



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

THE PEGMATITE

February 2023



Tucson 2023
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shows his faceting skills
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Official bulletin of the San Diego Mineral and Gem Society

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American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
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Contact: membership@sdmg.org

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

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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

February 2023

by Dave Smith

president@sdmg.org

QUARTZSITE is finished and the Tucson shows have started for 2023. The main event, the **68th Annual Tucson Gem & Mineral Show**, runs February 9–12. The theme is Silica – Agates & Opals & Quartz, which covers a whole lot of material. There are many shows, but some of the favorites among our members are listed in the current issue of the bulletin beginning on page 11.

Our January General Meeting had a nice turnout, with 35 people in attendance. **Paul Kloppenborg** was our speaker. He gave a fascinating presentation on the art of intarsia, which is sometimes described as painting in stone. Paul has taught summer classes in silver fabrication and intarsia at SDMG from 2006 through 2010. He won the John Burton award at the San Diego County Fair in 2010 for his intarsia bracelet. During his presentation at last month's General Meeting, Paul showed his methodical, detailed drawings, which he creates

prior to producing his next work of art. Several of Paul's work were on hand as well as a few pieces by Ray Pearce, who is a member of the Vista Gem & Mineral Society. As a bonus to our door prizes, Paul offered a near-finished intarsia design of a Native American with a full-scale sketch and stone ready to cut to fit and finish.

Our February General Meeting will be a **Show 'N' Tell** of your trips to Quartzsite or Tucson. Please feel free to bring in any baubles, minerals, or photos you wish to share. The meeting notice can be found on page 3.

SDMG's next event on the calendar will be our Spring Barbeque, with a tentative date of Saturday, May 6, 2023. In order to facilitate setting up this event, volunteers will be needed to move tables, help set out items for the silent auction and help with security. Please let me if you can help out. Send an email to: president@sdmg.org.

This 'n' That...

General Announcements

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

SDMG Board Meeting
Monday, February 20, 2023
7PM via GoToMeeting

[Contact Jim Parrish](#)

to be added to the attendance list

COVID-19 restrictions were lifted in San Diego County in 2022, 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 General Meeting

Monday, February 27, 2023

7pm SDMG bldg.

Public Welcome!

SHOW 'N' TELL is the theme of the February General Meeting. After weeks of non-stop fun visiting the annual shows at Quartzsite and Tucson, it's time to take stock of all the wonderful treasures you acquired and show them off. Bring in all those special minerals, gems, cabs, fossils, gem trees, or other items, along with your stories of who you saw and what you discovered that was new and wonderful. This is the most fun meeting we have all year, because we all get to share and everyone is an appreciative audience member. For anyone who didn't make it to the shows this year, the February meeting is a chance to see what you did or did not miss.



Jim Parrish making friends in Tucson.

Refreshments will be 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.



JUNIOR DIVISION

*Coordinated by
Dave Smith*

ON THE LAST SATURDAY in January, the Juniors class had the largest attendance in several months, with eight students showing up and ready to work on cabochons. We sometimes receive new students just as the attendance appears to be shrinking. We are available all year round from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm every Saturday morning. If you are under 18 years of age, and you are tall enough and keen about rocks, you might have the right stuff to be a Junior.

We go on field trips to local mines and provide sand box volunteers for the San Diego County Fair every summer. (You and an adult chaperone will receive free entry tickets and a parking pass for your participation.) We also display an educational



Aimee, Ishieh, Emma, Addison, Evann, Charles, and class coordinators Paul Williams and Dave Smith. December 2022.

case at the County Fair to show the thousands of visitors during the show's six-week run how good our students really are! Our goal is to create rockhounds, one young person at a time.



Justin K. Prim shows his faceting skills

by Itziar Parramon

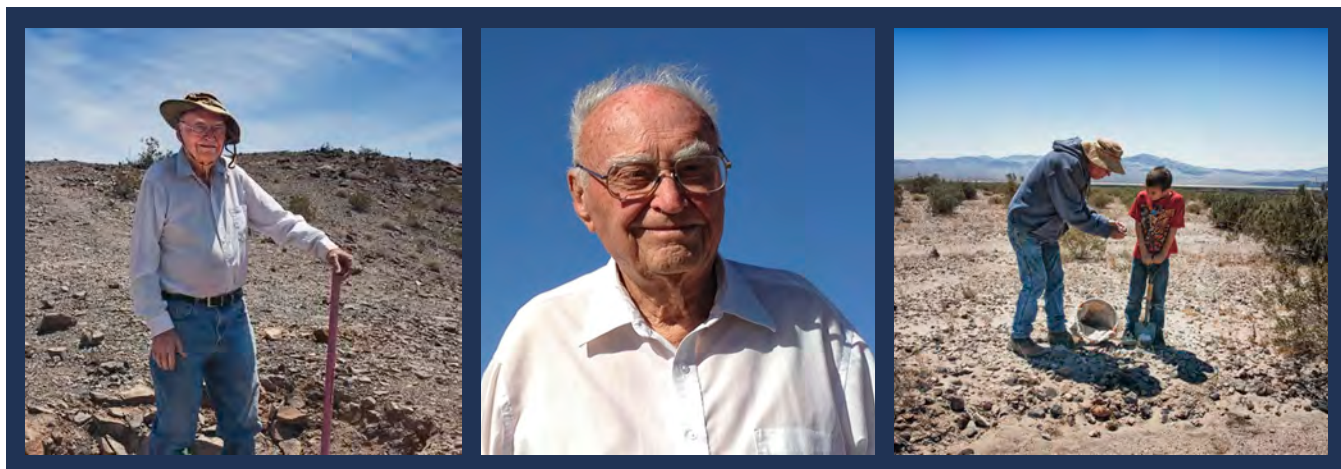
ON JANUARY 4, 2023, the Wednesday afternoon faceting class had the pleasure of hosting **Justin K. Prim** as a guest faceter. Mr. Prim is a lapidary, gemologist, author of [*Secret Teachings of Gemcutting*](#), historian, teacher, videographer, speaker, highly skilled gem cutter, and known to SDMG members for his recent “Pioneering the American Faceting Movement” lecture, given December 5, 2022, at the monthly meeting of the **Gemological Society of San Diego**.

