



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

THE PEGMATITE

APRIL 2018

SDMG's 56th ANNUAL BARBECUE & SILENT AUCTION

Saturday, April 28, 2018

Doug Peeler, Chair

10:00am – 4:00pm, Balboa Park
Lawn at SW corner of
Park Blvd. & President's Way

Join us for a day on the green

Read the details on page 8



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

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American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
American Lands Access Association

Sister Club: Kingston Lapidary, Hull, England

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

Liability: Contact: membership@sdmg.org

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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

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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

April 2018

by Jim Parrish

sdmgpresident@sdmg.org

I'M WRITING THIS MESSAGE just hours after attending **SDMG's 84th Birthday Banquet**. It was fantastic, and judging by the enthusiastic noise level during the door prize portion, I'd say everyone enjoyed themselves.

Jennifer Stapp, our banquet chairperson, along with many helpers, did a great job decorating and making all the arrangements. The guest speaker, **Mr. Robert Weldon**, accompanied by his wife **Orasa**, shared his many experiences photographing gemstones. His presentation included pictures and descriptions of the many famous gemstones and jewelry he has had the opportunity to photograph during his years at the **GIA**, in Carlsbad, CA. He even photographed the **Hope Diamond**. Thank you, **Robert**, for sharing them with us!

There was a great selection of doorprizes, and some people were luckier than others (like me).

I had the honor of presenting **Ellen Riceman** with a well-deserved Life Membership. She has served as Executive Secretary and an instructor for many years. Thank you, **Ellen**!

Mr. Elbert McCune, who celebrated his 100th birthday last July, presented the society museum with 100 faceted stones that he personally cut. He figured it was the best place for them after so many years teaching and cutting gems at the society classroom. 100 stones, 100 years seems very appropriate. Congratulations and thanks, **Elbert**.

Thank you all!

Look for a review of the Banquet featuring more details and pictures of a memorable evening in the May bulletin.



Guest speaker Robert Weldon with wife Orasa. Photo: Jim Parrish.



SDMG faceting instructor Elbert McCune presents SDMG President with 100 faceted gems to commemorate his 100th birthday Photo: Sally Parrish..



SDMG
General Meeting
April 23, 2018
7pm, SDMG bldg.
Jim Parrish, President

WOULD YOU LIKE to experience some of the famous places and scenery of Michigan? Well, **Wayne Leibitzke** will be the guest speaker for the April meeting, where he will make a presentation on “A visit to Copper Country, the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.”

Mark your calendar and join us in sharing **Wayne** and **Peggy’s** fall trip to one of the most famous copper mining areas in the world. They had a wonderful opportunity to tour the Quincy Mine and receive a personal “behind the scenes” tour of the **A.E. Seaman Mineral Museum** in Houghton, Michigan. I don’t mind saying, I’m envious! Don’t miss this program!

Wayne also welcomes any of you that own specimens or mineral related items from this area of Michigan, to bring them along and share. The more the merrier.



A display case of native copper specimens from Michigan’s Upper Peninsula. Photo: Jim Parrish.

So, join us and see what it’s all about. As usual, we will have some special and outstanding door prizes. Don’t forget to bring something to share for the snack table.

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The next **General Meeting** will be held on Monday, May 28, 2018, with yours truly, **Jim Parrish**, presiding.



**MINERAL DIVISION**  
*Jim Parrish, Chair, Treasurer  
 and Door Prizes*  
**NO MEETING IN APRIL**

I DECIDED TO CANCEL the April meeting of the **Mineral Division** because the Annual Sinkankas Symposium is the next day, and we have to be up bright and early to participate in this wonderful event. See you there!

**School News**  
*Bob Hancock*

**Attention Prospective Faceting Students.** The Tuesday afternoon Faceting Class is now able to take a few beginning students at this time. The instructor will be **Mr. McCune**, our most senior instructor.

If you would like to start a class in faceting, Please contact **Bob Hancock** at 619-889-6886 for details. Thank You.

## MINI MINERS MONTHLY A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR YOUNG MINERAL COLLECTORS

### MARCH 2018 (vol 10 no 3)

- Focus of the March issue: Crystallography
- Mineral of the Month: Gypsum
- Let's Learn About Crystallography
- The Monoclinic System
- **Minerals in the Monoclinic Crystal System \***
- **Crystal Faces: James Sowerby \***  
(people important to mineralogy & mineral collecting)
- Twinned Crystals (Trigonal, Tetragonal, Orthorhombic and Monoclinic Systems)
- Minerals As Big As Your Thumb

**MINI MINERS MONTHLY**  
A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR YOUNG MINERAL COLLECTORS  
VOL. 10 NO. 3  
MARCH 2018

**HOWDY, HOWDY, MINI MINERS!**  
We have learned through the years that Mini Miners (you know, young mineral collectors) are very special. So, this is for you! Just take it about... One step is crystallography, at times two or more times a month. As you go through the months you will learn many things. Our very young drawings to color help you there is a page...HAPPY MINING!  
By the way, Mini Miners Monthly is for examples of what's in your collection? Do you better. Be sure to use what we have.

**MINI MINERS MONTHLY**

**Mineral of the Month**

**Gypsum**

Gypsum is a very soft mineral. It is Number 2 on the mineral hardness scale (which is also called Mohs' Hardness Scale). When it is found in massive beds, it is mined and used to make plaster (Plaster of Paris) and boards that are used to make walls. When gypsum is clear and glassy, it is given the informal name "Selenite."

