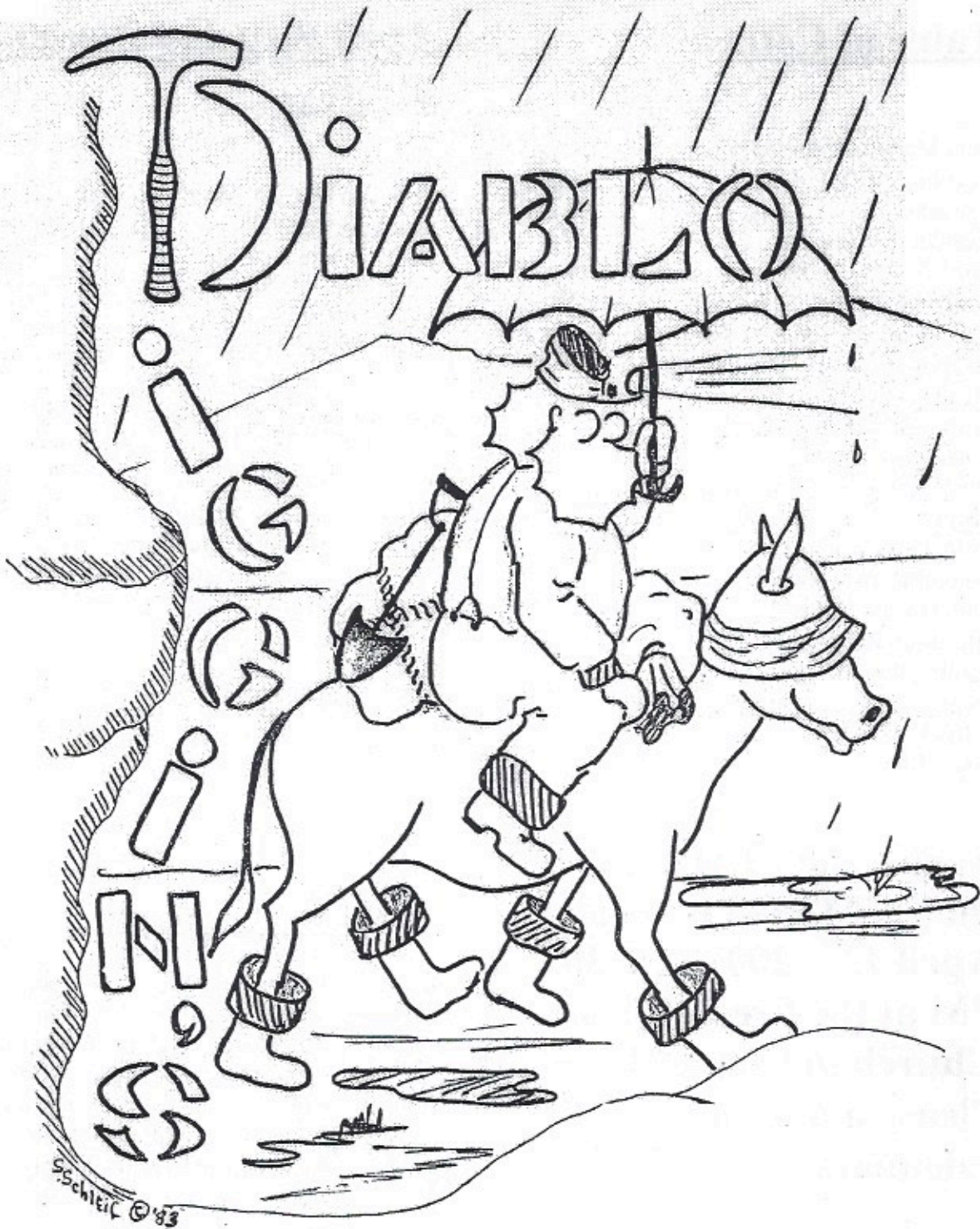


*Contra Costa*  
*Mineral & Gem Society*  
Contra Costa County, California



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**Next General Meeting of the CCM&GS is: Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at 7:30 PM at the Presbyterian Church in Concord. Please mark your calendars.**



## April Board of Directors Meeting

The April B.O.D. Meeting will be held on Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at Mary Hick's home in Antioch.

**Mary Hicks**, President

## Refreshments

We ask the following members to please bring a treat to share during our social period at the **April** General Meeting.