During his visit, Mr. Prim demonstrated his technique for cutting and polishing rose cut gemstones from a piece of rough without following a pattern. He started the demonstration showing the class the rough gemstone, analyzing it, and determining the best way to cut and polish it. He first cut the backside of the stone flat so he could attach the dopstick. Mr. Prim proceeded to carefully shape and smooth the outline of the stone. He then cut the main facets, the stars, and the breaks. All of these cuts were specific to the dimensions of the stone he had, creating a series of flat planes that reflected light in a distinctive way. It created a stunning, multifaceted appearance.

As Mr. Prim worked, he shared tips and tricks with the class, explaining the various tools and techniques he uses to achieve a high-quality finish. The class watched in awe as Mr. Prim transformed the rough material into a sparkling rose cut gemstone.

In addition to his technical expertise, Mr. Prim also shared his passion for the different types of faceting machines used in different parts of the world. He told us several stories of his travels in search of rare and unusual faceting machines, their history and cutting techniques. He also shared his love of the art and science of gem cutting.

Overall, the class was thoroughly impressed with Mr. Prim’s skills and knowledge. Our members left with a renewed appreciation for the craft of gem faceting and a desire to learn more. The **San Diego Mineral and Gem Society** is grateful to have had such a talented and informative guest faceter, and looks forward to hosting Mr. Prim again in the future.



Bill Depue

by Lisbet Thoresen

Back story

BILL EARL DEPUE was a California native, born on January 14, 1926, in Gardena, a suburb of Los Angeles County. He spent his early years in the South Bay, where his father Earl owned an independent service station called Top Notch Gas. The business flourished until the Great Depression smothered it. Like so many families during this period of disruption and dislocation, the Depues had to reinvent their lives. Bill's parents moved the family to a 160-acre homestead near the town of Hinkley, located a few miles northwest of Barstow, in California's high desert. It was a rustic setting in a pristine desert landscape as far as the eye could see and not much else. When Bill and his sisters were school-age, their father donated a portion of his property for the building of a school. It was the only elementary and middle school for miles around, and children were bussed in from as far away as Randsburg, over 50 miles away.

Bill became enamored with rockhounding around age 15, when a family friend who knew all about minerals took him along on his rock collecting field

trips. They trekked all over the hills and canyons which are now part of the Mojave Trails National Monument. His mother Hazel was interested in minerals and lapidary, later running a shop in Lenwood, so both Bill and his sister Beth naturally gravitated toward self-collecting minerals and carving them. Before long they became active members of the Mojave Desert Gem and Mineral Society.

Bill graduated from Barstow Union High School in 1942, which was followed by a stint in the Navy, where he specialized in sonar. He attended UCLA, majoring in mathematics, and from there he went on to teach college-level math. Until the end of his life, he loved to work on solving mathematical problems.

Bill's heart was always in the Mojave Desert, and he was happy to return home after his service in the Navy and attending university and teaching. He became interested in flying and obtained a private pilot's license. He and a friend collaborated on a novel design for a lightweight kit-built aircraft, which they planned to develop into a business. However, his friend's near-fatal crash chilled Bill's keenness for the

Pictured above, left. Bill at the Top Notch claim in the North Cady Mountains, May 28, 2016. **Center.** Bill at the end of a day of collecting, May 28, 2016. **Right.** Bill with his best friend, Jonathan Davis, inspecting an agate at Lavic Siding, May 13, 2017. Photos: Lisbet Thoresen.

enterprise. Even so, he never lost interest in flying. As recently as the early 2000s, he built a light plane from a kit. This light craft would enable him to land on small islands of collecting areas surrounded by private lands. This required a light craft that required only a short landing path and unflappable demeanor on the part of the pilot. Alas, this plane was wrecked before its maiden flight while being transported by truck to California. In recent years, Bill never missed an opportunity to fly with a friend, especially if it meant having the opportunity to survey the old trails in the desert where vehicular access was difficult.

In the early 1970s, Bill and a friend developed a prototype machine for grinding and polishing stones. By 1974, Bill was ready to begin manufacturing and distributing his equipment. He established Diamond Pacific Tool Corporation, based in Barstow, which is now in its fifth decade of operation. Until his retirement, he continued to refine his designs, and he developed other equipment that could do different things related to cutting and deburring. Together with his nephew, Don Depue, who would later become president of the company, followed by Bill's three grandnephews who run the business today, Bill and Don traveled to gem and mineral shows demonstrating Diamond Pacific's equipment. They built a loyal clientele throughout the United States.



Bill in the showroom at Diamond Pacific. June 2016. Photo: Lisbet Thoresen.

