



Presidents Message

Voting information for our board of directors will be given out soon. There will be 4 positions to be filled for 2027-2028. We will also be voting on the "Rockhound of the Year". The ballots will be ready soon so each member can turn in their votes no later than the October board meeting where they will be counted.

The board wishes to thank the board members going off who have served for two years. This includes Judy and Lou Mifflin, Tammy Cardona and Helen Sapientae! Alexa Velazquez also served during this year and had to discontinue due to her new job. Each of these individuals did a tremendous job and their leadership was extremely important to keeping the club going! Staying on and helping with positions on the Board of Directors for 2027 will be Fred Richard, Hoss Brown and Jackie Epps. Peggy Richard, Treasurer and Lance Albrecht, Editor are a part of the Board as well.

The board wishes everyone a very safe and enjoyable summer! Keep in mind that the club will be open during most shop days if you wish to come down and work on projects. There is some new equipment set up and ready for use. Critters and painted rocks can be done for the fair as well during shop hours. These dates include July 11 and 25th, and August 8 and 22nd from 8 am to noon.

Mineral of the Month!

(by Jonny K, Grimbail Jewelers)

Sapphire, with this well-known treasure, you've arrived in the posh suburb of Fancy town. The sleek, sophisticated blue of sapphire makes it an ideal gem for cabochons. These valuable stones work well in jewelry, and they pair especially well with bright hues or pastels.

Historically, the ancient Greeks connected sapphire with Apollo, their god of the sun, music, and poetry. Wisdom and insight into the truth are enhanced by this July birthstone.

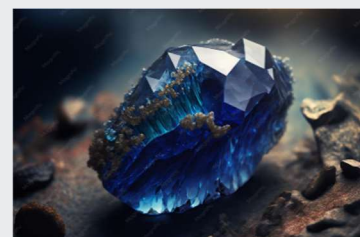
Having both partners wear them is a powerful visual representation of your commitment to each other. Medically speaking, it is believed to alleviate symptoms of vertigo and sleeplessness. Strengthens resistance to illness and restores emotional equilibrium.

July 2026
Volume 9 Issue 7



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SAPPHIRE



June 2, 2026 General Meeting Minutes

Respectfully submitted by Tammy Cardona. SGMGS Secretary

The meeting was brought to order at 7:00 p.m., by Vice President, Judy Mifflin

After the Pledge of Allegiance, we welcomed our guests: Akua and Ahmses Maat.

SUNSHINE REPORT:

Keep Jackie Epps in your thoughts and prayers, she is recovering from eye surgery. Also, Loretta Rinaldi just came home from the hospital after having fallen. We all have been sending her loving thoughts and well wishes.

Lots of love and prayers going out to Bob Zola's family. Keep Sonia and Todd in your prayers at this rough time. His funeral is being held on Monday, the 8th.

FIELD TRIPS:

Saturday, July 11th 9:30 am, we will be meeting at the Western Science and Discovery Center in Hemet. Afterwards we will have lunch somewhere to be decided on at the time.

UP COMING CLASSES:

Saturday, June 13th- Hoss will be teaching his "Ceramic face" rock painting. There is no charge for the class unless you wish to take your rocks with you. Otherwise, everything will stay at the club for sale at next year's fair.

Saturday, June 27th - Peggy will be making "Decorated Plant Stakes" There is the usual class fee of \$7 plus \$3 for materials. All classes are 9am-noon.

OLD BUSINESS:

Saturday, September 26th 1:30 -3 pm. we are having our 2nd annual "Welcome Back" party/potluck. Sign-up sheet for food will be at the Sept. general meeting.

Camp Paradise if anyone is interested, you need to get your applications in now. The club may be able to help with the cost. Contact Peggy for more information.

The board approved a donation of \$150 to be given to the American Cancer Society, in Bob Zola's name.

Please consider becoming a board member! We will have 4 positions open for the next year. It is such an easy way to give back to our club. It takes only a minimum of 5 hours for one month, split between 2 days. Easy Peasy!!

NEW BUSINESS:

As most of you know, our club is dark for the months of July and August. Although, we will possibly still have our shop days through the summer if you are interested, be sure to contact either Fred or Lou to make sure someone will be on site.

Rhonda gave a show and tell on her collection of petrified wood.