Dan Howlett  
 Glen Hubbard  
 Jim & Teresa Hurd  
 The Jernigans  
 Peggy Kardinal  
 Alan & Joanne Kilpatrick  
 Mary Ann King  
 Dave & Kim Kleesattel

## President's Message

It was great to see so many enthusiastic Mineral & Gem fans at the March General Meeting. The energy level in the room was inspiring. It was very nice to have visitors from our neighboring club, the Antioch Club present, and it was thoughtful for their President **Rich Vukad** to bring and present pieces of Antioch Petrified Wood for our club members who demonstrated at their show. Members recognized by the Antioch Club are **Brownie Cameron, Al Scleif, Barrie Bieler, and Betty Pankey**. I attended the show and enjoyed it immensely. Thank you to Member **Kelly Plumb** for reminding our members about

the Antioch show at the February meeting. I also demonstrated with Member **Ophelia Hicks** at the Castro Valley Club Show.

Recently, I went with Ecology Chair **Sharon Neuhauser** to the Salinas Club's show in Spreckels. It was a fun show with all the expected activities such as the Wheel of Fortune, Silent Auction, Door Prizes, Displays and Vendors. I plan to attend the Vallejo club show with my parents, Members **Marlow and Ophelia Hicks**. Teaming up with other club members to go to shows, field trips or classes is fun and also is kind to the environment.

I have been busy getting prepared to lead a class in a few weeks on the Double X Chinese Knot. I want to encourage other club members to develop a class to lead, even if for a few individuals per session. If you need help developing an idea and a class, contact either Education Chair **Joanne Caskey** or Assistant **Rana Miller-Owen** for assistance. The club classes are an important way to share knowledge and to get to know each other a little better. No one has too many rock friends.

If there is a Committee you are interested in, let the Chair person know so you can start getting involved. The Club is kept strong by people rotating through different positions. Spreading the knowledge of how the club functions provides our club with the people resources to continue functioning into the future, and when a new person takes on a job they often bring different ideas and a renewed energy level to help invigorate the group. Currently, Publicity Chair **Mary Jernigan** is developing a brochure about the club that can be handed out to prospective members and others; introducing the who, what, where, when, and why of our organization. If you are interested in

helping in this task, please contact **Mary Jernigan**.

I want to thank Vice President **Harry Nichandros** for putting together the wonderful program highlighting Antioch Club Member **Eileen Bowers'** presentation on Opals at the March meeting. The personal journey she took to become a successful opal collector was interesting and the samples we were privileged to see close hand where down right gorgeous. Thank you to members who brought in opal specimens and jewelry. A special thanks to Member **Glen MacKenzie** who sent his delicate wire wrapped opal jewelry to the meeting despite his absence which was due to poor health. Hope to see you back soon **Glen**.

Be safe rocking out and I look forward to seeing you at the April 13<sup>th</sup> meeting and learning about vesuvianite and mining the Klamath from Member **Ken Whitlatch**.

Mary Hicks, President

## March Board of Directors Meeting Notes

The BOD meeting was held at **Mary Hicks'** residence. The meeting started at 7:15 pm. Present: **Joanne Caskey, Kim & David Kleesattel, Sam & Hazel Woolsey, Mary Hicks, Mary Jernigan, Harry Nichandros, Therese Clark, Rana Owen, and Luree Heese, Dick Pankey, Sharon Neuhauser, and Joe Yarbrough.**

President **Mary Hicks** started the meeting by handing out copies of the meeting agenda. Mary reminded us that having "Fun" is a big component of what we do.

Mary then requested any Old or New Business items that need to be added to the agenda.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and Program Chair **Harry Nichandros** reported that member the program this month would be on Opals, and encouraged members to bring in specimens if that have them, or to wear opal jewelry.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, **Dennis Freiburger** was unable to attend the meeting, but provided the following: The CCM&GS field trip for May 19 to Sibley Volcanic preserve is being promoted within the club and will soon be announced to the North Bay Field trip Group and to the CO-OP. Dick Pankey presented some recent updates on upcoming field trips to Echo Mountain, Davis Creek, and Cedarville. Read the Newsletter for Field Trip Announcements and details.

Treasurer, **Connie Klein** was unable to attend the meeting. No financial report was presented

Membership Chair **Kim Kleesattel** presented Membership Applications for: **Cathie Cline Sheldon and Hans W. Sheldon**. The membership into the CCM&GS was approved unanimously for each of these new members.

