



Diablo Diggins

Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society

Since 1950

"We Dig Rocks"

Concord, CA
May 2011

This Newsletter is available by E Mail - contact the Editor

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Mark your calendar for our May 22nd **BBQ & Rock Swap!** Buy some rocks, sell some rocks. Have a bunch of fun.

Field trips abound – it's that time of year. In fact, as I write this Kyle H (one of our Junior members) is leading a fieldtrip at Clear Creek for Benitoite. I'm sure it was great fun and successful for all. He gave a great presentation at our April meeting. Go Kyle!

As fieldtrip season moves into high gear Joanne Caskey is hard at work. She's our Field Trip chairperson. Joanne has sponsored more field trips than we've had in recent memory. This benefits all of us. If you want to attend a field trip talk to her. If you have ideas for a trip I'm sure she would love your input.

On another front, educational classes abound. We are scheduling two a month! Sign up early, mark your calendar, and have fun.

Our annual live auction for charity is coming in June. Start planning now for the auction. Bring in your equipment, rocks, and rock related items to support our club's contributions to the community.

The auction is June 20th, our special June meeting night. Proceeds support scholarships to local college students studying Earth Sciences.

See you in May.

Therese Clark
President

Next General Meeting
Monday May 9, 2011 - 7:30 PM



May Program
John Parrish
California Geological Society



May Program

California Geological Survey Staying Relevant After 150 Years

Before the USGS there was the CGS -- the California Geological Survey.

It began in 1853, the heyday of the gold rush, when the California Legislature appointed a State Geologist to provide information on the State's gold resources.

In 1860 they named Josiah Whitney (of Mount Whitney fame) as the second State Geologist. Whitney's first works were on flora and fauna. The Legislature wanted information on gold, not plants!

After the Legislature cut his budget, Whitney's crusty and abrasive nature did not sit well with the Legislature. He characterized them as corrupt, reckless, stupid, malignant, and jackasses. Whitney was replaced. So Began the California Geological Survey.

Over the last 150 years, the CGS has had six different names, and twelve different logos, and it has evolved. Today, the Survey is not just mining. The CGS provides relevant, modern, detailed geologic maps, reports and data about the state's geology, seismology and mineral resources for the people of California. Much of this is highly relevant to rockhounds.

Our May Speaker is Dr. John G. Parrish, California State Geologist and head of the California Geological Survey. Dr Parrish will entertain us as he relates the exciting and sometimes irreverent stories of the 150-year history of the CGS. He will tell us how the CGS has stayed relevant after all these years and still provides a wealth of resources for the people of California – and rockhounds.

Harry Nichandros
Program Chairman

Due Date

Articles for June Diablo Diggins

May 16, 2011

Board Meeting

Thursday May 5, 6:30 PM

Therese Clark's Home

Inside This Issue

April Program.....	2
Display Report.....	6
Meeting Minutes.....	3,4,5
Bead In.....	15
Education.....	7
Birthdays/Anniversaries.....	8
Member of the Month.....	9
FieldTrippin'.....	10
Membership.....	8
Federation Director.....	12
Various Shows 2011.....	16
Boards and Committees.....	19

CCM&GS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – April 7, 2011

The BOD meeting was held on April 7th, at **Therese Clark's** residence. The meeting was called to order at 6:40pm. The Board and Committee Members present were **Therese Clark, Harry Nichandros, Joanne & Terry Caskey, Dick & Betty Pankey, Mary Hicks, Mary Jernigan, Barbara Brown, Hazel Woolsey, Mary Hanjes, Donna Albrecht, Howard Shamy and Paul Black.**

President- Therese Clark asked if there were any corrections for the March BOD minutes. Terry Caskey moved to accept the minutes. Hazel Woolsey seconded. A vote was taken and the minutes were approved. Next BOD meeting to be on Thursday, May 5th. At General Meetings, announcements are to be kept brief. No need to restate items in Newsletter.

1st Vice President/ Program Chair- Harry Nichandros is ready for volunteers to sign-up for the **Club's Rock Auction on June 20th**. The Auction will be on the third Monday in June instead of a June General meeting at the Centre Concord. Reminder that all equipment purchased at the auction can not be returned. CCM&GS donates the proceeds from the Club Auction to the Diedrich Scholarship to benefit selected geology students in Contra Costa County. Harry has printed small flyers to promote the Club Auction. Costs for the flyers will be deducted from the auction sales proceeds.

CCM&GS Club Show update. – Possibility of accepting new dealers for the Club Show. Harry and Therese have been attending other shows and making contacts with interested dealers. Harry would like to send a dealer contract to 'Jewels of the Earth by Diana'. This vendor offers wire-wrapping of unusual mineral specimens. Mary Jernigan moved to send vendor contract. Mary Hicks seconded. A vote was taken and approved.

Harry announced that he is accepting suggestions for upcoming programs. **Also if you are interested in being on the Program Committee or Program Director for a day, talk to Harry.**

2nd Vice President/ Fieldtrip Chair- Joanne Caskey reported the fieldtrip to Coulterville on for April 2nd. was a great success! CCM&GS members attended and members from several other North Bay Clubs joined in the day's adventures. Rockhounds collected mariposite and serpentine. The purple (lavender) mariposite was on everyone's 'must have' list. The private gold mine tour was exceptional. Joanne hopes to arrange another fieldtrip

up to Coulterville. Upcoming fieldtrips – April 16th Clear Creek for benitoite with Vallejo Club.

Snyder's Pow-Wow – September 2, 3, 4th the Bead-In Babes plan to have a booth to sell their latest creations. Joanne is also planning fieldtrips for CCM&GS members to attend at the Pow-Wow. See the Diablo Diggins' newsletter for more fieldtrips and club events.

Treasurer- Barbara Brown- Audit Committee met, but additional information is required from the Club Show report. The profit & loss statement is to be part of the audit. **Ophelia Hicks** will replace Mary Jernigan as part of the committee. On the committee are **Barbara Brown, Terry Caskey, Therese Clark and Ophelia Hicks.** Bank Statements were being reviewed. Questions regarding reimbursements should be directed to the appropriate Chairperson responsible or to President- **Therese Clark.**

Secretary- Mary Jernigan – Additional show flyers received in post box were presented to BOD and Committee. Mary thanked Harry for taking the beginning meeting notes.

