

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

THE PEGMATITE

January 2024



2023 ends with plenty of holiday cheer

Photos and reviews courtesy of Jim Parrish, Lee Jackson and Anne Schafer



2024 begins with a winter season of shows

A fabulous yard sale in Mira Mesa, Quartzsite and Tucson

Above left. Rachel Hahn helps holiday shoppers at the selling tables during SDMGS's Open House at December Nights in Balboa Park. **Right.** Illustration by SDMG member Dolores Wheeler.

Official bulletin of the San Diego Mineral and Gem Society

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Contact: membership@sdmg.org

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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

January 2024

by Dave Smith

president@sdmg.org

HAPPY NEW YEAR. We finished 2023 with some of our best events. We were delighted that **SDMG's December Nights Open House**, which was held on December 1st and 2nd, brought hundreds, if not thousands of visitors through our museum and workshop. Read a review with photos on page 6.

Our last event of 2023 was the **Christmas Potluck**, which was held on December 18th in the Casa Del Prado building in Balboa Park. As I had hoped, many volunteers arrived early to help set up and cover the tables and decorate the room. There were enough vittles to feed the estimated 100-plus members, relatives, and friends. There were very few leftovers at the end of the evening.

The door prize drawing took a little longer to finish, but it gave bidders on our **Silent Auction** more time to refresh their bids. **Jim Parrish** announced that credit cards will be accepted when the bids reach over \$50. There was also a **Christmas Tree Ornament Contest** this year. Thanks to **LuAnn Benton**, who rallied the volunteers to help to clear the tables, remove trash, clean and pack the cutlery, then return everything along with ice chests and boxes of ornaments to the SDMG building. Read a review of the **Christmas Potluck** by event chairman, **Lee Jackson**, on page 8, followed by a tally of the prizes and prize winners by roving reporter **Anne Schafer**.

January is the season for Quartzite, Arizona, and then Tucson in February, if you have the means and time to travel. There are pages of listings of our favorite shows starting on page 17.

There are rumors about having a **Cab 'N' Slab Sale** this spring, but no firm plans have been set yet. We'll keep you posted.



Dave with Marna Morimoto at SDMG's December Nights' Open House. Photo: Jim Parrish.

This year is an election year for SDMG, and a new President must be elected per our bylaws. There are several vacancies on the board of directors, which meets nine months during the year, with December, July, and August dark for holiday and summer breaks. A nomination committee lead by Vice President **LuAnn Benton** will oversee creating the slate of candidates. If you are a member in good standing and want to participate in our club, I encourage you to reach out to LuAnn and let her know that you are interested in participating (benton.luannz@gmail.com).

Please note that our first General Meeting of 2024 will be on January 29th – the fifth Monday of the month and not the usual fourth Monday. SDMG's editor **Lisbet Thoresen** will give an updated presentation of a talk she gave in 2020 about the ancient history of gem garnets. Details can be found on page 3.



SDMG General Meeting

Monday, January 29, 2024

7pm, SDMG bldg.

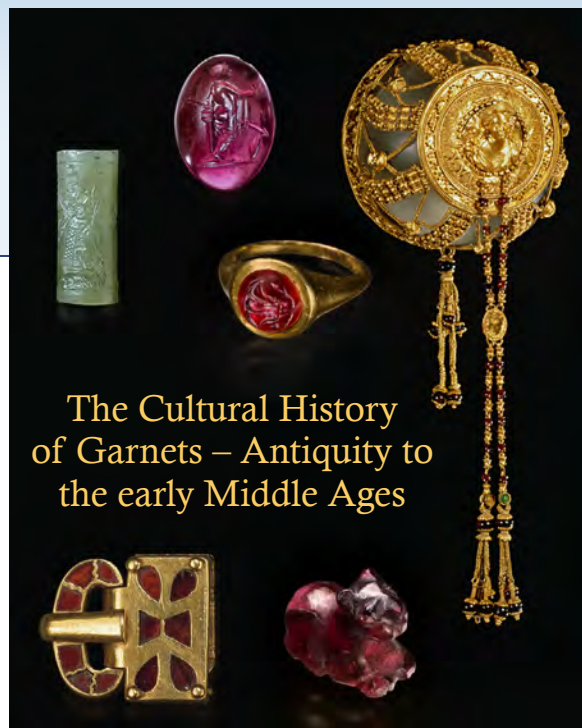
Dave Smith, President

The Cultural History of Garnets – Antiquity to the early Middle Ages

By Lisbet Thoresen

THE USE OF GEM GARNETS from early antiquity in the mid-3rd millennium BCE through the early Dark Ages in the 10th century CE is discussed in the first meeting of 2024. Most ancient and many historical garnets preserved in private and museum collections lack information about where they were found as carved objects or the sources where the raw materials may have originated. Garnet structure and chemistry together with observable features such as color and inclusions provide characteristic signatures that sometimes may associate garnets with known geographic sources.

