



Concord, CA

November, 2018

Diablo Diggins

Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society

Since 1950

“We Dig Rocks”

Vol. 66, No. 11

This newsletter is available by email - contact the editor



President's Message

Annual Educational Rock and Gem Show

Saturday and Sunday

November 3 and 4, 2018

10:00am - 5pm

Centre Concord



UPCOMING MEETINGS

No BOD Meeting in November

Show Debriefing Meeting November 12, 2018

General Meeting November 12, 2018

BOD Meeting December 2, 2018

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*Wishing that this
Thanksgiving season
brings you plenty of
reasons to give thanks.*

TOXICITY IN ROCKS AND MINERALS NOT ALL ROCKS GET LICKED!

Our November speaker is already well-known to many of our members. Rick Kennedy, a rockhound's rockhound, had been seeing posts on the internet that purported to inform about minerals that were "Deadly!" or "Toxic!" and he discovered those posts were often inaccurate; a potential danger to the rockhounds who read them. Rick has done a great deal of research on the topic and has prepared a presentation to help us get to the truth on this important topic.

Donna Albrecht

MEET & GREET

Our November meeting is right after our show and we're making special efforts at the show to invite people to visit that meeting. When you see them, please take a moment to introduce yourself and make them welcome.



Happy
Thanksgiving

BOD Meeting October 7, 2018

Next BOD meeting in November is to be determined.

Present: Mary Jernigan, Paul Black, Mary Hanjes, Mary Hicks, Debbie Blevins, Donna Albrecht, Chuck Olson, Cheryl and Naomi Morgan.

Slate update. Waiting to learn what the slate is other than last month status. President and secretary positions were not filled last month. Mary Hicks was directed by the BOD to go ahead and get the Contra Costa Environmental Health application for the food permit completed and filed for the show. Terry Caskey acquired the domain name contracostamineralandgemsociety.org as posted in the minutes for the September meeting. Mary Hicks sent in the S1-100 filing and \$20. Bob Rigor spent \$143.56 for the postcards. Will need additional stamps (we had 900 left over from last year). Need to purchase bleach and test strips for the kitchen and buckets if they can not be located. Bonnie Eichler brings up the topic of providing lunch for show volunteers. Approved by the board. Update was given on Dick Pankey situation, he is recovering from a stroke. Vice President of Programs Donna reports the November program about sapphires. Joanne Caskey is working on the December meeting. Chuck is using serpentine for the case favors. Serpentine is donated by Dick. Mary Hanjes reports the club raised \$948.00 on the auction. She is going to get a new CD. Debbie Blevins needs reports submitted no later than the 19th of the month. Mary Jernigan says she has some ideas on recruiting new members. Cheryl Morgan reported that there are two storage units near the Centre, one near Kmart and one at Ayers and Ygnacio Valley Blvd.

Show Meeting October 8, 2018

The next show debriefing meeting is at 5:30 pm November 12th at the Centre.

Attendees: Chuck Olson, Mary Hicks, Mary Jernigan, Terry Caskey, Bonnie Eichler, Debbie Blevins, Bob Rigor, Louise Gilley, Paul Black, Mike Hopkins, Donna Albrecht. The volunteers at the show Saturday and Sunday will be provided with lunch, Bonnie Eichler will hand out the lunch tickets. Signup sheets out tonight again. Dick Pankey will not be able to move the club trailer for the show due to a stroke. Dick is recovering at home. Mike Hopkins will move the trailer for the club this year. He and Terry Caskey will meet and make sure his truck electrical hookups work for the trailer. Terry Caskey went to the Pankey's and picked up the trailer keys. Terry Caskey says there are 44 exhibit cases. Dave Kleesattel gave the storage keys to Kelly. Mary Hicks will go to the storage location and get the lock changed so we can have access. A discussion followed about using some of the exhibit cases to promote the club. Possible to have a case for programs, library, field trips, education, and newsletter-all benefits of membership. Mary Hicks will pick up information about exhibitor applications from Dick and organize this activity. A discussion about selecting a ticket to have the winner come to the next meeting for their prize. Everyone was reminded to come up with the sign verbiage for their case on 10/19 so Mary Hicks can make up the signs. Mary Jernigan will get the sign stands. Terry will work with Party Props for lights for the T rex skull replica, it is on a stand, and security ropes. Bob Rigor talked about a sandwich sign for the entry door. Door prize tickets selected at 11, noon, 1, 2, 3 and 4 each day. Wristbands will be used this year. Postcards will be mailed to past attendees, the Henrich's are helping do this. Donna proposed up to \$400 for signage, Bonnie and Mary Hanjes seconded, all ayes. Donna will pick up Friday lunch sandwiches this year. Mary Jernigan will get 200 tickets for the lighthouse. Louise Gilley is lead for the Friday night dinner. We will order pizza delivered for Sunday evening tear down. Terry will look into the gaffer tape inventory and butcher paper. Dick Pankey will not be able to do the rock id activity this year. Betty Pankey has had a heart attack and is home doing well but she will not be able to do the wire rings this year. Bonnie will make the "On Break" signs for the demonstrators.

