



Vol. 66, No. 4

Diablo Diggins

Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society

Since 1950

“We Dig Rocks”

This newsletter is available by email - contact the editor

President's Message



Concord, CA

April, 2018



I hope everyone enjoyed the rain in March! They say, “April Showers bring May Flowers”. Guess what March rains bring? ROCKS! Woohoo! They are popping out of mud, rolling down hills into creeks, rivers and alluvial plains just in time for field trip season! Chuck had some good field trips to announce at the March meeting. Also, don't forget that April 14th is the North Bay Field Trip's Bi-annual meeting in Redwood City. It is like a stay near home field trip with good friends, food and lots of rocks. Arrive at 9:00 am, sign in (only \$1.00 per person,) bring a pot luck item for lunch and rocks to put on the silent auction table. After you have put out some rocks that you had too many of anyway, look at the rocks that everyone else brought and place your bid to take a few home.

The Antioch Club is throwing their annual tailgate from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, Saturday May 19th at their clubhouse at 425 Fulton Shipyard Road, Antioch, CA. It is free to get in and you may look or buy and even sell. If you want to set up a booth and sell, the cost is only \$5.00. As usual, they will be selling barbecued hamburger and hot dog lunches with all the trimmings. Contact Gary Casillas for more information.

If you have not already paid your 2018 dues, they are overdue.

The Reno club will be having their show on a new date. This year it will be Saturday and Sunday April 28th and 29th. This is earlier in the year than past years.

So here goes the season. Silver pick at shows or do-it-yourself at field trips.

Kelly Plumb, President

Upcoming Show and BOD Meetings

April 8, June 3, July 8, August 12, September 9, and October 7

Show: 3:00pm

BOD: 5:30pm

Mary Hicks' Home

(Subject to Change)



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EARTHQUAKE HAZARD ASSESSMENT IN THE BAY AREA USING SEISMIC METHODS

We are very fortunate to have Mitchell Craig, Professor and Graduate Coordinator of the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences at CSU East Bay, as our April speaker. He'll be discussing a current project of his that evaluates earthquake hazard assessment in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta areas. He teaches seismology, Near Surface Geophysics, Exploration Seismology, and Natural Disasters.

Come and bring a friend to learn the most up-to-date information on our local earthquake situation!

Donna Albrecht
Program Chair

From: American Lands Access Association, Inc.

January - March, 2018 Issue (below)

Camping on California's Public Lands

Do you Camp or recreate on Public Lands in California?
Do you use a Campfire or Cookfire? (Even an open flame Propane Stove)
Do you know to be legal you must have a valid California Campfire Permit in your possession?
Do you know where and how to get your Free "California Campfire Permit"?

Get Your California Campfire Permit Online

Visit www.preventwildfireca.org/Campfire-Permit

Watch a short video-take a quiz-get your on-line permit - save or print pdf or just bookmark the link on your mobile device to display when needed.

Do not get caught with a campfire without your Campfire Permit!

Show Meeting Notes**March 4, 2018****Mary Hicks' Home, Antioch, CA**

March 4, 2018 for Show Meeting at Mary Hicks' home in Antioch, CA. Next meeting is on April 8th at Mary's home.

Mark your calendars now. The meeting is open to all members who are interested in supporting the show, just call Mary for directions (see back page under Secretary for her number). Present: Mary Hicks, Mary Hanjes, Mary Jernigan, Kelly Plumb, Dick Pankey, Terry Caskey, Mike Hopkins, Chuck Olson, Bob Rigor, and Donna Albrecht. (10)

**YOU
+ SHOW
+ NOW
= YOU
BEING
A
CLUB
MEMBER**

Dick Pankey has volunteered to pull the trailer to the show and back to storage for the 2018 show. Thank You Dick. Dick Pankey and Betty will be the Exhibitor Chairs. (These are the displays in cases containing works of art and items of interest and beauty.) Members should start working on a NEW display now, let's keep the show fresh and continue to amaze fellow members and show attendees. Dick and Chuck have already made plans on using tumbled fluorite in bottles for the Case Favors for the 2018 show. The favors last year were pretty specimens of Fuchsite. The minerals were selected by Dick Pankey and assembled by Chuck Olson.

Terry Caskey has volunteered to work on the Floor Plan again this year. He and Mike are looking at reorganizing the back room (Activity Room has the vinyl floors and Diablo Dan's Cafe.) Mike has a program to help in this task. The goal is to make the room an open concept area. The Demonstrators would be arranged in the middle of the room with the Exhibits circling them lining the walls. Tables and wiring will be reviewed. This is an item left over from 2017 when there was not enough time to organize this change. Terry reported on the nice performance of the LED lights in some of the display cases at the 2017 Show. These bulbs have a low draw on power and they worked last year. It is recommended to move to these lights as the decrease in power demand helps with setup design and is also environmentally responsible.

Chuck Olson has a Big Surprise and he wants to have a power plug for the Grab Bag wheel. He asks members to collect small rocks for tumbling or for critters for the show. Also, look through your rock collections and collect those tumble ready rocks and bring them to a meeting asap. Members who can tumble need to be provided with rough rock to tumble as soon as possible. It is easier to pick up the smaller rocks that are often ignored by rockhounds.

Grab Bags are being organized by Donna Albrecht. Chuck reported visiting Hazel Woolsey and he picked up some sewn grab bags. We needed, really need, polished tumble rock or specimens for the Grab Bags. I believe Donna wants the Grab Bags filled and stored for the show by June.

Treasurer Mary Hanjes discussed the Float money.

Show Publicity Mike Hopkins requested a copy of the Bylaws, Mary Hicks will provide a copy. She will put together the information from Christine Henningsson for the 2017 Show. One place to post the show information is at the CFMS website under the club show listing. This is done by going to the website. The write up for the Rock and Gem Magazine can also go in soon. Mary will provide the article written by Christine to R&G, mail Bylaws, and instructions for the CFMS website. Mike puts on a wonderful educational display of rocks and minerals at shows for young rockhounds. Signs. In general, the show needs new signs and more signs and new lights. The need of more attractive signs was a prominent comment from the 2017 show. Many signs for the building and street are needed. Multiple signs help attendees navigate the show make a list of all the signs you think of including placement and suggested draft wording and get these to the committee. Our Graphics Guru Bob Rigor is ready to start working on sign designs and Mike

Hopkins has design ideas and to construct stands. This is a call to all members-send in your ideas to Mary at maryhicks@comcast.net.

