



# Diablo Diggins

**Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society**

Since 1950

**"We Dig Rocks"**



Concord, CA

December 2011

Vol 59, No. 12

*This Newsletter is available by E Mail - contact the Editor*



**Merry Christmas Rockhounds**



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

IT WAS SHOW TIME!!! And what a show we had. Awesome demonstrators, display cases, and amazing club members that made it all possible. We all worked hard and the hard work paid off. A special thank you to EVERYONE that contributed to the success of the show. It was gratifying. Everywhere I went in the show there were always club members setting up, hauling tables, helping people, attaching skirting, cooking lunch, cleaning, filling in with whatever was needed, and oh so much more. We are a success because of you! THANK YOU!!!!

This month we have our annual potluck and holiday celebration with a Southwestern theme. Dress Southwestern, bring a Southwestern dish. The club makes the arrangements for the ham, soft drinks, and water. It's also our annual canned food drive. Along with your potluck dish bring in a couple of cans (no glass) off of your shelf to help those in need during this holiday season.

We also welcome our new Board of Directors at our annual installation. Our elected BOD members will be: Therese Clark, President; Harry Nichandros, 1<sup>st</sup> VP; Kelly Plumb as 2<sup>nd</sup> VP; Mary Jernigan as Secretary; and Mary Hanjes as Treasurer. Committee members will be announced at our meeting this month.

No matter how you celebrate this time of year may the New Year bring you much love, great friends, and good health in 2012.

Therese Clark  
President

**Next General Meeting**  
**Monday, December 12, 2011 - 7:30 PM**

**December Program**  
**Southwestern Holiday Party**  
**Doors open 6:30 PM**



### **December Program**

*The Holiday meeting begins earlier than our regular meetings – Doors open at 6:30, Serving at 7:00*

It is the big finale to a big year. This is the time our regular monthly meeting turns into a gala social affair and celebration.

Relive the activities of the year in an exciting photo presentation compiled from members' photos. Celebrate member achievements and awards. And open future club possibilities with the installation of next year's officers.

Plus, as always, enjoy the camaraderie of fellow members. Reestablish old relations.

The traditional ornament gift exchange is always a big hit. If you wish to participate, bring a mineral, specimen, or a quality item your fellow rockhounds would like to receive. The gift exchange is optional.

This year's theme is *Southwest Holiday*. Southwestern, attire and side dishes will make us more festive – they're totally optional.

The club is furnishing plates and utensils plus a giant ham, music and entertainment. Bring a dish such as a salad, vegetable, or dessert, and you're good to go. Guests, friends and family are welcome.

See you Monday, December 12, 6:30 pm

**Happy Holidays,**

Harry Nichandros  
Program Chairman

### **Food Drive Reminder**

Please bring some canned or packaged food for the Food Bank to the Christmas potluck. Mary and Mark Bufton will take your donations to the Contra Cost Food Bank after the meeting. No glass jars or perishables. Let's be generous this year. Mary and Mark are continuing a tradition they started years ago, with their husband and father, Jim.

#### **Due Date**

**Articles for January Diablo Diggins**

**December 19, 2011**

#### **Board Meeting**

**Thursday December 8, 6:30 PM**

**Therese Clark's Home**

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**CCM&GS General Meeting  
November 14, 2011**

President- Therese Clark opened the General Meeting at 7:33pm welcoming Club members and guests.

Newsletter Editor- Terry Caskey led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance. Assistant Sgt. of Arms- Catalina Wright collected quarters from members who had forgotten their badges.

President- Therese Clark welcomed new CCMGS members Reggie & Gail Moore

Hospitality- Mary Hanjes welcomed eleven guests. Guest & Member drawings were made for door prizes of mineral specimens. Mary reminded everyone about the December Holiday Dinner, Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. Doors open at 6:00pm. Please bring a potluck item to share and food donations for the Food Bank. Main course and silverware will be provided by CCM&GS. Gift Exchange- if you are interested, bring a small rockhound related gift to participate

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President- Joanne Caskey, see the Fieldtrip Board on the back table and the Newsletter.

Secretary- Mary Jernigan announced the Junior Rockhound Fieldtrip/Class on Saturday, Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> "Wilderness Survival" with Karen Oliver & Mary Jernigan. Sign-up flyers on the back table.

Federation Director- Dick Pankey, refer to the Newsletter for updates.

President – Therese Clark advised the membership that voting for the nominees CCM&GS 2012 Officers was to be requested again. Verification of twenty-five percent of the voting members had not been counted at the October meeting. Each Officer was to be named and voted upon separately by acclamation of the membership with majority vote. Mary Hanjes had been nominated for Treasurer and accepted.

Membership- Mary Hicks verified that more than thirty-six eligible voting members were present at tonight's meeting. Balloting would be taken by majority verbal vote.

Nominating Committee- Pam Harris announced the nominees for the 2012 CCM&GS Officers

President- Therese Clark, incumbent

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President- Harry Nichandros, incumbent

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President- Kelly Plumb, nominee

Secretary- Mary Jernigan, incumbent

Treasurer- Mary Hanjes, nominee

Federation Officer- Dick Pankey, incumbent

Pam Harris called for voting on each name as presented 2012 CCM&GS Officers, voting by a verbal vote of acceptance. The General Membership voted on the nominated officers, approved and passed.

