



Vol. 65, No. 5

# Diablo Diggins

## Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society

Since 1950

**"We Dig Rocks"**

This newsletter is available by email - contact the editor



Concord, CA

May 2017



### May 2017 Presidents' Message



If April showers bring May flowers, personally I am hoping for Poppy Jasper, or maybe some Flower Garden Agate from Texas. The gem show and field trip season is in full swing this month. North Bay Field Trips held their biannual meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup> and announced some really interesting future field trips. Check Chuck's column for more information. I know that the Reno Club is hosting several trips in the next few months that we have been invited to join. Be sure to get the field trip leader's contact information from Chuck because letting the Reno Field Trip Chairman know in advance to expect your is one of the conditions. Speaking of the Reno Gem and Mineral Society, their annual Show, "Jackpot of Gems" has a change of timing. It moved from Mothers Day Weekend to Cinco

De Mayo weekend, May 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. This is a really great show with lots of displays. Of course it is one of my favorites because I am a club member there also.

The annual CFMS field trip is coming up at the end of May after the Billings, Montana Show, May 19<sup>th</sup> through 21<sup>st</sup>. As I understand it, they will be looking for Eden Valley Wood and possible other items. I hope to see it in the CFMS Newsletter and there will be more information by our May meeting. I always enjoy Doug True's field trips!

It is never too soon to become a volunteer for our November show! Everyone is needed and there are plenty of small jobs that won't take up your whole weekend. Build Hamburgers, Cut Cakes, Greet Guests, Help with the Raffle, Skirt Tables, be a Demonstrator (I need some additional demonstrators this year). Do you have a gift for Community outreach and awareness? Let them now we are here. Post signs the week before. Post flyers a few weeks before. Have you observed something in the past that no one was doing and you think should be done? The possibilities are wide open and you will be helping to support your club! Chairperson, Mary Hicks will be putting out lists of the positions that need to be filled. I will be putting up a bulleting board lat meetings so you can sign up. Meanwhile, if you are interested in volunteering please give your contact information to any board member.

**Next General Meeting - Early Reminder  
Monday May 8, 2017**

**MAY PROGRAM  
CATLINITE (PIPESTONE)**

#### Show Dates and Times

Apr. 30<sup>th</sup> (for May), June 4<sup>th</sup>, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, Aug. 6<sup>th</sup>, Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>, Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>

3pm - Mary Hicks' Home - 2418 Larkin Ct., Antioch

Handicap Accessible - Plenty of Parking - Let's make a great 2017 Rockhound Show. Thank you, Mary Hicks.

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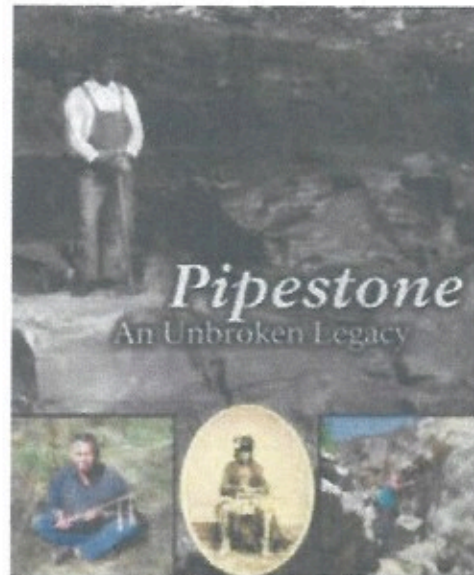
CCM&GS Program for May 8, 2017

## **Pipes of Peace Much More than Red Clay**

Catlinite is a rare and unique form of red clay. Also called Pipestone, Catlinite has been used by native Americans for political and religious purposes for hundreds of years. Made into pipes, the term "peace pipe" came into being as a result of whites encountering them at treaty signings. Minnesota is historically the origin of the peace pipes. American Indians believe that when a prayer is given with the smoking of the pipe, those prayers are carried to the Great Spirit on the smoke.

Mary Hicks is our presenter – continuing a personal and family history about the pipes. She will also showcase a video and bring examples of Catlinite (Pipe stone), peace pipes, and the overlaying quartzite from the Minnesota area.

