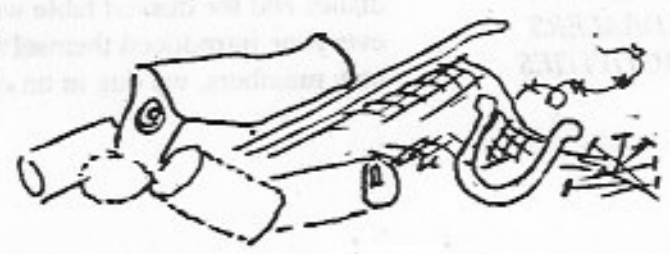


DiABLO



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10/2003



*Costa
Costa*

Mineral + Gem Soc
Walnut Creek
California

Diablo Diggins –October 2003

Due date for November is October 18th.
maryhicks@comcast.net or Mary Hicks, 2418
 Larkin Ct., Antioch, CA 94531

General Meeting Refreshments

Gaylord & Betty Jerde
 Mary Jernigan
 Sam Johnston
 Lee King
 Mary Ann King

President's Message

By Ann Matthews

Didn't you enjoy Dave Kleesattel's program about gold and his gold brick that only the strong could lift? He has brought us some interesting programs this year.

The October 10th meeting is our Annual Auction for the Scholarship Fund and voting for next year's officers. The auction is always lively. Bring in your rocks, or anything else you would like to donate. Just about anything and everything can be auctioned off. Don't forget your wallet to purchase something.

Thank you Betty Pankey for our fun picnic. Good food, good fellowship, Rock Bingo plus good weather added up to make it a great time for all.

Call Mary Ann King for the classes we sponsor. Check Dick Pankey's list of Field Trips - and join in on one or more.

DON'T FORGET OUR SHOW WILL BE COMING SOON.

KEEP SETUP DATE OCTOBER 31 AND SHOW DATES NOVEMBER 1 AND 2 CLEAR TO HELP WITH OUR SHOW.

IT TRULY IS

A SHOW WE CAN ALL BE PROUD OF WITH BEAUTIFUL EXHIBITS, SUPER DEALERS, GREAT DEMO'S, CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES AND GOOD FOOD.

Our show is the **ONE & ONLY** fund raiser we have to support our club throughout the year. If we raise enough money to pay for our activities then we won't have to raise the dues.

We especially need you to help advertise our show and encourage everyone you know and those you don't know to come to the show. Where else can the public go for entertainment for only \$2 with children under 12 free with an adult? Ask Sam Woolsey what YOU can do.

If you want to exhibit a case in our show, let me know right away. Scott Pevahouse has asked to have you all bring in a dessert to sell at the show. Can't cook, then buy something and donate it. Our attendees enjoy our food and they like desserts too.

Dave Kleesattel can still use rocks for the auction. Hazel Woolsey is always in need of grab bag and spin-the-wheel items.

The next Board Meeting is Monday night October 6. Show meeting night is October 8. Everyone welcome. October 10 meeting will be the Annual Scholarship Auction and voting for Officers for 2004.

November Show-Everyone needs to help. Give Sam Woolsey a call to see what you can do. PLEASE do all you can to advertise our show. WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS: Join in and have fun.

Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society ANNUAL PICNIC

By Betty Pankey, Hospitality

It was a beautiful day for a club picnic, plenty of sunshine and a pleasant breeze. Everyone started arriving and setting up the prizes for bingo. Soon we were sitting in a circle and socializing, which is the proper place to socialize.

The tables filled up fast with many delicious dishes and the dessert table was plum full. After everyone introduced themselves, we had many new members, we dug in on our picnic lunch.

Soon after, we got set up to start our bingo game with Richard calling out the numbers. It's amazing how everyone gets so excited about the game. We took a head count and came up with around 25 people, two of them were pebble pups.

Next event will be the **Holiday party on December 12th**, same night as our meeting. We will again have an ornament exchange, does not have to be rock related, I already have some stained glass ornaments made up. More details will follow.

Selection Committee for Slate of Officers for 2004

Announcement made at the September General Meeting for Officer Candidates for 2004.

President: **Ann Matthews**

1st V.P.: **Dave Kleesattel**

2nd V.P.: **Dick Pankey**

Treasurer: **Eva Umholtz**

Federation Rep.: **Bob Pevahouse**

Secretary: **Mary Hicks**

No other candidates were nominated from the floor.

The slate will be presented to members at the October meeting, and once again, members will be invited to make nominations from the floor.

Thanks to the Nominating Committee **Glen MacKenzie, Gene Holcomb, and Tom Umholtz.**

Stone of the Month

By **Lee King**

Only one faceter and novice cab were up for competition at the August meeting, so no award can be made for these submittals. The pro cab winner for the September competition is **Mary Bufton**. Congratulations to **Mary**. She is awarded \$5.

