



Diablo Diggings

Show time
Nov. 2,3

Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society

Since 1950

"We Dig Rocks"

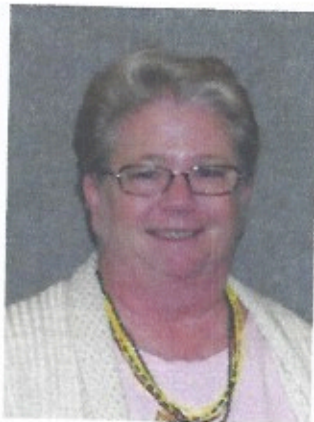
Concord, CA

October 2013

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This Newsletter is available by e mail - contact the Editor

Presidents Message



The show is just a few weeks away. Lots of workers are needed. Be part of it! If you are a new or a relatively new member of the club, this is the perfect way to get involved and get to know fellow members.

Sign up at the October meeting. It gets you your best choice of duty and time. If you cannot make the meeting or have not signed up we will give you a call to fill in the empty slots. Call Harry if you can't make it to the meeting.

Also, coupons, yard signs, and sign-up sheets will be available in October for all the things that need to be done so our show is a smashing success.

If you want to prepare a display case for the show, please sign up soon. Our new display chair, Barbara Paul, (925) 672-1248, wants to hear from you – NOW! Information is available on the website, <http://ccmgs.org/members/>.

The show is how we keep our dues low. How you contribute to the show insures our success.

By the time you read this Critter day is upon us. If you would like to help with this fun activity to make cute rock-animals for the show's Spin the Wheel, please call Hazel or Connie right away.

The Critter festivities are on October 12th at 1:00 in Connie's barn. Hazel brings everything needed to make these fun creations. Making the Critters for Spin the Wheel is fun! The bonus: kids love them.

I'll see you at the meeting in October and at the show in November.

Therese
President, CCM&GS

Next General Meeting
Monday, October 14 7:30 PM

October Program
Mineralogists in Morocco

October Program Mineralogists in Morocco

David & Kris Lowe of the Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society have traveled the world collecting rocks and minerals for their private collections.

Their latest field collecting jaunt was to the Sahara Desert and Morocco in North Africa.



There they field collected a wide assortment of minerals and rocks, which they will share with us in their videographic "slide Show"

Their presentation will include a 20-minute video presentation of their adventures in Morocco. The evening promises to be a good one, with Kris Lowe's professionally produced film.

In addition to her interest in Field collection, Kris has started a second career in videography and film production, and her talents will show in this month's production..

David is a Senior Scientist and Engineer who works in the field of catalysis. They have visited many countries in Europe and also South Africa. David is an active field collector.



The video will include many of the side trips and cultural aspects of the Saharan region. While in Morocco they found time to enjoy a surprising mixture of vast deserts, high snow covered mountains, and green areas that reminded them somewhat of Sicily. They traveled with friends of the Bay Area Mineralogists in Menlo Park (BAM).

While in Morocco, they attended the Mindat Conference that was held inside a large mine in Mibladen (world famous for vanadinite) where many of the participants were able to collect in the mine tunnels. Interestingly the main conference dinner was held in the very same mines. Many tons of rock and dirt were being removed as the carpets and tables were brought in.

See it all on film! Join us Monday, October 14 with David & Kris Lowe and the adventures of the *Bay Area Mineralogists in Morocco*.

By Harry Nichandros

New Articles for November *Diablo Diggins*
Due Date October 21, 2013

Board Meeting
Wednesday October 9, 6:30 PM

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card for Glen McKenzie. Pam informed everyone that she had talked to Cheryl Morgan. Bill and Naomi Morgan are fine after the evacuation of homes during the Morgan Territory Fire. Thank you, everyone for keeping the Morgan Family in your thoughts and prayers!

Pam thanked Mary & Ophelia Hicks for their donations to the door prizes. Rhyolite, petrified wood and turrutella specimens were drawn as guest and member door prizes.

President- Therese Clark reminded members to pick flyers on the Rock Sale arranged by Dave Kleesattel. The sale is on Saturday 9/21 in Lafayette.

Newsletter - Articles to Terry 9/16

Critter Day- 10/12 1-4pm at Connie Klein's house.

Membership- Mary Hicks has membership cards and badges at the back table.

Nomination Committee- Mary Hicks as Chairperson for the Committee reported the nominees for the slate 2014 CCM&GS Officers. The Nomination Committee

members are Mary Hicks, Harry Nichandros, Donn Law, Debbie & Larry Blevins.

The Committee is recommended by the President and accepted by the Board of Directors.

If you wish to be considered as a nominee for the 2014 slate of Officers, identify yourself or contact Mary Hicks.

