



Diablo Diggins

“We Dig Rocks”
Since 1950

Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society

January 2019

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As I sit here trying to think of what to write for my first President's Message I am reminded of how each and every member of our club is so very essential. We are a club, for and of the members. For our club to continue, we all need to do our part. We are each a piece of a wonderful puzzle. In that puzzle, just like snowflakes, old and new, no two pieces are the same. The beauty in that, is we all have different strengths and talents. When all of those different strengths and talents work together, we have a strong and diverse club that will continue on for generations to come. In order for our club to continue on, we need more members to step up and be a part of our leadership. Any member in good standing is eligible. Do not be deterred by not having been a board member or chairperson before. No one was

born already knowing how to handle any of the positions. Take a look at the many positions needing to be filled and please consider stepping up. Let a board member know you are interested. The descriptions of the positions are outlined in the club's by-laws. (Don't worry, none of the descriptions are lengthy.) We do have a Secretary who was appointed by the board to fill the vacancy on a temporary basis, but if you are interested in taking over, I am sure she would be happy to go back to just one board position. The other vacant board positions are the Annual Show Chairperson (essential if we are to have our annual show this year), Publicity, Education, Property, Hospitality, Historian, Ecology & Public Lands.

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NEXT GENERAL MEETING: JANUARY 14, 2018

SAPPHIRES!

Nothing beats the colors and sparkle of sapphires! We are fortunate to have top sapphire expert, Sheahan Stephen, speak at our January 14 meeting.

His career has spanned working in the mines (to study the origins of his business), to his retail store on Post Street in San Francisco. On his web site he states,

"Because I buy rough directly from the miners and process all gems at my lapidary in Sri Lanka, I am able to guarantee the source and treatment of every stone. Additionally, I keep up-to-date on all political, social and economic matters in sapphire mining regions throughout the world. This, combined with my extensive practical experience from mine to market, gave me an increased knowledge and unique understanding of sapphires & sapphire pricing throughout the industry, insuring fare trade between the miners and merchants."



Come and be amazed at this wonderful program!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, continued

*"You have the
opportunity to
sculpt our club,
please dig in."*

The 2019 board meetings will be held on the first Monday evening of each month (except in September & November) at the Round Table Pizza on Oak Park Blvd in Pleasant Hill. It is not required to attend every board meeting to be on the board, however we must have a quorum (7 board members) in order to make official votes, including voting on new members to the club, so attendance is preferred as much as possible. We understand the board meeting schedule will not work for everyone, but your input can still be taken into consideration as long as we get the information from you ahead of time. You have the opportunity to sculpt our club, please dig in.

I am looking forward to 2019 bringing us many interesting program topics, fascinating field trips, opportunities and fun! I am also looking forward to you all being a part of it. Each member is an essential piece of our puzzle.

I wish everyone a safe, happy new year!

Bonnie Eichler, President



MEMBERSHIP DUES

CCM&GS 2019 Membership Dues Are Due!

Happy New Year Rockhound Family! We have more adventures to share together in 2019!

CCM&GS 2019 Membership dues are due by the end of January. Stay connected with our upcoming programs, fieldtrips, Diggins' Newsletter, Rockhound classes and activities.

CCM&GS Annual Membership dues renewal are \$10 for current members. Remind a Friend to renew dues!

After January, reinstated memberships will be \$15 for renewal per the By-laws. Please send your dues check payable to: CCM&GS

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

Please contact me for CCM&GS Membership assistance. See you at the January 14th General Meeting!

Mary Jernigan - Membership



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

December 2, 2018 CCMandGS Board of Director Meeting

The meeting was held at Mt. Mikes Pizza on Clayton Road, Concord. Present: Librarian, President, President Elect, Federation Director and spouse, Treasurer, Field Trip VP, Program VP, Secretary, Membership, Editor/Webpage, a member. Due to the failure to have a quorum at the September BOD meeting the minutes for the August BOD meeting were not voted on. The August BOD minutes were read and approved with the following changes, Dave will "send" to mail "in" information. The Treasurer moved approval and VP of Field Trips seconded, all ayes. Correspondence, a member mailed her dues. Vallejo Gem and Mineral club sent announcement of their Feb 23-24, 2019 show. A Xmas card for a longtime member for signatures. The Treasurer requested all bills be submitted. VP of Field Trips mentioned Quartzsite, see newsletter for information. Membership had a membership application for a family. Seconded by Treasurer, all ayes. Federation meeting is in March at Pomona, the Director may not be going. The VP of Programs said the December meeting will be a Holiday Celebration. Website and Editor thanked those who responded to her request about the Website basics. She mentioned a page for meeting, activities and show information. How about links like to California Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CFMS). The show is always the first full weekend in November, that will be 2nd and 3rd, with setup on Friday the 1st. Please send information for the programs and any graphics as soon as possible. Caution about protecting all members privacy by not including contact information in the newsletter or on the Website was affirmed. Use positions, such as Treasurer or Membership rather than names. Also, pictures of members should be approved prior to being published. The meeting was complicated by the noise in the pizza parlor. We did not arrange early enough to get the meeting room. The Editor requests someone or several volunteers to proof read her work. This help will also make sure that improper member information about members not slip through to the final newsletter. She got ap-