Legacy

Bill Depue was well known in the high desert community centered around Barstow and in the southwestern states where he was a frequent exhibitor at gem and mineral shows demonstrating the lapidary equipment he invented. As a business owner and avid rockhound he was “old school,” a man of his word who never had a contrary word about anyone, a friend beloved by just about everyone who knew him, and a legend in the hobby collecting community because of his love of the Mojave Desert. Bill saw glorious beauty in the desert landscape and in the amazing diversity of its flora and fauna. On an outing to the North Cadies at end of March 2019, as we bumped along a sort-of trail in his pickup truck, he pointed out the mounds of shrubs carpeting the desert floor, with their ethereal flowers of white, pink, purple, and bursts of yellow broom shimmering in the breeze. They were just emerging in what would be a superbloom year, “Did you know that the Mojave has more than four hundred unique plants, many of them flowering? Four hundred!” (Bill had taken a botanist on a field trip a few weeks earlier.)



“Tight Squeeze Pass” in the North Cady Mountains in a superbloom year. March 30, 2019. Photo: Lisbet Thoresen.

He loved the fauna, especially the tortoises and bighorn sheep. His longtime, close friend John Pickett recalled a time when they were out rock collecting, and they just stopped to marvel at a bighorn that

they noticed had been following them around from a distance all afternoon, curious it seemed about what they were doing. Bill loved the Mojave's unique geology, pointing out ridges, switchbacks, folds, slot canyons, and features like fossilized cattails weathering out of the rocks in Pyramid Canyon. And, of course, he loved the gem minerals, marveling at their colors, patterns, and textures, knowing that they too were unique to this desert. It never got old for him. Most of all, Bill loved sharing his enthusiasm for the desert with friends. He especially enjoyed introducing first-time visitors to the desert. He admonished me on my first outing: "Repent! Mend your ways, it's never too late to become a rockhound." Bill could make anyone a true believer.

The Cady Mountains was Bill's favorite place in the Mojave Desert. He would say, "Why go anywhere else, when the very best agates are found in the Cady Mountains?" He and his friend Joe Sumners took out a claim in the North Cadies expressly so everyone would have access to it, and no one would be barred from collecting there. Bill named the claim Top Notch. When he passed away on October 22, 2022, at age 96, no other person knew every trail, ridge, rill, or canyon in the Cadies better than Bill. He had been going there three weekends out of four, tens month out of twelve, for nearly 80 years.

Although Bill was a mathematician, pilot, inventor, and inveterate tinkerer, he created a business related to his lifelong hobby of making lapidary carvings from his self-collected gem minerals, primarily agates. He was the best ambassador advocating for the preservation of the desert and sharing all there was to discover and learn about its wonders. Collecting a remarkable gem mineral, and from it crafting a cabochon carving that might elicit its special beauty was supremely gratifying. Bill cut and polished hundreds of cabochons over a period of nearly eight decades. He never sold a single one. For him, each specimen was connected to a special place. Each place was attached to a memory of a discovery and an experience shared with friends.



Bill at the Top Notch claim. **Overset image.** "The Pink Stuff," agate from the Top Notch claim with a pink, red, and white paisley pattern. May 2016. Photo: Lisbet Thoresen.



Bill and John Pickett with slabbed agates collected by Danny Watts at the Top Notch claim. June 2016. Photo: Lisbet Thoresen.

Remembering

In December 2022, some of Bill's friends shared with SDMG their personal memories of him and what he meant to them. We have gathered these messages together with a montage of photographs by which all his friends might remember him with affection. It is available online at: <https://bit.ly/depue-poster>, and on the following page. A printed poster-sized version of this montage has been prepared for the Depue family.



Mike Sintetos (BLM environmental specialist), Bill Depue, Kyle Sullivan (BLM monument manager for Mojave Trails), Joe Summers, Afion Canyon outlet, March 30, 2019.



A panoramic view of the Mojave Valley floor from a vantage near the Sleeping Beauty collecting area in the South Cady Mountains, May 2017.



Pyramite Canyon, March 30, 2019.



Bill Depue at the Top Notch claim in the North Cady Mts, May 2016.



Tight Squeeze Pass, superbloom, March 30, 2019.



Jim Hare, Bill Depue, Joe Summers, and Danny and Vivian Watts, Baxter Wash, May 2016.



Bill Depue with Jonathan "Goober" Davis, Lave's Spring, May 2017.



Bill Depue, Diamond Pacific showroom, May 2016.



Danny and Vivian Watts trek through the fluorite collecting area near the Top Notch claim, North Cady Mountains, May 2016.



Bill at BLM's Envisioning Session for Mojave Trails National Monument August 2016.



Bill demonstrating at the Ventura Gem & Mineral Show, 2018.

REMEMBERING BILL E. DEPUE

January 14, 1926 ♦ October 22, 2022

Bill helped me understand and appreciate rockhounding in Mojave Trails National Monument. His expertise of the area and deep knowledge of the hobby was invaluable for understanding the recreational activities occurring in the monument. Bill met me early in the morning at the Afion Canyon Campground and we spent the day exploring his favorite parts of the area for rockhounding. I was amazed with his energy and enthusiasm.

Kyle Sullivan
former Monument Manager, Mojave Trails

Bill has been such an integral part of the rockhound community's life. I loved how he set up a Genie at shows demonstrating cabbing, and boy, did he make beautiful cabs! I will miss him.

