



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

THE PEGMATITE

March 2024

SDMG Equipment Sale

Save the Date: Sun, April 7

details on pg. 6

San Diego County Fair

Let's Go Retro

Submit your entries NOW through April 30

by Anne Schafer

details on pg. 7

Hauser Geode Beds field trip

details on pg. 8

On the Go To a Show...

listings start on pg. 9



SDMG General Meeting – March 25

Jim Parrish report on Tucson shows 2024:

Eighteen Days in Tucson

details on pg. 3

Official bulletin of the San Diego Mineral and Gem Society

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American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
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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

March 2024

by *Dave Smith*

president@sdmg.org

THIS MONTH MARKS the 90th anniversary of the **San Diego Mineral & Gem Society**. In 1934, the club began as the “Mineral Society” and two years later, the name became “San Diego Mineralogical Society” after merging with the San Diego Gem Society. The name was changed again in 1948 to the current name: San Diego Mineral & Gem Society.

We are one of the largest gem and mineral societies in California, with more than 560 dues-paying members, and we have the widest range of activities and programs for any society of its type in the United States. SDMG has a museum, which features fine-quality mineral specimens from around the world including from our own backyard, the famed gem-producing districts of San Diego County. Our collection includes lapidary and jewelry arts. We are especially proud of a suite of 100 faceted gemstones by SDMG instructor **Elbert McCune**, which was put together to commemorate his 100th birthday. We offer 26 workshops per week that continue to be well-attended year-in and year-out, and we sponsor or participate in a variety of events throughout the year, with the **Gem Diego Show**, which is held in the fall, being our biggest event.

SDMG also supports education in the fields related to lapidary and jewelry arts and also geology, awarding two scholarships to help promising students with their studies. This year, **Jennifer Stapp** has passed the baton for chairing the Scholarship committee to **Marcus Origlieri**. The scholarship recipients for 2024 will be introduced to our members and receive their checks at the General Meeting in May. Be sure to save the date!

Thanks to the dedication of our members who volunteer their time and talents, our Society is thriving after nine decades. We could not do all the things we do throughout the year or offer

workshops if not for you, our members. Thank you to everyone who contributes so much to our Society. We are always looking for more help, so if you are a member who enjoys the benefits but has not pitched in to keep our Society vibrant, please consider stepping up and playing an active role in making our club better. It's a fun and collegial community.

Mark your calendars for some noteworthy activities and shows this month. We have two opportunities to hear our museum curator, **Jim Parrish**, give presentations on his extended stay in Tucson. He will report on his visits to this year's many shows throughout the city. His first talk is scheduled for the March 4th monthly meeting of the **San Diego Gemological Society**, 7:00pm, in the SDMG museum. Jim will give a slightly different version of the same talk at the SDMG General Meeting on March 25th at 7:00pm in the SDMG museum. See page 3 for more information.

The **Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Society** will conduct their annual **Rough and Cut Rock Sale** on Sunday, March 17th. See page 9 for details. Looking ahead, we have plans to offer a lapidary equipment sale at our offsite storage location on Sunday, April 7th from 9:00am to Noon. See page 6 for details and look for eNews blasts in the coming weeks.

Since this is an even-numbered year, our officers and board of directors will stand for election this June. Only the president cannot be elected to two consecutive terms, per the bylaws. The plan is to send an electronic ballot with the slate of candidates to the membership and have their vote emailed back. Look for notices in the bulletin in April and May. This month's notice, which can be found on page 13, is a call for nominees. **LuAnn Benton** is the chair, and she is the person to contact with questions or nominees (benton.luannz@att.net).



SDMG General Meeting

Monday, March 25, 2024 7pm, SDMG bldg.
Dave Smith, President

FOR OUR MARCH MEETING, museum curator and past president of SDMG, **Jim Parrish**, will give a report on **Eighteen Days in Tucson**. He will share his impression of the various shows, unique and interesting mineral finds, and things he saw and experienced at this year's shows. Jim has an immersive knowledge of minerals and a great eye for fine specimens. The theme of the main show this year was pegmatite crystals, so Jim plans on showcasing some of the exemplary pegmatite minerals he saw on display.

