



Diablo Diggins

"We Dig Rocks"
Since 1950

Diablo Diggins, April, 2019

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Spring has sprung! Field trip season is upon us! Be on the lookout for interesting field trips both near & far. I am looking forward to all of the fascinating stories of the trips our members are taking and planning. Be sure to join our club's Facebook page and post your best pictures of the treasures you find. You can even start planning a display case with your treasures for our upcoming annual show. Speaking of the annual show – start thinking of how you want to support our show and join the committees that are already forming. We cannot make this work without everyone stepping up.

We also are working towards getting some educational classes set up. One class I am trying to get arranged is the art of copper chasing. If there is a class you would like to arrange, please let someone on the board know. If there is a class you are willing to teach – even better. If you are interested in taking over the Education Chair position – the best!

Bonnie Eichler, President



NEXT GENERAL MEETING: APRIL 8, 2019

THE EAGLE HAS LANDED!

A half a century ago this year, the Apollo 11 Mission landed on the moon. We're celebrating this momentous anniversary by having Michael Santos, talk to us about all the news and history about meteorites. Michael says that he'll be bringing some NEW lunar material that has recently been found in Algeria! An exciting speaker with an encyclopedic knowledge of all things about meteoric, Michael promises to deliver a fascinating program!

Donna Albrecht, Programs



Astronaut Buzz Aldrin walks on the surface of the moon near the leg of the lunar module Eagle during the Apollo 11 mission.
<https://www.nasa.gov/apollo11-gallery>



NORTH BAY FIELD TRIPS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In my February President's Message I requested for a society to volunteer to host the NBFT Spring Meeting. Nobody volunteered. So with great sadness and regrets I am canceling the Spring meeting schedule for Saturday, April 13, 2019.

Also in my President's Message I asked for feedback and suggestions about the future of NBFT and I got some good, thoughtful ideas. A consensus developed that we should continue sharing Field Trips, but FT Leader didn't want to attend meeting to do it. People didn't want to travel to attend and nobody wanted to host meetings. It was suggested that NBFT become a "field trip sharing email group. If you had a field trip that you wanted to share you would send it out to other members of the group" via e-mails. You would prepare your FT flyer announcing your trip and post it to other members of the group with one click of the group's e-mail address. This would be a closed group opened to NBFT member societies. There are a lot of details, policies and procedures to work out to make this happen. For now if you are planning a trip to share we will continue like we currently are doing: prepare your announcement and flyer, and post it by e-mail to the societies field trip leaders and newsletter editors, NBFT officers and directors, and to the NBFT Yahoo group. With the NBFT Yahoo group we already have the seed of the NBFT E-mail Field Trip Sharing Group.

Over the next weeks I will be calling upon you for input to work out the details, policies and procedures to establish the NBFT E-mail Field Trip Sharing Group. Please contact me if you have questions or would like to volunteer to dickpankey@juno.com or 925-439-7509.

Betty and I attended our first NBFT meeting in 1991 and have attended most NBFT meetings since that first one. NBFT was a great, fun and worthwhile organization that we have enjoyed the meetings, trips, the people and the many friends that we have made. It is a great loss to us and to all members who like and attend field trips. We owe it to our members to find a way to fulfill our mission of hosting, sharing and leading field trips. Please help me.

Keep on rockin',
Dick Pankey

MONTHLY DISPLAY COMPETITION

Members are eligible to enter these competitions and win recognition. As long as there are two or more items entered in the area of competition, the winner is eligible to win a cash prize!

- **Faceted Stones**
- **Wearable Art**
- **Cabochons:** We have three categories for you to compete in:
 - NOVICE:** Any member who has not won the "Pro" designation in previous years.
 - PRO:** Any member who has won the "Pro" designation in previous years.
 - SHAPE OF THE MONTH:** Pros and Novices compete side-by-side.