Federation Director, **Dick Pankey**. The CFMS show is in Lancaster CA this year on 14-17 June. Dick also reminded us that the clubs should participate more in the CFMS programs such as nominations for CFMS officers, scholarships, and submitting a "All American Book" about our club's activities.

Ecology, **Sharon Neuhauser**. Sharon is keeping informed of issues relating to ecology. There was no new information to present.

Hospitality, **Therese Clark**. Please forward any Hospitality information to Therese.

Publicity, **Mary Jernigan** is still looking for new avenues to make our club activities available to the public, and will look into the Chamber of Commerce for opportunities. We discussed preparing a pamphlet to describe our club that could be distributed at various shows and other community functions.

**Sam Woolsey** is the Property Chair and the Show Chair for 2007. Show meetings will begin later this year. Sam has made up the smaller 4 x 5 Show Flyers and they are available for distribution. Please see Sam to get flyers. We have inventoried the old equipment we have been storing and are currently exploring ways to dispose of unwanted equipment.

**Joe Yarbrough** is the Display Chair. Joe says that about 60% of the attending members are voting on contest entries and would like to see that increase. So please support you fellow club members and vote on the monthly contest entries.

Historian **Hazel Woolsey** was present, but had no news to announce regarding the club's history. If you have anything of interest regarding the club's history, please contact Hazel.

Secretary and Past President **Dave Kleesattel** was present, but had no news to report. Received correspondence was distributed as appropriate.

Education, Arts & Crafts Chair **Joanne Caskey** and assistant **Rana Owen** presented education classes updates. Please read the news letter for scheduled classes. Upcoming classes include gem carving with Dick Feisen, slate carving, beading, and fish

fossil preparation. Rana announced that she plans to start a beading group that will probably meet monthly. More details to follow.

Editor **Luree Heese** reminded everybody that the deadline for submitted newsletter information is the 19<sup>th</sup> of each month. When submitting electronic information, please use 12 pt. Times New Roman font, and please don't use indentations or special formatting.

New Business: This month, **Dave Kleesattel** distributed the "Diablo Diggins" newsletter via email to the Board of Directors as a test to see if it would be appropriate to use this delivery method in the future to the club members that prefer that. After some discussion, it was decided that because of certain security and privacy concerns, we would not offer email newsletters at this time.

The next BOD meeting will be held on Saturday April 7. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm. Refreshments were provided by **Mary Hicks**, and enjoyed by all. Thank you Mary for the goodies and hospitality.

## March 9<sup>th</sup> General Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President **Mary Hicks** at 7:35 pm. The pledge of allegiance was lead by **Marlow "Hawkeye" Hicks**. Birthdays and Anniversaries were announced by Hospitality Chair **Therese Clark**. There were six guests visiting. We were happy to see **Louise Gilley** back at the meeting after some surgery late last year.

Publicity Chair **Mary Jernigan** is putting together a CCM&GS Brochure or Pamphlet and would like some volunteers to help. The pamphlets will be used to advertise our club activities at shows and educational event. If you would like to help, please see **Mary Jernigan**.

Rich Vulcad, the President of the Antioch Lapidary club presented Recognition Awards to **Al Schleif**, **Barrie Bieler**, and **Brownie Cameron** for being demonstrators at the recent Antioch Club's show. The awards were very nice pieces of engraved Antioch Petrified Wood.

Second Vice President and Field Trip Chair **Dennis Freiburger** reminded us that there at least 20 field trips and Gem & Mineral shows between now and September, so please check the newsletter information. Also, you must contact Dennis for specific information about the field trips (like where & when to meet – you can't just show up to the field trips). CCM&GS members are insured through the club. Dennis also recommended classes at the Mt. Diablo Adult Education Center.

Membership Chair **Kim Kleesattel** announced two new members, **Cathie & Hans Sheldon**. The membership rosters were sent with last month's newsletter. Please check your contact information and let Kim know if there are any changes or corrections. Kim also has Diablo Dan Pins and Patches for purchase.

Display Chair **Joe Yarbrough** introduced the Items of Interest brought in for display this month. There were two large "mystery" rocks brought in for identification. **Bonnie Eichler** brought in some rocks (yellow jasper and other rocks) that she collected at Stoney Ford. **Joe Yarbrough** displayed some selenite crystals he collected in Walnut

Creek. Joe also brought in examples of Burro Creek purple Agate (from rough to cut and polished). **Ophelia Hicks** displayed some examples of copper enameling. And the beading class displayed the necklaces they made at their last class. We had 3 Novice Cabs, 4 Pro Cabs, 1 facet, and 3 Shape of the Month Cabs to vote on.

