



President's Message

Hello everyone,
I am so very grateful for those who volunteered for the Riverside Fair, as well as those who put in cases! We appreciate all the great experiences we've had not only in the building but outside as well. I can say from my own experience, that it is a heartwarming experience to see all the children happy once they buy their

Critters. I know that many members take time to make the Critters for our club, and so it is nice to see others truly appreciate the work. I know that many members felt the same way about their sales for the club. Additionally, I enormously enjoy getting to know everyone better, whether it be members of our club, or other vendors that we get to talk to, as

well as the Fair Staff. Life's a joy when you get to meet so many wonderful people and look forward to seeing them again at next year's Riverside Date Festival!

Sincerely,
Alexa Velazquez



San Geronio Mineral & Gem Society

Volume 9, Issue 3
March 2026

Our Mission Statement

The San Geronio 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.

Peggy Richard, Supervisor Gem & Mineral Building

Thank you everyone's help to create such a successful year in 2026 at the Riverside County Fair and National Date Festival. It took all of us contributing to create an excellent environment that people could come and enjoy and find rock related treasures. It is such a proud experience to see the public enjoy our critters, grab bags and the beautiful geodes that we cut open for them. Also, thank you

for the items you put together that created such beautiful showcases. The number of competitive showcases grew from last year which is always outstanding. This year we celebrate

80 years of involvement at the fair. Our past members would be so proud of our efforts and hard work. Let's look forward to this opportunity again next year in 2027.



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*SGMGS
Members at
the 2026
Date
Festival*

February 10, 2026 - General/Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting was brought to order at 10:15 a.m., by President, Alexa Velazquez, in Indio.

The board accepted and approved two membership applications.

Welcome to our club, Kyle Goodnight and Patty Sanchez!

The treasurer's report was read by Peggy Richard. If anyone has questions call Peggy.

Also, Peggy thanked the few members that had come on Saturday and helped clean the building and get it ready for the fair. If you are working a shift for the fair and don't have a pass or parking permit, you have to go to the "WILL CALL" booth, at the corner of Arabia and HWY 111. Tell them your name and what club you belong to and they will issue these to you.

The board voted on, and approved the Hot Spot for phone service in case our phone payment service doesn't work.

Anyone that has filled the cases must pick up your items on Monday, March 2nd 9-5. This is the only day to do this, and since

you will be already there, we need volunteers to help clean and pack up everything to return to the club house.

OLD BUSINESS:

On March 25, 2026 we have a field trip to the Banning Art Gallery. A donation of \$10 is requested for each member. The Art Gallery is also offering us a chance to give a show of what our club does. The date for this is not confirmed but will be in May or June. If anyone is interested in helping with this, contact Alexa Velazquez. The Art Gallery is also offering a chance for the club to participate in their youth programs which are on the last Saturday of each month, anyone interested in helping with that contact Alexa.

Our Spring Rock Sale will be on Saturday, April 18th. 9-3 More info to come.

The Club Picnic will now be the club Welcome Back party. This was voted for by those members that were in attendance today. The date has not been decided we

will discuss this later in the year.

NEW BUSINESS:

CFMS and AFMS will no longer be sending out printed correspondence, but will be using Zoom calls for their meetings. If you are interested in sitting in on some of these meetings contact Alexa.

After the meeting, we played a rousing game of Jeopardy, with Alexa as the host. The first-place winner was Helen Sapienzae, closely followed by Dywana Tremble and the third-place winner was Susie Velazquez. Congratulations all contestants.

The meeting came to an end with all of us feasting on some great food along with great conversations.

Next Board meeting is Tuesday, March 17, 2026, at 6 p.m.

Next General meeting/potluck is Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at 6 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Tammy Cardona.

SGMGS Secretary

Birthday Wishes to these Club Members!

March

Tracy Albrecht on the 9th.



April

Robert Norberg on the 16th.

Tanya Sauer on the 19th.

Tom Spencer on the 29th.

Corrected January 20, 2026 - Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:01p.m., by President, Alexa Velazquez

Board members in attendance: Alexa Velazquez (via phone), Peggy & Fred Richard, Helen Sapienzae, Lou & Judy Mifflin, James Brown, Jackie Epps and Tammy Cardona.

SUNSHINE REPORT :

A reminder that Jackie Epps and James (Hoss) Brown are in charge of the sunshine/hostess duties. If anyone knows of a club member that is sick contact either Jackie or Hoss.

Our thoughts and prayers to Alexa and family hoping they get well soon.