Pictured: 1833  
watercolor by  
Charles Bodmer,  
National Park  
Service video,



Dennis Freiburger  
Program Chairman

### **Board Meeting**

**Sunday, April 30, 2017 5:30pm at Mary Hicks' Home**

Articles for June *Diablo Diggins*

Due Date, May 19, 2017

[OHB@Astound.net](mailto:OHB@Astound.net)

**Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society  
Monthly Board of Director's  
Meeting Agenda  
April 2, 2017 at 5:30 pm to 6:50 pm  
(please 2 hour limit)  
2418 Larkin Court, Antioch, CA  
94531**

Call to Order:

Roll Call: **Kelly Plumb, Chuck Olson, Dennis Freiburger, Mary Hanjes, Dick Pankey, Mary Hicks, Dave Kleesattel, Mary Jernigan, Paul Black, Bonnie Eichler, Harry Nichandros, Debbie Blevins, Cheryl Morgan, Naomi Morgan.**

**Reading and Approval of the Minutes** of the March Business Meeting: Accepted with corrections of the spelling of Chuck's last name. Moved by Dick Pankey, seconded by Chuck Olson, all ayes.

**Presentation and Approval of Bills:** Submit invoices for reimbursement (BOD approval needed if not included in the budget). None Presented.

**Communications:** Secretary (Mary Hicks) Mail was: AFMS news and hardcopy of BA bank statement. Website Correspondence (Harry) No report received for Website.

**Unfinished Business:** Show Update 2017-Continues. Mary reported vendors being contacted, some contracts mailed, some contracts returned with payment. Checks will be presented to the Treasurer at the General meeting. 12 tables not under proposed contract at this time. Proposed Vendors-Show Chair requested the addition of another dealer to the approved dealer list. Mary recommended, seconded by Chuck, all ayes.

Show Committee Meetings will continue on the same days as the BOD meetings.

**New Business: Revised meeting dates for 2017:** Next BOD meeting dates are April 30 (for the May BOD), no BOD meeting in June, BOD meetings on July 2, August 6, September 10, October 1, Nov. 3,4,5 Show, no BOD meeting in November, BOD meeting on December 3. The Show meetings will be before the BOD meetings and other dates as announced. Show meetings also being on June 4 and September 10. The President will be absent from the General meeting in June.

**President** will ask for the formation of the nominating committee at the general meeting and in her next president message. **President** will contact Therese Clark about the access to the club's storage unit and find out about Johanna Fenton working with Harry on the website. **Federation Director** Dick Pankey asked about the triangles and bars, Rockhound of the Year, New Editor award, All American Book, Scholarship Honoree for CFMS OR AFMS. President needs a replacement triangle. Discussion of posting information at the meetings and encouraging people to Take A Picture with their smart phones rather than having lots of paper notices to hand out. A motion was made by Mary Hanjes and seconded by Mary Jernigan, all ayes.

**Reports of Committees: Program**(Dennis) not present but the April program is on petrified wood, see newsletter. The need to develop good practice of always leaving the general meeting room clean and neat - "Leave No Trace" as is also practiced in field trips.

**Field Trips** Chuck Olson the North Bay Field Trip group is gathering this Saturday as previously announced and in newsletter. Lots of field trips are being announced at this time of year. He went to an Antioch Lapidary Club field trip for wonderstone in Nevada. **Treasurer** Mary Hanjes reported account balances., **Federation** Dick Pankey reported the CFMS Ventura show, see newsletter. He will be taking any canceled stamps members have given him. He mentioned open positions still as **Hospitality** and **Publicity**. **Property** Dave Kleesattel reported he will be inspecting the club's trailer this coming Saturday. He also has some equipment including a new sphere machine and slabs to bring to meetings and material for the show's silent auction. **Membership** Mary Jernigan will be sending out the new club rooster.

No other reports provided.

