



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

THE PEGMATITE

November 2022

SDMG's ~ Fourth Annual ~ Cab 'N' Slab Sale

Sunday, November 6, 2022

9am to Noon

SDMG building

(at the back of Spanish Village in Balboa Park)

read the details on pg. 7



With heavy hearts
we say goodbye to a dear friend
and beloved member
of the rockhound community

A message from Don Depue (pg. 16)

Official bulletin of the San Diego Mineral and Gem Society

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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

November 2022

by Dave Smith

president@sdmg.org

WE ARE OFFICIALLY heading into the holiday season and toward the downward tilt to the end of the year. The next two months hold several fun events to highlight in your calendar. We all look forward to the **Fourth Annual Cab 'N' Slab Sale** on the first Sunday, November 6th. The doors open at 9:00 AM and close at 12:00 noon. Expect another wide variety of minerals, tools, equipment, and more at bargain prices. Parking before 9:00 AM is plentiful at the Village Place lot, south of the carousel. For more information, see pg. 7.

The following evening, November 7th, the **Gemological Society of San Diego** will host a presentation on **Jade**. They begin their meetings at 7:00 pm at the SDMG building.



Miguel Asmar.

I am pleased to announce that SDMG has a new Field Trip leader, a position that has stood vacant for far too long. Field trips are among the most popular activities for our members, so we are so pleased to welcome **Miguel** as he steps to take on this important role for our Society.

Longtime member and class instructor **Simon King** will be helping to coordinate field trips with Miguel. They are scouting locations to see where roads are passable in the desert after torrential flash floods washed out roads in so many places over the summer.

Please don't miss our **General Meeting** on November 28th, at 7:00 PM. All our general meetings are held at the SDMG building in Spanish Village at Balboa Park. Please bring something to share. **James Verheyden** will be our guest speaker, his topic is **Fossils in Oregon**. Read more about James and his topic on pg. 3. No General Meeting will be held in December due to the holidays.

We're looking forward to hosting an Open House during **December Nights** on the first Friday and Saturday of December – the 2nd and 3rd. The museum and shops will stay open for the public late during those evenings. A behind-the-scenes look at our shops as well as some Christmas shopping will be available to visitors. SDMG volunteers are not only welcome but necessary, so please [email museum curator Jim Parrish](mailto:museum.curator@sdmg.org), if you are interested in helping out at the Open House. Sign-up sheets will be in the shop for members who want to work in the shop and speak to the public about our society. See pg. 17 for the official notice.

SDMG's Christmas Potluck will be held on Thursday, December 8th in the Casa Del Prado, Room 101, at Balboa Park. **Jennifer Stapp** and **Nita Sani** are co-chairing the event. See pg. 17 for details.

In December, we plan to shut down the shops starting December 25 through January 8, 2023 for the holiday break.



SDMG General Meeting

Monday, November 28, 2022

7pm SDMG bldg.

Public Welcome!

Dave Smith, SDMG President

OUR GUEST SPEAKER for November will be **James Verheyden**, who will make a presentation on the **Fossils of Oregon**. This promises to be a really interesting talk, diving into Oregon's ancient past and exploring its world famous fossil beds. From the rugged Pacific coast, to the high desert, see how fossils paint a picture of a prehistoric Oregon. Learn about how fossils form and see how they are found today. See how devastating sequences of volcanic eruptions led to one of the most complete windows into the Age of Mammals. Figure out how continental collisions uplifted and exposed underwater environments. Learn how to find fossils yourself, where to look, and how to collect them. Get tips on finding fossils and how to take care of them. Come along and join James for this journey into the fossils of Oregon.

James Verheyden is a Masters student at UCSD studying Mechanical Engineering. Originally from Oregon, James enjoys learning about geology and paleontology. James is a member of several organizations, has helped with fossil excavations, and takes numerous geology courses. He enjoys sharing his passion for geology with others through presentations and teaching the Geology Merit Badge.



James Verheyden.

October's General Meeting speakers were **Nicole Faber and Arnim Huber**, husband and wife design team and longtime **SDMG** members who spoke about **Agates**. We had a nice turnout.

For the November meeting, please bring a tasty treat, so we have refreshments to share. Coffee and punch are provided, and a drawing of door prizes will be offered.



JUNIOR DIVISION

*Coordinated by
Dave Smith*

THE JUNIORS CLASS was scheduled to have their field trip to the Oceanview mine on Sunday, October 16th. An hour rain delay at the start of the National League Champion Series on the evening of the 15th had me worried that the mine trip might be rained out the following day. However, upon arrival at the mine, the grounds may have received a fair soaking, but the overcast skies were without dark rain clouds. At the entrance, I spoke with Jeff Swanger, the mine operator, and handed over my waiver and let him know I had a check and a roster of the total number of estimated SDMG participants. With help from the staff, I had my car unloaded and waited for the preliminary review on the screening process.

Unlike our previous trip, the assigned tables were lined up together, which helped to track the count of the SDMG group. With the preliminaries out of the way, the hunt for pretty rocks began. There were a few late comers and we ended with 28 total on site. Paul Williams, my assistant, had shown up early and checked the mine's barbecues (one small and one large) for the cheeseburgers and sausages that I brought for lunch. We both started digging dirt to screen, and the results for me were less than optimal. My right-side neighbor was Ashton, age 9, and his pa; they were working very steadily. The real treasured find for Ashton was a large quartz crystal about three inches long and about one inch thick. He found it while checking under his table



Addison, age 13, with mom Aidec. Photo: Dave Smith.



The Juniors gather, pre-mine dig. Photo: Dave Smith, 2022.



