



San Diego Mineral & Gem Society, Inc.
A Non-Profit Educational and Scientific Organization

THE PEGMATITE

MARCH 2017

SDMG's 83rd ANNUAL BANQUET

Saturday, March 18, 2017

Donna Beers, Chair

Honored Guests: Dona and Wayne Leicht

Program: "Gold!" by Wayne Leicht

Join us for a glittering evening

Read all the details on page 4



Native gold specimen weighing 19 grams (4.5 x 2.6 x 1.4 cm), from Eagle's Nest Mine, Placer Co., California. Courtesy: Kristalle.

Official bulletin of the San Diego Mineral and Gem Society, Inc.

Affiliations: California Federation of Mineralogical Societies
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
American Lands Access Association

Sister Club: Kingston Lapidary, Hull, England

Publication: *The Pegmatite* is published monthly (except July and August).

Submission

Deadline: 20th of the month prior to the publication issue.

Membership: Anyone with an interest in minerals, fossils, lapidary, gems, or hand-crafted jewelry may join the Society. Contact: membership@sdmg.org

Liability: The San Diego Mineral & Gem Society, Inc., is not and cannot be held responsible and liable for personal injuries, for damage or loss of property at any meetings, field trips, classes, shows, or any event sponsored or recommended herein.

Copyright: © 2017 San Diego Mineral and Gem Society, Inc. Non-commercial reprint permission given, unless otherwise noted, provided proper credit is given.

Street Address: 1770 Village Place
San Diego, CA 92101-1651

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 710783
(membership apps) Santee, CA 92072
attn: Angela Cannon

Phone: 619-239-8812

Website: www.sdmg.org

Editor: Lisbet Thoresen, editor@sdmg.org

Layout, Advertising: info@sdmg.org

General Information: admin@sdmg.org

Change of Address: membership@sdmg.org

Exchange bulletins: Send to the Society mailing address

The mission of the San Diego Mineral and Gem Society, Inc., is to disseminate knowledge of mineralogy and earth sciences; to encourage the study of these subjects; to conduct classes in mineralogy and lapidary arts; to conduct field trips for the collection and study of specimens; to encourage interest in mineralogy and lapidary arts among young people; and to procure and maintain a collection related to the earth sciences and lapidary arts.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

March 2017

by Shirley Leeson

sdmgpresident@sdmg.org

THE MONTH OF MARCH is very special for SDMG members. It's our birthday – our organization is 83 years old. That's a real accomplishment thanks to many dedicated people over those 83 years. We celebrate with a very special banquet this year, back to the days of evening banquets where we dress up. We have a very special program. Our Honorary Members **Dona** and **Wayne Leicht** will be regaling us with their **famous gold presentation**. (Read a little about their background and Kristalle, their Laguna Beach showroom and gallery of natural history specimens, on page 5.)

We will be honoring our Past Presidents, Scholarship recipients, and other special people.

Please note that there is a problem associated with our Annual Banquet meeting place. **The Soledad Club**, (5050 Soledad Rd, Pacific Beach) is owned by **San Diego City Park and Recreation Department**, and no liquor can be sold on-site. However, **YOU MAY BRING YOUR OWN BOTTLE OF YOUR FAVORITE WINE** (be sure to put your name on it and give it to the bartender, who will serve all alcoholic beverages). We'll work out the logistics at the Banquet. There's still time to get a ticket – see detailed Banquet information on page 4. I'm urging all **SDMG** to attend this very important event and celebrate with us.

I love to read...

I've enjoyed reading since I was a little girl. I have books all over my house, and I reread many of them. I bring this up because **SDMG** has a really wonderful library with many books donated by **SDMG** members and their families. Recently, **Andy Anderson** has been curating our collection. He's worked hard to create a program on our computer that has all the books listed, and we thank him for this tremendous job.

Currently, the Library hours are 4pm – 6pm on Wednesdays. And that brings me to another problem. This one can be solved by our members. **Andy** is looking for helpers to staff the library during the week or weekends for a few hours or in the evenings when there are activities in the building. Currently, books are not available to check out, but you may read them in the library room. Sorry, we've had some bad experiences in the past with overdue books, may I say years in some cases, so books do not leave the building.

Please contact **Andy** at: aanderson@sdmg.org and offer a few hours of your time. You may find a book or two that you really need to read while you are there.

Annual Barbeque

This year our **Annual Barbeque**, usually held in May, has a **NEW EARLIER DATE – SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2017**. This year, the Barbeque will also feature a new Menu. We'll have on offer scrumptious beef, as usual, but also chicken (instead of ham). Prices remain the same, and the location is the same, also. See page 6 for details.

continued on pg 3...

continued from page 2

Lois Lukasky, Junior Division Chair

We learned at the Board Meeting that our intrepid Junior Division Chair **Lois Lukasky** has had a serious eye problem that has kept her from attending the Saturday **Junior Classes**. We sincerely thank **Paul Williams** for stepping in and keeping things going. At this time, we feel that the club must ask someone to come forward and take over the **Junior Program**. If there is an alumni **Junior** or a Parent familiar with the program or a **SDMG** member who has a calling for helping our **Juniors**, please step forward.

Lapidary Equipment & Room Repairs

One more item: the Board voted to make sure our lapidary equipment and repairs to any of our rooms must have first consideration. Please see the new mandated hours when the rooms and/or equipment cannot be used during the year. See closure schedule below.