An application for a new member was submitted, and approved by the board. Welcome Deborah Baldwin to the club!

Treasurers report for November and December/year end, and the proposed budget for 2026 was given by Peggy Richard, which was accepted and approved by the board.

FIELD TRIP:

Wednesday, March 25, 2026 will be at the Banning Art Gallery. \$10 donation for the gallery.

More details at the next meeting. The Art Gallery has also invited us to have our own show possibly in May or June. We will be discussing this soon.

OLD BUSINESS:

DATE FESTIVAL - We will be finishing up the grab bags on our scheduled shop day, Jan. 24th. Thank you to those that came out to help on the 17th. We will also have an extra shop day Jan. 31st. to finish all fair items. Please come and help.

Volunteers are still needed for some of the fair dates, contact Peggy to find out what days and times need to be covered.

The prices of the Moroccan geodes that we sale have been raised from \$4 per pound to \$5 per pound.

The board approved payment to Fred, for 35 pounds of Brazilian Agate slabs to use at the fair.

Also to pay for used carpet runners and new carpet to be layed down in our booth.

NEW BUSINESS:

Spring Rock Sale - Saturday, April 18, 2026, 9 - 2 (weather permitting) details will be discussed at the March general meeting.

CLUB DUES DUE!!!

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Next shop days: Saturday January 24th 8 - noon and

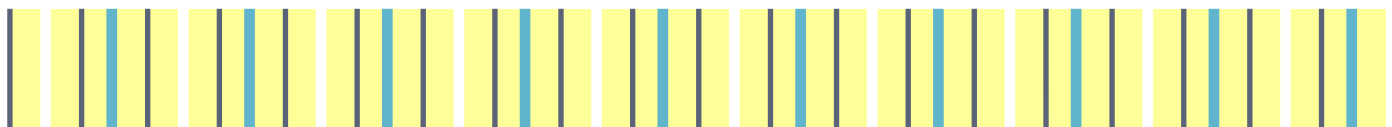
Saturday January 31st 8 - noon.

No shop days in February


Next General meeting is Sunday, February 8, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. at the fairgrounds. Potluck to follow.

Next Board meeting is Sunday, February 8, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. at the fairgrounds.

Respectfully submitted by
Tammy Cardona, Secretary
SGMGS Secretary



March 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 DF 20am-10pm	2 DF Clean up, retrieve case items	3 General Meeting 7pm, potluck 6pm	4	5	6	7 Shop Day 8am -12pm
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17  Board Meeting 6pm	18	19	20 Prime Cut Rock Show	21 Shop Day 8am -12pm Prime Cut Rock Show
22 Prime Cut Rock Show	23	24	25 Field Trip to Banning Art Gallery.	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 General Meeting 7pm, potluck 6pm	8	9	10	11 Shop Day 8am -12pm
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 Board Meeting 6pm	22	23	24	25 Shop Day 8am -12pm
26	27	28	29	30		



Friday, Saturday, Sunday
March 20 - 22, 2026
9:00am - 5:00pm



13050 Syracuse Rd. 626-290-4795
Lucerne Valley, California

Multiple vendors showcasing their incredible specimens.

Come join us for a fantastic sale featuring gems, minerals, & fossils from the world over!

Board of Directors - 2025

President	Alexa Velazquez	C (442) 294-8916
First Vice-President	Judy Mifflin	C (253) 261-5123
Assistant to First Vice-President	Lou Mifflin	C (253) 261-5123
Second Vice-President	Jackie Epps	C (951) 223-0807
Assistant to Second Vice-President	James "Hoss" Brown	H (760) 409-8779
Secretary/Alternate	Tammy Cardona	C (951) 230-4966
Treasurer	Peggy Richard	C (951) 963-6751
Director Christmas party	Helen Sapienzae	H (760) 507-7070
Bulletin Editor	Lance Albrecht	C (760) 641-6291
Gem Building Supervisor	Peggy Richard	C (951) 963-6751
Hospitality & Hostess	Jackie Epps	H (951) 223-0807
Sunshine Report	Jackie Epps	C (951) 223-0807
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
CFMS Director/Alternate	Helen & Sam Sapienzae	H (253) 261-5123
	Jackie Epps & Hoss Brown	C (951) 963-6751
Fair Chairman	Eric Mandeson	C (626) 290-4795

San Gorgonio Mineral & Gem Society



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Banning 92220
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Place address label here

Pick & Shovel

See us on the
Web! At
SGMGS.org

More Photos from the Fair!



Photos by Tracy