Ashton's super quartz find from under the table. Photo: Dave Smith.

– who knew the dirt already screened would be that fruitful. Paul made the rounds among our group's tables, helping identify finds and share the screening chores to give some of the screeners a break. When he returned, Paul asked about the time, and since it was 11:25 AM, we needed to get the barbeque briquettes started.

I think Paul missed his calling and should have run a barbeque business. After cleaning the small grill, he laid out the coals in a central pile and once they got hot, he laid them in a right triangle shape so one end was less hot. With the buns, sliced cheddar cheese, utensils, and plates placed within reach, it was time to cook. I walked over to our people and let them

know the burgers and sausages were being prepared, and if they had side dishes to share, please bring them.

All through this time, tours of the mine's grounds were being conducted, so some of the people were not around to partake in the feast Paul prepared. Gradually, some folks started to come over in singles and pairs. The line for burgers started getting longer as more people realized it was time eat or they were getting seconds. Some of the side dishes included chocolate cake, Seven-Up lemon



Mareille, age 15, with mom Johanna speaking to staff. Photo: Dave Smith, 2022.



Dante, age 12, with a lucky bucket. Photo: Dave Smith, 2022.



Dante with quartz from his lucky bucket. Photo: Dave Smith, 2022.



Noemi, age 17, holding her best finds. Photo: Dave Smith, 2022.

cake, red potato salad, homemade Italian biscotti, tortilla chips, and some other delicious looking dishes I didn't try. There was plenty of water due the cool weather and most everyone had brought some with them to the mine site.

The clock was ticking, and most people returned to their tables to continue the search for color. As I visited the various Juniors and their folks, some had good finds. Marielle's mother Johanna found a palm-sized watermelon tourmaline cluster. Dante, age 12, found a fine quartz crystal, which came from the same bucket that I photographed while he dug it from the pile. I always share the luck.

The dreaded "last bucket" was called and our day at the Oceanview mine was drawing to a close. Addison's father, Brian, gave me a hand loading my cooler into the car. I made one last look around the picnic tables for anything left behind. The barbeque grill was still hot, so Paul cooked four sausages for the staff, who were most helpful.

On the way to car, Jeff Swanger was sitting in his cart talking with Dave Nelson about the early years of the Oceanview's public screening operations. Dave has brought his grandsons, Gage and Chase, to just about all our Junior Division mine trips. I shook Jeff's hand and thanked him for the splendid day on his mountain and complimented him about the staff. I turned towards the car and started the bumpy ride down to the road home.



Dad Jason and Lucius, age 14. Photo: Dave Smith, 2022.



Emma, age 10, with her parents, holds the best specimen she found. Photo: Dave Smith, 2022.



Ashton, age 11, with papa. Photo: Dave Smith, 2022.

SDMG'S ~ FOURTH ANNUAL ~ CAB 'N' SLAB SALE

We've received truckloads of donated material over the spring and summer, and have been working diligently to prepare for this year's sale. Here is where and when we plan to hold Cab 'n' Slab:

Date: Sunday, November 6, 2022

Time: 9 AM to Noon

Place: SDMG Building (at the back of Spanish Village in Balboa Park)

Admission & Parking: Free, but parking is limited*

Website: <https://sdmg.org>



Anne, Mike, Wayne, Bonnie, and Jennifer are ready to welcome Cab 'N' Slab shoppers.
Photo: Jim Parrish.

And here we go again! Truckloads of donated material and equipment just keep arriving, and the crew has a lot yet to do to prepare for this year's sale. The SDMG storeroom/office and the storage garage are overflowing. But we have a plan: pass all this fun stuff onto new owners!

Here are the sale items that will be piled on tables and stacked on the floor: slabs, slabs and more slabs; baggies of facet rough; polished cabs and specimens; buckets full of rough rock, tumbling rough and geodes; silversmithing and other cool tools; waxes for casting; flats of fossils, yard rock, petrified wood, geodes and random whatnot; small equipment like rock tumblers and slab saws; a variety of used books; individually priced chunks of petrified wood, lapidary rough and carving rough; a variety of jewelry findings; belt buckles; baggies of turquoise rough; and much more.

Admission will be on a first come, first served basis, starting at 9 AM Please come prepared to pay by cash or check. No credit cards or Venmo. Well, not this year, yet, as far as we know.

We look forward to seeing everyone again this year.

– Anne Schafer, for the Donation Committee

* *Parking is limited behind the SDMG Bldg, so it's first come, first served starting at 9 AM. Look for additional parking in the Carousel parking lot near Park Blvd. or in the Zoo parking lot.*

Member Profile Jim Claypool

by LuAnn Benton, SDMG Historian & Friendship Chair

JAMES “JIM” ADDISON CLAYPOOL was born June 19, 1934, at home in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the youngest of three boys until the fourth and last boy came along 15 years later. Both of his parents and brothers were born in the Pittsburgh area. His father worked in an auto dealership, then in the steel mill making big ships for the Navy that would hold transport tanks and other vehicles. His mother raised the four boys and then after her husband retired, she started doing clerical work at a local hospital.

When Jim was in third grade the family moved to the little town of Leetsdale, Pennsylvania, where he lived until he went off to the military. At the age of eight, World War II had started, and Jim said, “Due to rationing from the war, they couldn’t afford to buy shoes; twenty dollars was a big piece of money back then.” Jim enjoyed the four years spent in the Boy Scouts. (As an adult he would become a scout leader.) He did well in school and didn’t have to study much to make good grades throughout school, including college. In high school, he made the honor roll and was awarded top honors in the National Honors Society. He ranked in the 90th percentile of his high school class and graduated from Leetsdale High School in 1953, one of 47 students. And to think Jim flunked out of the third grade! Maybe he just started school a little too early.