Federation Director-Dick Pankey- Anderson Show on May 13, 14, 15 Dick will attend editor's breakfast. See Dick for your 'Tickets to Paradise' raffle tickets. Please refer to the Diablo Diggins' newsletter for Dick's report on upcoming Federation news.

Past President – Betty Pankey – no report at this time.

Historian- Hazel Woolsey no report at this time. Hazel has contacted Ann Eggleston for prior CCM&GS historical information files.

Membership- Mary Hicks reported that we had seven new member applications for **Scott Blount, Pat & Laura Barrese, Nancy Cox, Marie Frisbie, Vikki Hotopp and Laura Krol.** They have attended our CCM&GS General meetings and want to receive their newsletters by email. Dick moved to accept the new members. Barbara seconded. A vote was taken and the membership applications were approved. No one has responded to Mary for assisting with the revision of the membership application.

Mary Hicks has been busy providing rock identification classes to two 4th grade classes in El Sobrante. Mary shared the thank-you letters that she had received from the students. Six more schools have requested presentations. Future BOD discussion is required to request CCM&GS's contributions for supplies needed for these educational hands-on presentations enjoyed by the students. Supplies needed include rocks & minerals specimens, hand-outs, and other items. Mary also needs

volunteers to help teach the classes. **Please contact Mary if you have specimens to donate or if you are interested in helping with these interesting classroom presentations.**

Hospitality- Mary Hanjes - Spring Social event May 22nd - Sunday at Mary Hanjes' home. It will be a picnic pot-luck with a Rock Swap tailgate. Tables will be set-up at 11am. Food sign-up sheets will be at the General Meeting. Sympathy cards have also been sent out to Connie Klein for the passing of her mother and to Paul Black for his father's illness. Our thoughts and warm wishes go out to both families.

Rocks are needed for the door prizes at the General Meeting. If you have rock prizes to donate, please contact Mary Hanjes.

Education- Donna Albrecht.- Upcoming classes April 23- Rock Identification by Dave Kleesattel, May 15th- Bead Knot Techniques by Mary Hicks, May 21st- Gemology for Consumers by Dennis Freiburger, June 11th- Photographing Your Mineral Specimens by Barrie Bieler, Sept 18th- Gem Trees by Mary Hicks, Oct. 22nd- Wire Wrap Necklaces by Luellen Pierce. More classes are being planned.

President/ Publicity- Therese Clark - Mary Hicks mailed out 57 newsletters for April. The majority of the Club members receive the Diggins' Newsletter by email which saves the Club money! Mary suggests rotating the responsibility of mailing out the newsletter to assist Therese. Mary Hicks has volunteered to also mail out the May newsletter. **Thank you, Ms. Hicks!**

Property- Howard Shamy – The Club trailer is water tight after the heavy rains. Howard is making a canopy for the trailer to protect the display case covers and items in the front of the trailer.

Display- Paul Black – Paul thanked Terry Caskey for filling in for him at the last general meeting during a family emergency.

Newsletter- Terry Caskey – Submit items for May Diggins' by April 18th.

Librarian – Connie Klein (not present)

Old Business- Email Distribution- per the by-laws, to be maintained by the Membership Chair. Emails were not intended to be published on the Club roster. Future survey is being considered on use of emails for only Club related business, including classes and fieldtrips.

Budget Draft- 2010 actual budget to be corrected.

Memorial Bookplates- not completed
“Education through Sharing” Award – nominees to be submitted by September/October.

Next **Board of Directors** meeting- Thursday May 5th 6:30pm at Therese & Harry's residence.

Next **General Meeting-** Monday **May 9th** 7:30pm at Centre Concord. Doors open at 6:30pm

The BOD meeting adjourned at 9:47 pm.
Mary Jernigan – CCM&GS Secretary

CCM&GS General Meeting- April 11 , 2011

President –Therese Clark opened the General Meeting at 7:39pm by welcoming CCM&GS members and guests.

Member- Gary Casillas led members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Sgt.of Arms- Catalina Wright collected quarters from members who had forgotten their badges.

Hospitality- Mary Hanjes welcomed seven guests to the meeting. Tickets were drawn for Guest and Club Member door prizes of geodes and petrified wood. The **Spring Social** has changed to Sunday May 22st for a Rock Swap & BBQ picnic.

Membership- Mary Hicks welcomed seven new members, Scott & Blanche Blount, Pat Barrese, Nancy Cox, Marie Frisbie, Vikki Hotopp and Laura Krol. Membership application forms are available from Mary.

President- Therese Clark – Therese asked everyone to silence their cell phones during the meeting. Camp Paradise raffle tickets are still available. Inter-Regional Rockhound Rendezvous & Fieldtrip – May 27 – 30th Hampton Butte, Oregon. See **Federation Director – Dick Pankey** for details on Camp Paradise & Rockhound Rendezvous fieldtrip. Benitoite Fieldtrip this weekend – April 16th with the Coalinga Club. Fee dig – Kids under 14yrs old \$20, Adults \$70. See **Jr. Club member- Kyle Hunter** for Benitoite fieldtrip sign-ups.

Next Bead-In – Friday April 22nd at Joanne & Terry Caskeys' home

Articles for May Newsletter – April 18th

Next Board of Directors Meeting - Thursday May 5th at Therese & Harry's home.

Next General Meeting - Monday May 9th at the Centre
Concord

2nd Vice President/ Fieldtrips- Joanne Caskey - Check out the Fieldtrip Table with sign-up sheets and upcoming Club Shows.

Display- Paul Black – Invited everyone to visit the Display Table to vote for the competition stones, and to enjoy the collections brought in by CCM&GS Club members.

1st Vice President/ Show Chair- Harry Nichandros introduced the evening's program with Jeffrey Schaffer "Seeing the Elephant". Jeffrey presented his debates regarding the origin of the geological landscapes of Yosemite Valley.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15pm.