Library Report

By **Bill McKay**

Book Title: **Creative Casting**

Author: **Sharr Choate**

Library No.: **116**

This is the first book to cover in one volume all the major methods of casting metals that are applicable to many crafts and especially to jewelry

making. They include techniques for lost wax, replica, hollow core, sand, cuttlefish bone, and rubber-mold methods of casting.

With these, the artist-craftsman can cast his own original creations or he can duplicate works he or a fellow craftsman has already made. In addition, the craftsman, beginner or advanced, can reproduce in metal hundreds of items from nature such as flowers, insects, butterflies, or leaves.

The first part of this book is devoted to casting itself; creating the design to be cast; the tools and materials and how to use them; working with wax models and with objects to be reproduced; spruing; investing; burning-out; and the final casting.

The second part of the book deals with finishing; basic, then fine finishing; soldering; surface treatment and decoration; gemstone mountings and findings; electroplating; and enameling. There are complete tables essential to the casting methods, and an extensive bibliography and index.

Square Wire Wrapping Class

Thursday, October 16 & 17

7 PM to 10 PM

Room 203

Mt. Diablo Adult Education

3100 Oak Park Blvd.

Pleasant Hill

The very popular basic square wire wrapping class is full and overflowing. Sixteen members have signed up for this great class and this is about all that the talented instructor, **Glen MacKenzie**, can accommodate.

The club will provide the gold-filled square wire and stones to wrap for the project. All the club members need to bring are **smooth jaw hobby pliers (flat nose, pointy nose, round nose), wire nipper, 6" ruler, fine point marking pen**. If you have extra pliers bring them along to share with others who may not have them.

If you wish to be put on the waiting list, in the event of dropouts, please call **Glen MacKenzie** at 689-4589.

Board Meeting

By **Sharon Neuhauser**, Secretary

Meeting opened at President **Ann Matthews**, not present were Ron Fray and Bill McKay.

Old business: no correction of minutes, they stood as printed in the newsletter.

New business: Publicity Chair **Mary Bufton** had no report. **Jim Bufton**, Membership Chair announced that **Kim Kleesattel** will be the new Membership Chair. Kim had a new form she passed around for approval. First Vice President **Dave Kleesattel** announced September Program on "Gold." October will be the yearly auction and **Dave** has a speaker planned for November. December is our annual Holiday Potluck. **Dave's** also giving a program for the Vallejo Gem Club.

Treasurer **Eva Umholtz** says the club is solvent. She will miss the next month meeting, as she and **Tom** will be traveling.

Sam Woolsey Show Chair says all dealers are paid but one and he is expecting that check any day. There will be fliers and sign up sheets at the General Meeting. The show meeting is at **Ann's** house on October 8th. Final show preparations are underway.

Education Chair **Mary Ann King** announced a good thurn out for our August Critters nights at **Connie Klein's**. September 18 & 25, **Ophelia Hicks** will teach **Gem Tree** designing and creating.

Second Vice President **Dick Pankey** will host a Contra Costa field trip to **Willy's Wells** in February, 2004. All details in his report.

Betty Pankey Hospitality, discussed our **Picnic** plans for Sunday September 14th at Baldwin Park in Concord.

Glen Hubbard Property discussed a shipment of Diablo Dan Beverage cups. Also the work party at **Connie Klein's** is thanked for making shelving.

First Vice President **Dave Kleesattel** stated that his company may make copies of our "Diablo Diggins" as a community service. The club would provide the paper and then the company will do the duplications.

President **Ann** made two motions to approve paper for the community service offer by **Dave's**

company and for the paper for the membership with a map. These two motions were seconded and approved.

Hazel Woolsey appreciates those who have helped with refreshments and cleanup, everyone please take a turn, it makes it easier on everyone.

Being no new business meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

General Meeting

By **Sharon Neuhauser**, Secretary

President **Ann Matthews** called our meeting to order at 7:30 pm. Flag salute led by **Glen Hubbard**. **Betty Pankey** gave names of those who celebrated September birthdays and anniversaries. Guests were **Bill Wells**, **Dennis Krabauer**, **little Casey** and **young Taylor**, both children and grandchildren of members. **Al Schleif** who collects fines from those who forgot their badges, was not present. Hope your feeling better **Al!** **Dick Pankey** collected for badges and held the drawing.

Second Vice President **Dick Pankey** announced a tail gate get together at the **Kennedy Mine** off Highway 88, and other outings and field trips. Check **Dick's** notes, call him or e-mail if you plan to attend any outing.

Federation Chair **Bob Pevahouse** was teaching copper enameling at **Camp Paradise** this week. Education Chair **Mary Ann King** announced this month's class by **Ophelia Hicks**. **Ophelia** is teaching how to make **Gem Trees**, and October 16 and 23 dates for **Glen MacKenzie's Wire Wrap** classes.