At the age of 19, Jim joined the Air Force for a couple of years. He scored 99 on an aviation test and became an Aviation Cadet, which only lasted four months. He decided he didn’t want to stay in the military, so he dropped out of aviation school and just became an enlisted man instead. He didn’t have to go to Korea, so instead, he finished his Air Force service at Rosewell, a base in New Mexico. His two older brothers, Bill, who was in the Army, and John who was in the National Guard, were both sent to Korea. His 15-year-old younger brother Richard was sent to Vietnam when he came of age. Fortunately, all three brothers returned from their service unscathed by the wars.



Figure 1. Jim with some of his soapstone carvings, August 18, 2022. Photo: LuAnn H. Benton.

Once out of the military, his mother asked Jim, “What are you going to do?” He replied, “Travel, be a hobo.” He had no idea what he wanted to do. She said, “I don’t think so!” So, she went down and signed him up to become a civil engineer at Penn State, exactly what his brother John studied and became. He was 21 years old, and it didn’t bother him that she had done that. He figured it would keep him out of trouble and focused on something productive. Being a veteran, Jim was given four years of credit toward the Korean GI Bill, which helped pay for his college. His mother made sure all her boys went to college, saying they were the first Claypools to ever do so.

While at Penn State, in 1959, he met and married his first wife, Paula. They had a small trailer as they both liked to camp, hike, and take trips. He graduated in 1960 from Penn State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering. After getting his degree, Jim got a job at Cal Trans, so they packed their bags and moved to Los Angeles, California. During this time, they decided to start a family. Mark was born in 1962, and two and four years later came Gary and Sheryl, respectively. During the 1960s, Jim became interested in gold mining. When he found himself alone in the Gold Country of northern California, he’d go and pan for gold whenever he could.

Jim worked in Los Angeles for 12 years and then moved to San Diego, where he lived for another 11 years. His life was mostly about raising the children,

hiking, camping, and participating as a Boy Scout Master for his boys on and off for 11 years. They all enjoyed snow skiing and had a power boat for water skiing. He enjoyed sailing, so they bought a Laser Cat Sailboat to race in but never won anything. He laughs about it, but knows they had fun! They fished some, the kids more so, but one time coming home from a fishing trip, Jim stopped along the roadside to get something from the back. In so doing, he set the fishing poles on the ground. After getting what he wanted and putting everything back in the car, they took off down the road. One hundred fifty miles later, it hit him, “I left the fishing poles on the side of the road. Well, that means new poles for the kids.” They also enjoyed driving a dune buggy they had with friends from Cal Trans, and he coached little league as well as soccer. His kids, fortunately, were brainy like he was and didn’t struggle in school. While two went on to college, they have all done well for themselves. Mark owns a restaurant in Carson City, Nevada, while Gary became a carpenter, and Sheryl specialized in hair and cosmetology. Jim and Paula divorced amicably in 1977 and then sold the first house Jim built.

After his divorce, Jim met another woman, Mary Jane, who also loved camping and the outdoors like he did. In 1979, she became Jim’s second wife. Mary Jane also had two teenage daughters, Pam and Jennifer, who lived with them until their graduations from high school. Sheryl, Jim’s daughter, was the last to leave the roost. They moved to San Francisco for six years while Jim continued to work for Cal Trans. In 1989, after 29 years of service, Jim retired at the age of 55. They moved back to San Diego, and Jim became a private engineer for about 10 more years before fully retiring in 2000. Mary Jane always said, “Jim flunked retirement many times!” Throughout most of Jim’s career, he worked in construction management, which was mostly an outdoor job that fit his personality and lifestyle to a tee.



Figure 2. Jim digging for little blue agates in New Mexico, 1990s.

It wasn’t until they left San Francisco that he and Mary Jane started looking for rocks on their travels, even though Jim had started looking for rocks that had the color of gold long before! They owned a fifth wheel for a while and then a 30-foot RV towing a car. They both loved digging for rocks, and they literally spent five months driving around the country doing just that (figure 2). During their travels, they discovered many interesting dig sites: one was Fairburn, South Dakota, where they found Fairburn Geodes, and another was Burro Creek, Arizona, where they collected Purple Agate.

In 1990, Jim went to the San Diego Fair Gold Prospectors area and was introduced to people at the Convair Club. The club members would all go camping in Quartzsite. Jim learned how to make cabochons at Convair and eventually became very active in the club, serving as treasurer for 10 to 12 years. He also became a member of the San Diego Lapidary club for a couple of years.

Jim started learning how to carve rocks while attending a week-long class in Lordsburg, New Mexico, and during their stay there, they went rockhounding in numerous places. Both took classes for many years at the ZZZYX Camp, in the Southern California desert, where he continued to carve and make cabs. When it came to carving, he preferred



Figure 3. Mary Jane and Jim, Christmas 2006.

carving soapstone over hard rocks, while Mary Jane liked silversmithing and beading.

Around 2002, Jim and his oldest son, Mark flew to Anchorage, Alaska, then on to Nome, which is on the Bering Sea, to spend a week prospecting for gold. They stayed at a camp owned by the Gold Prospectors of America (GPA) and worked several of their claims along the beach and inland. They returned home with small pieces but not enough to pay for the trip. Primarily, they loved each other's company and the experience of prospecting together.