Mary Jernigan – CCM&GS Secretary

Monthly Program Calendar

May 09, 2011: California Geological Survey -- Staying Relevant After 150 Years with John Parrish, California State Geologist. The CGS had its origins in the heady Gold Rush Days. It now provides a wealth of maps, resources, and services relevant to rockhounding.

June 20, 2011: *Annual Live Auction*

– Up for grabs: hundreds of rocks, lapidary supplies, equipment, and other items donated by members. Bring a rock or two. Proceeds to California scholarships. Open to all.

**Do you have ideas for fantastic presentations?
Have great speakers in mind? Design your own monthly meeting. Call me.**

Harry Nichandros – VP, Programs

May Program Speaker Insight

Dr. Parrish is primary spokesperson for the CGS with the Director of the Department of Conservation, the Resources Agency, the Governor's Office, the State Legislature, and the State Mining and Geology Board.

Prior to his current position, he was the Executive Officer for the State Mining and Geology Board and Executive Officer for the Board of Registration for Geologists and Geophysicists. Dr. Parrish worked 21 years in geological exploration for the petroleum industry.

A native of California, he was raised in Los Angeles. He is a California licensed Professional Geologist, Certified Professional Geologist, Certified Petroleum Geologist, and a Founding Member of the Energy Minerals Division.

Recently Parrish was awarded the *John T. Galey, Sr. Memorial Public Service Award* by the American Institute of Professional Geologists. This national award is given to an individual for outstanding public service well beyond the normal professional responsibilities.

Important Notice

Auction in June

New Date! The June 20th meeting will be the Live Auction. June is also the month we meet on the third Monday. This is a permanent change in that the June meeting will always be the third Monday, and it will always be the Live Auction.

Bring some rocks to donate, a little money, and plan to have a good time. All auction proceeds are donated to scholarships.

Display Report

There are four competitive categories each month. Everyone is invited to vote on the entries in each category. The winner in each category receives a check for five dollars, and the person who has won the most competitions for novice cab during the year will become a "pro" and be awarded the Diablo Dan medal.

Novice Cab – Two entries

Kelly Plumb – Woodward Ranch Plume

Agate (winner)

Scotty Young – Mexican Moss Agate

Pro Cab - Six entries

Paul Black – Pietersite (winner)

Donna Albrecht – Blue Agate

Barrie Bieler – Rutillated Quartz

Gary Casillas – Rooster Tail (or possibly Bird of Paradise)

Donn Law – Gem Silica

Joe Yarbrough – Graveyard Point Agate

Shape of the Month – Round - Five entries

Kelly Plumb – Red Coral (winner)

Donna Albrecht – Agate

Barrie Bieler - Variscite

Gary Casillas – Brazilian Agate

Joe Yarbrough – Crazy Lace Agate

Faceted Stones – One entry

Terry Caskey – Citrine (undisputed)

Our thanks to Mary Hanjes for sharing samples from her mineral collection. Many mystery stones were identified by club members. Donna Albrecht brought a mystery white plume agate to be identified. Consensus named the stone as Stinking Water Plume Agate. Scotty Young displayed a large slab clock made from Arizona Petrified Wood. Junior member, Kyle Hunter, displayed many of his recent field trip finds including Benitoites, Neptunites, and our state rock, Serpentine. Way to go!

2011 Shape of the Month

January - Irregular

February - Heart shape

March - Oval

April - Round

May - Pear (Teardrop)

June - No competition (Auction night)

July - Freeform (No symmetry)

August - Triangle (Three acute angles)

September - Marquis (Cats eye)

October - Rectangle (or Square)

November - Oval

December - No competition (Christmas party)

-Paul Black



EDUCATION

You'll be excited about the new education opportunities available to members in 2011. Here is a listing of some of the upcoming events. Sign-ups are available at the meetings or by emailing Donna Albrecht at donna@albrechts.com

NEW-NEW-NEW MAKING CABACHONS!!!

On MAY 14, Gary Casillas will teach cab making at the Antioch Lapidary Club's shop in Antioch from 10am to 2 pm. There are only five openings for this very popular class, so don't hesitate! Sign up now!

ROCK IDENTIFICATION Ever wanted to be able to really understand what your rocks really are? (Hint, everything around here isn't jasper...). This class will be taught on April 23 from 11 am to 3 pm by Dave Kleesattel. It is already fully subscribed at this time, but names are still being added to the wait list and to see if there's enough interest to schedule a second class. Free.

BEAD KNOT TECHNIQUES If you've ever made a bead or pearl necklace that just wouldn't lay flat or where the beads rubbed on each other, don't miss this May 15 from 12:30 to 4:30 pm class being taught by Mary Hicks. This class is limited to six students; so sign up early! If the sign-up list is full, add your name in case an opening occurs and to let us know if there is enough interest to schedule a second class this year.

GEMOLOGY FOR CONSUMERS Dennis Freiburger is scheduled to teach this May 21 class from 10 am to 3pm. Topics he will cover include "Determining Gemstone Quality", "Purchasing Gemstones", "Using Gemstones in Jewelry", and "Maintaining Your Gemstone Jewelry". Bring your own lunch. A fee of \$10 per student must be paid in advance of the class date. Contact Dennis to pre-register and pay fee. Class size limited to 10 students.

PHOTOGRAPHING YOUR MINERAL SPECIMENS On June 11, from 1 to 4 pm, our own Barrie Bieler is a noted photographer and will teach a class on how to create photographic images of your minerals. It will be held at Connie Klein's barn. Barrie asks that you bring two or three of your favorite specimens, and have a digital camera with a macro mode lens. Free.

STONE SETTING Dan Howlett will teach this fascinating class on July 13 at Mary Hicks home from 7 to 9 pm. He'll be able to answer your questions about the styles, methods, and materials that are best for different stones.

Next month we'll be announcing even more classes. If there is a class you'd like to teach or a class you want us to offer, let me know and I'll do my best.

Donna Albrecht donna@albrechts.com

Going on a Field Trip!

By Dick Pankey

I'm going on a field trip; what do I need to know? What do I need to take?