**Chemical Formula:**  $\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$   
**Crystal System:** Monoclinic  
**Color:** When it is pure, gypsum is colorless or white. When it has impurities in it, it can be green, yellow, tan, blue, pink, brown, reddish brown or gray.  
**Physical Properties:**  
**Mohs scale of Hardness:** 2  
**Luster:** Silky to Glassy  
**Streak:** White  
**Specific gravity:** 2.3

Above: Intergrown gypsum crystals from the Salt Plains of northwestern Oklahoma. Trapped in the crystals are rust-red sand grains in the shape of a hexagon. This is why they are called "Hourglass Selenite" crystals.

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\* Available for download from the SDMG website courtesy of Diamond Dan Publications:

[www.sdmg.org/mmm/Mini\\_Miners\\_Monthly\\_2018\\_v10n3\\_pp6-7.pdf](http://www.sdmg.org/mmm/Mini_Miners_Monthly_2018_v10n3_pp6-7.pdf)

or <https://goo.gl/TVovxz> (short URL)

Visit the publisher's website at:

[www.diamonddanpublications.net](http://www.diamonddanpublications.net)

### In case you were wondering...

Contributed by Dr. George Rossman

There are currently 5,327 IMA-approved mineral species.

|      |                                                                             |
|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 527  | have been renamed or redefined (e.g., Alanite — Ce)                         |
| 93   | are questionable mineral species (e.g., Cerium, meaning moon)               |
| 71   | are awaiting publication                                                    |
| 1150 | are grandfathered (e.g., zircon, zincite)                                   |
| 81   | are formally valid species discredited by IMA (e.g., parvo-mangano-edenite) |

Who helps to characterize new species?

|     |         |
|-----|---------|
| 30  | Housley |
| 45  | Rossman |
| 51  | Ma      |
| 257 | Kampf   |

From the *Bulletin of the Mineralogical Society of Southern California*, Vol. 91, No. 3 2018 (March): 3, reproduced courtesy of the Mineralogical Society of Southern California.



## JUNIOR DIVISION

Coordinated by

Dave Smith

**T**HE STAR SDMG JUNIOR of this issue is **Aaron Liu** who achieved First Place at the **Science Olympiad Regional Finals** for **Rocks and Minerals** on March 3rd. After defeating five teams from five high schools in January to win the **Invitational Competition**, he competed against 77 teams from 28 high schools in the Regionals where he won First Place for both **Rocks and Minerals**. **Aaron** is a junior at the **Bishop's School**.

This competition has a one hour time limit to complete, with 16 to 20 stations featuring different rock/mineral specimens. The competitor examines each specimen and responds to questions regarding identification, classification, formation, chemical composition, theory and economic importance of the specimen.

According to **Aaron's** proud mother, **Ms. Amy Tse**:

"Aaron was specially praised by the San Diego Regional Director of the Science Olympiad for his braveness and how he excelled in the event. Aaron's school doesn't have a Science Olympiad team, so he competed alone while other teams consist of two students. And this is Aaron's first time to attend the competition without a coach, and he got 1st place. I think his passion in rocks and minerals all these years really help him to succeed."

**Ms. Tse** feels this interest is leading **Aaron** to consider a major in Chemical Engineering in his future. Although **Aaron** has achieved much and has high goals, he would like to share his knowledge with the other **Juniors** when he returns to class.

**Juniors** class is held at the **SDMG** building on Saturdays from 10:00am to 1:00pm.

Congratulations, **Aaron**!



Junior member Aaron Liu with the First Place medal he won at the Science Olympiad Regional Finals.

## GEMOLOGICAL SOCIETY of SAN DIEGO



GSSD General Meeting  
Monday, April 2, 2018  
7:00pm SDMG Building

**B**RENDAN LAURS is a frequent traveler to global gem sources, including colored stone deposits in Africa/Madagascar, Brazil, Pakistan and Tibet. As guest speaker at the April meeting, he will make a presentation on “Tourmaline, Demantoid Garnet, and Diamond mining in Namibia,” which is based on an expedition he made to Africa in October 2016. **Brendan’s** geological and gemological field studies are chronicled in his distinctive, beautiful photographs, so join us for what is sure to be an informative and visually intriguing tour of one of the most fascinating gem-mining areas in the world.

**Brendan Laurs** (MS, FGA, GG) is Editor-in-Chief of *The Journal of Gemmology*, published by Gem-A in London. He is based in the San Diego, California area, and in his prior position he edited *Gems & Gemology* at the **Gemological Institute of America (GIA)** in Carlsbad for 15 years. He is a gemologist and geologist specializing in the formation of colored gemstone deposits. He developed an early interest in geology while exploring the gem-bearing pegmatites of San Diego County. He obtained a BS degree in geology at UC Santa Barbara and an MS degree in geology from Oregon State University. His MS thesis and post-graduate studies were focused on gem deposits in Pakistan. He was an exploration geologist for colored gemstones (benitoite and red beryl) with Kennecott Exploration Co. before joining **GIA** from 1997 to 2012. In 2006, he co-chaired **GIA’s** first-ever **Gemological Research Conference** in San Diego, and in 2011 he co-chaired the research track of the **5th GIA International Gemological Symposium** in Carlsbad. A frequent traveler to global gem sources, he has studied colored stone deposits in Africa/Madagascar, Brazil, and Tibet. He has published numerous articles and spoken at various technical conferences and at gem and mineral gatherings.

The society will have tea and coffee, please bring treats to share.



