



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

# THE PEGMATITE

March 2022



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SDMG Friendship Chair

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Official bulletin of the San Diego Mineral and Gem Society

**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:** 3rd Tuesday of the month preceding next month's publication, unless otherwise indicated.

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

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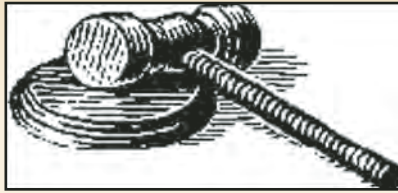
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The mission of the San Diego Mineral and Gem Society is to disseminate knowledge of mineralogy and earth sciences; to encourage the study of these subjects; to conduct classes in mineralogy and lapidary arts; to conduct field trips for the collection 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 2022

by Dave Smith

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

### THE TIMES, THEY ARE A CHANGING.

Just like that old song of the 60's, we're reliving the 70's. Inflation, as we have seen lately, has grown unchecked, and it doesn't appear to be slowing down. I mention this to point out that our Annual Birthday Banquet planned for March 5, 2022 is being postponed until 2023. The rising cost of the caterer, the venue, and other related costs make the event too expensive to hold. We need to re-evaluate this event.

The Annual May Barbeque and Silent Auction has been placed on hold until 2023. In the past, this event has been held on City property. The permit requested for this year's event has been on hold for months. Our BBQ caterer for eight of the last 10 years, excluding the last two years due

to Covid, continue to raise their charges. We also rent portable restrooms and tables for the silent auction. We need to re-evaluate this event also.

Finally, we do have some good things going on such as classes in Cabochons (adults and juniors), Faceting (beginning and advanced), Metals Fabrication (beginning and advanced), Casting, Rock Carving, and Sphere Making. In addition, each class is conducted and assisted by best the group of volunteers in the state of California.

I hope we'll continue to do our best to be the best gem and mineral society now and in the future.

If you have ideas or suggestions, feel free to contact me at [President@sdmg.org](mailto:President@sdmg.org). Thank you.



## SDMG General Meeting

Monday, March 28, 2022

7pm SDMG bldg.

Public Welcome!

*Dave Smith, SDMG President*

**I** LOOK FORWARD to hosting our regular in-person monthly General Meeting in March. The program is not yet set. Please plan on attending – our speakers are always interesting!

Refreshments will on hand, and if you could bring something to share, all the better. A door prize drawing will be offered. We will begin at 7:00 pm in the museum room.

## *Faceting – 84 Index Gear*

*by Bill Brisebois*

**M**OST OF US WHO STARTED FACETING were taught with a 96 tooth index gear. That was the case for me, and for many years that was all I used, as it is so common with many designs available in books and online. When I purchased a used faceting machine, an Ultra Tec V2, it came with every index gear they made at the time: 32, 64, 72, 77, 96, and 120.

I never used the 32, as there were too many limitations, and I was not much interested in the 72, because it seemed to me that the main purpose would be to produce 9 fold symmetry rounds. However, squares, trilliants, and hexagons could easily be accomplished, but more could be done with a 96. The 80 index gear would be for pentagons, or five fold symmetry, as well as 10- or 20-sided rounds, and I only used the 64 for older designs that called for it. The 120 seemed very useful, but it had too many indexes for practical purposes. So, what is the odd one that really intrigues me? Ah, the 77!

The 77 index gear would allow me to cut seven-sided stones as well as 11-sided rounds. Something about 7 fold symmetry was very interesting to me. There is an index splitter pin that allows half indexing. For example, I found that GemCad would allow creating designs with a 3.5 index. This would be needed to cut the “in between” facets on a seven-sided stone (seven cannot be divided by 2 as a whole number, as you know). So the splitter solved a lot of issues, but it was a pain to use without risk of botching a facet index. I found that the 77 was really only useful for a few things, so I went back to designing and cutting with a 96.

I saw that Ultra Tec came out with an 84 index gear, and I thought, “there is the solution for odd symmetry designs that I can have an even index in the middle of a seven-sided stone.”

What I did not think of were all the other possibilities, and I searched for designs using this 84



Faceted pink sapphire cut for my girlfriend Lisa Koonce. I named this custom design “Vertizontal 84.”

tooth index gear. I did not find many existing designs. Only a few, and they did not rock my world. So, I set out on what I told myself would be a two-year quest to design and cut using only an 84 index gear.

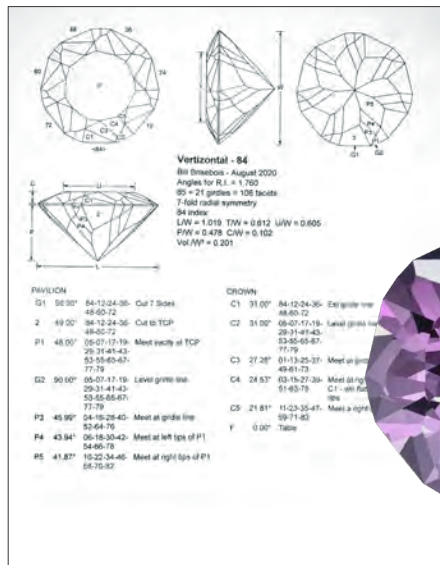
What I had not yet realized is that there were so many shapes that could be created: trilliants, squares, rounds, hexagons and heptagons, ovals, and even pears were easily accomplished. As a matter of fact, every entry I exhibited at San Diego County Fair in 2019 were made with an 84 index gear using my own designs, and they were all award-winning cuts.

As I mentioned, there were so few designs available that I want to share some of them with the faceting community, because I feel they cut quite beautiful stones. Not to mention, think about a standard round brilliant with 16 girdle facets and 8 fold symmetry. Now consider a 14 girdle facet, standard round brilliant cut with seven fold symmetry. It involves less cutting and polishing, and the odd symmetry does some interesting things with the way the light travels through the gemstone. It still works, and it can be mounted in jewelry as a round. And, it has a unique look to it.

So now, almost four years later and making hundreds of designs with an 84 index gear, I am still cutting and creating almost exclusively with this very useful tool. If you have one, now you have a few designs to play with. If you don't, they are

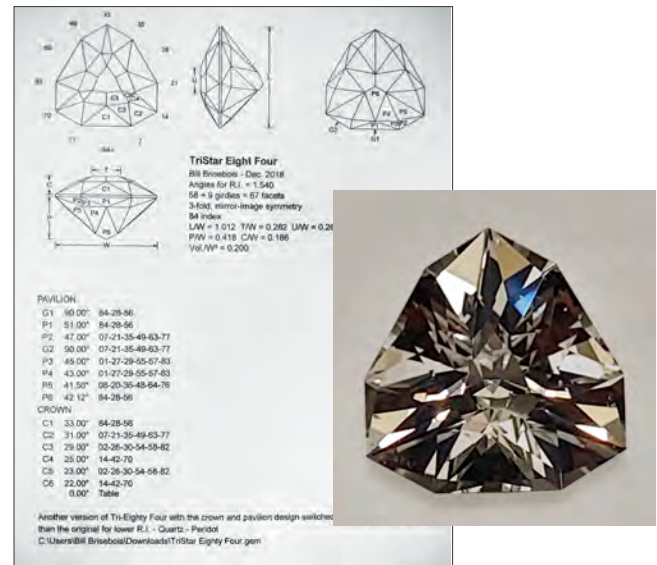
available from Ultra Tec, Facetron, and Poly-Metric Instruments as well as other manufacturers.

I am sharing a few shapes here: a round, a trilliant, a square, and an oval. I have test cut all of them and some have won awards, so I know they work well.



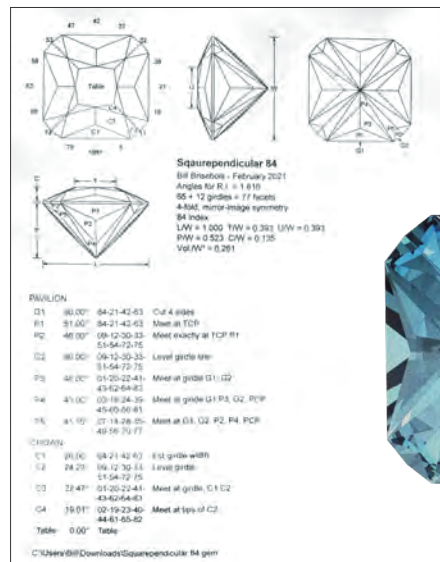
**Left.** The CAD design for Vertizontal-84, downloadable at: [sdmg.org/pdf/brisebois-vertizontal-84-design-v1.pdf](https://sdmg.org/pdf/brisebois-vertizontal-84-design-v1.pdf).