When you ask a rock club member why did you join, the typical answer is "field trips." What are you most interested in – "field trips." But most new club members, new rockhounds don't really know much about field trips and have a ton of questions.

Well, on Saturday, June 18th I hope to answer a lot of your questions and tell you some things you hadn't even thought about. This class will be held on Saturday morning from 9 to 12 at my home at 4310 Kingsly Dr., Pittsburg, CA. The class will cover: Types of field trips, What to take on a field trip – tools and other supplies, Field trip safety, Field trip responsibility and etiquette, And answers to your questions!

This class is open to all people, adults and children, who are interested in field trips and rock collecting. The class will be given on my back patio and I can accommodate 20 to 25 people. Please sign up at the May or June meeting (preferred) or call or e-mail me at dickpankey@juno.com 925-439-7509. Joanne Caskey, NBFT and COOP have a lot of field trips scheduled this year and now is the time to prepare yourself so that you will have a great and safe experience.

May Birthdays

David Kates	5/3
Ann Matthews	5/4
Pam Harris	5/7
Kelly Plumb	5/8
Joe Yarbrough	5/12
Patty Wintroath	5/13
Georgia Reynolds	5/18
Dick Pankey	5/19
Don Tompkins	5/22
David Bragen	5/25
Connie Klein	5/26
Kathy Stark	5/30



Refreshments

Thank you for sharing! The following members are asked to provide refreshments for the April meeting.

Scott, Sherry & Joey Pevahouse
 Luellen Pierce
 Kelly Plumb
 Lenda Randleman & Kyle Hunter
 Roger & Georgia Reynolds
 Alan Robbins



May Anniversaries

Patrick Barresse & Laura Krol	5/5
Mary Selmi	5/10

Membership Report for May

Correspondence to Membership should be sent to:

Mary Hicks, Membership Chair
 PO Box 2064
 Antioch, CA 94531

As you see from the Board Minutes we approved new members at the April meeting. The new members are **Pat (Patrick) Barrese & Laura Krol, Scott & Catherine Blount, Nancy Cox, Marie Frisbie, and Vikki Hotop**. They will be receiving their Membership Badges at the May General Meeting. I have received one application that will be presented to the Board at the May Board meeting. I am getting the new membership roster to members this month.

I am no longer providing visits to classrooms for teachers who contact the club requesting this service. If anyone is interested in doing this type of activity for the club contact me or President Therese Clark. Some members do classroom visits on their own and that is great too. But if you wish to do so as a representative of the club please get in touch with me or Therese. I want to thank **Bill Beiriger** of the Livermore Lithophiles for volunteering to do presentations for a teacher from the San Ramon School District who had contacted **Property Chair Howard Shamy** about the club providing her support. Rocks make for good neighbors.

It is never too early to start creating a beautiful item for the Membership Raffle at the Education Show in November. Bolo ties, belt buckles, necklace with earring sets, rings, and carvings are items popular with show attendees. Remember to include the chain if donating a pendent. We do not have much money to buy items to finish off an item. The law allows only 10% of the gross ticket sales for expenses.

Mary Hicks, Membership Chair 925-779-0698

Member of the Month-Joe Yarbrough



Joe Yarbrough has a ready smile and has much knowledge to share with other members about rocks and enameling. He is an active member who can be found at most club functions and has been Display Chair, President and has done many jobs at the annual education show in November. His melodic voice is a favorite for making announcements at the show. He will be helping with the annual club auction at the June General Meeting when we raise money for geological scholarships. If you do not know Joe, please introduce yourselves at the next meeting.

Joe remembers that Lou Hamilton got him interested in rocks when they met in the 1950's as Air Force reservists. Joe went on a field trip with Lou and that sealed his fate. Joe retired from Chevron in 1990. His favorite rock is Graveyard Point agate. He started working on cabs in 1991 and has excelled in creating cabs and has over 300 cabs of Graveyard in his collection. He won seven cab competitions in 1993. You will notice his name often in the newsletter where competitors for the monthly cab contests are listed.

Joe also knaps arrowheads and makes beautiful rock clocks. His Memory Rock is a specimen he found with John Perona while on a field trip to Davis Creek in northeast California. He went fishing in the area and found a multi-colored agate with a botryoidally shaped surface overlaying moss agate. He got some nice slabs off this rock and made a cab for a belt buckle and the residual rock is a favorite in his collection.

Bob Pevahouse asked Joe to come to the Mt. Diablo Seniors Enrichment class and get involved there. Several rock club members have been volunteers with the senior group over the years. Today, most Tuesday mornings you will find Joe teaching enameling. He is a great teacher and the cost is only for copper blanks. Ask him how you can come and learn enameling on Tuesday mornings.

Mary Hicks, Membership

Spring Social and Rock Swap – Note NEW DATE!

Our Spring Social and Rock Swap potluck and barbecue will be held Sunday, May 22 from 11:30 to 3:00 pm in Walnut Creek at the home of Mary Hanjes. Please note the date has been changed to the next day (to allow more people to attend both the gemology class and the social). Members are encouraged to bring their rock-related items to swap or sell. Sign up at the meeting or call Mary Hanjes before May 13 to attend.

11:30 am Doors open for swap/sale setup and socializing
 12:30 pm Nibbles
 2:00 pm Lunch Served

Please bring a chair (if you have one), food to share, stuff to swap or sell (if you want), and a small table for your stuff (if you have one). Hat and sunscreen are also a good idea, though shade will be available.

Questions? Contact Mary Hanjes

FIELD TRIPPIN' w/ JOANNE CASKEY



The April 2nd Mariposite Quarry, Gold Mine Tour & Picnic field trip was a huge success with approximately 50

people showing up from many clubs. These eager rockhounds traveled for hours in the early morning hours to reach the town of Coulterville on Highway 49 in the Motherlode country. After an orientation, the group caravanned to a Mariposite quarry five miles away. We parked and collected just inside the property ... digging and hammering away until we got our fill of that pretty rock – some bright green-gluce, some dark green – some with a lot of quartz showing, and some without. There were rocks showing a light dusting of purple and the blue/green which was interesting and I can't wait to see it cut and polished. That was a popular rock for many to collect.