All voted in favor, with no opposition. Pam congratulated the new 2012 CCM&GS Officers and informed the membership that the installation of the 2012 CCMGS Officers will be at the Club Christmas Dinner.

Member- Mark Bufton reminded members to bring food items for donation to the Food Bank. Non-perishable food items will be collected at the Club's December Christmas Dinner. This long-time tradition of donating to the Food Bank was started by Mark's parents Mary & Jim Bufton. Thank you, Everyone for contributing.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President/ Show – Harry Nichandros thanked all the Club members for helping to make the 2011 Club Show another success. Harry also thanked the Show Committee members, Therese Clark, Ann & Matt Matthews, Hazel Woolsey, Mary Hicks, Gary Walls, Howard Shamy, Dick Pankey, Terry Caskey, Mary Jernigan, Scott Pevahouse, Connie Klein, Kelly Plumb, Joe Yarbrough. Harry thanked the volunteers who helped with many parts of the Show, set-up & tear-down, loading & unloading the Club trailer, food purchase, signs & flyers, electrical team, membership & raffle, Diablo Café, silent auction, front door, activities, show announcements, demonstrators and display cases.

President- Therese Clark asked volunteers who had worked for the show to please stand up and thanked everyone for their participation in the 2011 Annual Show. Therese thanked the many volunteers who helped at the 2011 Club Show.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President/ Programs- Harry Nichandros introduced guest speaker, Tim Unruh with the evening's program, "Tektitites- Stones of Mystery".

Next BOD December 8<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm at Therese Clark's home.

Next General Meeting will be the Holiday Dinner,

December 12<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm at Centre Concord.

Doors open at 6:00pm.

The meeting adjourned at 8:57 pm.

Mary Jernigan – CCM&GS Secretary



**CCM&GS BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING – November 10, 2011**

The BOD meeting was held on November 10, 2011 at Therese Clark’s and Harry Nichandros’ residence. The meeting was called to order at 6:31pm. The Board and Committee Members present were Therese Clark, Harry Nichandros, Mary Jernigan, Terry Caskey, Mary Hicks, Hazel Woolsey, Donna Albrecht, Paul Black, Howard Shamy, Ann Matthews, Matt Matthews and Kelly Plumb.

President- Therese Clark asked for any corrections to the October BOD minutes. No corrections were noted. Mary Jernigan moved to accept the minutes. Donna Albrecht seconded. A vote was taken and the minutes approved.

Membership- Mary Hicks received two new membership applications for Reggie and Gale Moore. Reggie and Gale were attracted to the programs and classes provided by CCM&GS. Hazel Woolsey moved to accept the membership applications. Donna Albrecht seconded. A vote was taken and the membership applications accepted. Welcome Reggie & Gale to the CCM&GS Family!

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President/Program- Harry Nichandros did not have anything new to mention regarding the January program. Details regarding the 2011 Show would be discussed at the Wrap-up meeting following tonight’s BOD meeting.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President- Joanne Caskey (not present) Refer to the Newsletter upcoming fieldtrip events.

Secretary- Mary Jernigan distributed mail to the appropriate people.

Federation Director- Dick Pankey (not present)  
Treasurer- Rana Owen (not present)

Historian- Hazel Woolsey – no updates at this time.

Property- Howard Shamy informed the BOD that two display show cases had been damaged. These cases would be repaired before next year’s Club Show. Minor changes to the trailer awning would also be made. Rust was found on the inside of the trailer ribs. Estimate of \$100 per hour to sand blast the trailer ribs, did not include preparation or sealing. Howard will research additional options and costs.

Display- Paul Black – See the Display section in the Newsletter

Education- Donna Albrecht – Junior Rockhound Class “Wilderness Survival” scheduled for Saturday Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> with Karen Oliver & Mary Jernigan. Refer to Newsletter for upcoming classes in 2012.

Hospitality- Mary Hanjes (not present) December meeting will be the Annual Installation of CCM&GS Officers for 2012. The Christmas Dinner will be served at 6:30pm. Doors open 6pm at Centre Concord. Members are asked to bring potluck items to share.

Newsletter- Terry Caskey. Submit articles to Terry by November 22nd.

Old Business- none at this time.

New Business- Treasurer & Hospitality  
President Therese Clark nominated Mary Hanjes as Treasurer for 2012. Mary had agreed to complete Rana’s responsibilities as Treasurer for the remainder of 2011. Donna Albrecht moved to accept. Terry Caskey seconded. A vote was taken and accepted. Therese informed the BOD that Pam Harris would be taking the Hospitality position.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:45pm.  
Mary Jernigan- CCM&GS Secretary

**Participate In Your Club**

What are your interests in our club? Are you interested in field trips, rock collecting, jewelry making, or growing our membership? Do you want to see things run better in our club? Do you have an exciting speaker you would like to see? Would you like to see more kids activities?

Believe it or not, we need you. You may think no help is needed in programs or field trips because we have a chairman of programs and a chairman of field trips. But these are only committee chairmen. Behind each chairman is a committee of interested members like yourself.

Becoming involved in your club helps the entire club get better and grow. Perhaps you can’t commit to a committee head position, but can you help a committee head? Think about how you can make our club better and join in the fun.

