



Pick & Shovel

**San Gorgonio
Mineral & Gem
Society**

President's Message

I'm so grateful to everyone who was able to participate with us to make our time at the Riverside County Fair and National Date Festival a success. I'm looking forward to celebrating this with pizza and cake and also celebrating 77 years as a club at our general meeting on April 4th at 6 p.m. That evening our program will be focused on opals. So bring along an opal if you'd like to share and your questions and information to share with others. It's going to be a fun night.

At our recent board meeting, we began to plan our upcoming Rock Sale on April 22nd. Consider what you may be able to do to help out at this event. I'll have a sign-up

sheet ready for possible options.

If there is something you'd like to learn or teach others, please let a board member know. We are looking forward to our upcoming cab class on March 25th and hopefully will have some others coming that day to get some things done for our upcoming sale.

Sincerely,
Peggy Richard



*Find your favorites at the
Rock Sale!*



Fair goers converse with Pete.

How Can You Tell if an Opal is Real?

Fake opals are often very hard to detect, but here is a tip for making sure a shimmering gemstone is the real thing. Fake opals have a repeated, uniform pattern while real opals don't. Turn your opal on its side and look closely at

the coloring. A synthetic or fake opal will have a systematic color order that's created with neat color blocking. This is known as the "lizard skin" effect and is meant to mimic the natural color layers of real opal. In

other words, a real opal will look different from all angles, with different splotches of color here and there, while a synthetic opal has defined lines or blocks of color throughout.

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March/April 2023

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.

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SGMGS — March 7, 2023 General Meeting Minutes

The meeting was brought to order at 6pm, by President, Peggy Richard.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, last month's minutes were approved.

SUNSHINE REPORT:

Thoughts and prayers to the family of Becky Pike, who passed away on Feb. 24th. She was such an asset to our club. She will be missed.

Lots of love and prayer for Emma who is recovering from surgery, which she said went well.

OLD BUSINESS:

We once again recognized Bob & Sonia Zola as our "Rock Hound" of the year 2022. Besides their names on our plaque, they received, from CFMS, a pin and a certificate and will have a write-up in the upcoming newsletter.

Congratulations to us! We did a fantastic job at the fair this year! The best we have ever done. Thank you to all the members that volunteered and especially to Peggy & Fred, Debbie & Mike for all the hard work also Pete & Angel, and Eric who were there every day doing what they needed to do.

NEW BUSINESS:

Our Spring Rock Sale will be on Saturday, April 22, 2023, 9am-3pm. Flyers are available to hand out and post throughout the area. Be sure to let others know about the sale. If you would like to be a vendor contact Peggy for the details. Members are needed to help out either on that day or on the Shop Days prior.

*Remember DUES ARE DUE!
\$20 per person, \$30 per couple
and \$40 for a family 1/2 off for
seniors over 75!*

A Cab making class will be on March 25th, 9-noon, \$5.00 fee to participate. Slabs will be available or you can bring your own.

Extra shop days will be scheduled if there is interest. If you didn't sign up on the sheet that was passed around, contact Peggy to let her know what days you would like to come.

Be sure to be at the next general meeting on April 4th, because we will be celebrating our clubs 77th year along with appreciation of everyone's help at the fair, with a Pizza Party!

Field trip on April 15-16. You can come out for just one of the days or stay for both. We will be going to the south Cadys Mountains to collect agate, jasper, and lots of different stones. Check out the web site or contact Fred for more info.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10pm

This month's program was an interesting video, along with a work sheet, titled "What is a Rock?"

Congratulations to Adriana Hammack for winning this month's raffle prize.

Our next Board Meeting is March 21, 2023, at 6pm

The next General Meeting is April 4, 2023, at 6pm. It will be a Pizza Party.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Cardona, Secretary

Birthday Wishes!

March

Dennis Armatis on the 5th.

Tracy Albrecht on the 9th.

"And in the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years." – Abraham Lincoln, US President

April

Bonnie Lynk on the 14th.

Robert Norberg on the 16th.

Tanya Sauer on the 19th.

Becky Dugan on the 22nd.

Dorothy Worthington on the 23rd.

Sandra Hernandez on the 27th.

Happy Birthday to these Club Members!