**Overset (right).** GemRay rendering of Vertizontal 84. This design works best for corundum but can be cut with R.I. as low as beryl with great results.



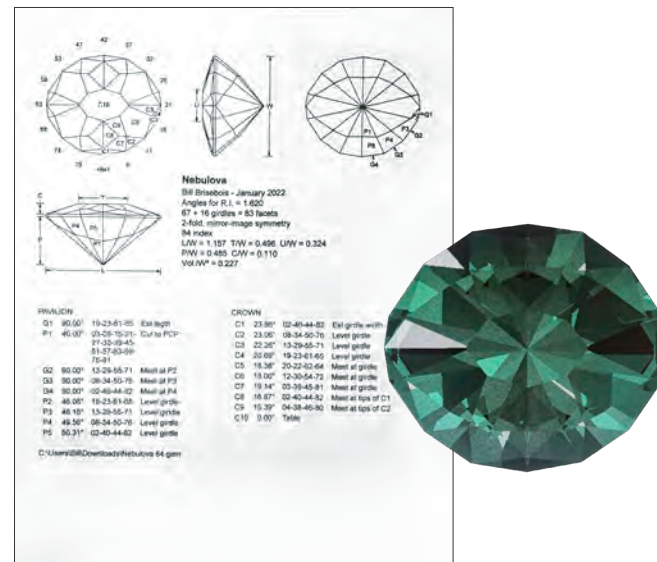
**Left.** The CAD design for TriStar Eight Four, downloadable at: [sdmg.org/pdf/Brisebois-TriStar-Eight-Four-v1.pdf](https://sdmg.org/pdf/Brisebois-TriStar-Eight-Four-v1.pdf).

**Overset (right).** "TriStar Eight Four" is the design I used to cut this trilliant-type topaz.



**Left.** The CAD design for Squarependicular 84, downloadable at: [sdmg.org/pdf/Brisebois-Squarependicular-84-v1.pdf](https://sdmg.org/pdf/Brisebois-Squarependicular-84-v1.pdf).

**Overset (right).** GemRay rendering of Squarependicular 84. This design is for lighter color stones like topaz or beryl to keep the color from washing out. Works well in quartz too, but the light return is less.



**Left.** The CAD design for Nebulova, downloadable at: [sdmg.org/pdf/brisebois-nebulova-design-v1.pdf](https://sdmg.org/pdf/brisebois-nebulova-design-v1.pdf).

**Overset (right).** GemRay rendering of Nebulova. Oval design for tourmaline and higher R.I. However, it will work for quartz, but light return will not be as good.



## Member Profile Simon King

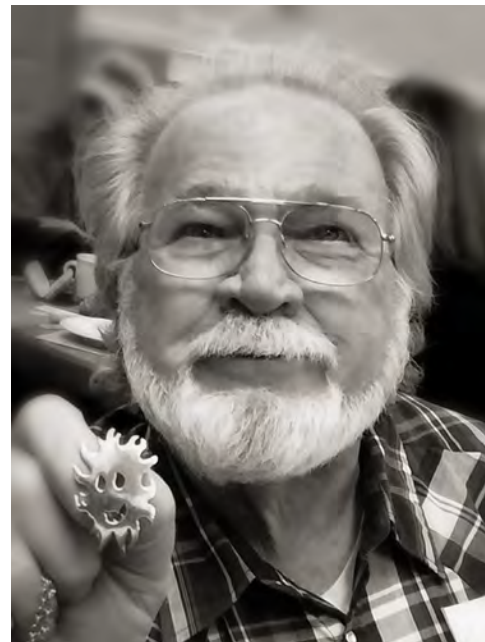
*by LuAnn Benton, SDMG Historian & Friendship Chair*

**S**IMON WAS BORN JANUARY 30, 1938, in Goldsboro, North Carolina. At the age of 17 he joined the Navy and stayed enlisted for ten years. He became an aircraft mechanic with a specialty in hydraulics. He married a real country girl from Selma, North Carolina, and re-enlisted in the Navy. Unfortunately, the marriage was not a happy one, as she didn't like San Francisco and just wanted to go back to the country, so they divorced, and he took her back home.

Simon spent two and one-half years on the USS Midway out of Alameda and then was stationed at Miramar. He was in Escondido when he met his second wife, Patricia, who had five children, one boy and four girls. They were between the ages of 12 and 17 and basically on their own except for the 12 year-old, whom he helped raise. Simon said, "I was the biggest kid in the family." He and Pat opened a bar in Escondido called Pat's on Highway 395, north of Lake Hodges. In 1968, the freeway came through, making it very lucrative but a very hard business to run.

In February 1965, Simon became a teamster and worked on pipelines (water and sewage) in the construction industry. Then, during fire season, he worked for Western Helicopters in Mount Palomar maintaining the three-person helicopters to make sure they were ready for takeoff for fighting fires. In September 1965, he worked at NAS North Island in what was called North Island Naval Air-Rework Facility. He was an aircraft mechanic who overhauled the landing gear for all airplanes, no matter what type of plane. He moved into mid-management as a planner and estimator, managing the manpower and material to overhaul hydraulics in helicopters and fixed wing airplanes. In 1985, the Secretary of Defense, Caspar Weinberger awarded this group of men the Secretary of Defense Productivity Excellence Award. They were all flown to Washington D.C. to be presented their awards at the Pentagon – something Simon is very proud to talk about.

In this position at the Rework Facility, he would also have his crew fix the hydraulics on the underwater vessels of the Deep Sea Rescue Mission Program,



Simon King at SDMG's Annual Banquet in 2019. Photo: Jim Parrish.

because they didn't have a budget for repairs. One day a person on the rescue mission asked Simon what they could do for him in return for all the repairs Simon had done for them, and Simon told him to bring back a rock from the floor of the ocean. "Who else has a rock from the bottom of the ocean?" Simon still treasures this piece of granite that came from 3,300 feet off the bottom of the ocean. He retired from NAS North Island in January 1993. But after six months of retirement Simon said he needed something to do, so he obtained his real estate license and sold real estate until 2015.

In 1969, Simon became a member of the North Island Gem and Mineral Society. Ralph Walker (the late Gladys Walker's first husband) was the president at the time. Six months after Simon joined there, he became the President, which he continued doing for about 15 years. During this time, Simon and Patricia had divorced after 20 years of marriage. He and Ralph became best friends, and it was there at North Island that Ralph taught Simon how to facet gemstones. He learned cabbing as well as silver fabrication, which he then taught North Island members from his own garage. Ralph passed away in 1981, and it wasn't until 1987 that Simon and Ralph's widow, Gladys (now a longtime friend), started dating. In 1993, he

and Gladys both had a good retirement and good insurance, so they spent their money on RV's so they could travel and do the things they wanted to do.

Simon said, "I didn't start singing publicly until I was 72 years old. Before that, when I sang in the shower, the water would suddenly stop!" He and Gladys started singing Karaoke together, which led them to sing with the Madres (originally, wives of Padres players) to support youth baseball players who couldn't afford the cost (of what?). A true highlight for Simon was when the Madres sang the National Anthem at a few Padres games.

Simon joined the San Diego Mineral & Gem Society around 1987, while remaining a member at

the same speech to its members. I have to say, that was very sneaky! But at least knowledge of gems and minerals was spreading – ya gotta hand it to him – good thinking Simon!

He and Gladys, who became a member as well, ran the door prize giveaways at all SDMG events and meetings for many, many years. Some years later, Anne Schafer convinced Simon that the Board of Directors needed bodies to serve, so he and Gladys joined the SDMG Board of Directors, serving from 2001 through 2009. As a board member, he served as Co-Chair for the Gem Diego Shows for three years, taught silver casting, and volunteered wherever he could. They'd been members for 28 years when



Simon King and the late Gladys Walker at the SDMG Annual Barbeque in 2017. Photo: Jim Parrish.