A local Namibia miner holds the day's production of tourmaline. Photo by Brendan Laurs/Gem-A.



Three tourmaline crystals that were recently mined in Namibia. Photo by Brendan Laurs/Gem-A.



Brendan Laurs at a pegmatite in Namibia that produces fine blue tourmaline. Photo by Markus Wild of Paul Wild Co.

**FIFTEENTH**  
**ANNUAL SINKANKAS SYMPOSIUM**  
**Tanzanite & Tsavorite**

**Saturday, April 14, 2018**

**GIA World Headquarters**  
**Carlsbad, CA**

*Sponsored by GSSD • GIA • William Larson, Pala International*



*Photo: Robert Weldon.*

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

**Sponsors:** Gemological Society of San Diego, GIA and William Larson, Pala International, Inc.

**Time:** Badging, refreshments, 8:00–9:00am. Symposium begins at 9:00am sharp.

**Cost:** **\$125.00 after March 15, 2018** – available through April 9th or until tickets are sold out, whichever comes first.

**Registration:** [Now Open – Online Only at:  
 2018sinkankassymposium.eventbrite.com](https://2018sinkankassymposium.eventbrite.com)

**The Rules:** No on-site/same day registration  
 Valid gov picture ID  
 All attendee names must be on the list at the gate – no reservations under one name

**Website:** [www.sinkankassymposium.net](http://www.sinkankassymposium.net)

**Host:** Robert Weldon

**\*Program:** **Dr. Raquel Alonso-Perez**, The Mozambique Belt  
**Meg Berry**, Creating a World-Class Tanzanite Collection:  
 From Sourcing to Suite-ing

**Bruce Bridges and Judith Bridges**, 50 Years of  
 Tsavorite and Tanzanite

**Robert Gessner**, Tanzanite: Geology and Gemology

**Bill Larson and Will Larson**, Collecting Tanzanite and  
 Tsavorite Crystals

**Shane McClure**, Treatments of Tanzanite and Tsavorite

**Nathan Renfro**, The Microworld of Tanzanite and  
 Tsavorite

**Stuart Robertson**, Tanzanite Price Trends – Past, Present  
 and Future

**Dr. George Rossman**, Additional Remarks on Tanzanite  
 and Tsavorite

\* Speakers and  
 program subject  
 to change without  
 notice.

**Named for John Sinkankas**, one of the most distinguished and influential figures in gemology and mineralogy, the Sinkankas Symposium is an annual one-day event featuring presentations by noted specialists working in diverse gem-related disciplines. The Fifteenth Annual Sinkankas Symposium commemorates the 50th anniversary of the discovery of Tanzanite and Tsavorite, two of the most beautiful, storied gemstones from East Africa.

*Interest in The Sinkankas Symposium and attendance has grown every year. Space is limited and is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration for the one-day event includes refreshments, lunch and a copy of the 2018 Sinkankas Symposium volume, which features selected papers on Tanzanite & Tsavorite.*

## SDMG's 57th Annual Barbeque, Silent Auction & Ugly Rock Contest

*Doug Peeler, Chairman*

Saturday, April 28, 2018

10am to 4pm

Park Blvd & Presidents Way Lawn  
Balboa Park



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.

### GREAT DOOR PRIZES

and more SELLERS TABLES than ever

The Spring Barbeque and Silent Auction is one of SDMG's biggest annual events. There will be fun. There will be more sellers than ever, with tables of rocks, slabs, faceting rough, tools, books. And – drum roll, please – there will be our world famous **H-U-G-E Silent Auction**. Bring up to 15 rock-related items to sell, with 10% of the proceeds going to **SDMG**. (You must bring your own table to sell items.)

### LUNCH CATERED BY THE BARBECUE PIT

Menu includes sliced beef and chicken (instead of the usual ham), cole slaw, beans, potato salad, dinner roll, cookies and brownies. Water and soda will be available to purchase separately for \$1 each.

### MEAL TICKET INFO

- **Cost:** \$15.00 adults, \$7.00 kids 12 & under
- For each ticket purchased, you will be entered into a drawing for fabulous prizes.
- **When:** Meal tickets on sale now – must be purchased in advance.
- **Where:** Buy tickets at the **SDMG Board Meeting** (April 16), the general meeting (4/23), the **Village Silversmiths** and some class instructors.

**OR** send a check payable to **SDMG** in a stamped, self-addressed envelope, post-marked no later than April 17th to:

**Anne Schafer**

8473 Hydra Lane, San Diego, CA 92126-1854

Attendees are welcome to bring their own lunch.

**Note:** The Park may be very busy on Saturday, April 28, so plan to arrive early – carpool, bike in, or get dropped off / picked up afterward.

### UGLY ROCK CONTEST!

HEY, THIS IS A SERIOUS COMPETITION! There's serious prize money involved. Here are the particulars: there are three categories. First, there is the plain **Ugly Rock** category. An unadorned, garden variety, naturally Ugh! rock that only Mother Nature could love. It's all about finding that rock whose intrinsic ugliness shines forth like a beacon. The **Mimic Rock** is more specialized, having to be resemble something identifiable, yet ugly nevertheless. The **Embellished Rock** category is an exercise in slapping lipstick on that

rock, so to speak. Decorate it, spruce it up, use your imagination. And pick a suitably silly name for it. Enter your rock between 10 and noon on the day of the **BBQ**. Voting occurs during lunch, and winners are announced around 2:00 pm.