Nancy B.
La Habra, California

I met Bill in 2006 at Mojave Desert Gem and Mineral Society. Both he and his sister Beth were big supporters of the club. Bill encouraged my interest in rock collecting, and I learned a great deal from him about cutting and polishing the agates that we collected on our field trips. We hiked all over the Cady Mountains, which he said had the very best agates, none better anywhere. Why would anyone given a choice go somewhere else? He knew more about the Cady Mountains than any living person I ever met. Although I was nine years younger than Bill, I could barely keep up with him as he scrambled over one ridge after another. As much as he inspired and aided me with his great knowledge, the quality I most admired about Bill was his kindness and generosity of spirit. He never had a contrary word about anyone. He loved the Mojave Desert and everything about it, and he was always happy to share it. Bill will be greatly missed, he truly was a unique person.

Joe Summers
Early, Texas (formerly Barstow)

All I know is his kind heart has been imprinted on our family's future generations through his family. His legacy will carry on into the future now by my grandchildren.

Tula

The beautiful memories we have with such a gifted and giving man, Bill Depue was always looking for that last special agate. Bill wasn't an ordinary man, he was and always will be a true legend. Our grandson Jonathan (Goober), at the age of 17 months, started rockhounding with Bill. Bill taught us all how to lick those agates. Still amazed at his ability to find agates and climb those hills. Hope you find those agates in Heaven. RIP, Bill.

Danny, Vivian Watts & Jonathan (Goober)

Bill had a lot of accomplishments in the lapidary field, but what I will always remember are the trips to collect and the conversations we had. I learned more than how to find pretty rocks from him. You will be missed, my friend.

Tim G.
Duncan, Arizona

Bill has been a great contributor to the San Diego Mineral & Gem Society for many, many years. Our building holds many of his machines from Diamond Pacific for all our lapidary work. I wish I could have been a participant on one of his field trips into the desert. He will be missed by many who knew him or who knew of his work in the lapidary business. Either way, I'm sure many will carry these memories forever.

LuAnn Benton
San Diego, California

I first met Bill in 2016, when he invited me to go along on a rock collecting trip to the Top Notch claim in the Cady Mountains. He would often say (with a smile), "I will be happy to share my desert with you." On that occasion and others since, it was always a special experience to see the beauty of the desert through his twinkling blue eyes. Bill, you made the world a better, happier place. Your life was a blessing and now your memory is too.

Lisbet Thoresen
Temecula, California

Bill was such a huge part of the Rockhound community. He will be missed at shows where he demonstrated and inspired many new lapidaries. Bill advocated to keep collecting areas open, becoming a spokesperson of sorts for us in the Mojave Trails National Monument. I was always happy to sit with him at DAC meetings. For me the adventures we had in the desert are most memorable.

Ruth H.
California

Bill helped me rebuild an old Diamond Pacific I got from Dee Smith more than a decade ago - still running fine. Thanks!

RIP.
Evelyn Hill

About 10 yrs ago Bill invited me to drive up from San Diego and go collecting in the Cady Mountains. He didn't say where, but others called it "Side-winder." He said he had the food for Saturday all ready. So, I trusted him. We spent the morning collecting, and at lunchtime Bill pulled out a bunch of previously cooked sweet potatoes and informed me that was lunch. He said they had everything needed to exist, and we didn't need anything else. From then on, I always brought my own food.

Jim Parrish
San Diego, California

I'm very sorry for your loss. Thank you so much for so many years of dedication and service to this beautiful craft.

Sincerely,
Itziar Parramon

We loved Bill. He taught us so much, and when we rockhound in the Cady's I will still look for Bill with his trusted rake to come up over the hill. We were truly blessed to be his friend.

Adam and Teresa Dean

by LuAnn H. Benton, Friendship Chair
friendship@sdmg.org

Students can also learn what it takes to shut down the workshop by going through the checklist themselves and completing some of the items. Look for these to appear by February.



to cabbaging to help educate the public about what SDMG does. Olivia Espinosa spent most of Saturday demonstrating sphere making and Kelli Compton demonstrated silver fabrication during part of the day Saturday. She then went out to the SDMG tables in the museum to help sell donated products to benefit SDMG. I want to thank all of you for your contributions toward making December Nights a great success for the public and for SDMG. You were great representatives of our society. If someone else was left out accidentally, please contact me at the email address posted above.

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!



Your Name Here
San Diego Mineral &
Gem Society

The badge measures 1" x 3". It has a white background with black lettering (see sample above).

ON THE GO ...
TO A SHOW



FEBRUARY

23–26 INDIO, CA – San Gorgonio Mineral & Gem Society Annual Show

Venue: Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival

82-503 Hwy 111, Indio, CA 92201

Gem & Mineral Building

Hours: Daily 10AM – 10PM

General Admission (online): \$10

General Parking: ?

Website: www.datefest.org

MARCH

4–5 VENTURA, CA – 60th Annual VGMS Show

Sponsor: Ventura Gem & Mineral Society

Venue: Ventura County Fairgrounds

10 Harbor Blvd., Ventura, CA 93001

Hours: Sat 10:00AM – 5:00PM; Sun 10:00AM – 4:00PM

Admission: Free.

General Parking: Fee for Fairgrounds parking lot.

Website: vgms.org/category/gem-show

Displays of gems, minerals, meteorites, fossils and award-winning handcrafted jewelry.

Includes educational exhibits of fossils collected locally in and around Ventura County, as well as a display of the California State Rock, Mineral, Fossil and Gemstone, featuring a gold nugget and Ice Age saber-tooth cat.

Demonstrations include gemstone cutting, silver work and jewelry making, beading, and other arts. Raffle prizes and hourly silent auctions. Expert prospectors will guide you through the steps of gold panning, and you can purchase “pay dirt” to pan for real gold in your own backyard. You’ll also see displays that include meteorites, handcrafted jewelry, and “Auggie,” the California State Dinosaur.

