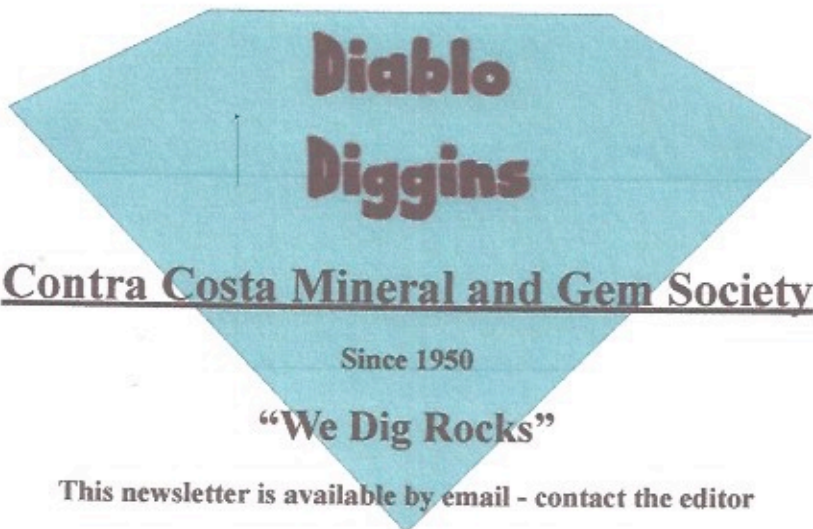




Vol. 65, No. 4



Concord, CA

April 2017



This newsletter is available by email - contact the editor

April 2017 Presidents' Message



April showers bring ... Well let's hope they bring lots of rocks, gems and Gem Shows. I will be including a list at the end of my monthly messages. In this issue, please find it on page 9.

Speaking of rocks and rockhounds, don't forget to attend the biannual North-Bay Field Trips Association meeting on Saturday April 8th at the Vallejo Club's Club House on the fairgrounds in Vallejo. I regularly attended as Field Trip Chair and intend to keep on going. It is a lot of fun and open to all members of member clubs, which we are. We start with coffee and donuts, and then sign-in. Please bring a rock for the silent auction if you can and bid on the ones that you see on the table. There will be a little business and lots of talk about past and future field trips with great

people. We then break for lunch with those same great people. (Bring a dish to share for the potluck lunch.) More bidding, more talking, and later find out if you won that rock. All in all, I can't think of too many nicer ways to spend part of a Saturday.

Plans for our November show are moving forward. Show meetings are being held monthly at Mary Hicks' home prior to the Board of Directors meeting. Everyone who is interested in helping with the show, our main fundraising event of the year, is invited. Mary has graciously opened her home and provided snacks. Please come, no matter how small a contribution you think you can make. This year we plan to divide tasks into smaller units so that everyone can be empowered to participate. The next meeting will be on Sunday April 2. *(More information to follow)*

Please remember to invite your friends to one of our monthly meetings (or several) and let's get them interested in rock-hounding. We have lots to offer. Displays, friendly competition, rocks for sale, trade board, field trips, and programs are all available. Most importantly, we are some of the friendliest people around. Let's make sure we show our guests how much we appreciate them by stopping to talk to them.

Kelly Plumb, President

Next General Meeting - Early Reminder

Monday, April 10, 2017

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PETRIFIED WOOD**

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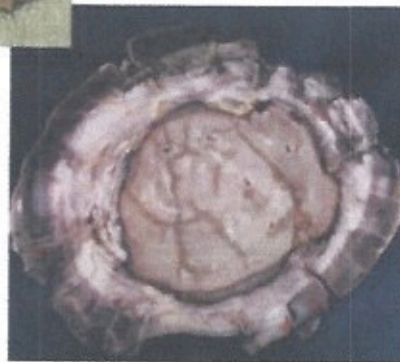
CCM&GS Program for April 10, 2017

Miocene Petrified Wood from Eastern Washington

A Long Love Affair Revealed

Almost everyone loves petrified wood. Besides being plentiful in the several regions of the western United States, it literally preserves evidence of past life in stone. Eastern Washington State is a perfect example.

Stan Bogosian has collected petrified wood for decades in Eastern Washington State. He will discuss how it is formed and where to find it. As always, lots of show and tell samples will be displayed.



