



Vol. 65, No. 7



Diablo Diggins

Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society

Since 1950



Concord, CA

July, 2017

"We Dig Rocks"

This newsletter is available by e mail - contact the editor

July 2017 Presidents' Message



I hope everyone had a great 4th of July! I hoped to have spent time at the Antioch 4th of July parade with the Antioch lapidary Club but I was unable to get away from work. As far as I know, that is the only time I will ever see people wave, smile and cheer when I throw rocks at them. I hope to join them next year.

Alan and I just got back from a wonderful rock-hounding vacation. We joined Doug True digging Blue Forest petrified wood, but got rained out of our tent by a windy hailstorm that left 3 inches of water in the tent. At least I spent the night warm, curled up in half of the back seat

of the truck with my German Shepherd, Tasha. We definitely need a trailer next year! I'll tell you more about it on Page 14.

Please start thinking now about what you would like to volunteer to do for our November show! What a success it would be if every member participated! There are plenty of small jobs that won't take up your whole weekend. The kitchen has lots of small jobs during setup and some during tear down. Build hamburgers! Cut Cakes! Greet guests at the door! Help with the raffle! Skirt tables! Be a demonstrator! I always need new Demonstrators. One project that has no people is a "Sand Treasures" station. Kids scoop sand and find treasures they get to keep. I have everything you need. All I need is one (or several) volunteers to man the station. Post signs the week before. Post flyers! What ideas do you have? There are all sorts of ways to support your club! Chairperson, Mary Hicks needs to know soon who is available for what positions so we can start looking to fill anything left over. Check the bulletin board at meetings. Meanwhile, if you are interested in volunteering please give your contact information to any board member.

Kelly Plumb, President

REMINDER FOR GENERAL MEETING
MONDAY JULY 10, 2017
CENTRE CONCORD 7:30pm

REMINDER FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS
AND SHOW MEETINGS
Sunday, August 6, 2017

Election Information
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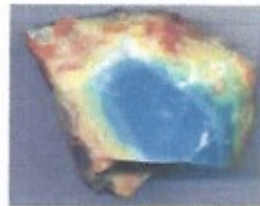
CCM&GS Program for July 10, 2017

Black Rock Desert

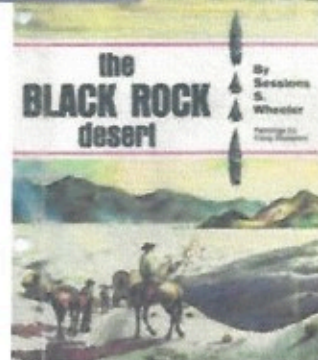
A Continuing Rockhound Favorite

The Black Rock Desert of Nevada is a unique destination enjoyed by many of our society members. Several minerals and rocks are uniquely identified as belonging to this important locality. It is not only a Rockhound mecca but is also full of history for those who enjoy tales of the Old West.

Mary Hicks and family have visited and collected from the greater area for decades. Bring your favorite finds from the Black Rock Desert and share them at the meeting!



Clockwise from top: Christmas jasper, Opalized petrified wood, CCM&GS library book, Double Hot Springs



Dennis Freihurper Program Chairman



Summer is in **HIGH** gear with GS Camps! At our Twin Canyons Camp in Lafayette, I taught Archery for a week & Taylor worked with the Nature unit. Did I tell you that we had a large Rattle SSsssnake near the Archery Range? He hung out in a pipe nearby & left after a few days so we didn't need to recruit a Snake- Rangler from our GS Staff.



CCMGS General Meeting June 12, 2017

President Kelly Plumb called the meeting to order around 7:30 pm, member Lee Jacoby lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Safety Moment by President Kelly Plumb was that the hot weather is coming soon and many members are going on field trips so keeping hydrated is very important. Wearing proper safety gear such as hiking boots, having bug spray, and other like accommodations need to be planned for and remembered. No one was present to be the Greeter so member JoAnn Kilpatrick volunteered to do this service for the attending members. It was so nice to have her see the need and step up to take care of it without waiting to be asked. Thank You JoAnn. Paul Black was Librarian and covering Displays for Cheryl Morgan who had an emergency fire department meeting she had to attend. Thank you Paul for helping out. It is always nice to see the discoveries that members display and the competition cabs and faceted stones to vote on and Paul made this all possible. Naomi Morgan, Sergeant of Arms collected \$2.25 in badge fines (secure in an envelope on my dresser), the money was turned into the Secretary as the Treasurer Mary Hanjes was out on a fabulous field trip to Utah. There were about 30 people at the meeting. Change this year for the show, Mary Hicks show chair announced that we will need a permit to serve food, Requirement for Temporary Food Facilities, it is not expensive since we are a non-profit, it is just another detail for the Show Committee to keep track of.