Applied to ancient and historically significant garnets, analytical provenance studies have shown that characteristic compositions and inclusions are seen in glyptics, or engraved gems, during different cultural epochs. Such studies have illuminated otherwise indistinct aspects of the gem trade in the increasingly globalized world of the distant past and continuing into the Middle Ages. This is especially interesting to consider in the light of literary works written in different periods, which describe transparent, red and purple-colored gems of varying quality obtained from disparate purported sources. Analytical studies also contribute useful datapoints on garnet compositions found in nature, some of which have been observed only in ancient and post-Antique (historical, pre-modern) garnets but not in garnets of the modern gem market. These data indicate that many ancient and post-Antique mining localities were not used continuously throughout history but have been lost to memory.



The Cultural History of Garnets – Antiquity to the early Middle Ages

About the Speaker. **Lisbet Thoresen** is an independent researcher specialized in the gem minerals used in the production of glyptic, or engraved gems, in the ancient world. Her work focuses on four subject areas: gemstone identity and geographic origin determination, transmission and trade, ancient treatment techniques, and interpreting ancient literature on gems. This research integrates gemology and archaeometry, or archaeological science, into ancient gem studies traditionally based on connoisseurship and archaeology.

Lisbet's work has been published in professional journals, conference proceedings, and books. Previously, she worked in all aspects of the preservation, analysis, authentication, exhibition planning, and conservation of antiquities as Associate Conservator at the **J. Paul Getty Museum** in Malibu, California. Selected articles by **Lisbet**, including a provenance study on garnets can be found at:

<https://independent.academia.edu/LThoresen>

As usual, we will have door prizes and refreshments. Please bring some to share.



JUNIOR DIVISION NEWS

by Dave Smith
Juniors' coordinator

WE START A NEW YEAR with the chance to improve our lapidary skills in the shop and to participate in club-sponsored events. We ask students to share their spare time for the shop and other events. In the summer we cover the San Diego County Fair sandbox, where kids can sift for hidden gem-mineral treasures to keep. This provides Juniors who volunteer free entry and parking passes for themselves and a parent or guardian. It is a fun way to engage children and provide a service for the Gems, Minerals & Jewelry Department at the Fair.

The Gem Diego Show is held in the fall. Help is always needed in various areas such as demonstrating or assisting at the children's educational display tables. Volunteering a few hours helps immensely, and Juniors learn how to work in teams towards a goal – putting on a great show.

In December, we experienced the usual holiday drought of students. We'll see if our class picks up again this month – I have a waiting list for new students, age 12 and older. If you want to learn lapidary arts and you can follow instructions, let me know, and I'll consider your request to participate (president@sdmg.org).

A final note, my assistant instructor, **Paul Williams**, has returned to the class after a short illness. He wants to inform everyone that his Sphere class, which follows my class at 1:00pm, resumes this month.



Matt and sister Alice, Renzo, and David. Photo: Dave Smith.

This 'n' That...

General Announcements

January 7 – Winter classes begin
Check with your instructor with questions.
(see schedule at the end of this bulletin)

Jan 15, 7pm – SDMG Board Meeting (Virtual)

Kruzel's Cabochon Show & Tell

NEW MEMBERS strutted their skills throughout November. Nanette Vingoe took top honors the first week, followed by Kim Clinton in the second. Veteran cabber, Lucille James, stepped in to take the top honor in week three. After a break to eat a robust Thanksgiving meal the students returned and first day cabber Lisa Laves wore the gold!

The cabochon elves were busy in the workroom during December! The Show and Tell was fierce with two new first time winners. On December 7 Colin Taylor stunned as he was voted #1 for his first cabochon-making effort. And Sherry Camargo was voted best Cabochon on the 28th -- a first-time win for her. The middle of the month honor was nabbed by Annabelle Bacher. (The students and teacher swore the win was for an outstanding cabochon and not for the delivery of a smooth, creamy and delicious

creme brulee from this stellar baker!) The winners for November and December are shown below.

At the end of every workshop, all the students show what they worked on that day, sharing what type of stone they cut and showing what they did to make it look good. The students then vote on the person they think did the best job on their cabochon. The prize is having their picture taken, holding their cabochon, while wearing a coveted gold medal, which is then posted in *The Pegmatite*.

Congratulations to all! Your participation is truly appreciated. There is room in the class for a few more students, so tell a friend about this learning opportunity. It's fun and the ongoing, friendly competition and peer encouragement is just a bit of icing on the Christmas cookie!



Nanette Vingoe – November 2



Kim Clinton – November 9



Lucille James – November 16



Lisa Laves – November 30



Colin Taylor – December 7



Annabelle Bacher – December 14



Sherry Camargo – December 28

*Congratulations
to all on your
beautiful
cabochons!*

SDMG Open House at December Nights 2023

A review by Dave Smith and LuAnn Benton

Photographs courtesy of Jim Parrish



Left. Visitors begin to gather. **Right.** Jim Parrish with some of his team, left to right: Tang White, Brendan White, Rachel Hahn, James Curtis, and Marna Morimoto.