Therese Clark  
President



## **The Holiday Party is Almost Here!**



The December 12 meeting will be our annual holiday party, starting an hour earlier than usual, at 6:30pm. Please bring with you:

- ✓ Potluck to share (side dish or dessert) and serving utensil
- ✓ A wrapped item for the gift exchange (max cost \$5)
- ✓ Donations for the food bank (no glass, please)

See you there!

Mary Hanjes, Hospitality

## **Annual Food Bank Drive**

### **Hear those hoofbeats on your roof? And that HO! HO! HO! Whoa Comet, Dancer, Prancer and Rudolph**

It's that time of year again. Mark your calendar. December 12, 2011 for our annual Christmas meeting. For those new members who may not be aware, the December meeting is our annual potluck dinner meeting and collection of food items for the Contra Costa Food Bank. The collection was started 18 years ago by Jim Bufton his first year as membership chair and has been supported by members every year since.

The food bank has seen a huge increase in the number of needy families and individuals, from around 90,000 to over 130,000 receiving emergency food assistance. The average of our contributions for the past five years has been 181 lbs of food. In keeping with the increase in needy individuals and families, we should try to increase our donations to over 220 lbs. Can you help? Below is a list of suggested items to bring to the December meeting along with your potluck dish.

Suggested items:

Canned items - meat, fish, soup, fruit, peanut butter in plastic jars, etc.

Packaged items - cereal, beans, rice, pasta, etc.

No glass or perishables.

My son Mark and I will deliver your generous donations to the Contra Costa Food Bank. Thank you all.

Mary Bufton





### **December Membership Report**

Welcome to our two newest members, Reggie & Gale Moore. Reggie and Gale have attended our meetings and the show and are also members of the Antioch Lapidary Club. Please help make these two rockhounds welcome.

It is the time of year for MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL. Please make out your check for your 2012 DUES for \$10 per member and \$1 for junior and mail it to CCM&GS Membership, PO Box 2064, Antioch, CA 94531 or give them to me at the December meeting. Bylaws require dues to be paid before December 31<sup>st</sup>. I will make friendly reminder phone calls to members who have not paid 2012 dues as of the December meeting. Coal lumps will not be accepted in lieu of money.

Mary Hicks, Membership 2011  
[maryhicks@comcast.net](mailto:maryhicks@comcast.net)  
PO Box 2064, Antioch, CA 94531

### **CALLING ALL BEADERS!**

**THE NEXT BEAD-IN IS SCHEDULED FOR December 16, which is a Friday night .**

Everyone is invited to participate at our monthly "Bead-In" where we all come together to bead, wire wrap, etc., motivate each other and share ideas ... and just "whatever". This is a casual get-together of club members who enjoy being creative with their rock-related hobby. There will be a sign up sheet available at the December holiday meeting. Bring along a project to work on - or just sit and enjoy the evening with friends.

**See you at the Caskey house on December 16th from 6:00 to 10:00. Hot spiced apple cider & other food!**



### **EDUCATION**

As the year winds down, remember, great classes provide educational opportunities and build club spirit. Take advantage of the opportunities that interest you! Have a topic you'd like to learn more about? Contact me, Donna Albrecht at [donna@albrechts.com](mailto:donna@albrechts.com) or visit with me at the meetings and let me know. I'll work to find a teacher and venue. Remember, if it interests you, others will want to learn about it too!

Adult classes are taking a break for the holidays. Look forward to some exciting opportunities in the new year!

Donna Albrecht  
Education Chair





## Ann Matthews Remembers

Remember the old song, Home on the Range?

Oh give me a home, Where the buffalo roam, Where the deer and the antelope play, Where seldom is heard, A discouraging word, and the skies are not cloudy all day.

Well, we saw the antelope play. It happened like this: Our Field trip group had been to Nyssa, OR to their rock show in eastern Oregon.

We camped at the town park and visited the show. They were very friendly folks, led field trips and took us to places like Graveyard Point, Succor Creek and the picture rock claims. They also gave away a Rockhound and Recreational Map by the Chamber of Commerce of Nyssa. We used the map to find some of the areas listed.

Our group chose a place to hunt for rocks, so parked the RVs for the night. The next morning we lined up our Jeeps, (most had Jeeps we towed this trip). Al and Helen Schuyler's kids had painted on the front of their old green jeep, the name, "Grandpa's Rocker". They said every time Al got out of his jeep to look for rocks, he was off his rocker!

The leaders went looking for the right road, or rather trail, leading to a place listed on the map to hunt rocks. While we waited, our kids were watching the ants in a couple of ant hills. These were big ants, not the little ones that get into our houses at home. These ants were all busy coming and going and working hard, some even carrying big boulders. Kids being kids, they stuck a stick in one ant hill and when some ants climbed aboard, they carried it to another ant hill. Big mistake, they started a war! The ants being invaded all came rushing out of the ant hill. The poor innocent ants on the stick were in big trouble.

The leaders came back and led our row of Jeeps down a trail. As we were driving slowly along, in a line, we saw in the distance a herd of antelopes running toward us. They ran around our line of jeeps and went back the way they came. What a thrill for us to experience. Antelopes are curious animals and we were told that makes them easy to hunt.