Birthday Wishes to these Club Members



July

Robert Rinaldi on the 3rd
Chrissy Jackson on the 7th
Angel Gould on the 9th
Lee Grisham on the 9th
Keith Bagnell on the 9th
Helen Sapientae on the 11th
Loretta Rinaldi on the 17th
Dr. Stephenie Slahor on the 18th
Susana Velazquez on the 27th
Todd Zola on the 29th

August

James Dotson on the 1st
Lance Albrecht on the 8th
Lisa Spencer on the 29th
Jan Spinney on the 31th



"Ceramic Faces" Class by Hoss

This month's program was given by Dr. Stephenie on Meteorites. Congratulations to me for winning this month's raffle prize.

This month's "Shop Days" are Saturday June 13th 8 - noon, and Saturday June 27th 8 - noon.

Next Board meeting is Tuesday, June 16th, at 6:00 p.m.

Next General meeting is Tuesday, September 1st, at 6:00 p.m.

I hope everyone has a wonderful summer. We will see you in September!

June 16, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes

Respectfully submitted by Tammy Cardona. SGMGS Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m., by Vice President, Judy Mifflin (via phone)

Board members in attendance: Peggy & Fred Richard, Lou & Judy Mifflin, James Brown, Jackie Epps and Tammy Cardona.

Treasurers report was given by Peggy Richard and was accepted and approved by the board.

Regarding our non-profit status, Peggy submitted the proper paperwork and is waiting to hear back.

FIELD TRIP:

Saturday, July 11th will be the field trip to the Western Science and Discovery Center in Hemet. We will be meeting there at 9:30 a.m. There is an admission fee of \$10. We will be going to lunch afterward if you would like to join.

Coming up in November, the Ridgecrest club is having a show which includes a field trip to their claim where we can find Rainbow Ridge rock. More information on this later.

CFMS is hosting a field trip to Hawthorne Nevada in September. Anyone who would like more info on this can call Fred or go to the CFMS website for details.

SHOP REPORT:

Lou has cleaned the old sludge out of the saws and put in new oil, so they are running great. We have the new 36" saw up and running.

Some exciting news! We have some polishing equipment donated to the club. Thank you, Harlan and Janet Hanncock! Although the club itself will be dark for July and August, the shop days will continue through the summer. The second and fourth Saturday 8 a.m. - noon. If you plan on coming in for a shop day, be sure to contact either Fred Richard (316) 519-8505 or Lou Mifflin (253) 261-5123 to confirm that someone will be there.

CLASSES:

The "Ceramic Faces" class, given by Hoss, was a success. We welcomed Fred's granddaughters and son to the class.

On Saturday, June 27th at 9 a.m. Peggy will be giving a class on

Event Calendar

July

Our Club will go dark in July and August.

No Meetings for the Month of July

Saturday July 11, Field Trip at the Western Science and Discovery Museum in Hemet at 9:00am, Lunch afterward will be announced.

The Willits Gem & Mineral Society is having their 1st annual rock show on July 11 & 12 at 111 East Commercial St, Willits.

To learn more about rock hounding in California and their monthly newsletter go to: cfmsinc.org

August

Although the club will be dark for July & August the shop days will continue through the summer. The second & fourth Saturday 8am – 12pm

If you are planning on coming in for a shop day, be sure to contact either Fred Richard (316) 519-8505 or Lou Mifflin (253) 261-5123 to confirm that someone will be there.



Lou and Fred working on the 36" saw

"plant stakes". If you are interested in attending contact Peggy. The cost is \$7 for the shop fee and \$3 for the materials.

OLD BUSINESS:

We are excited to help Lou attend Camp Paradise and are looking forward to him telling us about his experience there, and to give a class on Silversmithing in October.

Don't forget about the "Welcome Back Party" on September 26th.

NEW BUSINESS:

We will be sending out ballots for the board member elections soon. Please consider being on the board. It doesn't take much time or energy, and it helps our club to grow and prosper. If you might be interested, please contact any board member and let them know.

Next Month's shop days: July 25th Saturday 8 - noon and Saturday August 8th & 22nd 8 - noon.

Next General meeting is September 1, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Next Board meeting is September 15, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 7:01 pm.

Board Member Job Descriptions

All board members should be aware of the constitution and bylaws of SGMGS.

PRESIDENT

Preside over and conduct board and general meetings. Oversee the operation of the club. Ensure that the annual mandatory Federal and State forms are submitted timely by Treasurer.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Preside over the meetings in the president's absence. Provide a program for the general meeting.