Vice President Dennis Freiburger Introduced the program about Gemstone Mining. He started us off with review of terminology like alluvial meaning stones found in that environment have been moved from the source and are in a secondary deposit. We watched videos of various mining operations. I was surprised to learn that tanzanite comes from tsavorite garnet. Mindat.org was mentioned as a go to place for information. We learned about retreat mining. This technique was shown in use for diamond mining and was very interesting. We even got to see opal mining at Lightning Ridge in Australia. Thank you Dennis for a great program

and for bringing us such an enthusiastic presentation.

We got to congratulate member Taylor Thomson on her graduation from high school and saw her stunning ammonite necklace she wore for her senior photograph. Members were treated to snacks and beverages and as always, a big thank you to Vikki Hotopp for being a smashing hostess. The Presidents message to remember to leave no trace was taken to heart. The secretary saw a Rock & Gem magazine on the table and picked it up for save holding until the next meeting. A note came out by Mary Jernigan, Membership, that the magazine was the personal property of Donna Albrecht. She brought it in to show the article she wrote that is published in the Vol. 47 Issue 6 edition. Her article is "Make a Meal" of Your Collection., Pages 62-65. Donna Albrecht is a writer and blogger in Northern California.

Visit her at www.LapidaryWhisperer.com. This magazine is safe sitting with the badge fines on my dresser.

Mary Hicks - Secretary

From the American Lands Access Association newsletter, April-June 2017

www.amlands.org

President signs Executive Order requiring Review of National Monuments

On April 26, 2017, President Trump signed an Executive Order requiring the review of National Monument Designations. The order directs the Department of the Interior to review monuments designated using the Antiquities Act as of January 1, 1996, that are in excess of 100,000 acres, or monuments that were expanded without adequate public outreach and coordination with relevant stakeholders. This order restores trust between local communities and Washington and roots out abuses of power by previous administrations. This puts the Interior back on track to manage our federal lands in accordance to traditional "multiple-use" philosophy by directing the Secretary of the Interior to consult and coordinate with the Governors of States affected by monument designations or other relevant officials of affected State, Tribal, and local governments.

June 4, Show Meeting at Mary Hicks' Home in Antioch 94531

We had the regularly scheduled show meeting from 3 pm to 5 pm., Sunday June 4th at 2418 Larkin Ct., Antioch 94531 925-779-0698. Next meetings--Aug. 6, Sept 3, Oct 8. (Members please mark these meetings on your calendar.)

Present: Mary Hicks, Mary Jernigan, Debbie Blevins, Dick Pankey, Paul Black, Chuck Olson, Christine Henningsson, Dave & Kim Kleesattel, Terry Caskey.

Agenda Items

2018 Show Chair - Mary Hicks reminds everyone we need to be thinking of the Chair for the 2018 Show. We need to have members help make the show a club show, so let's welcome members and let's remember the show should be fun, and we should come together to make the show a success.

Show Publicity Update - Christine Henningsson made a report to the group. She received copies of the Show Announcement designed by member Bob Riggor to mail out. The show domain name for coupons is ccmgsshowcoupon.com. Christine is ready to start sending out announcements now that we have a show domain name. Along with the list of contacts is the time line for sending out information. Mary Hicks will take this information and do an Excel spreadsheet for distribution and for future reference. The web page is registered under the club's name and is supported by GoDaddy.

Show Web Site Update - The web page is simple at this time and will be enhanced as more information is added. Mary will send the domain name to the vendors, to the club's newsletter, and to CFMS. Currently, the site says—"**Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society Show Discount Coupon. \$1 off each adult admission with this coupon. Kid activities! Centre Concord 5298 Clayton Rd. Nov. 4&5, 2017. 10-5 Sat/Sun. Copyright 2017 Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society – All Rights Reserved. Powered by GoDaddy.**" This is clearly the club's website. Mary is happy to get input from club members but she asks that we keep the show site simple.