General: April 10th

Show: April 30<sup>th</sup> @ 3 pm

BOD: April 30<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30 pm

General: May 8<sup>th</sup>

Adjourned: CCMGS.CCMGSBODApril, 2, 2017

## Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society General Meeting April 10, 2017

Meeting at Centre Concord, Clayton Road, Concord, CA. Meeting called to order by President Kelly Plumb at about 7:30 pm. Pledge of Allegiance was followed by badge fine collection by Joanne Caskey. Betty Pankey announced birthdays and anniversaries. Birthday celebrants present were Mary Jernigan, Larry Blevins, Dick Merrill, and Joann Kilpatrick. Present celebrating their anniversaries were Alan & Joann Kilpatrick and Richard & Betty Pankey. No guests were present. Show Chair Mary Hicks announced the first deposit of checks received with signed contracts from dealers. She asked to have members let her know about the yard signs they may have as she is working on ordering new ones. The purchase can not be done without knowing how many signs are needed. Dick Pankey reported he has 4 signs. Mary gave Kelly a cat bead bracelet in recognition of Kelly's good work helping rescue both cats and dogs. Librarian Paul Black is covering for Display Chair Cheryl Morgan as the Morgan Territory Road is still not repaired. Cheryl would have to come to the meetings via Pleasanton area. Thank you Paul for being a helpful club member. Paul reported he had the one and only book on petrified wood from the library with him if anyone wanted to check it out. Chuck Olson reported that there was a North Bay Field Trip association meeting and that he had also gone on Antioch Lapidary Club's field trip to Fallon Nevada for wonderstone. He said there is an extensive trip being planned by the San Francisco Club to go to Nevada and Utah for garnets, trilobite fee dig, Dugway geodes, and topaz crystals. This trip is June 10-17 and is open to anyone who is a CFMS Club member (that is us). Also, there is going to be a club trip to Middletown north of Calistoga for jasper and quartz. The material is in the St. Helena Creek bed behind a deli where the group can take a lunch break. Information will be in the newsletter. Mary Jernigan had updated club rosters. Kelly called for volunteers to form this years nominating committee. See Kelly or another board member to help out on this important work. Last years club scholarship winner, Brenda Flowers, spoke to the group about Mt. Diablo Adult Education Jewelry class. She had a very nice display panel and examples of her work on the back table. It was great to see the importance of the scholarship program demonstrated. Dave Kleesattel had a almost new sphere making machine for sale with the proceeds going to the club. There were some preforms for sale too. The program started at 7:50 pm. The talk was as noted in the newsletter about petrified wood. The speaker, Stan Bogosain, gave an interesting talk about the Miocene age petrified wood from Eastern Washington state. He became serious about petrified wood as an adult. He took a lapidary class at a local junior college. Stan had examples on the front table of petrified wood and fossil plant imprints. He reminded the audience that you must be cautious about where you collect as some areas are off limits. To our members, let Dennis Freiburger know if you are willing to do a program as he has some openings. The attendees were reminded to pick up after themselves and to Leave No Trace in the meeting room. The refreshments and snacks donated by club members and organized by Vikki Hotopp were enjoyed after the meeting.

### **Show Meeting Dates and Time**

**April 30<sup>th</sup> (for May), June 4<sup>th</sup>, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, August 6<sup>th</sup>, September 10<sup>th</sup>,  
October 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**Show meetings always start at 3 pm, at Mary Hicks' home, 2418  
Larkin Ct., Antioch. There is lots of parking, handicap accessible.  
Hope to see as many club members who can come and learn about  
the makings of a great 2017 Rockhound Show.**