Debbie Blevins (Not present but sent in her report). If these areas for the show have not yet been taken she volunteers to: Make Ming Trees, Make Critters, and manage the Front Door. Answer- Wonderful, Thank You! Details-she is happy to arrange meetings to make miniature Ming (gem) trees and critters for the wheels (or wherever they have historically been used). She can set up something at her home for those who would like to get their creative juices flowing and participate. She doesn't know what is left from last year so she is not sure if we need any at all. Debbie volunteers to be the Front Door person again, although she wants to discuss with the committee what jobs specifically are encompassed in it. Is everything in the front area (Lobby) considered front door? At this time yes. Will there be a table for Membership Information? Membership is likely to be elsewhere as the Lobby has terrible acoustics. It is also better to have Membership related activities consolidated so we minimize the number of members needed to support this function. Signage will help redirect members and attendees to the Membership area. The Table for Magazines and Books will not be in the Lobby area. These items may be in the Membership area to control the grabbing of magazines which has been reported as being done for resale by certain individuals and to hand out to individuals who are interested in joining a mineral or gem club.

Door Prizes not picked up at the show will be taken by Mary Hicks who will arrange their delivery to the winners.

The Table for Business Cards and other club (show) information could be in the Lobby area for attendees to see on the way out. This would help attendees to pause to see if they are listed as a Winner on the Door Prize "Rules Board".

Entry Tickets. Answer is Lobby boss should consider recommending entry ticket format which incorporates the Door Prize function. Rather than using the "standard" rolls of tickets, a designed ticket can be done with the support of our Graphics Guru Bob Rigor and these can be printed via his contacts. Perhaps including a Diablo Dan can class up this item and be more size appropriate.

A Safety/Resource/Information Officer (a member with a Vest) will be stationed in the lobby.

Should we ask the Dealers to be diligent about showing their identification in coming into the Lobby? Front Door volunteers do not know dealers, so they never know who should be walking in without paying. Perhaps a statement in the new contracts will help.

Membership Mary Jernigan has volunteered to oversee the Raffle. She stated there needs to be a different arrangement such as a Belly Pack to help deal with cash. She also needs more membership support to sell Raffle Tickets out on the floor as well as to manage the Raffle area and talk to prospective members. We need to be mindful of providing an area to have attendees fill out the tickets. She will look at areas, including the Ballroom and the Activity Room. She introduced an exciting item. Member Judy Brown desires to donate her fantastic Rock Lighthouse for a special raffle to benefit the club. The donation includes delivery within a limited distance from the Concord Centre. There will be a special Lighthouse Raffle Ticket. These can be sold prior to the show is the design of the Raffle tickets and price with the design supported by our Graphic Guru Bob Rigor.

Paul Black on Dealer News. (Not present but sent his report). I talked with Dan Clark (Pine Tree) this week. He was on his way to Ventura and is looking forward to the 2018 Concord show as soon as the new contracts are ready.

Donna Albrecht has a slab dealer to recommend for review but did not have the information with her at the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm.

ACTION ITEMS for the April 8th Show Committee meeting.

New open floor plan in the backroom.

Collect small rock for tumbling and to start tumbling now.

Get rock donations or the bags will be left empty. As a last resort, discuss the option of purchasing rocks. Does anyone have information on retail rock sources? What does this possibility do to the price of a bag? Pick up small rocks when you're Rockhounding that are often ignored by people looking for larger specimens. As a last resort, discuss the option of purchasing rocks. Does anyone have information on retail rock sources? What does this possibility do to the price of a bag?

Request donations before the show of fist size rock and mineral samples that were collected within a day's drive of the bay area. Include what your donation is and where you collected it.

Provide a list of all the signs you can think of including placement and suggested draft wording and get these to the committee.

Need to have an inventory of show leftovers that are secured in the trailer including Grab Bags, signs, other items?

Need to discuss the placement of Membership, donated magazines or books, and Raffle.

Dealer Chair is to collect Door Prizes or designate someone to do this Friday night and/or early Saturday before the public enters the building (10 am).

Discuss placement of business cards and show fliers.

Discuss the placement of Membership, donated magazines or books, and Raffle.

Discuss hand stamps/wrist bands.

Discuss Adult and children entry tickets.

Discuss where to provide the specimen. Would it be easier to avoid the extra ticket and explanation etc. at the front door and simply give a child the specimen at check in.?

Discuss expectations of the Safety/Resource/Information Officer/Team.

Dealer entry into the Lobby with the Dealer chair for the 2018 show.

Items in the 2018 Vendor Contract pertaining to the Dealers and their employees wearing Badges when entering the show and parking rules, and other items that are proposed?



Easter Sunday, April 1, 2018



BOD Meeting Minutes**March 4, 2018****Mary Hicks' Home, Antioch, CA**

March 4, 2018 for BOD meeting at Mary Hicks' home in Antioch, CA. Next meeting is on April 8th at Mary's home. Mark your calendars now. Remember-All Submissions for the newsletter are DUE on March 19th for the April Newsletter. Please let our Editor know if you can not make this due date. The risk is that your article may be delayed until the May newsletter. Present: Mary Hicks, Mary Jernigan, Mary Hanjes, Dick Pankey, Kelly Plumb, Donna Albrecht, Chuck Olson, and Mike Hopkins. (8). Correction requested by Dick Pankey in the January BOD report is the CFMS No Field Trip to Davis Creek was being supported by Jim Barton. January and February BOD minutes were considered, and Chuck Olson proposed acceptance and Dick Pankey seconded, all ayes. ACTION ITEM. The Editor Debbie Blevins requested the BOD to review the information in the newsletter for the Officers and Chairs. The secretary forgot to ask for this.

ACTION ITEM is to review the newsletter information and give comments to Debbie.

President's Message. Kelly Plumb announced the club now has a Publicity Chair for the Club, member Mike Hopkins. Thank You Mike! Mike requested a copy of the Bylaws. Mary Hicks will copy a set and bring it to the General meeting. (Having missed the meeting, a copy will be mailed to Mike.)

Secretary Report. Correspondence and items from the PO Box. Bank Statement, Letter from Franchise Tax Board, members' letters from Judy Brown (\$10) and Steven Austi (\$10) and Richard and Shannon Merrill (\$30). CFMS and AFMS news.

Program-Donna Albrecht asks members to bring a sample and a spot of information about it to General meeting. It is fun to share with each other a favorite rock.