**Rana Owen**, Assistant Education Chair, announced this month's class (to be held on March 24). Rana also announced the formation of a monthly Ad Hoc Beading Workshop. Please see Rana about more details.

Member and "Sergeant of Arms" **Sherb Brown** collected 25¢ from those members who forgot to wear their name badges. From all of the "clinking" sounds coming from Sherb's "Cup-of-Shame", we could do better about wearing our name badges.

Program Chair **Harry Nichandros** introduced Ms. Eileen Walters and Mr. Jim Taylor to talk about their trips to the opal mines in northern Nevada (near Denio, Nevada). The title of their talk was "The Lure of the Queen's Gem". Eileen and Jim have traveled many times to the Nevada and Oregon border in search of precious opal. A majority of their mining has been in the fee-mining area of Rainbow Ridge Mine, but they have also done some collecting in the BLM land near the fee-dig mines.

Eileen and Jim brought in many of the beautiful opals they have found. Some of them were absolutely stunning...all colors, all types. Eileen and Jim shared many of their experiences and gave useful tips to those who might want to try their luck at the mine. The opal mining area is roughly 450 miles from the Bay Area. The fees to mine

are not cheap (\$400/3 cubic yard load of clay), but the potential rewards make it very intriguing. For more information, go to: [www.goldnuggetwebs.com](http://www.goldnuggetwebs.com).

The following CCM&GS Club Members also brought personal collections of opal and opal related items in for display: **Glen McKenzie, David Kleesattel, Kelly Plumb, Mary & Ophelia Hicks, and Sam Woolsey.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm. Refreshments were enjoyed after the program, members voted for their favorite cabochons entered in the monthly contest (thank you contest entrants), and display items were looked at and enjoyed.

**David Kleesattel**, Secretary

## April 13<sup>th</sup> CCM&GS Program: Exploring for Jade Gems and Gold in the Klamath River

Ken Whitlatch of Martinez, referred to as "The Rock Hunter" by his friends, will be describing his adventures in search of underwater deposits of jadite, vesuvianite, gold, and other precious gems in a talk to the Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society, Friday in Concord.

Ken has been searching for vesuvianite and jadeite in the Klamath River of California for several years. Many have speculated minerals of outstanding quality could be found in the Klamath area, however, few have found it, and possibly no one has found material of this quality, according to rockhounds who are familiar with the area.

Vesuvianite is a very hard and dense mineral similar to jade in appearance, and often found in association with jadeite, garnet, and nephrite, also very sought after gems. Vesuvianite occurs in green, white, and rarely, red forms. It has a translucent luster that, when polished, allows the viewer to view into stone in an eerily beautiful way. It differs from jade in that it has a strong variation in color and pattern.

Vesuvianite was first discovered in Italy in the locality of Vesuvius. It is also known as idocrase, from the Greek meaning mixture. A similar form is known as californite.

Ken uses underwater skin diving gear including wet suits to float the river in search of the illusive vesuvianite and jadeite. He says, it is often a cold and arduous task, but then punctuated by great excitement and reward when a deposit is found.

In his talk he will describe the excitement he experienced as a 3000-pound specimen popped into view amongst the rounded gravels and boulders of the river bottom. He describes with humor how through the next few weeks he and his partners managed to extract the gem from its place in the river, often confronting steep terrain, biting flies, and a very special wild cow.

Ken's main interests are the semi-precious gems. But because of the very high density of vesuvianite, other heavy minerals, especially gold, can often be found together. Ken does not overlook this!

Accompanying Ken will be one of his partners, Steve Jackson. His talk will be presented at CCM&GS monthly meeting April 13 at the First Presbyterian Church in Concord at Salvio and Colfax Streets. The meeting begins at 7:30 pm and is open to all.

Harry Nichandros, VP Programs



## Meeting Program Calendar

**April 13, 2007:** Finding Gems – The Emerald Colors of South Fork; Ken Whitlatch discusses underwater explorations for vesuvianite, jadeite, and gold near the Klamath River, Oregon.

**July 13, 2007:** Identifying Minerals and Gems by Barry Bieler. He will explain the identification of loose, rough precious and semiprecious stones. For those with interest in hands-on identification experience, Barry will be giving an extensive two-hour follow-up class in August.