**There are BIG prizes:** First place in each category is \$10. Second place is \$5.00, and Third place is \$1.00, and finally, pictures of you and your First Place Rock to be immortalized in the May Bulletin. If that isn't an incentive, then what is? See you at the Barbeque, with your Ugly Rocks.

## 2018 – 2020 SLATE

### SDMG OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

The Nominating Committee has selected the following slate of four (4) officers and sixteen (16) directors for the two-year term from July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2020. This slate satisfies the requirements of the San Diego Mineral and Gem Society Bylaws in that the people named are members in good standing and have agreed to be nominated.

For President: Jim Parrish

For Vice-President: John Kruzel

For Secretary: Ellen Riceman

For Treasurer: Anne Schafer

For Board of Directors:

|                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Andy Anderson     | Melissa Ordway  |
| Donna Beers       | Sally Parrish   |
| Rocio Bergum      | Doug Peeler     |
| Donna Casey       | Dave Smith      |
| Stephanie Griffin | Dee Smith       |
| Bob Hancock       | Jennifer Stapp  |
| Lois Lukasky      | Paul Williams   |
| Wayne Moorhead    | Jill Williamson |

Members in good standing as of March 31, 2018, who comprise a group equal to at least two percent of the total membership of SDMG (i.e., a group of 15 members) may file a written petition with the Board at the MAY Board meeting proposing one or more alternative candidates in lieu of one or more of the candidates nominated by the Nominating Committee. This petition shall include the following: (1) the written consent of each alternative candidate; (2) the name and signature of each petitioner.

The identity of each such alternative candidate named in the petition and the individual nominated by the Nominating Committee who would be replaced by such alternative candidate shall be published in the JUNE issue of *The Pegmatite*, and such publication shall indicate that such alternative candidate was nominated by petition.

If there are no alternate candidates, the above nominations will carry forward to the General Meeting in June, where they will stand.

I would like to thank all the members of the Nominating Committee for their service.

– Anne Schafer, Chairman, Nominating Committee



### SAN DIEGO COUNTY FAIR GEMS, MINERALS & JEWELRY DEPT.

**Time is running out** to gather up your minerals, fossils, fancy jewelry (hand-made, of course, by yourself), cut stones, carvings, and such. Then, get online and enter your competitive exhibits in the Fair!

**There is plenty of prize money to be had by the winners.** (Could even be you!) Check out the entry information online, to see the list of special trophies and top prize money on offer.

**Insider tip:** Don't wait till the last day to enter; the Fair website can get bogged down worse than a fat cow in a swamp, if you know what I mean.

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

Download the Entry Information flyer at:

[sdfair.com/downloads/2018/exhibits/entry/Gems-Minerals-Jewelry-Info.pdf](http://sdfair.com/downloads/2018/exhibits/entry/Gems-Minerals-Jewelry-Info.pdf)

Printed copies of the entry brochure are available in

#### Schedule 2018

**Online entry:** [sdiego.fairmanager.com](http://sdiego.fairmanager.com)

**Entry deadline:** Fri, April 27, at 11:59 pm

**Entry delivery:** Sat and Sun, May 26 and 27, 9am to 6pm

**First day of Fair:** Fri, June 1, 4pm

#### Exhibitor

**Appreciation:** Wed, June 6, 6pm to 9pm

**Last day of Fair:** Wed, July 4.

**Exhibit pickup:** Fri, July 6, 9am to 8pm

**Got questions? We have answers! Contact:**

**Coordinator Anne Schafer at:**

**858-586-1637 or [Agate.Annie2@gmail.com](mailto:Agate.Annie2@gmail.com)**

**or Asst. Coordinator Jennifer Stapp at:**

**858-748-6396 or [Cat333@san.rr.com](mailto:Cat333@san.rr.com)**

*Public lands update,  
with a special note of thanks*

THE COMMENT PERIOD closed March 22nd on BLM's proposal to open the **Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP)** to making plan-level revisions. This **Land Use Plan Amendment (LUPA)**, the largest in California state history, was only finalized in September 2016 and had barely begun to be implemented when **BLM** announced it was contemplating a do-over to "provide more opportunities for renewable energy projects."

*Well-heeled interests usually take precedence over those of smaller players.*

While no one can predict what plan-level amending will mean for different Stakeholders, rebalancing the plan does mean there will be a shake-up of winners and losers. In the record of decision published in September 2016, Rockhounds obtained significant accommodations, which were based on numerous comment letters submitted on the draft version of the plan in 2015. Despite confusion and misperceptions in the Rockhound community about what **DRECP** did to hinder Rockhounds, in fact, it took nothing away. (See the Rockhound fact sheet on **SDMG's** website at: <https://goo.gl/qYpz9j>.)

To be sure, hobby collecting accommodations have to be spelled out, in detail, in the travel management plans for different areas within the **DRECP's** boundaries. But, this does not require resorting to plan-level amending of the **DRECP** itself. (Remember, **DRECP** is a top-level guideline, it is not a travel management plan.)

**CFMS** took no position on **BLM's** proposal to open **DRECP** to review. Nine gem-mineral societies and 14 rockhound advocates joined **San Diego Mineral & Gem Society** in signing a [letter](#) asking **BLM** to leave the plan alone. **SDMG** greatly appreciates the support it received on its letter – thank you, one and all. (The letter is available on **SDMG's** website at: <https://goo.gl/p6D43Q>).

*A word of caution.*

Rockhounds need to pay careful attention to the **West Mojave Route Network Project (WMRNP)**, which is a key, but separate component of the **DRECP**. (See the box at right.) The comment period on the draft plan opened on March 16th. It closes June 14, 2018.

