



Diablo Diggins

Newsletter of the Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society

August 2021

President Donna Albrecht's Message

Hi All,

I hope you're staying cool during these dog days of summer. Before we know it, the weather will cool, the trees will be transitioning to the colorful days of fall, and the rock show season will get underway!

After our break in 2020, our show plans and energy are gathering speed. Our show enables us to share our hobby with the community, educate everyone from children to seniors, and show off our skills! It also enables us to raise the funds we need to fund our educational efforts, including our monthly meetings. (Did you know the City of Concord charges us \$297 per month for our meeting room?)

I'm grateful that Mike Hopkins (mhopkins@ironhorsesdesign.net) is our show chair again. He did a fabulous job in 2019 and had done a lot of preparation for 2020 when Covid-19 restrictions shut us down. He will be presenting a program this month to help us learn about creating the display cases that are a big part of the show. Whether you are a first-timer at this or an experienced veteran, you are sure to get some basic information as well as fresh ideas to add interest and pizzazz!

As I'm writing this, Contra Costa is experiencing a resurgence of virus cases. If you, like me, are cautious in protecting yourself and others, know that masks are more than welcome at our meetings. In fact, I'll be wearing one. If the number of cases continues to rise, masks may be mandated for indoor meetings by our August 9 meeting. Please stay aware of updates from the City of Concord and/or Contra Costa County.

For our September meeting, we will return to our annual auction!

As things return to normal, it's a good time for fresh thoughts and ideas, even in a group that focuses on really old rocks. Please consider how you can best be an active member for 2022. We'll have officer openings and I hope you will consider stepping up. After nearly three years as president and program chair, I need a break to refresh my energy for the hobby I love. I know you understand. So I'm counting on everyone to consider how they can best help us move forward.

See you at the NEW TIME 7 pm, August 9!

August General Meeting Program Recap

Our first meeting in person since COVID was a nice social gathering, no business was conducted.



Rock Identification



Cheryl helping with the contest



Donna's Geode Cake

New Officers need to be nominated by September 2021 for October 2021 election

President (Donna is stepping down but willing to mentor)

1st Vice President and Program

2nd Vice President and Field Trips

Secretary

Treasurer

Federation Director

Other positions that need to be filled to continue a smooth running club:

Historian

Newsletter Editor

Public Lands Advisory

Refreshments for General Meetings

A Nominating Committee was formed of Karen Oliver; Dick Pankey; and Carol Taraldson and is welcoming any interested members. Contact Karen at Cockroach1454@gmail.com

If you are willing to continue in your position please advise us.

Upcoming Meetings-

Board of Directors- Saturday August 7th, 3pm at the Caskey's

General Meetings- 2nd Monday of the month, Centre Concord

Refreshments for August 9th General Meeting @ 7pm:

Gary Casillas
Richard Dennis
Richard Dudley
Primo Facchini
Michael Fedoroff
Alan Felker
Johanna Fenton

August Birthday and Anniversary

August 18th is Vikki Hotopp's birthday AND Donna Albrecht's anniversary!

CCM&GS T-Shirts- Where is yours? Club shirts are available in limited adult sizes. Cost \$15- \$17 plus postage. Contact our designer - Bob Rigor rrrigor@aol.com

Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society Board Meeting June 9, 2021

Called to order: 7:06pm

In attendance: Donna Albrecht, Terry Caskey, Vikki Hotopp, Taylor Thompson, Mike Hopkins, Karen Oliver, Dick Pankey

Mike H. – Show Cost/Possible restrictions:

Cost of renting Centre Concord up \$2,700 from 2019. Pass on some of this expense to dealers? \$120 per dealer? \$50 advertising fee added to contract?

One half of contacted vendors replied positively. No contracts or deposits taken yet. There is always a waiting list of vendors.

Restrictions still unknown for limits on space/people

Mike H. will have hours on rental contract modified.

Donna A. moves to have Mike H. sign the contract with Centre Concord for rental for the 2021 show and send a deposit. Dick P. 2nd. Passed unanimously

Terry C. and Mike H. will meet at the bank with Vikki to be added to bank account. Mike will get deposit check for Centre Concord then.

Centre Concord monthly rental fee increased for membership meetings to \$346.50 a month. We are adjusting the meeting hours which means adjusting rental hours to 6:30 – 9:30pm. Mike H. will inform Centre Concord of this change.

Karen O. moved to have Mike sign the yearly rental contract for Centre Concord monthly meetings. Taylor Thompson 2nd. Passed unanimously.

Donna A. – Club News

Nominating Committee needs to get started.

Nancy Hopkins (Mike's sister) has applied to become a member. She was a big help at the 2019 show working about 20 hours. She was unanimously approved for membership.