Dennis Freiburger, Program Chairman

Board Meeting

Sunday, April 2, 2017 - 5:30pm at Mary Hicks' Home

Articles for May *Diablo Diggins*

Due Date, April 19, 2017

OHB@Astound.net

April 2, 2017 BOD Meeting

Board of Director Meeting

April 2, Sunday 5:30 to 7:30 pm, at Mary Hicks' home in Antioch.

The club's Board of Director's meeting starts after the Show Meeting, after a break to allow everyone to arrive, exit, or enjoy a snack.

**Minutes for the Board of Director Meeting
March 5, 2017 at 5:22 pm, Hicks'
residence, Antioch, CA.**

Call to Order. Present: Pres. Kelly Plumb, VP Chuck Olson, Treasurer Mary Hanjes, Federation Dick Pankey, Secretary/Show Chair Mary Hicks, Past Pres./Property Dave Kleesattel, Membership Mary Jernigan, Librarian Paul Black. Absent: Education Bonnie Eichler, Webmaster Harry Nichandros, Display Cheryl Morgan, Sgt. of Arms Naomi Morgan, VP Dennis Freiburger.

Reading and Approval of Minutes from BOD meeting February 2017. Noted that Mary Hanjes did not hand out a budget. ALAA not "ALLA". Motion by Dick Pankey, 2nd Paul Black, all ayes. Presentation of bills. Mary Jernigan presented bill for badges. Check for General Meeting expense for Centre Concord requested by Mary Hicks.

Communication. Secretary reported Centre Concord requested payment for the General Meeting rent. President Kelly Plumb reported that Harry says he has malware on his computer and that Johanna Fenton will work with him.

Unfinished Business. Show Update 2017. Proposed Vendors from the Show Committee were presented. Dick Pankey moved, 2nd Paul Black, all ayes. Contract with the Centre for the Show has been approved for the Show Chair to sign. Change for contact regarding the club trailer was taken care of. The club's annual audit was done on March 2, 2017 for the fiscal year January 1, 2016 thru December 31, 2016. The report is that the records were found to be in good order by Debbie Blevins and Pat Howard. Cash assets were noted (checking account, CD, deposit with Centre). Kelly brought some club records and the mail box key from Harry Nichandros and Therese Clark. More of the club paperwork (like returned postcards, original post card

design, addresses, etc.) is needed to support the success of the 2017 Show.

New Business. Chuck Olson reported a meeting in Fair Oaks of the Joint F.T. meeting. North Bay meeting at Vallejo was mentioned, see newsletter. **Newsletter.** Editor Debbie Blevins reminds everyone that the articles are due to her on the 19th day of the month. This is the same as what we had for Terry Caskey. **Property.** Dave Kleesattel wants a work party for property in April. **Membership.** Late folks for paying for membership (as of end of February) renewal will be a charge of \$15 instead of \$10 per our Bylaws. Application for Jason Jackson of Concord was proposed by Mary Jernigan and 2nd by Paul Black, all ayes. Discussed having Rockhound sticker for new members. No action taken. **Treasurer.** Checks have old PO Box information on them. Treasurer was directed to order new checks. **Federation.** Dick spoke of the Federation Show in June at Ventura. **Show.** Discussed access on Thursday afternoon or evening to start setup early. No problem in setup time in 2016. If the hall is available, there would be costs to do this. What is the penalty if the hall is not emptied on time.? Will have to ask. Mary Hanjes has rocks and grit for members to tumble for grab bags. She needs someone to break up rocks. Also she requested permission to purchase a tool to break up rock. Motion to authorize \$35 to get a tool, moved by Mary Hicks, 2nd Mary Jernigan, all ayes. **Librarian** Paul Black has a new phone number. 925.826.6716. Due to road trouble with Morgan Territory Road, Cheryl will not be at the General Meeting. Paul will take setup materials and cover this function at the March meeting. Thank you Paul. **Federation.** Dick Pankey said we have a new Federal government and it is an opportunity to write letters to the new Secretary of the Interior about our hobby. It is time to get involved. He will see if more members will become involved by being on his list about ecology news.

Next meeting is April 2 at 5:30 pm at Mary Hicks'.

Mary Hicks is our Show Chair for this year. She announced that the Show Committee is meeting monthly at her house before the Board of Directors meeting on the first Sunday of the month. That will be April 2 at 3-5 pm at her place in Antioch. Come as early as 2 pm for food and get to know other club members and about the show.

Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society General Meeting Monday March 13, 2017

Meeting opened with Pledge of Allegiance which was led by Dick Pankey. Betty Pankey announced door prize ticket winners. Members Sharon Neuhauser and Donna Heath were present at the meeting and were wished a Happy Birthday. Terry and Joanne Caskey were at the meeting and congratulated on their upcoming Anniversary. Education Chair Bonnie Eichler was not able to attend the meeting as her cat recently had surgery. Mary Hicks announced for Bonnie, that there is an application for a scholarship which helps reimburse the selected member's expense for a Mt. Diablo Adult Education class on lost wax process. See your newsletter for the application and a few were on the back table during the meeting. See the newsletter for details and conditions. Mary Hicks is our Show Chair for this year. She announced that the Show Committee is meeting monthly at her house before the Board of Directors meeting on the first Sunday of the month. That will be April 2 at 3-5 pm at her place in Antioch. Come as early as 2 pm for food and get to know other club members and about the show. She said she is busy contacting Dealers about our show. She is enthusiastic about the number of club members who have been coming to the Show Meetings and volunteering to take lead in many areas. She said that she needs someone who can help with the fliers and other handouts. (New member Bob Rigor offered his support to do graphic design later in the meeting). And that we need publicity handled too. (Member Christine Henningsson offered to take this on before the meeting was over too). More members are getting involve to share the Show FUN! Field Trip Chair Chuck Olson talked about field trip opportunities and information about a North Bay Field Trip (NBFT) gathering which will be hosted by the Vallejo G&M Society on April 8th. Dick Pankey is the North Bay Field Trip President and he listed the 14 member societies in our last newsletter. So you have two active members in our society sharing information about field trips. VP Dennis Freiburger introduced Barbara Matz who presented a program about Burma, now called Myanmar. She was with a group from Mindat.org. This trek was very interesting and informative about current access and restrictions in this country famous for rubies and jadeite. Paul Black organized organized competition items since Cheryl Morgan was unable to attend the meeting since

the road on Morgan Territory is still in need of repair. The snacks and beverages were organized by Vikki Hotopp. Thank you to the members who contributed the snacks.

Mary Hicks, Secretary

Supporting the Show IS supporting your Club.

Announcing the next show meeting on April 2, Sunday. You are welcome to arrive as early as 2 pm, meeting is 3 to 5 pm at Mary Hicks' home in Antioch. Call 925.779.0698 for directions.

Come join other club members on Sunday April 2, at Mary Hicks' home in Antioch to continue the planning for our 2017 November Education Show. At Mary's there is plenty of on street parking, sidewalks, easy access from the street, one story home, with ramp access to the front door. You are welcome to come as early at 2 pm and share the company of other rock hounds, enjoy a bountiful spread (self-serve in the kitchen), and learn about opportunities to help our show run smoothly. The Show Committee Meeting starts at 3 pm and ends at 5 pm. Come have Rock FUN.

Summary for Show (November 28, 2016, Jan 3, 2017, February 7, 2017, March 5, 2017)

President Kelly Plumb is coordinating retrieval of information and reports from 2016 Show Chair Harry Nichandros. Expenses and income were reviewed by Treasurer Mary Hanjes and Show Chair Mary Hicks. Most recent meeting was held on March 5, 4-5 pm at Mary Hicks' home. Attendees: Mary Hicks, Howard Shamy, Paul Black, Chuck Olson, Debbie Blevins, Mary Hanjes, Dave & Kim Kleesattel, Dick Pankey, Mike Hopkins, Kelly Plumb, Hazel Woolsey. Attendees voiced that one hour is not enough time to cover show business. The next meeting will be from 3-5 pm to allow more time for attendees to cover items. It was suggested that it may be helpful to have smaller groups get together first and then come together to share progress. More input on this at the next meeting in April. The group developed a suggested Dealer list for Mary to take to the BOD for approval, as well as Centre Concord contract (not changed from 2016). The BOD gave approval and Mary signed the contract with the Centre and is working with Dealers and will have a report at the next meeting.