North Island Gem and Mineral Society until it shut down around 1996/97. He was actually forced to join SDMG, if he wanted to buy any more door prize tickets at the meetings. You see, Simon was known (well, maybe SDMG didn't know what he was up to) for attending SDMG meetings to gather as much information and knowledge as he could from the speakers. He'd then go back to North Island and give

Gladys passed away in September 2020. They both had SDMG lifetime memberships.

Simon also served as President for several years on the San Diego County Council of Gem and Mineral Societies. The Council had too much money and had to spend it. So they started the second gem show later in the year, at the Vista Gas and Steam Engine Museum in Vista, CA. They ended up making too much money,



Simon and Gladys run the raffle the SDMG Christmas Potluck in 2015. Photo: Jim Parrish.

so they just gave it to the Vista Museum. While at SDMG, Simon went on to learn silver casting from Bill DeFur, C. Don Hall, and Jim Moore, and he later taught a class from 2015 until 2019. Travelling back and forth from El Cajon to SDMG became a chore, and when Dave Smith and Donna Beers said they'd continue to teach his class, he turned it over to them. At home he built his own sphere-making machine and demonstrated this process at the San Diego County Fair for 20 years. One day Paul Williams and his son came over to watch and ask questions of Simon about his sphere-making. Paul and his son ended up staying the whole day. Simon said, "Anything I can do to get kids involved in rocks is worth the time." Paul told Simon, "You're the reason the world is round."

But, that's not all! In his earlier years, Simon had the privilege and excitement of hosting the Searching for Treasure show. He also went up to the Himalaya Mine and told the owner, Chris Rose, that he wanted to run the tours. Initially, Chris said no, but Simon asked him to let him run just one tour. So Chris let him, and when Simon brought the proceeds back to him, Chris told Simon, "it's all yours." Simon led the tailing digs for 20 years without pay, because he got to get in there and dig like everybody else, and that was pay enough. Besides, he got a key to the mine

so he could go up and play all he wanted during that time. He also ran the Oceanview Mine for one and one-half years.

Simon has all his own lapidary equipment at home including a casting machine, electric metal melter, cab machine, polishers, three faceting machines, a sphere-making machine and 6", 10", 14" and 18" saws. AND, if that's not all, he just received his new vacuum casting machine, and if you want to know what that is – you'll have to ask Simon! He loves field trips and still does them to this day. He and his good friend, SDMG member Miguel Asmar, went to Danby Dry Lake three years ago, which is a sandy lake area 40 miles east of Barstow. There, they found many beautiful blue and yellow Chapenites, and he can't wait to go back. He's presently involved in bringing many of his rough rock and finished pieces of cabs and jewelry to gem shows like Quartzsite and the Lakeside Rodeo Grounds, and he hopes to do more. Simon also recently requested to rejoin the 2022–2024 SDMG Board of Directors. Simon, we look forward to your comedic sense of humor around SDMG, once again.

His final comment, "The whole world needs to know Simon!" I second that!



## *Friendship, and Who & What's News*

by LuAnn H. Benton, Friendship Chair



**LuAnn H. Benton**  
San Diego Mineral &  
Gem Society

At the SDMG Board of Directors meeting on March 21, 2022, **Dolores Wheeler** and **Jan Kuns** were both approved to become SDMG Lifetime Members.

Dolores has been a member 43 years, since 1979, and she illustrated *The Pegmatite* centerfold for 19 of those years. She stopped when *The Pegmatite* went online. Sometimes she would also illustrate the front cover and make other graphics for the bulletin. Dolores participated in Gem Diego Shows and the San Diego County Fairs, and she continues to participate in silversmith and rock carving classes.

Jan has been a member 28 years, since 1994, and taught rock carving for 24 of those years. Although he turned over his primary instruction duties in December 2020, he continues as the rock carving assistant. Jan's performed numerous handyman skills over the many years he's been a member. He lectured on rock carving at a general meeting and served two, two-year terms on the SDMG Board of Directors. Jan also participated in Gem Diego Shows and the San Diego County Fairs.

When you see them around, tell them, "Thank You For All You've Done For SDMG and Congratulations!"



I want to thank **all** the **instructors** for giving the Nominating Committee for 2022–24 ten minutes of class time to talk with their students, who were present, about the election coming up and volunteering. I also want to thank **Denny Turner**, whose classes are closed right now, for allowing me to contact each of his students via email so they could participate in this process as well. For all who didn't hear, in June at the SDMG business meeting (to be announced) there will be the election of all SDMG Officers and the Board of Directors. They are all SDMG members and volunteering their time for these positions for the next two years.

While talking with the students, we also explained that SDMG succeeds only because of the people who step up to volunteer some of their time. We gathered **50** names of **students** with contact information, who said

they were willing to help out on events or other things that are needed. Don't worry if you have to decline when someone calls you to participate, because if you can't, someone else will. Having a long list of names to call upon guarantees there will be plenty of help. Thank you to those who put your name on the list. If you didn't have the opportunity to give your information and want to, please leave your name, phone number and email on my SDMG email, [friendship@sdmg.org](mailto:friendship@sdmg.org). I know you'll enjoy the opportunity of working side-by-side with like-minded rock enthusiasts, and I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible at events in the future.



**Jan Kuns** is cleaning out his garage again and has donated a set of soapstone carving tools to the carving class as well as a very small handmade router. That is really exciting, but you know Jan, if you keep donating all your things, you won't have anything left in your garage for yourself. I guess you'll just have to keep coming to classes for many more years to come!!!! If you want to see how the router can be used in rock carving, go into the museum and look at the cabinets on the west wall. In the middle cabinet, bottom shelf is an owl Jan made years ago. He used this router to cut out the background giving depth to the tree sitting owl. That is so cool Jan, thank you so much.

Please email me your short stories and/or other input for this column at [friendship@sdmg.org](mailto:friendship@sdmg.org) with your full name and phone number. Share your upcoming or recent vacation, a rockhounding excursion with all the trimmings, a birthday, wedding, illness, surgery, whatever you want to share with your SDMG family. If you have a knack for making your story funny, please do, so everyone can enjoy it. I'll take care of any necessary corrections.





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*Reprinted from The Pegmatite (January 1987) via Fresno Chips and via Amador Nugget.*

Hopefully, prospects will be brighter for planning an event where we can come together and celebrate our Society's 89th Birthday in 2023.



SDMG Board Meeting  
Monday, March 21, 2022  
7:00pm SDMG Building

## ROCK CARVING

by LuAnn H. Benton  
SDMG Carving Instructor

**R**OCK CARVING can be very rewarding, like so many other skills learned in lapidary. You don't have to be an artist to learn to how to carve, but a little patience goes a long way. For this project we're going to carve a turtle. You'll use a rock about 5" x 5" x 1 3/4" with as few cracks as possible (**Fig. 1**). **You need:** a plastic toy model, a picture outline of a turtle as though looking down on it from above (**Fig. 2**) for gluing onto your rock, if you don't have a toy model, download pictures or drawings of turtles from different views, a pencil, permanent marker (e.g., Sharpie®), ruler, eraser, apron, goggles, face mask, and ear plugs for protection. **For shaping your turtle you'll need:** chop saw, small lapidary saw, water station (e.g., IV bag with water and pan), a rotary tool (e.g., Foredom, Dremel, etc.), 100–150 grit diamond coated burs, and small saws. **For sanding and polishing you'll need:** small plastic medicine cups, bamboo skewers, glycerin, 220 loose grit, 400 loose grit, 600 loose grit, tin oxide polishing powder, and paper towels. **Have on hand** in case something breaks: hair dryer, gloves and thin super glue.

**Draw the turtle** looking at it from the top or find a picture of one. Find the orientation on the rock where you want the turtle to be cut from, and glue it to the top flat surface of the rock. After the glue has dried, spray a light coat of polyurethane over the picture to secure it to the stone while working with it under water. Let dry for 24 hours before cutting. Using a marker and ruler, mark lines on the rock where the excess rock needs to be removed, just like a cabochon (**Fig. 2**). Using the small lapidary saw, cut along these lines to remove the bulk of excess rock. With the marker, draw a center line from nose to tail, which will help keep both sides even while working on it.

**NOTE:** With a chop saw you can only cut about 1/4" deep before needing to start another cut. If you try to go deeper in that one spot, the blade can grab the rock, and throw it from your hands against the wall or onto the floor. So, only cut



Figure 1.



Figure 2.