## 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** – No entry this month

**Pro Cabs** – No entry this month

**Shape of the Month – Oval** - Two entries

A – Barrie Bieler – Andesite in Quartzite

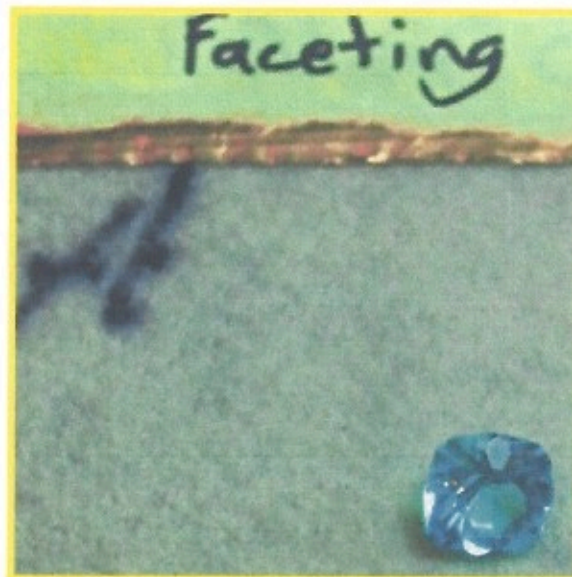
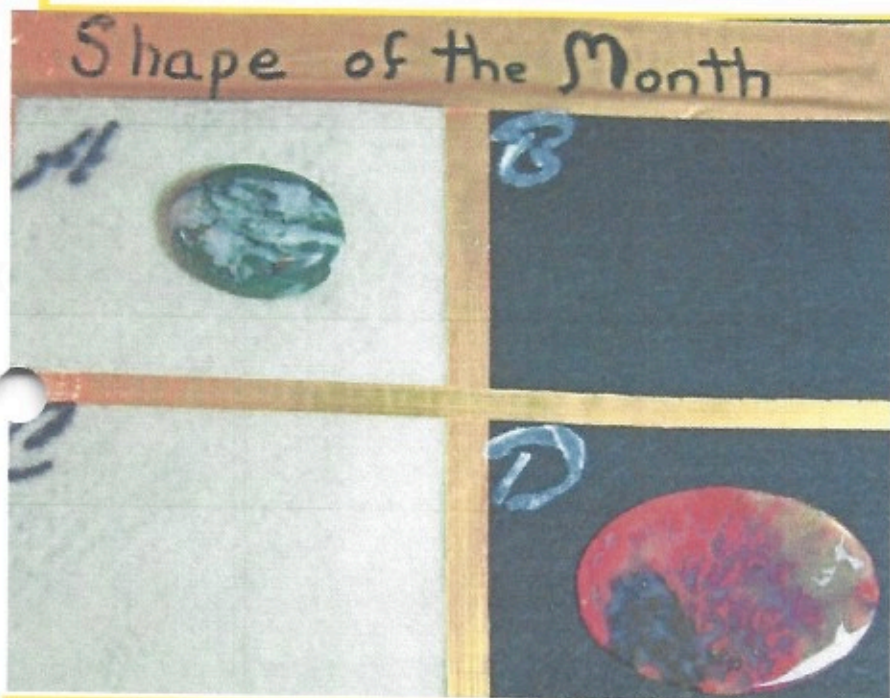
**D – Lyle Roessler – Texas Plume Agate (winner)**

**Faceted Gems** – One entry

A – Terry Caskey – **Blue Topaz (undisputed)**

Mary Hanjes challenged club members to identify polished slabs for her class, and pres. Kelly Plumb shared a variety of petrified woods to complement the educational program.

See Below:



### 2017 Shape of the Month Cabs

January – Irregular

February - Heart

March - Round

April - Oval

May - Pear (Teardrop)

June – Rectangles & Squares

July - Freeform

August - Triangle

September - Auction Night (no displays)

October – Marquis (Cat's eye)

November - Oval

December - No competition (Holiday party)

Display Report by Paul Black, Photos by Terry Caskey

# Recognition and Membership

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*By Dick Pankey, Federation Director*

The CFMS and AFMS have a number of programs that recognize individuals, members, and societies. Every year CFMS, and by that I mean the societies and their members, have several opportunities to recognize, thank and honor one of their members or a non-member who makes a contribution to our hobby and goals. There is the Rockhound of the Year Award, CFMS Scholarship Honoree, AFMS Scholarship Honoree, and Golden Bear Award for service to the Federation, Bulletin and author competition, and Website competition; I am sure I am missing some others. Unfortunately CFMS struggles every year to get nominations for these awards. It is so easy to make a nomination: select a deserving person or couple to be honored, write a letter of nomination with the reasons they are deserving of the award and submit it our president for action by our board of directors. After approval by the board the letter of nomination is mailed to the appropriate CFMS committee. We have many deserving members. It is that easy and will make someone very proud and honored to be thought of as deserving by our society. Saying "thank you for your service" is so easy and it doesn't cost the society anything and the rewards are great for everyone.