THE DECEMBER NIGHTS Open House was held on December 1st and 2nd, 2023. There was a great turnout this year in Balboa Park. At the **SDMG** building, we had multiple tables of mineral-related items offered for sale. **SDMG** members toured visitors through the shops and explained how the equipment was being used. Our Open House lasted late into the evenings both days. Committee Chair **Jim Parrish** and his volunteers put in long hours to prepare for the event, staff it, and then clean up into the wee hours after it was over. It was worth the effort, especially having the opportunity to educate the public about the science of minerals and carving and faceting them. Thank you to the club booth volunteers: **Dave Smith, Mike Harlow, Angela Cannon, LuAnn Benton, Marna Morimoto, James Curtis, Rachel Hahn, Kerry Stone, Terry Thomas, Nancy Brescia, Mike Frye, Leslie McGeehan, Alan Bergum, Brendan and Tang White, Letty Evans, Suzann Kuehn, and Beverly Sherratt.**

The **SDMG** members who volunteered as demonstrators for **December Nights** included

Mike Harkelroad, Itziar Parramon, Tim Sandiford, Sandy Hively, Olivia Espinosa and Kelli Compton. Mike contacted all the faceting instructors to encourage them to volunteer their time demonstrating faceting, and he asked their students to participate as well. Mike spent most of Saturday, if not all-day Saturday faceting. Tim Sandiford, and Sandy



Visitors begin to gather around the selling tables, where Suzann Kuehn and Beverly Sherratt help customers.



A young visitor examines a faceted gem cut by Marna Morimoto.



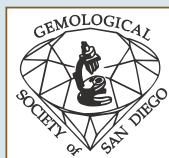
Visitors admire the display case of mineral specimens.

faceted alongside her instructor, **Bill Brisebois**, and Itziar was there on Sunday faceting and then later switched over to cabbing to help educate the public about what SDMG does. Olivia Espinosa spent most of Saturday demonstrating sphere making and Kelli Compton demonstrated silver fabrication part of the day Saturday and then went out to the SDMG tables in the museum to help sell donated items to

benefit SDMG.

Thanks to one and all for your contributions toward making December Nights a great success for the public and for SDMG. You were great representatives of SDMG. Apologies to anyone who has been overlooked here. Please contact LuAnn if we've missed making an acknowledgement (benton.luannz@gmail.com).

GEMOLOGICAL SOCIETY of SAN DIEGO



GSSD General Meeting
Monday, January 8, 2024
7:00 pm SDMG Building

In order not to drag you all away from football and a happy celebration on New Year's day, we have to move the meeting ahead one week. Agenda for the January TBA. Please bring snacks to share.

FALLBROOK GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY — Est. 1957 —

FGMS General Meeting
Thursday, January 11, 2024 – 6:30 pm
123 W. Alvarado St. Fallbrook, CA 92028
Public Welcome!

Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society starts 2024 with a new lecture on **The Essence of Fluorescence: and things that glow, flash, or go "bump" in the night**, from geologist extraordinaire **Phil Stoffer**. There will be refreshments and door prizes. By all means, please bring something to share at the refreshment table. Everyone is welcome, and we hope you'll have an enjoyable time.



SDMG's Annual Christmas Potluck: A Review

by Lee Jackson, chairman

THE CHRISTMAS POTLUCK held on December 18, 2023, was very much a success. I so appreciate all the help and guidance from LuAnn Benton as a second committee chair. All the hard work and patience was worth it. As we arrived at 101 Casa del Prado, we were greeted by three volunteers ready to help: Anne Schafer, Jennifer Stapp, and Doug Peeler. Soon to follow were Lisa Montano and her grandson David Miller, a member of the Junior Division. (Lisa said that they love to help out where they can). I thank them very much. More and more people showed up early to help set the tables with colored cloths and decorations. I do wish I had gotten their names to thank them, but you know who you are – thank you to one and all! All the activities went smoothly, starting with setting out the food, which included turkey, ham, roast beef, meatballs, and various other foods such as vegetables, salads, and numerous dessert plates.

The Silent Auction was a great success, with many beautiful items available for bidding. Once

again, thank you to Gerry “Gemguru” Alvarado, who donates beautiful displays of numerous gemstones and cabochons every year along with the many contributions from SDMG and other donors. Thanks to Sally Parrish, Angie Cannon, and Anne Schafer who handled the payment process at the end.

The many door prize drawings were handled by Terry Thomas and Dave Smith. It went smoothly, except when someone wasn't there to claim their prize, but at least someone else had a second chance at winning it. There were many really nice items. One was a Brazilian amethyst, an open geode with a deep purple color, which was won by a surprised, but very happy Nancy Brescia, and a very nice display of small specimens was won by an excited Arnim Huber. See the next page for Anne Shafer's reportage on the winners and what they won.

The Christmas Ornament contest had some beautifully made stone ornaments. The winners were Angie Cannon in First Place, Itziar Parramon

Pictured above. Members and their guests sit down to a feast.

Overset image. Letty Evans makes a plate for herself and Bob Hancock.

in Second, and Terry Thomas in Third. All three were done very well, congratulations.

There was a young gentleman present who is a member of four different societies including SDMG. One of the other ones is a mushroom society, which happens to meet in the same room where we had our Christmas Potluck. He kindly arranged to get a speaker and microphone for us to use. What a savior he was for us! He obtained them very quickly, as it was stored adjacent to our venue. I missed getting his name, but thank you so much to one of our unsung heroes. I would also like to thank all the volunteers who helped decorate the room. It was done so beautifully, and their effort made everything stand out very nicely.