1/4" deep, then start another cut down to that same point and widen the area around the blade. By widening the space around the blade you can keep cutting deeper toward the turtle.



Figure 3.

At the same time, make sure you are not undercutting the backside of the turtle. In other words, make sure the cut is straight, front to back from the top (90-degree angle from the top, and down the sides front to back).

With water dripping onto the chop saw blade and the blade anchored in place, hold the rock firmly and perpendicular to the blade while cutting (**Fig. 3**). By holding the rock perpendicular to the blade, you'll naturally cut front to back in a nice straight line from top to bottom, front to back. Cut like this all the way around the turtle in small portions at a time, front to back and right up to the turtle's outline. To make sure you're cutting perpendicular to the rock, set the rock on a table, you'll see that the edge from top to bottom is a 90-degree angle. This process is called "blocking." There is no detail to the turtle at this point.

Now you'll need to "block" the turtle from side to side and end to end. Look at the numerous pictures of turtles from all angles, and with a pencil draw on the rock where the head, legs, tail, and the bottom of the shell will be (**Fig. 4**). Once the lines are definite, go over the pencil with a marker. The marker won't wash off. With the marker place "X's" in the areas of the rock to be cut off so you don't accidentally cut off



Figure 4.

the wrong part (not shown in pictures). Remember, once you cut off a piece of the rock, it's gone. So, be cautious!

**Shaping.** For this next part you'll need your water station, the rotary tool, 100–150 grit diamond-coated burs, and small saws. The water should drip enough to wash away the wet rock silt as you saw through the stone. Using your rotary tool and a small diamond coated saw, cut along the marked lines on the side of the turtle (marked with an "X") and cut from the top down until all the areas of the "X" are gone. Continue to do this for the head, legs, and tail. As you cut, be careful not to cut too deep, lest you go beyond the outline of the part of the turtle you are working on (**Figs. 5, 6, and 7**). Don't forget to work on the bottom of the turtle as well. At this point you have totally "blocked" the turtle from top to bottom, side to side, and end to end (**Fig. 8**). You are now ready to make the final shaping of the turtle and its parts. For shaping you'll primarily use grinders and then burs for the finer details.

Using a grinding machine or a 1/2" wide diamond grinding wheel that fits into your rotary tool, carefully



begin to shape the shell. Grind at a slant from the bottom of the shell up to just near the top center, but not quite to the top. This helps maintain the height of the shell. Use your model/pictures as a guide to grinding and shaping the legs, tail, head, and shell.

Don't forget the bottom of the legs were flat, so don't do much to them so the turtle sits balanced when done. Also, don't make the legs too thin or they can break easily. Those parts that are small or delicate should be worked on last and always supported from underneath



Figure 5.



Figure 7.



Figure 6.



Figure 8.

with your fingers or a small towel underneath when applying pressure. Grinding will remove the turtle picture outline and polyurethane coating.

Once the shell of the turtle has its final shape, draw the pattern of a turtle's shell onto the top of the stone in pencil, which allows you to erase, then trace over it with a marker.

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**NOTE:** Before you start carving the details on the shell, mouth, and eyes, you should practice on a piece of excess rock to see what each of the different tools will do. You'll find some keep a nice straight line while others don't. The same is true for the round ball burrs. Experiment to find the one that will make the best divot in the rock at the size you want. Practice with your tools!

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Figure 9.



Figure 10.

Now carve the shell pattern into the top of the turtle's shell using a very small saw or one of the long thin burrs to follow along the marked lines. When you were practicing, you should have been able to get a feel for which burr or saw works best for making straight lines and not carving past the line, and which one will make the divots you want for your turtle. If you haven't carved the details into the head of the turtle yet, draw out what you want to do with the mouth and eyes on the rock and use your tools to accomplish that part of your project (**Fig. 9**). Rely on your model and/or pictures as references for your carving. A little trick I was taught: to make the eyes and ears stand out mark them with a pencil (**Figs. 10 and 11**).

**Sanding and polishing.** Once you have completely finished carving your turtle, leave the rotary tool out, but clean up the water station and put it away. Wash off your carved turtle as well. Place a piece of paper towel on the table in front of you and your rock turtle. Pour about a teaspoon of 220 loose grit and about two to three drops of glycerin into a very small plastic cup, mixing with the tip of a bamboo skewer. Add drops of glycerin until it reaches a lotion consistency. Apply a small amount of this 220 mixture with your finger to one section of your turtle at a time and sand this entire section thoroughly with a 1 – 1 1/4" long skewer stick in your rotary tool. Remember where you started so you don't duplicate your work when you don't have to. Go to another section and do the same until the entire turtle has been sanded down with 220 grit. Clean up



Figure 11.



your table, remove the 220 used skewer from the rotary tool, and toss. Wash your hands and your carving with soap and water, using a brush to remove the 220 grit from the crevices in the turtle.

Place a new paper towel on the table and put a new 1" – 1 1/4" long skewer stick into the rotary tool. Repeat the same steps of sanding as above using 400 loose grit, then 600 loose grit. After washing everything with soap, water, and a toothbrush between each step, prepare the final step the same way as before, but use tin oxide polishing powder combined with glycerin, instead. Mix, apply, and work the polish section by section until done. Wash up and admire your carved and polished turtle.



The pictures in this article document my third carving project. During the project, a part of one of the legs broke off. My instructor, Jan Kunsu, suggested drying the stone where it broke with a mini heater (hair dryer).

Then, I adhered the piece back into place with a water-thin super glue, positioning the carving so the piece being attached balances itself while it dries. Don't sand or do anything to the broken edges because you want the pieces to fit back the way they came apart. Hopefully, the lines of the break will not show.

Because the leg broke off so easily, Jan also suggested gluing the entire turtle to another stone to stabilize it. I used a piece of dumortierite I had, which is blue, and I put grooves in it to simulate water flowing over sand (**Figs. 10 and 11**). With super glue, you can start back to carving within 20 to 30 minutes.

One of the things I love about carving is you don't make mistakes, you just redesign! I hope this helps you understand carving, but we'd love to have you in our class to experience carving with people who can guide you through the process.



## JUNIOR DIVISION

*Coordinated by  
Dave Smith*

OUR CLASS has been lightly attended for the past few months. We are competing with other extra activities such as soccer and basketball but one thing that is available all year is the Junior cabochon class. When we have better weather, we can take a class-paid field trip to a tourmaline mine.

If you know a young person between the ages of 12 and 17 who would like to create a piece of art of their own, the Juniors class is for them. Our class runs from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM each Saturday. Rock rough, equipment, and instruction is all included. The cost is \$10 annual membership and \$1.00 class fee.





## SAN DIEGO COUNTY FAIR GEMS & MINERALS DEPT.

Anne Schafer, Supervisor  
Jennifer Stapp, Asst. Supervisor

**W**HAT A LONG, DRY SPELL IT WAS, two whole years with no Gems & Minerals Dept. to celebrate all things gems-minerals-fossils-jewelry-lapidary at the San Diego County Fair.

**But the good news is: We're back!** Gems & Minerals will be in the same location, south Mission Tower. We'll have the usual space for our exhibitors, plus our vendors will be returning, the "sand pile" where kids can screen for tumbled stones will be set up and ready to go, and maybe we'll even be able to host a few demonstrators like sphere makers and faceters.

### Here is the schedule, in a nutshell:

<u>Entry deadline:</u>	Friday, April 29, 2022
<u>Entry delivery:</u>	Saturday & Sunday, May 28 & 29
<u>Exhibitor Appreciation:</u>	Saturday, June 11, Noon – 8 p.m.
<u>Opening Day of the Fair:</u>	Weds., June 8
<u>Last day of the Fair:</u>	Monday, July 4th
<u>Closed:</u>	Every Monday & Tuesday, except for the Fourth of July
<u>Entry Pick Up:</u>	Weds., July 6, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

### Here is the link to the Gems & Minerals entry brochure for 2022:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/lw33m23trfgpryx/AAAkYjZmXrda6Prz720vhIraa?dl=0>

### And here is the link to the Fair's Online Entry:

<https://sdiego.fairwire.com>

I know those links are confusing, and it's weird not to be able to enter online at the Fairgrounds' usual website – all you see right now about Gems & Minerals under Competitive Exhibits is "Coming Soon". Hopefully, this situation will soon improve, as the Fair hires additional folks to tackle website updating.