Display **Lee King** encouraged members to vote for a favorite cab & faceted stones, also to view a jasper tray made by **Dick Pankey**. President **Ann** asked who won last years novice? **Lee** announced a tie between **Barrie Bieler** and **Lee** himself. President **Ann** showed off the **Silver Diablo Dan** pin which goes to the over all year winner.

Show Chair **Sam Woolsey** and wife **Hazel** are on a trip to Texas. Sign up sheets for show participation are waiting to be filled. We need help in all areas of the show, plus desserts would be greatly appreciated too. Take fliers and posters for house and car use. Show is November 1 & 2.

Librarian **Bill McKay** has received returns and has books and videos available. Feel free to ask for a list, and borrow an interesting book or video to increase interest in our hobby.

Kim Kleesattel was introduced as our new membership chair.

Ecology Chair **Glen MacKenzie** announced the house of representatives is now considering a bill, HR 2416 which would mean an end to hobby collecting of fossils and petrified wood. Please write, fax or e-mail you congressman asking them to not support these bills. **HR 2416 and S546.**

The Nominating Committee are gathering names, **Glen MacKenzie, Barrie Bieler and Gene Holcomb** for the 2004 board. Up for election are:

President **Ann Matthews**
 First V.P. **Dave Kleesattel**
 Second V.P. **Dick Pankey**
 Secretary **Mary Hicks**
 Treasurer **Eva Umholts**
 Federation Chair **Bob Pevahouse**

Nominations from the floor were called for. No additional nominations occurred. The slate will be announced again at the next General Meeting.

President **Ann** announced the **October Auction** and encouraged members to bring items to donate and money to buy. All **proceeds go to a scholarship** to educate a recipient in the earth science field. **Barrie Bieler** had equipment for sale; contact him at home number if interested.

Glen Hubbard Property Chair thanked the work party that put up shelving at **Connie's** storage shed. The boys, **Bob Pevahouse, Dick Pankey, Matt Matthews, Duaine Eggleston, John Owen and Glen** deserve a **BIG THANK YOU** and **Connie** was very pleased.

Betty Pankey reminded everyone of the picnic.

The Evening Program

First V.P. **Dave Kleesattel** had a 1995 AFMS Awards Program on **GOLD**. The display to simulate the weight of a gold bar was great. (I was disappointed to discover if ever I found a bar of gold, I won't be able to pick the darn thing up, let

alone get it to the car! Ed). You think you know a bit about gold until you view a video like this. Gold in the ocean? **Connie Klein** whispered, "Now I know why I got my scuba driving certificate!" Did you know the Civil War was funded by the gold found in the eastern U.S. prior to our 1849 discovery in California? Many of us have seen the gold bear shaped nugget displayed at the CFMS shows. It is an original. Now which weighs more, a pound of gold or a pound of feathers? Great program.

President **Ann** encouraged all to vote, sign up for the Show, and refreshment help. The meeting adjourned for an enjoyable evening of friendship. **October 16 and 23 is wire wrapping with Glen MacKenzie** always a challenge with great results and he is a good teacher.

New Editor Needed

By **Mary Hicks**, Editor

I will not be doing the club bulletin in 2004, so December of this year is it for me. It has been fun..

It is up to YOU!

You (insert your name here) have an opportunity to be the club editor. The job is an important way for you to support your club. For instance, do you like to know when and where the general meeting will be or what classes are coming up, or hey, what about those field trips? Well, without YOU stepping up and volunteering-this information will dry up as sure as shootin!

Don't wait for someone to ask you, give **Ann Matthews** a call today.

Gem of the Month

From "The Stuller Standard" October 2002 submitted by **Barrie Bieler**.

Tourmaline-This month's featured stone is Tourmaline, a traditional birthstone for the month of October and the gemstone representing the eighth wedding anniversary. This gem occurs in more color and combinations of colors than any other gemstone variety.

Among the ancients, Tourmaline was worn to protect its wearer against bad decisions, many dangers, and misfortune, and to attract friends and lovers. Pink tourmaline was said to promote female balance and protection, while green tourmaline was worn for the same reason by males.

History-Tourmaline's name is derived from the Sinhalese word turmali, which means "mixed". Bright rainbow collections of gemstone varieties were called "turmali" parcels. Tourmaline lives up to this name; because of the variety of colors available, there is a tourmaline that looks like almost any other gemstone.

Many stones in the seventeenth century Russian Crown jewels once thought to be rubies are actually tourmalines. Seventeenth century Brazilian miners exported green tourmaline to Europe, but the long crystals were called "Brazilian emeralds". Tourmaline was probably known to ancient Romans, but under the names of other gems such as topaz or emerald.

Almost every color of tourmaline can be found in Brazil, especially in Minas Gerais and Bahia. Major sources of tourmaline also include Tanzania, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Namibia, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and California and Maine in the United States.