Every year each society of the CFMS can select one adult and one junior member as their "Rockhound of the Year". The criteria for this award are for current and/or past service to the CCM&GS. A letter of nomination is sent to the Chairman of the Rockhound of the Year committee that is published in the CFMS Newsletter. This letter is then sent to the AFMS newsletter for publication. The selected members get a certificate from the CFMS and a Rockhound of the Year pin to wear. Rockhound of the Year is not a competition but is a recognition and thank you to one of our members. CCM&GS has been participating in this program for many years.

The CFMS awards undergraduate scholarships each year for \$2000. Many years ago the CFMS established a Scholarship Endowment Fund with contributions from individual members and societies. Only the earnings from this fund can be used for scholarship awards. Awarding a scholarship is a 2 step process. First a society nominates a person that they wish to recognize for outstanding service to the educational pursuits of the society. If selected by the CFMS this Scholarship Honoree selects a college or university in California or Nevada and participates with that school to select a qualified student majoring in Geology, Earth Sciences or Jewelry Arts. CCM&GS has only nominated 1 of our members as a Scholarship Honoree. Dr. Walt Carr was our Scholarship Honoree in the early 2000's. In years past the CFMS has awarded as many as 5 scholarships in a year, but in the last 10 years only 1 or 2 scholarships have been awarded due to the lack of Scholarship Honoree nominations from a society. No honoree, no scholarship award. The money stays in the Scholarship Fund and a deserving student does not get any money.

The All American Club competition is recognition for our whole society. It is so easy to do, just collect articles, stories, letters, pictures, etc. and make a scrapbook. In reality this is a competition of "Brag Books." It records and documents the activities and accomplishments of our society for the year. Our club historian is collecting much of the needed documentation already. The best time to start this project is at the beginning of the year by getting the forms and the rules from the All American Club Chairman. Plan out the information to be collected and assign photographers and reporters. Collect and file this information throughout the year. Prepare our book in December and January then submit it by the end of February. It is that easy!

A special committee evaluates and scores each book against the criteria outlined in the forms, not against each other. Certificates are awarded based on the score: 70 to 79 points, Bronze Award, 80 to 89 points, Silver Award and 90 to 100 points, Gold Award. After the CFMS judging the books are sent to AFMS for judging. AFMS awards certificates and medallions based on the same scoring system.

*Recognition and Membership Continued:*

For some reason very few clubs participate in the All American Club competition. A couple of clubs enter regularly every year or two. These clubs have a great record of their club's activities and accomplishments. These books are a great membership tool. When a guest or prospective member asks, "what does CCM&GS do?" your All American Club "brag book" has the answers. We have participated in the past and already have the resource. Don't hide it away in the library or someone's bookshelf. Bring it to all of your meetings to share with the members and guests. Now is the time to start working on our All American Club book.

A few more words about member recognition. All the hard working dedicated members do what they do for the club, because they enjoy what they are doing not for medals and certificates. However, a thank you is probably well deserved and appreciated and it helps fight "burnout." And a nomination for one of the CFMS honors really says that the CCM&GS recognizes their contribution. This can help with member retention. People like to be part of an organization that recognizes and appreciates its members. I have the information about all the CFMS honors. We have members who deserves a **Big Thank You**, who should we recognize and honor this year?



**Mother's Day - May 14, 2017**



**Memorial Day - May 29, 2017**

## ***Rockhounds also collect stamps***

### ***Dick Pankey***

*For as long as I can remember I and the members of the Contra Costa M&GS have snipped canceled stamps to donate to Easter Seals. It is just something we did and but really didn't know much about the "why's" and "where for's" of the program. We snipped the stamps, took them to the CFMS Directors' meeting each year and passed them on to someone who took them to Easter Seals. This is all true but not complete and accurate.*

*The complete story starts with the Sacramento Philatelic Society (stamp collectors). In 1957 they held their first show and sale with the proceeds going to the Easter Seals Society. The first year they donated \$200. Donations have increased every year and for the past many years have been around \$5000 or more. CFMS involvement has a long history. It started in the late 70's or early 80's. For many years CFMS Past President Ellen Schulte accepted and took the CFMS*

*Rockhounds Also Collect Stamps, Continued... ..*

*Stamp donations to the Sacramento Philatelic Society for their sale. Debbie Bunn assumed the duties from Ellen some 15 to 20 years ago. At the Directors' Meeting people would parade up to Debbie to present the stamp donations. The stamp parade has been growing bigger each year.*