Jim and Mary Jane joined San Diego Mineral & Gem Society around 2005 (figure 3). He joined the workshop making cabochons that Ed Reiber and Marvin Dillard were teaching. When Ed passed away, Jim said he would help out. Unbeknownst to him, Anne Schafer made him the official instructor on Wednesday mornings. And the rest is history! In 2009, Randy Welborn (spelling?) became Jim's sidekick in the workshop as well as maintaining the saws, sanders, cabbing machines, and anything else Jim or SDMG needed to be done. Eventually, they decided to add another workshop on Wednesday afternoons. Since that didn't keep him busy enough, Jim joined the rock carving workshop for a while. Jim occasionally helped with the set-up of the Gem Diego Shows, but primarily he liked to demonstrate how to make cabochons on his own Genie.



Figure 4. Mark and Jim celebrating his 88 birthday, which also fell on Father's Day, June 19, 2022.

Jim added Itziar Parramon (known as "Itzi" or "Ithy"; the "I" is pronounced like "i" in the word "it") as his primary assistant several years before Covid hit, then later decided to cut his day in half and only taught in the mornings. When the club re-opened its doors in January 2022, Jim and Itziar's Wednesday morning workshop resumed, and before fall classes started in September 2022, he and Itziar switched roles. Jim said, "I plan to stay around as her assistant to help her make the transition as the instructor and to learn all she needs to know."

Jim proclaimed he can repair anything and had built three houses from scratch. The first was in La Costa, Carlsbad, in the 1970s, with his first wife, in what he calls, "the upside-down house." The living room, kitchen, and dining room were upstairs, while the bedrooms were downstairs. The second house he built was a ranch style located on a couple of acres in Vista, which he had with his second wife, Mary Jane, and the third was in Walnut Creek, in the San Francisco Bay area overlooking Mount Diablo. It was built on a hillside, with the downstairs on the hillside. He built extensions onto some houses as well. He and Mary Jane have been in their present home in Claremont for 32 years, and they just happily celebrated their 43rd wedding anniversary with family this past August, after celebrating Father's Day, which happened to fall on Jim's 88th birthday, on June 19, 2022 (figure 4). Congratulations, to you both!

Public Lands News:
The Mojave Trails Natl Mon subgroup
is up and running – what's next?
by Gregor Losson

THE PROCESS of developing a management plan for the 1.6 million acres of the Mojave Trails National Monument (MTNM) in the California desert has begun. Many historic rock and mineral collecting areas are located within its boundaries. They include the Cady Mountains, Sleeping Beauty, Hector, Lava, and Mesquite Hills, the Bagdad-Chase and Lavic areas, the southern Bristol Mountains, Homer Mountain, and Danby Dry Lake, as well as the Marble, Clipper, Piute, Little Piute, Sacramento, Ship, Calumet, Sheephole, and Iron Mountains.

Since the monument was created in 2016, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), which administers the monument, left in place accommodations for rockhounding until a final management plan was drafted. After years of delays, the planning process is now on a fast track towards production of a Record of Decision (ROD) targeted for late summer 2024. The planning is proceeding on two tracks. One track is the work undertaken by the BLM's Needles Field Office. BLM field manager **Mike Ahrens** and MTNM manager **Noelle Glines-Bovio** are taking the lead on developing the management plan under the guidelines of the NEPA law's requirement of public participation. So in the future, there will be meetings for public comment related to the road network and reconciling the monument management plan with other land use planning products where they overlap the monument.

The other track is the MTNM subgroup of the Desert Advisory Council (DAC). My name is **Gregor Losson** and I am your gem and mineral collecting representative on the subgroup. These are BLM's goals for the subgroup:

- MTNM subgroup members will become fully aware of the various MTNM plan issues and considerations.



Gregor Losson at Cady Peak, with a view of Sleeping Beauty in the background, home to historic collecting areas for agate, jasper, calcite, pyrolusite, barite, strontionite, and micros of secondary lead minerals.

- MTNM subgroup members will share their understanding of the planning issues with their representative constituents to gain public perceptions and possible resolutions.
- MTNM subgroup members will provide transparency to the public interested in the planning process.
- MTNM subgroup members will provide recommendations to the DAC regarding the MTNM management planning process, and the DAC may share those recommendations with the BLM.

I would like to report to our communities of rockhounds, micromounters, lapidarists, mineralogists, and mineral and fluorescent mineral collectors that the BLM's Needles field office and the MTNM management are coordinating their activities with the MTNM subgroup. The subgroup members will be able to educate the BLM and each other about the interests, concerns, histories, and expectations of our constituents. So far, the subgroup has been learning the various "guardrails" that will affect the management plan, such as the West Mojave Route Network Plan (WMRNP), the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP), and the MTNM proclamation itself. We will be working towards making a final recommendation to the DAC, which in turn will make a recommendation to the BLM.

As your MTNM subgroup representative, I have been introducing myself to our clubs and organizations and still have many more to contact. We need to identify who is interested in access and wants to participate. To introduce myself here, here's a little background. I've spent 35 years exploring the California deserts and collecting minerals, much of it in the Cady Mountains. I am on the board of directors of the Southern California Friends of Mineralogy and a member of the Mineralogical Society of Southern California. After participating in the 13-year access battle of the WEMO/WMRNP, I turned my materials into the 200-page, "Established Roads of the Mojave Desert Volume 1: The Cady Mountains." I will continue to reach out to our communities and organizations to inform you about progress of the MTNM subgroup, and most importantly to learn what you feel is important to be addressed.

How to reach the MTNM subgroup Rockhound representative

You can reach **Gregor Losson** two ways: email me at eczlosson@yahoo.com or email the public lands representative for SDMG at editor@sdmg.org, and **Lisbet Thoresen** will forward your messages to me.

