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



July Board of Directors Meeting

The July Board of Directors meeting will be held on Friday July 13th at 6:15 p.m. at the Church prior to the general meeting.

Mary Hicks, President

Refreshments



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

Michele Roma Suzanne Rothstein The Rouze Family Doug Rue Jeanie Russo Al Scheif Carol Seed Sody Sodestrom Steve & Kathy Stark Merrill Swiney

June 3rd Board of Directors Meeting Notes

The BOD meeting was held at Mary Hicks' residence. The meeting started at 7:00 pm. Board Members present: Joanne Caskey, Kim & David Kleesattel, Sam & Hazel Woolsey, Mary Hicks, Mary Jernigan, Harry Nichandros, Therese Clark, Luree Heese, Sharon Neuhauser, Connie Klein and Joe Yarbrough.

President Mary Hicks started the meeting by handing out copies of the meeting agenda. Mary then requested any Old or New Business items that need to be added to the agenda.

1st Vice President and Program Chair Harry Nichandros reported that Dr. John Karachewski would present the program this month. The program will be GeoScapes, a series of photos showing geologic landscapes. Harry has programs planned for the upcoming months. More information on those programs is forthcoming.

2nd Vice President, **Dennis Freiburger** was unable to attend the meeting, but left message that all activity is usual and customary. Please read the newsletter for upcoming trips.

Treasurer, Connie Klein provided the club's financial information. Back up copies of the club's financial files were emailed to Mary Hicks.

Membership Chair Kim Kleesattel presented a Membership Application for Nadeem Shaikh. The membership into the CCM&GS was approved unanimously.

Hospitality, Therese Clark announced that the Spring Social will be on June 10 at Sweet Tomatoes in Pleasant Hill (3:00 pm).

Federation Director, **Dick Pankey** was not present and there was no report.

Publicity, Mary Jernigan (not present) is still looking for help preparing a pamphlet to describe our club that could be distributed at various shows and other community functions. Target date form completion is September 2007.

Sam Woolsey, Property Chair and Show Chair. Show meetings will begin in July. We now have liability insurance for our use of Connie's barn and trailer storage.

Joe Yarbrough, Display Chair. Joe is preparing "Rule of Competition" for our monthly cabochon class. The intent is to get more people involved in the monthly contest and have additional opportunities to win a silver "Diablo Dan" award.

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.

Education, Arts & Crafts Chair Joanne Caskey presented education classes updates. Please read the newsletter for scheduled classes. Upcoming classes include Gem Identification with Barrie Beiler (6/12); Copper Enameling with Al Schleif (6/23); Fused Glass with Connie Klein (7/14 & 7/15). The next beading club meeting will be on 6/30.

Editor Luree Heese reminded everybody that the deadline for submitted newsletter information is the 17th of June for July's newsletter. When submitting electronic information, please use 12 pt. Times New Roman font, and please don't use indentations or special formatting.

New Business: Received correspondence was distributed as appropriate. Hazel Woolsey made a motion to stop requesting donations for refreshments at the general meetings. Joanne Caskey seconded the motion. The Board voted and the motion passed. A form for Reimbursement Requests was prepared and handed out. Please use this form when requesting a check from the treasurer.

The JULY BOARD MEETING will be held immediately BEFORE (about 6:30) the next General Meeting to discuss any items that need to be addressed.

Mary Hicks asked that we start thinking about our Annual Club Auction that will be held at our October General Meeting. Let's try to make the donation more rock related to promote our club's activities.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.
Refreshments were provided by Mary
Hicks, and enjoyed by all. Thanks Mary
for the goodies and your hospitality.

David Kleesattel, Secretary

President's Message

I have been taking a mid-year moment to contemplate the first half of 2007, and we have had quite a busy year so far. On a personal note, I have been learning a new facet of the lapidary craft, intarsia. Our Member Naomi Morgan, inspired me with her art that is shown at our annual Mineral & Gem Show. I hope to have an example of my efforts to display at the show on the first weekend of November. My first two intarsia projects focused on the fundamentals of design, straight lines and material selection and using epoxy. My current project design has stepped up a technique notch and challenges me with curves. I am endeavoring to bring rock pieces together in a reasonable fit, seeking harmony. I love the challenge.