Many times off the road we saw wild horses. There was always a band of horses being led by a big black stallion at Black Rock Desert. One of the other horses was a blond with a really long mane. We saw this group for several years and there was usually one or two colts with them. We talked to a rancher in Nevada once, and he told us, he could turn his tame horses out to mix with the wild horses but had to round them by two years because after that, they would become wild.

I don't remember if we ever found the correct place on the map, but we always came home with rocks!

On this trip we celebrated Al and Helen's 40th wedding anniversary. They had gone to bed and a sign was made out of cardboard congratulating them and taped to the back of the jeep. Also, pop cans were tied to a rope and thrown under the jeep so when they drove away, they were surprised to hear the rattle of the cans and discovered the sign. We later celebrated their 50th and 60th anniversary, but in a building at home.

Ann Matthews





## Program Calendar

**December 12, 2011:** *CCM&GS Annual Installation and Awards Dinner.* Have fun, and happy holidays to all rockhounds.

**January 9, 2012:** *To be announced*

**February 13, 2012:** *To be announced*

**March 12, 2012:** *Special presentation* by Mike Hunerlach, USFS.

**April 9, 2012:** *Jade on My Mind* with Mike Burkleo, Co-owner of Revelations In Stone.

**Do you have ideas for fantastic presentations? Have great speakers in mind? Design your own monthly meeting. Call me.**

**Harry Nichandros**  
Program Chairman

## Refreshments

### **Holiday Potluck Party**

Bring a potluck dish to share.

Club supplies utensils and plates.

## December Birthdays

Therese Clark	12/01
Terry Caskey	12/02
Mark Bufton	12/02
Sophie Vecchio	12/03
Sherry Pevahouse	12/05
Donn Law	12/05
Pam Lewis	12/09
Edgar Miller	12/16
Tom Hanjes	12/20
Harry Nichandros	12/24
Elizabeth DeRubeis	12/31



## December Anniversaries

Tony & Alice Gilman	12/26
Marty Wharton	12/31



## For the exhibitors at our recent show.....

**Dear Rockhound Friend,**

Your exhibit has helped to make our show a success. Thank you for taking the time, effort and expense to share your collection for the public to enjoy the beauty found in gems and minerals and those "Dirty Old Rocks".

Ann Matthews, Exhibit Chair

## Help a Fellow Member!

Want to give a lift to a club member who is interested in attending the monthly meeting?

Sometimes a club member has difficulty getting to our monthly education meeting. Right now there is a member in Moraga and one in Martinez that can not get to the meeting. One member can not drive at night and the other is having car problems. If you are coming to the meeting from one of these areas and want to have an occasional rider, contact me. I am sure the rider will be happy to pay for gas. So how about some friendly rockhound company! Thank you, Mary  
[maryhicks@comcast.net](mailto:maryhicks@comcast.net) 925.779.0698





## Display Report

Please note that there will be no display competition at the December meeting because of the holiday potluck and installation of officers. Any accidental entries will be added to the Display Chair's personal collection. ;o) This gives everyone two months to perfect their cabs and faceted gems for January.

### Novice Cabs – Two entries

- 1 – Reggie Moore – Crazy Lace Agate
- 2 - Kelly Plumb – Dryhead Agate (winner)

### Pro Cabs - Three entries

- B – Gary Casillas – Magnesite
- C – Joe Yarbrough – Regency Rose Plume Agate (winner)
- D – Terry Caskey – Fossil Coral

### Shape of the Month – Oval - Three entries

- A – Kelly Plumb – Dryhead Agate (tied for 1<sup>st</sup> place)
- B - Gary Casillas – Woodward Ranch Plume Agate (tied for 1<sup>st</sup> place)
- D – Joe Yarbrough – Graveyard Point Agate

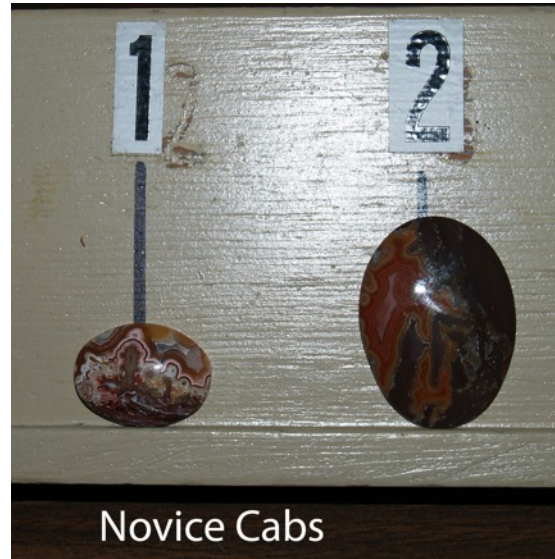
### Faceted Gems – No entries this month

Our thanks to Mary Hanjes for sharing specimens from her mineral collection. Thanks to members for identifying stones for her students.