10–12 VICTORVILLE, CA – 47th Annual Stoddard Wells Rock Hound Tailgate

Sponsor: Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club

Venue: Stoddard Wells Rd. near I15

Hours: Daily 9:00AM – 5:00PM

Admission: Free. Public welcome.

Contact: VVGMC 760-243-2330

Website: vvgmc.org/tailgate.html

Handcrafted and faceted jewelry, slabs and cabs, findings and equipment, minerals and fossils and TONS of Rough Material. Saturday FAMILY Field Trip: Tri-Colored Marble 9:00AM – 1:00PM



*2023 in Quartzsite (AZ
85346)
– selected shows –*

Jan 1 – Feb 28
Desert Gardens Gems, Rocks & Minerals Show
1055 Kuhen Street
9AM – 5PM daily
Free Parking and Admission
desertgardensrocksgemandmineralshow.com

Jan 2 – Feb 28 • Prospector's Panorama
Tyson Wells Show Grounds
35 W. Kuehn Street
9AM – 5PM daily
Free Admission
www.prospectorspanorama.com

Feb 10–12 • The Gold Show at the Q.I.A.
235 E. Ironwood Street
(north of I-10 between Exit 19 and Hwy 95)
7AM to 5PM daily
Free Parking and Admission
www.qiaarizona.org
(check website for 2 daily field trips)

Feb 3 – 12 • Tyson Wells Arts & Crafts Fair
Tyson Wells Show Grounds
121 W. Kuehn Street
9AM – 5PM daily
Free Admission
www.tysonwells.com

more info at: <http://bit.ly/desert-usa>

TUCSON
JOGS Gem Show Schedule 2023
January 25th thru February 5th

jogsshow.com/tucson-gem-show-schedule



"THE MAIN SHOW"

February 9–12, 2023

68th Annual

Tucson Gem & Mineral Show

Sponsor: Tucson Gem & Mineral Society

Venue: SMG-Tucson Convention Center,
260 South Church Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85701

Hours: Thu thru Sat 10:00AM – 6:00PM,
Sun 10:00AM – 5:00PM

Tickets. Available starting January 12th.

Website: www.tgms.org/show/

The largest, oldest and most prestigious gem and mineral show in the world, featuring 250+ dealers. This year's mineral theme is "Silica – Agates & Opals & Quartz."

Selected Tucson Shows – 2023

JANUARY–FEBRUARY

26–12 Kino Gem & Fossil Show

Where: Kino Sports Complex
2500 E. Ajo Way, Tucson, AZ 85702 (E. Ajo Way between Kino Pkwy. & Country Club Rd.)
Hours: 10:00AM – 6:00PM daily, except Feb 12, closes at 4:00PM.
Contact: info@as-shows.com
Web: www.as-shows.com

26–12 Tucson 22nd Street Mineral & Fossil Show (Eons Expos)

Where: 600 West 22nd Street at corner of I-10 & 22nd Street
Hours: 10:00AM – 6:00PM daily
Admission: Free.
Parking: \$10.00 onsite; \$5.00 across I-10
Web: www.22ndstreetshow.com
Wholesale and retail, 300+ dealers, plus food vendors, WiFi, handicapped accessible.

26–7 Pueblo & Mineral Show

Where: Ramada by Wyndham Tucson, 777 W Cushing Street, Tucson, AZ 85745
Parking: Onsite and valet.
Contact: info@pueblogemshow.com or 310-586-6816
Website: www.pueblogemshow.com.

27–12 Rapa River Gem & Mineral Show

Where: 292 S. Freeway Ave., Tucson AZ 85745
Hours: 9:00AM – 6:00PM daily
Contact: rapagem@yahoo.com
Web: tucsongemshow101.com/rapariver
The Rapa River Gem & Mineral Show is not a big show, but there will be many warm vendors every year. You can find minerals, rocks, carvings, glass arts, and Asian traditional clothes. You should visit once during the show because vendors tend to change every year. You can stop by after visiting the GIGM Show Globex Gem & Mineral Show (Red Lion Inn and Suites).

27–11 GIGM - Globex International Gem & Mineral Show – Three Shows

Web: gigmshow.com
Hours: 9:30AM to 6:00PM

(1) Quality Inn Gem & Mineral Show *Gem Mineral & Metaphysical Show*

Where: 750 W Starr Pass Blvd, Tucson, AZ 85745
Parking: Located behind Quality Inn Hotel
Contact: 520-251-1800

(2) GIGM - Globex/Red Lion Inn & Suites *Globex Gem & Mineral Show*

Where: Red Lion Inn & Suites
222 South Freeway (Congress & I-10), Tucson, AZ 85745
Parking: 498 W. Congress St. Parking Garage (behind Circle K)
Contact: 520-791-7511

(3) GIGM - Motel 6 (Formerly the Howard Johnson Hotel)

Where: Motel 6 (Formerly the Howard Johnson Hotel), 1010 South Freeway (Congress & I-10), Tucson, AZ 85745
Parking: Large lot on West side of the Hotel

27–11 RMGM Mineral & Fossil Show

(1) Oracle Road – 1920 N Oracle Road, Tucson, AZ 85705

Admission and Parking: Public welcome, free.
Sponsor: RMGM Promotions
Hours: 10:00AM – 6:00PM daily (closes 4PM on last day)
Contact: info@coloradomineralandfossilshows.com
Web: www.coloradomineralandfossilshows.com

KRISTALLE, est. 1971
Wayne and Dona Leicht

TUCSON 2023
UNIT #1 - SUN GEM BUILDING
(corner of Lester & Oracle)
January 27 - February 12

