

The Rock Bag

January 2012 • Vol. 50, issue 1

The Rock Bag is the newsletter of the Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society



January Program- Tantalizing Tanzanite

On Wednesday, January 4th 2012, Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society will show part of "The Tanzanite Story", from Gemstone Adventures Series, also a silent auction featuring the "Luneal Collection", with proceeds going to one of our scholarship funds.

The meeting will be held in the Thousand Oaks room of the Oxnard Performing Arts Convention center (800 Hobson way, Oxnard) at 7:30 PM. The presentation will start after guest greetings and club business.

Refreshments as always will be available.

~Rocks Rock, Louisa VP-

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Dues are Due!

Club membership dues for 2012 are due now. Dues are \$15.00 for adults, \$2.00 for juniors 12 and older. Please remit as soon as possible so that the 2012 roster can be completed. If there is any change in your listing please let me know. You may pay at the January meeting or mail it to: M. Tetreault, 1134 Sunnycrest Ave. Ventura, CA 93003. Thank you for your prompt response. ~Miriam Tetreault, Membership

Welcome New Members!

Please welcome in January these new OGMS members: Nicole Blair, Diego Castelan, Lourdes Lopez, Brian Miller and Kyle Schleiderer. Welcome to a fun filled adventure in the exploration of the mineral world around us! We hope that you will join us for some field trips, classes and of course the OGMS Annual Galaxy of Gems Expo!

As the new editor, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Miriam Tetreault for her years of service as editor of the Rock Bag. We have enjoyed many a good read because of her hard work. I hope that I will be able to provide readers with an informative newsletter befitting her long held standards.

~ Jean pSmith, Editor

Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society General Info

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 field trips. We cooperate 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.

Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 P.M.. Pebble Pups meet each month at 6:00 P.M., prior to the general meeting. Meetings featuring Pot lucks start at 6:30 P.M.

OGMS meetings are held at The Oxnard Performing Arts Center, 800 Hobson Way, Oxnard, CA (Thousand Oaks Room)

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

We welcome members of the community to join us as a guest for any general meeting.

OGMS General Membership Meeting

Potluck Meeting, Holiday Party

Call to order: 1st VP Brett Johnson called everyone to order at 7:00 PM, welcomed them to the potluck and invited everyone to listen to the entertainment and enjoy the company. Plenty of food for everyone! Thanks to the members who arrived early to set up the meeting room. Donna and Larry Knapton supplied decorations and table centerpieces. Entertainment was provided by Elai Jacobs, a local musician and street performer from Ventura. Thanks to Brett Johnson for booking him.

Hospitality: We had several visitors, some who came to the OGMS November Show and were encouraged to join the membership. We were missing some of our members, and hope to see them in January.

Treasurer: We are solvent.

Old Business: Tabled to next meeting.

New Business: Swearing-in of Board Officers. President Louisa Carey presented certificates of thanks to the previous year's Board and other offices, and spoke on how privileged she felt to have served with them. New officers were sworn in by our guest performer, Elai Jacobs. 2012 Board consists of: President - Norb Kinsler; 1st VP, Programs - Louisa Carey; 2nd VP, Show - Brett Johnson; 3rd VP, Field Trips - Ron Wise; Treasurer - Stephanie Hagiwara; Recording Secretary/Parliamentarian - Laura Driskell. For full roster of positions, see page 5 of the Rock Bag.

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A good time was had by all.

Adjournment: Business Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM. Clean-up commenced.

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: **Five New AFMS/FRA Badges to Start the New**
: **Year**

By Jim Brace-Thompson

: As I write this month's CFMS Juniors column, I'm
: frantically attempting to finish five new badge units
: for our AFMS Future Rockhounds of America Badge
: Program. These will include badges on the following
: topics:

- : • **The World in Miniature:** miniature, thumbnail,
: and micromount minerals and fossils, as well as sand
: collecting
: (suggested by Anne Lowe-Salmon, a juniors leader in
: Connecticut).
- : • **Special Effects:** neat mineral effects such as mag-
: netism, double refraction, chatoyancy (cat's eye and
: asterism), TV stone, and more, along with an op-
: portunity for kids to conduct an "Amazing Mineral
: Magic Show."
- : • **Fluorescent Minerals:** why some minerals fluo-
: resce, where to collect them, and how to build a fluo-
: rescent display case, while learning about safety
: in working with fluorescent lighting, particularly
: shortwave UV.
- : • **Reaching across Generations:** pairing a senior

member to serve as a mentor to a junior mentor to
teach some aspect of our hobby that's of mutual inter-
est. This badge was suggested and largely
developed by junior member, Erica Nathan, of the
Coquina Kids in Florida, to honor the memory of a
senior member in her club who passed along much
knowledge and wisdom to Erica.