School Closure Schedule 2017

Closure date	Description
Sat, April 29	BBQ shutdown, one day.
Sat, July 1 – Sun, July 9	Fourth of July shutdown, one week.
Mon, July 10 – Fri, Sept. 1	Optional Summer Class Period, two months. (Instructors must notify School Director if you plan to hold summer classes.)
Sat, Sept. 2 – Sun, Sept. 10	Labor Day shutdown, one week.
Mon, Sept. 11	Fall classes begin.
Fri, Sat & Sun, Nov. 3, 4, 5	Gem Diego Show shutdown, three days. (Everyone's help is needed with your club's show.)
Thu, Nov. 23 – Sun, Nov. 26	Thanksgiving shutdown, four days. Reopens Mon, Nov. 27.
Mon, Dec. 18, 2017 – Mon, Jan. 1, 2018	Christmas and New Year's shutdown, two weeks.
Tue, Jan. 2, 2018	Classes begin.



MINERAL DIVISION

Garry Cannon, Chairman
Jim Parrish, Treasurer
and Door Prizes

Friday, March 10, 2017
7:00pm, SDMG Bldg.

THE TOPIC WILL BE PALEONTOLOGY in San Diego County and the speaker will be **Kesler A. Randall**, collections manager of fossil vertebrates at the **San Diego Natural History Museum**. We will also have our fabulous door-prize drawing. Please bring a treat to share, the Club will provide punch, coffee, and tea.

Garry Cannon

Mineral Division Chairman mindiv@sdmg.org

SDMG GENERAL MEETING

Next meeting: Monday, April 24, 2017
SDMG Bldg.

There is no monthly meeting in March. Instead, plan on attending the **83rd Anniversary Banquet** held on Saturday, March 18th at the **Soledad Club** in San Diego. See details on pg 4.



JUNIOR DIVISION NEWS

Sponsored by
Lois Lukasky
and **Marvin Dillard**

Hello from the Juniors!

WE ARE CONTINUING WORK on new projects for the **Juniors'** display case at the **San Diego County Fair**. It opens Friday, June 2nd.

On Friday, May 12th, the **Juniors** will host the **Mineral Division Meeting**, and they will have a selling table at the **Annual Spring Barbeque**, which will be held on April 29th. In June, we will have a break before summer classes begin. The summer schedule will be posted in the May and June bulletins.

Paul Williams

Junior Div. Chair pro tem

SDMG's 83rd ANNUAL BANQUET

Saturday, March 18, 2017

Donna Beers, Chair
donna@beers.nu

Honored Guests: Dona and Wayne Leicht

Program: "Gold!" by Wayne Leicht

Join us for a glittering evening



- Where:** Soledad Club
5050 Soledad Rd, San Diego, CA 92109
- When:** Saturday, March 18, 2017
- Cost:** \$38.00/person
- Ticket Information:** See box at right
- Adjustment Hour:** 5:30 – 6:30 pm
Light refreshments & coffee. **BYOB***
- Raffle drawing:** Starts at 5:45 pm
- Dinner:** 6:30 pm
- Program:** 7:30 pm
"Gold!" by Dona and Wayne Leicht
- Entertainment & More Prizes:** 8:30 pm
Door Prizes, Raffle, live music and dancing
- Website:** <http://annualbanquet.sdmg.org>

**Tickets will be on sale
through Friday, March 10th at:**

- **The Village Silversmiths'** shop
in the SDMG Building,
11:00 am to 4:00 pm daily

**Tickets available
through Monday, March 6th
by mail from Chairperson:**

- Write a check for \$38.00 per
person payable to: **SDMG**

Send your check to:

Donna Beers
14735 Calle Diegueno
Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92091

MENU: Apps Station:

- Crudites with a "Herbalicious" Dip or Hummus
- Fruit & Cheese Display
- Pineapple-BBQ Meatballs

Dinner:

- Cali Ceasar Salad- Chopped Romaine with Garlic-Parm Croutons, Queso Cotija and Zesty Avocado-Cilantro Ceasar Dressing
- Dinner Rolls with Garlic Herb Butter
- Balsamic-Herb Roasted Zucchini (Seasonal Veggie)
- Roasted Garlic Mashed Potato
- Napa Valley White Wine/Rosemary Braised Chicken Breast
- SD Tri-tip (includes carving station)

Drinks:

- Spa water
- Peach Ice Tea & Strawberry Lemonade
- * No alcohol available on-site. Bring your own beer or wine to be served by bartender (per Soledad Club rules).

The SDMG Annual Banquet

THIS IS OUR 83RD BIRTHDAY BANQUET.

It has been a well-attended traditional gala for many years. We are bringing back some of the old time elegance and style, such as having music at the event. Even though we are keeping the old traditions alive, we are blending them with current southern California tradition of being comfortable in what your wearing. Whether you want to dress to the nines or be more casual, it is fine.

Just remember we are going to wear our gems and minerals as our old tradition would have it. Whether it be Western, sporty, evening, cocktail, or a gown and tails – whatever fits your look is good in our book. We just want you to have fun. It is our birthday party where we honor the hard work of our President, past and present.

We hope to have a display of historic pictures from our past 83 years. If you have been around for a while consider getting some old pictures to **Donna Beers** (donna@beers.nu) for display. **SDMG President Shirley Leeson** will be providing many historic photos. She has been the club president three times over the years, so she has lots of photographs. Her hard work and dedication, as well as the efforts of the other presidents is why we have such a wonderful club today. It is the spirit of volunteering that keeps us alive and working. This banquet is your chance to give back in the most fun way – dancing, singing, eating, showing off our creations, donating to the club, and honoring our past presidents.

Another tradition at the Banquet, which I consider the most fun, is the door prize giveaway. This year door prizes will feature faceted gemstones, and professionally finished jewelry pieces. Some of the other many door prizes are a dinosaur tooth, stone carved mortar and pestle, Kingman mine turquoise pendants, mini-specimens of gem quality rough tourmaline from Brazil. These are just a few of the terrific prizes among the many items purchased at Quartzsite this year. Members donating items to the door prize table is another longtime tradition. This year is no exception. We already have members giving beautiful pieces that they've made. You won't want to miss this year's offerings.