Debbie Blevins - Historian: Not present but she says she has taking care of mom and things seem to be getting to a new "somewhat normal" and still have not made arrangements with Dave Kleesattel to store the records. But it is still on her "to-do" list.

Property Chair-Dave. Not present but he reports that there is no property report this month. He states the he is feeling that he is too busy with work and life to effectively hold the Property Chair position for the CCM&GS. Just a heads up that somebody may need to

step in and fill this role. I'm spending most my time in Alaska and may not be available to attend any meetings for the next three to four months or longer. There's a good chance that I will need to be in Alaska during our Show. I know that I need to be in Alaska on October 31, so at best I won't be available until the day of the Show. New business item for the April 8th BOD meeting.

Centre Concord Show Contract-Kelly Plumb will work with the City as the (by default) temporary 2018 Show Chair as we still lack a volunteer for this position. Members, please contact her to take this job on. There is lots of support from club members for a new Show Chair, so do not be shy, do not put this task on someone who is already doing so much for the club. We need the contract information to determine the dealer charge. Contract related items. ONE-Dick Pankey is moving the trailer for the show and asks for information about what time we need to move the trailer from the "normal" spot we use during the show. There was a conflict last year with the Centre being busy on Monday morning. Centre management may want to have us move the trailer Sunday night. Obviously, Dick does not want to have to hookup twice, nine am was too late last year. If needed, how about a drop-dead time to get the trailer moved, say early Monday morning, we need the time. When does the Centre staff show up for work? TWO-We also need to have the Centre for an additional hour on Saturday night. We were too rushed in trying to get the paperwork for the day completed. Please add an hour. Kelly told the Centre staff person Raquel she would be available after February 24th. It is important to have a signed show contract so the Dealer Contract for the 2018 show can be written and offers can start being made. More Centre activity. Mary Hicks responded to an information request by Raquel Diaz regarding the tables and chairs that the club rents.

Committee Reports

Show Committee. A Dealer list was recommended by the Show Committee and presented to the BOD for approval. It was approved by the BOD with the understanding that other dealers can be added to the list in the future. This list is used by the Show Dealer Chair Paul Black to discuss and enter into contracts with Dealers for the 2018 Show.

Treasurer-Mary Hanjes, has set up an appointment for bank signers, on May 12 at 11 am. The annual audit is scheduled for Larry Blevins and Mary

Jernigan and Mary Hanjes later this week. She paid bills for Blum Road Storage and the Centre for the monthly meetings.

Editor-Debbie Blevins (not present) wants articles and newsletter information by the 19th of each month. She can most often work with you if there is a situation. Call her if you are going to be late. (She says she has situations ALL THE TIME).

Librarian-Paul Black (not present), reported that the Bookplates have been ordered and we will soon be caught up with the memorial books. It is procedure to have a library book purchased to honor a member who has passed away. Also, 1 new book (Making Metal Beads) and 5 instructional DVDs, (air chasing, wirework, photographing jewelry, electroforming, and metalwork essentials.) They should arrive in time for the March general meeting. Total book cost is under \$50. Woohoo...nothing says 'rockhound' like bargain learning. I will follow up with an article for the Diggins.

Membership-Mary Jernigan. Mary Jernigan proposed approval of John Kell for membership. He was at the last general meeting and is a friend of Barrie Bieler. Dick Pankey seconded, all ayes. In January, we paid CFMS the amount of \$728 for 91 members listed as of December 31, 2017. Please remember that the numbers are only for members in good standing for 2017. The cost of Late Dues is \$15 (not \$10). Mary is contacting folks who owe additional money due to being reinstated. Pam Fass, a daughter of the late member Bob Pevahouse, contacted Kim Kleesattel about not getting the newsletter. It is important to understand that each member costs the club \$8. This is \$6 California Federation of Mineralogy Society (CFMS) insurance, \$1.25 for CFMS dues, and \$0.75 for American Federation of Mineralogy Society (AFMS) dues. Please pay promptly as Mary is busy and having to contact members to pay is not helping her get her job done efficiently. She loves being a rock hound, not necessarily being a money hound.

Federation-Dick Pankey reported that the CFMS show for 2018 did not have a club volunteer to put on a dedicated show. But the Feather River Club is helping put it on with their show on September 15 and 16 in Chico. Dick will be selling equipment and rocks and will let us know what dates this will be. Dick lives in Pittsburg. There will be information about a CFMS Field Trip in the newsletter.

Education-Bonnie Eichler (not present but reported) she did not receive a scholarships application at the General Meeting.

Old Business

Honoraria for speakers. The payment for non-members who present a program was reviewed and was \$75. After discussion this was raised to \$100. Moved by Donna and seconded by Chuck, all ayes. A question was raised about a reimbursement for members who develop and present a program. The BOD will think on this and this topic can be added as a new business item at the next meeting if there is an interest to do so.

A BOD officer requested that we revisit a discussion about a Website. The BOD has had several discussions on this topic for a length of time without deciding on a direction. After a discussion on the URL and some history and concerns regarding unapproved use of the club's name and activities and a person acting as if approved to act for the club. An officer volunteered to write a letter to hopefully resolve the situation in an amical manner. Donna moved, and Mary Jernigan seconded, all ayes.

New Business

Mary Hanjes proposed to have money approved to buy a multipack of get well and sympathy cards, so the club can have cards on hand to mail out as needed. \$50 was moved for Sunshine by Mary Hanjes and Donna seconded, all ayes.

Meeting adjourned.

Next Board Meeting

And

Show Meeting

April 8, 2018

Mary Hicks' Home

If you would like to contribute to the project, please submit pictures and/or articles of rock/mineral – related events for the club's

All American Brag Book.

If you want information about this, you may look at the last few newsletters or contact me and I'll be happy to give you more information.