Upcoming shapes are: April: oval., May: pear (teardrop), June: rectangles and squares.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

March 4, 2019 6:35pm

The Board of Directors meeting was held at Round Table Pizza in Pleasant Hill. Present: Bonnie Eichler, Chuck Olson, Mary Jemigan, Mary Hanjes, Dick Pankey, Paul Black, Kelly Plumb, Mike Hopkins, Terry Caskey and member- Taylor Thompson. Previous BOD meeting minutes January and February 2019 were reviewed. January BOD minutes were reviewed with no corrections requested. Kelly moved to approve the January minutes as written. Chuck seconded. Vote was taken and accepted. February BOD minutes were reviewed with no corrections requested. Mary J. moved to approve the February minutes as written. Kelly seconded. Vote was taken and accepted. Bills for reimbursement were submitted to Secretary- Mary Hanjes. March Newsletter notification was emailed to members by Publicity/Show Chairperson- Mike Hopkins. Some members were unable to open the newsletter document in docx. Mike will ask Editor- Johanna for a Word doc copy in the future. President- Bonnie Eichler reviewed the request and BOD approval to purchase 5 shelves for the new storage room with the maximum amount to be \$500. Request and approvals were emailed to the BOD. Bylaws change suggestions were discussed. Notations for membership badges to be charged as per current cost. Members had only been charged \$5 for the badges when actual cost to make the badges were \$9- \$10 each. CCM&GS has been paying the difference in the badge costs. Suggestions for proposed Bylaws changes to be sent to Bonnie by 3/16 for combining information. Bonnie is also in the process of reworking and updating the verbiage on the membership application. Any recommended changes/additions to the membership application to be emailed to Bonnie. Second Vice President/Fieldtrips- Chuck Olson is brainstorming with others for fieldtrip ideas. Several fieldtrip ideas were offered by BOD. Chuck mentioned that he was checking into joining possible fieldtrips with the Antioch Lapidary Club. Ideas for increasing membership and club publicity included posting information in libraries, school campuses, local media sources (Next Door, Pioneer, Claycord, Community Focus). Show Publicity- Mike Hopkins has 2019 Show flyers printed for members to distribute at upcoming Rock Club shows. Mike presented an updated list of places where he has published CCM&G Club and Show information including several media sites. Great job, Mike!

Annual Show- BOD discussed sorting through existing rocks with Cheri Elliott and others. Silent Auction needs rock donations for the 2019 Show. President- Bonnie Eichler noted to the Board of Directors positions that remain open: Ecology/Public Lands, Education and Historian. Property Chair- Terry Caskey discussed the current Club storage units and items to be stored. Terry purchased shelves on sale at Lowes for the Concord Storage unit. This was the reason for the expedited emails requesting BOD approval for the shelves purchase. There is a need to purchase clear tubs with lids to store the items instead of cardboard boxes. Tubs will be stored on the shelves. Rocks may be kept in small boxes and buckets. Old shelving will be moved from the Martinez storage unit. Treasurer- Mary Hanjes motioned to allocate \$300 for Terry to purchase totes for storage. Kelly seconded. Vote was taken and motion approved. Show Chairman- Mike Hopkins reminded the BOD that next Show meeting would be on 3/11 before the General meeting. Treasurer- Mary Hanjes informed the BOD that the CCM&GS financial audit was completed on 2/15/19 with the assistance of CCM&GS members Shannon and Dick Merrill. "All records examined were complete, accurate and consistently well presented." Thank you Shannon and Dick for your service! Property Chairperson- Terry Caskey recommended new Show Dealers for the BOD to consider. Terry will be working with Paul Black about the Dealers for our 2019 Show. Paul plans on moving out of California during the Springtime. Thank you, Terry for accepting the task of coordinating the Dealers! BOD meeting adjourned 8:39pm.

Submitted by Secretary- Mary Jemigan

APRIL'S BIRTHSTONE: DIAMOND

Learn about diamonds from the mindat webpage here:

<https://www.mindat.org/min-1282.html>



ANTIOCH LAPIDARY CLUB'S ANNUAL ROCKSWAP & BBQ

By Dick Pankey

The Antioch Lapidary Club will host its annual Rockswap and BBQ on Saturday, May 11, 2019 from 10 til 4. It always is a great rockhound time. People are always looking for events that are close by; here is a perfect one: a great silver pick field trip with food.

Rockhounds from everywhere are invited to the Antioch Lapidary Club's Rock Swap to buy, sell and trade. Bring your rocks, fossils, gems, minerals, jewelry, extra equipment, etc. and do your own "horse trading." If you wish to set up a table or two, bring them along. There is no admission charge. Over the years many CCM&GS members have been regular participants in this fun event. Betty and I will be there as we have been for many years.