We'll have coffee, iced tea, and any snacks that you would like to share. Door prizes will be offered as well.



Smoky quartz in amazonite from Lake George, a new locality in Teller County, Colorado. Photo: Jim Parrish.



Cross section of a rhodochrosite stalactite, which is very rare form for this mineral; from a cave in the Capillitas mining district, Andalgalá Department, Catamarca Province, Argentina. Photo: Jim Parrish.



JUNIOR DIVISION NEWS

by *Dave Smith*
Juniors' coordinator

WE HAVE BEEN GETTING a steady group of students who are keen on doing their best cabs. Assistant **Paul Williams** has been helpful in instructing the students on quality of cut and polish. The good thing for our **Juniors** is that we are available all year round from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm every Saturday.

If your child is over 12 years of age and wants to learn lapidary skills or is interested in minerals, then he or she should consider joining the **Junior Division**. We go on field trips to local gem-producing mines and provide sandbox volunteers to the **San Diego County Fair** (Juniors with an adult chaperone will receive free entry and parking passes). We also exhibit an educational display case at the Fair. It provides a great opportunity for the 200,000 or so visitors to the Fair's Gem and Mineral Department to see just how good our students really are.



Renzo shaping a heart design. Photo: Dave Smith.



David sanding an agate.
Photo: Dave Smith.



Breaktime. Photo: Dave Smith.



Marielle dropping a cab with Aaron in doorway. Photo: Dave Smith.

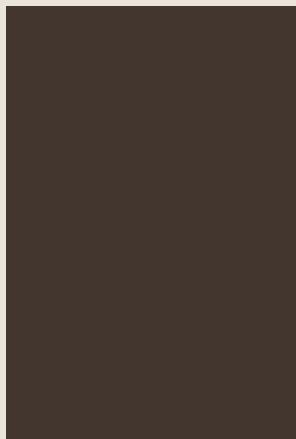
Kruzel's Cabochon Show & Tell

THE THURSDAY CAB WORKERS had their work cut out for them as February in Leap year had five sessions! Our February 1st winner was Karla Halverson, followed by Lisa Alves on February 8th. Ted Yeats took the next two winner spots on February 15th and 22nd. Bringing up the special February 29th session was Colin Taylor with his small, but mighty fine-quality cabochon. Time to use the zoom feature! That dot on the back of his hand is NOT a freckle!

As a reminder, at the end of every Thursday Cab workshop, all the students show what they worked on

that day, sharing what type of stone it is, and 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*.

Spring is around the corner. Who will be the winners in March?



Karla Halverson – February 1



Lisa Alves – February 8



Ted Yeats – February 15



Ted Yeats – February 22



Colin Taylor – February 29

*Congratulations
to all on your
beautiful
cabochons!*

SDMG EQUIPMENT SALE

Sunday, April 7, 2024

Time: 9 AM to Noon

Place: Clairemont location in San Diego will be sent in a SDMG eBlast and posted in SDMG classrooms a few days before the sale

Cash & Carry: **Cash or Check only. We do not deliver**, so for the heavier and bulkier items, please come prepared with your own husky movers, pickup truck, trailer, SUV, ropes and tie-downs, etc.

Website: <https://sdmg.org>



The SDMG storage garage is overflowing once again with lots of donated equipment, so it's time once again to unleash an equipment sale. Featured items will include:

- **Highland Park Rock Drill**, with submersible pump and control unit.
- **Diamond Pacific Genie #1**, with six wheels, lamp and magnifier.
- **Diamond Pacific Genie #2**, with six wheels and lamp.
- **Rio Grande Casting Kiln**, new.
- **14" Lortone Vibrating Flat Lap**.
- **Dremel accessory tool kit**.
- **Lortone Model R40 Heavy Duty Rotary Tumbler #2**, no motor.
- **Midway Model 2084 Tumbler**.
- **Heavy duty anvils (2)**.
- Lots and lots of tumbling grit and polish.
- **27" Vib-Bra-Lap Vibrating Lap**, on stand with motor.