*How does the stamp sale and donation to Easter Seal work? The Sacramento Philatelic Society holds the sale each spring. The stamps are soaked off the envelope and dried. For the sale the stamps are piled onto large tables for the public to sort through and buy for \$.02 each. Sort of like sifting through dirt and sand looking for crystals. Left over stamps are sold to bulk dealers by the pound.*

*So how does this whole stamp project work for CFMS? It starts at the club member level; it is easy to do; when you get your mail each day just cut the stamps off of the envelopes and stick them in a Ziploc bag or envelope. When the bag is full give it to the Federation Director to take to the Directors' meeting. I will accept the stamp donations at the meeting and arrange for them to get to the Sacramento Philatelic Society for the next sale. The Society then donates the proceeds of the sale to the Easter Seals Society. All donations stay in California.*

*I am sure someone will ask, "How does this benefit CFMS? What do we get out of this?" I can think of several benefits: It involves society members in the work of the CFMS, it gives the Federation Director another reason to come to the Directors' meeting, and most of all it is a worthy philanthropic project for a dis-serving worthwhile charity for very little effort.*

*How big will the "stamp donation parade" be at our Directors' meeting in Ventura and will you be in the parade? Have your society start snipping stamps now and join the parade at Ventura.*

## **Show Meeting Dates and Time**

**April 30<sup>th</sup> (for May), June 4<sup>th</sup>, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, August 6<sup>th</sup>, September 10<sup>th</sup>, October 1<sup>st</sup>. Show meetings always start at 3 pm, at Mary Hicks' home, 2418 Larkin Ct., Antioch. There is lots of parking, handicap accessible. Hope to see as many club members who can come and learn about the makings of a great 2017 Rockhound Show.**

**Thank you, Mary Hicks.**



**April Speaker**  
**Petrified Wood**



**Submitted by Terry Caskey**



**Stan Bogosian (Left)**

**Stan's Petrified  
Wood (Above)**



**Barrie Bieler**  
**Cab Competition**

**Photo's Submitted by Taylor Thompson**

CCM&GS was well represented at the North Bay Field Trips meeting on 4/8/17 hosted by the Vallejo Gem & Mineral Society. Interested Rockhounds from several clubs shared field trip information and adventure stories! Lively bids on silent auction items were negotiated and everyone enjoyed a delicious potluck lunch. The next North Bay Field Trips meeting is planned for 9/23/17 location to be determined. Mark your calendars! Updates will be provided by Dick Pankey, CCM&GS Federation Director. Dick is also the President for North Bay Field Trips.

Stay Connected-  
Mary Jernigan - CCM&GS Membership

Photos submitted by Taylor Thompson  
-CCM&GS Members (left to right) Dick & Betty Pankey, Kelly Plumb, Greg DeFabio, Mary Jernigan, Chuck Olson, Taylor Thompson. (Dennis Freiburger not pictured)



NBFT Meeting of 4/8/17 Hosted by Vallejo Gem & Mineral Society Photos Continued on Next Page .....

**NBFT Meeting of 4/8/17 hosted by Vallejo Gem & Mineral Society Photos Continued**



Silent Auction (Above)



DeeDeeite discovered by Dee Dee Magri (Above)



Turritella Fossilized Snails (Above)



Geodes (Left)

Photos submitted by Taylor Thompson

## Rockhounding With Sally!



Hi Folks,

Well it's been a busy month.

We missed the first day of the Antioch Lapidary Club's Fallon, Nv. Field Trip, in mid March but Debbie & Larry Blevins and I made it. We

were all really happy with the attention Field Trip leader Dave Tyre put into seeing that we spent the day, at just the right site, for collecting some spectacular Agate.

Sally and I met up with them the next day at Wonder Stone Mountain. Where we all loaded up on tumbling material. And we even got away with a couple of bread loaf size, Garden Rocks, that by themselves, are just to beautifully unique, to cut into slabs, ( But that's just me. And Sally doesn't care, as long as there are ants around for her to snap at).