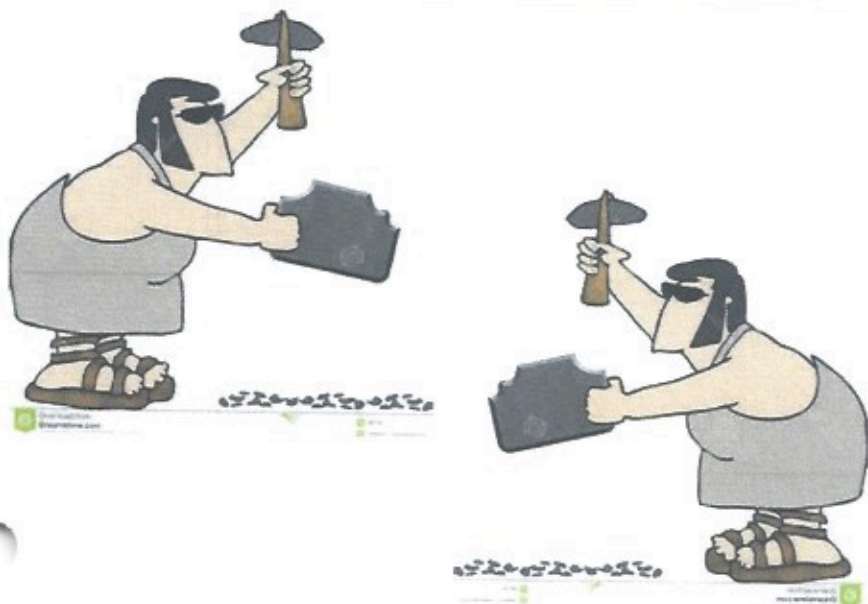
Thank you.

Debbie Blevins
ohbastound.net

Our club is a member of ALAA and thought it may be nice to publish their website information so interested members can browse. For instance, there is information regarding collecting meteorite on BLM land.

www.amlands.org

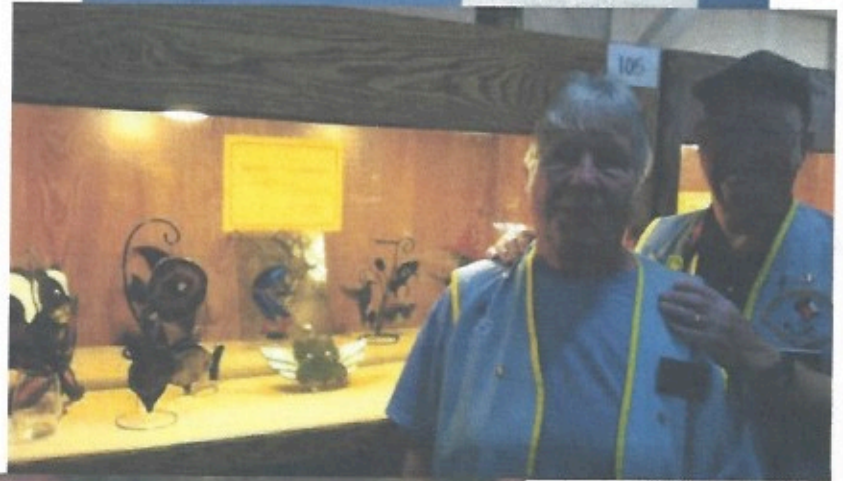
Mary Hicks



*We wish you and
your families a very
Happy Easter.*



Motherlode (Turlock Club Show) March 10-11, 2018



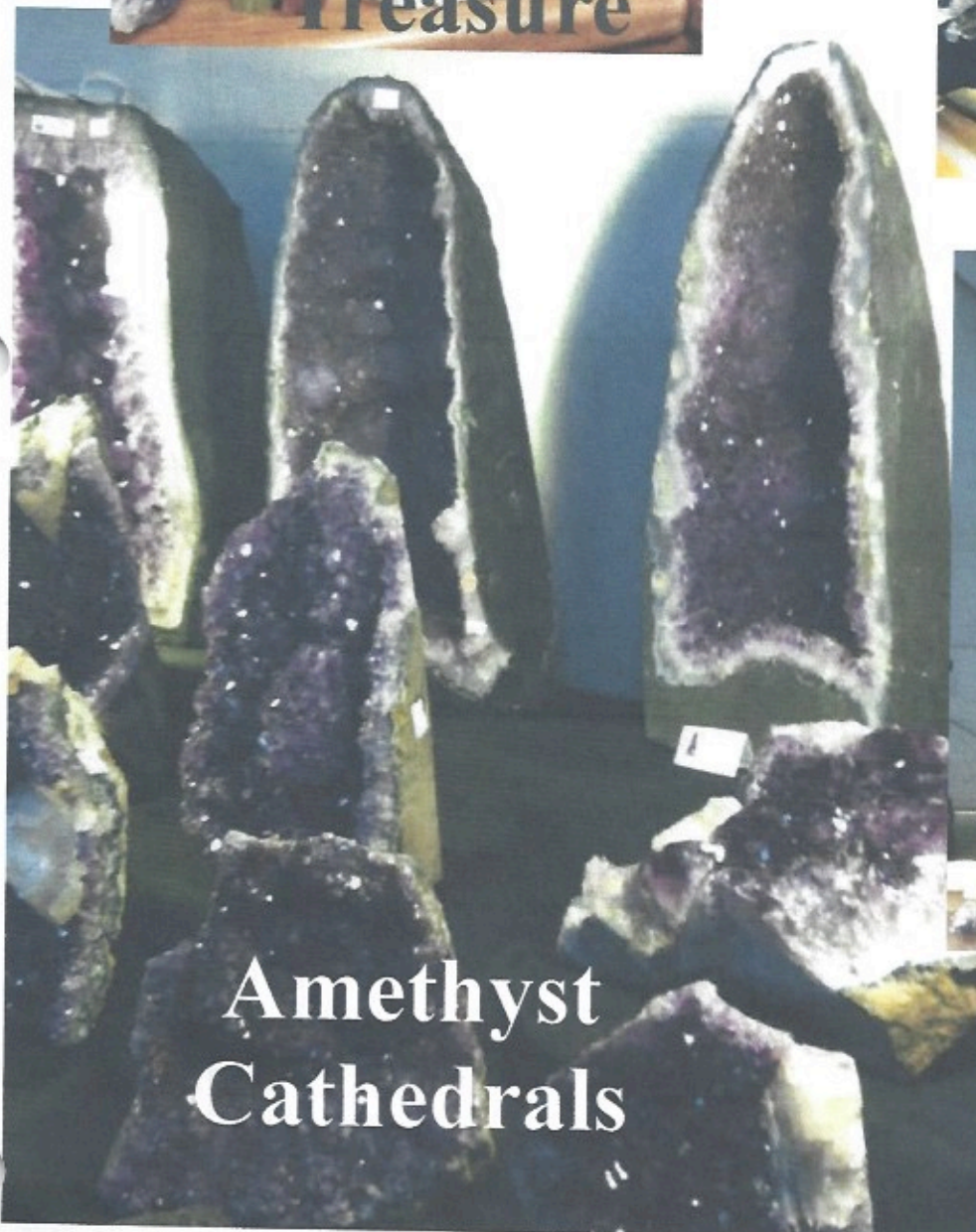
Photos submitted by Mary Jernigan & Taylor Thompson