Johanna was contacted through the website with a estate donation of slab clocks, serpentine dishes and a \$200 donation. Donna will bring some items to September (?) meeting, and some will be used as door prizes at the show. Donna already sent a Thank You note.

April Board Meeting Minutes moved for approval by Terry C. Donna A. 2nd. Unanimously approved

Vikki Hotopp – Treasurer Report

Audit by Cheryl Morgan and Diana Skibieli – 2020 books are incomplete and incorrect. Auditors believe the club should purchase a Quick Books program for \$400.

Discussion regarding Quick Books – Will it be transferable to next treasurer? Are there recurring fees? Can you send a readable report to President? (cont.)

Vikki H. moved to have the club purchase Quick Books for \$399 with the ability to transfer to next treasurer. Mike H. 2nd. 5 in favor 2 abstain

Taylor T. Membership Membership Cards will go out next week

Terry Caskey In person Membership meeting for July 12, 2021

Publicity on Facebook and email?

Program or social event? Game? Activity? Refreshments? Pot luck desserts?

Agenda? Discuss Black Diamond Mine trip?

Mike H. More Show business

Mike H. and Donna A. will research the state permit to hold the raffle at the show.

Mike H. will double check show insurance is due Oct. 15th

We will not be hanging a show sign on the Lafayette overpass

100 postcards are ready to go. Anyone visiting another show is welcome to take some for distribution. Usually mailed in September need 36 cent stamps for mailing

Advertise on Claycord, Next Door, and other Club's websites

Dick P. will be attending the Federation Zoom meeting on June 26th.

Donna A – There will not be an Antioch Show this year.

Next Board meeting in August, Nominating Committee should have a slate.

Move to adjourn Karen O. Taylor T. 2nd. Passed unanimously 8:13 pm.

%%%%%%%%%

Dues are Due!

CCM&GS Membership year –
Adults \$20,
Juniors \$10 (until 18yrs old) effective for membership year.

Please send Membership renewal checks payable to:

Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society
PO. Box 842
Concord, CA 94522-0842

2021 CCMGS SHOW NEWS



MINERAL & GEM SHOW & SALE

Saturday & Sunday
Nov. 6-7
10 AM - 5 PM

\$1 OFF
with this card

Admission \$6
Under 16 FREE with adult.
Scouts in Uniform FREE
Military & First Responders
FREE with ID

Centre Concord
5298 Clayton Rd., Concord
behind In-Shape Fitness
next to Clayton Valley Bowl

WE DIG ROCKS

Gems • Jewelry • Minerals
Fossils • Meteorites
Flourescent Room
Beads • Findings
Tools • Equipment
Demonstrations • Displays
Kids Activities
Door Prizes • Raffle • Auction
Snacks • Food • Drinks

A CALL FOR THE SHOW PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Anyone can act on this committee; we need 3 to 4 club members to act as LEADS and some additional members to help each of them on smaller tasks.

Show Chair: Mike Hopkins

Assistant show chair:

Layout, work with each LEAD:

LEADS:

Advertising and promotion-Mike Hopkins, unless someone wants t take this on

Venders and demonstrators

Auction / Raffle

Cases

Food service

Organizing volunteers to work the show, Set-up and tear-down

Other stuff: Badges, signs, banners

Please contact me if interested in helping to plan the 2021 show.

Michael Hopkins - mhopkins@ironhorsesdesign.net

(925) 570 – 4179

SHOW EXHIBITORS WANTED!

Good news! Our 2021 show is happening! I have already received numerous responses from our dealers who are anxious to come to what many of them describe as their best show.

Demonstrators are also being lined up so guess who else is needed? Everyone! No matter what you like to do at the show there is a place for you during set up, tear down or during the show.

What I need right now are exhibitors! One of the things that makes our show so unique and entertaining is the sheer number and variety of the displays that YOU the members, put together each year to showcase the numerous facets of our hobby. In past years I have seen displays of gem and mineral types such as Smokey Quartz, Cinnabar, Jade and Sand. There have been displays of rocks that were carved, cabbed, painted, or made into pictures (intarsia.) There has been jewelry from wire wrap, to fabricated, to beaded and more.

Whatever your favorite thing is, please offer to show it off! So often for past shows I have had people say "I don't think I am good enough" or "I don't know how to display." Well there are people ready to show you how to display and I have never seen a person who was reluctant to put out a case, but went ahead anyway, that was not glad they did.

I will have Exhibitor applications at the August meeting and all meetings through October. The application will also be in the newsletters through October. I am asking each exhibitor to fill one out for each case displayed. Please return them to me by October 12th. The club has 43 cases available to loan to exhibitors. Dimensions are on the application form. If you have your own case and would prefer to use it there is a space to indicate that and give the dimensions of your case.

