director who attends the meetings and brings the information back to us.

Thank you, Jim Brace-Thompson for being our Federation Director.

Lois Allmen

### **Durley Needs!!!**

Do you have any old useable bar stools that you would like to get rid of? The workshop is in need of some. The students are getting tired of standing so long in one place! Contact Lois if you can help.

The Rock Bag

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Members' & editors let me know if I can e-mail the Rock Bag to you. I would like to save paper, printing & postage. Also those who receive by email will have **color!** If so, please e-mail me your address. Thanks, Editor [miriamtetreault@hotmail.com](mailto:miriamtetreault@hotmail.com)

## Thank You!

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all the members who put forth so much time and energy at the show. We couldn't have pulled it off without you. Several of you were even sick and still toughed it out. We had the best turn out of the public in several years. Stephanie and Donna really brought them in. It was truly a labor of love. Thank all of you so much! Miriam

## Welcome!!

Please add these new members to your roster and be sure to welcome them at the next meeting.

Ellen & Minda Moe  
6145 W. 77<sup>th</sup> St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90045

Patricia Anderson  
1410 Bayview Dr.  
Oxnard, CA 93035

Amy Esqueda  
2001 Spyglass Trail West  
Oxnard, CA 93036

Mark Burnell  
498 Alpine Ave.  
Ventura, CA 93004

Mary Arguelles  
1215 Anchors Way Dr. #35  
Ventura, CA 93001

## Membership

Dues are due!!! Please send or pay your dues this month, \$15 per adult. Anne would like to complete the roster as soon as possible. Also you will not receive the Rock Bag in March if you haven't paid. We want you all back for the coming year! Also if any of you want your e-mail listed on the roster please contact Anne. Anne Lewis, 2231 Mono St., Oxnard, CA 93036 Thanks

## Field Trips

Rob Sankovich will lead a trip on January 13 - 18<sup>th</sup> to Wiley Wells, Quartzsite and the Turtle Mountains. If you are interested in this and require information, please contact Rob at: [805] 494-7734 or [rmsora@adelphia.net](mailto:rmsora@adelphia.net). I also have the info if you want, but he really would like to know how many to expect, so that he can wait until all have arrived before leaving the gathering area. Editor

**Call to Order:** President Norb Kinsler called the meeting to order at 6:30P.M.

**Minutes:** The minutes were approved as written.

**Membership:** We have 75 members at this time.

**Hospitality:** There were 23 members and 13 guests present. The guests were: Vanessa and Michael Hester (The Tune Bandits), Marilyn Watson, Jake & Lisa Arguelles, Ray Flick, Claudette Lemay Amy Esqueda, Richard Bogart, Carol Gealy, Brian Miller, Kathy Julian, and Brett Bednorz.

**Treasurer:** We are solvent.

**New Business:** The yard sale is in limbo. There is not a lot left to sell. The CFMS Club Member of the Year Award was presented to Kay Hara.

**Program:** Tonight was the Pot Luck Dinner. The food was great. Everyone had fun. The whole group present enjoyed the entertainment, provided by the Tune Bandits. They played Christmas carols and some old favorites.

**Officer Installation:** Pins and Bars were passed out to recognize prior service. Lois Allmen installed the incoming officers. The Officers were:  
 President: Kay Hara  
 1<sup>st</sup> VP: Brett Johnson  
 2<sup>nd</sup> VP: Norb Kinsler  
 3<sup>rd</sup> VP: Ron Wise  
 Treasurer: Stephanie Hagiwara  
 Rec. Sec.: Lee Leighton

**Officer Reports:** 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Sites for collection around Quartzsite will be the program at the January meeting.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Next year will be the club's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Rubies will be the next show theme. If you've got them, display them.

**Adjourned:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 P.M. by President Norb Kinsler.

Lee Leighton  
 Recording Secretary

**MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 10, 2008  
 Board of Directors Meeting**

**Call to Order:** President Norb Kinsler called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM.

**Minutes:** The minutes were approved as written.

**Membership:** We have 75 members at this time. A motion was passed to accept: Ellen and Minda Moe, Patricia Anderson, Lisa Arguelles, Mark Burnell, and Amy Esqueda as new members.

**Treasurer:** We are solvent. Income and expenses were discussed. A motion was passed to pay the bills. The dues increase was discussed.