Meeting with Centre Concord - Terry Caskey & Mary Hicks met with a representative at Centre Concord. We learned that the tables in the Lobby are provided by the Centre and setup and taken down by Centre staff. The large potted house plants have been relocated so the Lobby area is more open looking. Some site users use Wally Rental for tables and chairs. Terry and Paul will research table needs. Terry spoke about a drafting program to do layout for the show that costs a few hundred dollars. Terry will talk to a member who does landscaping design to see if he can help out. Skirting was discussed, we probably have enough for this year. Discussion about fire retardant and the skirting. The Centre did not seem concerned. Mary will contact a friend at the Castro Valley Club to see what was used at their show. Christine said there was a spray that cost about \$30 per bottle. They think that Beth is the show chair.

Health Department Requirements have changed for food handling. The Centre staff provided two handouts about 'Requirements for Temporary Food Facilities'. There is information on Event Coordinator Responsibilities, Permit Required, Application Process, Fees and more. Mary has put a call into the Health Department to go over requirements and permit need and fees. More to follow in the future.

Vendor Update - Member input-form to critique 2017 vendors (looking toward 2018). Debbie will research evaluation formats and get back to the group. Some members thought we should rank top three, have check boxes, keep the form short.

We need a map showing placement of vendors in the ballroom and class room.

Payment Status - One vendor sent in a partial payment which is not in compliance with the contract. Mary will get hold of the vendor to discuss. One vendor is down with a medical problem. Mary will follow up with a few vendors about a request to bring more fossils.

Letter to Vendors - Vendors will be sent a letter asking for more information about their products, a brief bio, and a picture to allow an article be in the newsletter so we can get to know them. Mary is sending a letter to Doug True. She mentioned a letter sent by a club members about two past vendors.

Storage Locker-Signs and other items need inventory for making space. We found a Show Binder with the trailer tag

Trailer-Room for show related items to have them transported on Friday (Get rid of tables so we can put in pertinent items.)

Exhibitors - End pieces ? Bag of prior years exhibitors (holding for Dick and Betty)

Lay-out of back room suggestion: Dick has the mineral specimens for the Case Favors. Possible use of Activity Room in a different configuration. Placing the exhibitor cases around the edges of the room and have the demonstrators in the middle of the room. This opens up the room line of sight. Paul and Mary Jernigan will measure the room to verify the tables will work this way... Terry said he can help figure out the power layout. Paul will also look to see if there are 18-inch tables stored at the Centre.

Other Old/New Items

- Critters
- Bags (pattern-July Newsletter)
- Sign-up sheets (July)
- Girt and tumblers (July Newsletter)

Other Old Business
New Business

Sign up to make Ming Trees and Critters for the annual show's spinning wheel game. Contact Debbie Blevins at ohb@astound.net or 925-680-6562 for more information. We will also have sign-ups & more information at the general meetings.



Leave No Trace

Federation Director's Report

By Dick Pankey, Federation Director

The sun rarely shines on Seaside Park in June the site of the 2017 California Federation of Mineralogical Societies-American Federation of Mineralogical Societies Convention and Show. June brings "June Gloom" to this ocean side fairgrounds in Ventura, CA. The days were warm and the evenings pleasant but the sun rarely shined through the fog bank that covered the area. Every 7 years the CFMS hosts AFMS for the combined Show and Convention. The Ventura G&MS did an outstanding job of hosting and conducting this Convention and Show. Over the years Betty and I have attended several outstanding shows at this site. The show was held in 2 very large, Quonset hut type buildings. Forty plus dealers occupied one building; the exhibits, demonstrators, kid's activities, silent auction, welcome table and raffle were in the other one. This year there were 45 non-competitive cases and exhibits and a whopping 80 cases competing in CFMS and AFMS competition.

The best part for us is that the camping area is just outside of the exhibit building which is convenient for attending the show and for setting up our display case. We arrived at the Fairgrounds on Wednesday afternoon. The camping area was about half full but we were still able to park in the same spot we were in at the 2013 Show.

The CFMS Directors' meeting was held on Saturday morning. There were only 50 societies represented. Over the last few years over 20 societies have disbanded and/or dropped out of the Federation; currently there are 2 societies that have not paid their 2017 dues and insurance and are delinquent. In addition to the usual business of minutes and treasurer's reports, there were over 30 written or oral committee reports given. As Directors' meeting go this was a short one. Most of the officer and committee reports were "In The Packet". When we register at the meeting we get a packet with the agenda, treasurer's report and written reports of the many committees. This is efficient but it doesn't allow for questions and clarification.. However, I have the packet and other materials from the meeting for anyone who is interested.