What is a Rock Swap? This rock swap is rockhounds from around the Bay area and central California getting together to buy, sell and trade rocks, fossils, gems, minerals, jewelry, lapidary works, rock art, extra equipment and more. Whether you are an avid collector or just have a casual interest and especially if you enjoy the wonders of nature, you are sure to find this rock swap interesting and fun.

The Rock Swap is held in the large parking lot of our Club House, Shop and Museum, which will be open for all to see. The BBQ area overlooks the wild life sanctuary and the Sacramento River. The Bar-B-Que will be served at 12:30 PM. Menu: Hamburgers with all the trimmings, Potato Chips, Desert and can of soft drink. Cost - \$5.00 per plate.

The Antioch Lapidary Club's Club House, Museum and Workshop are located at 425 Fulton Shipyard Rd., in Antioch, CA.

Directions. Take Highway 4 to Antioch, get off on A Street and go north, towards the water. Turn right on E. 18th St., go approximately 3/4 mile, then turn left on Cavallo. Take Cavallo past Wilbur Ave.; you now are on Fulton Shipyard Rd Follow the signs to the Rock Swap. Or, exit Hwy. 160 (near Antioch Bridge) to Wilbur Ave., West. Go west on Wilbur Ave. to Fulton Shipyard Rd. and turn right. Follow the signs.

For more information and details call Gary Casillas at 925-458-4076

(925) 798-2606
4/12/19 call
message

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

March 11, 2019 7:30pm

President- Bonnie Eichler welcomed the membership and guests. Pledge of Allegiance led by Bonnie. Sargent of Arms- Naomi Morgan collected 25cents from members missing badges. Second Vice President/Fieldtrips- Chuck Olson informed members about a fieldtrip with CFMS North to Topaz Mountain and Dugway Geode Beds in April. This fieldtrip is sponsored by the Roseville Rock Rollers Gem & Mineral Society. See notices on the back table and in the newsletter. Education Classes- Bonnie asked for members to contact her with ideas for possible classes. Bonnie is checking into a class about Copper Chasing. Hospitality- Kelly Plumb announced the March members' birthdays and anniversaries. The Spring Social event is being planned for May at Naomi's home. Date to be determined. Display- Cheryl Morgan announced the prior month's completions and winners. See newsletter for details. Annual Show- Mike Hopkins informed everyone that the 2019 Annual Show planning meetings have begun. More membership help and involvement is needed to make the Annual Show a great SUCCESS! Mike would like to have most of the planning for the Show done by Summertime so we can all enjoy Family time. Membership- Mary Jernigan gave a giant shout-out Thank You, Bob Rigor for all his contributions to designing the Show flyers, business cards, signs and much more. First Vice President- Donna Albrecht opened the evening's program and microphone to "Share your favorite rock. Tell a story." CCM&GS members brought items from fieldtrips, their collections and interesting stories to share with the group.

Submitted by Secretary- Mary Jernigan

FIELD TRIPS

**Rockhounding
With Sally!**



Upcoming Field Trips

A major source of ours, North Bay Field Trips, is folding up. It may someday be resurrected as an email group. But that's tenuous. In the meantime, would you please forward to me any newsletters you get from other clubs?

Thanks,
Chuck

March 30, 2019

Yuba Goldfields

Between Yuba City and Smartville, CA

Nevada County Gem and Mineral Society

For Yuba Blue Rock, Rice Rock (Porphyry) and it's said to be a great place for Suiseki material.

Contact Blaze Baker (559) 779-6559,
sierraslab@gmail.com.

April 11 - 14, 2019

Topaz Mt., Delta, UT

C.F.M.S. North

Roseville Rock Rollers Gem and Mineral Society

For Bixbite, Topaz, Pseudobrookite and Hematite Crystals.

And the Dugway Geode beds.

Some of these are new areas of discoveries. These folks are among the best field trips leaders, I've come across.

Contact Gene Doyle, (408) 605-9457. eugene.doyle@sbcglobal.com.

Topaz Mt. is a must do field trip. And a wonderful adventure, just getting there!

So don't be shy about checking with me for road, and camping tips.