The following day, Debbie, Larry and I went exploring south of Fernley, hoping to find some new Petrified Wood and Jasper sites. But we got skunked and had to console each other that the big black chunks of Volcanic Rock we found, were among the the biggest and blackest we, (any of us), had ever seen.

And I'd like to say to all of the guide books and old maps out there, I'm sure there are tons of nice Jasper, on the west shore of the Lohontan Reservoir. It must just be a matter of sifting through the miles of sand, to get to it!

The North Bay Field Trips meeting earlier this month, had a great turnout. Thanks in large part to the efforts of, ( President ), Dick and, ( Secretary / Treasurer ), Betty Pankey, and our hosts, the Vallejo Gem & Mineral Society.

With participation increasing at each meeting, the Potluck lunches and Silent Auctions just get better every time we meet.

So mark September 25, on your calendars, for the next gathering.

With the spring Rockhounding Season upon us, it's getting busier.

So don't miss our Club's May 20th Field Trip to Middletown, Ca. Where all sorts of interesting rocks have been washing out, (See the announcement in

this Newsletter and on the back table at our General Meeting.).

Another Field Trip to shoot for, is The San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society's June trip to the Thomas Mt. Range in Utah. If you haven't broken down on the side of I-50, (The loneliest hi-way in the country), you might be in for an adventure. Just be sure to have a Rockhound sticker on the back of your vehicle, so we know you're one of us. Either way, I guarantee someone will stop to help. They always have for us.

We'll be watching for you.

**Sunday April, 23rd at 9am**

**Lake Havasu - London Bridge**

**Mining Supplies and Rock Shop**

**9565 C Ave. Suite K**

**Hesperia, Ca. 92345**

Though this location is three hours away, (from Hesperian, Ca.), it makes a perfect weekend trip, come on Saturday and join us for a Sunday of collecting beautiful Hematite crystals at the BBC mine and abundant Malachite and copper minerals at the Planet Mine. We will be collecting on Saturday, if you plan to be there on Saturday, we will give you a map that shows nearby locations for beautiful cutting rough, or join us at the BBC mine a day early!

For further information, contact Cyndy Mandell at [cyndymandell@me.com](mailto:cyndymandell@me.com), (760) 244-9642.

View their website at,

<http://www.miningsuppliesandrockshop.com/index.php/public-guided-field-trips/>

**May 4 - 6 at 8:00am**

**Wiley's Well Area**

**Blythe, Ca.**

**El Dorado Mineral & Gem Society**

Geode and Nodule Beds, Houser Beds South, Potato Patch, Opal Hill, Fire Opal Mine and more.

This Field Trip may be cancelled. For more information, contact Thaleia Georgiades at [thaleia@thaleia.com](mailto:thaleia@thaleia.com), (530) 957-3800.

**May Saturday 6th at 10am****The mines of the North Calico Mountains****Mining Supplies and Rock Shop****9565 C Ave. Suite K****Hesperia, Ca. 92345**

Massive Grossular Garnet, Wollastonite, Nickle Quartz, Arsenic ore, Malchite and gold mines, so much to explore, we will take you to FOUR locations with various minerals and you'll find out about the mineral deposits near Coyote Dry Lake! This is a rock shop that sponsors monthly field trips, lead by Justen Zzyzy.

For further information, contact Cyndy Mandell at [cyndymandell@me.com](mailto:cyndymandell@me.com), (760) 244-9642.

View their website at, <http://www.miningsuppliesandrockshop.com/index.php/public-guided-field-trips/>.

**May Saturday 20th at 10:00 am.****Saint Helena Creek****21308 Calistoga St. Middletown, Ca.****Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society**

This is easy collecting of Jasper, Actinolites, Landscape Banded Rhyolite, Agate and River Rocks, in the dry and wet creek bed.

Watch our May Newsletter, for photos of some samples of collection samples.

Dry camping. Grills are fine. But sorry, no open campfires.

The collection site is behind a Wonderful Delicatessen. So bring your appetite, we'll lunch together. And resume collecting in the afternoon.

For more information, contact Chuck Olson at [olson86@yahoo.com](mailto:olson86@yahoo.com), (925) 890-7116.

**June 10 - 17****Thomas Mt. Range****Delta, Utah.****San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society**

This is a once, three or four times, must do field trip.