**The DAC is back!**

**March 12, 2018**

The Department of Interior reinstated 21 of the 37 public resource advisory committees (RACs and DAC), whose activities were suspended in May 2017. The public councils were created by mandate of the Federal Lands Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.). The regular meetings of the DAC are expected to resume in April or May. See BLM press release at: <https://goo.gl/W18jG6>

**West Mojave Route Network Project  
DSEIS/LUPA**

*Comment period now open thru: June 14, 2018*

*~ Attend one of the four public meetings ~*

April 17 • Victorville April 18 • Ridgecrest  
April 24 • Lone Pine April 25 • Joshua Tree

See BLM's press release for details at:  
<https://goo.gl/PGJ5v2>

BLM has prepared a Draft Land Use Plan Amendment (LUPA) and Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) for the West Mojave Route Network Project (WMRNP) within the West Mojave (WEMO) Planning Area of the California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA). A 90-day comment period was opened on March 16th.

*Why is the WMRNP  
important to Rockhounds?*

The WMNRP is a critical component of the DRECP for Rockhounds, because its maps are supposed to incorporate routes to collecting areas (many are the same routes used by ORVers). Destinations without vehicular access will make it impossible for many rockhounds to visit them. Rockhounds should review BLM's map data and submit comment letters for routes that are missing or delineated inaccurately to ensure continued access to their favorite collecting areas.

**Here's the rub.** BLM has map data specifically for hobby collecting areas; however, the maps made available for the comment period do not include some of these data. Also, maps with the Rockhound-specific layers would be helpful. SDMG has asked BLM to provide these data and Rockhound-specific maps in time to review them before the comment period closes. Stay tuned to the SDMG website at: <https://goo.gl/tSyHmh>

*Federal Register doc 2018-05272  
<https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2018-05272>*

*Want to receive late breaking updates?*

Join SDMG's mailing list at:  
<http://tinyurl.com/qy85geq>  
select the "public lands" lists

***DAC special meeting report:  
BLM's proposed DRECP Review***

*March 27, 2018*

*by Lisbet Thoresen*

*Public Lands Representative for San Diego*

**BLM'S Desert District Advisory Council (DAC)** held its first meeting in over one year on March 20, 2018. About 25 members of the public, including four Rockhounding advocates, attended the meeting, which was held in Victorville. Three **DAC** members were unable to attend, with nine members and District Manager **Beth Ransel** present.

Over three hours of a five-hour meeting was devoted to discussion focused on the **BLM's** proposed plan-level review of the **Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP)**. A March 2017 Executive Order instructed **BLM** "to seek more opportunities for renewable energy projects." Opening the plan to review was the agency's response in California, even though the **DRECP** is less than 18 months into its implementation.

***Someone has to lose  
for someone else to win***

It is clear to all the **DAC** members that redesignating land for one or two Stakeholder groups will necessarily have to come at the expense of other groups. The question for each Stakeholder, then, is: "For whom is it worth taking the gamble and opening the **DRECP** to review to find out?" Every council member was concerned that significant amending very well may cause the whole **DRECP** to unravel completely, with 50 Stakeholder groups involved, many of whom have conflicting values and all of whom are competing for the same land.

Everyone agreed there are significant flaws in the **DRECP** which need fixing, but both members of the council and the public were about evenly divided – within stakeholder groups and between them – on whether to proceed cautiously or go extreme to remedy the plan's defects.

The time constraints of the March 20 meeting could not accommodate extended discussion on several specific topics that are inextricably interrelated components of the **DRECP**. Yet, they came up

repeatedly throughout the day's discussions. They include the following subject areas:

- Stakeholders who were completely left out of the **DRECP Record of Decision (ROD)** (e.g., rural communities and ranchers)
- Disturbance caps
- **DRECP's** special designation for **Areas of Critical Concern (ACEC)** – the problem of how **ACECs** are defined and how they are understood by the public
- The **West Mojave (WEMO) Route Network Project**, or **WMRNP**

These topics will be on the agenda of the next **DAC** meeting, date and venue TBD.

The last topic, **WEMO**, underscores a more fundamental problem in tinkering with the **DRECP**, whether the effort is incremental or a major overhaul. Member of the public **Sam Merk** reminded the **DAC** that the **WEMO** travel plan was supposed to have been completed before the **DRECP** was implemented, so whether a review is undertaken or not, nothing should be decided before the travel plan is finalized (comment period now open through June 14, 2018, see: <https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2018-05272>).

By the end of the meeting the nine **DAC** members felt it was important to make a constructive recommendation to the **BLM**, but they struggled with it. Here's what they came up with [paraphrased]:

"All DAC members have troubling concerns about re-opening the DRECP. We advise BLM to proceed cautiously with its implementation, to identify and examine issues that can be amended with minor amendments to the LUPA, and to encourage public participation throughout the process."

(The motion included a provision specifically related to giving grazing top priority for resolve outstanding issues related to leases, which were discussed earlier in the meeting.)

The full transcript of the **DAC** meeting will be published online, probably in the next two to three months.

There were many excellent oral comments made by members of the council and the public at the March 20th meeting. Read the full report online at: <http://www.sdmg.org/articles/201803/DAC-meeting-report/> or at the short URL: <https://goo.gl/eJ6C4a>.



