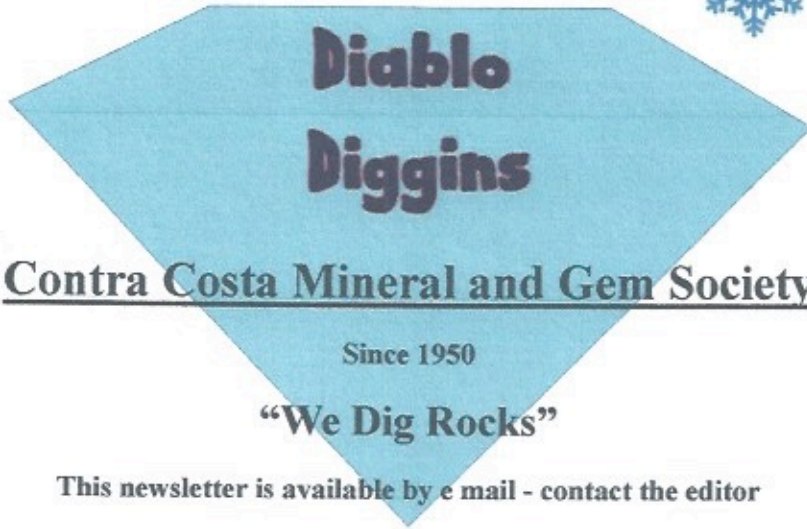




Vol. 65, No. 1



Concord, CA
January 2017



Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society

Since 1950

"We Dig Rocks"

This newsletter is available by e mail - contact the editor

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE



Happy New Year! 2017 is here! I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas, Hanukah, Kwanza, and Holiday Season. I hope 2017 is a great year for all of us.

There are changes and chances in store for the Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society. I will be learning how to be out front and lead the group. Chuck will be taking over field trips, and although I will be doing my best to help him with what I learned during my tenure as Field Trip Chair, I expect his energy and enthusiasm will bring lots of fun trips to those of us who love field trips. As for opportunities, the publicity and hospitality chairs are open and need volunteers to fill them. Also our refreshment chair is temporarily out of commission, and someone is needed to fill in there too. Thanks to all those chairpersons and officers who will be returning again this year. If you can help with any of the offices please see me or one of the board members at the meeting or give us a call. Members this is your club, and each of you is critical to making 2017 another successful year. Thank you and Happy 2017!

Kelly Plumb, President



NEXT GENERAL MEETING
Monday January 9, 7:30 PM
Centre Concord



DUES ARE DUE!!
See Mary Jernigan

JANUARY PROGRAM
JADE

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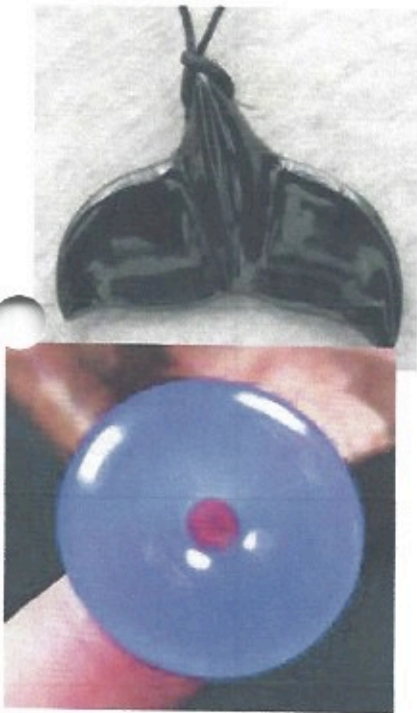
CCM&GS Program for January 9, 2017

JADE

Eternally Cherished, yet Often Confused

It is estimated that Jade has been a part of human culture for up to 8,000 years. That recognized - it wasn't until 1863 that Alexis Damour discovered that the material known as "Jade" could be divided into two different minerals - Jadeite and Nephrite. In even more modern times, over half of the "Jade" this Gemologist identifies at "Gem & Mineral Shows" isn't Jade – instead the pieces are numerous manmade imitations or other extensively treated and processed minerals.

Bring your Jade. Let's sort out history, mineralogy, and modern Jade trade practices. Whatever you have - I guarantee you will appreciate the beauty and appeal of this famous material.



