

DiabloDiggins

Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society December



Concord, CA

"We Dig Rocks"

This Newsletter is available by e mail - contact the Editor



Holiday Party!

You won't want to miss our Holiday Party!

Fun, Food, & Friends!

When: Monday, December 10th at 6:30 pm

Where: Centre Concord, our usual meeting site

Why? To Celebrate the Holidays with our Friends! Important: Register with Donna Albrecht donna@albrechts.com or 925.825.6861 so we can make sure we'll have enough supplies.

*** Bring a dish to share**

*** Dress for our Ugly Sweater and Ugly Hat Contests (Prizes!)**

*** Bring a rock-related gift for our gift exchange (it's okay to mark it man/woman if that's important)**

CCM&GS Club Memberships are Due

Greetings, CCM&GS Members!
Friendly reminder that our 2019 Club Memberships are due as of November. Dues are only \$10 to renew your membership (current members). As part of our CCM&GS Family, we want you to stay updated about activities, fieldtrips, meetings and more. Renew your membership now and start the New Year out ready for more Rockhound Fun!!
Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society
Attn; Membership
P.O. Box 842
Concord, CA 94522-0842

Mary Jernigan
CCM&GS Membership

Food Bank Donations at the Holiday Party

I want to remind all CCMGS members to bring their food bank donations to the holiday party. All food donations must be canned in metal or plastic containers only, no glass or perishables. Cash or checks payable to the **CONTRA COSTA FOOD BANK** are also welcome. The food bank has great buying power... they can buy WAY MORE per every dollar than you or I could. This year the Contra Costa Food Bank is also assisting the victims of last months fires, so your donations are even more important this year as **so many more** people are dependent on their services right now.

I can take the cash and checks for the FOOD BANK to work as my office is sending collections to them as well, but we need someone who will take the food donations to the FOOD BANK.

Bonnie Eichler

2019 Elected Officers:

President: Bonnie Eichler
1st Vice President/Programs: Donna Albrecht
2nd Vice President/Fieldtrips: Chuck Olson
Secretary: **VACANT**
Treasurer: Mary Hanjes
Federation Director: Dick Pankey

2019 Appointed Officers:

Display: Cheryl Morgan
Librarian: Paul Black
Membership: Mary Jernigan
Editor: Johanna Fenton
Website: Johanna Fenton
Past President: Kelly Plumb
Refreshments: Vikki Hotopp
Sargent of Arms: Naomi Morgan
Annual Show Chairperson:
Publicity: **VACANT**
Education: **VACANT**
Property: **VACANT**
Hospitality: **VACANT**
Historian: **VACANT**
Ecology: **VACANT**
Public Lands: **VACANT**

OUR Club needs YOU!!!

If you read the list of our club's officer positions, you'll see more than 1/3 of the positions are currently VACANT. It is OUR club and WE need OUR members to run the club. The club is not sustainable without members stepping up. Just like in politics, the positions should be rotated among the membership, not the same people year after year after year. Please consider stepping up and helping to maintain our club. You might discover that you actually like it! The majority of the board positions are not time consuming, but they are very essential to the success of OUR club. Don't worry about not having experience in the positions; prior experience is not required! Contact any of the Board Members if you are interested in a position.

Bonnie Eichler

Welcome New Club Members!

Carey Ballard
Richard Orta
Elizabeth Tanner
Daniel & Barbara Tanner, plus daughters Talia & Aria (Jr. members)



Club Members Help Victims of The Camp Fire

Thank you all for your generous donation to the North Valley Animal Disaster Group. We raised a total of \$405 that will go toward caring for the animals displaced from the Camp Fire in Butte County. If you get a chance or feel the holiday spirit, you can go to their web site at www.animaldisaster.org for the whole story on their work or to make a further contribution to this worthy organization.



I was in contact with a fellow rock hound who lost their house and now, with the rains, have been evacuated for the third time (Camp fire, recent rains and the Oroville Dam evacuation). I am partially replacing her two young sons, Ryder, age 11 and Archer age 6, collections that were lost in the fire. Last year, Archer won one of my Pebble – Pup giveaways I try to do around the holidays. This picture was from last year (2017). I am sure there are many other rock people that have lost their collections.

Mike Hopkins

Field Trips

Rockhounding With Sally!



Upcoming Field Trips

**January 10 – 24, 2019
Quartzite, Az.**

Ye Old Timers Mineral Club's Quartzite Camp. These are a fun bunch of Folks to camp with. It's dry camping, with amenities nearby, and open to all rockhounds and guests. The camping area is approximately 5 miles north of Quartzite, right on Plomosa Rd. Watch for the YOTMC signs on the right side, about 1.1 miles in.

**January 16 – 20, 2019
Quartzite, Az.**

Quartzite Improvement Association Powwow Road Trips. The association sponsors two different field trips a day. This is an area rich in material and these are well led trips. No further details yet, but keep checking with them at www.qiaarizona.org/PowWow.html And search around for "Powwow Road Trips."

Let me know if there's anything I'm missing. As long as I'm within range of a cell signal, I'm here, or there, to share any information I have at olson86@yahoo.com or (925) 890-7116.

Chuck Olson



Meeting Minutes

No Board Meeting in November due to the show. My comments on the show. It went exceptionally well considering there was no Show Chair. The problems may have been avoided if we had a chair, please consider volunteering to be Show Chair in 2019. Some club members ended up being “stuck” doing tasks that were critical, is this fair, I do not think so. Most members did do something to support the show-Thank You.