We couldn't make the hike up the hill and over and down to the quarry since the recent rains had caused a slide of trees and mud which covered the roadway.

Louis Bickford, Coulterville resident – cattle ranch and Trading Post store owner – is caretaker for the quarry. He is helping out George Mallory, owner, who is ailing. Louis welcomes clubs to contact him to make a reservation to visit the quarry to purchase Mariposite rock, any time. He also has prime grade beef for sale. Call or e-mail me if you can't find his phone number listed in the Coulterville area.

After the quarry, we went on tour at the Al Haigh ranch which was very close by – driving through the working cattle ranch with an array of farm animals running around. Again, the recent rains cause a few problems on the dirt roads and we parked down from the mine so everyone who toured the underground gold mine had to walk a little ways uphill. Crystals and Mariposite were located a little too far for us to be walking up from the mine to the top of the hills where it is located – so this will have to be another field trip during dry weather when we can drive up to it.

Interesting talks were given to the group by both Louis Bickford and Al Haigh during our visits. In all, it was a worthwhile collecting trip and interesting experience. Everyone seemed to be having a good time. Enjoy the photos posted by Terry!

The weekend of April 16th, Kyle Hunter, Lenda Randleman, and Scott and Steven Newman went to Coalinga, the Old Road Camp, to try their hand at finding Benitoite crystals and various other minerals found in the mine tailings. We will be hearing more about this adventure from them at the next general meeting, I hope!

Does anyone know about the copper tailings public collecting site at or near Copperopolis? Let's find out more about that and get a group together to go up there to see what we can find! If you know anything, contact me or Scott Newman and let us know. Also ... there may be some good rockhounding at New Hogan Lake at Valley Springs ... anyone know about that? Let us know if you do, please!

The Anderson CFMS show is coming up soon – May 13 thru 15th at Anderson, near Redding. I see in the CFMS newsletter that there is now one group tour – and maybe another – being offered. The first 50 people to sign up at the show get to go ... the group will tour Clear Creek Horsetown Preserve in Anderson and participate in a discussion of the geology, mineralogy, mining history, and fossils of the area by Brian Rasmussen of NPS, Friday @ 10AM and maybe the next day also. Coordinated by Dan Brown, CO-OP Historian.

WANT ROCKS? COME TO OREGON, MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND. The Northwest/CFMS Inter-Regional Rockhound Rendezvous is coming up real soon so you should start planning for this great annual event. I understand there will be a whole lot of collecting sites being offered to everyone every day of the rendezvous – some with field trip leaders, some led by you! Be prepared for anything while dry camping with a bunch of treasure hunters. Good food, storytelling, rock swap/tailgate, sharing good times and fun campfires and MORE. You will find the Information sheet in this newsletter. Sign up with Dick Pankey if you plan to go. If you want to camp with our CCM&GS group when you get there, let me know, too.

Pictures from Mariposite Quarry Trip



Federation Director's Report

By Dick Pankey, Federation Director

Our meeting on May 9th will be your last chance to buy your Raffle tickets for a week in Paradise; the CFMS Earth Science Studies program at Camp Paradise, that is. You can win a free week at Camp Paradise. Tickets cost only \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Just think of it: tickets to Paradise only \$5!!! All societies that sell \$200 or more in tickets will have their names included in a special raffle for another free week in Paradise, Camp Paradise that is. The tickets are available from me at our May meeting; the drawing will be conducted at the Federation Show in May. See me or call me to get your tickets to Paradise. Call me with questions and for more information about the CFMS Earth Science Studies.

This year the CFMS Show and Convention is only about 200 miles from Concord. This is a BIG 3 day show that is hosted by the Superior California Gem and Mineral Association at the Fairgrounds in Anderson, CA on May 13th to 15th. The show will be held in 4 buildings with a bunch of tailgate dealers in a nearby, large grassy area. There will be the largest array of dealers, many competitive and non-competitive displays, the CFMS minerals and museum collection, many demonstrator, speakers and youth activities. The show opens on Friday with an informal, social get-together called the Cracker Barrel on Friday evening. The Directors' meeting is on Saturday morning with the Awards Banquet on Saturday evening. The Editors' Breakfast is Sunday morning and an ALAA meeting in the afternoon. There are a lot of sights and attractions in the area; Betty and I are

staying over an extra day to visit the Shasta Caverns which is less than an hour's drive north.

Competitive and non-competitive exhibiting is open to all society members. If you are interested in attending this show I have all the information and forms you will need or they are available on the CFMS website. There is full hook-up and dry camping available at the fairground. Also, there is good selection of motels in the area.

This is the "Big Show" for California this year and is sure to be a fun and interesting event and a great vacation destination.



Northern California Treasures
May 13, 14, and 15, 2011

California Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.
Show and Convention

Shasta District Fairgrounds
Briggs St. - Anderson, CA
8 Miles South of Redding, CA

Hours:
Friday: 9am-5pm
Saturday: 9am-5pm
Sunday: 10am-4pm

Raffle
Speakers
World Class Displays
Silent Auction
Free Demonstrations

Adults: \$4.00
Seniors: 65+ \$3.00
Children: 13-18 - \$2.00
Children: 12 and Under - Free



Minerals
Fossils
Beads
Gems
Jewelry
Jewelry Supplies

Lots of stuff!
Loads of Fun!

Come for Lunch and stay through closing!

Sponsored by California Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.
Hosted by:
Superior California Gem and Mineral Association a combined association of:
Shasta Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. - Redding, CA. - www.shastagemandmineral.com
Paradise Gem and Mineral Club - Paradise, CA.
visit us at: www.superiorcal.com

INTER-REGIONAL ROCKHOUND RENDEZVOUS AND FIELD TRIP
Hosted by Northwest and California Federations of Mineralogical Societies
Hampton Butte, OR
May 27 – 30, 2011
 (Memorial Day Weekend)

The Northwest and California Federations of Mineralogical Societies are hosting an Inter-Regional Rockhound Rendezvous and Field Trip to Central Oregon over Memorial Day Weekend 2011 for Petrified Wood, Agate and Obsidian!! All AFMS society members and guests are invited.