After all was said and done, at the end of the dinner, cleanup went miraculously well. Thanks to the many people who helped breakdown everything to the bare tables and chairs, carried away the trash, and washed the serving utensils. A special thanks goes out to the Arola family of four, including Max and Alice, who are members of the Junior Division. They stayed until the very end, helping take back all the supplies to the SDMG building, which required several trips.



SDMG members volunteer to set out the spread.

Thank You All! We had a wonderful turnout, with 115 attendees. Until next year's Christmas Potluck, Merry Christmas to you all, and thank you for your never-ending support of the San Diego Mineral & Gem Society.



WHO WON WHAT ??

by Anne Schafer, roving reporter

AFTER SIGNING IN, browsing the silent auction offerings and eating lots and lots of delicious food, the SDMG Christmas Potluck attendees were more than ready to sit back, relax and listen to the results of the door prize drawing. For the second year in a row, door prize ticket purchasers could put their tickets in the bins in front of the items they

were most interested in winning. (This novel idea was stolen from the pernicious practices of the Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Society, whom we thank.) And here (next page), in its entirety, complete with misspellings, is the list of assorted door prizes, their gracious donors and grateful winners.

2024 PRIZE WINNERS

THANKS go to those who helped set up the door prizes, including Marcus Origlieri and Doug Peeler, and to those who conducted the drawing, including Terry White and David Smith. We hope everyone enjoyed the Potluck.

DESCRIPTION	DONOR	WINNER
Polished petrified wood slab, w/stand	SDMG	Jill Williamson
Polished 3" rhodonite egg, w/stand	Anne Schafer	Holly Beck
SDMG coffee mug; mineral playing cards	SDMG	Bill Brisebois
Moroccan geode half, crystal center, 6"	SDMG	Stacy Salazar
Polished Brazilian agate half, metal stand	SDMG	Rachel Hahn
Moroccan ammonite/orthocere standup	SDMG	Doug Peeler
Quartz specimen	SDMG	Tamar Peyton
Quartz crystal point w/phantoms, 4" tall	SDMG	Grace Sorensen
Citrine gemstone, 3.93 ct, oval cut	SDMG	Tish Cheryl
Selenite "tower," graduated top, 10" tall	SDMG	Leslie McGeehan
Petrified wood standup, 8" tall x 5" wide	SDMG	Nicole Fabre
Polished malachite specimen	SDMG	Darren Arola
Brazilian agate slab, white/druzy, 8" x 9"	SDMG	Kira Chong
Polished Ocean Jasper slice, w/stand	SDMG	Carly Williamson
Polished red plume agate slice, w/stand	SDMG	Mark Hermann
Ammonite half, polished, 5" tall, w/stand	SDMG	Carly Williamson
Brazilian agate slice, 3" x 10", w/stand	SDMG	Kira Chong
Amethyst "mini-cathedral," Uruguay, 7"	SDMG	Nancy Brescia
Snowflake obsidian sphere, 2", w/stand	SDMG	Leslie McGeehan
Polished Noreena Jasper slab, 3" x 5"	SDMG	Doug Peeler
Polar bear carving, frosty white	SDMG	Leslie McGeehan
Fluorite obelisk, polished, 3" tall	SDMG	Doug Peeler
Book: Smithsonian Nature Guide: Gems	SDMG	Dave Smith
Book: Smithsonian Handbook: Dinosaurs	SDMG	Robyn Coon
Book: Exotic Gems, Vol. 3	SDMG	Bill Brisebois
Box #1: Four polished cabochons	Gerry Alvarado	Robyn Coon
Box #2: Four polished cabochons	Gerry Alvarado	Lynda Little
Tray: 15 faceted & cabbed gems	The Gem Guru	Tim Swann
Tray: 23 thumbnail mineral specimens	The Gem Guru	Nicole Fabre
Crystal jar full of Almond Roca candies	Jim & Sally Parrish	Kerry Stone
Warring State Agates	Angie Cannon	John Diehl
Pyrite Sun	Paul Kloppenborg	China Sharma

Tips from the Past: Polishing Jade

*By Art Logue, Whittier Gem & Mineral Society**

EACH TIME I think I'm getting to be an expert, I run into some material that defies all my efforts. If anyone were to ask what step is the most important in cutting jade, I would answer without question that the selection of the jade is by far the most important. No cutting, grinding, sanding or polishing will make inferior material into anything but an inferior stone. Whether the jade be nephrite or jadeite, quality material free from detracting inclusions works into beautiful gemstones.

You will experience no difficulty in cutting or grinding jade. A hardness of approximately 6.5 is complemented by a toughness that resists chipping and fracturing. It is in the sanding that most jade cabochons go amiss. The fault, which most lapidaries credit to polishing, usually can be traced to sanding errors. No degree of polishing will correct a stone that undercut during sanding. The fibrous texture

of jade and variation of hardness are reasons for its reputation as a problem child. I have found that some material can be sanded dry and works up beautifully. Other material in its final sanding begins to undercut. When this happens, I stop immediately and try a new approach; first, a final sanding on a new piece of 600 cloth. Many times, this will correct the difficulty and, after a few moments, the cab will be smooth, free of undercut or peel, and appear almost polished.