Thank you to Kelly Plumb for stepping forward and volunteering to document the club activities of 2007. I will be meeting with her before the next General Meeting to show her the books that have been put together in the past. Also, Mary Jernigan is working on a pamphlet to inform interested persons about our club. Joe Yarbrough is doing a great job as Display Chair and he is putting pen to paper to capture how the Cabochon Contest is organized and to apply some enhancements to update the process. Information on this will be available in the future. I enjoyed the Spring Social organized by Therese Clark. A good number of members and friends met in Pleasant Hill for dinner and some rock fun..

I know we all enjoyed the Refreshments after the June General Meeting which were organized by **Mary Bufton**. Thank you to Mary. Having club member provided snacks and beverage adds a lot to the social time after the evening's program.

Remember to vote on competition items during the social time; **Joe Yarbrough** is tracking the percentage of attendees who trek over to the display area and vote. I will be traveling in a few weeks but will be back in time for the July meeting. A few years ago, Field Trip Chair Dennis
Freiburger, reported on a fantastic trip he took to Brazil organized and led by the LA County Museum. Well, he got me all jazzed up to do this trip and so that is where I am going. I will be visiting various mines, museums, markets and having fun and learning more about the world beyond my door. Dennis keeps us all informed of field trip opportunities, the summer is here and it is time to seize the day; get out there and find a new rock or mineral specimen, make new friends, the world is your rock to crack.

I look forward to seeing you at one of the many club activities that have been organized for our enjoyment.

Mary Hicks, President

June 8th General Meeting Notes

The meeting was called to order by President Mary Hicks at 7:35 pm. The pledge of allegiance was lead by Marlow "Hawkeye" Hicks.

President Mary Hicks started the meeting with some introductions and thanked everybody for coming to the meeting.

Member and "Sergeant of Arms" Sherb

Brown collected 25¢ from those members who forgot to wear their name badges.

Birthdays and Anniversaries were announced by Hospitality Chair **Therese Clark**. There were four guests visiting. The Spring Social was announced for the following Sunday at Sweet Tomatoes in Pleasant Hill. Second Vice President and Field Trip Chair Dennis Freiburger reminded us to please check the newsletter for field trip information. There are many field trips between July and October. Harry Nichandros announced that there was a very good turn out for last month's Sibley Volcanic Preserve trip and he will look into doing this trip again sometime.

Membership Chair **Kim Kleesattel** announced one new member, **Nadeem Shaikh** and gave his name badge. Kim also has Diablo Dan Pins and Patches for purchase.

Display Chair Joe Yarbrough announced the many Items of Displays brought in by members. Kelly Plumb brought in some turquoise from the Royston Mine (soon to be open to the public); Sam Woolsey brought in a nice collection of cabs he has made; Al Schleif brought in a display of Rhodochrosite; Joe Yarbrough brought in a collection of Rainbow Ridge (and other agates) including rough rock, slabs and cabs. We had 3 Novice Cab, 2 Pro Cabs, 1 facet, and 1 Shape of the Month Cabs to vote on.

Joanne Caskey, Education Chair, announced this month's classes. Rana Owen-Miller and Joanne have been doing a great job with the education/arts and crafts projects. The next "Bead-in" is on Friday June 22 and the project will be making a flag broach. Please read the newsletter for the upcoming classes.

Mary Hicks reminded us of our annual auction in October. The donations should be more rock-related, but other donations will be accepted.

Program Chair Harry Nichandros introduced Dr. John Karachewski who presented an absolutely wonderful slide show of California geology and landscapes. John has had many of his photographs in geology publications and was a principal photographic contributor to a book on Bay Area Geology (come to our September meeting to hear Doris Sloan, the author of that book). John also gave us many "tips" on how to take landscape photographs.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 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. Please bring in any display items you have and tell us about them.

David Kleesattel, Secretary

July Program - The Benitoite Gem Mine by Rick Kennedy

As a Rockhound, prospector, and Benitoite enthusiast Rick Kennedy, presents the fascinating story of this most rare, beautiful, and interesting gem at the Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society, Friday, July 13th. Rick is one of the foremost collectors and experts on our state gem, Benitoite.

Benitoite is a rare mineral found only in a few places on earth, and only found as well formed crystals in California at the Benitoite Gem Mine in San Benito County just south of San Jose.

Rick's program will begin with the history of the Benitoite Gem Mine: its many births,

deaths, and resurrections, and its current availability to collectors. He will describe the prospecting, etching and cleaning processes to bring this mineral to a display piece.

Rick will have many of his own specimens available for display, as he discusses the gem's characteristics, and form, and what makes a nice specimen.

And, you are welcome to bring specimens from your own collection for display and evaluation. Rick will be available after the meeting for comments, and advice.