**September 14, 2007:** Geology of the San Francisco Bay Area by Doris Sloan, University of California, Berkeley.

Harry Nichandros, VP Programs

## Membership Report

I am pleased to announce two new members this month, **Cathie and Hans Sheldon**.



Betty and I loaded up our Silent Auction donations and potluck dish and hit the road south before 7:00 AM. We arrived at about the same time our hosts were arriving so we got to help with the set up of the tables and chairs for the meeting. The doughnuts and coffee were ready, also. Soon the place was buzzing with people arriving and signing in for the meeting.

NBFT president, Heinz Dreier, called the meeting to order at 9:00 sharp. Roll call taken: all 9 officers, COOP Liaison, **Hazel Woolsey**, and 9 out of 20 clubs were represented. The Garage Grinders out of Fairfield applied for membership in NBFT and were accepted. NBFT now has 21 member clubs.

Jim Barton, President of COOP, updated us on changes for listing COOP field trips in our bulletins. Dave Muster, CFMS Field Trips - North Chairman, announced a one-day field trip seminar that he is planning for next October.

Field trip reports on 5 trips since our fall meeting were given: Clear Creek in October, Burro Creek in January, 2 trips to Stonyford in November and January, and a Benitoite mine trip in February. Upcoming trips and events were announced:

- Clear Creek in late March, Santa Clara Valley
- Rock swap, April 28, Garage Grinders
- Snyder's Pow Wow, May 4 - 6
- Wonder Stone Mtn., Memorial Day, Marin
- Bonanza Opal Mine and Black Rock Desert, early June, Santa Clara Valley
- Rock swap, June 2, Antioch

- Echo Mtn Stone, August 24 - 27, Contra Costa M&GS
- Davis Creek, August 27 - 31, Contra Costa M&GS

That concluded our business meeting so we adjourned to the Silent Auction and a sumptuous potluck lunch. After the meeting we went to a rock sale hosted by the Santa Clara Valley club. The fall meeting is being planned for late October.

**Dick Pankey**, Federation Director

## Field Trip Calendar

**April 14 - 15. Lovelock, NV.** To collect ammonites. Hosted by Fossils for Fun Club.

**April 28. Yerington, NV.** To collect verde antique and pyrite. Hosted by Nevada County Gen & Mineral Society.

**May 12-18. Glendive, Montana.** To collect fossils, petrified wood, and Montana moss agate. Hosted by Fossils for Fun Club.

**May 19. Berkeley, CA.** Geologic tour of Sibley Volcanic Preserve in Berkeley Hills. Hosted by Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society

**June 9. Taylorsville, CA. (Babcock Mountain)** To collect rose quartz. Hosted by Paradise Club.

**June 23 - 24. Hallelujah Junction, CA.** To collect quartz and scepter crystals. Hosted by Roseville Rock Rollers Gem & Mineral Society.

**June 30 - July 1. Elko, NV.** To collect fossils, petrified wood, brachiopods, crinoids, and horn coral. Hosted by Fossils for Fun Club.

**June 26 – July 9. Minas Gerais, Brazil.** Gem, Mineral, & Mining Tour. Sponsored by Gem & Mineral Council / Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. Information at: [www.nhm.org/gmc/brazil](http://www.nhm.org/gmc/brazil) Contact Jean Brandt at email [jbrandt@nhm.org](mailto:jbrandt@nhm.org) or telephone (213) 763-3326. This trip is almost full, so act now if you are interested.

**July 7. Forest City, CA.** Tour of 16-1 Gold Mine & ghost town. Hosted by Carmichael Club.

**July 18. Edward's Crossing, CA.** Gold panning on the Yuba River, North San Juan/North Bloomfield area. Hosted by Sutter Buttes Club.

**July 21 – 22. Edward's Crossing, CA (Yuba River).** To collect gold (by panning). Hosted by Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society.

**July 28 – 29. Fairview, NV.** To collect agates & geodes. Hosted by Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society.

**August 20 24. Virgin Valley, NV.** To collect opal. Fee dig. Hosted by Stockton Lapidary & Mineral Club.

**August 24 – 27. Echo Mountain, CA (Near Lava Beds National Monument).** To collect combination fossil and igneous specimens. Hosted by Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society.

**August 27 – 31. Davis Creek, CA.** To collect obsidian. Hosted by Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society.

**Sept. 1 – 3. Cedarville, CA.** To collect petrified wood. Hosted by Fossils for Fun Club.

For more information about these trips contact Dennis Freiburger.