In dry sanding jade, I try not to push the cab into the sanding drum, but rather let it ride lightly on the surface of the cloth. I also try to keep the stone cool. From time to time, I touch it to my cheek and if it is too hot for comfort, I let it cool. If dry sanding fails, I go to wet sanding. If this fails, I go to my faceting machine and finish sanding on a 1200 grit diamond lap. A wooden lap works very well.

I polish on hard leather without a soft backing and use Linde A. I have also found that a wooden lap works very well for polishing. I apply maximum pressure in polishing and let the stone build up heat. If a cab is ready to polish, a few moments does the job.

Above all, work with good jade, and use patience.

* Reproduced from *The Pegmatite* Vol. LVII, No. 1 (San Diego Mineral & Gem Society, 2003); originally in *The Rockhoulder* (n.d.) via *The Rock Bag* (7/2003).

Friendship, and Who & What's News

by LuAnn H. Benton, Friendship Chair

On November 15, 2023, **Paul Williams**, a longtime SDMG member, board member, and instructor, had a mild heart attack. He had surgery, with two stents installed, followed two more stents a few days later. During the second procedure, he went into afib (cardiac arrhythmia). Fortunately, it was controlled with beta blocker medications, and he is on the mend now. He's back home and recuperating well.

Paul taught sphere making on Saturday afternoons for many years, and he is the second Lead for cabbng. If that was not enough, Paul was an assistant to Lois Lukasky when she taught the Junior Division classes on Saturday mornings. He continued in that role



Paul Williams's explains the sphere-making process at the December Nights Open House in 2018. Photo: J. Parrish.

when Dave Smith, the current SDMG president, took over coordinating the Juniors Saturday classes.

Although Paul works full time, he is always there for our Society. He is a truly dedicated and able member. We missed him at December Nights and the Christmas Potluck this year – it was still a little too soon for him to resume all of his usual activities in addition to working fulltime. We missed you, Paul, and your very hot chili recipe.

Paul finally felt well enough to come back and help Dave with the Junior Division class on Saturday mornings, and his sphere-making workshop also resumes in the new year. Stay well, Paul, you are a valued member of SDMG.



Paul Williams's award-winning display case on the process of sphere making at the San Diego County Fair in 2018. Photo: L. Thoresen.

SDMG had a wonderful **suggestion** from a member about posting **instructor checklists** in each workshop to help remind them of things to do before leaving for the day. It's easy to get side-tracked and forget things, for some of us anyway, so, this should be helpful to those who need the reminder.

This was approved last year by then-Shop Director **Simon King**. Each checklist will be created by the current instructors for each of these workshops. Thanks for your suggestions. There was an old list in the silver fabrication workshop from long ago, which will be re-done, and other checklists will be put in the other workshops for students and instructors to glance at before going home.

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



Have you already been on or going on a vacation?
Gone rockhounding with a friend, spouse, partner or group?
Is anything happening in your life that you'd like to share with SDMG?

Want to make it funny, please do, so everyone can enjoy.
Include name and phone number (for contact purposes only).

I'll take care of any necessary corrections you may need.

Send to LuAnn via friendship@sdmg.org

I really want to hear from YOU!



Your Name Here
San Diego Mineral &
Gem Society

Would you like your name on a **SDMG BADGE** to wear at meetings or other activities? Order by contacting **Angela Cannon**, the Badge Chairman at: membership@sdmg.org.

The price per badge with a standard magnetic holder is \$15.00 plus tax & shipping.

A badge with the pin back is \$14.00. If you have a pacemaker, please order the pin back.

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



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

ROCKHOUND YARD SALE

Saturday, January 13, 2024

TONS OF ROUGH ROCK!

TABLES FULL OF SLABS!

PILES OF PETRIFIED WOOD!

This is a Rain or Shine event. Bring an umbrella if it's rainy.

NO EARLYBIRDS, PLEASE!

Time: 9 am to 2 pm

Place: 11073 Blythe Road, San Diego, CA 92126 (Mira Mesa location; see map next page / [click here for a Google map](#))

Bring: Your own buckets, bags, crates, and muscles.

Payment: Cash only.

Rules: Please enter by big gate on north side of house only. No access to sale through house.
Do not take rocks out of front yard – that's landscape that belongs to the property owner.
Please respect boundaries marked by caution tape in back patio area.

NOTE: A SDMG reminder eBlast will be sent out to subscribers a few days prior to the sale.

Lots of really great material collected, bought, and cut by two generations of rockhounds who were members of the San Diego Lapidary Society.

Small Rough

Agates and jaspers, carnelian, opal, blue lace agate, landscape jasper, bloodstone, Larsonite, tiger eye, tiger iron, geodes, petrified wood (Arizona, Pacific Northwest), lapis, fire agate, desert roses, rhodonite, goldstone (gold, blue, green), crazy lace agate, etc.

Slabs

Agates (banded, moss, plume, blue lace, Brazilian), various jaspers (landscape, Biggs, Succor Creek, Stone Canyon), crazy lace agate, jade, thundereggs, obsidian, stromatolites, Chinese writing rock, tiger's eye, tiger iron, rhodonite, onyx, petrified palm, petrified wood, etc.

Large Rough

Petrified wood (Arizona, Pacific Northwest), geodes and thundereggs, jaspers, Brazilian agate halves, and so on.