Volunteer Areas (no special order)**Show Insurance**-Mary Hicks**Dealers**-Mary Hicks (Contracts), Terry Caskey, Paul Black, Cheryl Morgan.**(Layout, chairs, badges) Publicity**-Rock&Gem, CFMS, AFMS, Orinda banner, radio, newspapers, email, mailers, neighborhood groups. Christine Henningson.**Help with mailings (stamps/address labels/stuff envelopes)**-Don & Margaret Henrich**Graphics**-Fliers, postcards, sign design. etc.-Bob Rigor**Property**-Dave Kleesattel**Entrance-Gate**-Debbie Blevins, Mary Hanjes.**(Tickets) Exhibits**-Entrance, Hallway, Fl. Room, Ballroom, Activities Room, Case Ends, Awards-Dick & Betty Pankey**Hallway-Scouts**?? Need lead.**Treasurer**-Mary Hanjes**Setup**-Terry Caskey, Howard Shamy, Dick Pankey (Exhibits)**Teardown**-Terry Caskey, Howard Shamy, Dick Pankey (Exhibits)**Housekeeping**-Need lead.**Friday-setup coffee and doughnuts****Friday- lunch**-need lead.**Friday-dinner with Show Chair Thank You to members and dealers.** Mary Hicks and Louise Gilley will make homemade lasagna.**Sat-Sun Cafe**-Pevahouse Clan (Scott, Sherry, Joey)**Parking Lot Spaces**-Plan to get near end spaces open for paying guests.**Shopping (kitchen) Indoor Signs (new signs, sign placement, member yard signs, Entrance, Backroom, Fluoride Room, Kitchen)****Outside Signs (placement starting Sunday and thru week. Saturday and Sunday)****Sign Placement**-need a lead and volunteers.**Raffle**-Mary Jernigan**Silent Auction**-Donna Heath, Cheri Elliott**Demonstrators**-Kelly Plumb**Wheel of Fortune, Grab Bags**-Chuck Olson, Hazel Woolsey**Greeter** - It would be nice to greet our attendees.**Relief Staff**.-Go around and spell club workers.**Others??**

end

Happy Easter

Fun Photo'ssubmitted by Mary Jernigan



"So this moose walks up to me, I ask why the long face?" - Dave Kleesattel



"Alaska rockhounds trade in their hardhats for something much warmer." - Dave Kleesattel



Photos submitted by Mary Jernigan & Taylor Thompson
Mother Lode Mineral Society Show - Turlock, CA
March 11 & 12, 2017

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 prize of five dollars, and the person who has won the most competitions for novice cab during the year will advance to "pro" status and be awarded a Diablo Dan silver pin.

Novice Cabs – No entry this month

Pro Cabs - Three Entries

Shape of the Month – Round - Two Entries

A - Joe Yarbrough - Bruneau Jasper

A – Donna Albrecht – 'Volcano' Agate

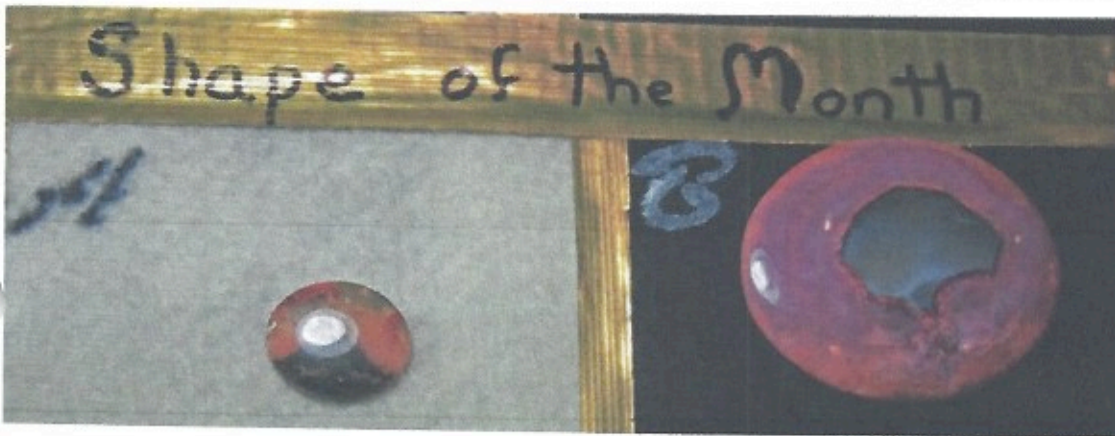
B - Paul Black - Regency Rose Agate


B – Paul Black – Berber Agate (winner)