Dennis Freiburger, Program Chairman

Board Meeting

Tuesday January 3 @ 6:30 PM

Mountain Mike's pizza

New Articles for January *Diablo Diggins*

Due Date, January 16, 2017

December 10, 2016

CCMGS BOD Meeting

December 6, 2016

Present: Dave Kleesattel, Kelly Plumb, Mary Jernigan, Mary Hicks, Mary Hanjes, Paul Black, Bonnie Eichler, Dick Pankey, Therese Clark, Harry Nichandros, Terry Caskey, Chuck Olson. Absent: Dennis Freiburger, Debbie Blevins, Cheryl Morgan.

NEXT BOD MEETING: January 3, 2017, at 6:30 pm, meeting starts at 7:00 pm., at Mountain Mike's, Clayton Fair Shopping Center, near the regular club general meeting at Centre Concord. 925-689-4965.

Note: Personal items are still missing from the November show. The Board voiced it's concern about the purple bag that was left at tear-down located in the recreation room (back room) near where the rock painting was done. Did someone put this bag in the trash? or into the trailer?? Please let Mike Hopkins know or the Board. Therese with the help volunteered by Paul will try to see if the bag is in the trailer. Right now the trailer is backed up against a hill so only a peek can be done until a truck pulls it away from the hill. So it is greatly appreciated that if you remember putting a purple bag into the trailer so we know to pull it out asap. It will be a shame to discover the items next November!! I hope everyone can read this message in the newsletter.

Approval of the Minutes from the Previous Meeting. Accept as written proposed by Federation Director Dick Pankey, seconded by Membership Mary Jernigan. All ayes.

Bills were called for. Show items from Therese, Dick for a bill to renew the ALLA membership at \$50 (same as last year) and Dick is willing to serve if asked. The license fee for the club's trailer with the CA DMV for \$10.00 was received and paid. Copy of the paper work was provided to Therese as Property and copy retained in the Club's Business Continuity Binder. This was also added to the timeline of reoccurring business expenses by the Secretary. Dave stressed that according to the By Laws bills need to be reviewed and paid at the BOD meeting even if approved in the budget. Follow through of any

condition required to issue the check must be discussed before payment is made.

Communications: Mail to Club. DMV renewal for the Club's trailer for \$10.00 was paid and a copy of the registration was handed to Therese as property chair. The annual license fee is due before December 31st each year. Mary Jernigan received dues for a member and an application for a new member with payment. No communication from the Club's Website was reported. Dick brought up a question about a new user password to the Club's website. Harry said the USER is now MEMBER and the Password is CCMGS. This will be until the end of January 31, 2017. Dick reported he had to enter his PW for each time he changed the page he was looking at. Harry was not aware of this problem.

Unfinished business: Mary Jernigan asked about the holiday party. Club is providing the space. Debbie informed a BOD member that she cleaned and saved the round table coverings from the last December 2015 meeting. Kelly said she would do the gift exchange. Joanne Caskey and several others have created center pieces. Betty Pankey has table prizes. Dick will emcee the meeting up to the installation. Doors are open 6:00 pm for setup and 6:30 pm for food and getting a place to sit, 7:00 pm the meeting starts. Dick put an article in the newsletter. Dave will make coffee and bring cups.....January's General meeting needs a volunteer for refreshments as Vicki is continuing to recover. Mary Hicks volunteered for January.

Show Information. A show meeting was announced by email Saturday night for a meeting on the following Monday. Incoming President Kelly Plumb attended the meeting and asked the club secretary to take minutes. The meeting was at Mt. Mike's Pizza on Clayton Rd., Concord. Minutes are posted separately. Tonight at BOD meeting Harry said Dealer income was great. No amount was given for vendor income, it was estimated this was \$10500 in 2015. Mary Hicks asked for the attendee's coupons from the 2015 show and 2016 show. Harry did not bring them to the meeting. He has missed several opportunities to hand these club documents to the secretary. Harry is putting numbers on the 2016 coupons as they were printed without numbers on

them. He ask the secretary to return the coupons in numeric order, the database for the coupons for 2016 are ordered in alpha order. Harry asked for the tickets be returned in numeric order.? The secretary did not agree to this direction. Dick said Harry needs to be responsive to the club. Dave asked Harry to get these to Mary Hicks. Glue guns purchased for use at the Critter activity, Dave said we will pay for those. Harry wanted to purchase a special hand truck for the 2017 show, however Dave said the hand truck needs to be part of 2017 budget planning process and to hold off on this until expenditures are discussed in the 2017 budget process. A hand truck was already purchased, Dave asked Harry to return the hand truck. Dick remembered a hand truck that allowed for carrying items flat, like on a wagon that was donated to the club by John Owen, but is this Connie K's? A last minute vendor was added to the show to cover all tables. This vendor was not on the approved list. Discussion about not following the procedure because there was a lack of approval/notification. It was suggested that there be monthly show meetings. Mary Hicks volunteered her home for the show meetings (no cost to the club. This will avoid up to \$600 for show meetings.) Kelly suggests Sat or Sun or Fri for show meetings. Kelly will talk with Harry in regards to input on meeting dates.