### 2012 Shape of the Month

- January - Irregular
- February - Heart shape
- March - Oval
- April - Round
- May - Pear (Teardrop)
- June - No competition (Auction night)
- July - Freeform (No symmetry)
- August - Triangle (Three acute angles)
- September - Marquis (Cat's eye)
- October - Rectangle (or Square)
- November - Oval
- December - No competition (Christmas party)

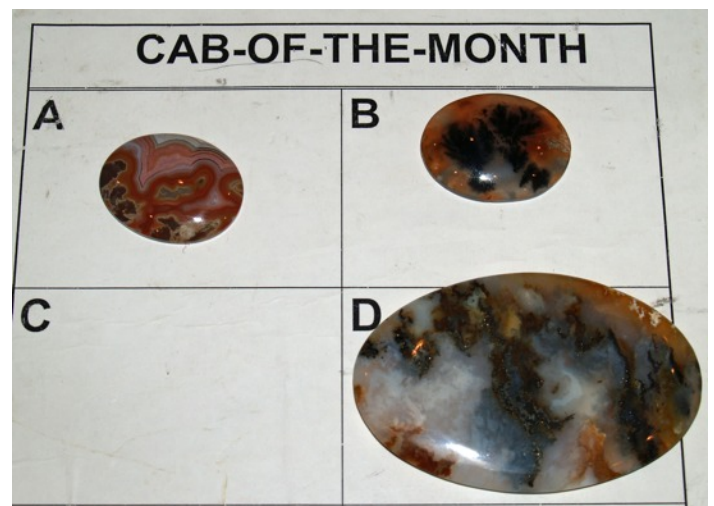
-Paul Black.



Novice Cabs

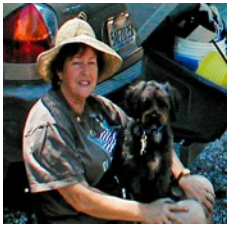


Pro Cabs





**FIELD TRIPPIN' w/ JOANNE CASKEY**



It's December already! How fast the year flies by when we are having fun, and that is what we do when we go rockhounding and are actively participating in other types of field trips too. The Stockton Club has entered the field trip arena early on for 2012 and are sponsoring a CO-OP non-collecting field trip to Angels Camp to visit "Stories in Stone" Rock Shop. Following is information for this trip. If available to go, please sign up with Dave of the Stockton Club. Not only is it a beautiful drive and a wonderful area up in the Mother Lode to explore and shop, there is so much Gold Rush history available to you in museums and visitor centers, and places for you to do some "silver picking" or rockhounding.

Clancy and I are going to be hanging up our hats (he usually wears a bandana) and letting someone else have the opportunity to lead field trips for the Contra Costa Club in 2012. It has been a lot of fun and we have totally enjoyed the experience of the past two years. We will be around and are looking forward to rockhounding with you and your newly elected field trip chairperson, Kelly Plumb. We may even suggest and help head up a trip or two next year.

Quartzsite, Arizona in January ... hopefully some of you will be able to get away and enjoy a little taste of the desert and check out the many wonderful and interesting treasures from far away places. Also coming up over there is the Ye Olde Timers' Camp with their week full of activities. See camp wagonmaster, Dick Pankey, for more information.

The Antioch Lapidary Club is hosting their annual show at the Antioch fairgrounds in February. Mark it on your calendar.

Be sure to check out the shows list and any future rockhounding trips for 2012. There are some really fine activities coming up that you won't want to miss out on. Keep on diggin those rocks!

**A "CO-OP Member" Field Trip to "Stories in Stone" Angels Camp, Ca**

Trip Location: "Stories in Stone" store, in Angels Camp.

Parking: 3 small parking lots in vicinity, front of business parking on Hwy 49.

When: Thursday, January 12, 2012

Sponsor Club: Stockton Lapidary & Mineral Society

Guests: Allowed

Collection Material: None - informational lecture

Leader & Contact Info: Wayne Meissner 209-858-2263; 985-8702 cell, footsey1@yahoo.com

Proposed Schedule: arrive 9:30ish, presentation starts 10am. Seating is limited to 50 individuals and the lecture should last about an hour w/extra time to ask questions. This is a bona fide rock shop with all kinds of material for sale. Russ Shoemaker is very knowledgeable and explains the various kinds of rock in a way that anyone can understand.

Meet: 1249 Main Street, Hwy 49, Angels Camp, CA - "Stories in Stone" store.

Tools: notebook, writing material, money (this place has all manner of neat stuff at decent prices).

Remarks: There is seating for 50 in a private room in the rear of building. Further information can be found on the Stories in Stone website.



## MOROCCAN MINERAL TOUR - 2012

The rugged and picturesque Anti-Atlas and High-Atlas Mountains of southern Morocco host some of the world's most remarkable mineral deposits. Vanadinite at Mibladen, rare phosphate minerals at the Angarf-Sud pegmatite, a startling array of colorful cobalt minerals in the mines of the Bou Azzer district, and much, much more in the mines of Taouz, Midelt and Bou Skour. Along our route we'll also visit ancient and contemporary cultural sites, enjoy wonderful scenery and participate in unique experiences - anyone for camel riding?

Our high-clearance 4WD vehicles and expert guides will get us to many sights that the average tourist (and mineral collector) can only dream about, and we'll have plenty of opportunities to collect and purchase mineral specimens.

Dr. Tony Kampf, the museum's Curator Emeritus of Mineral Sciences, and Dr. Eloïse Gaillou, the museum's new Associate Curator of Mineral Sciences, will accompany the group and provide expert background on the minerals and geology. The size of our group will be very limited. A second tour may be offered from March 12 to 24.