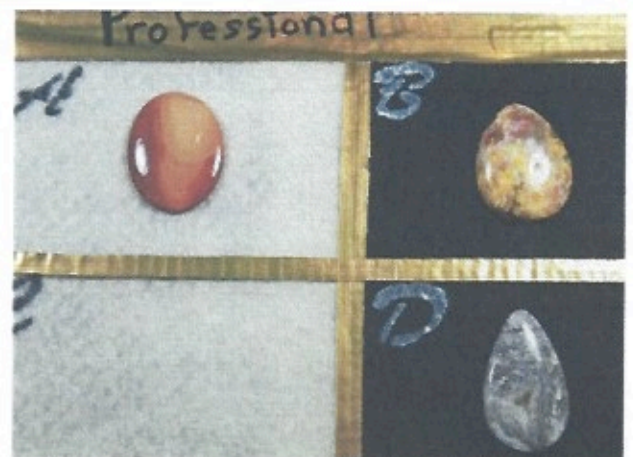
D - Donna Albrecht - 'Volcano' Agate (winner)

Faceted Gems - One Entry

A - Terry Caskey - Falon Glass (unchallenged)



 *March Meeting
Competition Entries*



Shape of the Month Cabs
March - Round
April - Oval

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 Membership Chairpersons and let us know if you are not attending this month. Thank you!

Mary Jernigan- Membership

April Refreshment List

- Christine Henningsson
- Lee Jacoby
- Mary Jernigan
- Alan & JoAnn Kilpatrick
- Dave & Kim Kleesattel
- Connie Klein
- Joan Lightfoot
- Richard & Shannon Merrill
- Rana Miller- Owen
- Naomi & Cheryl Morgan
- Bruce Newton

Education

A quick update on the Lost Wax Casting class, the start date for the next class is Wednesday, April 19th. The cost is \$148 for the session. (10 weeks)

National Geographic has a website where you can print your own topographical maps for free! Here is the website:

<http://www.natgeomaps.com/trail-maps/pdf-quads>

No new club classes to announce at this time. If you have a class that you are willing to teach, please let me know.

April 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 Jernigan	4/1
Larry Blevins	4/10
Joan Lightfoot	4/14
Richard Merrill	4/15
Joann Kilpatrick	4/16
Karen Oliver	4/19

April Wedding Anniversaries

George & Ann Matthews	4/3
Alan & Joann Kilpatrick	4/6
Richard & Betty Pankey	4/25

Favorite Presentations for 2016

The voting is in. The three favorite presentations to CCM&GS for 2016 are:

- Gemstone Deposits of the United States (USGS video; Dennis Freiburger, Facilitator)
- Collecting Across Nevada on Highway 50 (Dick Pankey, Presenter)
- Rock Tumbling (Mary Hanjes, Presenter)

Upcoming Shows

APRIL

April 1 - 2: CHICO, CA

Paradise Gem & Mineral Society, Silver Dollar Fairgrounds
2357 Fair Street, Hours: Sat 9 - 5; Sun 9 - 4
Contact: Kevin Wright, (530) 990-0211
Email: agateorca@ix.netcom.com, Website: paradisegem.org

April 8 - 9: MARIPOSA, CA, Mariposa Gem & Mineral Society
Mariposa County Fairgrounds, 5007 Fairgrounds Rd/Hwy 49 So.
Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5, Contact: Meredith Meehan, (559) 868-3535
Email: mgmc@sti.net, Website: www.camineralmuseum.com

April 22 - 23: PASO ROBLES, CA, Santa Lucia Rockhounds

Paso Robles Event Center, 2198 Riverside Avenue
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4, Contact: Tina Clark, (805) 305-0246
Email: srockhounds@gmail.com, Website: www.srockhounds.org

April 29 - 30: LANCASTER, CA, Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Lancaster High School, 44701 32nd Street West
Hours: 10 - 5 daily, Website: www.avgem.weebly.com

April 29 - 30: SANTA CRUZ, CA

Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society, Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium
307 Church Street, Hours: 10 - 5 daily, Contact: Dean Welder
Email: wdeanwelder@gmail.com, Website: www.scrockngem.org

MAY

May 6 - 7: JACKSON, CA, Amador County Gem & Mineral Society
Kennedy Mine, 12594 Kennedy Mine Rd (off Hwy 49/88)
Hours: 10 - 4 daily, Contact: Gaylene Lichty, (209) 245-5388
Email: mountaingirl@volcano.net, Website: amadorgemandmineral.org

May 6 - 7, 2017: RENO, NV, Reno Gem & Mineral Society
Reno Livestock Event Center, 1350 North Wells Avenue
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4, Contact: Daniel Ellis, (775) 359-6068
Email: sailondan55@aol.com, Website: www.renorockhounds.com

End/
Kelly Plumb

Rockhounding With Sally!