### Questions? Sometimes we have answers! Please contact us:

Supervisor Anne Schafer at 858-586-1637 or [Agate.Annie2@gmail.com](mailto:Agate.Annie2@gmail.com)

Asst. Supervisor Jennifer Stapp at 858-829-1723 or [cat333@gmail.com](mailto:cat333@gmail.com)

**We're looking forward to another exceptional year, with more of your beautiful entries!**



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.

- 
- Mar 12–13, 2022**     **Chuckwalla Field Trip between Desert Center and Blythe**  
**Sponsor:** Searchers Gem & Mineral Society  
**Details & Directions:** [www.searchersrocks.org/next-field-trip](http://www.searchersrocks.org/next-field-trip)  
**Contact/field trip leaders:** Robert at 562-706-4892 or Steve Duncan at 714-724-7102  
**Materials:** Agates including plume, moss, fortification, and banded, and jaspers of many colors; sagenite; agate-filled geodes and amygdules.  
**Overnight:** Dry camping site accessible by RVs and cars, but drive with extra care along the last stretch of road. Bring something to share for Saturday night potluck. Depart from camp at 8:30 AM daily; 4WD needed to reach collecting area, so plan ahead if you need to carpool.
- 
- Mar 13, 2022**     **Calico Hills and Mule Canyon Area, near Barstow, CA**  
**Sponsor:** Yucaipa Valley Gem & Mineral Society  
**Details & Directions:** [www.yvgms.org/field-trips?](http://www.yvgms.org/field-trips?)  
**Contact/field trip leader:** Sign-up/cancel via email to D. Gibbs at [poppyrocks987@gmail.com](mailto:poppyrocks987@gmail.com)  
**Materials:** Petrified palm root, petroliferous nodules, coemanite crystals, barite crystals, silver lace onyx, gold jasper/agate, jasper, dendritic opal, botryoidal chalcedony, banded chert.  
**Day Trip:** High clearance vehicle a must; no amenities, bring everything.  
**Meet Up:** 8AM at Eddie's World, under the big ice cream sundae. (Off I-15, after Barstow, near Yermo.)
- 
- Mar 26, 2022**     **Calico Hills, near Barstow, CA**  
**Sponsor:** Conejo Gem & Mineral Society  
**Details & Sign-Up:** [whoscoming.com/vgms/Calico2022.html?trig=new](http://whoscoming.com/vgms/Calico2022.html?trig=new)  
**Contact/field trip leader:** Chuck Borchart at 805-551-9946 or [chuck.cgmctrips@gmail.com](mailto:chuck.cgmctrips@gmail.com)  
**Materials:** Silver lace onyx, petrified palm root.  
**Day Trip:** High clearance vehicle a must; no amenities, bring everything.  
**Meet Up:** 9AM at Eddie's World, under the big ice cream sundae. (Off I-15, north side of Fwy, after Barstow, near Yermo.)
- 
- Apr 9–10, 2022**     **Siam Siding and Trilobites, near Chambliss, CA**  
**Sponsor:** Searchers Gem & Mineral Society  
**Details & Directions:** [www.searchersrocks.org/next-field-trip](http://www.searchersrocks.org/next-field-trip)  
**Details & Sign-up:** Steve Duncan, 714-724-7102 or [mrsteveduncan2@gmail.com](mailto:mrsteveduncan2@gmail.com)  
**Materials:** Chapenite at Siam Siding on Saturday; half-day collecting trilobites near camp on Sunday.  
**Overnight:** Dry camping, off of Cadiz Rd, near Chambliss, CA. Bring something to share for Saturday night potluck. Depart from camp at 8:30 AM on Sat and 8AM on Sunday; 4WMD highly recommended.
- 
- Apr 24, 2022**     **Monastery Hill and Early Man Site (closed), near Barstow, CA**  
**Sponsor:** Yucaipa Valley Gem & Mineral Society  
**Details & Directions:** [www.yvgms.org/field-trips?](http://www.yvgms.org/field-trips?)  
**Contact/field trip leader:** Sign-up/cancel via email to D. Gibbs at [poppyrocks987@gmail.com](mailto:poppyrocks987@gmail.com)  
**Materials:** Red jasper, psilomeline, agate, common opal, quartz, jasper agate.  
**Day Trip:** High clearance vehicle a must; no amenities – bring everything you need to stay fed/hydrate, warm/cool, plus bring sunscreen, hat, and tools.  
**Meet Up:** 8AM at Eddie's World, under the big ice cream sundae. (Off I-15, after Barstow, near Yermo.)
-

## ON THE GO ... TO A SHOW



### MARCH .....

#### 5–6 VENTURA, CA – 59th Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Show

**Sponsor:** Ventura Gem & Mineral Society

**Venue:** Ventura County Fairgrounds

10 West Harbor Blvd., Ventura CA 93001

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

**Admission & Parking:** Free entry; fee for fairground parking.

**Contact:** [info@vgms.org](mailto:info@vgms.org)

**Web:** [vgms.org](http://vgms.org)

Exhibits, dealers, kid's activities, silent auctions, raffles, plant sales and a rummage sale

#### 11–13 VICTORVILLE, CA – Stoddard Wells 47th Annual Rockhound Tailgate

**Sponsor:** Victorville Valley Gem & Mineral Club

**Venue:** Stoddard Wells Road/Dale Evans Pkwy

**Hours:** 9am – 5pm daily

**Contact:** [smaquilter12@gmail.com](mailto:smaquilter12@gmail.com)

**Web:** [vvgmc.org/tailgate.html](http://vvgmc.org/tailgate.html)

**Field Trip:** Saturday, 9am to 1pm.

**Material:** Tri-color marble.

#### ~~12–13~~ ARCADIA, CA – Pasadena Lapidary Society Annual Tournament of Gems **RESCHEDULED for August 20–21, 2022**

**Web:** [pasadenalapidary.org/pls-2022-show/](http://pasadenalapidary.org/pls-2022-show/)

#### 13 FALLBROOK, CA – FGMS Rough N' Cut Sale

**Sponsor:** Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society

**Venue:** 123 W. Alvarado Street, Fallbrook, CA 92028

**Hours:** 1 – 4pm

**Contact:** [smaquilter12@gmail.com](mailto:smaquilter12@gmail.com)

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

### MARCH/APRIL .....

#### 30–3 JOSHUA TREE, CA – JT Sportsmans Club Spring Gem, Mineral and Craft Show

**Venue:** Sportsmans Club

6225 Sunburst Ave, Joshua Tree, CA 92252



**Hours:** Wed, Noon – 5pm; Thu thru Sun, 9am – 5pm

**Admission & Parking:** Free.

**Web:** [jtsportsmansclub.com/gem-%26-mineral-show](http://jtsportsmansclub.com/gem-%26-mineral-show)

### APRIL .....

#### 1–3 VISTA, CA – Vista Gem & Mineral Society Spring Show

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

**Hours:** Fri & Sat 9am – 5pm; Sun 9am – 4pm

**Admission & Parking:** Free.

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

Outdoor event in a rustic setting with up to 80 vendors offering jewelry, slabs, cabs, and rough stones of all kinds. Tools, equipment, and other lapidary related items. Raffle on Sunday at 3pm.



**18th Annual  
Sinkankas Symposium  
Alexandrite  
and Other Color-Change Gemstones**

April 25 – June 6, 2022

Q&A May 16th, 2022

Co-sponsored by GIA and Geo-Literary  
Society

The event will be virtual again this year.

Registration opens March 14, 2022 at:

[2022-sinkankas-symposium.eventbrite.com](https://2022-sinkankas-symposium.eventbrite.com)

(Website remains closed until March 14, 2022)

Registration cost: \$25.00

Event details and info for pre-ordering printed books  
will be available on the website in mid-March

[sinkankassymposium.net](https://sinkankassymposium.net)

**8–10 DENVER, CO – RMGM Colorado Mineral  
and Fossil Spring Show**

**Sponsor:** RMGM

**Venue:** Crowne Plaza Denver Airport  
Convention Center

15500 E 40th Ave, Denver, CO 80239

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

**Admission & Parking:** Free

**Web:** [www.rmgmprromotions.com](https://www.rmgmprromotions.com)

Shop for Minerals, Fossils, Meteorites, Hand-made Jewelry and so much more! This is a big show and a great way to start off the spring season. Open to retail and wholesale shoppers.