Come join us for this talk on a very rare and interesting gem, available only in San Benito County, and only a day trip away.

If you enjoyed our programs on Vesuvanite by Ken Whitlatch and Opals, then don't miss Rick's talk. He is truly an expert in the field.

Join us Friday, July 13, 2007 in Concord. at the First Presbyterian Church in downtown Concord at Salvio and Colfax Streets. Call (925) 429-2748 or visit: http://www.ccmgs.org.



Notes & Personal Information

(408)529-9690
My website is www.earthstreas.com
Rick Kennedy <riken@flash.net>
Takes groups hunting monthly 10 miles from New Idrias a hefty sum for black light prospecting Feb & March 2007 Lots of good stuff at \$100/person/day.

Only member of its crystal class – triad ... Find decent crystals 10 cm +. High refractivity & dispersion means Fire Bright (but soft) 6.5. Blue, between sapphire and tanzanite.

"The Benitoite Gem Mine" - Past, present and Future by Rick Kennedy.

Harry Nichandros, VP, Programs

Future Program Calendar Events

August 10, 2007: Thunder Eggs by John Stockwell.

September 4, 2007: Geology of the San Francisco Bay Area by Doris Sloan,

University of California, Berkeley, and John Karachewski. Magnificent photography accompanies Doris' description of Bay Area Geology – Another "don't miss" opportunity. Their award-winning book will be available for sale and signing.

October 12, 2007: CCM&GS Auction.

November 9, 2007: Themes from the Russian Geologic Poetry Society.

December 14, 2007: Christmas Potluck Dinner and Officer Installation.

Harry Nichandros, VP, Programs

September Speaker Honored

Just announced – UC Professor Doris Sloan, PhD, our featured speaker for the September meeting, has been awarded top honors in the International Technical Publications competition for her brisk selling publication, Geology of San Francisco Bay Region.

The award is issued for clarity of writing and presentation. Her book is beautifully written and gorgeously illustrated according to the judges. It is a masterpiece.

Copies of her book will be available for purchase and signing at our September meeting.

More on this story in the next newsletter...

Harry Nichandros, VP, Programs

CCM&GS Spring Social

Our annual spring social was held at Sweet Tomatoes restaurant in Pleasant Hill last month. What a resounding success. There were 20 of us enjoying the lies and tall tales of one another. We had a raffle in which everyone won! One and all went home happy and full. Hopefully you will be able to join us next year.

Our next social gathering will be our annual picnic. Stay tuned right here for the date, time and place.

Therese Clark, CCM&GS Hostess



Hospitality Chairperson, Therese Clark leads the festivities at the 2007 CCM&GS Spring Social last month at Sweet Tomatoes Restaurant.

Membership Report

No new members this month, but we did receive several requests for applications. So stand by for new member announcement next month.

I still have some of the new Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society patches and pins. I will have those available for purchase at the monthly meetings. Please see me if you are interested in patches and pins. Plus we still have lots of "Rockhound" decals too.

Kim Kleesattel, Membership Chair

July Birthdays

Joanne Caskey	7/7
Jason Mayberry	7/7
Charles Bon	7/11
Jane Holcomb	7/11
Lee King	7/11
Dave Kleesattel	7/14
Dan Howlett	7/21
Sarina Teta	7/22



June Anniversaries

Merrill Swiney	7/1
Cathie & Hans Sheldon	7/3
Louise Gilley	7/5
Ken Caudel	7/7
Marlow & Ophelia Hicks	7/7
Dennis Freiburger	7/8

Patty Wintroath

7/8

Volcanic Bonanza in August

Contra Costa M&GS will host 2 field trips to northern California at the end of August. The first to Echo Stone Mountain on August 24 - 27, then on to Lassen Creek/Davis Creek on August 27 - 31. The details and trip fliers are available at the meetings or from me by e-mail (dickpankey@juno.com). Echo Stone Mountain is a fee dig for unique volcanic materials. There is a limit of 30 people for this fee dig so sign up early to insure your spot. Lassen Creek/Davis Creek is one of the premier obsidian collecting areas in the western United States. No limit; everyone welcome. We will join the Fossils for Fun petrified wood collecting trip on 8/31 to 9/4.