**Dennis Freiburger**, Field Trip Chairman

## Various Shows & Events

**April 14 – 15. San Jose, CA - Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Show.** Santa Clara County Fairgrounds, 344 Tully Road.

**April 14 – 15. Mariposa, CA.** California Mining & Mineral Museum / Mariposa Gem & Mineral Club Show. Mariposa County Fairgrounds.

**April 28. Suisun City, CA.** Garage Grinders Tail Gate Sale. Grizzly Island Road, off State Highway 12.

**April 28 – 29. Santa Cruz, CA.** Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society Show. Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium, Center and Church Streets.

**May 4 – 6. Valley Springs, CA.** Snyder's Pow Wow. 1290 Paloma Road. [www.ValleySpringsPowWow.com](http://www.ValleySpringsPowWow.com)

**May 4 – 6. Bishop, CA.** Lone Pine Gem & Mineral Society Show. Bishop Fairgrounds.

**May 5 – 6. Bakersfield, CA.** Kern County Mineral Society Show. Kern County Fairgrounds, Ming Avenue at South P Street.

**May 12 – 13. Reno, NV.** Reno Gem & Mineral Society Show. Reno Livestock Center, Exhibit Hall, 1350 North Wells Avenue.

**June 2. Antioch, CA.** Antioch Lapidary Club Rock Sale, Swap, & Bar-B-Q. Wilbur & Fulton Shipyard Road.

**June 15 – 17. Lancaster, CA.** California Federation of Mineralogical Societies / Palmdale Gem & Mineral Show. Antelope Valley Fairgrounds, Highway 14, exit H Avenue.

More listings at Rock and Gem Magazine website: [www.rockngem.com/showdates](http://www.rockngem.com/showdates)

**Dennis Freiburger**, Field Trip Chairman

## Club Hosted Filed Trip

**May 19. Berkeley, CA** - Geologic tour of Sibley Volcanic Preserve in Berkeley Hills. Join us for a unique opportunity to explore a prime example of California volcanism and see first hand the inner structure of the "inside out" - and - "sideways" volcano.

Round Top Volcano in the Robert Sibley Volcanic Preserve - A gentle two mile hike is open to all AFMS clubs. - Hosted by Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society.

**Harry Nichandros**, VP Programs

## Education Report

### Lapidary Arts and Crafts

### ONGOING CLASSES!

CCM&GS's very own **Betty Pankey**, "stained glass artist", teaches the *copper foil* method at Pittsburg Adult Education (PAE). Members can join the class at any time for beginning instruction. Call Betty first to

discuss. You will be registered with PAE to attend the entire semester, and can enroll at any time. Members 55+ pay no fee; those younger pay \$20 to PAE. The CCM&GS donates materials for your first two projects. Expect to have a great time getting to know the other students and PAE's certified stained glass instructor, Fred Turner. Beautiful stained glass creations will surround and inspire you. Do yourself a favor and go for it! Evening and day classes are available.

AND ... CCM&GS's very own **Dan Howlett**, local Dentist and also "jeweler extraordinaire", teaches two classes at Mt. Diablo Adult Education in Pleasant Hill. His evening classes consist of (1) beginning and advanced gold & silver lost wax casting, and fabrication; (2) intermediate jewelry techniques. Call Dan for additional information.

### INDIVIDUAL INSTRUCTION!

I've heard tell that **Barry Bieler**, Gemologist, and "renaissance man", will teach the art of gem faceting for a small fee to one or two students at his home. If interested, please contact Barry for more information.

Also ... **Donald Tompkins** may be agreeable to teaching one or more crafts such as flint knapping, wire wrapping, and stained glass. Talk to Donald!

### What we did last month!

**March 24, 2007: Chinese Satin Cord Double-X Knot and Pendant Necklace w/Mary Hicks**

**Mary Hicks** (Ms. President) offered to show us how to make an elegant necklace using satin cord and special knots. Mary

and her mom, Ophelia, have been demonstrating this beading technique lately at various mineral & gem shows in the Bay Area. The sign-up list was available to twelve (12) lucky members at the March meeting.

**March 31, 2007: Beading Workshop w/Rana Miller-Owen**

A bring your own beads and ideas day. This was an opportunity to make beaded creations while having great conversation. The meeting was held at Joanne Caskey's house from Noon - 3:00 p.m.