Dave Kleesattel will be the Ask a Geologist and Dennis Freiburger will be the Ask a Gemologist. Terry Caskey says we will use LED lights for the cases this year. Bonnie said Cheryl Morgan will get help in the child paint rock booth by Brooks Casillas. Demonstrators so far are Cheryl Morgan for Rock Painting, Naomi Morgan will demonstrate Intarsia, Gold Panners club will be with us again. Alan Felker and Steve will show how to do cabs. Mike Hopkins will be educating attendees on rocks and geological processes-Earth Rocks!. Barrie Bieler will demonstrate faceting on one day. Mary Jernigan has the signup sheets and will be calling members to get volunteers to fill in. Handouts about the November General meeting will be available from Membership. Donations for the Club Raffle are needed. Mary Hicks will pick up the new yard signs for members to use to promote the show. The Bart Sign will be posted again this year. Mary Hicks got the City of Orinda Permit. Mary also got the Dept of Health food permit application processed. We all need to watch for areas that need help and step in, there will be a card with the committee cell phone numbers so we can call each other during the show. The critical time for Friday setup is 7 am to noon. See Chuck Olson if you need tools. There will be a debriefing meeting for the show before the November 12th General Meeting starting at 5:30 pm.

Mary Hicks
Secretary

The October General Meeting on the 8th

Next General Meeting is November 12th.

VP Donna Albrecht opened the meeting at 7:30 Pm. The group said the Allegiance to the Flag. Bonnie Eichler announced that she needs someone to demonstrate beading. Johanna has worked on the club Website the address is contracostamineralandgemsociety.org. Cheryl Morgan announced display winners. Mary Jernigan asked members to sign up to volunteer at the show. There were get well cards for Betty and Dick Pankey. Door Prizes were given to six attendees, 1 guest and 5 members. Vikki Hotopp was back after being on the road for the last 4 months. Lee Jacoby volunteered to setup and return the "Bart Banner". Mary Hicks will meet her with the banner and show Lee how to post it. Donna went through the process of announcing the Officer slate. The following officers were elected, Bonnie Eichler for President, VP Programs Donna Albrecht, VP Field Trips Chuck Olson, Federation Director Richard Pankey, Mary Hanjes Treasurer, Debbie Blevins Secretary. The program was excellent. Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Mary Hicks, Secretary



Rockhound Raffle 2018

CCM&GS 2018 Show November 3rd & 4th

Calling all Rockhounds! **We need YOU** our CCM&GS Club Members to make our Annual Show a great event! Remind friends & family to attend the Club Show. Share the show flyers by email and Facebook. **Rockhound Raffle Case is ready for your donations** of handcrafted jewelry, rock and mineral specimens, books and interesting treasures. Rock hobby magazines would be great for the Membership table. Give me a phone call to pick up any Rockhound Raffle items. **Member Volunteers are definitely needed to work at the Show!** People are also needed for Show set-up on Friday 11/2. We are making phone calls asking for your help at a Show Station. Our Annual Show is how we financially support the CCM&GS membership and activities. Let's work together to keep our Club active and full of Rockhound Fun!