Dick Pankey, Federation Director

Ecology Report

"BLM releases Sierra Proposed Resource Management Plan" (BLM California news release, 6/8/07)

The Bureau of Land Management has released its Sierra Proposed Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement. The plan provides direction and guidance for more than 230,000 acres of public land located primarily in nine central California counties including Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado, Mariposa, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, Tuolumne and Yuba counties.

http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/info/newsroom/2007/june/sierrarmp.html

Sharon Neuhauser, Ecology

Field Trip Calendar

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

August 4, 5. Edward's Crossing, CA. (Yuba River). To collect gold (by panning). Hosted by Sutter Buttes 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.

September 1 – 3. Cedarville, CA. To collect petrified wood. Hosted by Fossils for Fun Society.

September 1 – 3. Austin, NV. Hosted by El Dorado Mineral & Gem Society.

September 23 – 29. Southern Utah. To collect petrified wood. Hosted by Fossils For Fun Society.

October 27, 28. Kettleman Hills, CA. To collect fossils. Hosted by El Dorado Mineral & Gem Society.

For more information about these trips contact **Dennis Freiburger**.

Dennis Freiburger, Field Trip Chairman

Various Shows & Events

August 4, 5. San Francisco, CA. San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society Show. San Francisco County Fair Building, 9th Avenue at Lincoln Way.

September 15, 16. Jackson, CA. Tailgate Gemboree at Kennedy Mine. Sponsored by Fossils for Fun.

September 15, 16. Paso Robles, CA. Santa Lucia Rockhounds Show. Pioneer Park and Museum, 2010 Riverside Drive.

September 15, 16. Redwood City, CA. Sequoia Gem & Mineral Society Show. Community Activities Building, 1400 Roosevelt Avenue.

September 22. Los Altos, CA. Peninsula Gem & Geology Society Show. Rancho Shopping Center, Foothill Expressway at Springer and Magdalena Roads.

September 29, 30. Monterey, CA. Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society Show. Monterey Fairgrounds, 2004 Fairgrounds Road.

September 29, 30. Stockton, CA. Stockton Lapidary & Mineral Club Show. Scottish Rite Temple, 33 West Alpine Street.

More listings at Rock and Gem Magazine website: www.rockngem.com/showdates

Dennis Freiburger, Field Trip Chairman

Education Report

Lapidary Arts and Crafts

Summer is here; school is out; vacations are coming up; weekend outdoor activities are plentiful; it is a busy time of the year for many of us. For your summer pleasure, CCMGS activities are scheduled; and craft classes are available. Check out the following!

July 14 & 15 (2-days)
Fused Glass Dichroic Pin with
Connie Klein
(may be full – check w/Connie)

August 11 -Annual Critter Night
To be held during the day - Critter Day?
(open to all)

September 2 thru 15 Camp Paradise CFMS lapidary arts workshop classes (two 1-week sessions) (sign up at the CFMS website)

September 22 & 23 (2-days) Slate Carving with Brownie Cameron

Registration for summer classes began at our June meeting and, if not filled, will continue until the day of the class. Attend the July meeting, or call Joanne, Rana, or the class instructor to sign up.

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

Bead Buddies Calendar

Come and mix it up with other *Bead Buddies* at our monthly Bead-In. Bring your own materials & tools to work with. Share ideas and share the fun of beading! Bead-Ins are scheduled for 6:30 on the 3rd or 4th Friday evenings of each month at Joanne's house. Please call ahead or sign up at meetings if you plan to attend. Beverages and light snacks are welcome. Dates are as follows:

July 27th
August 17th
September 28th
October 26th
November 16th
December off

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

Display Report

Kelly Plumb of the Antioch club displayed a jar of Turquoise from the Royston mine in Tonapa, NV. and, if I am correct, the mine will soon be opened to the public for mining for a fee.

Al Schleif displayed his collection of beautiful Rhodochrosite. Material such as Al's is extremely hard to come by these days, particularly those "rounds".

Sam Woolsey Displayed a case of six beautiful large cabochons. Well done, Sam, keep up the good work!!

Joe Yarbrough displayed slabs, cabochons and rough material from Sheep Springs, Jasper Hill and Rainbow Ridge. Material was collected on a trip to the El Paso Mts. in Southern California some 10 to 12 years ago with Bob Pevahouse and Jim High. Also shown was an arrowhead made at the Trona (Lake Searle) show which we also visited on that trip.

FOR COMPETETION GROUPS

Novice (3 entries)
Mary Hicks - Antioch Petrified Wood
Terry Caskey - Fossil Coral (Winner)
Dick Dennis - Brazilian Agate

Pros (2 entries)

Dave Kleesattel - Dendritic Agate (Winner)
Joe Yarbrough - Rainbow Ridge Agate

Faceted (No entries)

Shape of the Month Joe Yarbrough - Maury Mountain Agate (Rectangle)

Well now!! How about that!! Three (3) entries in the Novice Catagory.!! Congrats to all entries - keep it up!!