Unique Magnetism-Tourmaline is of interest to scientists as well as jewelry connoisseurs due to a unique property. When heated, it becomes a polarized crystalline magnet and can attract light objects. This "magical" effect is caused by pyroelectricity, the property of generating an electrical charge when heated.

This property was first noticed long before science could explain it. Centuries ago, Europeans noticed that sun-warmed tourmalines strongly attracted or repelled ashes and other lightweight objects. In the Netherlands, tourmalines were called "aschentrekkers" and were used to pull ashes out of tobacco pipes. This property also explains why dust often collects on tourmalines displayed under hot lights.

Selections-Tourmaline occurs in every color of the rainbow and in combinations of two or three colors. Bicolor and tricolor tourmalines, with

bands of colors, are very popular. Sometimes the colors are at different ends of the crystal and sometimes there is one color in the heart of the crystal and another around the outside. One popular color combination, pink center with a green rind, is called "watermelon tourmaline", and is often set as a crystal "slice" instead of faceted.

Membership

By Kim Kleesattel

Birthdays

Sue Zabaldano	10/3
Louise Gilley	10/4
Charlie Cameron	10/4
Leslie Fray	10/5
Anthony West	10/6
Scott Pevahouse	10/12
Betty Jerde	10/13
Bill McKay	10/15
Sandy Rouze	10/17
Ken Williamson	10/18
Bill Morgan	10/19
Carol Krulish	10/21
Mary Crenshaw	10/22
Richard Dennis	10/26
Sheri Current	10/27
Barbara Matz	10/27
Anne Lesko	10/27

Anniversaries

Horace Young	10/15
Nicholas & Sharla Cane	10/27

Ecology Notes

By Glen MacKenzie,
Ecology Chair

The U.S. Senate has passed bill S 546 Paleontology Resources Act. The House of Representatives is now considering that and their own bill HR 2416. If these bills pass in anywhere near their present form, it will probably mean an end to hobby collecting of fossils of all

kinds including petrified wood, or risk losing your tools, your vehicle, or your freedom.

Please write or fax, e-mail or telephone your Congress person, asking them to NOT support these bills. Do it now, later will be too late!

Want to know more, well the AFMS newsletter states that if these laws go into effect only "experts" will be permitted to disturb public land surfaces. Allows for seizure of private vehicles, camping equipment and anything else the government wants to grab for even minor violations. These laws would put the seizure penalty for picking up a piece of petrified wood on the same level as for drug dealers.

US Senate

Barbara Boxer (Democrat)
1700 Montgomery St.
Suite 240
San Francisco, CA 94111

Dianne Feinstein (Democrat)
1 Post St.
Suite 2450
San Francisco, CA 94104

US House of Representatives

George Miller, 7th District
1333 Willow Pass Road
Suite 203
Concord, CA 94520

Or 2205 Rayburn Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Ellen Tauscher, 10th District
1801 N. California Blvd.
Suite 103
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Or 1122 Longworth House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515

West Mojave Plan draws heat:

(San Bernardino County Sunday 7/16/03)

Environmentalists, off-roaders square off at "the first of seven public meetings on a draft environmental impact report on the 9.3 million-acre West Mojave Plan the nation's largest habitat conservation proposal. " Environmentalists say the western Mojave Desert's most pristine areas should be fenced off from vehicles and livestock, but outdoor enthusiasts argue the vast region should be open to all.

City will not endorse West Mojave Plan

(Ridgecrest Daily Independent 7/20/03) Ridgecrest City Councilman **Steven Orgam** told attendees at a public hearing held at BLM offices Thursday, the City of Ridgecrest will not endorse the West Mojave Plan. The city is not convinced that the issues surrounding protecting endangered species has been addressed, and that includes the human species.

**November 1-2; Concord, CA.
Contra Costa Mineral & Gem
Society,
Centre Concord,
5298 Clayton Road.**

Hours: 10-5 both days. Sam Woolsey
925.837.3287
e-mail: sdwools@earthlink.net

Scholarship Foundation Resolution

From the AFMS Newsletter

The sentencing phase of the trial against **Dan McClennan**, former Treasurer of the AFMS Scholarship Foundation is now over and the fund can continue with a clean slate. Dan was sentenced to one year and a day in federal prison for his embezzlement of funds. He was told to pay restitution in the amount of \$72,000.

Dense As A Rock

By **William S. Cordua**, University of Wisconsin, River Falls from Napa Gems, 9/03 from Breccia 7/03.

Rocks are pretty dense, but some are denser than others. Estimation of a rock or mineral density can help in its identification. Density is the mass (grams) of a substance found in a particular volume (cubic centimeters). A related value, specific gravity, compares a mineral's volume to that of an equal volume of water. Both specific gravity and density are the same number, but density has units, (grams per cubic centimeter or g/cc). (A cc of water weighs one gram.)