Hi Folks,

Well, the rain has finally let up enough for us to stretch our legs and wings a bit.

Sally and I made a day trip up to Saint Helena and Putah Creeks. And sure enough, on

her journey from the Mountains to the Sea, Mother Nature has carved out a lot of pretty rocks. We'll talk more about this in coming weeks.

Now, we have a dilemma here. There are two Trips planned for April 8th.

The first is to Mariposa, Ca. which is a, loooooong way from home. I just checked the weather forecast for that weekend; " Mostly sunny," an uncomfortable, 71*/42,* and no mention of a Pot Luck Lunch. And it looks like you'd probably get the sniffles too.

The Second is the semiannual, North Bay Field Trips Meeting hosted by the Vallejo Gem & Mineral Society, at their Clubhouse on the Solano County Fairgrounds, which, by the way, is within easy walking distance of Concord. And there's going to be a Pot Luck Lunch too!

If any aspect of Field Trips interests you, you need to be here for this, (special invitations to new members). Here's an opportunity to share knowledge and stories of past, and future planned field trips. And, I'm expecting an announcement that NBFT's President, our own Dick Pankey, will soon be holding a seminar for Field Trip Leaders. So we're looking forward, to a lively discussion of Dick's qualifications for that.

And if that's not enough. There is more!

The turnout for these meetings, always guarantees a, " Super Silent Auction," the size of which is startling! And a Pot Luck Lunch too! And all, without the sniffles!

So fire up the car, April 8th, be there at 8:30am, for Registration and coffee. Bring rocks and related stuff for the Auction. And a dish to share, (Sally and I are counting on you). And we'll see you there!

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.

April 8, 2017

Vallejo, Ca.

North Bay Field Trips

The Vallejo G&MS is hosting North Bay Field Trips Spring Meeting on Saturday, April 8 at their Club House and Shop. For more information, contact Dick Pankey, dickpankey@juno.com, (925) 726-5914, or Chuck Olson, olson86@yahoo.com, (925) 890-7116.

April 8-16, 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, <http://www.rockhoundfieldtripfanatics.com/>

2/21/17 Update: This is a new web address for them. So if you've signed onto the old site, you'll have to register again on this site. They were having problems with the new site, but it's working again.

April 15, 2017 (Approximately).

Baron, 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.

The following three Field Trips are sponsored by a rock shop that hosts monthly field trips, lead by Justen Zzyzy. They charge a fee of \$40.00 per six field trips.

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](http://www.miningsuppliesandrockshop.com/index.php/public-guided-field-trips/)

(First of Three) April Sunday 23rd at 9am
Lake Havasu - London Bridge
Mining Supplies and Rock Shop
 9565 C Ave. Suite K
 Hesperia, Ca. 92345

Though this location is three hours away, (from Hesperian, Ca.), it makes a perfect weekend trip, come on Saturday and join us for a Sunday of collecting beautiful Hematite crystals at the BBC mine and abundant Malachite and copper minerals at the Planet Mine. We will be collecting on Saturday, if you plan to be there on Saturday, we will give you a map that shows nearby locations for beautiful cutting rough, or join us at the BBC mine a day early! Contact: Cyndy Mandell at cyndymandell@me.com, (760) 244-9642.

View their website at,

<http://www.miningsuppliesandrockshop.com/index.php/public-guided-field-trips/>

(Second of Three) May Saturday 6th at 10am
The mines of the North Calico Mountains
Mining Supplies and Rock Shop
 9565 C Ave. Suite K
 Hesperia, Ca. 92345

Massive Grossular Garnet, Wollastonite, Nickle Quartz, Arsenic ore, Malchite and gold mines, so much to explore, we will take you to FOUR locations with various minerals and you'll find out about the mineral deposits near Coyote Dry Lake. This is a rock shop that sponsors monthly field trips, lead by Justen Zzyzy. Contact Cyndy Mandell at cyndymandell@me.com, (760) 244-9642.