- *Trace Fossils- Claws
- *Sharks- Great White vs Megalodon
- *Zippy's Rocks
- *Specialty Slabs from Zippy's Rocks
- *Taylor- Cutting double geodes
- *Betty Pankey- Stained Glass case
- *Dick Pankey- Petrified Wood case

Motherlode Show (Turlock Club)



**Right:
Awesome
Ammonites**



**Above: Mystical Crystals
with Budda Gems**

Photos by: Mary Jernigan and
Taylor Thompson

**Motherlode
Show**

(Turlock Club)

**Right: Giant
Ammonite**



Below: Lapidary Art



**Below: Mary Jernigan & Taylor Thompsaon
(Raffle Ready for Amethyst)**



**Left: Making
Spheres**



Photos By: Mary Jernigan and Taylor Thompson



Rockhounding With Sally!

(Unedited)

Hi Folks,

Well I just sat down to write you, and had a nice, bright color map of the Crystal Springs field trip layout, when suddenly came the sound of water, pouring out of a water bottle.

So while I was racing toward the flooding bird cage,

I spotted Sally, hot footing it past me, headed toward my desk!

And by the time I got back, she had not only grabbed that map, but my whole, entire Field Trip File, with it!!!

Now, she's hold up behind the refrigerator, teasing that I might snag a page or two of my file, by fishing around with a broomstick.

While she's dancing all over them, leaving little bird tacks, everywhere!

And I've found out, a couple of times before, the broomstick is a sucker's bet.

And I'm not falling for that, anymore!

Soon enough, she'll get hungry and come begging, for a snack.

And leave my file behind.

Then again,

I'm thinking of a few, (well maybe, several), green olives, that rolled back there, awhile ago.

Wait a minute!

Now I remember, the refrigerator was central to the whole 4th of July, Malay!

Who knows how much meat loaf is still stock-

And I think she's been hiding a half can of Mandarin Oranges, back there too!

Man, I hope this doesn't turn into a standoff, like the last time!

We were taping off sections of the kitchen!

It got so heated that the house mice, brought the field mice in.

And then it got really crazy!

So for now, this is all from memory, (mine, not Sally's).

Look wayyyyy, down below, for details of any of the following;

CFMS South's Lavic Siding trip has been re-scheduled for;

April 21.

The nights will be cold, but daytime temperatures should be just about right.

The Crystal Mine Trip runs May 19 - 20.

We missed this trip, last year.

I've enjoyed camping with the Nv. Club, in the past.

But it sure would be nice to see, their %&#"@", color MAP !!!

It's about time to sign on to the Fallon Trip, on the weekend of;

April 13.

If you're looking for an affordable, and comfortable introduction to Field Trips.

This will get you started. With an abundance of Quartz and Jasper, to haul home!

First thing on any Field Trip; Contact the Field Trip Leader!

On this one, contact ;

Wayne or Shirly Kuykendall, (916) 717-1902,

kuykendall@pacbell.com and ask them to sign you on. That's all it takes. Then look up casino Motels, in Fallon, Nv.

And book yourself, a cheap room.

The terrain on this trip is easy.

Stay in touch with the Leader, and ask questions.

Introduce yourself at the gathering site. And let them know of any concerns you have, before setting out.

You'll find that one of the twines that binds Rockhounds together, is the concern for each other's safety.

And after that, everyone should come away, with something special!

Now, if you're hot for field trips, you don't want to miss NBFT's, quarterly gathering of Field Trip Leaders and enthusiasts!

April 14. In Redwood City, Ca

Search this News letter for more details.

The Davis Creek field trip has come together;

So if you somehow feel, that you just don't have enough Obsidian!

You're in luck!

Get out your bold ink, and mark your calendars for; July 26 - 30,

Grab a nearby motel room.

And enjoy your evenings with a fun group, of like minded Rockhounds!

This trip is geared toward covering the many hues of Obsidian found in the area!

There's nothing quite like standing in the forest, and watching the sun's rays, gently revealing the deep colors, within the rock in your hand.

Now forgive me for holding up the printing of news letter.

But in addition to losing my file, and having to make all this up, I've been waiting to hear more

about the planning of a Memorial Day weekend field trip to Austin, Nv., for fossils!

And so far, that's all I have on it.

But this looks to be a Fossils For Fun Field Trip.

If so, their trips are well lead and fun!

With experts on hand to help with identification, and such.

So, we're a maybe, for Lavic Siding.

And good for the Crystal Mine.

Austin, Nv.

And then, Davis Creek.

Let me know where we'll cross paths.

And when we meet up, keep your color map hidden in your pocket!

Upcoming Field Trips

April 13 - 15, 2018

Fallon, Nv. Area

Eldorado County Mineral & Gem Society

For Wonderstone, P. Wood, Amygdaloid Nodules, Jasper, Agate and a variety of Crystals.

Contact Wayne or Shirly Kuykendall, (916) 717-1902, kuykendall@pacbell.com.

April 14, 2018

NBFT biannual meeting.

Redwood City, Ca.

Another gathering for all, to share field trip information, lunch and another spectacular silent auction.

Watch this space, or contact me or Dick I, for more information.

May 19 - 20, 2018

Crystal Mine, Dog Valley Area
Northwest of Reno, Nv.

Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society
For a variety of Quartz Crystals, Chryso-
colla and Pyrite.

Contact Rich Cross, (530) 401-7066 or
crosstechrek@gmail.com.

New!!!

April a 21, 2018

Lavic Siding

Barstow, Ca.

CFMS South.

For Agates and Jaspers.

Contact Adam Dean: theagatehunter@verizon.net
(909) 489 4899 or Roy Isaac: lbioniedj@gmail.com
(818) 633-3350..

June 21, 2018

Roaring Camp Mining Co.

Pine Grove, Ca.

Eldorado County Miniral & Gem Society

This is a day trip. Panning Gold at the river or, under
the shade, from a pile of Gold bearing dirt. And rock-
hounding on the riv^{er} banks.

Contact Wayne or Shirly Kuykendall,
(916) 717-1902,
kuykendall@pacbell.com.