- Maps: the different sorts of maps and how to read
them, sources of paper and electronic maps, mak-
ing maps, and using GPS for such fun activities as
geocaching (an activity that was suggested by Dennis
Gertenbach, leader of the Junior Geologists of the
Flatirons Mineral Club of Colorado).

My goal is to have a revised badge manual with the
new units, as well as some additions and revisions
to existing units, posted to the AFMS web site be-
fore the end of January. So if your society is actively
using the AFMS/FRA Badge Program, watch for
updates coming soon!

If your society is not using the Badge Program, why
not? It's FREE! And it's been built to help you help
your club's kids learn the many facets of our fascinat-
ing hobby—all the while, having fun! -Jim

Field Trips

January 2012

Quartzsite, AZ (*On your own*)

1 - 2/28 Desert Gardens
6 - 15 Tyson Wells
20 - 29 Sell-O-Rama
21 - 19 RV Show
18 - 22 Pow-Wow

January 14 **Cadiz, CA, for Chapenite**
February 11 **Tijiguas Beach, for Whale bone**
8 AM - 12 or 1 - 5PM (tides)

Leaders: Ron Wise, (928)927-5776 / Desert Gold, AZ.
clintwise@hotmail.com

Jennifer Flatten, (949)812-1967 jenniferflatten@
yahoo.com

*** Please call your field trip leader to confirm that
there is a field trip scheduled in the event of changes.

Club Shows

February 17-26: Indio, CA- San Gorgonio Mineral & Gem Society

Gem & Mineral Building, Bldg #1
Arabia Street
Hours: 10 -10 daily
Bert Grisham, (915) 849-1674
Email: bert67@verizon.net

March 5-6: Arcadia, CA- Monrovia Rockhounds, Inc.

LA County Arboretum
301 Baldwin Avenue
Hours: 9 - 4:30 daily
Jo Anna Ritch, (626) 359-1624
Email: vgms_editor@roadrunner.com
www.Moroks.com

March 3-4: Ventura, CA - Ventura Gem & Mineral Society

Ventura County Fairgrounds
10 W. Harbor Blvd.
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
Rob Sankovich, (805) 494-7734
Email: rmsorca@adelphia.net
www.vgms.org

March 10-11: Turlock, CA - Mother Lode Mineral Society

Turlock Fairgrounds
900 North Broadway
Hours: Hours 10 - 5 daily
Terry & Bud McMillin, (209) 524-3494
Email: bud.mcmillin.b7y@statefarm.com Web
www.turlockgemshow.com

March 24-25: Angels Camp, CA- Calaveras Gem & Mineral Society

Calaveras Co. Fairgrounds (Frog Town USA)
101 Frogtown Road
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
Tak Iwata, (209) 928-5579
Email: Tak2me@msn.com
www.calaverasgemandmineral.org

March 24-25: Roseville, CA- Roseville Rock Rollers

Roseville-Placer County Fairgrounds
800 All American City Blvd. (off
Washington) 3
Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4
Glori Marie, (916) 216-1114
Email: gloriarosevillerockrollers@gmail.com
www.rockrollers.com

Other Upcoming Events

April 1-8: Camp ZZYZX Earth Science Studies Camp

Mojave Desert, near Baker.
Applications must be received by March 1,
2012
You can get an application online at
www.cfmsinc.org
For more information you can call
Marion Roberts (209) 538-0197

In case you are unfamiliar with ZZYZX Earth Science
Studies Camp, here is a list of some of the classes
offered at this event:

- Silver fabrication
- Chain making
- Precious Metal Clay (PMC)
- Soft stone carving
- Wire Wrap
- Cabochon making

Read more about Camp ZZYZX and other Club
shows at www.cfmsinc.org

Minutes of the December 14, 2011

OGMS Board Meeting

Call to Order: President Norb Kinsler called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Show Meeting: At the request of the Board, the first part of the meeting was a Show Meeting. Norb, acting in his position of 2nd VP Show Chairman, proceeded to pay out checks for show expenses. Several raffle winners from the Nov. show came to pick up their winnings from Kay Hara.