*The complete list of equipment for sale
will be printed in the April bulletin.*





SAN DIEGO COUNTY FAIR GEMS & MINERALS DEPT.

Anne Schafer, Supervisor
Jennifer Stapp, Asst. Supervisor

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. Entries are now being accepted. Please take note that the deadline this year falls on a Tuesday, April 30, 2024. (It's a good idea to get your submissions in early.)

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: *Amateur* and *Professional*

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

Entry Deadline:

Tuesday, April 30, 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

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!

Tips from the Past: A Guide to Picking Good Jasper

submitted by LuAnn H Benton, SDMG Historian*

JASPER IS MUCH MORE troublesome to polish than agate because many varieties are “earthy” and porous, and others contain hematite, which itself is difficult to polish. If you are on a field trip, a good way to test jasper is to wet it. If it adsorbs the water and dries rapidly, throw it away. It will not polish. If it stays wet and does not dry right away, it contains a high amount of chalcedony and will take a good polish. Most jaspers polish well on leather with Linde-A, but good results can be obtained with tin oxide on either leather or felt. Always remember that a fine sanding job is the secret of good polishing.

* Originally from T-Town Rockhound (n.d.) via Gem Carvers Guild of America (2001 Dec); and in *The Pegmatite*. (2004 Jun–Aug).



Red and yellow jasper of variable quality found at Lavic Siding. Some of the material shown here is porous or contains eye-visible organic or clayey components, which makes them poor candidates for carving. Photo: L. Thoresen.



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

April 19–21, 2024 Hauser Geode Beds, Palo Verde, CA

Sponsor: COOP (Cooperative Field Trip Leaders Association, a CFMS Society)

Details & Directions: Check MSSC website for trip details at: <https://mineralsocal.org/fieldtrip-information-reports/cfms-fieldtrip-hauser-geode-beds-palo-verde-april-19-21-2024/>.

Sign up required. See contact info below.

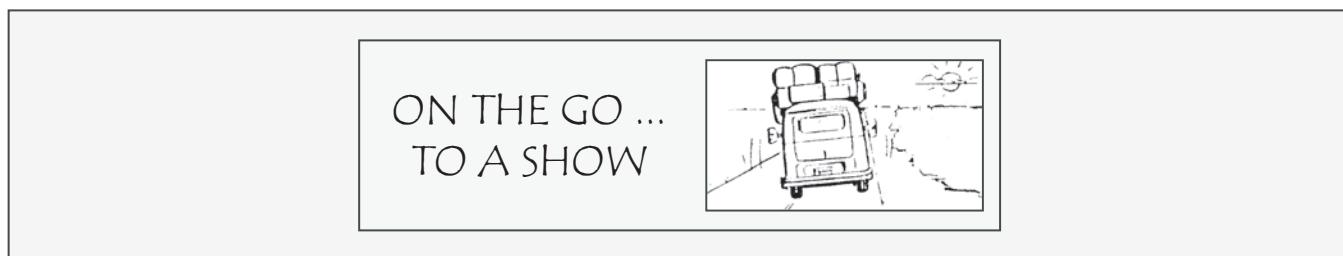
Contact/field trip leaders: Gina Malcolm, COOP President, and Jim Barton, COOP Permanent Director, 916-847-7321 geologist1@surewest.net. Call the field trip leader beforehand to sign up and for further information.

Materials: Geodes, Porcelain Jasper.

Meeting Place: Near intersection of Wiley's Well Rd and Hauser Geode Beds Road at 9am daily. (See website for directions.) Field trips end at 4pm daily.

Camping: Nominal camping fees at Coon Hollow Campground, none currently at dig sites. Nearest hotels in Blythe.

What to Bring/What to Expect: Water, lunch, shovel, bucket, hoe or cultivator rake, rock hammer, safety glasses, work gloves. Vehicle Access & Parking – dirt roads, hills, some steep sections and ravines. Collection Site – dirt parking at lower collecting area, can hike up hills. The BLM and CFMS have a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to allow recreational (not commercial) collecting at the Hauser Geode Beds. BLM Geologist and Scientist staff will give a presentation at the dig site on the geology, wildlife and historical significance of the region on April 19th. Leave no trace, please pack out what you pack in and help pick up trash.