And clear your calendars for;
July 27 - 30, 2018

CFMS / CCM&GS

Davis Creek, Ca.

For all hues of Obsidian.

This area is rich, with all kinds of side trip possi-
bilities.

Watch this space for details.

Let me know if you'd like more information on any of this. And if
you know of anything I'm missing.

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

Olson86



Leave

No

Trace

We are hosting a Silver Pick Field Trip, *again!*

We had such a great time in July of 2016 that we decided to do it again this year. Announcing our Silver Pick Field Trip 2.0! There will be over 6 tons of rocks, a lot of equipment, and rock related items for sale.

Dick and Betty Pankey are hosting this Silver Pick Field Trip. What is a Silver Pick field trip? You don't need a rock hammer, shovel, gads, pick or any other tools, just bring your rock bag and CASH (aka your silver coins/Silver Pick) and come collect in our back yard. After over 30 years of field trips and collecting we are sharing our adventures, and memories. We did the digging, hauling, sorting and cleaning so that all you have to do is choose and pay. We have collected in many of the western states and in a few Midwest and Eastern states. We collected: obsidian at Davis Creek and Glass Butte; petrified wood in UT, WY, AZ, CA, NV, OR and WA; geodes and nodules at Wiley Wells, NM, NV, OR, UT, TN and IA; chalcedony roses and nodules at Round Mountain, NM; volcanics in northern CA; travertine in AZ and CA; jasper and agates from all over the place; bertrandite from UT; quartz crystals from AR, CA, and NM; Trona mineral specimens; and a whole lot more.

We will host this Silver Pick Field Trip on Friday, Saturday, Sunday (each weekend), June 15th to 24th, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM and Monday thru Thursday by appointment, at our home in Pittsburg, CA. Directions: 4310 Kingsly Dr., Pittsburg, CA 94565 In Pittsburg take Buchanan Rd. to Suzanne (stoplight) turn south and follow signs with orange paper plates. Go south about 1/2 mile and turn right on to Kingsly Dr. Drive up the hill to 4310 Kingsly Dr.

We will be selling rough rocks by the crate, by the flat and by the piece; slabs by the piece and by the flat; minerals and specimens by the flat and by the piece; and garden rocks by the piece.

In addition to rocks and minerals there are: tumblers, a 20" rock saw, Richardson Dry Sander and Bull wheel, miscellaneous equipment, tools, supplies, grit & polish, books, posters, findings, magazines, T-Shirts, stained glass and much, much more.

Bring your pick-up truck and your Silver Pick and join us in June for two weekends of Rockhound fun. For more information contact dickpankey@juno.com or 925-439-7509

Dick and Betty Pankey

Upcoming Show and BOD Meetings

April 8, June 3, July 8,
August 12, September 9,
and October 7

Show: 3:00pm

BOD: 5:30pm

Mary Hicks' Home

Diablo Diggins

Articles and photos are due the
19th of each month. Thank you.



Ophelia Hicks January 20, 1924 – March 2, 2018



With saddened hearts, we received the news about the passing of Ophelia Hicks, one of our most treasured CCM&GS members. We can still envision the delicate movement of Ophelia's beautiful domed topaz gem tree, sparkling in the sunlight. Ophelia's adventurous Spirit will continue to shine brightly in the hearts of our CCM&GS family. For so many years, Ophelia was always very involved with our Rockhound family serving on the Board of Directors and multiple committees, volunteering as class instructor or working at many Club activities. Education Through Sharing Award recipient Ophelia, enriched friendships as she shared her artistic techniques. We learned how to properly knot the cords on gemstone necklaces, created unique gem trees, and developed patience as newbie soap stone carvers. At a CCM&GS Club promotion booth in October 2008, Ophelia's soap stone demonstration captured everyone's attention at the local flea market. As a talented writer, banjo player, jewelry maker and explorer Ophelia truly embraced the "We Can Do It!" attitude. She was one of the amazing Rosie the Riveter - women welders in the shipyards during World War II. Ophelia reminded us to be ten minutes early for meetings or classes, but forgave me for always being on Aloha time.



Perhaps I was gently forgiven with Aloha since the Hicks' Family - Hawkeye (Marlow), Ophelia and Mary were very active with the Pearl Harbor Survivors' group. We can imagine Ophelia and Hawkeye together now in more heavenly Rockhound adventures with off-road exploring, never worrying about hazardous terrain signs. Ophelia and Hawkeye are sitting by the campfire under the star-filled night planning for the next road-trip. Please share your wonderful memories of Ophelia with her daughter, Mary Hicks.

Respectfully, Mary Jernigan

Our CCM&GS Rockhound Family will deeply miss Ms. Jeanie's loving Spirit.



Jeanie Russo was a long time member of our Mineral and Gem Club, an excellent artisan and craftsperson. She was a wonderful teacher, having taught most of us at one time or another. Ms. Jeanie always encouraged her students, complimenting us on our "gorgeous" projects in wire wrapping, precious metal clay, and beadwork. Steampunk brooches made from upcycled vintage jewelry and colorful ribbons were definitely quite magical. As a true Artisan, she created so many impressive treasures in beadwork, silver-metal, precious metal clay, fimo clay and dichroic glass. For the Annual CCM&GS Club Shows, Jeanie and Ron Russo graciously volunteered to help with the Show set-up, working stations and feeding our hungry crew. Jeanie passed away last Sunday March 18th with her family by her side. Her welcoming smiles and loving embraces will forever be remembered.



Please share your special memories about Jeanie with her husband Ron and family.

Mary Jernigan

CCM&GS General Meeting – March 12, 2018

Taylor Thompson led us with the Pledge of Allegiance. Donna Albrecht collected quarters for missing badges. Kelly Plumb took a safety moment to remind everyone to be extra careful driving on those wet, rainy roads. Interesting door prizes were drawn for Club Members including petrified wood, limb cast, obsidian and rose quartz. Thank you to Vikki Hotopp who coordinated the snacks brought by members for everyone to enjoy. Joanne Caskey read the birthdays and anniversaries from the newsletter. Joanne encouraged members to join in the Spring Picnic planning. The Picnic will be held at the end of May.

Kelly informed the members of the recent passing of long time CCM&GS member, Ophelia Hicks on March 2nd, 2018. Ophelia has been such an integral part of our Rock Club Family and will be deeply missed by all of us. Information about Ophelia's funeral services and a sympathy card to be signed was placed on the tables. Please share your special memories of Ophelia with her daughter, Mary Hicks, our Club Secretary.