One can heft a rock to estimate density. Less-dense rocks will feel unusually light. Pumice is a good example of a low density rock. It has tiny air pockets, making it light enough to float on water. Think of a geode with a large cavity in it. It will feel lighter than one that is nearly solid. Rocks that feel unusually heavy contain dense minerals such as iron ore, sulfides, gold or garnet. Most rock hounds have picked up enough rocks to know what an average rock should weigh for its size. Quartz, feldspar, granite and sandstone have average densities. If you pick up a chunk of vitreous red mineral, and it feels heavy for its size, you should consider that you aren't hefting quartz. Maybe you have a garnet, or scheelite.

A famous story is based on the use of density. The Greek scientist Archimedes was given a problem by his king, Heiro II. The king had sent a metal smith some gold to make a crown. He didn't want the smith to be adding silver and keeping some of the gold for himself. The king asked Archimedes how he could tell if the crown were pure gold. Archimedes had no immediate answer. He decided a relaxing bath might help him think. As he got into the tub, the rising water gave him his answer. The crown would displace a volume of water related to its mass, and its mass per volume would tell how much pure gold was present. Archimedes was supposedly so excited by this discovery that he leaped from his bath and ran naked through the streets shouting "EUREKA" or

"I've found it!" The crown was weighed. Then it was immersed in a vat full of water. The water that escaped was carefully measured, giving the volume. The density was then easily calculated. The crown was not pure gold, and the metal smith was suddenly the one in hot water.

Heft tests are fine for quick determinations of relatively pure minerals. Should one wish to get a mineral's density more accurately, Archimedes' measurements can be done with equipment found in a typical high school lab. Here's one way to do it. Get a rather pure chunk of a mineral, perhaps 1 cm across. Measure the sample's mass (grams) on a balance. Then submerge the sample in a small graduated cylinder and note the increase in volume (milliliters = cubic centimeters of water). Divide the volume into the mass to get the density. Leave off the units to get the specific gravity. Most mineral books have charts listing minerals by their specific gravity. Remember, just like King Heiro's crown, the density you measure will be affected by any impurities, so don't be too fussy about how well you match a particular mineral's recorded density.

California Federation Mineralogical Societies CFMS NEWSLETTER

September 2003

The annual CFMS Fall Business meeting and election of officers for 2004 will be held at Fresno on November 8, 2003. There will be a Cracker Barrel social on Friday night. The Business Meeting will be Saturday, November 8 at 9 am. Any CFMS member may attend the meeting, but only delegates may vote.

Recipes for the Ye Old Timers Mineral Club YOTMC

Contact **Sharon Neuhauser** VIP for information about how to submit a favorite recipe to be included in the organizations "Cook Book". The cook book will be sold as a fund raiser for YOTMC. Here is a recipe from Ophelia Hicks' sister in Rochester, MN.

Rhubarb Pie from Doris Keefe

2 cups rhubarb-cut in ½ inch lengths into a bowl.
Coat with 2 cups sugar, 1 egg, ½ Tablespoon
butter, 1 Teaspoon vanilla.

Put into a 2-crust pie and bake at 350 degrees for
45 minutes to 1 hour.

To test for doneness, insert fork to determine if
rhubarb is soft.

If you wish to send a recipe to the YOTMC do it
ASAP. Remember to ask **Sharon Neuhauser** for
the form. It will only take a few minutes and what
can be better than sharing a tried and true tummy
pleaser with another rock hound?—unless it is a
rock!

The Klondike Gold Rush Story

From Oakland Tribune April 9, 1978

By Donald B Thackrey

One of the best ways to empty a town is to have
a gold rush announced during a depression. That is
exactly what happened to kick off the Klondike
Gold Rush in 1897.

Times were bad when the "Excelsior" docked in
San Francisco with a **ton of Klondike gold** aboard
on July 15, 1897. Two days later the "Portland"
docked in Seattle with **two tons** in her hold.

"The city went wild. Half the streetcar motormen
left their jobs. Even Mayor W.D. Wood resigned
to head for the gold fields," says William Bronson
in his book "The Last Grand Adventure," recently
published by McGraw-Hill of New York, 1978.

Bronson had nearly completed his book on the
story of the Klondike Gold Rush and the opening
of Alaska when he died at the age of 49. The final
work was done by his long-time friend, Richard
Reinhardt. "By actual count 40,000 men started
for and reached the Yukon gold fields during the
year beginning with July 15, 1897," according to a
U.S. Department of Labor bulletin published in
1898.

The California gold rush had its Mark Twain
and Bret Harte, but Alaska had its Joaquin Miller,

Jack London and Hamlin Garland. Robert Service
was a humble bank clerk in Dawson.

