

Pick & Shovel

President's Message

Hello everyone,

As the months get warmer, and many are gearing up for vacation, I want to give my thanks to all of those that have attended our club meetings and events. I hope that everyone has enjoyed their time at our club and that you all have a great summer.

There will be many events for everyone to look forward to! I want to take this

opportunity to present the fact that we have three spots open for the board that I hope you will consider volunteering for. The voting process will take form with a ballot each member will receive.

Thank you Bob Zola, Jackie Misuraca, and John Scofield for having volunteered your time and effort at the club!

Something to also keep in mind involves

the Rockhound of the Year. Not only will new Board Members be voted in, the Rockhound of the Year will be voted in as well. This is something that I'd also like you to keep in mind as you can vote for someone who you admire for their contribution to the club.

Best wishes to you,
Sincerely,

Alexa Velazquez

**San Gorgonio
Mineral & Gem
Society**

Volume 8, Issue 5

June/July 2025

Our Mission Statement

The San Gorgonio Mineral and Gem Society is organized to disseminate knowledge of mineralogy and the Earth sciences, and shall endeavor to unite and associate those persons who are interested in the collecting of semi-precious stones and the study of minerals and sciences; to encourage and practice the study of the lapidary art; to provide field excursions to localities of interest; and for enlarging our fund of geological knowledge.

Tips for choosing a Rock Pick

Here are some quick tips for choosing the right rock pick:

Consider the weight –
Lighter picks are easier to carry, but heavier ones break rocks faster.

Look at the grip –
A comfortable grip makes a huge difference after a long day of digging.

Think about what you'll use it for –

Hardcore fossil hunting? General rockhounding? Prospecting? Pick one that matches your needs. A good rock pick makes all the difference. Also, don't forget safety goggles to protect yourself from flying rock pieces. You don't need to buy anything fancy. Invest in a quality tool, and you'll enjoy rockhounding even more.



Estwing 10-22P is a good all around choice.

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May 6, 2025 - General Meeting Minutes

After a delicious potluck, the meeting was brought to order at 7:05p.m., by President, Alexa Velazquez followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

We welcomed our newest member, Rhonda Smoot, to our club and we were happy to announce that Lee Grisham is now an honorary member. Lee has been such an important part of our club for many years.

SUNSHINE REPORT:

Our secretary, Judy Millfin, is recovering from her procedure so please keep her in your thoughts and prayers.

FIELD TRIPS:

Upcoming field trip led by the OBMS, out of San Bernardino, to the Kokoweef mines in the Mojave Desert on May 24th. The beautiful "cave onyx" is found here. For more info check our Facebook page or call Fred.

A reminder when on the field trips to be mindful of your surroundings, wear sturdy shoes/boots, and a hat. Use sunscreen and bring plenty of water. Always stay with the group. Use the "buddy system" if you venture away, and make sure the trip leader is aware if you decide to

leave early. Never wander out of eyesight of the group.

CLASSES

Upcoming classes: Saturday, May 10th, 9am - noon. Alexa will be teaching us how to make a "Mother's Day" jewelry box and matching mirror. \$7.00 class fee.

Saturday, June 14th, 9am - noon. It's a "critter party" There is no charge for this class.

Saturday, June 28th, 9am - noon. Pedro Velazquez will be giving a class on gem trees. \$7.00 class fee.

If you are interested in any of these contact Alexa.

Camp Paradise applications are available. This is a wonderful chance for anyone to learn lots of different techniques in Lapidary and other areas also. If you have questions, check out the CFMS website or Peggy can answer questions since she has been there.

A special announcement from Dr. Stephanie, who told us about "Area 51" at last month's meeting. She stated that although the flying saucer was delayed, she had visitors from space and passed out the visiting

aliens to each of us. Thank you, Dr. Stephanie, for the little guys. (I named mine Ralph)

MONTHLY PROGRAM

Thank you to Peggy and Alexa for a very interesting and educational program this month. We split into four groups and were instructed to set up a mock display case using the specimens they handed out. We had to identify and label them and then arrange them as if they were in competition. A special thank you to Anne for sharing her wisdom regarding the specimens.