MARCH

2-3 VENTURA, CA – 61st Annual VGMS Show

Sponsor: Ventura Gem & Mineral Society

Venue: Ventura County Fairgrounds
10 Harbor Blvd., Ventura, CA 93001

Hours: Sat 10am – 5pm; Sun 10am – 4pm

Admission: Free.

General Parking: Fee for Fairgrounds parking.

Web: vgms.org/category/gem-show

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

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 demonstrate gold panning, and you can purchase “pay dirt” to pan for real gold in your own backyard.

8-10 VICTORVILLE, CA – 48th Annual Stoddard Wells Rock Hound Tailgate

Sponsor: Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club

Venue: Stoddard Wells Rd. near I15

Hours: Daily 9am – 5pm

Admission: Free. Public welcome.

Contact: VVGMC 760-243-2330

Web: vvgmc.org/tailgate.html

Handcrafted and faceted jewelry, slabs and cabs, findings and equipment, minerals and fossils and TONS of Rough Material, dry camping, grab bags, Silent Auction. Saturday FAMILY Field Trip: Tri-Colored Marble 9am – 1pm.

17 FALLBROOK, CA – FGMS Rough & Cut Show

Sponsor: Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Society

Venue: 123 W. Alvarado St., Fallbrook, CA 92028

Hours: Noon – 3pm

Admission & Parking: Free. Public welcome.

Parking in church lot on Pico (across from Rough & Cut entrance)

Contact: info@fgms.org

Extraordinary minerals, gemstones, lapidary material, fine specimens, bargain buckets and boxes, and much, much more.

APRIL

6-7 VISTA, CA – Vista Gem & Mineral Society April Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show

Venue: Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum

2040 N. Santa Fe Ave., Vista, CA 92083

Hours: Fri & Sat 10am – 5pm; Sun 10am – 4pm

Admission & Parking: Free.

Contact: info@vistarocks.org

Web: vistarocks.org/shows

Outdoor event in a rustic setting with vendors offering jewelry, slabs, cabs, and rough stones of all kinds. Tools, equipment, and other lapidary related items.

13 LAKE ELSINORE, CA – 4th Annual Lake Elsinore Rock & Craft Show
Sponsor: Lake Elsinore Gem & Mineral Society
Venue: 32097 Corydon Road, Lake Elsinore, CA 92530
Hours: 10am – 4pm
Admission: Free. Public welcome.
Web: www.facebook.com/groups/530281757337262/
A wide variety of local vendors plus fossils and minerals.

20-21 THOUSAND OAKS, CA – CGMC 47th Annual Pageant of a Thousand Gems
Sponsor: Conejo Gem & Mineral Club
Venue: Borchard Park, 190 N. Reino Rd., Newbury Park, CA 91320
Hours: Fri & Sat 10am – 5pm; Sun 10am – 4pm
Admission & Parking: Free.
Contact: conejogemandmineral@gmail.com
Web: cgamc.org/annual-gem-show
Exhibits and Dealers. Door Prizes and Drawings. Opportunity Tables and Silent Auctions. Lapidary, Rock Polishing, and Jewelry Making Demonstrations. Youth Activities and chances to win prizes. Fossils, Gemstones, Jewelry, Metaphysical, Minerals, Lapidary Equipment/Supplies, Rocks, and much more!

27-28 ANAHEIM, CA – The Searchers Annual Show
Sponsor: Anaheim Searchers Gem & Mineral Society
Venue: Brookhurst Community Center, 2271 W. Crescent Ave., Anaheim CA 92801
Hours: Fri & Sat 10am – 5pm; Sun 10am – 4:30pm
Admission & Parking: Free.
Contact: nancyjbird68@gmail.com
Web: www.searchersrocks.org
Dealers with their rock and jewelry related wares, and the best silent auction around. Displays of members' work, demonstrations, stone carving, jewelry making, wire wrap, faceting and many other rock and jewelry related skills. There is a children's jewelry area, where children can make a piece of jewelry and take it home, and a wheel of fortune.