Some Rockhound resources

The Facebook groups [LA-Rocks](#) and **Ruth Hidalgo's** great page [Save Rockhounding in the Mojave Trails National Monument](#) post updates on MTNM along with SDMG's newsletters, bulletins, and email campaigns. The AFMS, CFMS, and ALAA are also participating and getting out updates via email. Mojave Trails overlaps numerous significant collecting areas that many of us have fought to maintain access to for many decades. We are now standing on the precipice of a decision-making process that will soon be made final. Please contact me and let's complete this long journey together, pressing for the outcome so many have been striving for decades to achieve.

BLM's MTNM web page:

<https://on.doi.gov/2LklnNz>

BLM's MTNM Subgroup of the DAC web page:

<https://on.doi.gov/3WrFjDp>

Join SDMG's mailing list, select Public Lands:

<https://bit.ly/sdmg-signup>



Minerals from the historic collecting areas of the northern Cady Mountains basalt (age 20 million yrs). *Top to bottom:* a, b) Vesicular agate from the historic collecting areas of the Baxter Wash basalts, which formed when the basalt first cooled; c.) later, after the basalt faulted, the hot fluids deposited fluorite, shown here is a specimen with the cavity infilled with quartz spheres. Photos: G. Losson.



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.

Nov 6, 2022

Rainbow Ridge collecting area, Ridgecrest, CA

Sponsor: Ventura Gem & Mineral Society

Materials: Jasp-agate known as Rainbow Ridge jasper, sometimes called Rainbow Ledge jasper.

Field trip leader/contact: David Springer (VGMS) at 805-223-0865 or david.springer@arcadis.com. If you decide to cancel, please be sure to let David know so people don't wait around for you at the meeting place.

Registration required: whoscoming.com/vgms/RainbowRidge2022.html

Meeting Place: 8:30 AM on Sunday, Nov 6, at the Indian Well Gem & Mineral Show located at the Desert Empire Fairgrounds, 520 S. Richmond Rd., Ridgecrest, CA, 93555. Parking is free at the venue.

What to Bring/What to Expect: Admission to the show is free but cost to access the Rainbow Ridge claim is \$5, payable as we sign up starting at 9 AM. They will likely also have a waiver to sign. After signing, please queue your car in line to join the caravan. The site is a good distance away from any concessions, so remember to bring plenty of water and snacks. We will park our cars at the base of a hill so 4-wheel drive is not required. This is a surface collecting trip up a hill, so buckets and backpacks are recommended. Hammers can be useful to reduce size of rocks to carry back.

Bring good sturdy shoes, plenty of water, sunblock, good coverage hat, rock hammer, collecting bag or bucket. The duration of the collecting trip is two hours.

Nov 12–13, 2022

Afton Canyon, Mojave Trails National Monument (near Barstow), CA

Sponsor: Searchers Gem & Mineral Society

Details & Directions: Check out the website for trip details later in October or early November at: <https://www.searchersrocks.org/next-field-trip>.

Sign up required: John O'Connor at jwoc1269@gmail.com Be sure to bring a signed liability waiver (download waiver at: <https://www.searchersrocks.org/joint-field-trips>.)

Contact/field trip leaders: John O'Connor at jwoc1269@gmail.com. Be sure to check the website after confirming your participation and before setting out to the meeting place in case there is a last-minute cancellation due to weather (see URL above).

Materials: Agate, Jasper, Fluorite.

Meeting Place: TBD. Check out the website later in October or early November.

What to Bring/What to Expect: Checklist on the Searchers' website: <https://www.searchersrocks.org/field-trips>. A high clearance (SUV or pickup truck) is required for this trip.

SAVE THE DATE!**Meeting
of the California Desert
District Advisory Council (DAC)****Sat, December 10, 2022
9:00 AM – 4:30 PM****Press Release:** ETA – late November 2022**Meeting Agenda:** ETA – late November 2022**Venue:** TBD*Look for updates posted on the BLM website
for the California DAC at:***<https://on.doi.gov/2WnAPNS>**

This will be the first in-person DAC meeting has held in three years. Please show BLM your interest in Rockhounding values and attend this meeting. It will be the first opportunity for most Rockhounds to meet Noelle Glines-Bovio, manager of the Mojave Trails National Monument (MTNM). A final management plan is being developed, so Rockhounds, this is your opportunity to show that you are engaged in this process and care deeply about the outcome.

For more information or to submit written comments via email prior to the meeting, contact:

Kate Miyamoto**BLM California Desert District Public Affairs****720-768-6729 or kmiyamoto@blm.gov****Federal Register notice:****<https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2022-08021>****ON THE GO ...
TO A SHOW****NOVEMBER****5–6 RIDGECREST, CA – Rock Gem & Jewelry Show****Sponsor:** Indian Wells Gem & Mineral Society**Where:** Desert Empire Fairgrounds,
520 S. Richmond Rd., Ridgecrest, CA 93555**Hours:** Sat & Sun 9 AM – 5 PM**Contact:** 760-375-7905, fjrocks@dslextrreme.com

Goede purchasing and cutting, petroglyph slab paintings, gems and minerals and jewelry. Field trip November 6th at 9 AM.

5–6 Ventura, CA – Gold Coast Gem Show**Sponsor:** Gold Coast Gem Show**Where:** Ventura County Fairgrounds, San Miguel Building
10 W Harbor Blvd, Ventura, CA 93001**Admission:** Free. Fee parking.**Hours:** Saturday, 10 AM – 5 PM, and Sunday, 10 AM – 4 PM**Contact:** goldcoastgemshow@gmail.com or 805-889-1209**Web:** goldcoastgemshow.com

Over 30 vendors with unique and quality specimens, beads, jewelry and lapidary supplies. The local gem clubs will be there with kids activities and prizes. Demonstrations of wire wrapping, carving, dichroic glass fusing, chain mail and more!