Whether you stay at the Motel, the RV park in Delta or camp at the leader's Base Camp, these leaders will insure you have exciting collection trips, every day.

The announcement of this field trip, runs about four pages.

And I'm glad to send a copy to anyone who asks.

Let me know if you'd like more information on these, or anything else.

So as long as we're within range of a cell signal, I'm here, or there, to share any information I have, at olson86@yahoo.com, or (925) 890-7116

April 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 BOD Meeting	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 General Meeting	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

MARCH, 2019 PHOTOS



Donna- Copper specimen



Jewelry created by Bob's Dad



Mike- Chromium Mica (Mariposa)



Caryl- Picture jasper

Fallon- Chalcedony agate



Fallon- Jasper

Mike- Chromium Mica (Mariposa)



Bonnie- Ruby in Fuchsite, Neon Blue Apatite, Green Blanket



Photos submitted by Mary Jemigan

Photos from March 2019 meeting- Share Your Favorite Rock & Tell a Story

MEMBER NEWS



BIRTHDAYS:

Mary Jernigan	4/01
Larry Blevins	4/10
Richard Merrill	4/15
Karen Oliver	4/19

ANNIVERSARIES:

Matt & Ann Matthews	
Richard & Betty Pankey	4/25



APRIL GENERAL MEETING REFRESHMENTS

The following members are scheduled to bring refreshments to the April General Meeting. If you are listed and are not planning to attend, will you trade snack responsibility with another club member?

Thank you for your thoughtfulness!

Mary Jernigan- Membership

Steven Ward
Hazel Woolsey
Donna Albrecht
Barrie Bieler
Paul Black
Larry Blevins
Mary & Mark Bufton

Joanne & Terry Caskey
Gary Casillas
Greg Defabio
Dick Dennis



IMPORTANT: Effective January 1, 2019, renters of City Facilities are **prohibited** from serving food or beverages on/in disposable foam polystyrene (Styrofoam) food and beverage containers.

CCMGs 2019 BOARD MEMBERS

2019 Elected Officers:

President:
Bonnie Eichler
(925) 944-1331

1stVicePresident/Programs:
Donna Albrecht
donna@lapidarywhisperer.com

2ndVicePresident/Fieldtrips:
Chuck Olson
(925) 890-7116
olson86@yahoo.com

Secretary:
Mary Jernigan
(925) 852-1133
m10jernigan@yahoo.com

Treasurer:
Mary Hanjes
925-765-2741
mrhanjes@gmail.com

Federation Director:
Dick Pankey

(925) 439-7509
dickpankey@juno.com

2019 Appointed Officers:

Annual Show:
Mike Hopkins
mhopkins@ironhorsesdesign.net

Display:
Cheryl Morgan
cherylmorgan09@yahoo.com

Hospitality:
Kelly Plumb
(510) 693-9075
kellyplumb900@yahoo.com

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(925) 826-6716

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Property:
Terry Caskey

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mhopkins@ironhorsesdesign.net

Refreshments:
Vikki Hotopp
(925) 566-8588

Sargent of Arms:
Naomi Morgan

Web Master:
Johanna Fenton
johfenton@yahoo.com



We're on the web!
www.contracostamineralandgemsociety.org

We're on Facebook!
www.facebook.com/groups/CCMGS/

Diablo Diggins

Newsletter of the
 Contra Costa Mineral
 and Gem Society

Editor:
 Johanna Fenton

Send reports/articles/
 pictures by the 18th
 of the month to:
[johfenton@
 yahoo.com](mailto:johfenton@yahoo.com)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Board of Directors

Monday, April 1, 6:30—8:30 p.m.

Round Table Pizza, 1938 Oak Park Blvd, Pleasant Hill, CA

General Meeting

Monday, April 8, doors open 6:30 p.m., program 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Centre Concord, 5298 Clayton Rd., Concord, CA

The Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society was formed in 1950 to encourage the study of mineralogy, lapidary arts, and field collections.

General meeting on the second Monday of each month at Centre Concord, 5298 Clayton Rd., Concord, CA 94521 (Clayton Fair 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
 PO Box 842, Concord, CA 94522-0842

FIRST CLASS

Member of American and California
 Federation of Mineralogical Societies