A new addition to our fun is the Amethyst

Cathedral Raffle prize. This special piece is on display in the **Village Silversmiths Shop** where you can buy Banquet tickets and a Raffle ticket for the Cathedral.

One of the sweetest traditions is giving college students scholarships, who show the promise to keep our love of Gems and minerals alive in the community for the future.

We will be presenting two scholarship awards to our bright and beautiful young winners. **Misaki Sano** is the recipient of the **William Tirk Scholarship** (Jewelry/Metalsmithing) and **Scott Knapp** is the recipient of the **Carmelita and Bern Swarts Scholarship** (Geology). Congratulations to **Misaki** and **Scott**.

As you can see this year's Banquet is going to be very special. I hope you all can arrive early at the Soledad Club to enjoy the absolutely fabulous panoramic view of the ocean to the city lights to the mountains. Sit on the comfy couches and chat with your friends, or peruse the prizes and photos. See you there on March 18th – early arrival mingle time starts at 4:30 pm.

Please email donna@beers.nu if you would like to buy tickets or need more information.



About Kristalle and the Leichts

KRISTALLE was established in Laguna Beach, California, in 1971, by **Wayne C. Leicht** and **Dona Lee Leicht**. Their aim was to provide a place for serious collectors to view, compare, and purchase high quality minerals, gems, and rare antiquarian books. The Laguna

Beach location has expanded significantly over the years and is established among the top natural history galleries in the world.

Kristalle has relationships with almost every major museum in the world and many private collectors. **Wayne** has done many television interviews, including a *60-Minutes* feature, and he has lectured frequently on mineralogy and especially gold specimens. He has authored over 50 articles, and he has been featured on several videos about gold and minerals.

In addition to minerals, the **Leichts** collect rare books specializing in mineralogy, gemology, Western Exploration, Arizona History, and the California Gold Rush. Their book collection is considered the finest private collection of its type in the United States. They also collect early California landscape paintings. The **Leichts** have a private collection of minerals with a special emphasis on specimens of crystallized gold from all over the world. Their collection of gold has been featured in many museum exhibitions, including the French Museum of Natural History, the University of Bonn Museum, the San Diego Museum of Natural History, and the Bowers Museum. Currently, their gold collection is on loan to the new Perot Museum, in Dallas, Texas.

The **Leichts** authored a chapter on famous gold localities in California in a 2008 book. **Dona** is credited for her contribution to *A California Gold Rush History*, by **Q. David Bowers**. A recent book on gold specimens features selections from the **Leicht's** personal collection and hundreds of specimens sold over the years to museums and collectors around the world.

The **Leichts** spend a great deal of the year traveling to mining localities around the world. They have been to almost every continent in search of specimens for their clients. Their annual show schedule includes exhibitions in Munich; Tokyo; St. Marie Aux Mines, France; Hong Kong; Denver; Tucson; and five other U.S. shows.

** Editor's note: this brief biography is excerpted from the long form feature which appeared in the [February 2017 issue of The Pegmatite](#).*

SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, April 29, 2017

10am to 4pm

Balboa Park

SDMG's 56th Annual Barbeque and Silent Auction

Doug Peeler, Chairman

The Annual Barbeque will be in the usual spot at Park Blvd & Presidents Way Lawn (back lawn at SW corner, next to 163 onramp.) Parking is Free.

All attendees are welcome to bring up to 15 rock-related items to sell at silent auction tables with 10% of final sale price donated to the club.

A delicious lunch will be catered by The Barbecue Pit

Menu includes sliced beef and chicken (instead of the usual ham!), cole slaw, beans, potato salad and dinner roll, followed by cookies and brownies.

Meal Ticket Info

- **Cost:** \$15.00 adults, \$7.50 kids 12 & under
Water and soda available for purchase separately for \$1 each.
- **When:** Meal tickets go on sale March 18 and must be purchased in advance.
- **Where:** Buy tickets at the **SDMG Banquet** (March 18), monthly meetings, the **Village Silversmiths**, some class instructors
OR send a check payable to: **SDMG** in a stamped, self-addressed envelope:

Anne Schafer

8473 Hydra Lane, San Diego, CA 92126-1854

Attendees are welcome to bring their own lunch.

GREAT DOOR PRIZES

and more SELLERS TABLES than ever !!

Must bring your own table to sell items, with a \$15 donation to the club.

UGLY ROCK CONTEST!

This is a serious competition: bring an embellished (decorated to look like something), Mimic (already looks like something) or just plain ugly rock!

Note: The Park may be very busy on Saturday, April 29, so plan to arrive early – carpool, bike in, or get dropped off / picked up afterward.

KRISTALLE

Est. 1971

Wayne and Dona Leicht

WE ARE CASH BUYERS FOR SINGLE SPECIMENS AND ENTIRE COLLECTIONS!

875 North Pacific Coast Highway - Laguna Beach, CA 92651

949.494.5155 - fax: 949.494.0402

e-mail: info@kristalle.com



Sri Lanka sapphires. Courtesy of Pala International, photo: R. Weldon.

14th ANNUAL SINKANKAS SYMPOSIUM SAPPHIRE – Sat, April 8, 2017

Venue: GIA World Headquarters | The Robert Mouwad Campus
5345 Armada Drive, Carlsbad, CA 92008

Sponsors: Gemological Society of San Diego and GIA

Time: Badging, refreshments, 7:30–9:00am.
Symposium begins at 9:00am sharp.

Registration: \$95.00 per person.

Deadline: Sunday, April 2, 2017 or until tickets sell out. No on-site registration (Valid gov picture ID required; all attendee names must be on the list at the gate – no reservations under one name).