- Alternate - assist in providing program

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

In charge of the annual club picnic or welcome back party

- Alternate - assist with the picnic

DIRECTOR

In charge of annual Christmas Party

- Alternate – assist with Christmas Party

Board of Directors

President

Judy Miffin (253) 261-5123

First Vice-President

Judy Miffin (253) 261-5123

Assistant to First Vice-President

Lou Miffin (253) 261-5123

Second Vice-President

Jackie Epps (951) 223-0807

Assistant to Second Vice-President

James "Hoss" Brown (760) 409-8779

Secretary/Alternate

Tammy Cardona (951) 230-4966

Treasurer

Peggy Richard (951) 963-6751

Director Christmas party

Helen Sapientae (760) 507-7070

Bulletin Editor

Lance Albrecht (760) 641-6291

Gem Building Supervisor

Peggy Richard (951) 963-6751

Hospitality & Hostess

Jackie Epps (951) 223-0807

Sunshine Report

Jackie Epps (951) 223-0807

P.O. Box/Alternate

Peggy & Fred Richard (951) 963-6751

Field Trip Chairman/Alternate

Fred Richard (316) 519-8505

Tracy Albrecht (760) 641-8832

CFMS Director/Alternate

Helen & Sam Sapientae (253) 261-5123

Jackie Epps & Hoss Brown (951) 963-6751

Fair Chairman

Eric Mandeson

C (626) 290-4795

SECRETARY

Take the minutes at meetings. Provide Club Editor with copies of the minutes for the newsletter. Give Treasurer report in Treasurers' absence. In the Treasurers' absence retrieve club mail and give correspondence report

· Alternate - assume the duties in secretary's absence. Assist with the Christmas Party

TREASURER

Manage all finances for the club. Provide an operating budget each year and produce year-end budget reports. Give Treasurer report at meetings. Retrieve club mail and give correspondence report

Ensure the following forms are submitted annually by May 15th:

- a. 990-N to IRS
 - b. 199-N to the California Franchise Tax Board
 - c. RRF-1 and CT-TR-1 to the Attorney General
- Ensure that form S-100 is submitted to Secretary of State every two years

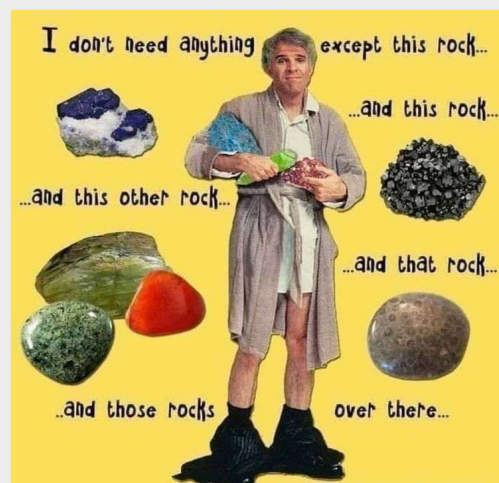
EDITOR

Compile and provide each member with a monthly club bulletin in a timely manner. Provide annual club rosters to members. Mail election ballots to eligible members each year. Job descriptions of the Building Supervisor and the Show Chair are available.

Saturday, June 27 Plants Stakes Class was enjoyed by half a dozen students. Led by Peggy, it is a great example of how classes are great opportunities to learn new skills, get to know fellow Club members and take home a new treasure.



On The Lighter Side



When were rock puns funniest? During the stone age.

You didn't think these were good puns? Of quartz they were!

What should you do when you hear a joke about rocks? Take it with a grain of basalt.

What did Sherlock Holmes say when Watson asked what type of rock he was holding? "Sedimentary, my dear Watson."

Did you see the geologist towing a crate of rocks behind his car? He had a wide lode sign.



**San Gorgonio
Mineral & Gem
Society**



P.O. Box 424
Banning 92220
Phone: 951-963-6751

Pick & Shovel

See us on the Web!
At SGMGS.org

Place address label here

In Memory of Bob Zola



Club member, officer and enthusiastic supporter Robert “Bob” Zola passed away May 12, 2026. He and his wife Sonia have been members for over fifteen years, and their son Todd recently became active as well. Bob is also survived by his granddaughter, Ava. Bob was seen at the Clubhouse often. He served on the Board many times, joined field trips, fundraisers, and appeared early on shop days to do volunteer maintenance.

Bob lived a life filled with laughter, joy and love. From working alongside his father on the family farm in Ohio to joining the army at nineteen years old he embodied strength, dedication and kindness. He had a fulfilling career at Arrowhead Aerospace Co and built a successful button business with a lifelong friend. When you see a large round Club name badge you can be sure it was made by Bob.



*Photos: Sonia and Bob are all smiles
at the 2022 Christmas Party
Bob accepting the Rockhound of the
Year award
With Tracy, Peggy and Fred in Anza
Borrego Desert State Park*