BOD Meeting cycle. President elect Kelly Plumb offers the following for the BOD meetings for 2017. In odd numbered months the BOD meeting will be on the 1st Tuesday and on the even # months the BOD meeting will be on the 1st Monday, except in June or July.

January 3rd, February 6th, March 7th, April 3rd, May 2nd, June 4th, July 4th (will need to discuss this date), August 7th, September 5th, October 2nd, November 7th, December 4th.

Please review and let me know of any errors.

Membership. Mary Jernigan announced an application to the club. Joan Lightfoot of Vallejo has come to our club meetings and wants to join. She sent her application and fees. Mary proposed Joan's membership, 2nd by Therese, all ayes. Welcome Joan!

Newsletter. Terry made a strong request to get any articles or reports to him by December 19th. This is because of Christmas being the next weekend. Member & upcoming Vice President of Field Trips, Chuck Olson requests a hard copy of the newsletter be sent to him.

Education. Bonnie says she wants to discuss scholarships. Also please let her know about any classes you are willing to do. There may be a mosaic class in warmer weather. We have a donor of slate if someone wants to teach a class involving slate. Maybe we should have a Petrified Wood ID class. Brenda had sent in an application for a prior lost wax class. The CFMS two cycles of workshops had approval for Paul Black but the date was too late for him to get into the subsequent Camp Paradise. It was full when he called. Bonnie says Paul should be able to use it in this cycle. Paul says to hold off on it right now until he can check it out again. Bonnie moved to support this and Kelly seconded, all ayes. Mary Hanjes says the auction brought in \$1347.00 in 2016 for the next scholarships. Bonnie moves we continue on, Dick seconded. This is a 50% reimbursement, show and tell. Earth Science Studies, was clarified. All ayes. Final, Bonnie 2017 moved that Lost Wax Jewelry Casting class of about \$142.00, starting January 18th, and applications handed out November and she will do it again in December for 3 classes, 1 time only/lifetime. Kelly seconded, All ayes. This was announced at the last general meeting. Dave said some stipulations to receive an "approved" check have not always been followed. This again reinforces getting checks reviewed/discussed and signed at the BOD meetings. Member Mark Bufton is on point to do his presentation as he has been reimbursed. This step in the program, seeing the results of the study, will also help promote this scholarship activity to other members.

Field Trips. Kelly Plumb said not much going on right now. Check out the news letter. Dick Pankey talked about the Black Butte Lake trip. Newly elected Field Trip Chair for 2017, Chuck Olson, asked about his duties. North Bay F.T. rooster is available. President Dick Pankey and Betty are leading this group. Secretary Mary Hicks needs another year to complete the Business Continuity

Plan. Specific information requests will be sent out by the President in 2017. Mary Hanjes, Treasurer has been signing a bucket of checks. Dick Pankey, Federation Director talked about the need of the secretary to order the bars/pins, Change of Officer form for CFMS. The dues and insurance payment and membership list for CFMS is paid after 12/31/16 for 2016 membership. Dick reported that a Deidrick scholarship of \$2000 was awarded to Stanford student Liam Phajan. Harry Nichandros said the website is being updated and will be done this Thursday. Therese Clark did not have a report for Property. Paul Black did not have a report for Library. Report from show, secretary is working on the minutes.

The Club's General Meeting is this coming Monday, December 12th.

End of meeting 8:40 pm.

CCMGS General Meeting.