Please be courteous and call the field trip leader to ask if you may participate in the field trip. Be sure to call again if you decide to cancel, so folks aren't waiting around for you. All CFMS affiliate clubs will ask you to sign a waiver, and you must agree to abide by the AFMS Code of Ethics and listen to directions of the field trip leaders.

**April 21, 2018****Lavic Siding****Materials:** Jasper and agate**Sponsor:** Pasadena & Whittier clubs**Contact:** Joe Goetz, 626-914-5030 or [joenmar1@verizon.net](mailto:joenmar1@verizon.net)**April 28–29, 2018****Marble Mtns****Materials:** Trilobites and chalenite (fine-textured jasper)**Sponsor:** Searchers Gem & Mineral Society**Contact:** Steve Duncan, 714-724-7102 or [wsd@iteris.com](mailto:wsd@iteris.com)**April 28, 2018****Lavic Siding/Cady Mountains****Materials:** Jasper and agate**Sponsor:** Ventura Gem & Mineral Society and Conejo Gem & Mineral Society**Contact:** Chuck Borchart, [chuck.cgmctrips@gmail.com](mailto:chuck.cgmctrips@gmail.com), John Cook and Luther Brown**Reservations:** [www.whoscoming.com/vgms](http://www.whoscoming.com/vgms)**May 19, 2018****Basin Road****Materials:** Jasper and agate**Sponsor:** Ventura Gem & Mineral Society and Conejo Gem & Mineral Society**Contact:** Chuck Borchart, [chuck.cgmctrips@gmail.com](mailto:chuck.cgmctrips@gmail.com)**May 25–27, 2018****Wiley's Well campout (tentative)****Materials:** Agates, chalcedony roses, psilomelane, petrified wood**Sponsor:** Conejo Gem & Mineral Society**Contact:** Chuck Borchart, [chuck.cgmctrips@gmail.com](mailto:chuck.cgmctrips@gmail.com)**July 26 – 29, 2018****Davis Creek****Material:** Obsidian**Sponsor:** CFMS-North**Contact:** Dick Pankey, 925-439-7509 or [dickpankey@juno.com](mailto:dickpankey@juno.com) (preferred)

**SDMG Master Calendar  
for 2017-18 available online at:**

[www.sdmg.org/pdf/sdmg\\_master\\_cal\\_2017-18.pdf](http://www.sdmg.org/pdf/sdmg_master_cal_2017-18.pdf)

deadlines for bulletin submissions listed for every month

## ON THE GO ... TO A SHOW



### APRIL .....

#### 6-8 VISTA, CA

##### Vista Gem & Mineral Society 2018 Show

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

**Hours:** 9am – 5pm daily

**Admission & Parking:** Free.

**Contact:** Kelly Hickman, 760-622-6501

or [kellyhickman@hotmail.com](mailto:kellyhickman@hotmail.com)

**Web:** [www.vistarocks.org](http://www.vistarocks.org)

SoCal's largest outdoor gem, mineral and jewelry show with over 145 Vendor spots. Everything from the very rare and hard-to-find to common rough, slabs, cut and finished, mineral specimens, crystals, fossils, cabochons, completed jewelry and jewelry-making supplies, tools, machines and lots of other goodies. Our raffle grand prize this year will be a Cathedral Amethysts Split along with approximately 50 plus other raffle prizes.

#### 6-8 MARIPOSA, CA

##### Mountains of Minerals Show

**Sponsor:** Mariposa Gem & Mineral Society

**Venue:** Mariposa County Fairgrounds

5007 Fairgrounds Road (South of Mariposa off Hwy 49)

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

**Contact:** Meredith Meehan, 559-868-3535 or [mcmc@sti.net](mailto:mcmc@sti.net)

**Website:** [mariposagemclub.org](http://mariposagemclub.org)

More than 36 vendors offering gems, minerals, fossils, lapidary products, jewelry, and food.

#### 13-15 DENVER, CO

##### Colorado Mineral & Fossil Spring Show

**Sponsor:** Rocky Mtn Gem & Mineral CO-OP (formerly Martin Zinn Expos)

**Venue:** Crowne Plaza Denver Airport Convention Center, 15500 E 40th Ave., Denver, 80239

**Hours:** Fri & Sat 10am – 6pm;  
Sun 10am – 5pm

**Admission & Parking:** Free

**Web:** [www.rockygems.com](http://www.rockygems.com)

[www.coloradomineralandfossilshows.com](http://www.coloradomineralandfossilshows.com)

## Vista Gem & Mineral Society 2018 Show

**April 6 – 8, 2018**

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

### *Fabulous vendors*

### *in a fabulous rustic setting*

If you've never been to a VGMS show at the Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum, you gotta see it – it's a hidden treasure (see details at left)



## JOHN E. GARSOW

### gems & minerals

**April 13–15, 2018**

**Colorado Mineral & Fossil Show**  
**Denver**

Crown Plaza Denver Airport Convention Center

Facet Rough • Cabbing Rough

Jewelry • Mineral Specimens

[www.johngarsow.com](http://www.johngarsow.com)

**21–22 PASO ROBLES, CA**

**27th Annual Rock & Gem Show – Discover Jasper**  
**Sponsor:** Santa Lucia Rockhounds  
**Venue:** Paso Robles Event Center  
 2198 Riverside Ave, Paso Robles CA 93446  
**Hours:** Sat 10am – 5pm; Sun 10am – 4pm  
**Admission:** \$5.00. Children under 16 and active military Free. Public welcome.  
**Contact:** [srockhounds@gmail.com](mailto:srockhounds@gmail.com)  
**Web:** [www.srockhounds.org](http://www.srockhounds.org)