6 LAKE ELSINORE, CA – Winter Festival Rock & Craft Show**Sponsor:** Lake Elsinore Gem & Mineral Society**Where:** 32097 Corydon Road, Lake Elsinore, CA 92530**Hours:** 10 AM – 4 PM**Contact:** Berylman50@aol.com

12–14 Costa Mesa, CA – West Coast Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show – Fall

Sponsor: LLD Productions Inc.

Venue: Holiday Inn – Orange County Airport
2726 South Grand Ave, Santa Ana, CA 92705

Hours: Fri and Sat 10 AM – 6 PM

Sun 10 AM – 5 PM

Admission: Free. Public welcome.

Customer Parking: Free parking at Holiday Inn Orange County Airport; additional parking for \$10/day/car at Embassy Suites

Web: www.mineralshowslld.com

80 vendors dealers, wholesale and retail featuring gems, minerals, fossils, jewelry, beads, meteorites, decorator items, lapidary, and more. (Resale certificate needed for admission to wholesale.)

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November 11–13, 2022

West Coast Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show

Holiday Inn 2726 South Grand Ave. Room #148
Santa Ana, CA 92705

Fri. & Sat. 10am – 6pm, Sun 10am – 5pm

November 19 & 20, 2022

El Cajon Valley Gem and Mineral Society's
Gem & Mineral Roundup

Lakeside Rodeo Grounds

12584 Maplevue

Lakeside, CA 92040

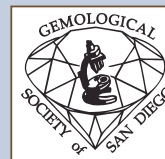
Saturday 9am – 5pm, Sunday 9am – 4pm

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**GEMOLOGICAL SOCIETY
of SAN DIEGO**



GSSD General Meeting
Monday, November 7, 2022
7:00pm SDMG Building

Agenda for the November meeting will be Jade.
Please bring snacks to share.

This 'n' That...

General Announcements

Fall classes are in session.
Check with your instructor with questions.
(see schedule at the end of this bulletin)

SDMG Board Meeting
November 21, 2022, 7:00pm SDMG Bldg.

COVID-19 restrictions were lifted in San Diego County about two months ago and they have not changed. We continue to ask students to respect their instructor's requests regarding social distancing and masking. All students must agree to abide by school rules and sign a waiver. If you have any questions, please speak with your instructor and/or email the [SDMG president](#).

SDMG-GSSD Library

SDMG Bldg.

Donna Beers

Hours:

Tuesdays & Wednesdays, 1 to 2 PM

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 or GSSD** members may come use the reference library.

October 31, 2022

Dear Friends and Dealers,

It is with great sadness that I write this letter. My Uncle and founder of Diamond Pacific Tool Corporation, Bill E. Depue, has passed away at the age of 96. Sometime in the years of 1969 to 1971, Bill and his lifetime friend George Ujihara made the Tiara diamond grinding wheel and started Gem-Tech Diamond Tool Company. Bill and George decided to split the company on January 1, 1973, and Diamond Pacific Tool Corporation was born. We switched the names of the grinding wheels to Galaxy wheels, and we manufactured the Genie, Pixie, & Titan. In 1976 Bill developed the Nova polishing wheel, which has changed the game in the lapidary industry. This has led us to where we are today. Our company turns 50 years old in a couple of short months.

What does this mean for Diamond Pacific? We feel that while there will be some changes, we are striving to keep things as simple as we can. I Don Depue am getting ready to retire in January, so I will be handing things down to my three sons, Brian, Kevin, and David. They all have over 20 years' of experience in the business, and they will be able to keep the torch burning. I do not see this being an issue for Diamond Pacific in the future.

Yours truly,

Don Depue
President
Diamond Pacific Tool Corp.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE HONORING BILL DEPUE

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2022

Time: 10 AM to 1 PM

Place: Diamond Pacific Tool Corporation
2620 W. Main St., Barstow, CA 92311

Program: 10 AM to 1 PM – Buffet Lunch
11 AM – Welcome and eulogy
11:15 AM – Friends share stories and memories

RSVP: Sunday, November 20, 2022
Don Depue
760-255-1030
customerservice@diamondpacifictool.com

We welcome all Bill's friends to share their fond recollections and experiences with him in an online guest book at the URL below or scan the QR code at right.



lp.constantcontactpages.com/sv/laRatcs/billdepue



January 14, 1926 ♦ October 22, 2022

We are heartbroken at our loss but joyous for Bill's long, productive life, his boundless generosity of spirit, and his friendship. Please join us in celebrating him.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to your local Gem & Mineral Society in Bill E. Depue's name. That is what he would have preferred.

Support your club and volunteer at December Nights

Friday, Dec 2 & Saturday, Dec 3, 2022

Tour visitors through the workshop,
help set up and staff the selling tables
at SDMG's Open House.

Volunteers needed on Dec 1st, 2nd & 3rd

Contact Jim Parrish
if you can help out

Volunteers at a past Open House during the December Nights festivities at Balboa Park. From left to right: Jim Parrish, Angie Cannon, Kerry Stone and LuAnn Benton.



SDMG's ANNUAL CHRISTMAS POTLUCK & ORNAMENT CONTEST

Thursday, December 8, 2022 5:30 – 10 PM

Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

Jennifer Stapp and Nita Sani, Potluck Chairs

THE CHRISTMAS POTLUCK is **SDMG's** last event of the year. It has been two years since we've come together for our annual end-of-year event, so 2022 really will be an auld lang syne celebration for our members. Join your friends

in celebrating the joy of the holiday season and looking forward to the year ahead. Come enjoy a great feast prepared by our very own members. And don't forget our stupendous **Silent Auction**, and **Door Prize Raffle**.