We are looking forward to seeing just how creative you can be! See you at the show!

Kelly Plumb



Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society
Annual Show November 6 & 7, 2021
Centre Concord, Concord, CA

Exhibitor Application
(one application per case)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

EXHIBIT DESCRIPTION: _____

Do you have your own case? _____ Size: Width _____ Height _____ Depth _____

I need to borrow a Club Case: _____

We have a limited number of cases to loan, on a first come basis. The club does not provide liners or risers. Club cases inside dimensions are 46-1/4" x 22-3/4" x 22-1/4". The case sides and back are a finished light-colored wood. Two 100-watt floods illuminate from the top. **NO TAPE, STAPLES, TACKS, DRILL HOLES, OR OTHER ALTERATIONS ARE TO BE MADE TO THE CASE OR LIGHTING**

We request you include your name and your society's name in your case to let our guests know who you are and where you are from. Also, we encourage that you have a title page or include a card noting special features about your case.

EXHIBITOR'S SIGNATURE: _____.

Please complete all information on the entry form and return to the Exhibit Chairmen for acceptance and acknowledgement. Return to: **Kelly Plumb 900 Hawthorne Dr, Rodeo, CA 94572** or scan and send to kellyplumb900@yahoo.com or snap a picture and text to (510) 693-9075. If your entry is not acknowledged within 14 days, please contact the Exhibit Chairmen. Case set-up after 2:00PM on Friday November 5th. All cases must be set up by 8:00 PM on Friday or by special arrangement with the Exhibit Chair. Cases may not be removed prior to the close of the show Sunday. All cases must be removed at the close of the show at 5:00PM, on Sunday.

For additional information, please contact **Kelly Plumb 900 Hawthorne Dr, Rodeo, CA 94572** or kellyplumb900@yahoo.com.

We are hosting a Silver Pick Field Trip, *again!*

We have started getting ready for our Third Silver Pick Field; washing the crates of rocks, getting the flats of rocks sorted. We will be selling rough rocks by the crate, by the flat and by the piece; slabs by the piece and by the flat; minerals and specimens by the flat and by the piece; and garden rocks by the piece. In addition to rocks and minerals there are: tumblers, a 20" rock saw, vibrating lap, miscellaneous equipment, tools, supplies, grit & polish, books, posters, findings, magazines, T-Shirts, and much, much, more. Betty has excess stained glass equipment and scrap glass sorted and ready to sell for sale on Friday morning, Aug. 6.

We will host this Silver Pick Field Trip on Friday, Saturday, Sunday (each weekend), Aug. 6th to 14th; 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM and Monday thru Thursday by appointment, at our home in Pittsburg, CA. Directions: 4310 Kingsly Dr., Pittsburg, CA 94565 In Pittsburg take Buchanan Rd. to Suzanne (stoplight) turn south and follow signs with orange paper plates. Go south about 1/2 mile and turn right on to Kingsly Dr. Drive up the hill to 4310 Kingsly Dr.

Bring your pick-up truck and your "Silver Pick" and join us in August for two weekends of Rockhound fun. For more information contact me at dickpankey@juno.com or 925-439-7509, and to let me know you are coming and who might come with you.

Looking forward to seeing you in August

Dick and Betty Pankey



2021 Elected Officers:

President:

Donna Albrecht

donna@lapidarywhisperer.com

1stVicePresident/Programs:

Vacant

2ndVicePresident/Fieldtrips:

Kelly Plumb

510 693 9075

Secretary:

Karen Oliver

925 876 3247

Cockroach1454@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Vikki Hotopp

hotoppvikki@gmail.com

Federation Director:

Dick Pankey

(925) 439-7509

dickpankey@juno.com

2021 Appointed Officers:

Annual Show Chair

Mike Hopkins

mhopkins@ironhorsesdesign.net

Display

Cheryl Morgan

Cherylmorgan09@yahoo.com

Hospitality

Kelly Plumb

kellyplumb900@yahoo.com

Librarian

Caryl Taraldson

lynn@taraldson.net

Membership

Taylor Thompson

925 808 5168

DreamBug1157@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor

Karen Oliver

925 876 3247

Cockroach1454@gmail.com

Property

Terry Caskey

tcaskey@comcast.net

Publicity

Mike Hopkins

Refreshments

Sargent at Arms

Naomi Morgan

Webmaster

Johanna Fenton

johfenton@yahoo.com

Diablo Diggins

Newsletter of the Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society

Like us on Facebook!

Contra Costa Gem and Mineral Society

Website:

www.contracostamineralandgemsociety.org

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

General meeting on the 2nd Monday of each month on Zoom, stay connected for updates.

CCMGS

P.O. Box 842

Concord, CA 94522-0842

FIRST CLASS

Member of the American and California Federation of Mineralogical Societies