Miriam Tetreault spoke about two vendors from the show, and resolving issues. Board members agreed that food should continue to be served for vendors, however, they should be identified along with volunteers with tickets or wristbands.

Adjournment of Show Meeting: 7:39 PM.

Call to Order: Board Meeting, called to order by President Norb Kinsler, at 7:40 PM.

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Minutes: Meeting minutes were accepted as published in the Rock Bag. Norb presented a modified agenda format to be used for the General and Board Meetings. Past month's minutes to be accepted as published in Rock Bag, not read aloud at meetings. Board accepted and approved the modified format.

Treasurer: We are solvent. Discussion regarding expenses, checks to be written. Motion by Brett Johnson to pay outstanding bills, seconded and approved. Treasurer wrote checks and left the meeting due to illness.

Correspondence: First VP/Corresponding Secretary Louisa Carey presided over remainder of meeting. Louisa presented a vest that came back from former members living out of state. She sent a letter of thanks to the former members.

Membership: Motion was passed to accept five new members. One applied at Nov. show, and 3 at the potluck dinner.

Federation: Discussed who gets newsletters. More news to be presented at Jan. meeting. CFMS patches have been ordered.

Education: Pebble Pups have three new members. Louisa would like to set up a short field trip for them, close by, possibly for fossils.

New Business: Lee Leighton presented Bylaws regarding meeting agendas. Board accepted that meetings must follow OGMS Constitution and Bylaws. Jean pSmith stated that a new compressor is needed for the silversmith class. Adrian Ruiz and Laura Driskell stated they had small ones available. Also, enameling class says they are missing some enamel, may have been misplaced in shop.

Editor: Miriam stated that Rock Bag Editor must receive all new material by 3rd Wednesday of the month, in order to publish in time. New editor, Jean pSmith, will need to get her email re-routed so she will receive it from ogms site. Needs list of new Board to publish.

Classes: Class envelopes may be missing money. Adrian Ruiz will look into getting a locked box for class deposits. Jennifer, Enameling instructor, will have surgery and may not teach for the next year.

***Show:** 2nd VP Brett Johnson needs to make decision on Show Theme for 2012 in order for announcements to go out. An email poll will be sent, asking for votes.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Driskell, Recording Secretary

***Update:** *The show theme votes have been cast. The 2012 theme will be 'Opal - Catch the Rainbow'*

Find us on the World Wide Web!

For those of you so-inclined, we would like to invite you to find out more about our interests and club activities through our internet resources. Of course there is the award-winning OGMS website: www.oxnardgem.com But did you know that we also have a blog and Facebook pages devoted to various club activities? Our blog, Rock Talk can be found at <http://oxnardgem.blogspot.com/> it is set up as a team blog, and we welcome input from all members. Did you find a wonderful rock hunting spot? Maybe you have some photos to share from the last field trip? post 'em on the blog! If you wish to contribute contact the editor@oxnardgem.com for an access code. Also join us on Facebook- [Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society](#) and [OGMS Silversmith Class](#) have facebook fan pages where we can connect on a fun and conversational level.

Chapenite, Rare beauty from the Mojave Desert

“Chapenite is a jasp/agate that was formed and millions of years later found itself in a fault line where earth quake activity crushed it. More eons pass and our jasp/agate hero finds itself in an area rich with hot silica laden waters which infiltrate the cracks and turn to agate--healing the cracks and making it whole again. I have found it at Siam Siding (about 30miles south of Barstow, CA) and at Stone Canyon (central CA coast)...”. This description was written by James Hoyle of Vista California, and was posted on Yahoo Groups Rockhound Board.

The very fact that I am opening this article with a post from a source as dubious as an internet discussion group should tip you off as to the scarcity of Chapenite. Very little information can be found on the WWW, but there is some and I have collected it here for you.