proval for \$70 /year for the Microsoft Editor program. Membership moved that up to \$100 for approval and VP of Programs seconded it. All ayes. Also, there will be an annual Website update low cost. It was stated that only about 15 hardcopies of the newsletter is mailed. There will be an increase in postage cost in January. New members can only get emailed newsletters. The Historian is supposed to keep a hardcopy in the clubs archived records. The Hospitality position is in the Bylaws not the Refreshment position, this person reports to the Hospitality person. The drop-dead due date for the newsletter is the 18th, items not received timely can be delayed until the next month's newsletter. What about Publicity? Membership has the membership email list and addresses and phone numbers. Membership will do the next newsletter distribution. VP of Programs asks for a PC for Programs. Sources of discount prices were discussed. The Editor/Web Master moved to put money in the budget for a PC for programs, Librarian 2nd, all Ayes. Old Business. Membership asked for the minutes to show that the Light-house was withdrawn as a Raffle item on the Thursday before the show. It is Budget time. Provide the Treasurer with your budget for 2019 now, she will help you with it if you need. A draft can then be reviewed at the next BOD meeting. As the person elected to be the 2019 Secretary quit in November after the elections, the club needs a Secretary. Membership is volunteering for a short time. Federation Director recommends all BOD members read their duties in the Bylaws for themselves and for others, so all know who is supposed to do what. Librarian called for adjournment at 7:15 pm, VP of Programs 2nd, all ayes. A birthday cake for a member was enjoyed.

Submitted by Secretary for 2018.



GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

December 10, 2018 CCMandGS General Meeting

Holiday Gathering was attended with about 35 people. There were many great dishes shared at the pot luck. The meal was shared starting at 7:10 pm.

The program was the installation of Officers began at 7:55 pm. Outgoing President spoke to the group. She thanked those members who were leaders in 2018. These being Vice President of Programs, 2nd Vice President of Programs, Secretary, Treasurer, Education, Displays, Sgt. Of Arms, Federation, Refreshments, Librarian, and of course incoming President. She then announced the 2019 officers—President, 1st Vice President of Programs, 2nd Vice President of Field Trips, Treasurer, Federation Director, Secretary Vacant. She went over the duties of these officers per the Bylaws. She thanked the outgoing secretary for her past support of the club. She gave her flowers and two awards. She then thanked Membership for temporarily filling in for

the vacant secretary position. The incoming President took over as the club's 2019 President. She and the other officers are here to light the way for the club in 2019. Bonnie reminded members that you need to put something into the club to get something out. She recognized the clubs Website and Editor for 2019. The Vice President of Programs and her committee designed the center pieces. The club had a gift exchange. And a member won the Ugly sweater contest and another member won the Best Hat contest.

Submitted by Secretary for 2018.

FIELD TRIPS

Rockhounding
With Sally!



Upcoming Field Trips

Jan. 10-24
2019
Quartzite, AZ

Ye Old Timers
Mineral Club's
Quartzite
Camp.
These are great
and fun bunch
of Folks to
camp with. It's

dry camping, with amenities nearby, and open to all Rockhounds and guests.

Approximately 5 miles north of Quartzite, right on Plomosa Rd. Watch for YOTMC signs on the right side, about 1.1 miles in.

Jan. 16-20 2019
Quartzite, AZ

Quartzite Improvement Association
Powwow Road Trips.

The association sponsors two different field trips a day. This is an area rich in material. And these are well lead trips. No further details yet, but keep checking with them at, <http://www.qiaarizona.org/PowWow.html>. And search around for, "Powwow Road Trips."

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

Submitted by Chuck Olson
2nd Vice President/Field Trips

Monthly Display Contests! Bring your creations to the General Meeting.

Categories include: Faceted stones, Wearable art, Novice cabochons, Pro cabochons, and Shape of the month cabochons.

Upcoming shapes of the month: January—irregular, February—heart, March—round.

Geologist Dave Kleesattel Was Seriously Rockin' in Alaska's 7.0 Magnitude Earthquake!!

CCM&GS member and geologist, Dave Kleesattel (right) was in Anchorage on 11/30/18 when Alaska's 7.0 magnitude earthquake rocked Anchorage area!! Shaking from the earthquake was felt 400 miles away from the Anchorage epicenter. More than six aftershocks greater than 5.0 occurred within hours after the initial 7.0 earthquake. Since roadways were damaged and the Anchorage airport was a disaster, Dave stayed overnight at the "Historic Anchorage Hotel", Anchorage's oldest hotel built in 1916. The hotel had survived the 1964 earthquake of 9.2 magnitude. Eventually Dave was able to charter a small prop plane to his Alaskan home 60 miles away. Stay tuned for future Adventures with Geologist Dave.

Anchorage's earthquake involved "normal faulting" one tectonic plate sliding down the other plate, typically at more than a 50 degree angle. The faulting occurred 30 miles below the surface causing extensive damage to roadways and buildings. (see aerial photo)

Article & photos submitted by Mary Jernigan & Dave Kleesattel



HELLO FROM YOUR NEW EDITOR

This is my first issue of Diablo Diggins and while I'm sure it's not perfect, I hope you enjoy it.