**~~9–10~~ THOUSAND OAKS, CA CGMC Pageant of  
a Thousand Gems**

**CANCELED**

**Web:** [www.cgamc.org](https://www.cgamc.org)

**16 LAKE ELSINORE, CA – 2nd Annual Lake  
Elsinore Rock & Craft Show**

**Sponsor:** Lake Elsinore Gem & Mineral Society

**Venue:** 32097 Corydon Rd., Lake Elsinore, CA 92530

**Hours:** 10am – 4pm

**Contact:** 909-208-6956, [berylman50@aol.com](mailto:berylman50@aol.com)

**APRIL/MAY .....**

**30–1 ANAHEIM, CA – The Searchers Annual  
Show**

**Sponsor:** Searchers Gem & Mineral Society

**Venue:** Brookhurst Community Center  
2271 W Crescent Ave, Anaheim, CA 92801

**Hours:** Sat, 10am – 5pm; Sun, 10am – 4:30pm

**Web:** [www.searchersrocks.org/show](https://www.searchersrocks.org/show)

**MAY .....**

**6–8 Lancaster, CA – CFMS Gems, Minerals,  
Fossils & Jewelry Show**

**Sponsor/host:** Antelope Valley Gem &  
Mineral Society

**Venue:** Antelope Valley Fairgrounds  
2551 W Avenue H, Lancaster, CA 93536

**Hours:** Fri, Sat, 9am – 5pm; Sun, 9am – 4pm

**Contact:** Bob Backus, 661-526-3564 or  
[lbbbackus@aol.com](mailto:lbbbackus@aol.com); Susan Chaisson-Walblom,  
661-406-0143 or [slchaisson@yahoo.com](mailto:slchaisson@yahoo.com)

Gems, Minerals, Fossils, Jewelry,  
Demonstrations, Exhibits, Dealers, Kid's  
and Family Activities. Free parking and Free  
Admission.

**6–8 Santa Ana, CA – LLD West Coast Gem &  
Mineral Spring Show**

**Venue:** Holiday Inn Orange County Airport  
2726 S Grand Ave, Santa Ana, CA 92705

**Web:** [www.mineralshowslld.com](https://www.mineralshowslld.com)

**6–7 Yucaipa, CA – YGMS Annual Show at the  
City of Yucaipa's Music & Arts Festival**

**Sponsor:** Yucaipa Valley Gem and Mineral  
Society **Venue:** Yucaipa Performing Arts  
Center

12062 California Street, Yucaipa, CA 92399

**Hours:** Fri, 6pm – 10pm; Sat, Noon – 10pm

**Contact:** 909-794-0731

**Web:** [yvgms.org](https://yvgms.org)

## Why We Need Hobbies

by Donna Martelli\*

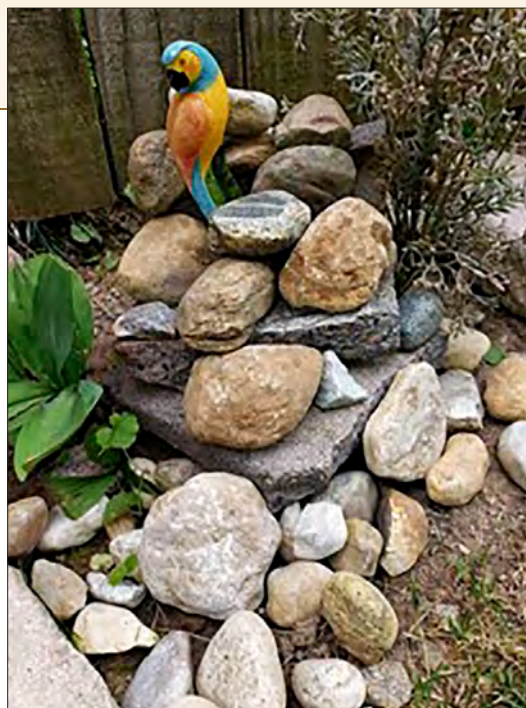
FILLING OUT various questionnaires and applications in life, there is often this one nagging question: Hobbies?\_\_\_\_\_. I never had real hobbies, so when I came across that annoying question, I would write in something nondescript like reading or decorating. I've always wanted to make lovely things but that is a vague concept that can cover many activities that might be classified as hobbies.

The COVID-19 quarantine of 2020 transformed by hobby situation. "Making things lovely" was still the foundation but now I had two new bona fide hobbies that were born during the pandemic.

Somewhere along the way, a proverbial light bulb illuminated my brain and I realized how hobbies enrich our lives like nothing else can. I feel happy and at peace when I am working in these newly beloved hobbies. I have friends with this same testimony of discovery during 2020. Many people took this unsettling time to weigh what matters most in life and get rid of frills, embrace a healthier lifestyle, and start something new, be it course, business, or hobby.

There's nothing like creativity. In fact, the literal definition of being creative is to bring forth something new and unique. I used to think that hobbies were for retirees who had nothing more to look forward to in life. With their quiet and relaxed lives, maybe hobbies could fill the hours and even add a little flavor to their days. I've since discovered my view of hobbies was shallow indeed.

Even busy people, with mega-stressful lives, need hobbies—maybe even more than the average person. Why? People who engage in an interesting hobby for at least twenty minutes a week tend to be more energetic for their other activities. That's a small investment for the rewards that a hobby promises.



Display author made in her back yard with rocks and a ceramic bird. Photo: Donna Martelli.

Need your batteries recharged? Work in your hobby and let it strengthen you even as it fills your heart and mind with something you genuinely enjoy. Our hobbies give us a desperately needed break from routines and let us connect with something life-affirming inside us. Hobbies give us permission to relax in the present and engage all our faculties. Hobbies can provide a break with a purpose as we use our downtime to do something productive. And hobbies come with wonderful side-effects, besides a new winter hat or box of cookies to share (depending on your hobby), we gain immense satisfaction and overall joy. Hobbies can give us quiet time to relax our minds as we occupy our hands, or social time to connect and create with like-hearted people who share our passion.

For people with somewhat dull, uninspiring lives, hobbies break up the monotony without feeling like work. They can provide a little challenge and excitement about life without being overbearing.

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\* This article is reproduced by permission, it originally appeared in *The Epoch Times*, on September 2, 2021.

Hobbies are gratifying to our souls. It is delightful to be in the zone and lose track of time, totally removed from the stressors of life and fully engaged in what we are doing. This has happened to me more times than I can remember.

When I was quarantined in 2020, I learned about landscaping and gardening and began my new outdoor adventure. I had to be creative where I was, and I was at home. Pulling weeds, clearing my yard of sticks, arranging stones, and adding mulch and borders became my new hobby and it gave me such pleasure.

Hand-in-hand with landscaping and gardening, I am also delighted to have discovered “rockhounding.” If you are unfamiliar with the term it means “the activity of searching for and collecting rocks, fossils, or minerals.” I have done this since childhood. I remember my mom was often frustrated with all the rocks I brought home from my adventures and hoarded in my bedroom.



### About the Author

Formerly a professional dancer with the Harkness Ballet of New York, Donna Martelli has written three books, as well as course manuals, book summaries, blogs, articles, and devotionals. She lives in Indianapolis, Indiana, and is married with five children and 12 grandchildren. She is the author of *When God Says Drop It* and *Why the Dance*.

## SDMG BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

February 21, 2022

*This meeting was conducted via GoToMeeting, and was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by President David Smith.*

**Present electronically:** President David Smith and Board members Andy Anderson, LuAnn Benton, Tim Bickford, Bob Hancock, David Lipson, Wayne Moorhead, Jim Parrish, Sally Parrish, Ellen Riceman, Nita Sani, Anne Schafer, Jennifer Stapp and Paul Williams. A quorum was present. Excused: Doug Peeler and Denny Turner. Absent: Jill Williamson. Guests: Bill Brisebois, Lee Jackson and Lisbet Thoresen.

**President's report:** David Smith reported that John Kruzell's presentation at the January General Meeting was informative and well-attended. Fewer students were attending class, except for Wednesday faceting and Tuesday casting. Denny Turner's classes set to resume in late February.

**Membership:** Angie Cannon reported a total SDMG membership of 562, including 41 Juniors.

**City Liaison:** Jim Parrish has met the new personnel in the City's Park and Rec. Dept. with oversight of Spanish Village and SDMG.