**Coming up this month!**

**April 28 & April 29, 2007: Gem Carving w/Dick Friesen (Livermore Lithophiles)**

**Dick Friesen** is taking his show on the road and bringing his equipment and all materials to us to teach this all-day class. It wasn't easy getting Dick to commit to coming to Concord with his busy show schedule. He demonstrates gem carving at a whole lot of mineral & gem shows all over California. Thanks for coming, Dick!

Class location is **Connie Klein's** "Barn" in Concord. There will be two classes of six students. Registration begins at the March meeting and will continue until the classes are filled. Please note there is a \$40 fee per person to be paid to Dick at beginning of class. We will be working at carving stations from 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM, taking a lunch break around noon so we can head on over to the best hamburger place in town, a short walk away. Beverages are furnished. Be sure to show up with safety glasses, Optivisor, or reading glasses. Members new to gem carving will be given first preference.

May 12, 2007: Fossil Fish Picking w/Greg & Dave



**Greg Johnson** will be teaching a class on hand preparing a Green River Formation fossil fish. These fish fossils (as you may remember if you attended the January 2006 meeting) are approximately 51 million years old and come from the fossil quarries near Kemmerer, Wyoming. A fossil fish kit will be provided to each of the students at the class. The kit will contain an unprepared fossil fish, and a small pick. By-the-way, Greg is **Dave Kleesattel's** business partner in case you didn't know!

Open to ten (10) students, each student should bring safety glasses or reading glasses, a small paint brush (to wipe away the dust from the fossil), and a "gum" eraser. Several pneumatic tools (like the professionals use) will be available for you to try. Students pay \$10 to Dave (this kit is a \$20 value). Sign-ups will be taken at the April meeting. The "pickin and a'grinnin" will take place at **Connie Klein's** "Barn" in Concord from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Bring a lunch or fine dine on the world's greatest hamburgers at the joint down the road. Beverages are furnished.

Note that anyone who took the class last year and would like to finish their project is welcome to join the fun.

**May 20, 2007: Alabaster/Calcite Carving w/ Dick Dennis**

**Dick Dennis** who loves to sculpt and carve alabaster seashells and does a marvelous job of it, will be showing us how to carve and finish a small and simple "freeform" object out of alabaster and/or calcite (the materials are gorgeous). Seven (7) members are invited to sign up for his class which will be

held outdoors on a Saturday at the Caskey residence in Concord. The hours are from 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Bring a lunch. Beverages are provided. Materials and tools are provided, but check with Dick on what tools you will need if you want to bring your own. Bring safety glasses, glasses or goggles, hats and especially gloves. Registration will begin at the April meeting. Members new to alabaster carving will be given first preference.

**Camp Paradise (CFMS lapidary arts workshop classes) is coming your way for two weeks in September. All you new members can ask someone what that is all about!**

**NEEDED:**

- Are you an experienced cab maker and interested in having a one-on-one cab making class for a new member? Call Joanne or Rana.
- Are you interested in instructing a club class this year? Call Joanne or Rana.

**Joanne Caskey, Education & Rana Miller-Owen, Assistant Education**

## Display Report

The March General Meeting entries for competition were:

**Novice Cab**

Burro Creek (green) - **Terry Caskey**  
 Burro Creek (white) - **Terry Caskey\***  
 (Winner)  
 Clear Creek Jade (green) - **Mary Hicks**

**Pro Cab**

Red Tiger Eye - **Dave Kleesattel**  
 Rhodenite - **Mary Bufton\*** (Winner)  
 Carey Plume - **Joe Yarbrough**

Rhodenite - **Barrie Bieler**

**Faceted**

Tourmaline - **Barrie Bieler**

**Shape of the Month**

Rhodenite - **Joe Yarbrough**

Petrified Wood - **Dave Kleesattel**

Chalcopyrite & Quartz - **Barrie Bieler**

There were 34 voters of the 54 meeting attendees. That is 64% which is getting a little better. **Bonnie Eichler and Steve Davis** displayed an assortment of agates and jaspers collected on a January Field Trip to Stoneyford, California.

**Rana Owen** displayed necklaces beaded by that group and **Mary Hicks** displayed Chinese double X knot necklaces that featured a drilled tumbled aventurine pebble, obsidian cab wrapped in silver wire, and dichoric glass. Burro Creek Arizona agate slabs and cabs, and selenite (gypsum) from Ygnacio Valley Road here in Concord, were displayed by **Joe Yarbrough**.

If you have materials which may be of interest to our group, share them with us. April Shape of the Month is Round any size.

