

Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society Newsletter August 2020

Letter FROM the Editor

Hello,

Our Club president, Donna Albrecht, had an accident just prior to our scheduled Zoom meeting on August 10th, so the meeting was abruptly cancelled. Donna is healing up at home. Drop her a line on email if you like: donna@albrechts.com.

The Board has been working diligently to set up a Zoom General Meeting so we can be together virtually. Other clubs have been successful with this technology. If you've never "Zoomed" it's nothing to be intimidated by. It's easy, it's kind of silly, and it does allow you to visit with friends while being safe. Since quarantine I've been "Zooming" with several different groups and committees and it is nice to actually see people. If you need help please reach out, there are several folks who are more than willing to help you learn to use the app. (If I can do it, anyone can.) Also, if YOU have an idea for a Zoom General Meeting the Board would be happy to have your input!

I apologize that the newsletter is a little late this month, collecting input and an email account crash both helped cause the delay.

In this month's issue you'll learn about one of Mary J's favorite fossils, find places to visit from your couch and an activity to do with Oreo cookies. I hope you enjoy!

Thank you,
Karen Oliver
Editor
Cockroach1454@gmail.com



Orthoceras have been my latest fossils interest! Distant cousin to the squid?

Orthoceras is a species of nautiloids with “straight horn” shells. These ancient marine cephalopods swam and used jet propulsion to quickly move along the ocean floor. Orthoceras were related to modern squid, lived inside its’ shell and used tentacles to hunt for prey. When the shell chambers became too small, a new septa or dividing wall grew. The siphuncle tube connected through all the chambers down the entire length of the shell. Orthoceras could take in water, fill the siphuncle and force water out for jet propulsion. Shell chambers were filled or emptied to create buoyancy adapting to various ocean depths.

Orthoceras fossils have been discovered in size from one inch to several feet in length. Orthoceras fossilized shells made of carbonate (aragonite) are often found in dark black limestone matrix. There are many site locations including Morocco, Scandinavia and the United States. Orthoceras existed during early Ordovician Period to Triassic Period Ages (500 million years ago to 190 mya). Check out the attached photos & links for more about Orthoceras.

Submitted by Mary Jernigan

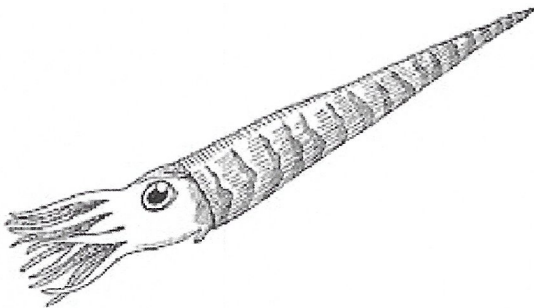
The Story of the World’s Favorite Fossil- SciShow

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a7fymvFQ0CQ>

Fossil Treasures at risk in Morocco dessert Town – AFP News Agency

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z6K01EY6IJI>

<https://www.fossils-facts-and-finds.com/orthoceras.html>



Board of Directors Meeting- July 8, 2020 7:02pm- 8:20pm

The Board of Directors meeting took place as a Zoom platform meeting due to shelter in place restrictions. In attendance: Donna Albrecht, Elizabeth Tanner, Mary Jernigan, Mary Hanjes, Karen Oliver, Caryl Taraldson, Mike Hopkins and Terry Caskey. The June BOD minutes were reviewed. Secretary- Mary Jernigan moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Property- Terry Caskey seconded. Vote was taken and minutes approved. Nominating Committee is needed to contact Club members for potential slate of 2021 Board of Directors Officers. President- Donna Albrecht moved to post-pone the Nominating Committee. Karen Oliver seconded. During BOD discussion, Mary Jernigan and Caryl Taraldson volunteered to be on the nominating committee. Donna appointed Mary and Caryl to the committee.

Secretary- Mary Jernigan received the Centre Concord refund check for \$327, one month CCM&GS room rental. The June meeting room rental was refunded due to Covid-19 restrictions with the Centre unavailable. President- Donna Albrecht will contact Centre Concord for updates on monthly room availability. Property- Terry Caskey reported that everything looked okay at the storage lockers with Club property. The Club Trailer is at the Martinez storage. Show- Mike Hopkins has additional items to take to the Concord storage. Mike will also be moving items to be more accessible including the Club library books and videos. Additional help was offered, but not needed at this time. Mike will coordinate storage access for Librarian- Caryl Taraldson. Three sets of keys have been assigned. Donna may have additional items to place in storage. She received a message regarding possible donations to the Club.

1st Vice President/Programs- Elizabeth Tanner discussed plans to create a power-point presentation for a Zoom CCM&GS General meeting. Elizabeth wants to work with Club members for submissions "My Favorite Rock" photos, descriptions and "live" captions with members. She will contact 2nd Vice President/Fieldtrips- Mario Mihalik to share submissions that he is using for the Club Facebook page. She plans to have a practice run for the BOD by the end of July. Elizabeth will put together instructions on how to connect to Zoom meetings. Thank you, Elizabeth! Treasurer- Mary Hanjes has not yet met with member Vikki Hoptopp to review information as Treasurer. Mary H. plans to move before the end of the year. Editor- Karen Oliver is requesting articles submitted to her by the 25th of the month for Diggins Newsletter.

Secretary/Membership- Mary Jernigan had emailed the BOD with a recap of observations and photos she had taken at the Roseville Rock Rollers Show on July 4th. Roseville was one of the few club shows in our area that had not been cancelled due to restrictions of the Corona-virus! Mary J. and Karen O. made a roadtrip to visit the Roseville show. Safety precautions for the Corona-virus were followed at the new expansive venue, which provided space for extensive social distancing. We also saw a few of our usual Show vendors. Face masks were required and worn by everyone. Several club activities were cancelled if close contact was required. Clear dividers were created for limited contact in areas including admissions and raffle. Venue parking was \$10 per car.