Cheryl Morgan announced the Display competition winners from February when a record 26 votes were cast. Tonight's competition included creations from sheen obsidian, agate and core sample. Mary Jernigan welcomed a new member John Kell (not present) which had been approved at the March BOD meeting. Mary asked everyone to help send out the search party for those missing Rockhounds who had not renewed their CCM&GS memberships. She also informed the members that there was one spot open for the Petrified Wood class on April 21st. Contact Bonnie Eichler, Education, for more details about the class. Dick Pankey surprised Taylor Thompson with the award from the AFMS, American Federation Mineralogical Societies, as CCM&GS's 2017 Rockhound of the Year. Congratulations, Ms. Taylor! Dick told us about the CFMS, California Federation of Mineralogical Societies, upcoming fieldtrip to Davis Creek from July 26th to July 29th. CCM&GS will be hosting the trip with Dick Pankey leading the adventures. Chuck Olson informed the members regarding the upcoming exciting fieldtrips- April 13-15 in Fallon, NV, April 14th North Bay Field Trips in Redwood City and June 21st in Roaring Camp. Check out the Diggins Newsletter for more details or contact Chuck. Kelly reminded us to check-out the Sales Board for postings of lapidary equipment and related items for sale. Donna asked members to help make grab bags for the 2018 Club Show. Fabric was on the back tables and grab bag instructions in the newsletter.

Donna Albrecht introduced the evening's March Madness program. Several Club members brought their game face with mineral specimens and stories to share about their favorite collecting areas. The starting line-up began with Lee Jacoby telling us about the CCM&GS Casting Class Scholarship that she had received. Lee enjoyed making jewelry by lost wax casting and learning about silversmithing from instructor Gary Casillas. Joe Yarbrough displayed his amazing lapidary pieces created from graveyard point plume agate, collected in Idaho and Eastern Oregon. In 1960, Joe met CCM&GS member Lou Hamilton and learned about the World of Lapidary Arts. Joe teamed up with Bob Pevahouse and Lou to go on many Rockhound road trips. Looking for a place to go over Thanksgiving weekend, Dick and Betty Pankey discovered Black Butte Reservoir for collecting colorful jasper. They encountered bobcats, deer and easy jasper collecting over a nice two day trip. Kelly Plumb described how Allen Felker went 'Jade Crazy' after taking a carving class. Jade Cove was definitely a required destination for a true Rockhound adventure! Low tide, good shoes and determination are needed to rope repel down the challenging climb to the beach. Nearby Willow Creek was an easier beach to collect botryoidal jade. Cheryl Morgan told a story about how her mother, Naomi, was stopped by a game warden as she hiked up from a beach. The game warden suspected abalone poaching and demanded that Naomi empty her "three bags of rocks". Only Rocks were found in the sacks, so the officer decided to help Naomi repack and carry the heavy load back up the hill. Lyle Roessler collected blue jade, mariposa with pyrite and interesting botryoidal specimens. Lyle made several of these items into beautiful lapidary pieces. Mike Hopkins shared a strange specimen, a giant shark tooth piercing into a whale bone vertebrae. The geologic time scale of 26 million years versus 40 modern years made this a cool conversation piece. Chuck Olson told us how he likes to collect garden rock of all kinds. Going on fieldtrips, from collecting wonderstone to digging out coquina shell fossils, meeting so many Club members was the real treasure. Dennis Freiburger intrigued us with stories about Austin, Nevada. Where else can you collect fluorite, snakeskin agate, red-orange agate, visit silver- gold mines and watch F-16 fighter jets on training flights? Donna Albrecht told us about walking through a stream to collect jade in the Middletown area of Napa. Perry's Deli was an important foodie stop. At Avila Beach, CA Donna collected DeeDeeite associated rhyolite in sections from a wall cliff. Where will your next Rockhound adventure take YOU?

Mary Jernigan

**March 2018
General Meeting
Photos (Continued)**



Above: Lee Jacoby shows her jewelry created from the casting class along with her castings.

Right: Joe Yarbrough shows his Graveyard Pt. Plume Agate along with a close-up of his belt buckle.



*Very Impressive Lee
and Joe!*



*Photos by Taylor Thompson & Mary Jernigan

CFMS Field Trips - North Field Trip to Davis Creek/Lassen Creek

By Dick Pankey

About a year ago or so Jim Barton, the CFMS Field Trips-North chairman, asked me for ideas for a Federation field trip. I have led and attended many trips to the Davis Creek area and know that this would be a great area for a trip and told Jim that I would be glad to help. With the backing of my society, the Contra Costa M&GS will host the CFMS FT-N field trip to Davis Creek and Lassen Creek to collect the abundant and beautiful obsidian of Buck Mtn. on July 26 to 29, 2018. This trip is open to all members of the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies and their guests. Everyone who agrees to adhere to the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies Code of Ethics, abide by the direction of the field trip leaders, and practice safe rockhounding is welcome to attend.

Davis Creek/Lassen Creek is the premier California obsidian collecting area with an abundance of a great variety of beautiful obsidian. This area is noted for sheen obsidian: multi-colored rainbow, electric blue, green, mahogany-gold, silver, gold and pink sheen. Also to be found is mahogany, lace, double flow and needle obsidian. This area is located on Buck Mtn. in the heart of the Modoc National Forest. The altitude ranges from 5000 to 7000 feet. A free permit is required for collecting which will be available at camp or at the Davis Creek Store. In addition to the daily collecting trips we will have potluck dinners, happy hours, evening campfires, knapping demonstrations, and a great rockhound get-together.

We will have a potluck dinner on Saturday evening and daily happy hours. Bring firewood for evening campfires. We plan on having a good time and collecting some great obsidian. Come join us for a great rockhound time of collecting, fun and fellowship.

The daily collecting trips are on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. All trips will leave at 8:30 AM, **SHARP**, from the campgrounds. We will be collecting at 4 to 5 major sites for sheen obsidian: multi-colored rainbow, electric blue, green, mahogany-gold, silver, gold and pink sheen. Also to be found is mahogany, lace, double flow and needle obsidian. High clearance vehicles recommended to collecting areas. All participants are requested to read and sign a Waiver of Liability. There is float collecting and digging. Bring the following tools: rock bags, rock hammer, shovel, small picks, hoe, rock scoop, spray bottle, safety equipment and what ever else you usually bring. **Safety Note:** Obsidian is Mother Nature's glass and like glass it shatters and is extremely sharp. Goggles or safety glasses, long sleeve shirts and gloves are strongly recommended. There are full hook-up RV parks in Alturas and Lakeview. There are motels in Alturas and Lakeview. E-mail Dick Pankey for names and phone numbers.