Mary Hicks

Show Debriefing Meeting November 11, 2018

Minutes from a show meeting. It was a good show. If club members want to suggest new vendors for the 2019 show, names must be submitted for the “old” vendors too and any new ones for Board approval. Exhibits were mixed up this year and that was seen as a positive change. There are too many cases to be filled and some exhibitors were asked to “fill” cases, some doing 3 when they had not planned on doing any. Recommend exhibitors do a single case. Show flier table was a good addition to the Ballroom entry area. Recommend the table be shared with the Club’s stained-glass Diablo Dan in the next show. Terry and Mike made a comment about less cords, and tables need to be placed per plan. Rental tables bowing in the center, need stretcher bars. Membership Raffle tables were in a good spot, 3 barriers were used during the awarding of prizes to winners. Many compliments were received on the Fresh appearance of the Lobby, thanks to the design work by Debbie Blevins and the signs by Bob Rigor. Very professional. Mike said the T rex was the focal of the Lobby, some adjustment was needed in the Lobby layout as the skull took more space than planned. Almost universal compliments on the layout of the Activity room, there was a negative feedback about the new layout of the Activity room. Keeping the Activity room open is good for the attendees and for emergency response needs. Mike would like to have the spot he had in the 2017 show. This

way he can have his displays up behind him to help with teaching. The rectangle of Demo tables in the center of the room needs a 2nd exit toward the bathrooms. Also, the gap needs to be large enough to accommodate a walker. The entrance/exit where the Cabbings demo was not open. Discussion of replacing the 2nd wheel used for the critters/trees/rocks with a new random selection game control, a probability board, see Mary Hanjes for a better description of a possible replaced method. (Think the “Plinko” game.) Positive comments back on the volunteer lunches, the cost was around \$300. There was one dissenting vote when the motion was made to continue this appreciation lunch for weekend volunteers. Mike discussed the fires and animal rescue effort to feed animals impacted by the fires. Thank You to Donna Albrecht for Friday lunch for the setup crew. Louise Gilley organized the Friday dinner. The kitchen has been operated on the weekend by the Pevahouse family for approximately 38 years, this was the last year. The club needs to get a vendor to do the show meals or needs to come up with enough members to work the kitchen. We had trouble getting enough club members to work the Lobby, Membership, Games and Demonstrate. Are there other sources of workers, like high school students or cub scouts needing service hours? The Environmental Services Health Permit application must be in and accepted well before the show and a health inspector shows up on Saturday to inspect and issue the actual permit. No permit, no food can be served to the public. The Raffle Permit must be applied for with the Department of Justice and a report sent in. Cheryl Morgan reported the business (Mt. Diablo Landscaping) who donated the rocks for painting got 3 orders after the show. Most show problems are due to Communications. Ask questions if you do not understand or do not agree with something. Wrist bands worked well, they went on easily. No deep discounts had to be enforced by Paul Black, Dealer Chair. Also, he worked to get the vendors to not park close to the building, even though it is in the contract. Not all the Demonstrator names were given to the Front Desk for admittance.

Here is the list of the Pevahouse Kitchen Help-Scott Pevahouse, Sherry Pevahouse, Joey Pevahouse, Luke Ennis, Levi Ennis, Alina Graham, Kansas Moffatt, Kevin Talamantes, Karen Talamantes.

Mark Bufton	12/2
Margaret Henrich	12/8
Suzanne Garrett	12/16
Tom Hanjes	12/20
Harry Nichandros	12/24

Note from Louise Gilley: Contra Costa Gem and Mineral Club report for Friday night dinner which served exhibitors, dealers, and setup crew. The dinner was successful because of the efforts of Jane Holcomb, Joanne Caskey, Mary Hicks, Pat Fong (a non-member), and Mark Blackman. It was an energetic, smooth and a flowing operation from planning, shopping, preparation, and cleanup. Workers brought aprons, utensils, pot holders everything we needed to work in the kitchen. Wonderful, Thank You All, Louise Gilley.

Before the General Meeting. Mary Jernigan presented three membership applications to the Board. Richard Ortiz, Elizabeth Tanner, and Carey Ballard. All approved by Kelly Plumb, Paul Black, Mary Jernigan, Mary Hanjes, Mary Hicks, Bonnie Eichler, Chuck Olson, Cheryl Morgan, Dick Pankey, Donna Albrecht.

General Meeting November 13, 2018

7:30 pm the meeting was called to order by Kelly Plumb. Health moment was about respiratory health and particulates. Paul Black collected for missing badges. There were 8 guests. BD and Anniversary announcement. Door prizes were given out. Cheryl announced displays. Chuck spoke about field trips see back table or contact him. The December meeting is the installation of officers and the holiday dinner party. Bring a pot luck item for 5 to 10 people. Bring a gift if you want to participate in a gift exchange. The note about Mary Bufton's health from her son Mark was read. The program was enjoyed, it was about Not All Rocks Get Licked by Rick Kennedy. Thank you for those who brought snacks.

December Birthdays

Therese Clark	12/1
Terry Caskey	12/2

No December Anniversaries

Welcome to our new Newsletter Editor!

Johanna Fenton has accepted the position as our newsletter beginning with the January 2019 edition. Submit articles to Johanna via email at: johfenton@yahoo.com and please get them to her early enough for her to complete the newsletter. Johanna will put the newsletter submission deadline in the monthly newsletter, but for January's edition, please make sure to get any submissions to her no later than the 15th of December.

Bonnie Eichler



Happy Holidays!!!!

Please remember to keep safe this holiday season. Make sure you've had plenty of rest, especially when you're going to be driving. Plan for longer commute times and inclement weather. When shopping for gifts, park in well lit locations and be mindful of others potentially watching you place packages in your car. (While keeping packages in the trunk where they are not visible is better than leaving them visible, it doesn't always prevent car burglaries.)

Bonnie Eichler