Exceptional crystallized golds
Classic minerals
Laguna Apatites
Large inventory of minerals 50% off
Books, magazines discounted

New acquisitions:
Dr. Peter Keller Collection
James Maniskas Collection
Brian Matthews Bisbee Collection
A selection of deaccessioned minerals from the Wayne Leicht Collection

KRISTALLE TEAM
Wayne
Dona
Lois

875 North Coast Highway - Laguna Beach, California 92651-1415, USA
www.kristalle.com - info@kristalle.com
949.494.7695



Alphabetical Listing of all Tucson Shows
January through February
www.tucsongemshows.net/coming.html

and at:

Gem, Mineral & Fossil Showcase:
Join The World's Largest Treasure Hunt
February 9-12, 2023

Website: www.visittucson.org

For detailed listings of all the dealers, venues, and show dates, search the schedule at the show website and/or vendor websites.

KRISTALLE, est. 1971

Wayne & Dona Leicht – Laguna Beach, CA

TUCSON 2023

MINERAL CITY SHOW
Lester & Oracle
Sun Gem Bldg. Unit #1

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NINETEENTH ANNUAL SINKANKAS SYMPOSIUM

San Diego County Gems
and Gem Minerals

Saturday, April 22, 2023

GIA World Headquarters
Carlsbad, CA

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

Sponsors: Gemological Institute of America and
the Geo-Literary Society

Time: Badging, refreshments, 7:00–8:00 AM
Symposium begins at 8:00 AM sharp.

Registration: Starts February 15, 2023. Online Only.
Check website on or after Feb 15 for the link.

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

Website: sinkankassymposium.net



Rubellite specimen and cut stone from the
Pala Chief Mine. Photo: Robert Weldon, © GIA.
Crystal and cut stone from William F. Larson,
Pala International.

Speakers*

Dr. Raquel Alonso-Perez
Meg Berry
Dr. Aaron Celestian
Paula Crevoshay
Cal Graeber
Bill Larson
Will Larson
Brendan Laurs
Dr. Aaron Palke
Nathan Renfro
Dr. George Rossman
Dr. Skip Simmons

* Speakers and program subject to change without notice.

Cut of the Month*

by Bill Brisebois

The “Trillireium” design is fairly simple, but can be a little tricky with the corners. Here is what I recommend for the cutting and polishing of it –

Pavilion

The corner P3 facets are very easy to over cut. I would undercut a little to make sure they are not too tall as it will create a lot of work at the P4, P5 meets.

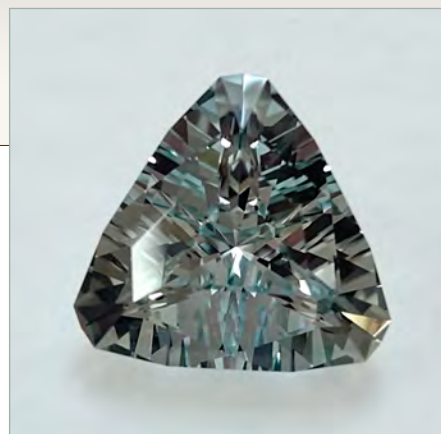
You will have to work the P3 and P4 facets a little over polish so the P5 facets are not a problem.

I also prefer to have a VERY good prepolysh on the P5 facets as any deeper scratches you need to work out can be an issue when trying to meet the P3 corner facets.

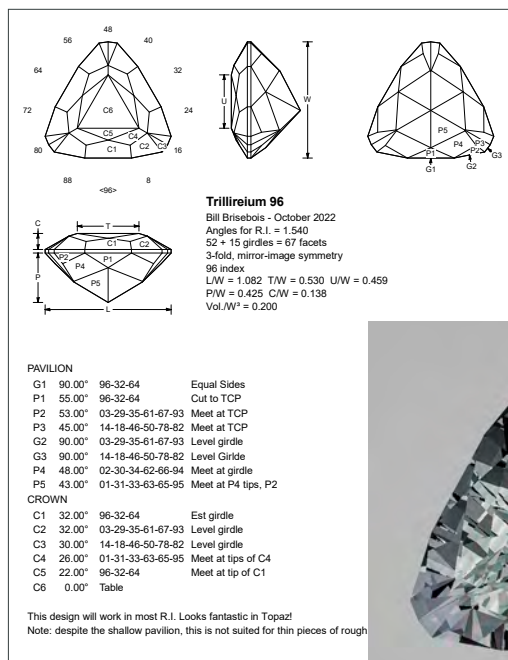
Crown

Pretty much the same as the pavilion for the C3 facets. Work the C2 facets against the C3 corner tips so there is a good gap to polish the C4 facets down into.

This design will work in most materials with no changes to the angles, but a stone with a higher R.I. will be a little more interesting.



The faceted Trillireium 96.



Above left. The CAD design for Trillireium 96, downloadable at: <https://sdmg.org/pdf/Brisebois-Trillireium-96.pdf>.

Overset right. The CAD rendering of the Trillireium.

Far left and left. The stone on the dop at different stages during the cutting and polishing.

* This Cut of the Month article is reproduced from the January 2023 Pegmatite, but the present version features links to a clean PDF and a [zip file containing the .gem formatted faceting file](#) courtesy of Dave Rose.

TIPS FROM THE PAST

How to Work Amber

by LuAnn Benton, SDMG Historian

Use wet/dry sandpaper, sand amber wet. Start with 100 grit. Take off all out coating.

Dip in water, then hold against strong light to locate possible insects.