The BOD had in depth discussions about HOW we could continue with our 2020 Annual Show. Show- Mike Hopkins had drafted a revised layout for setup of vendors, displays and activities. Multiple concerns were reviewed including health safety/compliance, CCM&GS Membership volunteers, Centre Concord questionable availability with ongoing City/County restrictions. President- Donna Albrecht moved to cancel the 2020 CCM&GS Annual Show in November. Karen Oliver seconded. After more discussion, a vote was taken. Majority voted to cancel 2020 Show. Donna will contact the Centre Concord regarding our decision to cancel. Centre Concord has not been able to provide CCM&GS a 2020 Show contract due to ongoing City/County restrictions. Donna will request our November 2021 Show weekend dates reserved. Show-Mike Hopkins and Property-Terry Caskey will discuss notifying our vendors with Kelly Plumb (not present).

President- Donna Albrecht recommended redirecting our focus on creative Online presence and programs for our membership involvement. Mike Hopkins is looking into offering possible online teaching for schools. He is talking with a friend who is a science teacher. Our Club members' online involvement is requested. Please email your photos and favorite rock stories to 2nd Vice President/Fieldtrips- Mario Mihalik for the Club's Facebook page. Editor- Karen Oliver is looking for your creative articles for the Diggins Newsletter. These submissions will be a great way to generate interest in our hobby and the CCM&GS Club. Next BOD meeting August 5th. Mary Jernigan moved to adjourn meeting. Karen Oliver seconded. Meeting adjourned.

-Submitted by Secretary/Membership- Mary Jernigan



Local Places to Visit on Your Computer

Bay Nature: What, and where are the oldest rocks in the Bay Area?

<https://baynature.org/article/what-and-where-are-the-oldest-rocks-in-the-bay-area/#.XyxQik9aIN4.email>

East Bay Parks District: Virtual Reality Experience; Field Studies: and Nature Activities (many on Geology)

www.ebparks.org

Mt. Diablo Interpretive Society – www.mdia.org

Look in the Geology tab under “nature”

“Trail through Time” information

Places to see rocks – www.geologictrips.com

Check out “San Francisco” and/or “Sierra Nevada”



Cookie Plate Tectonics

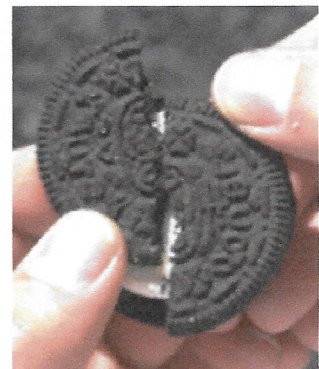
Our dynamic planet is constantly moving and changing shape throughout geologic time. In this fun and delicious activity, we'll use a cream filled cookie to demonstrate **plate tectonics!** The Earth's **crust** is hard and broken up into pieces or "plates." The process of those rigid plates moving around on top of a squishy, flowing **mantle** is called **plate tectonics**. Let's use a scientific model to see the different ways plates can move around and interact!

You Need

-A cream filled cookie (such as an Oreo or Newman-O's)
"Double Stuff" varieties make for a great mantel.

Directions

- 1) Prepare your Earth - Take your cookie and twist off one half but don't eat the filling! In this scientific model, the filling represents the hot **mantel** while the top cookie represents the **crust**. Gently break your crust cookie in half and place it back on top of the mantel.
- 2) Make a **Divergent Plate Boundary** – New crust forms when plates move away from each other. This reveals hot melted lava that rises and cools to form new rock. Press down on your cookie plates and slide them apart.
- 3) Make a **Convergent Plate Boundary** – When plates collide, mountains are formed. Can you make a mountain range by sliding your cookies towards each other so one goes under the other?
- 4) Make a **Transform Boundary** – Plates can slide past one another but it's never smooth. Move your plates past one another but let them stick and let go. Each time they crack it's like an earthquake along the San Andreas Fault!



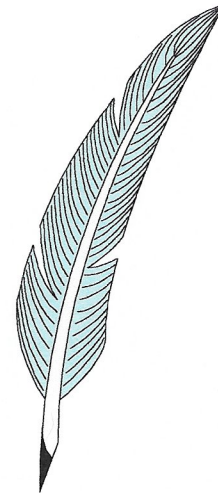
Club & Members News & Notes

August Birthdays-

Vikki Hotopp 8/16

August Anniversaries-

Donna Albrecht 8/16



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

Upcoming Meetings-

Board of Directors- on Zoom Wednesday, Sept. 9,
7:00pm. Contact Donna Albrecht for information

Cancelled

General Meeting-

Monday, September 14

Cancelled

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
Cockroach1454@gmail.com

Past President:

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

Property:

Terry Caskey

Publicity:

Mike Hopkins
mhopkins@ironhorsesdesign.net

Refreshments:

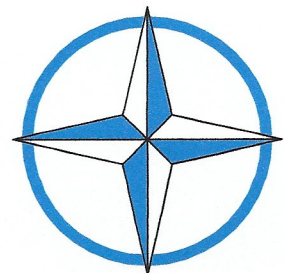
Vikki Hotopp
(925) 566-8588

Sargent of Arms:

Naomi Morgan

Web Master:

Johanna Fenton
johfenton@yahoo.com



Diablo Diggins
Newsletter of the
Contra Costa Mineral
and Gem Society



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 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).

Like us on Facebook!
Contra Costa Gem and
Mineral Society

Website:

www.contracostamineralandgemociety.org

CCMGS

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FIRST CLASS

Member of the American and California
Federation of Mineralogical Societies