Directions: From the South – Traveling east or west on US 20 turn north on Van Lake Rd. (mile marker 52) go north approximately 16 miles. Watch for camp signs as you approach Camp Creek road. Road is a maintained gravel road.

Directions: From the North – Driving from Prineville, Oregon go east on highway 380 to mile marker 44, turn south (or right) on Camp Creek road and drive south until you get to the junction of Van Lake Rd. Watch for signs (all but the last several miles are paved)

Facilities: The campground is a large pasture. This is a “dry camping” area and with porta potties. It can accommodate all sizes of motorhomes and trailers and is also very good for tents. You will be camping on private property and need to follow some basic rules: No off road except camp area, no cutting of fire wood and **NO ROCK COLLECTING ON THE RANCH**. If you have questions check with camp host.

Collecting Trips: The organized collecting trips will start on Friday morning. All trips will leave at **8:30 AM, SHARP** from the campground. We will be running a maximum of 50 collectors to three separate locations on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. You will have to sign up each day on a first come first served basis. **THREE TRIPS WILL BE LEAVING FOR THE THREE LOCATIONS EACH OF THE THREE DAYS.**

Schedule:

Thursday, May 26: Arrive at camp, welcome potluck dinner and get together with camp fire.
 Friday, May 27: Daily Field Trips: #1 Hampton Butte; #2 Paulina Area; and #3 Camp Creek Area.
 Evening: BLM * Talk on Geology of the Area, USFS * Newly Discovered Calderas, Camp Fire
 Saturday, May 28: Daily Field Trips: #1 Hampton Butte; #2 Paulina Area; and #3 Camp Creek Area.
 Evening: All Rendezvous Potluck Dinner and Camp Fire
 Sunday, May 29: Daily Field Trips: #1 Hampton Butte; #2 Paulina Area; and #3 Camp Creek
 Afternoon & Evening: Rock Swap, Wood identification by Walt Wright.
 Monday, May 30: Daily Field Trips: Glass Butte. Open Day you may go to any of the collecting areas
 Tuesday, May 31: Break camp to head for home or other adventures

Plan on several potluck dinners and daily happy hours. Bring firewood for evening campfires. We plan on having a good time and collecting some good material.

This will be a great opportunity for rockhounds from all over to meet one another, to share stories, and information about collecting in their home areas. Be sure to bring material from your favorite collecting sites to show and share, trade or sell. Come join us for a great Inter-Regional Rendezvous of collecting, fun and fellowship.

Please notify one of the Federation leaders early, but no later than May 20 if you plan to attend. E-mail (or call) if you have questions or need more information.

Contacts:

Doug True - Northwest Federation, dtruefossils@yahoo.com, 406-670-0506

Richard Pankey - California Federation, dickpankey@juno.com, 925-439-7509

Rock Samples for US Forest Service Display

By Dick Pankey

At the MLMS Show in Turlock, CA a couple of weeks ago, I met Mike Hunerlach from the US Forest Service and he told me of his need for rock and mineral specimens from Forest Service land in California. As we talked about it I realized that this would be a great project for CFMS and that I wanted to help with it.

Each year the USDA Forest Service sponsors an informational display booth at the annual Tucson Gem and Mineral Show along with displays from other Federal Land Management Agencies and professional mineral and gem societies. The USDA Forest Service booth has a display of the types of minerals and rocks that are typically found in the National Forests across the United States and Alaska. This display and rock samples are also used at other shows and meetings. Michael Hunerlach is in charge of organizing and setting up the display scheduled for February 2012.

There are 17 National Forests in California and I am sure that rockhound collectors of the CFMS have collected in all of them so this should be easy for us to provide rock samples for Mike. Mike is looking for samples of rocks and/or mineral specimens known to occur in the National Forests of California. This should not be a problem because the samples are probably already in our collections and rock piles. Please check with District Ranger Staff for areas of casual and/or restricted collecting sites for individual Forests located in California. Below is a list of preferred criteria:

- 1) Size should be in the range of miniature to small cabinet specimen (2-4 inches in diameter).
- 2) Each sample needs to be identified with: name of rock or mineral; location collected including which National Forest; GPS position (very desirable); when collected; name of person and society; and any other specific information you wish to provide.

We want to get specimens that are "typical" and representative of each National Forest. We are not trying to get samples of "every rock" in every Forest. I am donating obsidian samples from the Davis Creek collecting area of the Modoc National Forest so we have 16 more National Forests to go. If you would like to help with this project and donate rocks, please send me an e-mail with the name of the rock and the name of the National Forest where it was collected. Please email or contact me before bringing or sending me specimens to

avoid duplication. The rest of the information can be supplied when you give me your donation. Go through your rock pile and collecting records to see what you have to donate to this project. I will start accepting donations at the CFMS Show and Convention at Anderson, CA in May.

Since we are going through the effort to get specimens for the Forest Service we might as well prepare a display of rocks collected on National Forest land for the CFMS. So I am asking the people that donate specimens to donate a second specimen for a CFMS display. We are looking for good to high quality specimens that show the typical/classical characteristics and are representative of the rocks and minerals to be found in each of the National Forests in California.

Here is a list of the National Forests in California: [Angeles National Forest](#)
[Cleveland National Forest](#)
[Eldorado National Forest](#)
[Inyo National Forest](#)
[Klamath National Forest](#)
[Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit](#)
[Lassen National Forest](#)
[Los Padres National Forest](#)
[Mendocino National Forest](#)
[Modoc National Forest](#)
[Plumas National Forest](#)
[San Bernardino National Forest](#)
[Sequoia National Forest](#)
[Shasta-Trinity National Forest](#)
[Sierra National Forest](#)
[Six Rivers National Forest](#)
[Stanislaus National Forest](#)
[Tahoe National Forest](#)

Check out your maps, field trip fliers and collecting records to see where you have collected and what samples you may have to donate.

This project has many benefits to rockhounds and the CFMS. Working with the managers of our public lands is one way to develop a personal relationship enabling us to get to know one another; it will show what and where we collect so that these areas can be preserved for future collecting; it enhances our position and credibility as a responsible user of public lands; and other benefits.