**21–22 THOUSAND OAKS, CA**

**Conejo Gem & Mineral Club**  
**Venue:** Borchard Park Community Center  
 190 Reino Road at Borchard Road, Thousand Oaks, CA 91320  
**Hours:** Sat 10am – 5pm; Sun 10am – 4pm  
**Admission:** Free  
**Contact:** [borchartcme@gmail.com](mailto:borchartcme@gmail.com)  
**Web:** [www.cgamc.org](http://www.cgamc.org)

**28–29 LANCASTER, CA**

**Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral Society Annual Show**  
**Venue:** Lancaster High School  
 44701 32nd Street West, Lancaster, CA 93536  
**Hours:** 10am – 5pm daily  
**Admission & Parking:** Free.  
**Contact:** Susan Chaisson-Walblom,  
 661-406-0143 or [schaisson@yahoo.com](mailto:schaisson@yahoo.com)  
**Website:** [avgem.weebly.com](http://avgem.weebly.com)

**28–29 RENO, NV**

**Reno Gem & Mineral Society**  
**53rd Annual Jackpot of Gems Show**  
**Venue:** Reno-Sparks Livestock Event Center;  
 1350 N. Wells Ave., Reno, NV 89512  
**Hours:** Sat & Sun 10am – 6pm  
**Web:** [www.renorockhounds.com](http://www.renorockhounds.com)

**28 SANTA ANA, CA**

**Art of Adorning Bead Bazaar**  
**Sponsor:** Bead Society of OC  
**Venue:** Bowers Museum of Cultural Art  
 2002 N. Main St., Santa Ana, CA 92706  
**Hours:** 10am – 4pm.  
**Admission:** Free. (museum admission not incl.)  
**Web:** [beadsocietyoc.org/art-adorning](http://beadsocietyoc.org/art-adorning)  
 75+ premier artisan vendors, there will be a wide selection of handcrafted jewelry, beads and bead-related items for sale, plus a raffle.

**MAY .....**

**4–6 YUCAIPA, CA**  
**Yucaipa Valley Gem & Mineral Society**  
**Yucaipa Music & Arts Festival**  
**Venue:** Adams St. & Yucaipa Blvd.  
**Hours:** Fri 6–10pm; Sat noon – 10pm;  
 Sun noon – 7pm.  
**Admission:** Free. Public welcome.  
**Contact:** Lee Peterson, 909-794-0731  
 or [res09ayd@verizon.net](mailto:res09ayd@verizon.net)  
**Web:** [www.yvgms.org](http://www.yvgms.org)  
 Dealers with great rock, gem and jewelry items, including our nationally recognized flint knapper, activities for kids, a fantastic raffle, and geode cracker. Show is held in conjunction with the citywide Yucaipa Music and Arts Festival.

**5–6 ANAHEIM, CA**

**Searchers Gem & Mineral Society Annual Show**  
**Venue:** Brookhurst Community Center  
 2271 W. Crescent Ave., Anaheim, CA 92801  
**Hours:** Sat 9am – 5pm; Sun 10am – 4:30pm.  
**Admission & Parking:** Free. Public welcome.  
**Contact:** Debra Tanner, 714-329-0290  
 or [debratannernew@gmail.com](mailto:debratannernew@gmail.com)  
**Website:** [www.searchersrocks.org](http://www.searchersrocks.org)  
 Rocks, gems, minerals, fossils, beads, rough, slabs, vendors, gold panning, silent auction, hobby supplies, vintage stones, door prizes, gemstones, grab bags, tools, equipment and exhibits. Lapidary supplies and demonstrations, many fun activities for the kids. Lunch, snacks and drinks are available.

**18–20 SANTA ANA, CA**

**West Coast Gem & Mineral Show (Spring)**  
**Sponsor:** LLD Productions  
**Venue:** Holiday Inn, Orange County Airport  
 2726 S. Grand Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92705  
**Hours:** Fri and Sat 10am – 6pm;  
 Sun 10am – 5pm  
**Admission & Parking:** Free. Public welcome.  
**Dealer List:** [www.mzexpos.com/dealer-list](http://www.mzexpos.com/dealer-list)  
**Web:** [www.mzexpos.com/west-coast-spring](http://www.mzexpos.com/west-coast-spring)  
 80 dealers, wholesale and retail, featuring minerals, fossils, gems, jewelry, beads, crystals, meteorites, lapidary, decorator items and gifts.

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A Non-Profit Educational and Scientific Organization

### Membership Information:

Interested in minerals, fossils, lapidary, gems, or handcrafted jewelry? We are, too!

Adults (18 and older): \$30.00

Second adult, same address: \$10.00

Junior (under 18): \$10.00

Membership application forms are available on-line at [www.sdmg.org](http://www.sdmg.org),

and at the Village Silversmiths Shop in the SDMG Building,

or by contacting the SDMG Membership Secretary [membership@sdmg.org](mailto:membership@sdmg.org)

or by writing to her at:

San Diego Mineral & Gem Society

attn: Angela Cannon

P.O. Box 710783, Santee, CA 92072

Please allow up to 3 weeks for processing your application

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

**San Diego Mineral and Gem**

### WEBSITES

SDMG:

[www.sdmg.org](http://www.sdmg.org)

CFMS:

[www.cfmsinc.org](http://www.cfmsinc.org)

AFMS:

[www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org)

### PUBLIC LANDS:

[www.amlands.org](http://www.amlands.org)

BLM:

[www.ca.blm.gov](http://www.ca.blm.gov)

### BOB'S ROCK SHOP:

[www.rockhounds.com](http://www.rockhounds.com)

### ROCKHOUND FORUM:

[groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/la-rocks/info](http://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/la-rocks/info)

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or (775) 772-7724 for more info

Website:

[www.highdesertgemsandminerals.com/](http://www.highdesertgemsandminerals.com/)

### SDMG Library

SDMG Bldg.