Congratulations to (me), Tammy Cardona, for winning this month's raffle prize.

This month "Shop Days" are Saturday May 10th 8am-noon, and

Saturday May 24th 8am-noon.

Next Board meeting is Tuesday, May 20th at 6:00 p.m.

Next General meeting is Tuesday, June 3rd at 6:00 p.m. Starting with the potluck then followed by the meeting

Respectfully submitted, Tammy Cardona, for Judy Millfin, Secretary.

Birthday Wishes to these Club Members!

June

Chuck Cully in the 10th.

David Good on the 19th.

Ann Davila on the 24th.

July

Robert Rinaldi on the 3rd.

Robert Fox on the 7th.



Todd Zola on the 29th.

Angel Gould on the 9th.

Lee Grisham on the 9th.

Keith Bagnell on the 11th.

Helen Sapientzae on the 11th.

Loretta Rinaldi on the 17th.

Dr. Stephenie Slahor on the 18th.

Susana Velazquez on the 27th.

May 20, 2025 - Board Meeting Minutes

Call to order at 6:05 pm

Sunshine Report: Jackie has been contacted and is feeling better

Correspondence Report: CFMS newsletter made available. Other local clubs sent their newsletters.

Treasurer Report – Peggy.
Current treasury report provided and discussed.

Tammy will take care of club mail, treasurers report and memberships during Peggy's vacation absence in June.

Shop Report - upcoming shop days- 6/14/25 & 6/28/25

Field Trips and club events

There will be a critter painting party on 6/14/25

There will be a gem tree making class on 6/28/25

Presidents Report

Our very own Lance Albrecht has received the Editors Award from CFMS and AFMS. Congratulations!

Camp Paradise is an annual event held in Strawberry Valley, CA. It is two 2-week sessions about geology and lapidary related topics with a series of related classes. Online information and applications can be found on the CFMS website.

The board discussed the possibility of a scholarship to club members for 2026. The members attending would give a presentation about the experience.

The club closes for the summer in July & August.

The club is taking suggestions for possible classes when we start up in September. Some examples are:

- Traveling Display Posters.
- Holiday Themed Critter Parties.
- Air dry clay pots with painted rock cacti.

Discussed a possible Show & Tell from members, sharing projects they did over the summer

There will be a picnic on September 20, 2025, as a welcome back party. The discussion of activities and other details will continue at the June meeting. The club provides chicken, and members bring sides and dessert. There will be a silent auction and possibly a competition for best "rock craft".

November 15, 2025, will be the club rock sale from 9:00am to 3:00pm. This is an opportunity for members to sell their crafts as well. More information to follow.

AFMS Juniors can submit pictures, stories and poetry rock related to the newsletter. There is also a rock exchange for children and a Junior Rockhound Award.

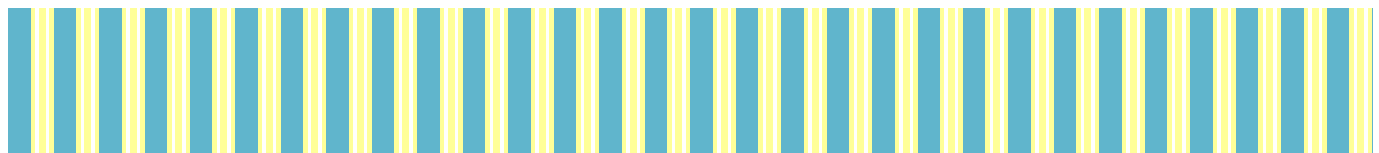
Ballots for next year's board will be sent out this summer. There are 3 board positions available.

Asking for ideas for next year's Fair.

It has been suggested that a club project could be to create a scrap book about the history of the club.

As always we are looking for program topics and speakers. Suggestions welcome!