(Here is a poem by Service that another rock club
had in it's newsletter, unfortunately I don't
remember which club. I learned of Mr. Service
this year when I visited Dawson. Editor)

The Spell of the Yukon

By Robert W. Service, 1907

I wanted the gold, and I sought it,
I scrambled and mucked like a slave.
Was it famine or scurvy-I fought it;
I hurled my youth into a grave.
I wanted the gold, and I got it-
Came out with a fortune last fall,-
Yet somehow life's not what I thought it,
And somehow the gold isn't all.

No! There's the land. (Have you sent it?)
It's the cussedest land that I know,
From the big, dizzy mountains that screen it
To the deep, deathlike valleys below.
Some say God was tired when He made it;
Some say it's a fine land to shun;
Maybe; but there's some as would trade it
For no land on earth-and I'm one.

There's a land where the mountains are nameless,
And the rivers all run God knows where;
There are lives that are erring and aimless,
And deaths that just hang by a hair;
There are hardships that nobody reckons;
There are valleys unpeopled and still;
There's a land-oh, it beckons and beckons,
And I want to go back-and I will.

There's gold, and it's haunting and haunting;
It's luring me on as of old;
Yet it isn't the gold that I'm wanting
So much as just finding the gold.
It's the great, big, broad land 'way up yonder,
It's the forests where silence has lease;
It's the beauty that thrills me with wonder,
It's the stillness that fills me with peace.

CFMS SHOWS

October 1-13; Fresno, CA. Fresno Gem & Mineral Society. Big Fresno Fair, 1121 S. Chance Ave. 11 AM - 10PM. Violet Wells 559-673-3908
Fgms1@excite.com

October 11-12; Antioch, CA. "Treasures of the Earth", Contra Costa Fairgrounds. 10th & "L" Streets. 10-5 both days.
Invitation to all Old Timers on Sunday 11/12 for breakfast at 8 am. Exchange of gifts, rock stories, and more. \$2 donation. Dave Zabaldano 925-516-0651.

October 11-12; Trona, CA. Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society, Sigem Show Building; 13337 Main St. Hours: Sat. 8-5; Sun. 8-4. Bonnie Fairchild 760.372.5356

October 18-19; El Cajon, CA. El Cajon Gem & Mineral Society, "Treasure's of the Earth". El Cajon Valley Masonic Hall, 695 Ballantyne. Hours: 10-5 both days. Mikki Santens 619.440.3201

October 18; Canoga Park, CA. Woodland Hills Rock Chippers. Canoga Park Community Center, 7248 Owensmouth Ave. 10-5.
show@rockchippers.org

October 18-19; Anderson, CA. Shasta Gem & Mineral Society. 50th Anniversary, Shasta District Fairgrounds, 10-5 both days.

October 18-19; Placerville, CA. El Dorado County Mineral & Gem, El Dorado County Fairgrounds. Hours: 10-5 both days. Jackie Cerrato, 530.677.2975.

October 18-19; Santa Rosa, CA. Santa Rosa Mineral & Gem Society. Santa Rosa Veteran's Memorial Bldg. 1351 Maple Avenue. Saturday 10-6; Sunday 10-5. Pete Peterson 707-833-2683.

October 18-19 Whittier, CA. Whittier Community Center. 7630 Washington Ave. Hours 10-5 both days. Jay Valle 626-934-9764

November 1-2; Concord, CA. Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society, Centre Concord, 5298 Clayton Road. Hours: 10-5 both days. Sam Woolsey 925.837.3287
e-mail: sdwools@earthlink.net

November 1-2; Oxnard, CA. Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society "California Gems" @ Oxnard Performing Arts & Convention Center, 800 Hobson Way. Hours: Sat. 9-5; Sun. 9-4. Lois Allmen 805.483.6871

November 8-9; Yuba City, CA. Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society "Festival of Gem & Minerals", Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds, 442 Franklin Avenue. Hours: Sat. 9-5; Sun. 9-4. Barbara & Charles Brown 916.652.4240

November 15-16; Palmdale, CA. Palmdale Gem & Mineral Club. Palmdale Elks Lodge @ 2705 E. Ave. Q. Hours: 9-5 both days. Gail Becker 661.256.4689.

November 21-23; Sacramento, CA. Sacramento Mineral Society (61st Show) Golden Harvest of Gems. Scottish Rite Temple @ 6151 H Street. Hours: Fri. 9-5; Sat. 10-6; Sun. 10-4. Tom 916.729.1829

November 22-23; Livermore, CA. Livermore Valley Lithophiles. The Barn, Pacific Ave. & S. Livermore. Hours: Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4. Bill Beiriger 925-443-5769.

November 22-23; Victorville, CA. Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club. San Bernardino County Fairgrounds, 14800 7th Street. Hours: Sat 9-5; Sun. 9-4. Bob Harper 760-947-6383.