In the afternoon I attended the ALAA meeting. ALAA holds it's annual meeting each year at the AFMS Convention. Attendance of officers, directors and members was sparse; there were just enough to constitute a quorum. At this meeting 2 directors were elected to serve a 3 year term, the current officers were re-elected for a 1 year term, the annual budget was approved and the minutes of the January meeting in Quartzsite were approved. The speaker for the meeting had to cancel at the last minute because of a family emergency.

Saturday evening was the awards banquet: The 2 CFMS Scholarship honorees and their 2 students were introduced, trophies for the competitive case winners were presented, the Golden Bear awards were presented, the All American Club award was presented and the Show chairman and host society was recognized and thanked for the great show and convention.

Meeting highlights:

- *A quorum was established - 50 Directors, 28 Committees, and 4 Officers. Unfortunately, many Federation Directors don't attend our meetings; therefore their club's voice and opinions are not heard. The Federation is working to improve attendance and participation in Federation meetings and activities.*

Meeting highlights continued (FEDERATION REPORT):

- *There are 2 delinquent societies and will be dropped from membership. There were no new society applications. Our Federation is still strong and viable but we are declining in participation, societies and total membership.*
- *At this time no society has come forward to host the 2018 show. The federation is also looking for show hosts for 2019.*
- *This year there were 3 entries in All American Club Award competition. The awards were presented at the Banquet. This program has been plagued by low participation the last few years. We have a great and involved club with a lot to talk about. All we need is some people, a committee, to prepare the "Book". It is easy and fun. See me for information and details if you would like to help.*
- *The Earth Science Studies-Camp Paradise will be 2 one week session starting on August 27. Space is available for this great camp. The cost is only \$400 for room, meals and some class supplies. Contact me for more details.*
- *The Nominating committee is soliciting nominations from the societies for 2018 CFMS officers.*
- *The Scholarship Committee is soliciting nominations from the societies for Scholarship Honorees who then select a school and undergraduate candidates for a \$2000 scholarships. There is plenty of money available for undergraduate CFMS Scholarships, but they can't be given out if our societies do not nominate honorees to select schools and recipients. Only two honorees and therefore only two scholarships this year. 2 societies presented check to the Fund.*
- *There are detailed financial reports available from the Scholarship Committee and from the Endowment Fund.*
- *Pat LaRue, our Tax Advisor, reminds all societies to file their "e-post cards" to prevent loss of their tax status.*
- *John Martin has obtained and digitized over 9000 historical photographs of CFMS Meetings in the 60's, 70's and 80's. They will be available on the CFMS website sometime soon.*
- *This year there were 80 cases in competition. This is more competitive cases than the other 6 federations combined for the last 2 years.*
- *I presented bags of stamps from our members and several other societies for Easter Seals in Sacramento. Thanks to all of you that have participated and gave me stamps*
- *The slides in the Visual Program Library are being converted to digital format.*
- *I have copies of the meeting packet and reports if anyone is interested.*

The next CFMS Meeting will be next November in Visalia.

Free Tables

The club is giving away their tables as they are taking up too much needed space. First opportunity is going to club members. Please contact Mary Hicks for more information.

Club Picnic - September 9, 2017

3 - 7PM - Donna & Mike Albrecht's Home

Please sign up to bring a side dish at the next general meeting.

Field Trips Field Trips Field Trips

Would you like to lead a Field Trip but not sure you know how? Do you want to go on a Field Trip but don't know what to expect? What are the expectations, duties and responsibility of a Field Trip Leader? What is expected of a person who attends a Field Trip? These questions and more will be answered and discussed at the North Bay Field Trips Fall Meeting in September.

On Saturday, September 23, 2017 the Contra Costa M&GS will host the NBFT Fall meeting and FT Seminar in Pittsburg, CA. The announcement flyer with details and directions will be sent out in July. This seminar is for field trip leaders, and **all** rockhounds who enjoy collecting; **all** members and guests are welcome. The seminar is presented by Dick Pankey. This seminar is designed for field trip leaders and field trip attendees. We will discuss the duties, responsibilities and expectations of a Field Trip Leader: planning, announcing, conducting a FT. We will also present guidelines for FT attendees: responsibilities, expectations, duties (yes, attendees have duties, too). Other topics include: how to announce your trip, field trip safety, field trip etiquette and much more.

