



Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society Newsletter May 2020

Hi All,

"We live in strange times. We also live in strange places, each in a universe of our own." I've been reading Douglas Adams' The Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy and some of his following novels. They are great stories and take my mind off what's going on in our world. The quote above struck me as timely.

These days those of us who are fortunate are living in strange times and a universe of our own. The others are working ceaselessly to enable us to be healthy and cared-for while we're apart. I salute them all.

Again in May, we will not be able to meet together to enjoy companionship and a great program. It makes me sad, but if we really do care about one another, this is necessary. I want you all to stay healthy and by isolating ourselves, we increase the likelihood that when it is safer, we will all be there once again.

If you have a moment, take a look at my blog, www.LapidaryWhisperer.com if this comes out before I update it with a new one on May 5, you'll see my blog on opal. (shameless self-promotion).

I hope you're able to engage in your favorite rock-related activities. When we start regular meetings again I'm expecting to see the competitions for cabochons, faceting, and jewelry making to be pretty intense with everything we've been doing over the break.

Our November show is still up in the air. The board and I dearly hope we can make it happen, and we're taking steps to be prepared if it becomes possible. Like so many things these days, it's wait and see.

So enjoy your newsletter and think about better times coming. If you have any questions or comments for the board (we're still meeting – on Zoom), let me know.

Stay healthy,

Donna Albrecht



Club News



Another note from your editor...still looking for contributors!

I would love your input for the Newsletter. Would someone like to write a article about tumbling, or how they became a Rock Hound, what your favorite mineral is and why? If there is anything you'd like to share I'd be happy to hear it. Send it to me at koliver@astound.net

The Antioch Club Rock Sale
scheduled for May 9th has
been postponed.

Upcoming Meetings-
Board of Directors- on Zoom
Wednesday, May 6, 6:00pm.
Contact Donna Albrecht for
information

Is there a topic related to
minerals, gems, or geology
that you are interested in? Let
our librarian know and maybe
she can find a book for you in
the club library:

Caryl Taraldson, Librarian

Cancelled
General Meeting-
Monday, May 11
Cancelled

The Board of Directors meet via our first online Zoom video conference, due to the shelter in place restrictions. Thank you, Donna for organizing the Zoom online meeting to conduct CCM&GS business! Present: Donna Albrecht, Mario Mihalik, Mary Jernigan, Karen Oliver, Terry Caskey, Elizabeth Tanner and Kelly Plumb. The March BOD minutes were previously sent to BOD members for review. Secretary- Mary Jernigan moved to accept the minutes as presented. Terry Caskey seconded. Vote was taken and minutes approved as presented.

Membership- Mary Jernigan informed the BOD of the new membership application for Richard Dudley. Richard's interests include geology, mineralogy and carpentry. He also attended our March General Meeting on Flint Knapping. Property- Terry Caskey moved to accept Richard Dudley as our new CCM&GS member. Hospitality- Kelly Plumb seconded. Vote was taken and application accepted. Please welcome Richard as part of our CCM&GS Rockhound Family!

President- Donna Albrecht updated the BOD on the Club storage space. A second unit 5x10 feet, located upstairs, was rented in the same storage facility for \$98 month plus insurance. Keys will be given to Property- Terry Caskey and Show- Mike Hopkins. Items would be moved from the first locker unit including library books, videos and other Club property for easier access. 1st Vice President/Programs- Elizabeth Tanner asked if members might be interested in rock identification inquiries on the Club's Facebook page. Elizabeth and 2nd Vice President/Fieldtrips- Mario Mihalik discussed generating more interest by having members post their own specimen photos and content on our Facebook page.

Join our Club's Facebook page- Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society. In the future, other media resources may also be considered to generate interest in the Club. Due to "shelter in place" restrictions, April General Meeting program and fieldtrip are not planned.

Show/Publicity- Mike Hopkins (not present) may have future Show meeting setup as an online Zoom meeting. Show Committee/Vendors- Kelly Plumb has been requested to draft a "vendor interest" letter for the 2020 Annual Club Show. Kelly will be contacting Mike for more details. Kelly to inquire if about Centre Concord refunds our Show deposit if the Annual Show is cancelled. Due to the pending venue contract with Centre Concord, many of the Annual Show plans are also being reviewed. The City of Concord has implemented limitations on contract approvals for group gatherings and restrictions due to the current COVID-19 virus.