Chapenite is a Brecciated Agate-Jasper. It is found in only a couple of places in California. The colors range from translucent whites and milky pinks to deep rusty reds, and can include sharp ochers, rusty

tans and dendritic veins. The brecciated nature of this stone provides a wide range of lively patterns and forms from subtle to dramatic. Because it is an agate-jasper it is a very hard stone, able to take a high polish. Some of the jewelry I have seen made from this material is absolutely beautiful! A very nice, downloadable catalog of California agate-jaspers is available at: http://search.4shared.com/postDownload/WoKMElo/agate_index_vol_10b_california.html it includes some nice examples of Chapenite. If you are considering joining this field trip, you can find Cadiz east of Twentynine Palms, off Interstate 40, on the National Trails Highway. Trilobites can also be collected on this field trip. Please contact Ron Wise for more information regarding the field trip times, meet-up, camping equipment etc. If you go, please consider hauling back an extra chunk oy two for the OGMS Silent Auction. ~ Editor

*The Cadiz field trip is scheduled for January 14th.
Please contact Ron Wise for confirmation*

OGMS 2011- 2012 Officers

President	Norb Kinsler		644-6450
1 st Vice President (Programs)	Louisa Carey	big_L76@yahoo.com	(503) 309-6147
2 nd Vice President (Show)	Brett Johnson	bj9709@yahoo.com	822-3836
3 rd Vice President (Field trips)	Ron Wise/Jennifer Flatten	clintwise@hotmail.com	647-4393
Recording Secretary	Laura Driskell	driskellmom@yahoo.com	485-2983
Treasurer	Stephanie Hagiwara	purplehawk@hotmail.com	986-2006

OGMS 2011- 2012 Appointed Standing Committee

Corresponding Secretary	Louisa Carey	big_L76@yahoo.com	(503) 309-6147
Displays/Exhibits	Brett Johnson	bj9709@yahoo.com	822-3836
Editor	Jean pSmith	bulletheadgx@verizon.net	642-5779
Education Director	Open		
Federation Director	Louisa Carey	big_L76@yahoo.com	(503) 309-6147
Historian	Open		
Hospitality	Carol Drescher		644-7242
Librarian	Abe Bar-Shai		(818) 991-7735
Member at Large	Kay Hara	kharaftdoc@aol.com	525-7634
Membership Secretary	Diane Cook	johndianedaisy@yahoo.com	647-8517
Public Relations	Norb Tackman	ntack@sbcglobal.net	647-2538
Parliamentarian	Lee Leighton	ameritus@sbcglobal.net	647-4594
Refreshments	Laura Driskell		485-2983
Sergeant at Arms	Larry Knapton	dknapton@hotmail.com	647-8762
Ways & Means	Jean Wise/Jennifer Flatten		647-4393

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www.oxnardgem.com



J. pSmith, Editor
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FROM CALIFORNIA STATE MINING & MINERAL MUSEUM, 7/24/11

I wanted to let you know that the California State Mining and Mineral Museum, which houses and displays the Official California Collection of gems and minerals, is on the State Parks closure list. This is the third year we have been on the closure list but unfortunately it is looking very dire for us this year. In an effort to garner grassroots support to keep the museum open we have created a Facebook page. We would like to invite your members to comment or voice their concern over the closure of this museum.

This collection was started in 1880 by the State legislature and has been on continuous display for 131 years. The collection contains approximately 14,000 specimens from all over the world and from California. It is anticipated that if we close it will be by July 1st 2012. If that happens it is very likely that the collection will be put into storage. This is a premier collection on the west coast and spawned collections in many of the other western states. We would appreciate any help you and your members could provide. If you could pass the word in your newsletter as well it would be appreciated.

There is a link on our Facebook page to the California State Parks Foundation which provides suggestions about how to help. The link to our Facebook page is: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/California-State-Mining-and-Mineral-Museum/192306770823629>

We need your help to spread the word! If you would like more information or have questions, please feel free to contact me.

Darci Moore
Curator II
California State Mining and Mineral Museum
209-742-7625
dmoor@parks.ca.gov

Dear Rock Bag Reader,
If you would please take a moment of your time
to read this very important message from
THE CALIFORNIA STATE MINING &
MINERAL MUSEUM