A field trip can be more than just picking up rocks, minerals or fossils. It is often a social event shared with friends and other rockhounds. Betty Pankey will discuss the social side of FT's -- potlucks, happy hours and campfires; how to hold a potluck, what to bring and etiquette.

Mark your calendar to save the date and watch for the announcement flyer.

Dick Pankey
President - NBFT

Education Corner

Don't be afraid to use the internet to look for patterns to make your next jewelry project. Many sites that sell jewelry supplies and beads often have patterns or tutorials right on their website. You can also find patterns on Pinterest or by doing a search on the world wide web itself. I did a quick search and found a few websites right away:

<http://beaddiagrams.com/galleryfree-beading-patterns/>

<https://czechbeadsexclusive.com> (go to [Tutorials and Patterns](#))

<https://www.allfreejewelrymaking.com> (go to DIY Jewelry)

You can also throw in your own twist to the patterns and make change ups where you want to make it just to your liking. You're only limited by your imagination.

Bonnie Eichler
Education Chairperson

Show/BOD Meetings

Dates and Times

Supporting the Show IS supporting your Club. We're announcing the next show meetings on August 6, September 3, and October 1, 2017 at Mary Hicks' home, 2418 Larkin Ct., Antioch at 3:00pm. There is plenty of parking which is handicap accessible. We hope to see many club members who can come and learn about the makings of a great 2017 Rockhound Show.

The Board of Director Meetings follow the Show Meetings and begins at 5:30 pm.

**Congratulations
Taylor Thompson**



"Pebble Pup to Rockin' Rockhound"

CCM&GS Member, Taylor Thompson has been coming to the Club meetings with me since she was an infant in a baby carrier. A few years later, she could be found with a pocket full of special rocks, flashlight and comfy blanket to watch the monthly programs. Exchanging snacks with Mary Bufton and Ann Mathews was always a delicious treat for this little Pebble Pup. 3rd grader Taylor received an Honorable Mention Ribbon for her "Rockhound Collection" at her Elementary School Science Faire. Taylor was very excited when Mary Hicks encouraged her to enter her "Jr. Rockhound" display case in the 2008 CCM&GS Show! More Club meetings, Club Shows and so many amazing Rockhound friendships have been shared together over the years. Transitioning from Pebble Pup to Rockin' Rockhound, Taylor has graduated from Clayton Valley Charter High to attend DVC. We are truly blessed to be part of this wonderful CCM&GS Family! Rockhounds Rock!!

Proud Parents -
Mary Jernigan & Mike Thompson



The Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society wants to congratulate our member Taylor Thompson on her graduation from the Clayton Valley Charter High School. In true rockhound fashion she wore an ammonite necklace for her photo op. - Mary Hicks

The message to all of us is "We keep moving forward, opening new doors, and doing new things, because we're curious and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths." Walt Disney

Refreshments

Thank You to the Club Members who bring snacks to our General Meeting.

If you are not able to attend the meeting and your name is listed below, will you please contact another member and trade 'snack responsibility' places with them?

Mary Jernigan- Membership

July Refreshment List

Joanne & Terry Caskey
 Gary Casillas
 Brooke Casillas
 Ken Caudel
 Greg Defabio
 Marisa DeSantis
 Richard Dennis
 Bonnie Eichler
 Cheri Elliott
 Mike Fedoroff
 Alan Felker
 Johanna Fenton
 Brenda Flowers
 Dennis Breiburger
 Suzanne Garrett
 Louise Giley & Mark Blackman

July 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!!

Joanne Caskey	7/7
Mark Hanjes	7/12
Andrew Hopkins	7/23
Michael Hopkins	7/29
Dave Kleesattel	7/14
Don Henrich	7/27

Next Show & Board Meetings

August 6, 2017

Show Meeting 3pm

Board Meeting 5:30 pm

Mary Hicks' Home - 2418 Larkin Ct., Antioch

We are Counting Down to Show Time. Launch date is November 3rd !

March Anniversaries**Happy Anniversary !!**

Louise Gilley & Mark Blackman	7/5
Ken Caudel	7/7
Dennis Freiburger & Patty Wintroath	7/8
Mike & Janelle Hopkins	7/30

Attention All CCMG&S Members!