Register: Open to ALL. Online only at:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sinkankas-symposium-tickets-30657995891>
(short url: <https://goo.gl/pZ2OyC>)

Website: www.sinkankassymposium.net

***Speakers:** Edward Boehm
Dr. John Emmett
Dr. George Harlow
Alan Hart
Richard Hughes
Carl Larson
Glenn Lehrer
Shane McClure
Nathan Renfro
Dr. George Rossman
Dr. William “Skip” Simmons
Lisbet Thoresen

* *Speakers and program subject to change without notice.*



SAN DIEGO COUNTY FAIR GEMS, MINERALS & JEWELRY DEPT.

Yee-haw! We’re looking forward to another exceptional year at the **2017 Fair**, with more of your beautiful exhibits. Mount up, and get ready to enter your best.

Bring on your Lead Family minerals, a sure-fire winner, in gorgeous colors, to celebrate the Mineral of the Year.

Let’s have a regular herd of Trilobites, Fossil of the Year. Everybody loves trilobites!

Fair Theme Jewelry: You betcha, there will still be a Bola Tie class, but the second Fair Theme Jewelry class has been retitled, “Where the West is Fun”. You can still take aim on the legendary wild, wild west.

Want to know *where* you should be *when*, and *what* you should be doing? Read on!

THE SCHEDULE:

Entry brochures: [Download PDF](#) (sdfair.com)

Online entry: sdiego.fairmanager.com

Entry deadline: Fri, April 28, at 11:59 pm

Entry delivery: Sat & Sun, May 27-28,
9 am to 6 pm

First day of Fair: Fri, June 2, 4 to 11 pm

Exhibitor

Appreciation: Wed, June 7, 6 to 9 pm

Last day of Fair: Tue, July 4.

Exhibit pickup: Thu, July 6, 9 am to 8 pm

Got questions? We have answers! Contact:
Anne Schafer, Gems & Mineral Coordinator
Rich Yarbrough, Assistant Coordinator
sdfair@sdmg.org

***BLM Field Tour – Amboy Crater, Marble Mts, Pisgah Crater
DAC meeting, Barstow
February 24 and 25, 2017***

TO COMPLEMENT the **Desert District Advisory Council's (DAC)** meeting agenda items scheduled for discussion on Saturday, February 25th the **BLM** planned an all day field tour on the preceding Friday. Three famous fossil sites located in the **Mojave Trails National Monument (MTNM)** were featured destinations of the tour. With only a day and half notice (the itinerary was not made available until February 23rd), few members of the public were able to make it to the field tour. About 17 members of the public showed up to the **DAC** meeting held the next day in Barstow – they were evenly divided proponents of the OHV and Rockhound communities, plus one self-designated “desert rat” from Owens Valley.

It was too late to prepare a full report of the Saturday business meeting for the March bulletin, but **Lisbet Thoresen's** detailed report will appear in next month's *Pegmatite*. It was an important meeting for Rockhounds, with a full day's agenda directly applicable to Rockhounding interests. The day was punctuated with more than a few impassioned comments made by members of the public and the Council.

Highlights of the field tour are reproduced below courtesy of **BLM California** – we all missed a spectacular day at these famous fossil localities.[1]

BLM Field Tour

Last weekend, the California Desert District Advisory Council (DAC) toured portions of the Mojave Trails National Monument to learn about the opportunities and challenges of developing a management plan for the 1.6 million acre area. The tour started at Amboy Crater, where the DAC unveiled the new sign for the unique landscape feature.

The second stop on the tour was the Marble Mountains, which is popular for collecting Trilobites. Visitors have been coming to this area for more than a century to rockhound and collect invertebrate fossils. At the stop, BLM Regional Paleontologist Phil Gensler discussed BLM's casual collection policy and the proposed Paleontological Resource Protection Act regulations.

The last stop on the tour was the Pisgah lava flow, the highest concentration of caves in southern California. There are invertebrates that dwell in the caves are yet to be described in scientific literature. This area has also been used as a testing ground for NASA - National Aeronautics and Space Administration rovers. At this stop, our Barstow Biologist Chris Otahal discussed scientific opportunities in the National Monument that stretch from below ground to outer space.



Left to right: Mike Ahrens, Needles Field Office Manager; Kyle Sullivan, Mojave Trails National Monument Manager; Randy Banis, Desert Advisory Council Chairman and Beth Ransel, California Desert District Manager, unveil the new Amboy Crater Natural National Landmark sign during a recent field trip through the Mojave Trails National Monument. Photo: Steve Razo, BLM.

1.) The original article was posted online on March 3, 2017 at: <https://www.facebook.com/blmcalifornia/posts/1467699856588017>, or short url: <https://goo.gl/BuUXIM>.

Rockhound Soapbox

John Martin

AFMS Conservation and Legislation Committee

afmsclc@antelecom.net

THE 2017 AFMS CONVENTION and show is being held in Ventura, California in June. An issue has been raised and should be brought to the attention of Exhibitors and Dealers planning on attending the event. That issue is IVORY. While Ivory has been banned for many years by the **American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS)** for display in competitive exhibits, Ivory has been seen at several shows this last year.

In some states local Ivory laws exclude the ownership and sale of fossil and extinct Ivory. In 2015, the state of California passed an Ivory Law (Assembly Bill No. 96) that became effective in July 2016. The California Ivory Law bans all Ivory, including Fossil and Extinct Ivory. If Ivory is displayed in California and observed by State officials and/or a **Fish and Wildlife** game warden it (most probably) may be confiscated and citations written to the owner. So, if you own Ivory, keep it in your homes and out of display in public, and please do not bring it to California for the **2017 CFMS/AFMS Convention and Show**.

More information on state and federal Ivory laws may be found on the American Lands Access Association (ALAA) Web site at: www.amlands.org/478667.html

See you at the June **AFMS Convention and Show** in Ventura, California.