Who is welcome:

Everyone! Members, guests, kids, grandparents, second cousins, etc.

Where:

Room 101 in Casa del Prado (just across the street from the west entrance to the San Diego Natural History Museum). Look for all the rockhounds milling about.

Activities:

Food! Plus a **Silent Auction**, **Door Prizes**, and the **Christmas Ornament Contest**. Tickets for the Door Prize drawing are \$1.00 each.

Decorating:

Starts at 3:30 pm. We do our own! Please come early to help deck the halls.

Dinner:

Served at 6:00 pm. Did we mention there will be food? (No oven available.)

Reminder!

Remember, traffic and parking can be hectic, so plan to leave a little early and try to arrive by 5:30 pm to be in time for setting up the serving line for dinner.

Participants provide:

A hearty dish to serve at least eight people. (Boy, do we have good cooks!) Bring something nice for a door prize, if you wish, to add to the ones the Society furnishes. For the Silent Auction, bring something to sell that is lapidary, jewelry, or rock/mineral related. (10% of selling prices goes to the Club.)

SDMG provides:

Ham, turkey, plates, plastic cutlery, napkins, cups, punch, coffee, hot water for tea, and a pie or two.

by LuAnn H. Benton, Friendship Chair

Miguel describes their friendship as the Odd Couple, one about gems, the other about rocks. But it worked to such a degree that Simon made Miguel his assistant in Lost Wax Casting. He was also at one time (the late) Dee Smith's assistant in silversmithing. Miguel and Simon are all about having fun in whatever they do, and fortunately for all SDMG members, they do it so well together. I believe anyone who takes to the road with them on a rockhounding excursion will have a wonderful time and gain a new appreciation for rocks and for life in the desert. Welcome Miguel as Chair of Field Trips and thank you from SDMG for taking on this position. We look forward to reading about your adventures in the next issue of *The Pegmatite*.



Nancy, we look forward to seeing your smiling face around SDMG once again!



You now have more options of when you can drop off your items for display or to pick them up when things are changed out. Your items will be under lock and key the entire time it is at SDMG. Contact the appropriate person (listed below) ahead of time to make sure they will be there that day. Please bring the following information



If five or more badges are ordered, the cost is \$14.50 per badge (magnetic or pin back) and shipping is free.

Thank you for your participation in showing the public what we do here at SDMG!

There is a mailbox slot in the casting room for any **Suggestions** you may have for SDMG. We value your input! Paper & pen are available!

Please email me your short stories and/or other input for this column at friendship@sdmg.org. Include your full name and phone number (for contact purposes only). Share your upcoming or recent vacation, a rockhounding excursion, 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.

October 17, 2022

City Liaison: David Smith reported that there is a new parking restriction on the Patio. Jim Parrish stated that

he has received no notice in writing of the new policy as of this time.

Shop Director: Simon King reported that he is slowly getting organized, and still needs to meet with all instructors. He said the big saws are being left dirty, and believes people may be using the saws outside of official class times.

Discussion ensued about access to security camera footage and records of alarm code usage, to help determine who might be using saws and when.

Currently full classes: Nita Sani's Wednesday night cab class; John Kruzel's Thursday morning cab class; and Simon King's Wednesday afternoon cab class.

Class with openings for new students: Itzy Parramon's Wednesday morning cab class.

Potential new class: Jon Evan's cab class, on Friday nights.

Donations: (1) Wayne Leibitzke picked up a large donation of equipment, tools and supplies from Robert & Verde Harville. Jim Parrish sent out the thank-you letter and inventory to the Harvilles.

(2) David Smith reported that David Lipson donated 15 years' worth of cutoffs, mostly to the Juniors. The first donation was 100 lbs. of material; the second donation was of 393 lbs. David Smith to prepare bags of cutoffs for sale at Cab 'N' Slab; orange tags will indicate proceeds to go to Juniors.

Field Trips: Simon King made a motion to appoint Miguel Asmer as SDMG Field Trip Leader. After discussion, the motion carried 11 to 3, with one abstention.

Website Committee: David Smith appointed Yvonne Juarez as Chair. Committee members to be Jim Parrish, Lisbet Thorsen and David Smith.

December Nights: Jim Parrish has received no official word yet on the status of this event, but plans to hold SDMG's sale on Friday-Saturday, Dec. 2nd and 3rd.

During the meeting, Rich Yarbrough checked the City website, which now says December Nights will be held, with the hours to be from 3 – 11 pm on Friday, and 11 am – 11 pm on Saturday.

Christmas Potluck: Jennifer Stapp and Nita Sani are looking for volunteers. LuAnn Benton recommended putting out sign-up sheets in the shop, and asking instructors to ask for volunteers in their classes. LuAnn to send volunteer lists to Jennifer and Nita.

Gem Diego: LuAnn Benton met with the Potentate at Al Bahr, who had questions about electrical usage requirements. LuAnn spoke with Rich Yarbrough about electrical usage at past SDMG shows, and was able to get agreement from Potentate to allow 15 vendors. Rental agent for Al Bahr is not returning phone calls to LuAnn, nor to the Potentate. A good negotiator like Jim Parrish is required to finalize terms and prices before any show can be held in 2023.

San Diego County Fair: Anne Schafer reported the results of the annual Exhibitors' Meeting, held on Oct 8 at the Fairgrounds.

Mineral of the Year: Minerals of the United States.

Fossil of the Year: Fossils of the United States.

Faceted Gemstone of the Year: Beryl.