**Nominees for the 2018 Officers Slate
are requested**

It's time again to seek out CCMG&S Members to be part of our nominees for the 2018 Officers Slate.

Are you an active Club Member interested in keeping CCMG&S a viable entity representing our Rockhound hobby? We Want YOU to consider being part of the Board of Directors and Committees for the Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society. Qualified members in good standing are definitely needed to support our CCM&GS Club and members activities.

The Officer Slate for 2018 will be for the following positions: (to be announced at the September General Meeting)

- * President
- * 1st Vice President of Programs
- * 2nd Vice President of Field Trips
- * Treasurer
- * Secretary
- * Federation Director

Please contact me or any of the current Board of Directors for more information regarding these honored positions.

Mary Jernigan -
Nomination Committee Lead/ CCM&GS
Membership

Factoid**A brief history of Ask-A-Geologist****October 1994**

Ask-A-Geologist starts as an experiment with 35 USGS scientists in Palo Alto, California. One scientist answers all the questions received on a given day of the month. In the first month, Ask-A-Geologist receives 127 messages.

Please Support Your Club and Make Donations to the Silent Auction during the Annual Show.

(See Kelly Plumb for more information.)

Show Item - Grab Bags

**Want to create grab bags?
Here are the directions to
make bags of the size we are
looking for.**

Grab Bag Guidelines 2017

1. Cut fabric pieces 11 " (width-fold in half for 5.5 ") x 7.5 " (length-sides)
2. Cut 25 " length of yarn or string for drawstring, knot ends
3. Fold 11" fabric along the top, laying yarn or string in the fold
4. Sew fold across the width, creating a channel for the drawstring
5. Fold fabric right side together forming the bag
6. Sew the bottom and side of the bag, do not stitch the drawstring channel
7. Seams should be about 1/2 inch in width
8. Turn the bag fabric rightside out
9. If you want to paint or glue onto the bag, insert cardboard in the bag

Mary Hicks

*Member
Chuck
Olson
and
Sally*

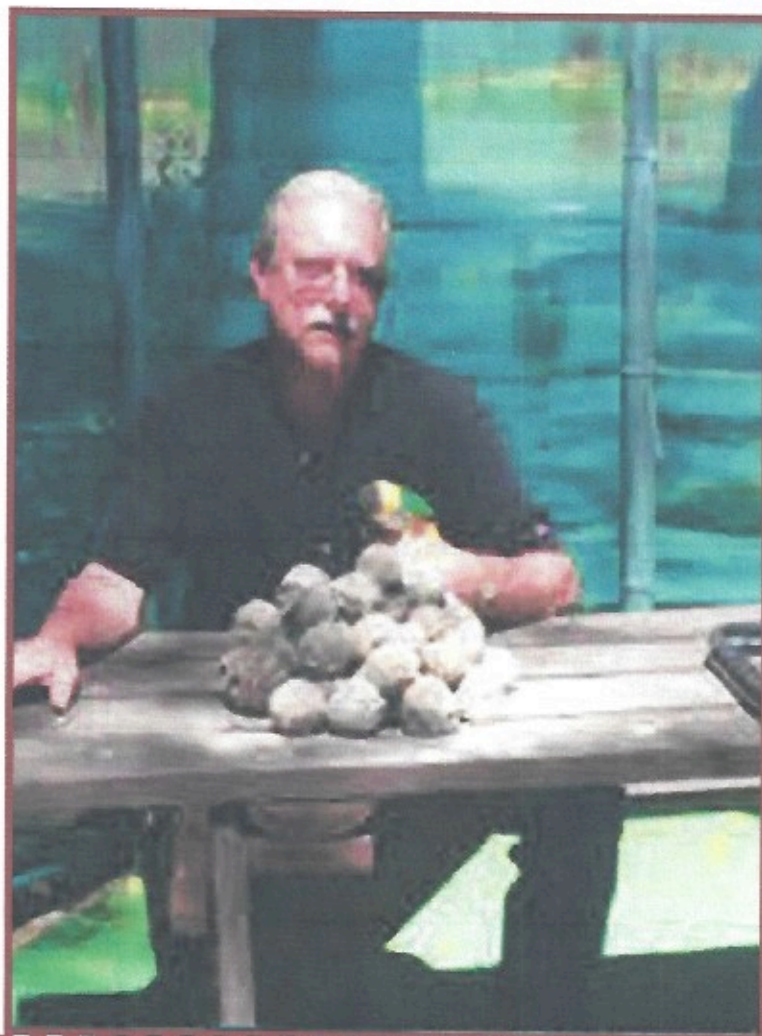


So we met a really nice, professional photographer Lady, (I don't really care for the backdrop. But Sally insisted).