The potluck dinner will be on Saturday evening. Bring food to share and your own plates, eating utensils, tables and chairs. Bring your favorite beverages and snacks to share for Happy Hour each afternoon. We will try to have a campfire each evening so bring firewood. If you are interested bring rocks and specimens, etc. from your favorite home collecting area to show and tell at the tailgate display. This will be a good time to swap maps, GPS readings and information about your favorite collecting areas. There are a lot of other rockhounding opportunities within 100 miles of the Lassen Creek site: sunstones, opal, petrified wood, other obsidian sites, geodes and more. We will conduct a cleanup of the collecting sites and campgrounds and practice "Leave No Trace".

Join Jim and me for this a great rockhounding adventure. Please notify me no later than 7/23/18 if you plan to attend; a trip flyer with directions and details is available. Contact me if you have questions or need more information:

Dick Pankey

Email: dickpankey@juno.com (preferred); or Ph. 925-439-7509.

April Meeting Refreshments

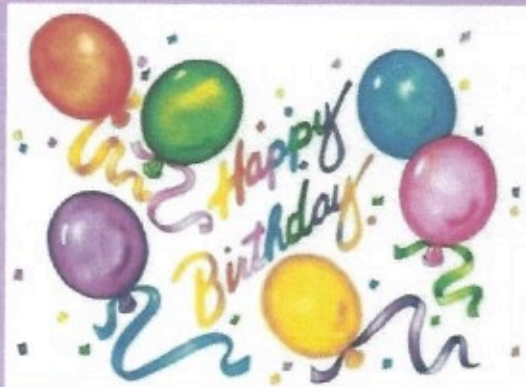
The following members are scheduled to bring refreshments to the April General Meeting. If you are not planning to attend, will you trade snack responsibility with another club member?



Greg Defabio
 Marisa DeSantis
 Dick Dennis
 Bonnie Eichler
 Cheri Elliott
 Mike Fedoroff
 Alan Felker
 Johanna Fenton
 Dennis Freiburger
 Suzanne Garrett
 Louise Gilley & Mark Blackman
 Mary Hanjes
 Donna Health
 Don & Margaret Henrich
 Mary Hicks

Mary Jernigan, Membership

Happy Birthday



to the following members
 who have birthdays this month:

| | |
|-----------------|------|
| Mary Jernigan | 4/1 |
| John Kell | 4/6 |
| Larry Blevins | 4/10 |
| Richard Merrill | 4/15 |
| Karen Oliver | 4/19 |

Mary Jernigan, Membership

Happy Anniversary



| | |
|---------------------|------|
| John Kell | 4/1 |
| Ann & Matt Matthews | 4/3 |
| Betty & Dick Pankey | 4/25 |

North Bay Field Trips

Please mark your calendars and attend the next NBFT Meeting

Date : Saturday, April 14, 2018

Hosted: by the Sequoia Gem and Mineral Society (SGMS) In Redwood City

Location and directions: The meeting will be held at the Woodside Road Methodist Church
2000 Woodside Road (at Alameda) in Redwood City

Easy access from both 280 and 101. Take the Woodside exit. Parking on site.

Cost: Cost of the seminar is \$1.00 for registration

Please bring an auction item donation from your club

| | | |
|------------------|---------------|---|
| Schedule: | 8:00 – 9:00 | Registration/Social with donuts and coffee |
| | 9:00 – 10:30 | Business Meeting |
| | 10:30 - 12:15 | Field trip Seminar |
| | 12:15 – 1:00 | Lunch (provided). Please bring a dessert to share |
| | 1:00 – 3:30 | Conclude Seminar |

Dues are due for 2018. They are only \$5.00; cash required.

This meeting and seminar is not only for your society's Field Trip Leader but for all members that are interested in and may want to join in some of the Field Trips. This seminar is for field trip leaders, and all rockhounds that enjoy collecting; all members and guests are welcome. Your attendance is needed.

This is a centrally located meeting site that is convenient for all NBFT societies. Please bring material for the silent auction: rocks and specimens from past field trips, rock related "white elephants" (old books, findings, tools, etc.), lapidary/jewelry items, and the like. This meeting is not just for field trip chairmen and leaders, so be sure to invite **all** of your club members who are interested in field trips, collecting and getting great buys on rocks and specimens.

We will start the day with the Fall Meeting business session and start the seminar late morning. In addition to reports of summer field trips we will have election of officers. We will also have announcements of fall and winter field trips. And it is not too early to start thinking about 2018 trips. Each NBFT club is expected to host a shared field trip or related activity each year. Start your planning now so that your club will have a field trip or event to share.

Doors open at 8:00 the meeting will start at 9:00. Come early with your donations for the Silent Auction and socialize with friends and Rockhounds with coffee and doughnuts.

CONTRA COSTA MINERAL & GEM SOCIETY

P O Box 842, Concord, Ca 94522

General Meeting: Second Monday of the month at 7:30pm Centre Concord, 4298 Clayton Rd., Concord, CA
(Clayton Fair Shopping Center, about .2 miles northwest on Clayton Rd. 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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Ecology and Public Lands

Open

Show

Open

April 2018

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|------------|-----------------|----|----|--------------|------------|-------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| Easter | | | | | | |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| BOD Mtg. | General Meeting | | | | Fallon F/T | Fallon F/T |
| Show Mtg. | | | | | | NBFT Mtg. |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| Fallon F/T | | | | Articles Due | | Barstow F/T |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | | | | | |

First Class
 Member of American and California
 Federation of Mineralogical Societies
 Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society
 PO Box 842, Concord, CA 94522-0842

Diablo Diggins
 Newsletter of the Contra Costa
 Mineral and Gem Society
 Editor: Debbie Blevins
 Send reports/articles/pictures 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 collections.
 Members meet the second Monday of
 each month (third Monday in June) at
 Centre Concord, 5298 Clayton Road,
 Concord, CA 94521 (Clayton Fair
 Shopping Center between Ygnacio Valley
 Road and Ballham Drive next to Clayton
 Valley Bowl.)
 Visitors are welcome! Bring a friend!