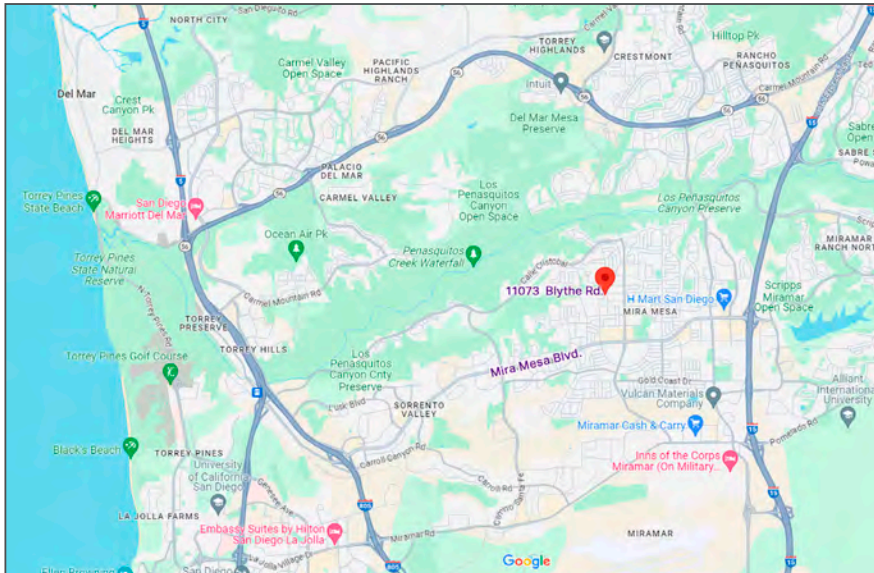
Other

Jars of snakeskin agate, Apache tears and old marbles; buckets of concretions and piles of petrified wood decorator rock from Imperial County; polished slabs; slag glass; synthetic turquoise and synthetic red stuff.

Pricing

- Bagged slabs for \$1, \$2 or \$3.
- Individual slabs or lapidary rough, priced as marked.
- Rough rock, 50¢ per pound.

Rockhound Yard Sale – Saturday, January 13, 2024, 9am to 2pm
11073 Blythe Road, San Diego, CA 92126



Crate of thunder eggs and geodes. There are at least six more 5-gal buckets full of 'em.



Lots of Brazilian agate.



Some of the petrified wood available. Lots of chunks of colorful AZ material covering an 8-foot table and nearly filling up three milk crates.



Big AZ petrified wood stump, approx. 400 lbs.



18 gal tub full of slab bags plus at least one dozen shoe box bins full of individually priced slabs at \$1, \$2 and \$3.



Racks on south side of rock storage area.



North side of rock storage area.



SAN DIEGO COUNTY FAIR GEMS & MINERALS DEPT.

Anne Schafer, Supervisor
Jennifer Stapp, Asst. Supervisor

Can you dig it? No, no, I don't mean foraging for minerals and fossils out in the wilds. I mean, let's take a look back at the past! The 2024 San Diego County Fair will be a celebration of the 1950s (Elvis and hot rods), 1960s (Flower Power and bell bottoms), 1970s (heavy metal rock and disco), 1980s (MTV and Nintendo), and the 1990s (*Titanic* the movie and Beanie Babies).

Of course, when Gems & Minerals goes retro, we tend to go back millions and millions of years... So, dig into your display cabinets, storage garages and under the bed to retrieve possible entries for the Gems & Minerals Dept. (Please remember to dust them off, OK?)

We have a variety of new classes this year:

Mineral of the Year:	Minerals of Africa & Madagascar.
Fossil of the Year:	Fossils from the Age of the Dinosaurs.
My Favorite Fossil:	Describe when you got it and why you like it!
Faceted Gem of the Year:	Garnet
Fair Theme Jewelry:	"Let's Go Retro" – Celebrate those classic & creative designs.
Metalwork:	We now have two classes: <i>Amateur</i> and <i>Professional</i>

Now, for all those important dates that exhibitors need to remember:

Entry Deadline:	Friday, April 26, 2024, 11:59 pm
Entry Delivery:	Saturday & Sunday, June 1 & 2, from 9 am to 6 pm
Opening Day of the Fair:	Wednesday, June 12
Exhibitor Appreciation:	Saturday, June 15, 7 – 9 pm (May be rescheduled)
Last Day of the Fair:	Sunday, July 7th
Closed Days:	Every Monday & Tuesday
Entry Pickup:	Tuesday, July 9, 9 am to 8 pm

The entry fee is still just \$10 per entry, and you may sign up beginning in late January:

<https://www.sdfair.com/entry>

Just scroll down the page to the "Gems & Minerals" box and click on it. You will find the link to the entry brochure located under "Download Entry Instructions." Click on "Enter Now" to submit your entries.

Questions? Sometimes we have answers! Please contact us:

Supervisor Anne Schafer at 858-586-1637 or Agate.Annie2@gmail.com

Asst. Supervisor Jennifer Stapp at 858-829-1723 or cat333@gmail.com

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

ON THE GO ... TO A SHOW



JANUARY 2024

12-14 PASADENA, CA – The Pasadena Bead & Design Show – Winter

Sponsor: Garan-Beadagio, LLC

Venue: Pasadena Convention Center Hall B
300 E Green St, Pasadena, CA 91101

Hours: Fri and Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 10am-5pm

Admission: \$10 at door, \$8 advanced tickets

Parking: \$15

Contact: Casey Johnson, casey@beadagio.com

Web: www.beadanddesign.com

300 exhibits in 30,000 sf exhibition space, workshops, demos and classes.