CFMS Calendar Spring & Summer 2017

www.cfmsinc.org

Closure date	Description
March 10	Deadline for entering ALL AMERICAN CLUB CONTEST. See Contests Page for Entry Forms & Instructions >>
March 26 – April 1	Camp ZZYZX - Registration due by March 1, 2017. Registration Form >>
April 30	Deadline to Register for AFMS JUDGES TRAINING SEMINAR, which will be held June 6 & 7 in Ventura. Registration Form >>
June 9–11	CFMS-AFMS Show & Convention, hosted by Ventura County Gem & Mineral Society, Ventura County Fairgrounds, Ventura, CA. Details and registration forms: 2017CFMS-AFMSShow.com
August 27 – September 9	Camp Paradise.

Stay current
with [News.bytes](#)

The BLM California newsletter



Turner in Thailand

January 18 2016

THIS ARTICLE IS THE EIGHTH AND LAST INSTALLMENT of Denny's travels and training at Wat Sri Suphan, in Chiang Mai, Thailand. This post completes the cycle. The series began with his New Year's day post in 2016, then started from the beginning in chronological date sequence beginning with his report sent on November 3rd, 2015. After the Christmastime post, we now skip to the post filed one week before completing his most excellent adventure and preparing to return home to California.

.....

WELL, WE ARE STARTING to consider what and how to pack up and figure out what gets accompanied home, shipped, or jettisoned. Some stuff is going to go by sea and will take two-plus months to get home. That's okay, because the alternative would be not to bring it home at all.

In this installment I wanted to share some photos of my three-day tool making lessons with the teacher of my teacher here. He has one of those names in Thai that I find impossible to pronounce, and therefore, impossible to remember. The gentleman used to work with Wat Sri Suphan, where I took my first five weeks of embossing classes. He was one of the masters. He was also the teacher of many of the folks who work there now and are themselves now teachers, including my teacher, Tu. Got that? Some photos in his shop indicated he'd worked on some of the chasing and repousse of the "Silver Temple" ordination hall that is graced with the fabulous work that brought me here in the first place. However, somewhere along the way he had a falling out with the head monk at the wat (about payments for his work, if I understand correctly), and he no longer likes to have any dealings with the wat, even though his workshop is about 100 feet from the wat's back wall. (It's a small community.) So, these days, he and his protégés take commissions from all over Thailand and beyond. It's very much like the



Denny at the Silver Temple soon after he arrived in Chiang Mai in November, 2015.

old apprentice system of the Renaissance, with masters passing the craft to the next generation through on-the-job training and apprenticeships. My teacher, Tu, who is his former student, has his ear. He visited the wat several weeks ago and saw my dragon in progress. Apparently, he was impressed enough to agree to teach me more about tool making, in particular, the curved liners that I struggle to make (or should I say, struggle to make well). It took some scheduling time, but he managed to squeeze in some time at the end of a large order of copper embossed panels he is making for... well, I'm not sure, but one of



The "presidential seal."

the panels looks like the official seal of the president of – someplace. In any case, after several visits to ask, essentially, "Now?," I was finally allowed to come and visit.

The master is a little wizened man, who, once he had time for me, proved to be very generous with his time and talents. He spoke only a little English and I could speak no Thai. Some of his team helped out with communication. And, well, tool talk is often tool talk in any language. It was fun. On the third day, his wife asked me how old I was, and I told her, "I am 67." Then the master spoke up loudly from across the room and said, "And I am 62!" Everyone laughed. I think he got a kick out of having an older student to teach and appreciated that even at the advanced age of 67 it was still a good thing to always be learning and showing respect to a master (which I did).

During a visit on another day he tried to teach me about tempering steel. The tool is heated just below the tip with a torch. You watch the colors of the oxides flow up to the tip, which indicate the change of temperature. I knew this already and indicated my knowledge of how the color would change by moving my finger along the tool and saying "whooooop" with a rising inflection to indicate the rising oxides. Everybody thought this was incredibly funny, and we spent the next ten minutes with them imitating and me repeating my "whooooop" sound, laughing all the while. We ALL knew how tempering worked after that. It was fun! And language was no barrier.

My teacher had me cut metal rods with a chop saw, showed me how to anneal them, then shape them using some clever new tricks. It also required some plain old sweat equity using tiny files, and then hardening and tempering the tools to finish them. Over three days I managed to complete 14 new tools, including 10 new curved liners that ranged in size from medium to itsy-bitsy, plus several texturing tools, and the tool needed to make the texturing tools. Unfortunately, because I was doing the work I had no time to take photos of my progress. However, I do have a number of shots of the contract work that his team was finishing up. The contract appears to involve his team making a dozen or so embossed copper panels that ranged from 12 x 36 inches to one that is about 4 x 10 feet. Plus that "presidential seal" thing, which is about 3 feet in diameter.



Denny's esteemed teacher of teachers whose name he cannot pronounce.

Copper needs cleaning of oxides after being hit with a torch. Applying the torch is how they melt out the tar from the back of the piece after the chasing is done. The oxides (and residual tar) form a black crust on both sides of the piece. These are big panels and they require big tubs to soak in acid to get the oxides



Above. Pickling a copper panel in an acid bath to dissolve the black tar from both sides.

Right. A finished panel gleams in the sunlight.

Bottom right. Two students of the master teacher are close to finishing one of the large copper panels.



off. They will put one end of a large 8-foot long panel in one tub, bend it over a higher bench and put the other end in a second tub. Then they sponge cold acid onto the middle and let it run down both sides back into the tubs. Some of the smaller (3-foot) pieces can soak in a tub by themselves. It takes hours to clean the copper. Truly, this is not the crock pot-sized pickle pot at San Diego Mineral and Gem Society, which is what I'm familiar with using.