Topaz Mt.'s Cove is on the schedule, along with the Highway Geode Beds, Trilobite Fossil Beds and Bixbyite digs are in that area too. And it looks like there'll be a side trip for Garnets, off I-50, at Ely, Nv.

For more information, contact Stan Bogosian at [sbogosian@aul.com](mailto:sbogosian@aul.com), (408) 568-2489.

**June Saturday 24th at 10:00 am.****Rancho Palos Verdes, on the shore of the Pacific Ocean****Mining Supplies and Rock Shop****9565 C Ave. Suite K****Hesperia, Ca. 92345**

Escape the heat of the high desert and come with us to the beach! We will start out at a public park that allows rock collecting and get our fill of the abundant dolomite and quartz that is to be found, then make our way to the nearby beach to find Barite crystals!

This is a rock shop that sponsors monthly field trips, lead by Justen Zzyzy.

For further information, contact Cyndy Mandell at [cyndymandell@me.com](mailto:cyndymandell@me.com), (760) 244-9642.

View their website at, <http://www.miningsuppliesandrockshop.com/index.php/public-guided-field-trips/>

The Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society is rumored to be planning a future trip to Black Butte Lake and Stony Creek, in the near future.

I'll let you know if they'll be sharing this trip with N.B.F.T. member clubs, as more information becomes available.

Last month, I spoke with Fossil For Fun Field Trip Chairman, Debbie Bunn who says, save Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends, for their sponsored Field Trips.

They don't know where yet. But she promised they'll be good!

The season is taking off. So keep an eye on here, for additional news and let me know of any field trips I'm leaving out. As long as I'm within range of a Cel. Signal, I'm here, or there, to pass on any further information I have.

Chuck Olson,

Field Trip Chairman

[olson86@yahoo.com](mailto:olson86@yahoo.com), (925) 890-7116.

**Photos by Chuck Olson**



(Above) Some Pretty Rocks from Middletown, CA  
(Right) Sally on the Look-out for ants!

**"Leave No Trace"**

**Show Meeting**

Supporting the Show IS supporting your Club. Announcing the next show meeting on April 30<sup>th</sup>, Sunday. Meeting is 3 to 5 pm at Mary Hicks' home in Antioch. Call 925.779.0698 for directions.

**Board of Director Meeting**

April 30<sup>th</sup>, Sunday 5:30 to 7:30 pm, at Mary Hicks' home in Antioch. The club's Board of Director's meeting starts after the Show Meeting, after a break to allow everyone to arrive, exit, or enjoy a snack.



**CONTRA COSTA MINERAL & GEM SOCIETY [www.ccmgs.org](http://www.ccmgs.org)**

P0 Box 842, Concord, CA 94522

General Meeting: Second Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Centre Concord, 5298 Clayton Rd, Concord,  
 (Clayton Fair Shopping Center, about 0.2 miles northwest on Clayton from Ygnacio Valley Road) Cross street  
 Balhan Drive, next to Clayton Valley Bowl, free parking

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Please do not publish this list, Editor

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**May 2017** (Cab of Month - Pear Shape Teardrop)

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
April 30	1	2	3	4	5	6
BOD & Show Meetings				Wiley Wells F/T	Wiley Wells F/T	Jackson CA & Reno Shows Wiley Wells & North Calico Mtns F/T
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Jackson & Reno Shows	General Meeting					
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Mother's Day					Articles Due	St. Helena Creek F/T
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			
Memorial Day						

**First Class**

Member of American and California Federation of Mineralogical Societies

Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society  
P.O. Box 842, Concord, Ca 94522-0842

**Diablo Diggins**  
Newsletter of the Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society  
[www.ccmgs.org](http://www.ccmgs.org)  
Editor- Debbie Blevins  
Send reports to [ohb@astound.net](mailto:ohb@astound.net)

The Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society was formed in 1950 to encourage the study of mineralogy, lapidary arts and field collection. Members meet the second Monday of each month (third Monday in June) at Centre Concord, 5298 Clayton Rd, Concord, Ca 94521 (Clayton Faire Shopping Center between Ygnacio Valley Rd and Balham Dr, next to Clayton Valley Bowl).

Visitors are welcome! Bring a friend!