This is No Joke, Folks!**Rocks Needed**

We are about to run out of rocks!

For years the Silent Auction has been a great draw for our November Gem & Mineral Show and a great profit for the club.

We are now low on rocks! Can you believe that?

If you have rocks, please consider contributing. We need more rocks. That's no joke. Let's make a deal. We'll pick them up. You get the deduction. Try it out. Call me.

**Harry Nichandros
Show Chairman**

***THE NEXT BEAD-IN IS
SCHEDULED FOR JUNE!***

Everyone is invited to participate at our monthly "Bead-In" where we all come together to bead, wire wrap, etc., motivate each other and share ideas ... and just "whatever". This is a casual get-together of club members who enjoy being creative with their rock-related hobby.

Place: Caskey house
Joanne, 925-689-2119
Time: 6:30 – 10:00
Date: **June 17, 2011**



Discussion re: sharing a group booth at the Valley Springs Pow Wow. Bring your beading project to work on.

**NBFT/CO-OP/CCM&GS MEMBERS
& OTHER FIELD TRIPS FOR 2011**

May 7 & 8 Stonyford, CA for jasper. Sutter Buttes Society, Gerry Hill - COOP

May 23 Calico Mountains, CA for sagenite agate, CFMS South, Adam Dean (CFMS website lists this fieldtrip for May 23 and also May 28 - not sure which is correct.)

May 28-30 Central OR - Hampton Butte - for petrified wood, limb casts, obsidian, thunder eggs, other minerals. Inter-Regional Rendezvous (Northwest Fed & CFMS) Doug True and Dick Pankey. (See Joanne, CCMGS is going)

June ? (need date) Stoney Creek & Black Butte, Ca, Penninsula - Colleen McGann - NBFT

June ? (need date) Northern Black Rock Desert, NV, Garage Grinders - Scott Paradis - NBFT

June 11, 12 Linka Mine, Austin, NV area for fluorescent minerals, other minerals, graptolites. Nevada Co. Society, Vicki Black - COOP

June 17-20 Black Rock Desert, NV for limb casts, petrified wood, jaspers, opal, calcite. Calaveras Co. Society, Bob Young - NBFT

June 25, 26 Meadow Lake, (Truckee area) CA for chalc & arsenopyrite, viewing petroglyphs. El Dorado Co. Society, FT Leader TBD - COOP

June 29 July 4 Madras, OR for annual Pow Wow for various collecting trips. Sacramento Mineral Society, Joe Shook - COOP

July 16, 17 Middlegate, NV for fossils, petrified wood and tour of Ichthyosaur State Park. Fossils for Fun Society, Debbie Bunn - COOP

July 23, 24 Sump and Monte Cristo, NV for minerals. Sacramento Mineral Society, Joe Shook - COOP

July 23,24 Pala, CA San Diego Co. Tourmaline mines, for CCM&GS club members, Scott Newman

July 29-30 Covello, Ca for jade, Vallejo Club, Lori Palacio - NBFT

Aug 13 Jade Cove, Ca for jade, SF Club - Barb Matz - NBFT

Sept 2-5 Valley Springs Pow Wow - Sat tour for CCM&GS club members, Joanne Caskey

Sept 9-11 Calistoga - Petrified Forest & Geysers w/campover for CCM&GS club members, Joanne Caskey

Sept. 11 Grimes Pt./Fallon area, NV for jasper, agate, rhyolite. Amador Co. Society, Marty Carswell - COOP

Sept 9-11 Black Rock Desert, NV for geodes, wood, Xmas agatte, fossils, Napa Club - Heinz Dreier & Garage Grinders - Scott Paradis - NBFT

Sept 17 Shell Beach, CA for jasp and whalebone, Vallejo Club - Lori Palacio - NBFT

Sept. 30 (Fri.) Gladding McBean Mine Tour, Lincoln, CA. Sun City LH Society, Ron Clawson - COOP

Oct. 21-23 Fernley, NV for various minerals. Sutter Buttes Society, Gerry Hill - COOP

Nov. 21-26 Location to be determined, annual Thanksgiving field trips. Mother Lode Society, Al Troglin - COOP

THE ERNST QUARRIES SHARKTOOTH HILL And The **BUENA VISTA** Museum of Natural History

PALEO DIGS 2011
Come join us **Memorial Day!**

Fri May 27 thru Sun May 29

Member Prices:

FOSSIL HUNT \$85 Single Day Fossil Hunt

FOSSIL EXCURSION Two Day Fossil Excursion \$160

FOSSIL SAFARI Three Day Fossil Safari \$225

Here's What's Included:

- 8 Hours of Hunting
- Keep ALL Teeth!

For More Information contact:
BVMNH
 2018 Chester Ave.
 Bakersfield, CA 93301

or call: (661) 324-6350
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www.sharktoothhillproperty.com

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SHOWTIME!! VARIOUS SHOWS & EVENTS

For more information on these and other upcoming 2011 shows, contact Joanne caskey, or check the Rock & Gem Magazine website for a detailed listing.

MAY

7-8 – RENO, NV, Reno Gem & Mineral Society Gem Show, Reno Livestock Events Center, Exhibit Hall, 1350 N. Wells Av, Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4.
<http://renorockclub.com>

13-15 - Anderson, CA, CFMS Show & Convention - "Northern California Treasures", Shasta District Fairgrounds, Anderson, CA, Briggs Street (8 mi S of Redding) Exit 677 off interstate 5 to highway 273; 2.5 miles to fairgrounds, hours Fri & Sat 9-5; Sun 10-4, www.superiorcal.com

21-22 - Jackson, CA, Fossils for Fun Society, Kennedy Mine, 12954 Kennedy Mine Rd, Hours 9-5 daily, Debbie Bunn fossilsforfun@hotmail.com, www.fossilsforfun.org

Antioch Rock Swap

The annual Antioch Rock Swap is June 11th, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Antioch Lapidary Club, Club House, 425 Fulton Shipyard Road, Antioch, CA.

There are always plenty of rocks minerals and surprises at great prices: Activities for kids; And the best BBQ lunch you could want.