Donna Beers

#### Hours:

Wednesdays, 9 to 11am, 1 to 2pm & 4 to 6pm  
GSSD mtg Mondays

(first Monday of the month) 6 to 7pm

SDMG board mtg Mondays

(third Monday of the month) 6 to 7pm

*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 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.

**If you can help out, contact Donna:**

[librarian@sdmg.org](mailto:librarian@sdmg.org)

**CLASS SCHEDULE – 2018**  
**REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED BEFORE ALL CLASSES.**

Email [school@sdmg.org](mailto: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>

|                                |     |                |                   |
|--------------------------------|-----|----------------|-------------------|
| <b>CABOCHONS</b>               | Tue | 6 – 9pm        | Tim Bickford      |
|                                | Wed | 9 – 11:30am    | Jim Claypool      |
|                                | Wed | 12:30 – 3:00pm | Jim Claypool      |
|                                | Wed | 6 – 9pm        | Nita Sani         |
|                                | Thu | 7 – 9pm        | Jon Evans         |
| <b>FACETING</b>                | 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    |
| <b>BEG. METALS FABRICATION</b> | Tue | 9am – noon     | Lois Lukasky      |
|                                | Tue | noon – 3pm     | Lois Lukasky      |
|                                | Wed | 6 – 9pm        | Stephanie Griffin |
|                                | Thu | 9am – noon     | Denny Turner      |
|                                | Thu | 1 – 4pm        | Denny Turner      |
|                                | Sun | 5 – 8pm        | Dee Smith         |
| <b>ADV. METALS FABRICATION</b> | Tue | 7 – 9pm        | Al Fuente         |
|                                | Wed | 9am – 3pm      | Denny Turner      |
|                                | Wed | 9am – 3pm      | Jackie Leverone   |
|                                | Thu | 7 – 9pm        | Ellen Riceman     |
|                                | Fri | 9:30am – noon  | Dee Smith         |
|                                | Fri | 12:30 – 3:00pm | Dee Smith         |
|                                | Sat | 4 – 7pm        | Stephanie Griffin |
| <b>CASTING</b>                 | Mon | 1:30 – 7:00pm  | Rocio Bergum      |
|                                | Tue | 9am – 2pm      | Dave Smith        |
|                                | Fri | 5 – 7pm        | Rich Yarbrough    |
| <b>STONE SETTING</b>           | Mon | by appointment | Miguel Asmar      |
| <b>ROCK CARVING</b>            | Mon | 9am – 1pm      | Jan Kunsa         |
| <b>SPHERE MAKING</b>           | Sat | 1 – 3:30pm     | Paul Williams     |
| <b>JUNIORS</b>                 | Sat | 10am – 1pm     | Dave Smith        |
| <b>DESCRIPTIVE MINERALOGY</b>  | Wed | 6:30 – 9pm     | Doug Peeler       |

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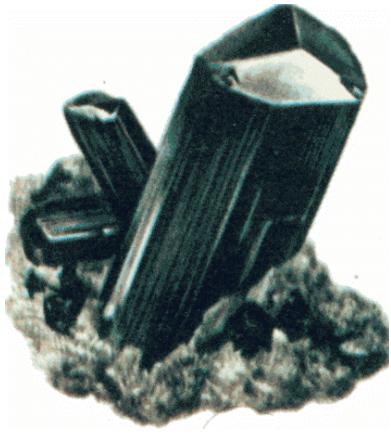
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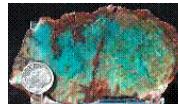
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## San Diego Mineral & Gem Society, Inc.

A Non-Profit Educational and Scientific Organization

1770 Village Place, Balboa Park  
San Diego, CA 92101-1651

[www.sdmg.org](http://www.sdmg.org)

### WELCOME!

The SDMG Building  
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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](http://www.sdmg.org)

### ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



## THE PEGMATITE – APRIL 2018

| Sun                                 | Mon                                         | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri                                                     | Sat                                                   |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| 1                                   | 2<br>GSSD Mtg<br>7pm, SDMG bldg             | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6<br>VGMS<br>Tailgate, Vista<br>10am – 4pm begin        | 7                                                     |
| 8<br>VGMS<br>Tailgate, Vista<br>end | 9                                           | 10  | 11  | 12  | 13<br>No SDMG<br>Min Div Mtg<br>in April                | 14<br>Sinkankas<br>Symposium<br>GIA, Carlsbad         |
| 15                                  | 16<br>SDMG<br>Board Mtg<br>7pm, SDMG bldg   | 17  | 18  | 19  | 20                                                      | 21                                                    |
| 22                                  | 23<br>SDMG<br>General Mtg<br>7pm, SDMG bldg | 24  | 25  | 26  | 27<br>SD Fair<br>Deadline<br>for entries<br>11:59pm PST | 28<br>SDMG<br>Annual BBQ<br>10am – 4pm<br>Balboa Park |
| 29                                  | 30                                          | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4                                                       | 5                                                     |