December 12th

Doors open at 6:00 pm for room setup, tree, table covers, center pieces, canned food collection area by entry door. 6:30 pm planned start time for arrival of members and guests and food set out. 7:00 pm meeting begins. 2016 President Dave Kleesattel greets everyone, the Pledge of Allegiance is said, Betty Pankey read birthdays/anniversaries as published in the Diggins newsletter. President elect for 2017 Kelly Plumb and guests Joyce and Bob Emerson (Joyce being the installer of the new officers) begin the line to the feast table. Then the subsequent attendees begin to line up based on ages, eldest to youngest. I think our elders starting out were Joe Yarbrough and Shannon and Dick Merrill and finished with junior member Taylor Thompson. There was an abundance of food for sharing at this Holiday dinner. After dinner the installation of officers-President Kelly Plumb, Vice President of Programs Dennis Freiburger, 2nd Vice President of Field Trips Chuck Olson, Treasurer Mary Hanjes, Secretary Mary Hicks, Federation Director Dick Pankey. Joyce Emerson did a fun/serious installation. She reminded those present to support the officers and be active in supporting them in their leadership positions to support the club in it's

success. 2016 Chair of Display and Competition, Cheryl Morgan, announced the member awards. She handed out certificates to those winners that were present. She made an important announcement, that starting in January 2017 there will be a new finished jewelry competition. Next we all enjoyed the Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society Players directed by Dick Pankey. We had a gift exchange for those who brought an item to share. Best wishes to All and a Rock filled Good Night. Mary Hicks, Secretary

Membership Dues Are Due

Membership dues to CCM&GS are due for the 2017 year.

Don't miss out on the Diggins' Newsletter, upcoming fieldtrips, classes or other interesting events!

Annual membership dues are \$10, payable to CCM&GS.

Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society
P.O. Box 842,
Concord, CA 94522-0842

Stay Connected-
Mary Jernigan- CCM&GS Membership
m10jernigan@yahoo.com
(925) 852-1133

Refreshments

Refreshments and Snacks for the General Meeting. Thank You to the Club Members that bring snacks to our General Meeting.

If you are not able to attend the meeting, contact another member and trade snack responsibility. You can also call the Refreshment, Hospitality, or Membership Chairpersons and let us know if you are not attending this month. Vickie Hotopp is in charge of our refreshments and she really appreciates sharing your delicious snacks at the meetings.

Thank you!

Mary Jernigan- Membership

January Refreshment List

- Victoria Stevenson
- Caryl Taraldson
- James Tuthill
- Steven Ward
- Jeannie Wellman
- Hazel Woolsey
- Joe Yarbrough
- Donna Albrecht
- Georganna Archmede
- Kathleen Baird
- Barrie Bieler
- Paul Black
- Larry & Debbie Blevins



January Birthdays

If you are a current member and do not see your birthday or anniversary listed, please drop me a note so I can update my record.

Thanks, Mary Jernigan



Happy Birthday!!

- | | |
|----------------|------|
| Mary Hicks | 1/1 |
| Kim Kleesattel | 1/3 |
| Mary Hanjes | 1/7 |
| Alan Felker | 1/10 |
| Howard Shamy | 1/17 |
| Ophelia Hicks | 1/20 |
| Mark Blackman | 1/20 |
| Lyle Roessler | 1/28 |
| Paul Black | 1/28 |

January Anniversaries

- Dave & Kim Kleesattel 1/1

Education Corner

We are currently looking for classes to fill our calendar for 2017. Paul Black has let the Board know that he has slate available that he will donate to the club for carving classes if someone knows of a slate carving teacher who will teach a class for the club. Dick Pankey will look into his church as a possible location to hold a hands on petrified wood educational class. The class cost estimate is approximately \$50 per person with a max of 10 students (the club will reimburse \$10 per member in good standing for the class.)

Joanne Caskey said she is willing to teach another mosaic class once the weather warms up again. Please contact me if you have other classes in mind, especially if you have a class you are willing to teach. A decision was made at the December Board meeting to continue the Reimbursement Scholarships for the Mt. Diablo Adult Education Lost Wax Casting class. There are 3 classes per year, so there will be 3 reimbursement scholarships awarded in 2017. As previously determined, a member may only win this scholarship once in a lifetime.

The Board also decided to award Reimbursement Scholarships for half of the tuition for the LZYZX or Camp Paradise Earth Studies camp in 2017.

The application forms for both scholarship programs were sent out via email before the December General meeting. We are proud to be able to offer these ways to give back to our membership and encourage everyone to apply.