Hospitality- Kelly Plumb commented that the June Club Social may be postponed. More discussion for Club gatherings will be delayed for now. Donna informed the BOD that Cheryl Morgan had broken her foot just before the March General meeting, that is why Cheryl and Naomi weren't at the meeting. Secretary- Mary Jernigan inquired about the status for approval of the 2020 Club budget. President- Donna Albrecht moved to accept the 2020 budget as originally submitted at BOD 2/5 meeting with the understanding that changes may occur as needed. Terry Caskey seconded. A vote was taken, six approved, one abstained. Newsletter Editor- Karen Oliver will send out reminder for newsletter articles for April 20th.

Secretary/Membership- Mary Jernigan talked about concerns about our CCM&GS members during the challenging times of the COVID-19 virus. Mary requested the BOD to help contact and check in with our members. She will email to the BOD the current membership information and suggested inquiries. Mary can also email updated membership roster to members when requested. Thank you for keeping everyone connected! President- Donna Albrecht asked everyone to think about outreach and how to stay in contact with our members. What can we do to give back to our community?

2nd Vice President- Mario Mihalik suggested maybe having a online meeting with members sharing a photo or story about their favorite rocks. President- Donna Albrecht thanked all for joining the BOD online meeting. Next BOD online meeting to be on May 6th at 7pm. Secretary- Mary Jernigan moved to close the meeting. Editor- Karen Oliver seconded. All agreed.

Submitted by Mary Jernigan- Secretary



CCM&GS Members- Stay Safe & Stay Healthy!

Hello, Everyone-

We hope that you are all staying safe and healthy! Yes, the weeks have been strange and quite challenging during the COVID-19 virus. Our routines and lives have changed. Social Distancing and Shelter in Place are the daily focus to help keep us healthy.

Many of our Club members are staying connected through phone calls, online meetings with family and friends, virtual social hours or game nights. Others are occupied with film fests, projects, gardening or taking walks.. These are uncertain times for many of us. Remember to be patient with each other. Frontline Medical and Essential workers are out in the community, please keep them in your hearts.

We have been contacting our Club members to check in on you! What ideas do you have to keep our Rockhound Family more connected? One fun idea was to have members post a photo and story about their favorite rock or adventure. **Share a great memory with us!** Send an email or join our Facebook page - Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society.

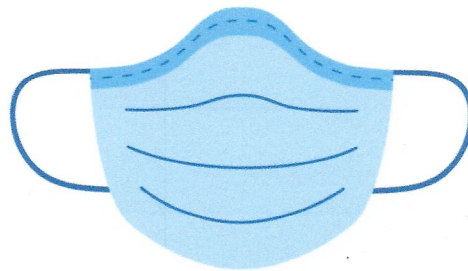
Let's catch up soon. Sending YOU Virtual Hugs-

