

Pick & Shovel

President's Message

Hello everyone,

I am excited to welcome the new members we received during our club's duration of the Riverside Fair and Date Festival.

I know that our new members and current members will enjoy what is coming up for the upcoming meetings and club events.

A fun announcement I have to make is that our general meeting is going to be held, funny enough, on April Fools Day

Dr. Stephanie, who will be presenting an interesting presentation that day, has also given the suggestion to have an April Fools theme Potluck. Here all members are welcome to bring April Fools snacks, such as making foods with food coloring, or foods that look like something else. Another fun aspect about this meeting is that there will be a "Show and Tell" portion. Bring in rocks and mineral specimens that you want to share.

I'm sure that everyone will enjoy this club meeting and I look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,



Alexa Velazquez.

San Gorgonio
Mineral & Gem
Society

Volume 8, Issue 3

April/May 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.

Mineral of the Month: Tsavorite Garnet!

Tsavorite is a green gem variety of grossular garnet. It was first found in 1967 in northern Tanzania and again in 1970 in Kenya's Tsavo National Park by noted geologist Campbell Bridges. These green rocks received a prestigious boost when Tiffany & Co. began using them in its jewelry, starting in the mid-70s. It continues to be mined in a remote bushland that's home to lions and volcanoes. "It's a very often looked over stone because it's a garnet, and most people associate garnet with the inexpensive

red variety," Hyman noted. "But these green tsavorites in larger sizes are extremely rare and beautiful, and are just as hard, or harder, than emerald." Tsavorite garnet ranks 7 to a 7.5 for Mohs hardness. You're unlikely to find tsavorites in sizes that are larger than 2.5 carats. "The color that's been popular lately in the market is a minty color tsavorite.

There's an area called Merelani in Tanzania where they're found," he said.

This article is from the Rock & Gem Magazine.



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March 4, 2025 - General Meeting Minutes

Call to order at 7:10 pm

Flag Salute: Lead by Robbie

Sunshine Report – Jackie, is recovering. A card was signed by members for her.

Treasurer Report – Peggy states we did very well at the fair. The final numbers are not in yet.

Shop Report - upcoming shop days- 4/12/25 & 4/26/25.

Field Trips and classes

Field trip to to Garnet Hill on 3/15/25 being led by Tracy. Details in flyer distributed at meeting. Sign up sheet passed around.

Agate Suncatcher class on 3/22/25 at the clubhouse. \$5 for materials. Sign up sheet passed around.

Program – Dr Stephanie gave a presentation on garnets

Presidents Report Welcome to our guests:

Tom Spencer, Amy Kennedy, Chrissy Jackson, Rhonda Smoot and Michael DeLa Cruz



Peggy talked about requirements for club membership.

Alexa thanked all who participated in the fair, whether it be in making rock critters, volunteering at the building or entering cases.

Tammy C, vice president is new co-signer now on the club bank account.

Prime Cut Rocks having a Rock and Gem Show March 14-16 2025, 9am- 5pm. 13050 Syracuse Rd, Lucerne Valley, CA

A comprehensive list of Gem Shows in the area is on our Facebook page.

Raffle won by Jackie

Slab raffle held – everyone a winner

Alexa spoke about possible interviews of club members for our newsletter.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by
Judy Mifflin,
SGMGS Secretary

The Sunshine Report

As a club, we try and include the Sunshine report in both our general and board meetings. You may wonder who the Sunshine contact person is and what they do. Hopefully this will answer your questions. At this time, Alexa Velasquez is collecting information on when members are ill, having surgery, and may need support and to know they are in our thoughts and prayers. If you or another member you know is in this situation, please contact Alexa at 442-529-2582 or email her at alexavelazquez11@icloud.com. The idea is to bring a spot of “sunshine” into the lives of members knowing other club members are thinking about them.

Birthday Wishes to these Club Members!

April

Robert Norberg on the 16th.

Tanya Sauer on the 19th.



May

Samuel Sapienzae on the 1st.

Sabrina Miller on the 4th.

Debra Brauer on the 25th.

Karen Fitzpatrick on the 28th.

Sheryn Beck on the 30th.

Delvin Harbor on the 30th.

March 18, 2025 - Board Meeting Minutes

Call to order at 6:05 pm.

Sunshine Report: Members have been trying to reach Jackie with no success. We will continue to try to see how she is doing.

Correspondence Report: CMFS newsletter made available. There is information about this year's Camp Paradise retreat. This is a geological/lapidary retreat in August located in Northern California. Other local clubs sent their newsletters.

Treasurer Report – Peggy provided the final numbers for the Indio Fair this year. Current treasury report provided and discussed.