MAY

3-4 YUCAIPA, CA – YVGMS Annual Gem & Mineral Show
Sponsor: Yucaipa Valley Gem and Mineral Society
Venue: Yucaipa Blvd at Adams Street, Yucaipa, CA 92399
Hours: Fri 5pm – 10pm, Sat Noon to 9pm
Admission & Parking: Free.
Contact: grandpasgems@gmail.com
Web: www.yvgms.org
YVGMS annual show held in conjunction with the city of Yucaipa Music and Arts Festival (YMAF). The YVGMS show will include 15 dealers, kids activities, club store, geode cracker, and a great raffle. YMAF will have name bands both nights, other arts and crafts dealers and food, beer and wine booths. Great for the whole family.

4-5 LANCASTER, CA – AVGMS Annual Gem & Mineral Show
Sponsor: Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral Club
Venue: Antelope Valley Fairgrounds, 2551 West Ave. H, Lancaster, CA 93536
Hours: Sat 10am – 5pm, Sun 10am – 4pm
Admission & Parking: Free.
Contact: maryandoriole@gmail.com
Web: avgem.weebly.com
We will have lots of vendors, displays and activities for individuals and families.

JOHN E. GARSOW

gems & minerals

April 27–28, 2024
The Searchers Annual Gem Show

Brookhurst Community Center
2271 W. Crescent Ave.

Anaheim CA 92801

Friday, 10am – 5pm

Sunday, 10am – 4:30pm

Facet Rough • Cabbing Rough
Jewelry • Mineral Specimens

www.johngarsow.com

Gem Diego Show 2024

HEADS-UP! SECOND NOTICE

To all SDMG members who want to apply as a dealer for a booth at the **Gem Diego 2024 Show**. It will be held Saturday and Sunday, November 2–3, 2024 at our new venue, Liberty Station Conference Center in Point Loma. It's located $\frac{1}{2}$ block north of Harbor Blvd. and west of San Diego International Airport. Set-up for the show will take place only on Friday, November 1, from 1–8pm.

Booths are limited. How to qualify.

To qualify for one of the three SDMG booths (two 8-foot tables) at the special price of \$450:

1. You must be a San Diego Mineral & Gem Society member,
2. Must have a California seller's permit.
3. Presently teach a workshop, OR
4. Be a speaker at one of the general meetings, OR
5. Volunteer for two SDMG events.

- ✓ Give documentation for volunteering at above events with event chairperson's signature and date to the Gem Diego Dealer and Show Chairperson.
- ✓ The Gem Diego Committee highly recommends that dealers have at least 2 lights per 8-foot table and use LED light bulbs (no more than 150 watts per 8-foot table).

Dates for qualifying:

Oct 30, 2023 – Nov 4, 2024

Got questions? Please contact:

LuAnn H Benton, Show Chairperson

benton.luannz@gmail.com

This 'n' That...

General Announcements

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

Mar 18, 7pm – SDMG Board Meeting (Virtual)

Mar 25, 7pm – SDMG General Meeting
SDMG bldg.

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

Apr 22, 7pm – SDMG General Meeting
SDMG bldg.

Friendship, and Who & What's News

by LuAnn H. Benton, Friendship Chair

friendship@sdmg.org

SDMG Building Supervisor, Mike Frye replaced the leaking faucet in the cabbing room with a new one around February 10th. Looks nice Mike, and it doesn't leak! Please don't close handles too firmly, just enough to stop any dripping.



It would be helpful if all students cleaned the counters around the outside of the cabbing machines as good as the basins are cleaned. This also includes the machine between both grinders as well as the lamp, its arm, and the top of the cover. Thank you for helping SDMG look presentable to our guests. 😊



Thank you all for cleaning the floors better and wet mopping with a clean mop. It makes all the difference and looks impressive when people come through on a tour.

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

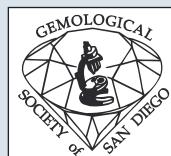
I really want to hear from YOU!