In Chiang Mai, the result from sitting in the hot sun is a blindingly shiny copper surface. The work is just stunning. Most of it is the low-profile (1/4 inch raised surfaces) and not the amazingly high profile sheets that knock my socks off, but, even so, the detail is really amazing.

I felt privileged to be invited to have a look at a master metal worker's workshop and have the opportunity to watch his team do their work. And I learned some nifty tricks and tips about tool-making that I'll be bringing home with me to San Diego, along with some handy new tools.





Above. Detail of a finished copper panel.

Top left. Handmade tools.



Left. A set of narrow copper panels glisten in the sun.

Below. Denny gets hands-on training from the master.



ON THE GO ... TO A SHOW



MARCH

3-5 NEWARK, CA

Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley's 69th Annual Jewelry, Gem and Mineral Show

Venue: Newark Pavilion

6430 Thornton Ave., Newark, CA 94560

Hours: Fri and Sat 10:00am – 6:00pm;

Sun 10:00am – 5:00pm

Admission: 3-day pass \$10.00; under 13 Free
with paying Adult. Free Parking.

Contact: info@mgscv.org

Website: www.mgscv.org

4-5 ARCADIA, CA

Monrovia Rockhounds

Annual Gem and Mineral Show

Venue: Ayers Hall, Los Angeles County

Arboretum & Botanic Gardens

301 Baldwin Ave, Arcadia, CA 91017

Hours: 9:00am – 4:30pm daily

Admission: included in Arboretum Entrance
Fee – Adults \$9.00; Seniors and Students \$6.00;
Children 5-12 \$4.00. Parking is \$5.00.

Contact: Jo Anna Ritchey

or joannaritchey@gmail.com

Web: www.moroks.com

Display Cases, geode cracking, kids' corner,
teachers' resource center, treasure wheel, raffle
Free tumbled stone for each guest.

4-5 VENTURA, CA

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society

55th Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil and Lapidary Show

Venue: Ventura County Fairgrounds, 10 W.
Harbor Blvd.

Hours: Sat 10:00am – 5:00pm;

Sun 10:00am – 4:00pm

Contact: Terry Wilson, 805-312-8467

or info@VGMS.org

Web: www.vgms.org

Exhibits of minerals, fossils & lapidary arts; on-
going demos of lapidary arts & jewelry making;
raffle & silent auctions; a "Country Store" white
elephant sale and plant sale; kids' activities. A
Southern California tradition for 55 years!

41st Annual Stoddard Wells Rock Hound "Tailgate"

Fri, Sat & Sun, March 10-12, 2017

Sponsor: Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club

Venue: Stoddard Wells Road
Victorville, CA (near I15)

Hours: 9:00am – 5:00pm daily.

Admission: Free. Public welcome.

Contact: 760 243-2330

Website: www.vvgmc.org/tailgate.html

Details: Handcrafted and faceted jewelry, slabs
and cabs, findings and equipment,
minerals and fossils and TONS of
Rough Material.

FAMILY Field Trip: Tri-Colored Marble

Saturday, March 11, 2017

Mtg Place: VVGMC Tailgate site off of Stoddard
Wells Road (see website map)

Mtg Time: 9:00am

Contact: Jim Fosse, Wagon Master at:
info@vvgmc.org

Website: www.vvgmc.org/tailgate.html

Materials: Tri-colored marble on surface and in
seams; digging and hard-rock mining
required for choice specimens.

Conditions: Desert conditions, snakes; 4WD
vehicles w/ high clearance advised.
Limited to participants age 8 or older.
See website for details and what to
bring.

11–12 SAN MARINO, CA**Pasadena Lapidary Society****2017 Pasadena Lapidary Show**

Venue: San Marino Masonic Center
3130 Huntington Drive, San Marino CA 91108

Hours: Sat 10:00am – 6:00pm;
Sun 10:00am – 5:00pm

Contact: Marcia Goetz, 626-260-7239
or joenmar1@verizon.net

Web: www.pasadenalapidarysociety.org
62nd Annual Tournament of Gems will feature exhibits, demonstrations, and dealers. There will be faceted gems, jewelry, minerals, beads, kids' games; grab bags, silent auction, free hourly door prize drawing, and raffle prizes.

MARCH–APRIL**30–2 JOSHUA TREE, CA****JT Sportsmans Club Annual Show**

Venue: Sportsmans Club
6225 Sunburst Ave, Joshua Tree, CA 92252

Hours: 8:00am – 6:00pm daily

Admission: Free.

Contact: Wayne Hamilton, 760-366-2915
or jtsportsmans@ymail.com

Website: www.jtsportsmansclub.com
Wholesale and retail show featuring fine jewelry, precious and semi-precious gemstones, millions of beads, crystals, gold & silver, minerals, and much more at a great prices. Exhibitors from around the world. Jewelry repair and cleaning while you shop.

APRIL**7–9 VISTA, CA****Vista Gem & Mineral Society 2017 Show**

Venue: Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum
2040 N. Santa Fe Ave., Vista, CA 92083

Hours: 10:00am – 4:00pm daily

Admission & Parking: Free.

Contact: Ray Pearce, 760-726-7570
or raysrocks@cox.net

Huge open-air event in a pretty setting. Rain or shine, come shop for unique and handcrafted items, jewelry, rocks, gems, minerals, rough, cabs, slabs, beads, books, and tools. Kid World Fun Zone on Saturday. Raffle on Sunday with over 50 prizes plus a Grand Prize. Demonstrations and great food.

22–23 THOUSAND OAKS, CA**Conejo Gem & Mineral Club**

Venue: Borchard Park Community Center
190 Reino Road at Borchard Road, Thousand Oaks, CA 91320

Hours: Sat & Sun 10-5

Admission: Free

Contact: Robert Sankovich 805-494-7734
or rmsorca@roadrunner

Web: www.cgamc.org
Gems, lapidary, minerals and fossil exhibits; dealers selling beads, geodes, jewelry, books, crystals, fossils, and tools. Demonstrations and youth activities.