**Museum curator:** Jim Parrish has plans to display the dino eggs purchased by the Society, and has prepared the case liners for the exhibit.

**Juniors:** David Smith reported that Junior class attendance remains low.

**School Director:** David Smith reported that the last 5-gallon bucket of saw oil was opened, and that 600 grit belts seem to be replaced more often than other grits. Wayne Moorhead commented that ordering a 100-count of each grit is normal, and that such a supply should last a year. He recommended changing the lock on the cabinet.

Dave requested that people using the mop bucket to please empty it after use, and rinse/clean the mop.

**School Liaison:** After a request for a volunteer to teach a new daytime faceting class, Bob Hancock replied that Thursday morning and all three Wednesday



classes have openings for new students. Bill Brisebois added that the Thursday p.m. class has room for two new students.

**Donations:** Gerry Crisler donated two truckloads of equipment, slabs, rough rock, findings, fossils, books and magazines to the Society.

**Outreach:** LuAnn Benton plans to drop off SDMG info postcards at Miner's Gems and South American Imports in Old Town in the future.

**Public Lands:** Lisbet Thoresen spoke about the background of use planning for the Mojave Trails National Monument and how rockhounding is currently incorporated as a legitimate use, until the final planning can be done. She reported that the Desert Advisory Committee (DAC) will be adding a new Mojave Trails Subgroup, and provided a draft letter of support by SDMG for Ruth Hidalgo's application for inclusion in that subgroup. Motion carried unanimously to approve the letter of support for Ruth Hidalgo's application, to be signed by President Dave Smith and SDMG's Public Lands Rep. Lisbet Thoresen.

**Scholarships:** Jennifer Stapp has one candidate lined up, and is working on the second.

**San Diego County Fair:** Gems & Minerals Dept. to return to usual location in south Mission Tower. Online entry available now, but not through regular Fairgrounds website. Entry brochures to be printed and dropped off in classrooms in near future.

**Unfinished Business:** LuAnn Benton reported many people are interested in serving on the Board of Directors for 2022-2024; a full slate will be presented at the March Board Meeting.

**New Business:** A motion carried unanimously making Jan Kunsu and Dolores Wheeler life members of the Society, in recognition of their decades of service to SDMG.

*(Any member may attend Board meetings. The next one is scheduled for March 21, 2022, at 7 p.m. and will be held via GoToMeeting. Please contact Jim Parrish at [jparrish007@gmail.com](mailto:jparrish007@gmail.com) to be added to the attendance list.)*

## SDMG BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

January 17, 2022

*This meeting was conducted via GoToMeeting, and was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President David Smith.*

**Present electronically:** President David Smith and Board members Andy Anderson, LuAnn Benton, Bob Hancock, David Lipson, Wayne Moorhead, Jim Parrish, Sally Parrish, Doug Peeler, Ellen Riceman, Nita Sani, Anne Schafer, Jennifer Stapp, Paul Williams and Jill Williamson. A quorum was present. **Absent:** Tim Bickford and Denny Turner.

**President's report:** David Smith reported that classes have started up with fewer students; the \$5,000 California COVID Relief Grant was received; and that the Society's desert property was sold but the recording is still in process.

**Membership:** Angie Cannon reported a total SDMG membership of 544, including 41 Juniors.

**City Liaison:** Jim Parrish will be updating some signage in the Museum about the reinstated COVID mask mandate.

Many instructors reported problems with the water supply, or lack thereof, at both day- and night-time classes. Jim Parrish to write up a Problem Form and talk with Marie Wiggins at the Park and Rec. Dept. about a solution.

**Museum curator:** Jim Parrish stated that he has plans to display the dino eggs purchased by the Society, and that the case liners are ready.

**Juniors:** David Smith reported that Junior class attendance was down for the past two weeks.

**School Director:** Paul Williams installed new diamond wheels at seven of the stations on the Titan grinders; the station next to the green trim saw is worn but is to be used for soft material.

Denny Turner's silver classes will be dark until February.

Dave Smith to ask the Spanish Village President where SDMG's fire extinguishers are.

Jim Parrish advised LuAnn Benton that it is the instructor's prerogative whether masks will be worn in

class. However, if visitors are present, everyone must wear masks.

**School Liaison:** Bob Hancock reported that the weekly online faceting class has 12 to 14 students; there are 5 in-person classes running.

**Donations:** (1) Nancy and Russ Christensen donated two pickup loads of equipment, findings, rocks and slabs from the Jim Roush estate. (2) Jim Parrish, Wayne and Peggy Leibitzke picked up a donation in Poway of 15 to 20 flats of cutting rough and a Vibralap.

A motion passed unanimously to revise the two-part donation form to include the Society's full name and address, FEIN number, Charitable Trust number, corporate number and a statement that "No goods or services were received in return for this donation."

**Outreach:** LuAnn Benton to place some SDMG info postcards at Lost Cities in Old Town.

**Public Lands:** LuAnn Benton reported that the CFMS disbanded their Public Lands Committee.

**Pegmatite:** A motion carried to publish an abbreviated version of the Pegmatite in April and June, to list the slate of candidates for 2022-2024. March and May are scheduled to be full editions.

**Website:** Discussion of website changes tabled until someone starts up a Website Committee.

**BBQ:** Doug Peeler reported that the City is taking applications for permits, but that it is too late to begin organizing a BBQ for this year.

**Banquet:** Motion passed to postpone Birthday Banquet until 2023, due to COVID concerns.

**Scholarships:** Motion passed to provide two \$1,000 scholarships to qualified candidates in 2022, despite postponement of the Banquet.

**San Diego County Fair:** Motion passed to provide two \$50 donated awards in 2022, one for Best Mineral Self-Collected by an Amateur and a second for Best Cabochon Made by an Exhibitor.

**New Business:** A motion passed to appoint LuAnn Benton as Chair of the Nominating Committee. Additional committee members: Anne Schafer, Jim Parrish, Paul Williams, John Kruzal, Jackie Leverone and Andy Anderson.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.**

## SDMG BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

### SPECIAL MEETING

January 2, 2022

*This meeting was conducted via GoToMeeting, and was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President David Smith.*

**Present electronically:** President David Smith and Board members LuAnn Benton, Bob Hancock, David Lipson, Wayne Moorhead, Jim Parrish, Sally Parrish, Doug Peeler, Ellen Riceman, Nita Sani, Anne Schafer, Jennifer Stapp and Paul Williams. A quorum was present. Absent: Andy Anderson, Tim Bickford and Jill Williamson. Guests: Yvonne Juarez, Beverly Sherratt and Denny Turner.

**Land sale:** David Smith announced that this meeting was called to discuss, and to potentially accept, an offer of \$20,000.00 from Andrew and Angel Hurov for the Society's 10-acre parcel of desert land near Ocotillo in Imperial County.

Dave described two other offers that had been received, one for \$2,000.00 and a second for \$4,000.00, put forward by local realtors.

Beverly Sherratt, an SDMG member and realtor, was the listing agent for the SDMG property. She explained the costs associated with the sale: \$1,000 to go to the buyer's realtor as a commission and \$400 to go to the escrow company handling title transfer, etc.

Bev described two main negatives about the property: (1) it's located in a dry wash and is floodable; and (2) the State of California retains the mineral rights. The main positive is the excellent access to the adjacent BLM land for people with ATVs. The potential buyers had visited the property, and were excited about it.

A motion was made to accept the \$20,000.00 bid from Andrew and Angel Hurov for the Society's 10-acre parcel of desert land in Imperial County. The motion passed, 11-0, with one abstention.

Ellen Riceman was tasked with writing up the minutes and emailing them to David Smith, as part of the sale process.

**Meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.**

**SDMG BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS****SPECIAL MEETING****November 15, 2021**

*This meeting was conducted via GoToMeeting, and was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by President David Smith.*

**Present electronically:** President David Smith and Board members LuAnn Benton, Bob Hancock, Wayne Moorhead, Jim Parrish, Doug Peeler, Ellen Riceman, Nita Sani, Jennifer Stapp, Paul Williams and Jill Williamson. A quorum was present. Excused: Anne Schafer. Absent: Andy Anderson, Sally Parrish and Denny Turner. Guests: David Lipson and Tim Bickford.

**President's report:** David Smith reported that fall classes were continuing, the \$5,000 grant may still happen, and that Cab 'n' Slab was very good.