20-21 EXETER, CA – Gemboree 2024

Sponsor: Tule Gem and Mineral Society

Venue: Exeter Memorial Building
324 North Kaweah Ave., Exeter, CA 93221

Hours: Saturday 10 am – 5 pm, Sunday 10 am – 4 pm

Admission & Parking: Free.

Contact: margaretbu03@gmail.com

559-799-6034

Website: www.tulegem.com

Jewelry, Gems and Minerals, Beads, Fossils, Rough Rock, Grab Bags, Wheel of Fortune, Paint Fossils, Mining, Demonstrations of gem faceting and rock polishing, Door Prizes every half hour, Raffle Tickets, Treasure Hunt, Showcases featuring the talents of our Tule Gem Club members, Food and Snacks.

26-27 FALLBROOK, CA – 57th Annual Pacific Micromount Conference

Presented by: Mineralogical Society of Southern California

Venue: Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Museum

Contact: rhousley@its.caltech.edu

Registration: \$20/person by mail; \$25 at the door.

Web: <https://mineralsocal.org>

Download program/registration form

Sunday field trip, January 28, 2024: People planning on participating in the field trip should probably plan to stay in Barstow, rather than Fallbrook on Saturday night. We will meet Sunday morning at 9 am at a central location in Barstow and either collect at a nearby mine, continue to Otto Mountain, or continue farther to the Singer Mine at Goodsprings NV.

FEBRUARY

TBD INDIO, CA – San Geronimo Mineral & Gem Society Annual Show

Venue: Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival

82-503 Hwy 111, Indio, CA 92201

Gem & Mineral Building

Hours: Daily 10 am – 10 pm

General Admission (online): ?

General Parking: ?

Website: www.datefest.org

QIA POWWOW Field Trips January 2024

Sponsor:

Quartzsite Roadrunners
Gem & Mineral Club

www.qrgmc.org

Contact:

Alva Richarson, Wagon Master
503-313-0205

Rock Trip Schedule »

2024 in Quartzsite AZ 85346 – selected shows –

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

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

Jan 15–21 • Q.I.A. POWWOW
Feb 9–11 • The Gold Show at the Q.I.A.
235 E. Ironwood Street
(north of I-10 between Exit 19 and Hwy 95)
7 AM to 5 PM daily
Free Parking and Admission
www.qiaarizona.org
(check website for 2 daily field trips)

Jan 20–28
Annual Sports, Vacation and RV Show
Show Grounds • 700 S. Central
9 AM – 5 PM daily (3 PM closing day)
Free Admission
www.quartzsiterivshow.com

Jan 5–14 • Tyson Wells Rock & Gem Show
Jan 19–28 • Tyson Wells Annual Sell-A-Rama
Feb 2 – 11 • Tyson Wells Arts & Crafts Fair
Tyson Wells Show Grounds
121 W. Kuehn Street
9 AM – 5 PM daily
Free Admission
www.tysonwells.com

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



TUCSON

JOGS Gem Show Schedule 2024

January 24th thru February 4th

jogsshow.com



Alphabetical Listing of all Tucson Shows

January through February

shows.tucsongemshows.net

and at:

Gem, Mineral & Fossil Showcase:

Winter Showcase

January 27– February 11, 2024

Website: www.visittucson.org

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

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TUCSON 2024

MINERAL CITY SHOW

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"THE MAIN SHOW"

February 8–11, 2024

69th Annual

Tucson Gem & Mineral Show

Sponsor: Tucson Gem & Mineral Society

Venue: Tucson Convention Center,

260 South Church Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85701

Hours: Thu thru Sat 10 AM – 6 PM,

Sun 10 AM – 5 PM

Tickets. Available starting January 11th.

Website: www.tgms.org/show/

The largest, oldest and most prestigious gem and mineral show in the world. This year's mineral theme is "Pegmatites – Crystals Big & Beautiful."

JOHN E. GARSOW

gems & minerals

January 26 – February 10, 2024

RMGM Mineral and Fossil Show

1920 N Oracle Road

Tucson, AZ 85705

10 AM – 6 PM Daily (closes at 4 PM last day)

Facet Rough • Cabbing Rough

Jewelry • Mineral Specimens

www.johngarsow.com

Selected Tucson Shows – 2024

JANUARY–FEBRUARY

25–11 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 AM – 6 PM daily, except Feb 11, closes at 4 PM.
Contact: info@as-shows.com
Web: www.as-shows.com

25–11 Tucson 22nd Street Mineral & Fossil Show (Eons Expos)

Where: 600 West 22nd Street at corner of I-10 & 22nd Street
Hours: 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM 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.

25–6 Pueblo & Mineral Show

Where: Ramada by Wyndham Tucson, 777 W Cushing Street, Tucson, AZ 85745
Parking: Onsite and valet.
Contact: info@pueblogemshow.com or 310-666-4081
Website: www.pueblogemshow.com

26–11 Rapa River Gem & Mineral Show

Where: 292 S. Freeway Ave., Tucson AZ 85745
Hours: 9 AM – 6 PM 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).