And the photographer took care of the rest.

We started out with this nice profile shot of Sally.

olson86



Then we took a break. And while we were setting up the next shot, Sally was eyeing our Geodes, and I was calling for, "Makeup!"
Olson86

But the little green Bird became impatient, grabbed her cut of the Geodes. And left! And that was the end of the photo shoot.

Rockhounding With Sally!



Hi Folks,

Boy, it's been a busy few weeks!

The report's back from San Francisco's Topaz Mt. /Delta, Ut. Field Trip. Under the leadership of

Chuck Tranthail, and the dozen or so Rockhounds who made it there were happy with their finds. And best of all, they enjoyed each other's company.

Mary Hanjes and Jack Cawfield, showed me, some spectacular Dendrites on Shale that they collected while searching for Trilobites.

Sally and I couldn't get away for the Delta trip but we arranged to meet Jack and Diane Cawfield, of the Lodi Club, in Jackpot, Nv. the following week. We were joined there by a nice couple of rockhounds from Arkansas, the Cawfield's, that we befriended along the way. Sally and I know Jack and Diane from camping together, on past trips. Sally just loves the sound of Diane's voice. And her earrings, too! So they had a great reunion.

Over the next week, we spent three days hunting the elusive Pink Agate Limb Casts.And that itself, was worth the trip.

We also spent two days digging geodes, just north of Jackpot, across the Idaho boarder. The sight was pretty well dug up. But I finally found a level spot of virgin ground and started digging.

About a foot into it, I hit a layer of red lava. That didn't seem good. But after picking at it with a shovel, I found that whatever the red stuff was, it was binding a whole big pocket of Geodes together.

Out of two new holes. We came up with about forty intact Geodes! And there were plenty more for everyone else too. It sure looks like Mother Earth will be bubbling up Geodes at that site, for generations to come.

After a week in Jackpot, it seemed like a long drive home. So we camped overnight with Truckers, in a rest stop east of Sparks, Nv. Those guys have some great stories to tell. And we had a nice, relaxed exchange of thoughts.

We finally made it safely home, the next day.

We're signed up for the CO-OP and Fossils For Fun Field Trip to Willow Creek and Wild Horse Reservoir, on Labor Day weekend. But that's a ways off. So let us know if, in the meantime, you'd like to partner up for a formal or informal field trip. Near or far, we'd like to hear from you.

There've been a few field trips, that after being announced, for one reason or another were later canceled. And there are some changes in meeting sites, for others. So I can't stress enough, the importance of signing on with the Field Trip's Leader, before planning a trip. And then, staying in touch with them because plans may change. And believe me! You don't want to be waiting on the side of the road in Tonaph, for a Leader who's looking for you in Lovelock.

We're pretty good at following the changes as they come. So don't hesitate to check with us for the latest news. And we'll put you in touch with your next Field Trip's Leader.

Happy Trails, Chuck

olson86@yahoo.com

(925) 890-7116

Upcoming Field Trips

July 23

Highway 138/2.

Mining Supplies and Rock Shop

9565 C Avenue, Suite K

Hesperia, CA 92340

Wrightwood Actinolite Collecting

Actinolite, Jade-like Actinolite, Rhodonite, Chlorates Wrightwood, off paved roadsides, along Highway 138/2 in the mountains, ANY clearance passenger car accessible. Wrightwood is a famous locality for deep green Actinolite crystals! We will be able to find abundant specimens just picking through the rocks in the area. The actinolite crystals from this location look like green Kyanite crystals, at least, that's what I've always thought. Actinolite has a fibrous variety, Byssolite, that we do not find at this location. The fibrous variety has a VERY limited use in the production of the product, Asbestos. These rocks found in Wrightwood are certifiably not going to give you lung cancer, I promise! These areas are suitable for ALL cars, it is just parking off the side of the road and in parking lots with little walking. This is a rock shop that sponsors monthly field trips lead by Justen Zzyzy. Contact Cyndy Mandell at

cyndymandell@me.com (760) 244-9642. Website:
<http://www.miningsuppliesandrockshop.com/index.php/public-guided-field-trips/>

September 2 - 4 (Labor Day Weekend)

Willow Creek Res. and Wild Horse Res.