Please feel free to contribute photos, stories, poems, drawings, or anything else you think would be of interest to our membership. Input must be received by the 18th of the month to be posted in the next month's newsletter.

I'd also like to take a moment to encourage you to become more involved with the club. Like many of you, I'd been attending meetings for several years but always deflected any additional participation requests. Thanks to the efforts of our current and past Program Chairs, I really look forward to the monthly pro-



grams. This past club election made it clear to me that the club can not and will not survive if members don't step up and play a role. So I decided it was time to do my part. If more members don't participate, we won't have a club. Please take a look at the list of vacant positions on page 7. Many of these have a very minimal work load. Some are "behind the scenes", and some have a lot of interaction with others. Find where you can help and talk to a board member about filling a position! If I can do it, you can too!

You may have noticed that I'm also the club Web-Master. Check out our new(ish) website at www.contracostamineralandgemsociety.org!

Johanna Fenton, Newsletter Editor & Web Master
Send newsletter input to johfenton@yahoo.com.

2018 GENERAL MEETING & HOLIDAY DINNER

CCM&GS 2019 Board of Directors (photo right to left)
 Bonnie Eichler - President
 Donna Albrecht - First Vice President/ Programs
 Chuck Olson - Second Vice President/ Fieldtrips
 Mary Hanjes - Treasurer
 Mary Jernigan- Secretary/ Membership



Betty & Dick Pankey -
 In appreciation for their ongoing commitment representing CCM&GS at many CFMS- AFMS meetings and other club shows, We thank you!

Crazy Hats & Great Friendships-
 We were so glad that long-time CCM&GS Member Mary Bufton 93yrs young joined the festivities!
 *Taylor Thompson, Mary Bufton, Mary Jernigan, Bonnie Eichler (photo left to right)



Crazy Hat Competition Was Fierce!

Mary Hicks-
 We are forever grateful to Mary Hicks for her extensive years of service on the CCM&GS Board of Directors and committees. Mary's leadership, involvement and continuous support to the Club sets a very high standard with a bright torch for us to carry forward. Thank you so very much, Ms. Mary!



Sharing Smiles & Friendships -
 Mary Hicks, Hazel Woolsey (standing).
 Mark Blackman & Louise Gilley



Photos & info submitted by Mary Jernigan & Johanna Fenton

MEMBER NEWS



BIRTHDAYS:

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

ANNIVERSARIES:

Dave & Kim Kleesattel 1/1



JANUARY GENERAL MEETING REFRESHMENTS

The following members are scheduled to bring refreshments to the January General Meeting.

If you are listed and are not planning to attend, will you trade snack responsibility with another club member?

Bonnie Eichler
Cheri Elliott
Mike Fedoroff
Alan Felker
Johanna Fenton

Dennis Freiburger
Suzanne Garrett
Louise Gilley & Mark Blackman
Mary Hanjes
Donna Heath
Don & Margaret Henrich
Mary Hicks

Thank you for your thoughtfulness!
Mary Jernigan- Membership



CCMGs 2019 BOARD MEMBERS

2019 Elected Officers:

President:
Bonnie Eichler
(925) 944-1331

1st Vice President/Programs:
Donna Albrecht
donna@lapidarywhisperer.com

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

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

Treasurer:
Mary Hanjes
(925) 932-4345
mrhanjes@gmail.com

Federation Director:
Dick Pankey
(925) 439-7509
dickpankey@juno.com

2019 Appointed Officers:

Display:
Cheryl Morgan
cherylmorgan09@yahoo.com

Librarian:
Paul Black
(925) 826-6716

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

Newsletter Editor:
Johanna Fenton
johfenton@yahoo.com

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

Refreshments:
Vikki Hotopp
(925) 566-8588

Sargent of Arms:
Naomi Morgan

Web Master:
Johanna Fenton
johfenton@yahoo.com

VACANT:

- ◇ Annual Show Chairperson
- ◇ Ecology
- ◇ Education
- ◇ Historian
- ◇ Hospitality
- ◇ Property
- ◇ Publicity
- ◇ Public Lands
- ◇ Secretary



We're on the web!
[www.contracostaminer
 andgemsociety.org](http://www.contracostaminerandgemsociety.org)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Board of Directors
 Monday, January 7, 6:30—8:30 p.m.
 Round Table Pizza, 1938 Oak Park Blvd, Pleasant Hill, CA

General Meeting
 Monday, January 14
 Centre Concord, 5298 Clayton Rd., Concord, CA

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

General meeting on the second Monday of each month at Centre Concord, 5298 Clayton Rd., Concord, CA 94521 (Clayton Fair Shopping Center between Ygnacio Valley Rd. and Balham Dr. next to Clayton Valley Bowl.)

Visitors are welcome! Bring a friend!

Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society
 PO Box 842, Concord, CA 94522-0842

Diablo Diggins

Newsletter of the
 Contra Costa Mineral
 and Gem Society

Editor:
 Johanna Fenton

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

FIRST CLASS
 Member of American and California
 Federation of Mineralogical Societies