Shape and/or round corners with metal file.

Using 200 grit sandpaper, sand wet until all deep scratches from 100 grit are gone.

Finish sanding with 600 grit, wet. Use circular motion to prevent long scratches.

Let piece dry. Check finish closely to find bad spots and remove them before going on.

Put regular toothpaste on wet washcloth. Make a paste and rub amber to polish it.

Note: Gel type toothpaste isn't abrasive enough.

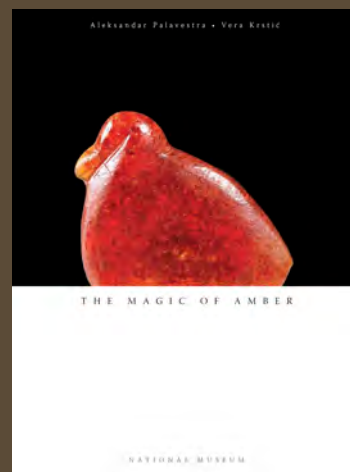
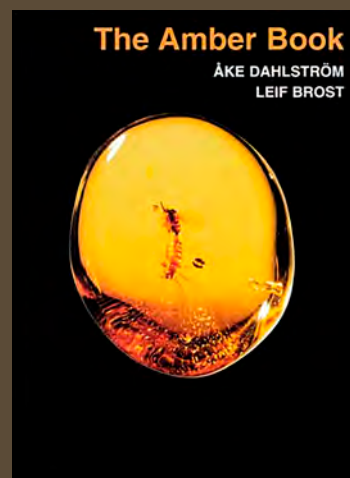
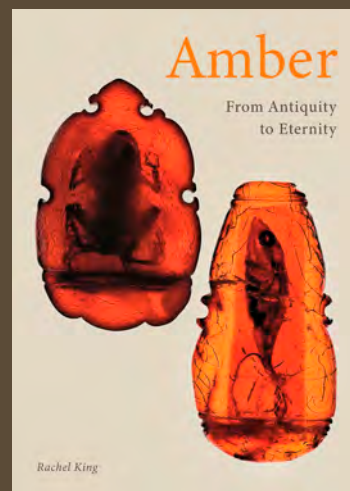
Previously published in: *The Pegmatite*, March 2000, bulletin of the San Diego Mineral & Gem Society; *The Geode*, November, 1999, newsletter of the Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club; and *Delvings*, August, 1998, bulletin of the Delvers Gem & Mineral Society.

Books on Amber

King, Regina. (2022) *Amber: From Antiquity to Eternity*. University of Chicago Press, Chicago, 272 pp.

Dahlström, Åke, and Brost, Leif. (1996) *The Amber Book*. Geosciences Press, Tucson, Arizona, 134 pp.

Palavestra, Aleksandar, and Krstić, Vera. (2006) *The Magic of Amber*. National Museum, Belgrade. Archaeological monographies 18, 448 pp.



SDMG BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

January 16, 2023

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 LuAnn Benton, Bill Brisebois, Bob Hancock, John Kruzal, Itziar Parramon, Jim Parrish, Doug Peeler, Ellen Riceman, Dave Rose, Nita Sani, Anne Schafer, Jennifer Stapp, Paul Williams and Rich Yarbrough. A quorum was present. **Excused:** Lee Jackson and Tim Swann. **Absent:** Mark Herman, Yvonne Juarez, Simon King and Larry Shute. **Guest:** Lisbet Thoresen.

Membership: Angie Cannon reported a total SDMG membership of 502, including 50 Juniors.

Juniors: David Smith reported that attendance at the Juniors' Saturday class was picking up.

Museum Curator: Jim Parrish reported that lots of volunteers turned out for museum cleanup before December Nights.

Jim stated that it's time to replace SDMG's old laptop (and old software) that is used for meetings and presentations. Motion carried unanimously, authorizing Jim to purchase a new laptop and software, price NTE \$1,500.

School Director: Rich Yarbrough proposed the purchase of a computerized, programmable temperature controller for the Casting Class kiln. The unit is enclosed in a box, the box is plugged into the wall, and the kiln is plugged into the box. Potential cost was \$266.00 plus tax and shipping. Motion carried unanimously, authorizing Rich to purchase the computerized temperature controller, price NTE \$500.

Donations: LuAnn Benton reported that Jackie Leverone donated a canister vacuum for use in the SDMG Library.

Outreach: LuAnn Benton received an email from The Localist on Fox 5 TV, stating that there is quite a demand to be featured on this program and often, companies pay to be on the show. The Localist staff promised to contact LuAnn in 2023.

Public Lands: Lisbet Thoresen described the memorial poster with photos and comments that she created to honor Bill Depue, which she will deliver to his family at the end of January.

Lisbet plans to email Board members a link to access an online image of the poster.

December Nights: Jim Parrish reported that the park was very crowded. Mike Harkleroad and Itzy Parramon signed up volunteer demonstrators. They plan to put out sign-up sheets for capping and faceting volunteers for the next December Nights, to be held Friday & Saturday, Dec. 1-2.

Christmas Potluck: Jennifer Stapp stepped down as Potluck Chair; a new chair will be needed for the 2023 event. Anne Schafer to present 2022 Potluck report at February Board meeting, and to contact City to obtain date & permit for 2023 Christmas Potluck.

Banquet: Jennifer Stapp repeated that she has not been able to locate an affordable venue. She is willing to be a mentor for the 2023 event, but no one has stepped forward to chair the Banquet. It was suggested that the War Memorial Building large room be checked out as a potential site.