70 Miles North of Elko, Nevada

Fossils for Fun.

For petrified wood, maybe other fossils and materials.

Contact Vicki Black (530) 205-8382
gvblack@peoplepc.com, or Terry Bartels (530) 346-8345 terrybartels@hotmail.com.

September 30 - October 1

Lovelock, Nevada area

Roseville Rock Rollers G & M Society

For petrified wood, emeralds, magnetite, druzi quarts and common opal.

Contact Jim Hutchings, Home (530) 367-5108, Cel. (916) 995-7380.

jhutchings22@hotmail.com

Olson86

July 2017 Presidents' Message

Continued from Front Page.....

We hit Thermopolis for one our favorite rock shops, AVAs', where we loaded up on Jade, Dino Bone and Lepidolite. We finally achieved one of Alans' goals, rock hounding at Eden Valley Petrified Wood. We tried to get to the Red Coral site but the hike was intense and we started too late. We decided that being out after dark with possible wolves and bears was a bad idea, so that trip will wait for another day. We hit several other rock shops including Tynkys in Rock Springs Wyoming (The proprietress is a delightful lady who has been a rock-hound for ages!) We beat the San Francisco club to the Delta Utah Rock shop by several days. Nya, Nya, Nya S.F! We hit the Dino Bone and Rhodochrosite first! Don't worry the shop had plenty for everyone! We also hit the Topaz Mountain dig and met the camp hosts at the pay-to-play digs. They were exceptionally nice even though we did our digging (actually rock breaking) outside of their claim. Have you ever wanted to work on a chain gang? This dig could be your chance to experience what that would be like! My wrists are only good for so much! In spite of not digging on the claim they run, she informed us that no one should come to Topaz Mountain and leave without Topaz, so she provided a small handful. Of course no trip to Wyoming is complete without a stop at the Black Turritella of Wamsutter, so we loaded up! Keep your eyes on the Silent Auction because I plan to donate some again this year.

*Please Support Your Club
and Make Donations to the
Silent Auction during our
Annual Show.*

(See Kelly Plumb for more information.)



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

President

Kelly Plumb

(510) 693-9075

Kellyplumb900@yahoo.com1st Vice President,
Programs**Dennis Freiburger**

(925) 680-8936

dennisfrei@aol.com2nd Vice President,
Field Trips**Chuck Olson**

(925) 890-7116

olson86@yahoo.com

Secretary

Mary Hicks

(925) 779-0698

maryhicks@comcast.net

Treasurer

Mary Hanjes

(925) 932-4345

mrhanjes@gmail.com

Federation Director

Dick Pankey

(925) 439-7509

Dickpankey@juno.comEcology and Public Lands
OpenPublicity
Open

Property

Dave Kleesattel

(925) 798-8240

daveklees@aol.comHospitality
Open

Display

Cheryl Morgan

(925) 672-2458

cherylmorgan09@yahoo.com

Librarian

Paul Black

(925) 826-6716

challengerdev@comcast.net

Show

Mary Hicks

(925) 779-0698

maryhicks@comcast.net

Sergeant at Arms

Naomi Morgan

Historian

Debbie Blevins

(925) 680-6562

ohb@astound.net

Education

Bonnie Eichler

(925) 944-1331

BonnieE1969@sbcglobal.net

Refreshments

Open

(Various Members Filling In)

Membership

Mary Jernigan

(925) 852-1133

M10jernigan@yahoo.com

Bulletin Editor

Debbie Blevins

(925) 680-6562

ohb@astound.net

Past President

Dave Kleesattel

(925) 798-8240

daveklees@aol.com

Past Historian

Hazel Woolsey

(925) 837-3287

July 2017 (Cab Shape of the Month - Freeform)

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Independence Day					
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	General Meeting	World Population Day				
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Nat'l Ice Cream Day			Diggins' Articles Due			
			Nat'l Hot Dog Day			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Hesperia F/T						Nat'l Lasagna Day
Parents' Day						
30	31					
Int'l Friendship Day						

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

Diablo Diggins
Newsletter of the Contra Costa Mineral
and Gem Society
www.ccms.org
Editor- Debbie Blevins
Send reports/articles to ohb@astound.net

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!