The price of the tour does not include airfare to Marrakech, but includes all ground transportation, accommodations and food during the itinerary. A 5 MB PowerPoint presentation showing the highlights of the tour is available upon request.

### **THE GEM & MINERAL COUNCIL**

*Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County  
900 Exposition Boulevard, Los Angeles,  
California 90007*

*Phone: (213) 763-3326*

*Fax: (213) 749-4107*

*Email: mstambau@nhm.org*

For further information contact the museum's Gem & Mineral Council Coordinator, MaryStambaugh at mstambau@nhm.org or 213-763-3326.

## QUARTZSITE, ARIZONA SHOW SCHEDULE

2011 - 2012

- [TYSON WELLS MARKET SQUARE](#) Oct 1st 2011 - Mar. 30th 2012
- [RICE RANCH "Yawl Come" SHOW](#) Nov 1st 2011 - Feb 28th 2012
- HI ALI SWAP MEET Nov 1st 2010 - Mar 28th 2011
- PROSPECTOR'S PANORAMA Nov 1st 2011 - Feb 28th 2012
- GREASEWOOD SWAP Nov 1st 2011 - April 1st 2012
- AUTHOR'S FAIR Jan & Feb 2012 READERS' OASIS BOOK STORE
- [DESERT GARDENS 10th ANN'L INTNAT'L GEM, MINERAL & JEWELRY SHOW](#) JAN. 1st 2012 - FEB. 28th 2012
- [THE MAIN EVENT](#) Open Nov 1st 2011 - March 2012 Show Date: Jan. 7th 2012 - Jan. 22nd 2012 - STEAM ENGINE SHOW TBA 2012
- [TYSON WELLS ROCK & GEM SHOW](#) JAN. 6th 2012 - JAN. 15th 2012
- [TYSON WELLS SELL-A-RAMA](#) JAN. 20th 2012 - JAN.29th 2012
- [BLYTHE ANNUAL BLUEGRASS MUSIC FESTIVAL](#) Jan. 20th - 21st - 22nd 2012
- [BIG TENT...SPORTS, VACATION & R.V. SHOW](#) JAN. 21st 2012 - JAN. 29th 2012
- [45th ANNUAL Q.I.A. POW WOW](#) JAN.18th to Jan. 22nd
- [TYSON WELLS ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR](#) FEB. 3rd - FEB. 12th 2012
- QUARTZSITE QUILTERS QUILT SHOW Feb. 3rd - 4th 2012 SENIOR CENTER

*COMPLIMENTS OF THE QUARTZSITE BUSINESS  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
110 W. MAIN ST.-- P.O. BOX 2566 -- QUARTZSITE, AZ.  
85346, (928) 927-93*





**CFMS & Other Club Shows**

**JANUARY 2012**

**21 - 22: EXETER, CA**

Tule Gem & Mineral Society, Visalia  
Exeter Veteran's Memorial Building  
Highway 65, 324 N Kaweah Avenue  
Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4  
Contact: Steve Hayward, (559) 734-3843, cell (559) 967-1084  
Email: [smhay734@aol.com](mailto:smhay734@aol.com)  
Website: [www.tulegem.org](http://www.tulegem.org)

**27 - 28\*: REDLANDS, CA**

Mineralogical Society of Southern California/Micro-Mineralogists  
Pacific Micromount Conference  
San Bernardino County Museum  
2024 Orange Tree Drive  
Hours: Fri. 4 - 10; Sat. 8 - 10  
\*Field Trip on Sunday, January 29  
Contact: Dr. Robert Housley, (626) 697-4435  
Email: [rhousley@its.caltech.edu](mailto:rhousley@its.caltech.edu)  
Website:  
[www.mineralsocal.org/micro/index.html](http://www.mineralsocal.org/micro/index.html)

**FEBRUARY 2012**

**17 - 26: INDIO, CA**

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

**19 & 20: ANTIOCH, CA**

ANTIOCH LAPIDARY CLUB (not CFMS)  
Treasures of the Earth  
Antioch Fairgrounds

**MARCH 2012**

**2 - 4: NEWARK, CA**

Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley  
Newark Pavilion

6430 Thornton Avenue  
Hours: Fri. & Sat. 10 - 6; Sun. 10 - 5  
Contact: Cathy Miller, (510) 887-9007  
Email: [info@mgscv.org](mailto:info@mgscv.org)  
Website: [www.mgscv.org](http://www.mgscv.org)

**5 - 6: ARCADIA, CA**

Monrovia Rockhounds, Inc.  
LA County Arboretum  
301 Baldwin Avenue  
Hours: 9 - 4:30 daily  
Contact: Jo Anna Ritchey, (626) 359-1624  
Email: [vgms\\_editor@roadrunner.com](mailto:vgms_editor@roadrunner.com)  
Website: [www.Moroks.com](http://www.Moroks.com)

**3 - 4: VENTURA, CA**

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society  
Ventura County Fairgrounds  
10 W. Harbor Blvd.  
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4  
Contact: Rob Sankovich, (805) 494-7734  
Email: [rmsorca@adelphia.net](mailto:rmsorca@adelphia.net)  
Website: [www.vgms.org](http://www.vgms.org)

**10 - 11: SALINAS (Spreckels), CA**

Salinas Valley Rock & Gem Club  
Veteran's Hall, Spreckels, CA  
5th & Llano Streets  
Hours: 10 - 5 daily  
Contact: Robert L. Braun, (831) 771-2089