Mary Jernigan - Membership & Rockhound Raffle
(925) 852-1133 m10jernigan@yahoo.com



Magical Mosaic Lighthouse Special Raffle 2018

(created by Judy Brown)

This Magical Mosaic Lighthouse created by CCM&GS's Judy Brown will be the Special Raffle at our 2018 Annual Show! Artisan Judy selected over 1800 polished stones of jasper, agate, petrified wood, crystals, jade, and obsidian to create this unique lighthouse to enjoy in your garden. The inner light shines through the twelve lighthouse windows and also shines through the beacon on top. **Limited Mosaic Lighthouse tickets will be available for \$5 each.** (height 5.5 feet not including wheels, circumference 93 inches)

Mary Jernigan - Membership & Rockhound Raffle
(925) 852-1133 m10jernigan@yahoo.com

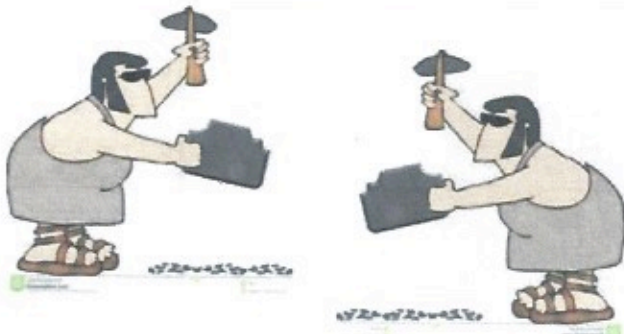
North Bay Field Trip Meeting 9/22/18

Right: CCMGS Mary Jernigan & Taylor Thompson

Below: CCMGS Chuck Olson & Dick Pankey with Santa Cruz club members



Photos by Joanne Caskey



North Bay Field Trip Association

September 22, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 am by Dick Pankey. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Dick recognized the members of the Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society (CCMGS) for helping setup the room for the meeting-Dick Pankey, Chuck Olson, Mary Hicks, Joanne Caskey, Mary Jernigan, Taylor Thompson, and Louise Gilley. Betty Pankey, Secretary and Treasurer, was absent as she is recovering from heart bypass surgery. Mary Hicks volunteered to take the minutes.

Roll Call: The following Officers and Directors were present: Richard Pankey (President). No other Officers or Directors were present. The turn out for this meeting was less than expected, Dick did not hear from clubs that did not send representatives. Clubs that sent representatives were: Santa Cruz (Dave Duncan, Joanne Meyer), Santa Clara Valley G&MS (John Bahr, Larry Moore), Santa Cruz, Vallejo (Sabrina Rudkin, Lewis Ballentine), Antioch Lapidary Club (Rita), Contra Costa M&GS (Dick Pankey, Chuck Olson). Clubs that did not attend: Lodi, Livermore, San Francisco, Mendocino Coast, Castro Valley, Sequoia and Garage Grinders. Spring meeting minutes: the Spring 2018 meeting minutes were handed out but were not discussed. The review and approval of the minutes is moved to the Fall 2018 meeting.

Treasurer's report: The report was handed out. The beginning balance on April 12, 2018 was \$676.10. The ending balance as of September 20, 2018 was \$621.14. The report states that the following clubs paid the NBFT dues for 2018. Santa Cruz, Antioch Lapidary Club, CCM&GS, Santa Clara, Garage Grinders, Vallejo, Sequoia, Livermore and Peninsula. Clubs that owe their dues: Salinas, Castro Valley, Lodi, San Francisco and Mendocino Coast.

Last Field Trips: There have been sparse reports of Field Trips earlier this year. We discussed April thru September. No reports for April. In May the Antioch Lapidary Club had a rock swap on the 19th. For June, Chuck Olson reported mid-month the Lodi Club met at McDermitt, Hwy 395 near the California Oregon borders for thunder eggs. They visited a rock shop that had material in various colors for \$5/pound. They did find a hill top that was paved with walnut size thundereggs. The café food was not very good so if you go to this area bring food. Larry Moore added information about West Coast Mining and others going together on collecting areas and may begin having fee digs like Richardson in Oregon. The poke dot material is closed at this time by West Coast Mining. Dick Pankey reported they had a Silver Pick Field trip to his home. He had a lot of interest. July, CFMS and CCMGS had a field trip to the Davis/Lassen Creek Obsidian collecting area. There was about 80 people, 68 attended the potluck. The Field Service gave a talk about the history of the area and gave the group a special Use Permit. The group stayed at the Lassen Creek Campground. Dick discussed the history of the permits for collecting in the area. In 1997 you could collect up to 500# at 4 dig spots. Rainbow, needles, etc. In 2015 a new permit was established which allowed collection of 100# in 2 weeks from 4 sites. There is no collecting from anywhere else. The change in frequency of collecting is due to cultural sensitivity as there is a long history of the obsidian source being used by American Indians. A collector can have 5 permits per year. The permits are free. The area is very clean, rockhounds leave no trace, the small amount of trash collected was taken to the Field Service location. The group left Alturas and went to Cedarville and south about 50 miles to Tuledad for green agate. There is easy access and camp sites. The petrified wood in the area that was formed upright but the group did not go for them. August no reports. September no reports. Dick was not aware of any Coop trips. Due to the low participation Dick wondered if there is a need to continue meeting? Someone commented that the hills are steeper now.