November 29-30; Barstow, CA. Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society. Barstow Community Center, 841 S. Barstow Road. Hours: 10-5 both days. Bob Depue 760.255.1030

December 6-7; Orangevale, CA. American River Gem & Mineral Society. Orangevale Grange Hall, 5807 Walnut Avenue. Hours: 10-5 both days. Paul Daly 916.725.6578

December 6-7; San Bernardino, CA. Orange Belt Mineralogical Society. San Bernardino Woman's Club, 503 31st Street. Hours: Sat. 10-6; Sun 10-5. Lyle Strayer 909-887-3394.

Other regional shows.

Eastern-October 17-19, Poughkeepsie, NY

Gem Tree Update

Ophelia Hicks reports her Gem Tree classes were lot's of fun. She wants to thank everyone for coming and hopes to see examples of the members work at Lee Kings Display Table at the October meeting.

Field Trip Report

By Dick Pankey

Field Trip Calendar

- Oct. 5 **Clear Creek, south of Hollister, CA.** To collect jadeite, plasma agate, druzy quartz.. Hosted by Peninsula G&GS and Salinas Valley R&GC. Contact Jennifer House at 408-243-7025.
- Oct. 8-12 **Moab, Floy Wash & Green River areas of Utah.** To collect Moab agate, petrified wood, fossils, barite balls, and more. Hosted by Fossils For Fun. Contact Debbie Bunn, 916-929-6665 or fossilsff@aol.com.
- Oct. 17-19 **Cady Mountains/Afton Canyon, east of Barstow, CA.** To collect red and yellow agate, jasper, (plume & sagenite) opalite, calcite rhombs, chalcedony roses, amygdules, green fluorite, onyx and much more. Hosted by CFMS - South. Contact Bob Fitzpatrick at RUROCKY2@aol.com or at (909) 845-3051.
- Nov. 26-30 **Afton Canyon, east of Barstow, CA.** To collect red and yellow agate, jasper, (plume & sagenite) opalite, calcite rhombs, chalcedony roses, amygdules, green fluorite, onyx and much more. Hosted by Motherlode Mineral Soc. Contact Al Troglin, (209) 838-7725 or shnalrokhound@yahoo.com or Marion Roberts, (209) 538-0197 or mvroberts@bigvalley.net.
- Nov.30-Dec 6 **Burro Creek, AZ, south of Wickiup, AZ.** To collect purple agate, jasper, fluorite, and more. Hosted by Motherlode Mineral Soc. Contact Al Troglin, (209) 838-7725 or shnalrokhound@yahoo.com.

More information, fliers and details available from Dick Pankey at the meetings or call 439-7509 or e-mail me at dickpankey@juno.com.

Black Diamond Mines Regional Park

We have a great, historic and interesting resource right in our own backyard in Antioch. The Black Diamond Mines Regional Park offers a wide variety of geologic, historic and general interest activities. The park is the location of coal mines and sand mines. There is a visitor's center, museum and underground mine tours. There are a wide variety of tours and activities for all ages. This is a great place for an easy, one-day get away field trip. The park is located at the end of Somersville Road in Antioch. For info call 925-757-2620 or email bdvisit@ebparks.org