25–10 GIGM - Globex International Gem & Mineral Show – Three Shows

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

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

Where: 750 W Starr Pass Blvd, Tucson, AZ 85745 (22nd St/Starr Pass & I-10)
Parking: Located behind Quality Inn Hotel
Contact: Hotel phone 520-624-4455

(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: Hotel phone 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
Contact: Hotel phone 520-622-5871

26–10 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 AM – 6 PM daily (closes 4 PM on last day)
Contact: info@coloradomineralandfossilshows.com
Web: www.coloradomineralandfossilshows.com
Retail, wholesale, 50-plus dealers.

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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or (775) 772-7724 for more info
www.highdesertgemsandminerals.com

SDMG-GSSD Library

SDMG Bldg.
Donna Beers

Hours:
Wednesdays, 12 to 2:30 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.

We Need Volunteer Assistant Librarians.

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

If you can help out, contact Donna:
librarian@sdmg.org



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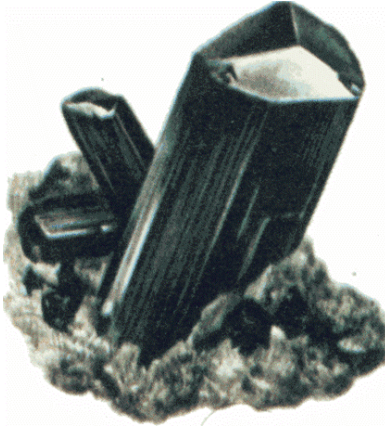
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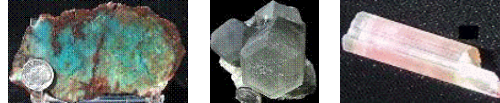
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San Diego Mineral & Gem Society

A Non-Profit Educational and Scientific Organization

WINTER/SPRING 2024 WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

January 7 – June 29, 2024 (updated 1/4/2024)

Signing up for classes: Prospective students must contact the instructor prior to attending a workshop; click on the instructor's name in the schedule below to send an email message. (If you have trouble with the links, please email school@sdmg.org, we'd be happy to help facilitate contact with an instructor.)

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 semester.

✓ Classes are open to SDMG members only: Sign up or renew membership at:
<https://sdmg.org/sdmg-membership/> – Or – in person during Society hours.

✓ Students must read and follow the School Rules, available in the classroom and online at:
<https://sdmg.org/class-schedule/school-rules.pdf>

<u>CABOCHONS</u>	Mon	6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Mark Herman
	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	Lex Wright
	Wed	6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Nita Sani
	Thu	9:00 am – 12:00 pm	John Kruzel
	Fri	6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Jon Evans
<u>FACETING</u>	Wed	9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Mike Harkelroad
	Wed	12:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Mike Harkelroad
	Thu	6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Bill Brisebois
<u>BEG. METALS FABRICATION</u>	Tue	7:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Yvonne Juarez
	Wed	6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Tim Swann
	Thu	9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Bud Green
	Thu	1:00 pm – 4:00 pm *	Miriam Larsen
<u>INT. METALS FABRICATION</u>	Tue	4:00 pm – 7:00 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 & Tim Swann
	Thu	7:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Ellen Riceman
	Fri	9:00 am – 3:00 pm	Miriam Larsen
<u>CASTING</u>	Tue	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Dave Smith
	Wed	3:30 pm – 9:00 pm	Workshop Staff
	Thu	7:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Rich Yarborough
<u>ROCK CARVING</u>	Mon	9:00 am – 12:00 pm	LuAnn Benton
<u>SPHERE MAKING</u>	Sat	1:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Paul Williams
<u>JUNIORS</u>	Sat	9:30 am – 12:30 pm	Dave Smith

* This class meets in the library

SAN DIEGO MINERAL & GEM SOCIETY
Board of Directors & Special Assignments (Non-board members)
7/1/2022 – 6/30/2024

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school@sdmg.org



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Curator, City Liaison,
December Nights Chair



Itziar Parramon

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Cabbie Lead (2 of 2)



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Mike Frye
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Mike Harkelroad
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Jackie Leverone
Advanced Metals Lead



Sally Parrish
Auditor



Lisbet Thoresen
Bulletin Editor, Webmistress,
Public Lands Representative
editor@sdmg.org

Vacant Positions: Banquet Chair, CFMS Representative

**** Please use info@sdmg.org to contact anyone without an email address shown above ****
***A number after a name means there is more than one contact person
for a position (e.g., Bill Brisebois, Faceting Lead (1 of 2)).***

SDMG Membership...

New Applications & Renewals for 2023–2024

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 2023–2024 will expire on June 30, 2024.

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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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



THE PEGMATITE – JANUARY 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6
	<i>Classes on hiatus & Shop closed December 24 thru January 6</i>					
7 SDMG Workshops Winter Session begins	8 GSSD General Mtg 7pm, SDMG Bldg	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 SDMG Board Mtg 7pm, Virtual	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 SDMG General Mtg 7pm, SDMG Bldg	30	31	1	2	3