The proposed slate for 2014 CCM&GS Officers was announced

President- Donna Albrecht

1st Vice President- Harry Nichandros

2nd Vice President- Kelly Plumb

Secretary- Mary Hicks

Treasurer- Mary Hanjes

CFMS Federation Director- Dick Pankey

Mary Hicks asked after each Officer position if there were any nominations from the floor. After all nominees were named, Mary stated that these names will be proposed as the slate for CCM&GS 2014 Officers in the October Newsletter.

Show- Harry Nichandros, Our Show is coming up! Membership dues are only \$10 and we want everyone to sign up for something to help at the Annual Show. Pick up coupons, pass them out at places to advertise our show. Put signs in your car windows. Remember to have coupons with you to hand out, too.

Fieldtrips- Kelly Plumb is looking for a few demonstrator spots to fill. See Kelly if you need styrofoam for your display cases.

Check the Newsletter for upcoming shows and fieldtrips. Fieldtrip sign-ups for Area 54 is on the back table.

Education- Donna Albrecht (not present) Therese reminded members to sign up for the Beginning Beading Class with Jeanie Russo as instructor.

Display- Paul Black (not present) Terry filled in for Paul. Many items of interest were on the Display Table including carved jade eagles and filigree earrings.

Program- Harry Nichandros introduced the evening's program, 'Let's Talk Opals' with Phyllis and Tom Malicki. Phyllis & Tom told stories about their opal adventures and brought interesting specimens to capture our attention. With the many different looks of opal, we can understand why the opal is often called the "Queen of Gems".

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Mary Jernigan - CCM&GS Secretary

HOSPITALITY ROCKS

At the September General Meeting I hope you stopped by the Hospitality table to see the door prize rocks. Given away in the drawing were Petrified gray wood and Rhyolite probably from Nevada. Some other interesting rocks were Verde antique marble CA, Turretilla fossils Warmstutta WY, and a Petrified brown wood with a pin size hole in it. A big thank you to Ophelia and Mary Hicks who donated the last three rocks.

As a reminder, those that signed up for the Holiday Party Decorations Committee, we will be meeting at Joanne Caskey's house on Sunday, October 27, 2013 at Noon. Sandwiches provided, bring your drink.

Hospitality Chair

Pam Harris

Display Report

There are four competitive categories each month. Everyone is invited to vote on the entries in each category. The winner in each category receives a prize of five dollars, and the person who has won the most competitions for novice cab during the year will advance to "pro" status and be awarded a Diablo Dan silver pin.

Novice Cabs – One entry

I – Pam Harris – Crazy lace Agate (winner)



Pro Cabs - four entries

A – Don Law- Shattuckite

B –**Dave Kleesattel – lace agate (winner)**

C – Barrie Bieler - white/blue agate

E – Reggie Moore - rolling hills dolomite



Shape of the Month – Marquis (cats eye)

Three entries

C – Barrie Bieler – obsidian

D – Dave Kleesattel – chrysochase (winner)

E – Reggie Moore - sunrise onyx



Faceted Gems – Three entries

I - Don Law - amethyst Uruguay

II – Barrie Bieler– bi color flourite

III - Terry Caskey - Mine assay button (winner)



Special interest items. Kelly Plumb brought in a display of Jade eagle carvings and silver filigree earrings.

2013 Shape of the Month Cabs

January - Irregular

February - Heart shape

March - Oval

April - Round

May - Pear (Teardrop)

June - No competition (Auction night)

July - Freeform (No symmetry)

August - Triangle

September - Marquis (Cat's eye)

October - Rectangle (or Square)

November - Oval

December - No competition (Christmas party)

Terry Caskey for Paul Black

Membership Report

Welcome to our new members-Danny Swicegood of Benicia, Alan Robb of Richmond, Annie Stephens of Concord, and Cathy Hays of Pacheco. All of these new members were at the September General Meeting to be introduced by President Therese Clark and to receive their membership badges. I hope they were made welcome by their fellow members. You may have already been aware of Alan Robb's support of our annual show with his fantastic fluorescent displays.

Dues are DUE starting in October and are past due after December 31st. You can pay by check at the show at the Membership table which will be with the Raffle table.

Raffle Update. Volunteering to work at the annual education show is part of expectations for our members. This activity supports our interests and introduces the public to the wonders of our far reaching hobby. Thank you to Robert Nellen, Mary Jernigan and daughter Taylor have let me know that they are signing up for the Raffle/Membership table. The sign up sheet will be out at the October meeting. Donate a nice item to the Raffle. I have received donations from Howard Shamy (faceted gems set in gold, a pendant and earrings), Lyle Roeseler has donated a turquoise bolo tie that has handsome silver-tone findings and Ophelia Hicks has donated a necklace earring set. Bring your donation of nice mineral specimens, lapidary work, etc. to me at the October General Meeting. Include a note that describes your item with your name. A gift box completes the package for jewelry items.

Message from the Nominating Committee



The Nominating Committee has the job of developing the proposed slate of officers for the following positions- President, Vice-President of Programs, Vice President of Field Trips, Treasurer, Secretary, and Federation Director. If you are interested contact the Nominating Committee Chair Mary Hicks at maryhicks@comcast.net or 779

0698. The September general meeting is when I announced those members running for office. The October general meeting will include the election of officers. Installation of officers happens at the December general meeting.