23–24 ESCONDIDO, CA**Palomar Gem & Mineral Club****Gem, Jewelry & Mineral Show**

California Center for the Arts
340 N. Escondido Blvd., Escondido, CA 92025

Hours: Sat 10:00am – 5:00pm;
Sun 10:00am – 4:00pm

Admission: Adults \$5.00; Kids 12 and under
Free with paid Adult admission.

Parking: Free.

Contact: Gayle Hamilton, 760-743-0809
or gemshow@palomargem.org

Web: www.palomargem.org
Dealers selling rock rough, finished stones, jewelry, beads, and other rock related products. Free gem identification and lapidary and jewelry demonstrations, as well as educational displays.

29–30 LANCASTER, CA**Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Annual Show**

Venue: Lancaster High School
44701 32nd Street West, Lancaster, CA 93536

Hours: 10:00am – 5:00pm daily

Admission & Parking: Free.

Website: avgem.weebly.com

Dozens of Vendors from all over the Western States will have everything from diamonds to agates and jewelry to books for sale and on display. Silent Auction running all day, both days, plus a Raffle. Hamburgers, hot dogs. Come and spend some time with us as we celebrate the world of Rocks!

JOHN E. GARSOW

gems & minerals

March 3–5
(Castro Valley) Newark, CA
Castro Valley Mineral & Gem Society
Annual Show
The Newark Pavilion
6430 Thornton Ave., Newark, CA

March 11–12
San Marino, CA
Pasadena Lapidary Society's
Annual Tournament of Gems
San Marino Masonic Center
3130 Huntington Drive, San Marino CA 91108

March 18–19
Santa Clara, CA
Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Annual Show
Santa Clara County Fairgrounds
344 Tully Rd., San Jose, CA 95111

Facet Rough • Cabbing Rough
Jewelry • Mineral Specimens
www.johngarsow.com

CLASSIFIED ADS

OCEANVIEW MINE
TOUR & SCREENING TRIPS:
Sundays, 11:00am to 3:00pm
For more information
please visit www.digforgems.com
or call Jeff Swanger at 760-415-9143
Reservations required.
\$75. Adults \$60. Children (ages 5 to 11)
Family rates available.

HIMALAYA MINE TAILINGS:
Thursday-Monday, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.
At the Lake Henshaw Resort on Highway 76.
Adults, \$75 per day. Kids 12-15, half price.
Screening tables, buckets, and shovels provided.
Call (775) 830-5797
or (775) 772-7724 for more info
Website:
www.highdesertgemsandminerals.com/

SDMG Library

SDMG Bldg.
Andy Anderson

Hours: 4 to 6 pm, Wednesdays
Reference use only, no lending.

Access the catalog online at:
<https://cloud.collectorz.com/sdmgmerklib/books>

Who may use the Library?

Membership is not required to view the catalog,
but only **SDMG** members may come in and use
the reference library.

We Need Volunteer Assistant Librarians.

Members willing to volunteer in the Library
will enable us to extend the hours of access.

Contact Andy:
aanderson@sdmg.org
if you can help out.

WEBSITES

SDMG:
www.sdmg.org

CFMS:
www.cfmsinc.org

AFMS:
www.amfed.org

PUBLIC LANDS:
www.amlands.org

BLM:
www.ca.blm.gov

BOB'S ROCK SHOP:
www.rockhounds.com

MUSEUMS:
www.sdnhm.org
www.amnh.org
www.gia.edu

www.nhm.org
www.mnh.si.edu



CLASS SCHEDULE – 2017

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED BEFORE ALL CLASSES.

Email school@sdmg.org for class availability before attending any class to find out when the class starts and ends, if special materials are required and whether you qualify to attend. Fee is \$5.00 per class; it is usually easier for instructors if payment is made for a full month; cash or checks only, please. **Classes are open to members only** and students must read and follow the **School Rules** available in the classroom and at: <http://www.sdmg.org/class-schedule/school-rules.pdf>

CABOCHONS	Tue	6 – 9pm	Tim Bickford
	Wed	9 – 11:30am	Jim Claypool
	Wed	12:30 – 3:00pm	Jim Claypool
	Wed	7 – 9pm	Andy Anderson
	Thu	7 – 9pm	Jon Evans
FACETING	Tue	noon – 3pm	Elbert McCune
	Tue	7 – 9pm	Jerod Schneider
	Wed	9am – noon	Bob Hancock
	Wed	noon – 3pm	Donna Beers
	Wed	7 – 9pm	Elbert McCune
	Thu	7 – 9pm	Bill Brisebois
BEG. SILVER FAB.	Tue	6 – 9pm	Stephanie Griffin
	Thu	9am – noon	Denny Turner
	Thu	1 – 4pm	Denny Turner
BEG. METALS FAB.	Sat	4 – 7pm	Andy Anderson
SILVER FABRICATION	Tue	9 – 11am	Lois Lukasky
	Tue	noon – 3pm	Lois Lukasky
	Wed	7 – 9pm	Al Fuente
	Thu	7 – 9pm	Ellen Riceman
	Fri	9:30am – noon	Dee Smith
	Fri	12:30 – 3:00pm	Dee Smith
ADV. SILVER FAB.	Wed	9am – 3pm	Denny Turner
ADVANCED METALS	Wed	9am – 3pm	Jackie Leverone
CASTING	Mon	1:30 – 7:00pm	Rocio Bergum
	Tue	9am – 2pm	Dave Smith
	Fri	5 – 7pm	Rich Yarbrough
STONE SETTING	Mon	by appointment	Miguel Asmar
ROCK CARVING	Mon	9am – 1pm	Jan Kunsu
SPHERE MAKING	Sat	1 – 3:30pm	Paul Williams
JUNIORS	Sat	10am – 1pm	Lois Lukasky
DESCRIPTIVE MINERALOGY	Wed	6:30 – 9pm	Doug Peeler

WEST COAST – SPRING GEM & MINERAL SHOW



*Grape Agate
Sulawesi, Indonesia
Photo by Jeff Scovil©*

May 19 - 20 -21, 2017
Santa Ana, CA

Holiday Inn - Orange County Airport
2726 S. Grand Avenue

(take 55 Fwy Exit 8 for Dyer Rd to S. Grand Ave)

Shop with 78 Great Dealers!