There is a mailbox slot in the casting room for **Suggestions** you may have for SDMG.

We value your input!

GEMOLOGICAL SOCIETY of SAN DIEGO



GSSD General Meeting
Monday, March 4, 2024
7:00 pm SDMG Building

Jim Parrish will give us a rundown on his trip to Tucson with facts and figures. Jim has been going to the Tucson shows for a long time now and has seen many changes and improvements. I am sure we will enjoy Jim's presentation. Please bring snacks to share.



Smoky quartz in amazonite from Lake George, a new locality in Teller County, Colorado. Photo: Jim Parrish.

SDMG NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR 2024–2026

LuAnn H. Benton, Nominating Committee Chairperson
benton.luannz@att.net

Agenda for the last General Meeting to be held on June 24, 2024 will include the election of new SDMG Officers for a two-year term, from **July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2026. Between now and March 15, 2024**, the SDMG Nominating Committee will accept names of members who are interested in becoming a **SDMG board member**.

The following positions are designated: LuAnn Benton for **President**, Jim Parrish for **Vice President**, and Anne Schafer for **Treasurer**. We are looking for additional people who would like to serve as a **Board Member** for the same two-year term.

**Do you think you could help fill one of these positions
or do you know of someone who would be a good candidate?
Please pass their names along to LuAnn Benton
at benton.luannz@att.net**

Board member duties

The Board meets virtually once a month on the third Monday from 7:00 – 9:00pm, ending sooner if possible. We are looking for candidates who would like to become more involved in Society activities by participating in meetings and voting on agenda that are brought before the board. Two recent example:

1. Do we replace the water drinking fountain in the cab room or not, letting people bring their own water? It was voted on and was replaced with filters being replaced regularly.
2. Do we want to revive Gem Diego after a six-year absence? It was voted on and became a reality in October 2023.

The SDMG board is a productive and collegial group interested in extending our Society's legacy and mission, now in its 90th year. If you are interested in becoming more involved with SDMG activities without becoming a board member, please let **LuAnn**

know, because our Society can always benefit from the efforts of people who want to do things for the club and interact with other club members.

Members of the nominating committee will be coming to the workshop to discuss the importance of member engagement in running SDMG in the next month or so.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

LuAnn H Benton, current Vice-President
Jim Parrish, current board member
Paul Williams, current board member and instructor
Larry Shute, current board member

FYI, It's official –
The Annual Sinkankas Symposium
is canceled in 2024

SDMG
Annual Spring Barbeque
Stay Tuned...
Saturday, May 4, 2024
Balboa Park

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

CLASSIFIED ADS

OCEANVIEW MINE

TOUR & SCREENING TRIPS:
CALL FOR CURRENT SCHEDULE

For more information
please visit digforgems.com
or email digforgems@gmail.com
Reservations required.

\$75. Adults \$60. Children (ages 5 to 11)
Family rates available.



HIMALAYA MINE TAILINGS:

CALL FOR SCHEDULE/HOURS OF OPERATION

At the Lake Henshaw Resort on Highway 76.
The operator is closed currently,
but buckets are available.

Call (775) 830-5797
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

SDMG BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

January 15, 2024

This meeting was conducted via GoToMeeting, and was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by President David Smith.

Present electronically: President David Smith and Board members LuAnn Benton, Bill Brisebois, Mark Herman, Yvonne Juarez, Itziar Parramon, Jim Parrish, Doug Peeler, Ellen Riceman, Dave Rose, Nita Sani, Anne Schafer, Larry Shute, Paul Williams and Rich Yarbrough. A quorum was present. **Excused:** Tim Swann. **Absent:** Lee Jackson and John Kruzel.

President's report: David Smith reported that the cab shop was cleaned over the holidays by Itzy Parramon and Lex Wright, with the assistance of volunteers. Mark Harkelroad cleaned the faceting room and its carpet.

Membership: Angie Cannon reported a total SDMG membership of 552, including 51 Juniors.

Museum Curator: Jim Parrish replaced LED bulbs in exhibit cases. Motion carried to allow Jim to take six of the SDMG Museum's pegmatite specimens to the Tucson Show for a joint museum display case.