EDUCATION

How many times have you looked at the opportunities to take fascinating beading classes, but you didn't know how to start so you felt uncomfortable signing up? GOOD NEWS! We have an Introduction to Beading class on October 26 where you can learn all the basics to prepare you to be able to bead with the best of them!

The class will be at Jeanie Russo's home . It will begin at 10 am and continue through 2 pm.

You need to bring 16" string or strings of beads and some pliers and cutters. Call Jeanie Russo at 687.0278 and she'll tell you which you will need to bring. If you sign up with her before the sign-up sheet is at the meeting, please let me know donna-at-albrechts.com There are openings for eight students, and this class will fill up quickly!

Education Chair
Donna Albrecht

Critter Day

Help the show and have fun too. Critter Day is coming for kids and adults alike. We will meet at Connie Klein's Barn, Sunday October 12, 1-5 pm.

We have rocks, paint, brushes, decoupage, glue, glue guns, and fake eyes. We even have books on how to paint rocks.

Critters are prizes the kids win in the *Spin-the-Wheel* at our show. Some prizes are rocks. Some are *Rock Critters* dressed with paint, decoupage, false eyebrows and tails – some recognizable, some whimsical. Kids love them.

To make the critters we provide rocks galore, paint, brushes, decoupage, glue, glue guns, and fake eyes, large and small. We also have books on how to paint on rocks.

For our new members; for the Wheel of Fortune prizes for our show, we offer more than "just" rocks and trinkets. We dress our rocks with paint, decoupage, false eyes and tails to resemble critters - some recognizable, some whimsical. Come join us, have some fun and meet a fun crowd, and you will help us create prizes for the "wheel" at our November show. Kids and friends welcome. They do not have to be a member to take part. Sign up for Critter Day at the general meetings or come on over to Connie's .

Come join us on Critter day. Have some fun and meet a fun crowd, and you will help us create great Spin-the-wheel prizes. Kids are welcome. Sign up for Critter Day at the general meeting or just come over to Connie's Barn.

Hazel Woolsey
Spin-the-Wheel Chair



Reserve Your Display Case, Now

Thanks to all who have gotten your Display Case applications filled out to me (or at least called to confirm) I am very grateful. Early notice saves me a lot of follow-up.

If you want to prepare a Display Case for our show, get to me soon. We have a limited number of display cases, and more importantly a limited number of spaces for cases. If you submitted last year, don't miss out this year.

Applications are available in 1) this *Diggins'* newsletter, 2) monthly club meetings, 3) the club website (<http://ccmgs.org/members>), or 4) just call me at (925) 672-1248.

The cases are 4 feet wide, 2 feet deep and 2 feet tall. The inside measurements are 22 inches deep and 46 inches wide. The inside of our cases are a light wood finish.

Please bring something to cover the bottom of the case. If you want Styrofoam, contact Kelly Plumb by phone or email. Our addresses and phone numbers are in the Show Committee list below. If you have an item like a big rock that will fit the 4 ft length, you can also display that – even without the case.

A Reminder! We allow NO staples, tacks, tape or altering our cases as they were expensive to build and took a whole summer to build. We want them handled gently as we are trying to keep them beautiful as long as we can. If you have posters, pictures or such you want to display, please put them on cardboard and stand them up or lay them flat.

Barbara Paul
Display Chairman

Our Show Committee

Show Chairman	Harry Nichandros	674-7055	Nichandros [at] juno.com
Trailer Unload/Load	Donn Law		DonnsGems12 [at] gmail.com
Electrical	Terry Caskey	689-2119	TCaskey [at] comcast.net
Room Setup & Repair	Greg DeFabio	(510)508-2588	GDeFabio [at] csdo.org
Room Setup & Repair	Larry Blevins	680-6562	Ohb [at] astound.net
Signs and Banners	Laura Krol	849-5159	LIKrol [at] comcast.net
Publicity (Fliers & Coupons)	Harry Nichandros	674-7055	Nichandros [at] juno.com
Treasurer	Vicki Hotopp	566-8588	VHotopp [at] live.com
Front Desk	Debbie Blevins	680-6562	Ohbw [at] astound.net
Exhibitors	Barbara Paul	672-1248	bsbaubles [at] aol.com
Demonstrators	Kelly Plumb	(510)799 4633	KellyPlumb900 [at] yahoo.com
Silent Auction	Cheri Elliot	757-7382	clcl13 [at] yahoo.com
Diablo Dan Café	Scott & Sheri Pevahouse	372-9421	Pevahouse [at] cccta.org
Grab Bags, Wheel & Critters	Hazel Woolsey	837 3287	None
Raffle (Item Donations)	Mary Hicks	779 0698	MaryHicks [at] Comcast.net