**10 - 11: TURLOCK, CA**

Mother Lode Mineral Society  
Turlock Fairgrounds  
900 North Broadway  
Hours: 10 - 5 daily  
Contact: Terry & Bud McMillin, (209) 524-3494  
Email: [bud.mcmillin.b7y@statefarm.com](mailto:bud.mcmillin.b7y@statefarm.com)  
Website: [www.turlockgemshow.com](http://www.turlockgemshow.com)

**17 - 18: VALLEJO, CA**

Vallejo Gem & Mineral Society  
Solano County Fairgrounds  
McCormack Hall  
Hours: 10 - 5 daily  
Contact: Dan Wolke, (707) 644-9764  
Email: [VGMS01@yahoo.com](mailto:VGMS01@yahoo.com)  
Website: [www.vallejogemandmineral.com](http://www.vallejogemandmineral.com)

**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  
Contact: Tak Iwata, (209) 928-5579  
Email: [Tak2me@msn.com](mailto:Tak2me@msn.com)  
Website: [www.calaverasgemandmineral.org](http://www.calaverasgemandmineral.org)

**24 - 25: ROSEVILLE, CA**

Roseville Rock Rollers  
Roseville-Placer County Fairgrounds  
800 All American City Blvd. (off Washington)  
Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4  
Contact: Gloria Marie, (916) 216-1114  
Email: [gloriarosevillerockrollers@gmail.com](mailto:gloriarosevillerockrollers@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.rockrollers.com](http://www.rockrollers.com)

**APRIL 2012**

**7 - 8: PARADISE, CA**

Paradise Gem & Mineral Society  
Elks Lodge  
6309 Clark Road  
Hours: Sat 9 - 5 ; Sun 9 - 4  
Manuel Garcia, (530) 877-7324  
Email: [mmpg@att.net](mailto:mmpg@att.net)  
Website: [www.paradisegem.org](http://www.paradisegem.org)

**20 - 22: SAN JOSE, CA**

Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society  
Santa Clara County Fairgrounds  
334 Tully Road  
Hours: Fri 9 - 5; Sat & Sun 10 - 5  
Phone: (408) 265-1422  
Email: [info@scvgms.org](mailto:info@scvgms.org)  
Website: [www.scvgms.org](http://www.scvgms.org)





## CFMS Director's Meeting

*By Dick Pankey, Federation Director*

The weather was not as pleasant as in previous year. For many years now we have camped in the back parking lot at the Holiday Inn in Visalia. It rained out the happy hour the Betty and I host at our trailer on Friday afternoon and it was too cold and breezy on Saturday afternoon. We went down on Thursday this year and drove up to Sequoia National Park on Friday morning and stopped at a couple of yard sales on the way back in the early afternoon.

Friday evening there was the Cracker Barrel; an informal get-together for socializing and sharing of ideas. The Directors' meeting was held Saturday morning and concluded at about 12:30. In the afternoon, after a quick lunch, there was the PLAC/ALAA meeting which I was involved with and a roundtable discussion on membership. Saturday evening was the banquet to install the 2011 officers. The meeting concluded Sunday morning with the new president's change over meeting with the other new officers and the committee chairs. A full weekend conducting the business of the Federation.

### *Directors' Meeting highlights:*

- *The meeting was called to order followed by the Pledge to the Flag. I was called upon to give the Invocation and an In Memoriam for recently deceased members. The In Memoriam included Joe Hafeli from the Napa Club who was a past Field Trip leader for the Federation and the example for me of what a field trip leader should be and how to lead field trips.*
- *There was a very good turnout of directors. 72 out of approximately 120 societies were represented; there were 5 officers and 22 committee chairs. When a society does not have a director present their society does not have a voice in the business of the Federation.*
- *The 2011 Show was hosted by Superior Cal G&MA at Anderson, CA (near Redding) on May 13 to 15 at the fairgrounds. They presented the Federation with a check for \$4622 for the Federation's share of the proceeds.*
- *The 2012 show will be hosted by the Valley Prospectors in Riverside, CA. I have the Show packet with registration, competitive and non-competitive forms and information about the attractions around the area. Contact me for more information and copies of the forms. Betty and I are planning to attend and to exhibit. Attendance and exhibiting is open to all members. If you would like to attend or just want more information please contact me.*
- *The 2013 show will be co-hosted by 3 societies at the Ventura Fairground. More detail later. The Federation is still looking for societies to host the 2014 show and beyond.*
- *The officers for 2012 were elected: President - Susan Chaisson-Walblom, 1st VP - Bud McMillin, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP - Jennifer Haley, Treasurer - Tom Burchard, and Secretary - Robert Sankovich.*
- *The 2012 Budget was approved with revenues of approximately \$86,650 and expenses of approximately \$98,850. This is a projected loss of \$12,200 which will have to come from the general fund. The loss is due to declining membership and low show profits.*
- *No change in the dues and insurance for 2012. The per member dues are \$1.25 to the CFMS and \$.75 to the AFMS. The per member insurance is \$6.00. Total due to CFMS is \$8.00 per member.*
- *All American Club - there was only one entry this year. In 2002 and 2004 the CCM&GS prepared an entry book and won gold awards. We haven't entered in recent years. Basically you prepare a "Brag Book"; a scrap book of our societies activities and accomplishments. It is the current history of the CCM&GS. Who would like to serve on the committee to put this book together for 2011? Contact me for more information.*
- *Mary Ann King is the Cab Cases - North representative. She takes and displays the CFMS cab cases to all shows that she attends. Most recently they were at our show. Did you see them?*