Juniors: David Smith said that a lot of Juniors are attending the Saturday class; one family with two boys and two girls boosts the class size.

School Director: Rich Yarbrough plans on replacing the brackets on the faceting tables' legs.

LuAnn Benton to purchase two supports for Fordham handpieces.

Dave Smith emailed Mike Frey about needing to fix leaking faucet.

Rich plans on making arrangements for an Instructors' Dinner in February or March.

Donations: (1) Susie Viets donated two truck-loads of slabs, petrified wood and rough rock, left after the rock yard sale ended. (2) An individual near Lake Murray wants to donate a number of *Rock & Gem* magazines, plus some books.

Outreach: Jim Parrish signed up several new members during December Nights. Anne Schafer gave a rock talk and free grab bags to a class of third-graders at Escondido Christian School.

Historian: LuAnn Benton will write a profile about Paul Williams for the February bulletin, and a second profile about Jim Parrish for the April edition.

Website: Yvonne Juarez is testing out a new, free class management software system, which would allow for online enrollment, and payment of class fees. The system would also produce rosters and maintain waiting lists for classes.

Note: Yvonne answers the Admin, Info and School emails related to sdmg.org.

December Nights: Jim Parrish reported good attendance both days, and great volunteers who stayed until 1 a.m. on Saturday night to pack and clean up. The selling booth had mostly smaller items in the \$5-\$10 range this year, and not many big-ticket items. Use of the Square boosted sales, especially among the younger set. Jim noted we were short on demonstrators in shop area.

Christmas Potluck: Anne Schafer reported that attendance was good (~110), the food was great, door prize ticket sales hit \$737, the Silent Auction raised \$1,602.06, and the net profit for the event was \$1,133.80. Donna Beers and Dave Smith signed up to bring turkeys in 2024, and Jim Parrish volunteered to bring sliced ham.

BBQ: Doug Peeler has submitted an application for Saturday, May 4, 2024. He has not yet received confirmation of the date.

Gem Diego Show: LuAnn Benton announced the new dates for the 2024 show: Nov. 1 for setup, and Nov. 2–3 for the show. Contracts will be going out soon.

San Diego County Fair: Anne Schafer stated that the Gems & Minerals Dept. entry brochure should be available, and online entry should start, at the end of January.

New Business: The Nominating Committee will be chaired by LuAnn Benton, and consist of three additional members: Jim Parrish, Larry Shute and Paul Williams.

SDMG BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

February 19, 2024

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

Present electronically: President David Smith and Board members LuAnn Benton, Bill Brisebois, Mark Herman, John Kruzel, Itziar Parramon, Jim Parrish, Doug Peeler, Ellen Riceman, Nita Sani, Anne Schafer, Larry Shute, Tim Swann, Paul Williams and Rich Yarbrough. A quorum was present. **Excused:** Dave Rose. **Absent:** Lee Jackson and Yvonne Juarez. **Guest:** Lisbet Thoresen.

President's report: David Smith reported that Mike Frey replaced one faucet in the Cab Room.

Membership: Angie Cannon reported a total SDMG membership of 569, including 51 Juniors.

Museum Curator: Jim Parrish cleaned and remounted six pegmatite specimens from the SDMG Museum, took them to Tucson where they were in a shared case with material from Harvard University, Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Society and three other museums. The six specimens have now been returned to the SDMG Museum.

City Liaison: David Smith described the roof leaks in the museum about a month ago. Jim Parrish put in a repair request at that time, and reported SDMG is #46 on the City's waiting list. Jim may suggest that SDMG make a donation to Park & Rec to share the cost and potentially speed up the process. He will forward photos of the rain buckets and fallen ceiling tile to the City.

Juniors: David Smith reported that attendance was down over the Presidents' Day weekend.

School Director: David Smith stated that the Titan unit closest to the monster grinder is non-operational. John Kruzel said the start capacitor will need to be replaced. Rich Yarbrough to order several start capacitors from Diamond Pacific, via Bonnie Zeranksi.