**Joe Yarbrough, Display Chair**

## Show Corner

Contracts went out last December, and returns are coming in. Looks like all the 2006 dealers will return for our 2007 show.

Flyers: I've made 4500 flyers so far, and distributed approximately 3500 of them. A small stack of flyers went out with each contract, together with a full page "master" for the dealers to make extras if needed.

Hazel & I took flyers to Quartzite, leaving some with our dealers we saw there, as well as at both Tyson Wells and QIA. We go to most area shows, always with flyers to place at the ticket booths and to restock our dealers. I've also given stacks to three club members who go frequently to various shows so that they can assist in distributing there. Also, in early summer, I'll send both a special notice of our show, and a sample flyer (by e-mail) to all the area clubs (both NBFT and Co-OP) bulletin editors, with a request that they be included in their newsletters. In late summer, I'll have flyers available at the monthly meetings for members to distribute in their neighborhoods and to friends and neighbors. Last year we distributed some 6000 flyers. This year will top 7000.

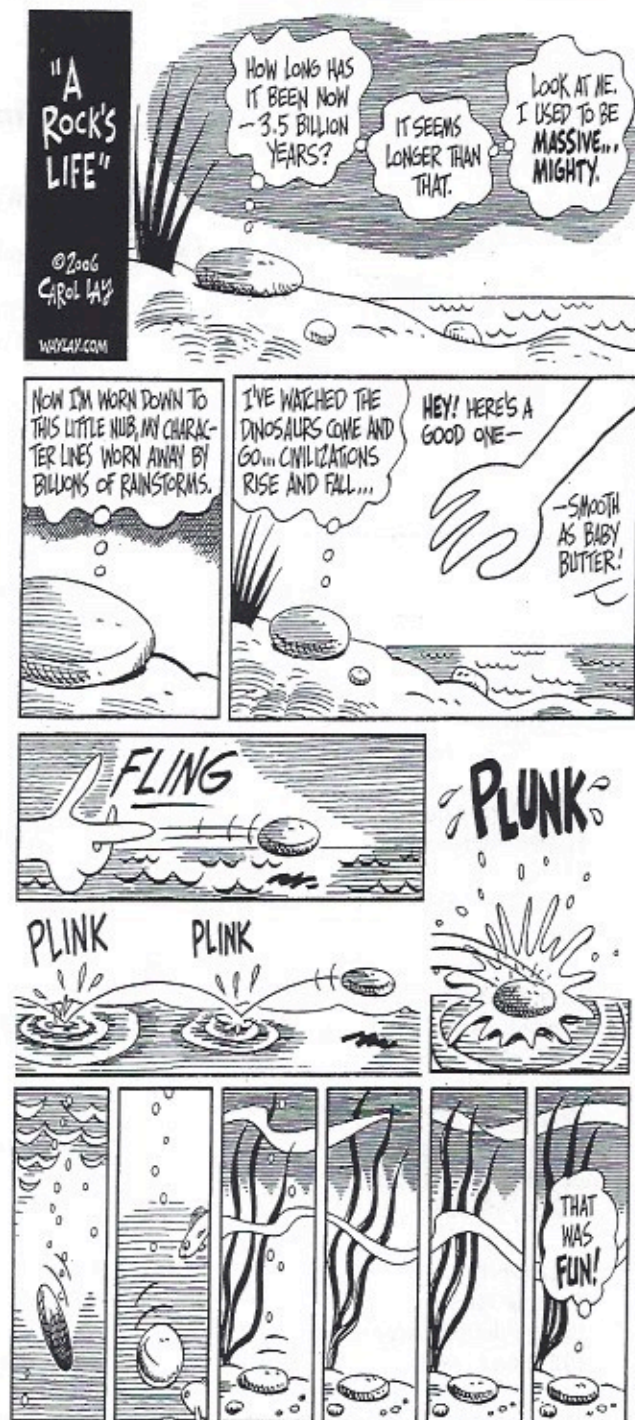
Sam Woolsey, Show Chair

## A Rock's Life

This cartoon was provided by Dave Kleesattel with permission to print by Carol Lay.

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"Lay@Waylay.com"

Luree Heese, Editor



### *Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society*

PO Box 4667, Walnut Creek, CA 94596

**General Meeting:** Second Friday of the month at 7.30 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church, 1965 Colfax Street, downtown Concord  
(corner of Salvio and Colfax)

Free Parking at the City of Concord garage located across Salvio

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

**VISITORS ARE WELCOME! BRING A FRIEND**

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