**Correspondence:** A duplicate check was returned from Rock & Gem and given to Stephanie.

**New Business:** Donna got a good price on colored paper at Staples. The price was \$6.90 a ream. Our club uses lots of this type of paper (24 lb). Anne is checking her sources for the thick paper used in printing the rosters. Not having a garage sale this year was discussed. It was suggested

- that the club donate our leftover show items to the Rescue Mission.
- Officer Reports:** 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Quartzsite fieldtrips were discussed.  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: There was a Show Meeting tonight.  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President: The Ant Hill trip is Dec. 13
- Federation:** Check the Federation website for important information on land use issues, BLM, National Parks, and much more. It's there for you to use.
- Education:** The Oxnard Rock Boxes are a problem.
- Classes:** Silversmithing is doing well. They need 4 more barstools in the lab.  
 Lapidary has 7 or 8 students. The Opal class has one new student. The Junior's have 2 students with 2 returning shortly. The Wire wrapping class is full. The next signup is in January. Students in the classes are going to be asked to help the club by displaying their creations. The displays will be for 6 months.
- Adjourned:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Lee Leighton  
 Recording Secretary

## Great Quotes...

“Be nice to people on your way up because you might meet'em on your way down.”  
 Tennessee Williams

“Human salvation lies in the hands of the creatively maladjusted.”  
 Martin Luther King Jr.

## World Championship Crystal Dig

By Donna Knapton



**Stephanie Hagiwara with  
 some prize quartz crystals**

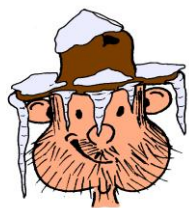
Ventura County was well represented at the World Championship Crystal Dig this year. There were 7 participants from our county to the Mt. Ida, Arkansas area that is world famous for its abundant clear quartz crystals. Ventura, Oxnard, Port Hueneme and the Conejo Valley all had residents among the 112 contest entrants. Attendance was down about 15% from last year because of the gasoline costs.

A fabulous pocket was opened on the first day at the Arrowhead mine, one of the three mines participating in the contest this year. This pocket yielded most of the winners, both in the single crystal and group categories. Several of the

exquisite specimens were in the \$200 to \$450 value range even though there is a 10 pouch size limit for each of the two classes. They were among the most

valuable ever submitted in this event in its 22 year history. Only one of our group got “on the board” with a 4<sup>th</sup> place 4” by 4” “golden healer” crystal, due to the pronominal find. We all did come home with boxes of the beautiful, clear quartz points and clusters. There were 7 participants this year.

## Happy New Year Mini Miners



It's January and it's snowing here in New York. (By the way, did you know that snow is a mineral? Look in this issue for the definition of a mineral.) I hope it's warmer where

you are. New Years are times of new things and new beginnings. There are a number of new things in this issue, like information about mineral stamps, a special mathematical formula for crystals, two pages of terrific mineral art, and the second installment of the wild new comic strip, "Saving Sulfur Sam." The Mineral of the Month is Tourmaline. Do you know what the "Postage Stamp" tourmaline is? Enjoy this issue of Mini Miners Monthly.

### Mystery Mineral

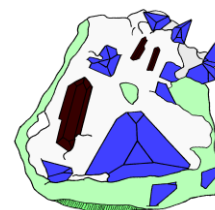
I am a dark, emerald green, glassy mineral. I was first discovered in Russia, but my most famous specimens were discovered in Africa. I am a copper mineral. I was first discovered in 1797. My name is \_\_\_\_\_

### What is a "mineral"?

For a substance to be called "a mineral" it has to be all of the following things:

A "mineral"...

1. is a naturally occurring substance.
2. is a solid.
3. has a definite crystal structure.
4. is inorganic (this means it isn't made by a plant or animal or made from plant or animal material).



Snow is natural, it is a solid, it forms six-sided crystals (snow flakes!), and is inorganic. So, snow is a mineral!

### Mineral Stamps

On June 13, 1974, in Lincoln, Nebraska, the United States Postal Service issued the first diamond-shaped stamps ever issued in the United States. They were also the first stamps designed to highlight the United States' mineral heritage. They are officially called "Our Mineral Heritage" stamps. The four minerals depicted are amethyst, rhodochrosite, tourmaline, and petrified wood (a variety of quartz called agate). These stamps were designed by Leonard Buckley from the U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing. Mr. Buckley's autograph is reproduced here below the block of stamps.




A group of mineral collectors started to work with the Postal Service to have these stamps created in 1967. This group was led by Lillian Turner. The tourmaline specimen on these stamps is now known as "The Postage Stamp Tourmaline."

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# January 2009

## Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">December 08</p> <table style="font-size: small; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">February 09</p> <table style="font-size: small; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> </div>				S	M	T	W	T	F	S		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				S	M	T	W	T	F	S		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				1 <b>Dues are Due!</b>	2 6:30 PM Youth Lap. Class	3 9:00 AM Opal Class 9:30 AM Wire wrap Class
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Printed by Calendar Creator Plus on 12/15/2008

**\*\*\* If any of you have anything that you think other members might be interested in. Please e-mail or snail-mail me. I would like members to have some input as to what their interests are or what they would like to see in the Rock Bag. Remember it's your bulletin. I'm open to any suggestions. Thanks, Miriam**