Bonnie Eichler, Education Chairperson

Revised schedule for Quartzsite Events - ALAA and Ye Old Timers Auction

YE OLD TIMER AUCTION

DATE: **January 19** (Thurs), 2017

TIME: 7pm (MST)

PLACE: Quartzsite Senior Citizen Center
40 S Moon Mountain Rd

ALAA OPEN MEETING AT QUARTZSITE, ARIZONA

DATE: **January 20** (Fri), 2017

TIME: 7 pm (MST)

PLACE: The new Quartzsite Community Center

Hwy 95 North, Right on Chandler to end of road
465 Plymouth Road

FIFTH ANNUAL ALAA-BLM CLEAN-UP AT QUARTZSITE, ARIZONA

DATE: **January 22** (Sun), 2017

TIME: 8 am to 11 am (MST)

PLACE: Gold Nugget Rd. off Ramp (I-10 Exit
26, East of Quartzsite

Sincerely, Misty Watson

CO-OP Secretary



North Bay Field Trips

North Bay Field Trips is ready to kick off another year of field trips and events. Are you ready? Is your society ready? Now is the time to start planning field trips for the coming year to share with the other NBFT Societies.

The Vallejo G&MS is hosting our Spring Meeting on Saturday, April 8 at their Club House and Shop. They will be sending out the announcement flyer soon.

In this new year does your society have a new Field Trip Leader? If so please send Betty his/her name and contact information for the Roster. In addition to FT leader info please send updated society contact and bulletin editor information; preferably e-mail addresses. And while you are at it **Dues Are Due**. Only \$5.00; since NBFT does not have a checking account make your check out to Betty Pankey. She will provide you with a receipt.

This is my second time around as the NBFT President. The first time was in 1997 & 1998. A lot has changed over the years. Years past we had 22 societies members in NBFT from Willets to Monterey. Now we have only 14 societies and only 7 or 8 societies are represented at our meetings. Forty to sixty people would attend our meetings; the past few years we are lucky to have 10 to 12 attendees. We used to have 20 to 30 plus shared NBFT field trips each year. Lately only 8 to 10 shared trips. In the past we communicated with each other, (our field trips and meeting announcements) by "snail mail", now we use e-mail. Thus the importance of having the e-mail addresses of the FT Leader, Society and Bulletin Editor.

The purpose of NBFT is to share field trips and rockhounding between our member societies. Each society is encouraged (and expected) to plan and host a field trip or "event" each year. Now is the time to start planning your society's field trip or event so that you will have something to announce at (or before) the Spring meeting. Each member society of NBFT should be sure that their field trip leader or a representative attends our meetings and represent their society.

I have 3 objectives for NBFT this coming year: 1) increase attendance at our Spring and Fall meetings; 2) increase the attendance and participation of all NBFT societies in NBFT; 3) increase the number of NBFT shared field trips. I need your help to achieve these objectives. It starts with you and your society.

I am always interested to hear from you. Please contact me with your questions, thoughts and ideas. Contact me at 925-439-7509 or dickpankey@juno.com

Dick Pankey
President - NBFT

Rockhounding With Sally!



Hi Folks, For those of you we haven't met on a past field trip, let me introduce you to my field trip companion, Sally.

That's her in the picture, (She's the one in green).

We try to spend a week each month, camping and picking up pretty rocks. So I keep up as best I can, with upcoming field trips.

And it will be a pleasure, serving as your Field Trip Chairman and sharing all that I come across, with all of you.

My best sources of information are other Rockhounds. And I invite each of you to exchange any trip information you come by, with me directly.

So let me know if you hear of any goings on, big, small, official or not, that we can all share in. Or if you would just like someone to kick around some rocks, on a new road cut for a few hours, give me a call.

Our last trip was our Club's, Thanksgiving Field Trip to Black Butte Lake, lead by Dick and Betty Pankey.

Paul Black Sally and I arrived a day early, did some exploring and found a semi dry riverbed that yielded some nice Jasper.

The next evening we were joined by a few more Rockhounds and Mary Hicks, who cooked up a great pot of candied yams. And we all enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving Dinner, with all the trimmings!

The best finds of the trip, were the next morning, on a dry riverbed, that Lisa Gimpietro of the Roseville Rock Rollers, led us to.

It was drizzling, which made the colors of the orange and red Jasper, just pop out of the ground!

By Saturday morning the rain had picked up. So after standing around shivering for a bit. We broke camp and headed home.

Even though a little wet, it was another great trip!

The following is a rundown of upcoming field trips. This time of the year, cold is coming from the North. So almost all of the trips are down South. I've spent a few winters rockhounding with the Folks down there. And I can tell you, they're just as nice a bunch of people, as we are up here.