We had 24 votes from 55 persons attending the meeting (Makes me wonder if the members are really interested in the competitions). They do provide everyone, including those not really versed in our hobby with a chance to see, not only beautiful stones, but some excellent workmanship. Please show your interest by voting!!

Joe Yarbrough, Display Chair

Show Corner

Four months to show time! That means it is time to get serious – I mean really serious about planning and prepping. I'll be calling to confirm staff positions – volunteers all – demonstrators, activity leaders, and a core staff for set-up on Friday, and tear-down on Sunday. Please say "YES!" when I call – and then please come through at show time!

We will have planning sessions each month 'till show days. Ann & Matt Matthews have graciously offered to host (Dates and times to be announced).

CRITTER NIGHT will be CRITTER DAY this year.

Meet at Connie Klein's barn on Saturday, August 11, 10: am – 3 pm. For lunch, you can brown-bag it, or walk around the corner to Digger's Diner for sumptuous burgers, fries, and shakes. For the "critters," we provide rocks galore – many painted with their base coat already. And paint, brushes, decoupage art, glue, glue guns, and oh, yes – fake eyes, large and small. For the less artistically inclined (like ME!) Joanne Caskey has downloaded loads of pictures of rock animals, in color, as guides. KIDS WELCOME!

For our new members: As Wheel of Fortune prizes we offer more than "just" rocks and trinkets. We dress ours up with paint, decoupage, false eyes, tails – you have it – to resemble "critters," some recognizable, some whimsical. Come, join the fun, have some fun, and meet a fun crowd.

PROPERTY:

We've a couple of club property items that could use a bit of refurbishment. The first is a stone mosaic of Diablo Dan originally created by long time member **Lee King.**Mounted on a board, a couple of the stones and the stand-up brace have fallen off.
Everything is there – just needs to be put back together again.

The second are 3 or 4 peg-board displays of rock and mineral types for school or other educational presentations. Again, everything is there, just needs a caring hand to clean them up, and maybe dress them up a bit.

Anyone interested in either project, give me a call at 925-837-3287. Thanks!

Sam Woolsey, Show Chairperson

Editor's Notes



The Minerals in Your TV By Scott Henry

You may have never thought about it, but there are minerals in your television set. These are what make up the colors of color TV. They are referred to as rare-earth phosphors. They emit light in a different way than the way light is normally produced.

Most objects give off light because they are hot. This is called "thermo luminescence." However, the colors seen on TV give off light in a

different way which is called Phosphorescence." Some minerals when hit by energy emit light. These rare-earth phosphors come from a group of minerals called tungstates. They are compounds of very heavy, soft, metallic elements such as scheelite and wulfenite, which are coated on the inside of the TV tube. Fine streams of electrons called cathode rays hit the rareearth phosphors, which absorbed the energy and emit it in the form of light. The first color TV was demonstrated in 1953. In the future certain crystals may be used which are like liquids except they have a crystalline structure, which can be altered by things such as electricity.

Bibliography: Audubon Society: Field Guide to North. American Rocks & Minerals, 1979 and The Way Things Work: 2, George Allen, 1971 Via Cedar Valley Gems 10/96, Rockwood Rockhound News 4/05 & The Rollin Rock 11//06

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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Show Exhibitor Form

Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society PO Box 4667 Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Ann Matthews

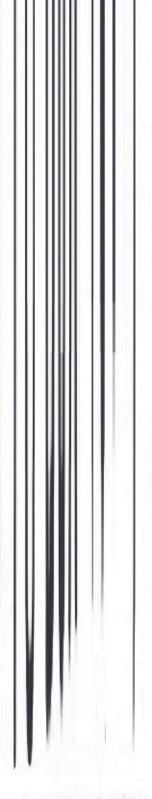
540 Blue Ridge Drive Martinez, CA 94553

(925) 229-0836 e-mail: glmlam@jps.net

OUR SHOW WILL BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 3-4 2007, 10AM TO 5PM SET UP ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2 AFTER 2PM UNTIL 8PM AND 9AM UNTIL 10AM ON SATURDAY.

The location of the show is Centre Concord, 5298 Clayton Road, Concord, CA

Exhibitor										
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A nonprofit organization whose members enjoy rockhounding and the lapidary arts.

Member of:

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

California Federation of Mineralogical Societies