View their website at,

<http://www.miningsuppliesandrockshop.com/index.php/public-guided-field-trips/>

(Third of Three) June Saturday 24th at 10am
Rancho Palos Verdes, on the shore of the Pacific Ocean
Mining Supplies and Rock Shop
 9565 C Ave. Suite K
 Hesperia, Ca. 92345

Escape the heat of the high desert and come with us to the beach! We will start out at a public park that allows rock collecting and get our fill of the abundant dolomite and quartz that is to be found, then make our way to the nearby beach to find Barite crystals! This is a rock shop that sponsors monthly field trips, lead by Justen Zzyzy. Contact Cyndy Mandell at cyndymandell@me.com, (760) 244-9642.

View their website at,

<http://www.miningsuppliesandrockshop.com/index.php/public-guided-field-trips/>

I spoke with Barb Matz, of the San Francisco Club at our January, General Meeting. She confirmed that we could look forward to another S.F. Club, sponsored Field Trip, open to all North Bay Field Trips Member Clubs, (that's us!), this coming season.

The Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society is rumored to be planning a future trip to Black Butte Lake and Stony Creek, in the near future. I'll let you know if they'll be sharing this trip with N.B.F.T. member clubs, as more information becomes available.

Earlier this month, I spoke with Fossil For Fun Field Trip Chairman, Debbie Bunn who says, save Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends, for their sponsored Field Trips. They don't know where yet. But she promised they'll be good!

The season is about to take off. So keep an eye here, for additional news. And let me know of any Field Trips, I'm leaving out.

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.

How about these garden rocks!

Collected on the Antioch Lapidary Club's Field Trip to Fallon, NV.



Ecology and Public Lands

By Dick Pankey

When we updated our Bylaws in 2010 we added a new committee and a new Board of Directors position - **Ecology and Public Lands** committee. The purpose of the committee is:

- (a) This committee shall consist of a Chairman appointed by the President and of such additional members as he/she may require and recommend to the President for appointment.
- (b) This committee will review publicly available information and legislation regulation from Governmental (Federal, State, and local) and private organizations regarding proposed and pending legislation with respect to issues and interests that may affect the Society. It will not obligate Society funds without prior approval of the Board of Directors, except for funds officially budgeted to this committee.
- (c) Keep membership informed and urge response and action to proposed legislation and regulations.

Even after all these years the committee chair position is unfilled and we are looking for a person that is interested in the future of rockhounding and use of our public lands. As chairman you and the committee will be the CCM&GS liaison with the American Lands Access Association and will keep our members informed on issues, legislation and regulations that affect the access and use of public lands. The information that you will need is readily available in the newsletters and websites of the AFMS, CFMS and ALAA.

Over the past few years I have tried to perform some of the duties of the Ecology and Public Lands committee, but we really need a CCM&GS member that is dedicated to the task. **Is that member YOU?** If you have questions, possible interest, or curios about the Ecology and Public Lands committee please contact me for NO OBLIGATION answers.

For the past years at our society meeting I requested that interested members join our Ecology and Public Lands e-mail list. Only 19 members have taken me up on my offer. For the life of me I just don't understand the apathy. I don't understand the reluctance to be informed about the challenges to the access and use of our Public Lands and the effort to save our access and our recreation rights to our public lands. I don't understand why more members don't care about collecting rocks, camping, driving the back roads, and all of the other fun uses on the public lands that we have used and enjoyed for many years.

If you or if you know of any of anyone that would/should be interested in our efforts to save our public lands please have them contact me to get our list.

If you are just interest in information about and are concerned about public lands access issues sign up with me for emails from CFMS, AFMS, ALAA, Blue Ribbon Coalition and other access information. Just being informed is also important.

Show Meeting

Supporting the Show IS supporting your Club. Announcing the next show meeting on April 2, Sunday. You are welcome to arrive as early as 2 pm, meeting is 3 to 5 pm at Mary Hicks' home in Antioch. Call 925.779.0698 for directions.

Board of Director Meeting

**April 2, Sunday 5:30 to 7:30 pm, at Mary Hicks' home in Antioch.
The club's Board of Director's meeting starts after the Show Meeting, after a break to allow everyone to arrive, exit, or enjoy a snack.**

Labradorite Crystal Egg



Crazy Lace Agate Egg



African Bloodstone Egg



Images from Pinterest Website

Federation Director's Report

By Dick Pankey, Federation Director

"Ventura Rocks the Nation" is the theme of this years National Convention and Show. This is a combined CFMS/AFMS Convention and Show that is hosted by the Ventura G&MS at the Ventura County Fairgrounds on June 9-11, 2017. This is a 3 day show and it is one of my favorite show venues. There are 2 large buildings: one for dealers and the other for exhibits, demonstrators, displays, kids activities and more. And best of all for me is the camping area is right next to the show building. This is "The Big Show" in California and only about 350 miles from Concord. 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. 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.