Continued on next page.....

New Field Trips: October the Vallejo Club is going for Beryl at the Truck Stop. No date given. This is a one-day trip. Dick mentioned that each club should target doing one trip per year or more. The information needs to go the club editors early enough to get the information out. Someone said that the Coop group is going to Fallon next week. The Antioch Lapidary Club is planning a trip to Graveyard Point in Idaho for Plume Agate and Petrified Wood. November 9th the Rockhound Fanatics are going to Black Butt Lake. In December Vallejo is going to the Mojave area for geodes. Dick announced that January is Quartzsite time and he and Betty plan on being wagonmaster for the Ye Old Timer camp area. (Out on Paloma Road, north of town.), starting on January 10th for 2 weeks. They will do local field trips. There is a local group, the Road Runners, who will lead 2 trips per day for 2 weeks. February, no plans at this time. March, no plans at this time. April, 2019 will be the next NBFT meeting. It will be on the 2nd Saturday, location to be determined.

Old Business: The group is reminded to update the roster.

New Business: The Slate was discussed. It is time to do an election for 2 Directors to replace Kelly Plumb and Steven May. Dick called for any interest in these 2 positions. None heard. Dick asked for bids for the Spring 2019 meeting. Dick said he would ask Steven May of the Santa Clara M&G to see if they will host the next meeting. They usually set it up in San Jose. The Silent Auction concluded at the end of our potluck. Dick thanked Louise Gilley for the setup of the potluck. The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Hicks, CCMGS

Rockhounding With Sally!



Upcoming Field Trips

Nov. 9 - 12.

**Black Butte Lake and Stoney Creek, Ca.
Mother Load Mineral Society and Rockhound
Field Trips Fanatics**

Various Jasper and Agate.

Contact Kevin Kirschman,
kkirschman@prodigy.net, (209) 769-1502, or Kris
Rowe, (559) 250-5057.

Let me know if there's anything I'm missing.

And as long as I'm within range of a Cel.
signal, I'm here, or there, to share any informa-
tion I have, at olson86@yahoo.com, or

(925) 890-7116.

olson86

Mine Open House

November 17

Noon - 4:30pm

Take a free self-guided tour of the historic Hazel-Atlas Mine, for ages 7 and up only. All ages are invited to enjoy craft activities and the underground Greathouse Visitor Center.

\$5 parking fee (cash only). Carpooling encouraged.
Last admission to mine tour route at 4:10pm.

Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve
5175 Somersville Road, Antioch, CA, 94509



For more information:
510-544-2750 or
bdvisit@ebparks.org

Healthy Parks
Healthy People

East Bay 
Regional Park District
www.ebparks.org

November Meeting Refreshments

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



Donna Albrecht
 Steve Austin
 Barrie Bieler
 Paul Black
 Debbie & Larry Blevins
 Judy Brown
 Mark & Mary Bufton
 Joanne & Terry Caskey
 Gary Casillas
 Greg DeFabio
 Marisa DeSantis
 Dick Dennis

Mary Jernigan, Membership

Happy Birthday



to the following to the following members who have birthdays this month:

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Dennis Freiburger | 11/3 |
| Doug Rue | 11/5 |
| Shannon Merrill | 11/14 |
| Marisa DeSantis | 11/23 |
| Michael Fedoroff | 11/27 |
| Renard Perucho | 11/28 |
| Betty Pankey | 11/30 |

Mary Jernigan, Membership

Happy Anniversary



Joe & Faye Yarbrough 11/21

Mary Jernigan, Membership

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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Please do not publish this list, Editor

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Ecology and Public Lands

Open

November 2018

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|--|--------------------------------|----|----|----|--|--|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 CCM&GS |
| | | | | | | Educational Show |
| 4 CCM&GS | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Educational Show | | | | | Stoney Creek and Black Butte Lake F/T | Stoney Creek and Black Butte Lake F/T |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| Stoney Creek and Black Butte Lake F/T | General Meeting | | | | | |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| | Diablo Diggins Articles Due | | | | | |
| 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 Balham Drive next to Clayton Valley Bowl.)

Visitors are welcome! Bring a friend!