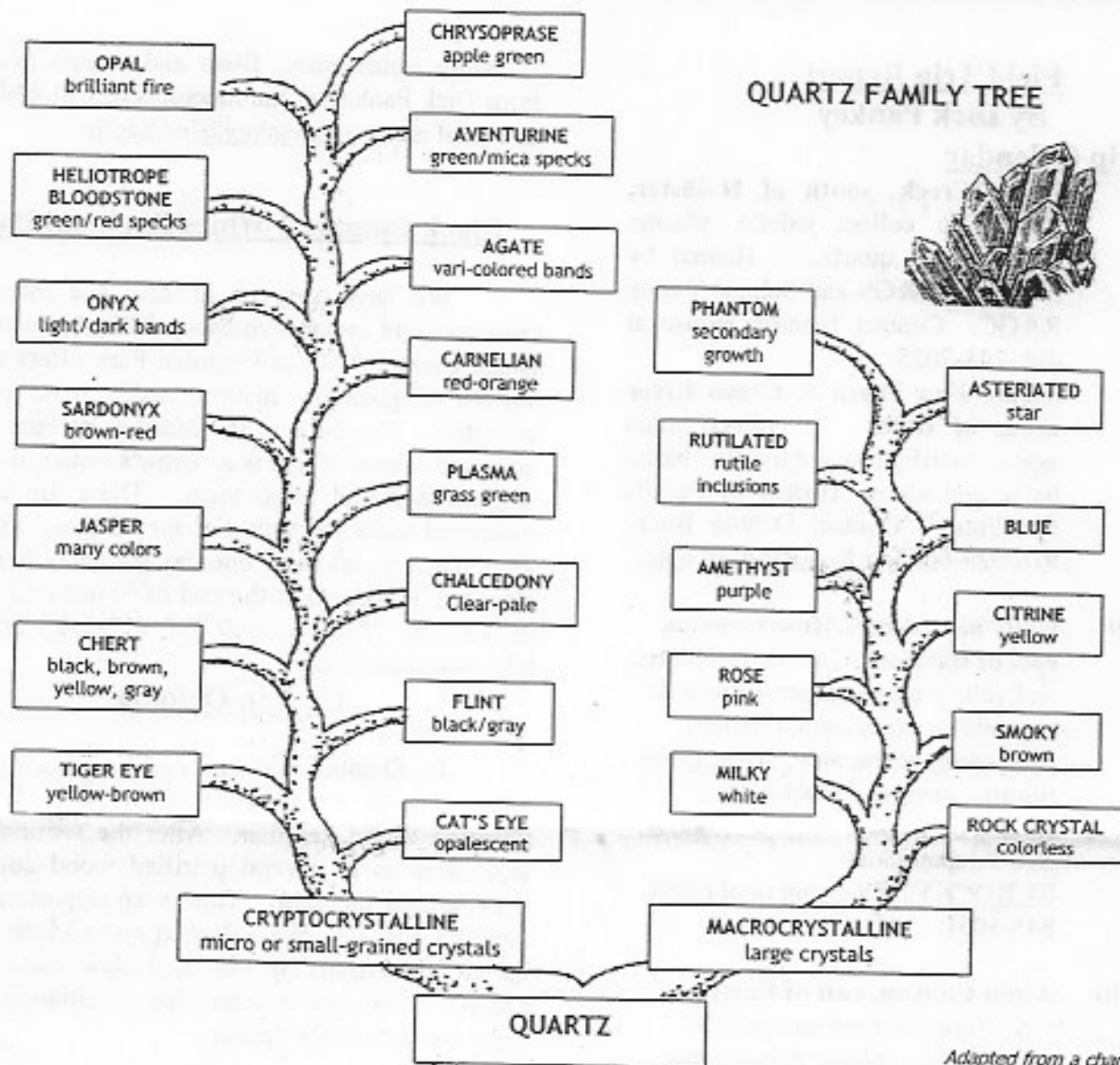
Utah in October

In October we are off to Blanding, UT where I will attend another of Walt Wright's Petrified Wood Seminar. After the seminar Walt will take us to several petrified wood collecting sites around the area. This is an opportunity we couldn't pass up. We will then go to Moab to join up with the Fossils For Fun field trips in and around Moab. If anyone is interested in either of these trips, contact me for details.

Age of Amber

Excerpt from Quarry Quips, November 2001

Bavarian - 225 million years old
 Lebanese - 115 to 135 million years old
 Siberian - 80 to 115 million years old
 British Columbia - 100 million years old
 New Jersey - 90 million years old
 Alaskan - 80 million years old
 Canadian - 70 to 80 million years old
 Arkansas - 60 million years old
 Dominican Republic - 25 to 40 million years old
 Baltic - 40 million years old
 (From many sources via Lapidarian 11/9 and The Benitoite 11/99)



Some Important Rock Forming Minerals

By Lee Olsen

Of the over 2,000 minerals that have been named, only 11 are among the more important of the rock forming minerals. They are the building blocks of rock. Most of the rock forming minerals are compounds of silicon and oxygen, as the following list of minerals makes clear:

Name and Composition

QUARTZ - SiO_2

FELDSPAR

ORTHOCLASE - KAlSi_3O_8

PLAGIOCLASE - $\text{NaAlSi}_3\text{O}_8$ - $\text{CaAl}_2\text{Si}_2\text{O}_8$

MICA

MUSCOVITE - $\text{KAl}_3\text{Si}_3\text{O}_{10}(\text{OH})_2$

BIOTITE - $\text{K}(\text{Mg},\text{Fe})_3(\text{Al},\text{Fe})\text{Si}_3\text{O}_{10}(\text{OH})_2$

FERROMAGNESIAN MINERALS

HORNBLende - $(\text{Ca},\text{Na})_2(\text{Mg},\text{Fe})_4(\text{Al},\text{Fe})_3\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{22}(\text{O},\text{H})_2$

PYROXENE - $\text{Ca}(\text{Mg},\text{Fe},\text{Al})(\text{Si},\text{Al})_2\text{O}_6$

OLIVINE - $(\text{Fe},\text{Mg})_2\text{SiO}_4$

GYPSUM - $\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$

HALITE - NaCl

CALCITE - CaCO_3

via Strata Gem 11/00

Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society

P.O. Box 4667, Walnut Creek, CA 94596

General Meeting: 2nd Friday of the month at 7:30 pm

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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OFFICIAL BULLETIN & MEETING NOTICE

Contra Costa MINERAL & GEM SOCIETY

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION WHO'S MEMBERS ENJOY ROCKHOUDING AND THE LAPIDARY ARTS

P.O. BOX 4667, WALNUT CREEK, CA. 94596



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