John Kruzel and Paul Williams cleaned out the oil filtration system for the slab saws, emptying out the tank and refiltering seven gallons of saw oil

Bill Brisebois received the order of three new steel faceting laps from Kingsley North, and will email all

faceting instructors about the new laps. New dops are on order, as well.

Donations: (1) David Smith picked up a dual-sided power rolling mill and stored it in the Show garage; included were additional tools and spools. Wayne Moorhead to evaluate rolling mill. If it is better than the one in the shop, Mark Herman volunteered his low trailer to help move the new one to the shop. (2) The Juniors received a donation of two rock tumblers.

SDMG Donated Equipment Sale: After discussion, the Board agreed to set the date and time: Sunday, April 7, from 9 a.m. to noon.

Outreach: LuAnn Benton has scheduled a tour of the SDMG Museum and classrooms by GIA students for Feb. 24.

Sinkankas Symposium: Cancelled for 2024.

Friendship: Jim Parrish shared that Mary Walters passed away a few months ago, and that her husband, Herb, is now in assisted living. Herb owned Craftstones in Ramona, and donated tumbled stones to SDMG for December Nights.

Scholarships: Marcus Origlieri, the new Scholarship Chair, has contacted the SDSU Geology Dept. and will be contacting the Jewelry & Metalwork Program about potential recipients.

BBQ: Doug Peeler held off on obtaining the permit, wishing to conduct a survey to determine what rockhounds would like to see at the BBQ.

San Diego County Fair: Anne Schafer stated that online entry is now open for the Gems & Minerals Dept. The entry deadline changed, and is now Tuesday, April 30th.

Unfinished Business: The Nominating Committee has a partial slate, with all officers' positions filled. Publication of the completed slate to be in April, May and June bulletins.

(Any member may attend Board meetings. The next one is scheduled for March 18, 2024, at 7 p.m. and will be held via GoToMeeting. Please contact Jim Parrish at curator.sdmg@gmail.com to be added to the attendance list.)



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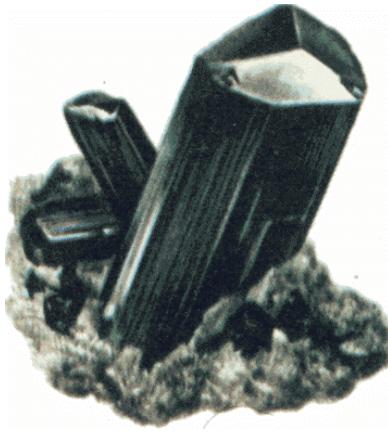
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WINTER/SPRING 2024 WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

January 7 – June 29, 2024 (updated 2/22/2024)

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
	Thu	6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Paul Sichak
	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>	Mon	6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Tim Swann
	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

OFFICERS



Dave Smith

President, Junior Coordinator,
Casting Lead
president@sdmg.org

LuAnn Benton

Vice President, Friendship-
Historian,
Gem Diego Chair
friendship@sdmg.org

Ellen Riceman

Secretary

Anne Schafer

Treasurer, Cab'n'Slab Chair,
Donations Chair

DIRECTORS



Bill Brisebois

Faceting Lead (1 of 2)

Mark Herman

Lee Jackson

Christmas Potluck Chair

Yvonne Juarez

Workshop Schedule,
Silver Lead

admin@sdmg.org,
school@sdmg.org



Vacant

Asst. Shop Director

John Kruzel

Cabbing Lead (1 of 2)

Jim Parrish

Mineral Div. Chair, Museum
Curator, City Liaison,
December Nights Chair

Itziar Parramon

DIRECTORS



Doug Peeler
BBQ Chair



Dave Rose



Nita Sani



Larry Shute



Marcus Origlieri
Scholarship Chair



Tim Swann



Paul Williams
Cabbing Lead (2 of 2)



Rich Yarbrough
Shop Director

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS



Donna Beers
Librarian



Angie Cannon
Membership Secretary,
Badges Chair



Mike Frye
Building Superintendent



Mike Harkelroad
Faceting Lead (2 of 2)

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS



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,
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



THE PEGMATITE – MARCH 2024

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