Respectfully submitted by
Judy Mifflin,
SGMGS Secretary



June 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 General Meeting 6pm, potluck 7pm	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Shop Day 8am-12 It's a "critter Party" 9am-noon
15	16	17 Board Meeting	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Shop day 8am-12 Pedro Velazquez Gem Trees 9am-noon
29	30					

July 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Club is dark in July	2	3	4  Happy 4th of July!	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 Club is dark in July	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Rockhound Humor!

Short, sharp, and shale-arious.

Geologists don't retire—they just weather away.

I told a geology joke at the gym... it had no fault.

Never argue with a rock—it'll stonewall you.

I'm reading a book about anti-gravity... it's uplifting.

My pet rock's favorite song? We Will, We Will, Rock You.

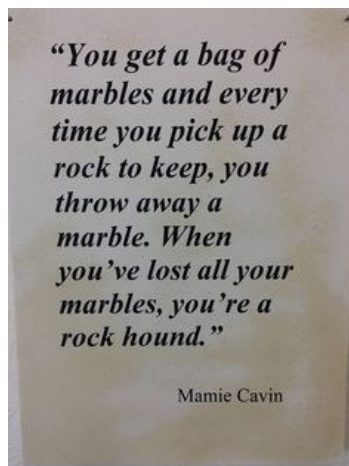
Why did the fossil blush? It saw the Earth's diary.

My jokes are sedimentary—layer after layer.

What's a geologist's motto? Keep calm and carry a Brunton.

Why did the geologist get a dog? To learn feldspar-k commands.

My jokes? They're ore-some.



Why did the geologist bring a ladder to the quarry?

A: *To reach the high cleavage.*

Q: Why did the geologist get lost in the desert?

A: *He took a wrong fault line.*

Q: Why did the glacier break up with the iceberg?

A: *It was too ice-olated.*

Q: How do geologists order coffee?

A: *"I'll take it with igneous cream."*

Q: What's a geologist's favorite sandwich?

A: *Subduction zone on rye.*

Q: Why did the geologist bring a clock to the field?

A: *To track geologic time.*

Q: What's a geologist's favorite social media?

A: *Quartz-Tok.*

Board of Directors - 2025

President	Alexa Velazquez	C (442) 294-8916
First Vice-President	Tammy Cardona	H (951) 230-4966 (In charge of programs)
Assistant to First Vice-President	Lou Mifflin	C (253) 261-5123
Second Vice-President	Jackie Misuraca	C (760) 250-3636 (In charge of picnic)
Assistant to Second Vice-President	Bob Zola	H (951) 845-5517
Secretary/Alternate	Judy Mifflin	C (253) 261-5123
Treasurer	Peggy Richard	C (951) 963-6751
Director Christmas party	Helen Sapienza	H (760) 507-7070
Bulletin Editor	Lance Albrecht	C (760) 641-6291
Gem Building Supervisor	Peggy Richard	C (951) 963-6751
Hospitality & Hostess	Helen Sapienza	H (760) 507-7070
Sunshine Report	Alexa Velazquez	C (442) 294-8916
P.O. Box/Alternate	Peggy & Fred Richard	C (951) 963-6751
Field Trip Chairman/Alternate	Fred Richard	H (316) 519-8505
	Tracy Albrecht	C (760) 641-8832
	John Scofield	C (951) 314-8486
CFMS Director/Alternate	Lou & Judy Mifflin	H (253) 261-5123
	Fred & Peggy Richard	C (951) 963-6751
Fair Chairman	Eric Mandeson	C (626) 290-4795

San Gorgonio Mineral & Gem Society



P.O. Box 424
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Place address label here

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See us on the
Web! At
SGMGS.org

Upcoming Shows and Events

Camp Paradise is an annual event held in Strawberry Valley, CA. Aug17th—Aug 23 and Aug 24th—Aug 30th. It is two week sessions about geology and lapidary related topics. If you have questions, check out cfmsinc.org or Peggy can answer your questions.

Save the Date

September 20, 2025, will be a welcome back party! The discussion of activities and other details will continue at the June meeting.

***Don't forget the
club closes for the
summer in July &
August.***

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9am - noon. It's a "critter party" There is no charge for this class.

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