Scholarships: Jennifer Stapp reported that the SDSU Geology Dept. responded with a good candidate, and she will be presenting his information at the February Board meeting. The Metalsmithing & Jewelry portion of the Art & Design Dept. has not responded yet.

BBQ: Doug Peeler wishes to reduce costs by holding a smaller silent auction so fewer tables would need to be rented; by only renting two port-a-potties; and by replacing the caterer with two food trucks for those that don't bring their own picnic lunch. SDMG would still sell water and soda, and provide coffee and donuts for volunteer workers. Doug to investigate permit for Saturday, May 6th. Backup date: May 7th.

Gem Diego: Jim Parrish plans to meet with the new Potentate at Al Bahr; SDMG will need to make a presentation. Garry Cannon has agreed to serve as Dealer Chairman. Jim and Show Committee to explore

possibility of redoing the floor plan, including more dealers and not using the second floor.

Old Business: John Kruzel reported that the Ever Clean oil cleaning system has been ordered, that a discount was applied, and that he has received the filters, motors, etc., but is waiting on the tanks. There appears to be a hold up in production.

New Business: Jim Parrish and Dave Smith have made contact with three alarm companies to get ideas and approximate costs of upgrading the current alarm system.

(Any member may attend Board meetings. The next one is scheduled for February 20, 2023, at 7 p.m. and will be held via GoToMeeting. Please [email Jim Parrish](#) to be added to the attendance list.)



ROCK YARD SALE

Friday and Saturday, March 3 & 4, 2023

Everything is priced to sell!

When: 9 AM to 2 PM each day. (No early birds, please.)

Where: 1488 Cactusridge Street, San Diego 92105

What: Good slabs and individually priced chunks of lapidary rough, buckets of rough rock, some tools, rock hammers, minerals, cabochons, etc.

Who: Everyone is welcome!

Please come help Wayne and Peggy Leibitzke with their down-sizing project, and you may just pick up some good deals.

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*

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Who may use the Library?

Membership is not required to view the catalog,
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Trapiche amethyst. Rondonia, Brazil. Photo: Jeff Scovil.

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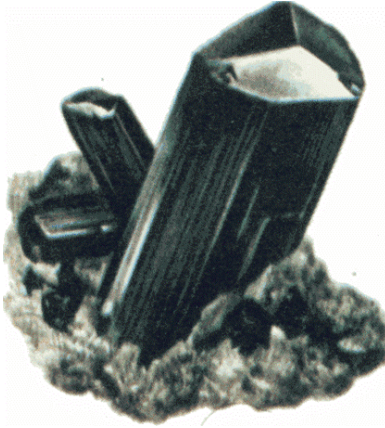
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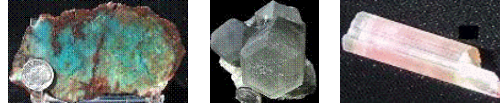
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SAN DIEGO MINERAL & GEM SOCIETY | WINTER/SPRING 2023 WORKSHOP SCHEDULE
Jan 9, 2023 – Jun 30, 2023

Signing up for classes: Prospective students must contact the instructor prior to attending a workshop; click on the instructor's name to send them an email*. The instructor will let the student know if there is room in their workshop, 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	<u>Steve Wright</u>
	Wed	9:00 am - 11:30 am	<u>Itziar Parramon</u>
	Wed	12:30 pm - 3:30 pm	<u>Simon King</u>
	Wed	6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	<u>Nita Sani</u>
	Thu	9:00 am – 12:00 pm	<u>John Kruzel</u>
	Fri	6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	<u>Jon Evans</u>
<u>FACETING</u>	Wed	9:00 am - 11:30 am	<u>Mike Harkleroad</u>
	Wed	6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	<u>Tim Sandiford</u>
	Thu	6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	<u>Bill Brisebois</u>
<u>ADV. FACETING</u>	Wed	12:00 pm - 3:00 pm	<u>Donna Beers</u>
<u>BEG. METALS FABRICATION</u>	Mon	6:00 pm – 9:00 pm***	<u>Al Puente</u>
	Wed	6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	<u>Tim Swann</u>
	Thu	9:00 am – 12:00 pm	<u>Bud Green</u>
<u>INT. METALS FABRICATION</u>	Tue	6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	<u>Yvonne Juarez</u>
<u>ADV. METALS FABRICATION</u>	Wed	9:00 am – 3:00 pm	<u>Denny Turner</u>
	Wed	9:00 am - 3:00 pm	<u>Jackie Leverone</u>
	Thu	1:00 pm – 4:00 pm	<u>Denny Turner</u>
	Thu	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	<u>Ellen Riceman</u>
	Fri	9:00 am - 3:00 pm	<u>Jill Williamson</u>
<u>CASTING</u>	Tue	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	<u>Dave Smith</u>
	Wed	4:00 pm – 8:00 pm	<u>Simon King</u>
	Fri	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	<u>Rich Yarbrough</u>
<u>ROCK CARVING</u>	Mon	9:00 am – 3:00 pm**	<u>LuAnn Benton</u>
<u>WAX CARVING</u>	Mon	10:30 am – 1:30 pm	<u>Rose Feroah & Lauren Holman</u>
<u>SPHERE MAKING</u>	Sat	1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	<u>Paul Williams</u>
<u>JUNIORS</u>	Sat	9:30am - 12:30pm	<u>Dave Smith</u>

* 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

*** Start Date 2/6/23



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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 SDMG Board Mtg 7PM Virtual	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 SDMG General Mtg 7PM SDMG bldg	28	1	2	3	4