Thanks to all of you that have been cutting and collecting canceled stamps and bringing them to me. These stamps are donated to the Easter Seal program in Sacramento. This has been a long term project of the CFMS and we have participated for years. It is easy to do; when you get your mail each day just cut the stamps off of the envelopes and stick them in a Ziploc bag or envelope. When the bag is full bring it to me at a meeting. I will take our donation to the CFMS meeting in November. So far we have had good participation and I will have a load for the next meeting. If you have stamps to donate bring them to me at any meeting. A BIG THANK YOU to all who have donated stamps to me at the meetings.

NBFT Field Trip Leaders and Editors,

Please see the article below about the upcoming NBFT meeting. It is to entice and encourage the FT Leader to attend our Spring Meeting in April. It is also an article for the Editor to use in your society's newsletter to

invite, inform and encourage your members to attend this meeting (and future meetings).

We look forward and hope for attendance from all of our societies.

Dick

NBFT Spring Meeting

By Dick Pankey, President

If you like going on or talking about field trips; if you like spending time with rockhounds and collectors discussing their most recent collecting adventures; if you like great deals on rocks and mineral; or if you are just looking for an excuse to get out of the house (and out of some chores) have I got a deal for you!!! The Vallejo G&MS will host the Spring Meeting of North Bay Field Trips on Saturday, April 8 at their club house and shop in Vallejo, CA. NBFT holds 2 meetings a year one in the spring and one in the fall. In the past these have been fun and interesting meetings. The business part of the meeting is for reports of field trips since the last meeting, discussion and planning for future field trips and discussion of issues that affects field trips and collecting. The fun part of the meeting is the silent auction with specimens, cutting material, fossils and more; sharing a great potluck lunch and best of all getting together with other rockhounds.

Each member society of NBFT should be sure that their field trip leader or a representative attends this meeting and represent their society. But the NBFT meetings aren't just for the field trip leaders; every member that enjoys field trips and collecting are welcome to attend. I attended my first NBFT meeting in February 1991 and got hooked. It is a great bunch of people who have fun, like rocks and collecting and best of all go on great field trips together. If your society has a new FTC this year make sure he or she gets the word about this meeting and be sure to encourage them to attend; and don't forget that the NBFT Dues are due. Invite and encourage other members of your club to come to this meeting. I encourage all club members who are interested in field trips (that includes just about all members) to attend NBFT meetings and to join in the fun and be active in NBFT events.

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 club's field trip or event so that you will have something to announce at the meeting. The number of NBFT field trips has been dwindling over the last few years. If it weren't for our field trip sharing arrangement with COOP we would be at a real loss for trips. And if we don't start hosting trips to share COOP might stop sharing with us. Sharing is a two way street! Is your society prepared? Is your society planning a field trip or event to share with NBFT and COOP?

I request and challenge all past NBFT leaders to get involved to encourage your society and field trip leader to get involved and support NBFT. Let us all regain our North Bay Field Trips spirit and revitalize this wonderful organization and ourselves.

So mark your calendars now for NBFT on April 8th. Talk it up at your next meeting and get a group of field tripping rock collectors to attend the NBFT fall meeting. Bring something to share and your plate and utensils for the potluck lunch and bring rocks and rock related items for the silent auction. Also, bring Show-N-Tell from a recent trip. See the event announcement for details, directions and a map.

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!

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April 2017

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1 Chico Show
2 Show Meeting	3	4	5	6	7	8 Mariposa Show & F/T
						NBFT Spring Meeting
9 Mariposa Show & F/T	10 General Meeting	11 Mariposa F/T	12 Mariposa F/T	13 Mariposa F/T	14 Mariposa F/T	15 Mariposa F/T
	Mariposa F/T					
16 Mariposa F/T	17	18	19	20	21	22 Paso Robles Show
23 Paso Robles Show	24	25	26	27	28	29 Lancaster Show
						Santa Cruz Show
30 Lancaster Show						
Santa Cruz Show						

Member of American and California Federation of Mineralogical Societies

First Class

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

Visitors are welcome! Bring a friend!

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).

Send reports to ohb@astound.net

Editor- Debbie Blevins

www.ccmgs.org

Newsletter of the Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society

Diablo Diggins