Shop Report - upcoming shop days- 4/12/25 & 4/26/25.

Field Trips and Classes.

The field trip to Garnet Hill on 3/15/25 led by Tracy was a great success. Pedro found a marble sized garnet! There was also an area of plant roots and stems that were replaced by calcite. These were loose on the ground or sticking up vertically out of the sand. Field trip protocol was discussed. We all need to keep track of each other and try to stay in the vicinity of a "buddy".

Agate Suncatcher class on

3/22/25 at the clubhouse was a great success. Tracy led the class. There were 12 people and everyone was feeling their creativity. Beautiful sun catchers were made and we learned how to use soldering irons with the help of Hoss.

A big thank you to Tracy and Hoss

Presidents Report

Welcome to our newest members:

Tom Spencer

Amy Kennedy

Michael De La Cruz

The board revisited the topic of pets at the club and events. After discussion it was voted to not have pets other than certified service animals.

Alexa spoke about possible interviews of club members for our newsletter and submitted a list of possible interview questions for reviews.

Discussion of shop fees vs equipment fees vs class fees. There is a standard "shop fee" for anyone taking advantage of the shop day. There is an additional fee for use of equipment. These fees are posted in various places in the clubhouse and the shop.

People taking classes will pay the predetermined "class/material" fee only. But if they decide to use the shop after the class it is an additional fee. Shop and classes are separate activities and are paid separately.

There are no shop days in June or August. We have the club picnic in June and the club goes dark July and August due to the heat and members traveling.

We voted to make our charitable contributions to St. Jude's this year.

Next general meeting is on April 1st (April Fools). It is suggested to theme the potluck on foolery. Foods that might look like one thing but are actually something entirely different.

Next board meeting is April 15th.

Board is requesting any suggestions for next years fair.


Alexa mentioned a website called "Submittable" where public can post original works. Maybe an essay about our club.

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted by
Judy Mifflin,
SGMGS Secretary



April 2025

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

May 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6 General Meeting 6pm, potluck 7pm	7	8	9	10 Shop Day 8am -12pm Antelope Valley Gem Show
11 Antelope Valley Gem Show 10am-5pm	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 Board Meeting 6pm	21	22	23	24 Shop Day 8am -12pm
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Rockhound Humor!

You Know You're A Rockhound If ...

Your garage is so full of rocks that the car won't fit in.

You prefer baryte roses to real ones.

You color co-ordinate your clothes and shoes to match your gem-stone pendants.

The sign on the side of the road says "Falling Rock", and you pull over to wait.

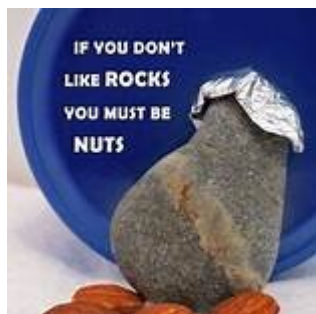
and the final one ...

You treasure ancient, fossilized animal dung.

If at first you don't succeed, mining is not for you.

Some days you are the ammonite; some days you are dinosaur poo.

The quickest way to X marks the spot is through a rockhound's stomach.



Q: Why shouldn't you let a geologist drive your car?

A: *Because they get hammered and stoned.*

Q: Why wasn't the geologist hungry?

A: *He lost his apatite.*

Q: What did Mr. Rabbit give Mrs. Rabbit?

A: *A 14 Carrot Gold Ring.*

Q: Where do you find the president of the jewelry company?

A: *He's the one in the Opal Office.*

Q: Why did the prospector take a bath with his rock samples?

A: *Because they were soapstone.*

Q: Why did the prospector make his mother carry his ore samples?

A: *He thought it was the mother lode.*

Q: Where do rocks sleep?

A: *Bedrock.*

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 Sapienzae	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
Banning 92220
Phone: 951-963-6751

Place address label here

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See us on the
Web! At
SGMGS.org

Upcoming Shows and Events April/May 2025

2-6 APRIL 2025	JOSHUA TREE GEM SHOW SPACE 312 9AM-5PM 2601 SUNFAIR ROAD SUN 9AM-4PM JOSHUA TREE, CA. 92252
5 APRIL 2025	LAKE ELSINORE GEM SHOW 10AM-4PM 32097 CORYDON ROAD LAKE ELSINORE, CA. 92530
11-13 APRIL 2025	PEARBLOSSOM GEM SHOW 9AM-5PM 34141 116TH ST. E PEARBLOSSOM, CA 93553
10-11 MAY 2025	ANTELOPE VALLEY GEM SHOW 10AM-5PM 2251 W AVENUE H. SUN 10AM-4PM LANCASTER, CA. 93536