So sign on to something. And I'll be watching for you, Chuck

January 8 - 22, 2017

Quartzsite, Az.

Ye Old Timers Mineral Club Camp at Quartzsite

Each year YOTMC members gather and camp together outside of the town of Quartzsite, Az. In addition to sharing all that Quartzsite has to offer, the camp's Wagon Masters, Dick and Betty Pankey, plan campsite activities that include day field trips, happy hours, potluck meals, bingo, (with real prizes!), YOTMC's annual auction and nightly campfires. This is a fun bunch of Rockhounds to camp with. And it's all open to everyone!

For more information, contact the Pankeys at dickpankey@juno.com, (925) 726-5914

January 21, 2017

Lavic Siding, Barstow, Ca.

CFMS South

This will be a one day trip In the heart of the Mojave Desert. Collecting Jasper and Agate. 4x4's are required and car pooling may be an option.

If you would like to stay for the weekend, this general area offers a wide variety of material. So bring your rock collecting guides.

For more information, contact CFMS Field Trips South Co-chairs: Adam Dean: theagatehunter@verizon.net (909) 489-4899, or Roy Isaac: 1bionicdj@gmail.com (818) 633-3350.

January 21, 2017

Opal Mt. North of Barstow, Ca.

Mining Supplies and Rock Shop
9565 C Ave. Suite K
Hesperia, Ca. 92345

This is a rock shop that sponsors monthly field trips, lead by Justen Zzyzy.

They charge a fee of \$40.00 per six field trips. This trip will collect Opalite, Jasper, Agate and green, orange and pink Opals.

For further information, contact Cyndy Mandell at cyndymandell@me.com, (760) 244-9642.

I haven't been on a field trip with these Folks. But they've been doing this for sometime. And have an impressive schedule, for the next few months.

View their website at, [Public Guided Field Trips – Mining Supplies and Rock Shop](#)

Public Guided Field Trips – Mining Supplies and Rock Shop

April 8, 2017

Mariposa, Ca.

Rockhound Field Trip Fanatics

This is the Rockhound Field Trip Fanatics, yearly Central Ca. Rockhounding Odyssey.

I haven't been on any of their field trips, but I've heard good things about them.

As I recall, this is announced as a five day field trip.

And the first two days originate at the Mariposa Gem & Mineral Society's show. So you might want to check the schedule to see if there are field trips

leaving from the show. Or if two of the five days, are visiting their show.

For more information, contact Kris Rowe, (559) 250-5057. And visit their website at, [Kris R - Members - Rockhound Field Trip Fanatics!](#)

Kris R - Members - Rockhound Field Trip Fanatics!

April 15, 2017 (Approximately).

Boron, Ca.

Lew Helfrich

Twice a year, Lew Helfrich leads a, Discovering the Mojave Desert, field trip. Collecting Jasper, Petrified Wood, Palm Root, Green Opal, Travertine, Chalcedony, Dendritic Opal and Agate. The next trip will be sometime around the Easter Holiday.

The size of the group, will be limited. So get your reservations in early.

For more information, contact Lew Helfrich at, lewsrocks@att.net, (760) 762-5000.

And as long as I'm within range of a Cel. signal, I'm here, or there, to pass on any further information I have, at olson86@yahoo.com, (925) 890-7116.

Chuck Olson,

Field trip chairman



"Just one more piece", you said, well I knew this was gonna happen sooner or later."

by Skelton 'Dug' Dugger
Ft Lewis Rock Club News
Gem-N-I.org 3/10

CONTRA COSTA MINERAL & GEM SOCIETY www.ccmgs.org

P0 Box 842, Concord, CA 94522

General Meeting: Second Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. 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 2017

Please do not publish this list, Editor

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January 2017

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|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----|---|-----------------------------------|----|
| 1 <small>New Year's Day</small> | 2 | 3 <small>Board Meeting</small> | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 <small>General Meeting</small> | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 <small>Ye Olde Timers Auction</small> | 20 <small>Alaa Meeting</small> | 21 |
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First Class
Member of American and California Federation of
Mineralogical Societies

Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society
P.O. Box 842, Concord, Ca 94522-0842

The Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society was formed in 1950 to encourage the study of mineralogy, lapidary arts and field collection.
Members meet the second Monday of each month (third Monday in June) 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!

Send reports to tcaskey@comcast.net

Editor - Terry Caskey

www.ccmgs.org

Newsletter of the Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society

Diablo Diggins