Mary Jernigan-

CCM&GS Secretary/Membership

M10jernigan@yahoo.com

(925) 852-1133 cell#



Members News

May Birthdays-

Ann Matthews 5/4

Kelly Plumb 5/8

Joe Yarbrough 5/12

Patty Wintroath 5/13

Dick Pankey 5/19

Susan Manata 5/25

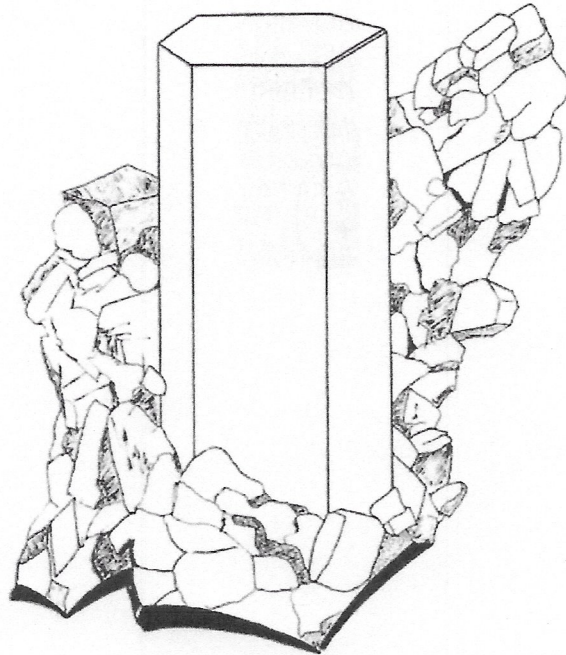
May Anniversaries-

Margaret & Don Henrich 5/31

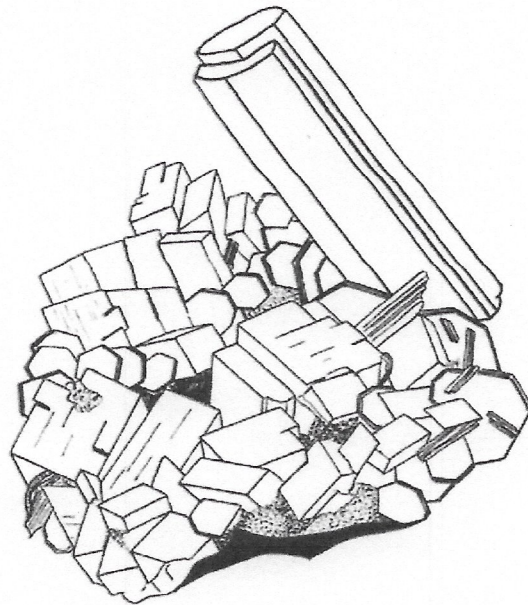


May's Birthstone for your doodling pleasure

E IS FOR EMERALD



Green Emerald Crystal on Calcite from Colombia.



A Double Emerald Crystal from North Carolina.

CCMGS 2020 Board Members:

2020 Elected Officers:

President:

Donna Albrecht
donna@lapidarywhisperer.com

1stVicePresident/Programs:

Elizabeth Tanner
eatanner2@yahoo.com

2ndVicePresident/Fieldtrips:

Mario Mihalik
Mario.Mihalik30@gmail.com

Secretary:

Mary Jernigan
(925) 852-1133
m10jernigan@yahoo.com

Treasurer:

Mary Hanjes
925-765-2741
mrhanjes@gmail.com

Federation Director:

Dick Pankey
(925) 439-7509
dickpankey@juno.com

2020 Appointed Officers:

Annual Show:

Mike Hopkins
mhopkins@ironhorsesdesign.net

Display:

Cheryl Morgan
cherylmorgan09@yahoo.com

Hospitality:

Kelly Plumb
(510) 693-9075
kellyplumb900@yahoo.com

Librarian:

Caryl Taraldson

Membership:

Mary Jernigan
(925) 852-1133
m10jernigan@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor:

Karen Oliver
koliver@astound.net

Past President:

Kelly Plumb
(510) 693-9075
kellyplumb900@yahoo.com

Property:

Terry Caskey

Publicity:

Mike Hopkins
mhopkins@ironhorsesdesign.net

Refreshments:

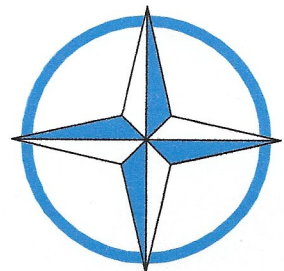
Vikki Hotopp
(925) 566-8588

Sargent of Arms:

Naomi Morgan

Web Master:

Johanna Fenton
johfenton@yahoo.com



Diablo Diggins
Newsletter of the
Contra Costa Mineral
and Gem Society



Like us on Facebook!
CCMGS

Website:
[www.contracostamineraland
gemsociety.org](http://www.contracostamineraland
gemsociety.org)

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

General meeting on the 2nd Monday of each
month at Centre Concord, 5298 Clayton Road,
Concord, CA 94521 (Clayton Fair Shopping Center
between Ygnacio Valley Road and Balhan Drive
next to Clayton Valley Bowl.

CCMGS
P.O.Box 842
Concord, CA 94522-0842

FIRST CLASS
Member of the American and California
Federation of Mineralogical Societies