- *Earth Science Studies. The one week Camp Zyzzx is scheduled for April 1-7, 2012. The cost will be \$375 for room, meals and most class supplies. See me for more information and application forms.*
- *Education Through Sharing. Only 8 societies recognized one of their members with this honor this year. CCM&GS was one of the 8 societies. Come to our Holiday Party in December to learn who this honored person is.*
- *The Endowment Fund will again conduct a raffle for 2 one week sessions at Camp Paradise in September of 2012. I will have raffle tickets at our meetings next spring.*
- *Colleen McGann is the CFMS Representative to the AFMS Endowment Fund Committee. She is soliciting donations from CFMS artisans and members for raffle prizes. I will have raffle tickets for sale next spring. Drawing is held at the AFMS Show in July.*
- *The AFMS is supporting and promoting a series of commemorative US stamps with Birthstones, and is asking for support from the regional Federations and their clubs (us.)*
- *There were no nominations from the societies for CFMS Scholarship Honorees therefore no scholarships will be awarded for 2011. This is a great shame and a great loss to some deserving students.*
- *Museum Com.: Debbie Bunn has completed the inventory of the Federation's museum property – unique minerals, fossils, specimens, petrified wood and jewelry.*
- *I turned in a BIG bundle of stamps to Debbie Bunn who collects them for the Easter Seals Society in the name of CFMS. Thanks to all of you that saved and gave me stamps over the past year. Saving stamps has been an ongoing project of the Federation, which is a moneymaker for the Easter Seal Society. It is easy to help; just cut any and all stamps from your mail, put them in an envelope or zip lock bag and give them to me. I will turn them in at Federation meetings.*
- *The North Bay Field Trips (we are members) donated \$375.00 to each of the AFMS and CFMS Endowment Funds and Scholarship Funds.*
- *There will be only one CFMS scholarship awarded this year because only one society nominated an honoree. There are sufficient funds for more scholarships but they can only be given out by an honoree nominated by a CFMS society. The CCM&GS may nominate an honoree to recognize the service of one of our members to education.*

*If you are interested I have the complete meeting packet that has the agenda, minutes of the May 2011 meeting, committee reports, Treasurer's report and other Federation business. I will have it available at the next few Board meetings and general membership meetings.*

The joint meeting of PLAC committee and ALAA was held following the Directors' meeting on Saturday. The meeting was open to everyone who is interested in and uses our public lands. We had very good attendance. Over 30 people attended including 7 officers and directors of ALAA attended. The Field Rep for Congressman Devin Nunes of the 21<sup>st</sup> District (Visalia) talked about 3 bills currently before the House:

H.R.1581 Wilderness Study Area and Roadless Release Act of 2011

H.R.758 National Monument Designation Accountability and Transparency Act of 2011

H.R.1996 Government Litigation Savings Act of 2011.

These three Bills are of great interest to our members and great importance to how we conduct our activities and our hobby. Amy Granat gave information about a lawsuit that is being filed against the USFS concerning access and use by the elderly and disabled. This deals with road use and will affect all of us. This suit will affect how all Land Use Plans and Travel plans are developed and written for all USFS and BLM land.



**CONTRA COSTA MINERAL & GEM SOCIETY [www.ccmgs.org](http://www.ccmgs.org)**

**P0 Box 4667, Walnut Creek, CA 94596**

**General Meeting: Second Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. (Third Monday of the month in June)  
Centre Concord, 5298 Clayton Rd, Concord, (Clayton Fair Shopping Center, about 0.2 miles northwest on Clayton from Ygnacio Valley Road) Cross street Balhan Drive, next to Clayton Valley Bowl, free parking**

**Membership Fees: Initiation \$5; Regular Member \$10, Junior \$1**

**VISITORS ARE WELCOME! BRING A FRIEND!**

**Board and Committee Members 2011**

**Please do not publish this list, Editor**

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# December 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 Board Meeting	9	10
11	12 Holiday Party	13	14	15	16 Bead In	17
18	19 Nwsltr articles due	20	21	22	23	24
25 Christmas Day	26	27	28	29	30	31



Contra Costa  
Mineral & Gem Society

Member of American and California Federation of Mineralogical Societies

## First Class

**Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society**  
P.O. Box 4667, Walnut Creek,  
Ca 94596

The Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society was formed in 1950 to encourage the study of the lapidary arts, mineralogy and field collection.

Members meet the second Monday of each month (third Monday in June) at Centre Concord, 5298 Clayton Rd, Concord, Ca 94521 (Clayton Faire Shopping Center between Ygnacio Valley Rd and Balham Dr, next to Clayton Valley Bowl).

Visitors are welcome! Bring a friend!

Editor-Terry Caskey  
Send reports to [tcaskey@comcast.net](mailto:tcaskey@comcast.net)

Newsletter of the Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society  
[www.ccmgs.org](http://www.ccmgs.org)

## Diablo Diggins