Potential new classes, subject to approval by Fair management: Exhibitor's Favorite Fossil; Fantasy or Fancy Cut Gemstone (featuring novel design, concave faceting and/or frosted facets).

Potential changes: Single Sphere may be up to 5" dia.; Metalwork entries may be up to 6" w. x 6" d. x 10" h.

Cab 'N' Slab: Anne Schafer reported that the crew has been busy cleaning and pricing equipment, tools, slabs, facet rough, rough rock, sphere blocks and much more. Jim Parrish put up two large 24" x 36" Cab 'N' Slab posters in the shop and museum, courtesy of Lisbet Thoresen.

New Business: LuAnn Benton proposed new signage for museum doors, to include SDMG's website. LuAnn to work with Jim Parrish on this.

Jim Parrish made a motion to award two (2) scholarships of \$1,000 each, as usual. After discussion, the motion carried 14-0, with one abstention.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:44 pm.

(Any member may attend Board meetings. The next one is scheduled for November 21, 2022, at 7 p.m. and will be held via GoToMeeting. Please contact Jim Parrish at info@sdmg.org to be added to the attendance list.)

SDMG Membership...

New Applications & Renewals for 2022–2023

The membership year “officially” started on July 1st. There is no pro-rating of dues, so it doesn’t matter when you sign-up or renew – all memberships for 2022–2023 will expire on June 30, 2023.

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

OR

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

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
The Pegmatite bulletin (PDF online version)*

(Members, you must subscribe yourself,
we cannot do it for you!)



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WEBSITES

SDMG:
sdmg.org

CFMS:
cfmsinc.org

AFMS:
www.amfed.org

PUBLIC LANDS:
www.amlands.org

BLM:
www.blm.gov/california

BOB'S ROCK SHOP:
www.rockhounds.com

MUSEUMS:
www.sdnhm.org nhm.org
www.amnh.org naturalhistory.si.edu
www.gia.edu

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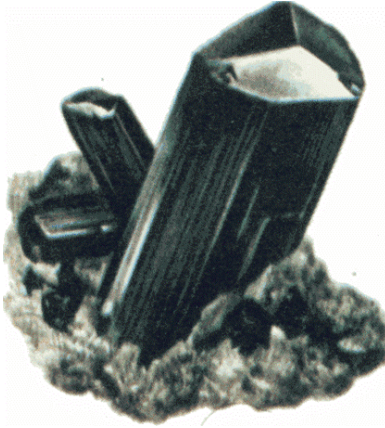
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Saturday
9:00am to 1:00pm



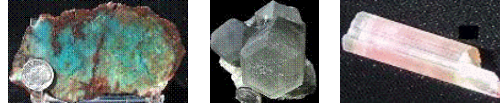
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SAN DIEGO MINERAL & GEM SOCIETY

FALL 2022 - CLASS SCHEDULE

Sep 12, 2022 – Dec 18, 2022

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 or use of masks or face coverings are required.

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 class, 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>CABOCHONS</u> | Tue | 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm | Steve Wright |
| | Wed | 9:00 am - 11:30 am | Itziar Parramon |
| | Wed | 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm | Simon King |
| | Wed | 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm | Nita Sani |
| | Thu | 9:00 am – 12:00 pm | John Kruzel |
| <u>FACETING</u> | Wed | 9:00 am - 11:30 am | Mike Harkleroad |
| | Wed | 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm | Tim Sandiford |
| | Thu | 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm | Bill Brisebois |
| <u>ADV. FACETING</u> | Wed | 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm | Donna Beers |
| <u>BEG. METALS FABRICATION</u> | Wed | 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm | Tim Swann |
| | Thu | 9:00 am – 12:00 pm | Bud Green |
| <u>INT. METALS FABRICATION</u> | Tue | 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm | Yvonne Juarez |
| <u>ADV. METALS FABRICATION</u> | Wed | 9:00 am – 3:00 pm | Denny Turner |
| | Wed | 9:00 am - 3:00 pm | Jackie Leverone |
| | Thu | 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm | Denny Turner |
| | Thu | 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm | Ellen Riceman |
| | Fri | 9:00 am - 3:00 pm | Jill Williamson |
| <u>CASTING</u> | Tue | 9:00 am – 2:00 pm | Dave Smith |
| | Wed | 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm | Simon King |
| | Fri | 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm | Rich Yarbrough |
| <u>ROCK CARVING</u> | Mon | 9:00 am – 3:00 pm** | LuAnn Benton |
| <u>WAX CARVING</u> | Mon | 10:00 am – 2:00 pm | Rose Feroah & Lauren Holman |
| <u>SPHERE MAKING</u> | Sat | 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm | Paul Williams |
| <u>JUNIORS</u> | Sat | 9:30am - 12:30pm | Dave Smith |

* If you have difficulty with using the link to contact an instructor due to your computer/mobile device's restrictions or security settings, please send an email to school@sdmg.org for assistance.

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



San Diego Mineral & Gem Society

A Non-Profit Educational and Scientific Organization
1770 Village Place, Balboa Park
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sdmg.org

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field trips, reports,
reviews, slideshows
and more at:
sdmg.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



THE PEGMATITE – NOVEMBER 2022

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|-----|-----|-----|---|-----|
| 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|  6 SDMG Cab 'N' Slab Sale 9am - noon SDMG bldg | 7 GSSD General Mtg 7pm, SDMG Bldg | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 – start – West Coast Gem & Mineral Show | 12 |
| 13 – end – West Coast Gem & Mineral Show | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 |  21 SDMG Board Mtg 7pm, VIRTUAL | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 |  28 SDMG General Mtg 7pm, SDMG Bldg | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 |