**Membership:** Angie Cannon reported total SDMG membership of 491, including 37 Juniors.

**City Liaison:** Jim Parrish has submitted all documents to the City with respect to our Special Use Permit for the SDMG Building.

**Juniors:** David Smith advised that there was a light turnout of 7 Juniors on last Saturday.

**School Director:** Dave Smith reported that he ordered new 600 grit sandpaper. Paul Williams stated that a new shop vac is needed. Tim Bickford said the 200 grit sanding unit needs a new expanding drum. Wayne Moorhead shared that he is still receiving a lot of emails from students who don't get a response from the instructors when they email them.

**School Liaison:** Bob Hancock reported that a private party is making brass dops for the Ultra Tec machines, which are being tried out. There are currently 29 total faceting students:

Tuesday night: 4

Weds. morning: 6

Weds. afternoon: 9

Weds. night: 6

Thurs. night: 4

**Donations:** Jim Parrish reported that Jim Roush's family plans to donate two to three truckloads of equipment & rocks from his estate.

**Cab & Slab:** Jim Parrish reported that well over 100 people attended the Nov. 7th event. Jim thanked all the volunteers for their hard work that made the event very successful.

**Friendship & Historian:** LuAnn Benton is currently working on articles about Lois Lukasky and Simon King.

**December Nights:** SDMG not participating; full-scale event not happening until 2022.

**Christmas Potluck:** Postponed to 2022.

**Banquet:** Still scheduled for March 5, 2002.

**BBQ:** Doug Peeler is waiting to hear back from the City's Park & Rec. Department.

**San Diego County Fair:** Jennifer Stapp reported that the Gems & Minerals Dept. had a meeting with Fairgrounds staff. The Fair will happen in 2022, but will be one week shorter.

**Unfinished Business:** Dave Smith reported that Beverly Sherratt is willing to list SDMG's 10-acre desert parcel in Imperial County.

**New Business:** LuAnn asked if anyone had any information about having SDMG name badges made, and was referred to Angie Cannon.

A motion carried unanimously to appoint Tim Bickford and David Lipson to the SDMG Board for the remainder of the current term.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.**





## SAN DIEGO MINERAL & GEM SOCIETY WINTER 2022 - CLASS SCHEDULE

**Signing up for classes:** Prospective students must contact the instructor prior to attending class; click on the instructor's name to send them an email. The instructor will let the student know if there is room in class, if there is a waiting list, what materials or tools are required, and if proof of COVID-19 vaccination is required. Masks are required in SDMG indoor spaces at this time.

**Class fees:** Adults: \$6 per 3-hour class. \$8 per class if longer than 3 hours.  
 Juniors: \$1 per class.  
 Cash or checks only, please.  
 Instructors may require prepayment of class fees per month, or per semester.

**Classes are open to SDMG members only.** Students must read and follow the **School Rules**, available in the classroom and at <https://sdmg.org/class-schedule/school-rules.pdf>

<u><a href="#">CABOCHONS</a></u>	Tue	6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	<u><a href="#">Tim Bickford</a></u>
	Wed	9:00 am - 11:30 am	<u><a href="#">Jim Claypool</a></u>
	Wed	12:30 pm - 3:30 pm	<u><a href="#">Tim Bickford</a></u>
	Wed	6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	<u><a href="#">Nita Sani</a></u>
	Thu	9:00 am – 12:00 pm	<u><a href="#">John Kruzel</a></u>
<u><a href="#">FACETING</a></u>	Tue	6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	<u><a href="#">Tim Sandiford</a></u>
	Wed	9:00 am - 11:30 am	<u><a href="#">Bob Hancock</a></u>
	Wed	6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	<u><a href="#">Tim Sandiford</a></u>
	Thu	6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	<u><a href="#">Bill Brisebois</a></u>
<u><a href="#">ADV. FACETING</a></u>	Wed	12:00 pm - 3:00 pm	<u><a href="#">Donna Beers</a></u>
<u><a href="#">BEG. METALS FABRICATION</a></u>	Mon	5:00 pm - 8:00 pm	<u><a href="#">Lloyd Steven</a></u>
	Tue	6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	<u><a href="#">Yvonne Juarez</a></u>
	Wed	6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	<u><a href="#">Tim Swann</a></u>
	Thu	9:00 am - 12:00 pm	<u><a href="#">Denny Turner</a></u>
	Thu	1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	<u><a href="#">Denny Turner</a></u>
<u><a href="#">ADV. METALS FABRICATION</a></u>	Wed	9:00 am – 3:00 pm	<u><a href="#">Denny Turner</a></u>
	Wed	9:00 am - 3:00 pm	<u><a href="#">Jackie Leverone</a></u>
	Thu	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	<u><a href="#">Ellen Riceman</a></u>
	Fri	9:00 am - 3:00 pm	<u><a href="#">Jill Williamson</a></u>
<u><a href="#">CASTING</a></u>	Tue	9:00 am - 2:00 pm	<u><a href="#">Dave Smith</a></u>
	Fri	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	<u><a href="#">Rich Yarbrough</a></u>
<u><a href="#">ROCK CARVING</a></u>	Mon	9:00 am – 3:00 pm*	<u><a href="#">LuAnn Benton</a></u>
<u><a href="#">SPHERE MAKING</a></u>	Sat	1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	<u><a href="#">Paul Williams</a></u>
<u><a href="#">JUNIORS</a></u>	Sat	9:30am - 12:30pm	<u><a href="#">Dave Smith</a></u>

\*Rock Carving may be taken as a full 6-hour class from 9 - 3, or as a 3-hour class from 9-12 or 12-3



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## SDMG Membership...

### New Applications & Renewals for 2021–2022

The membership year “officially” starts on July 1 and ends the following year on June 30. There is no pro-rating of dues so it doesn’t matter when you sign-up or renew – all memberships will expire June 30, 2022.

There are two ways to apply for or renew your membership –

1.) Send a check with your membership form to the membership secretary. The renewal form can be found on the **SDMG** website at:

[sdmg.org/pdf/sdmg-membership-app-and-renewal.pdf](http://sdmg.org/pdf/sdmg-membership-app-and-renewal.pdf)

**OR**

2.) Sign up online using major credit cards via PayPal. Visit the SDMG website for details at:

[sdmg.org/sdmg-membership/](http://sdmg.org/sdmg-membership/)

Membership renewals are usually mailed to current members in late May or early June, and are typically “due” before classes begin in September, because people must be current members to attend fall classes. Some just pay their membership dues in class, on the day they show up, which is fine.

**Subscribe yourself to the eNewsletter at:**  
<http://bit.ly/SDMG-news>

*Published from September thru June  
at the same time as*

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(Members, you must subscribe yourself,  
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## WEBSITES

### SDMG:

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

### CFMS:

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

### AFMS:

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

### PUBLIC LANDS:

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

### BLM:

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

### BOB'S ROCK SHOP:

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

### MUSEUMS:

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

[nhm.org](http://nhm.org)

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

[naturalhistory.si.edu](http://naturalhistory.si.edu)

[www.gia.edu](http://www.gia.edu)

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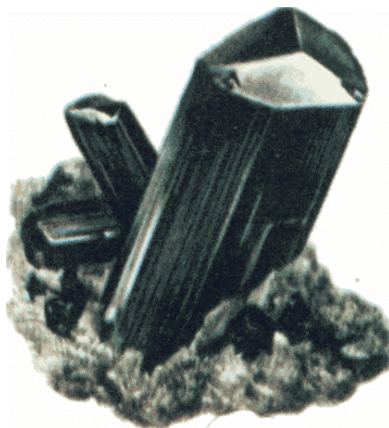


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8:30am to 3:30pm

Saturday  
9:00am to 1:00pm





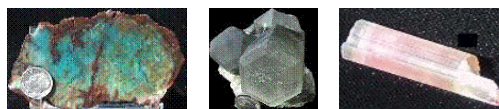
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 and more at:  
[sdmg.org](http://sdmg.org)

## ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



## THE PEGMATITE – MARCH 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	1	2	3	4	5
6	7 GSSD General Mtg 7pm, SDMG Bldg	8	9	10	11	12
13 FGMS Show 1–4pm Fallbrook, CA	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 SDMG Board Mtg 7pm, SDMG Bldg	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 SDMG General Mtg 7pm, SDMG Bldg	29	30	31	1	2