Open to all, No entrance fee, Free parking, Optional lunch and drink \$5.00.

Sales spaces are available to those interested in selling and swapping. Sellers can register with ALC President, Gary Casillas (925) 458-4076. Fee \$5. Set up at 8:00 am. Bring your own tables, sun protection, etc.

Gary Casillas
 Antioch Lapidary Club

A large measure of the enjoyment of our hobby consists of collecting in the field. For that reason, the members are proud to endorse the following:

"Code of Ethics"

- *I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without permission from the owner.
- *I will keep informed on all laws, regulations or rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
- *I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
- *I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
- *I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind such as fences, signs, buildings, etc.
- *I will leave all gates as found.
- *I will build fires only in designated or safe places and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
- *I will discard no burning material - matches, cigarettes, etc.
- *I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.
- *I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supplies.
- *I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
- *I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.
- *I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
- *I will cooperate with field-trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.
- *I will report to my club or federation officers, Bureau of Land Management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.
- *I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
- *I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use Good Outdoor Manners and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and Public Image of Rockhounds everywhere.

Revised July 7, 1999 at the AFMS Annual Meeting



Ann Matthews Remembers!

At our last meeting someone won the Toe Jam Mountain wood in the drawing and that brought back memories for us.

There really is a mountain in Nevada called Toe Jam. It is in the Nevada Map Atlas that we bought many years ago from the Nevada Department of Transportation.

Our club was told about the area and took a field trip there to collect wood. Our children were school age at the time as were some other Junior members in the club. We camped at a small reservoir west of Tuscarora. Brownie Cameron always stayed at camp to watch over things.

A young man from the club, Doug Wright, was with us on this trip. He set up his small tent. The group was ready to go so Doug left everything open and away we went. We found the collecting area and everyone got some wood. Matt led the jeeps away from the area to sight see. We ran across an old partly wood small airplane that had crashed and landed on its belly so the pilot could have survived but he had a really long walk to go for help. We think it was a trainer plane from WWII. We also found a bull that did not like the driver's orange jacket or the jeep and charged but we outran him. When we got back to camp the critters had enjoyed Doug's food while we were gone. Not to worry for Rockhounds take care of each, and even strangers.

Our club went to the area for two more trips at different years. All the rock collecting trips that we took with our club were always fun and adventurous.

Fossils for Fun 11th Annual Tailgate Gemboree

Snyder's Pow Wow has changed its dates to the Labor Day Weekend. But you can still enjoy great "Silver Pick" collecting in May. **Fossils For Fun** will hold their 11th annual Tailgate Gemboree at the Kennedy Mine on May 21st and 22nd. This is a two-day swap. Swap space including camping is \$50. There usually are 10 to 14 tailgaters with a wide variety and good selection of fossils, rocks, slabs, minerals, jewelry, old equipment, tools, crafts and much, much more. Fossils For Fun has several tables of great, interesting fossils for sale at bargain prices. There is a potluck dinner and auction on Saturday evening and a pancake breakfast on Sunday morning. This is historic gold country. The Kennedy Mine was a major underground gold mine and is being restored by a volunteer group and tours are available. There is a lot to see and experience: museum, mining artifacts, displays and more.

Jackson is on Highways 88 and 49, about 100 miles from Concord so it would be an easy drive for a one-day rock outing. If you are interested in being a seller, contact Hugh Brady at (916) 961-6868 or fhbrady@jps.net. Or you can call me for more information.

Betty and I plan to be at this rock swap again this year; this will be our 10th one. We have been "seller" at this event every year except for 2008. It is a well run event in a great scenic location. There is a good array of vendors and generally a good turnout of "buyers."

Dick Pankey



Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society**P0 Box 4667, Walnut Creek, CA 94596 www.ccmgs.org****General Meeting: Second Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m.****(Third Monday of the month in June)****Centre Concord, 5298 Clayton Rd, Concord, (Clayton Fair Shopping Center, about 0.2 miles northwest on Clayton from Ygnacio Valley Road)**

Cross street Balhan Drive, next to Clayton Valley Bowl, Free Parking,

Membership Fees: Initiation \$5; Regular Member \$10, Junior \$1**VISITORS ARE WELCOME! BRING A FRIEND!****Board and Committee Members 2011****Please do not publish this list, Editor**

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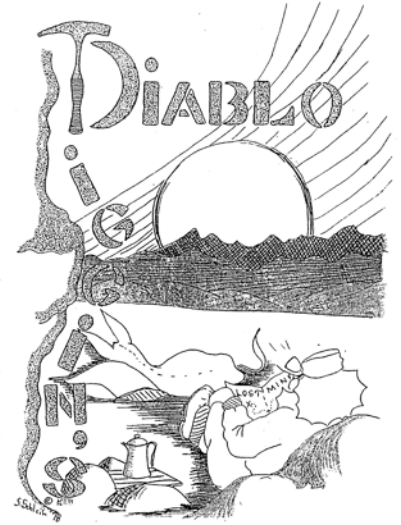
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May 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5 Bd Mtg	6	7
8 Mothers Day	9 Gen'l Mtg	10	11	12	13 CFMS Show Wknd	14 Cab Class
15 Bead Knot Class	16 Nwsltr articles due	17	18	19	20	21 Gem Class
22 BBQ & rock swap	23	24	25	26	27 Inter-reg fieldtrip wknd	28
29	30 Memorial Day	31				



Contra Costa
Mineral & Gem Society
Contra Costa County, California

Diablo Diggins
 Newsletter of the Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society
www.ccmgs.org
 Editor-Terry Caskey
 Send reports to tcaskey@comcast.net
 The Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society was formed in 1950 to encourage the study of the lapidary arts, mineralogy and field collection. Members meet the second Monday of each month at Centre Concord, 5298 Clayton Rd, Concord, Ca 94521 (Clayton Faire Shopping Center between Ygnacio Valley Rd and Balham Dr, next to Clayton Valley Bowl). Visitors are welcome! Bring a friend!

Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society
 P.O. Box 4667, Walnut Creek, Ca 94596
 Member of American and California Federation of Mineralogical Societies

Editors Note. See Biography of Jeffery Schaffer on P. 10