Minerals ♦ Fossils ♦ Gems ♦ Jewelry ♦ Beads ♦ Meteorites
Decorator Pieces ♦ Lapidary ♦ Metaphysical & More!

FREE ADMISSION ♦ FREE PARKING ♦ WHOLESALE ♦ RETAIL

LLD Productions, Inc., P.O. Box 665, Bernalillo, NM 87004 ♦ 505-867-0425 ♦ mzexpos@gmail.com
www.mzexpos.com

[Facebook.com/mzexpos](https://www.facebook.com/mzexpos)

Thomas M. Schneider Quality Gemstones



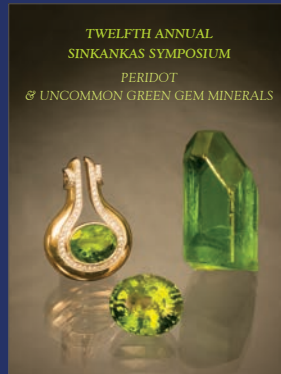
861 6th Avenue, Suite 517

San Diego, CA 92101

www.tmsgems.com

Ph: 619-232-2624

Fax: 619-232-2213



THE ANNUAL SINKANKAS SYMPOSIUM – SAPPHIRE Saturday April 8, 2017, Carlsbad, CA

Look for event details in mid-January at:
www.sinkankassymposium.net

"The best gem mineral symposium
in North America."

– John Koivula

AL'S OPAL IMPORTS & LAPIDARY

3684 Fairmount Avenue
San Diego, CA 92105
619 282-1700

Al Ramirez, proprietor
U.S. Navy WWII South Pacific veteran



Unmounted Australian and African Opals

- Lapidary equipment new or used
- Tumblers, diamond blades, belts and grits
- Rough rock for faceting, slabbing or tumbling
 - Recycle your gold or silver jewelry into new designs or repair
- A variety of finished jewelry in silver or gold
 - Faceting gemstones

All work done on premises

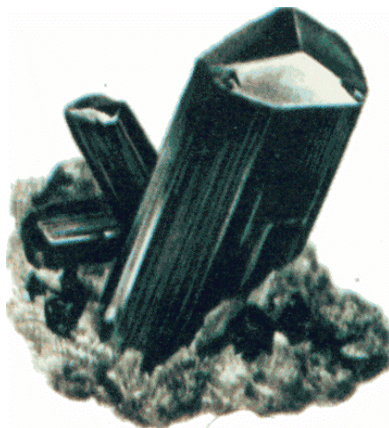
Layaway Available



HOURS:

Monday thru Friday
8:30am to 3:30pm

Saturday
9:00am to 1:00pm



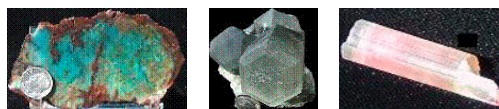
MinersGallery.com

Rock Slabs, Bulk rock, Crystals, Jewelry,
Fossils, Gems and Petrified Wood.

Phone: (619) 445-0800

richard@minersgallery.com

www.minersgallery.com



Minerals and crystals from around the world

*** ROCKS * MINERALS * GEMS * JEWELRY MAKINGS ***

*** LARGEST INVENTORY ***

*** * BEST QUALITY * ***

*** LOWEST PRICES ***

*** NEW ARRIVALS DAILY ***

SOUTH AMERICAN IMPORTS

Direct Importers

2461 San Diego Ave. #104

San Diego, CA 92110

In Old Town, in Coyote Café Shopping Center

Tel: (619) 299-3877

OPEN EVERY DAY!

Village Silversmiths

**Bead Work
Jewelry
Slabs**

**1770 Village Place
Balboa Park
San Diego, CA 92010
619 239-8812**

**Carvings
Rocks
Cabs**



2620 West Main St. Barstow CA 92311

Our business is putting fun and pride
into your lapidary hobby or profession
by making the right tools for your needs

Astounding Selection of Minerals
& Fossils from Around the Globe



MINERS GEMS

Experts in Geology, Gemology & Paleontology

World Famous Gold Rush
Rock Shop & Mining Museum

Daily Mineral Panning and Geode Cutting

Educational Programs Available

In Old Town San Diego State Historic Park
2616 San Diego Avenue, San Diego CA 92110
619-688-1178

minersgemsandminerals@cox.net
www.minersgemsandminerals.com



San Diego Mineral & Gem Society, Inc.

A Non-Profit Educational and Scientific Organization

1770 Village Place, Balboa Park

San Diego, CA 92101-1651

www.sdmg.org

WELCOME!

The SDMG Building
is located
at the north end of
Spanish Village
in Balboa Park

SDMG Museum hours:
11:00am to 4:00pm

Get information
on classes, events,
field trips, reports,
reviews, slideshows
and more at:
www.sdmg.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



THE PEGMATITE – MARCH 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 SDMG Min Div Mtg 7pm, SDMG bldg	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 SDMG Annual Banquet Soledad Club
19	20 SDMG Board Mtg 7pm, SDMG bldg	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 NO SDMG General Mtg	28	29	30	31	1