SGMGS — Board Meeting Minutes March 21, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 6pm, by President, Peggy Richard

Board members in attendance: Lee Grisham, Fred & Peggy Richard, Pete Gould, Bob Fitzpatrick, Robby Rinaldi, Tammy Cardona. Also present were Bert Grisham and Bob Zola.

The Board approved the membership application of Alex Nikmanesh. Welcome to the Club Alex!

Treasurers report given by Lee Grisham.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Board approved the final details of our upcoming Pizza Party, which will be part of our general meeting on April 4th.

The Board approved a motion to give a small cash compensation (as we have done in the past years) to the building supervisor and fair chairman to show the clubs appreciation for all of the hard work put in to this year's fair.

Also to the other members that were on site helping each day.

Our Spring Rock Sale, Saturday, April 22nd. 9 - 3. Volunteers are needed to help set up that day and help with the sale. Please be there at 7 am for set up. If you can make it to the next two shop days there will be things that we need done for the sale as well. If you are interested in being a vendor contact Peggy for info. If you would like to donate something for the raffle prizes it would be appreciated.

Our Cab class is March 25th. 9-noon. \$5 for the class includes a slab or bring your own.

Please be sure to pay your annual dues!

NEW BUSINESS:

The April field trip will be April 15th and 16th to the south Cadys hills joining the "Roadside Rockhound" and "Rockhound Field Trip Fanatics". If you are interested, you can find the information on Kris Rowe,

the Roadside Rockhound's Facebook page.

Next shop day is March 25th. If you are not taking the cab class you can come and paint some "critters" or help outside. It is a good way to help the club and also to get to know some of the members and be part of a great club.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

The next General Meeting is April 4, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

The next Board Meeting is April 18, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Cardona, Secretary



You Belong at the Rock Sale!

The feeling of childlike excitement and wonder when picking up a rock specimen is simple yet fulfilling. Having a rock in your hand may evoke a feeling from the past, inspire further observation or spark curiosity. At the SGMGS Rock Sale people of all ages will be encouraged to touch, see, feel rocks in the yard and admire items at the booths. When Club members help out at the Rock Sale they share their love of rocks and stir an appreciation among others.

- Recruit New Members
- Essential Fundraising for the Club
- Fostering an Interest for Children and Beginners
- Add to Private Collections
- Learning About Rocks and Rockhounding



Visitors choose from the many rocks in the yard to take home as new treasures.

All these things happen because of the involvement of Club members! So put

April 22nd on your calendar. There are lots of ways to be involved and you can find out more at the April 6th, General Club Meeting.

The Sale is from 9am to 3pm, Club members are requested to arrive at 7am to set-up.

You Know You're A Rockhound If:

You prefer baryte roses to real ones.

Your dream holiday destination is the Hauser Beds.

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

You collect interesting specimens, including the brown unknown ones, just in case they might turn out to be something special.

You've ever dumpster-dived at a marble warehouse.

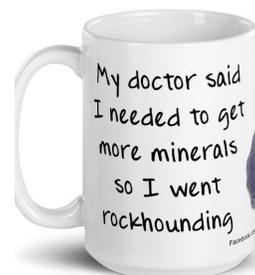
You color co-ordinate your clothes and shoes to match your gemstone pendants.

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

You like to examine the rocks in your driveway.

You treasure ancient, fossilized animal dung.

You spend hours searching the ground while everyone else around you is bored.



Geology Jokes to Crack You Up!

What do you call a rock that never goes to school?

A skipping stone!

Why did the tectonic plates break up?

It wasn't her fault, but there was just too much friction between them.

What do you do with dead rockhound?

You barium.



Board of Directors—2023

President	Peggy Richard	C (951) 963-6751
First Vice-President	Bob Fitzpatrick	H (818) 653-3525
Assistant to First Vice-President	Robert Rinaldi	C (951) 845-3051
Second Vice-President	Fred Richard	C (316) 519-8505
Assistant to Second Vice-President	TBD	
Secretary/Alternate	Tammy Cardona	C (951) 320-4966
Treasurer	Lee Grisham	H (909) 790-8677
Director/Assistant	Angel Gould	C (909) 800-7155
	Pete Gould	C (909) 800-7155
Bulletin Editor	Lance Albrecht	C (760) 641-6291
Gem Building Supervisor	Fred Richard	C (316) 519-8505
Hospitality & Hostess	Lee Grisham	H (909) 790-8677
Sunshine (Near Beaumont)	Lee Grisham	H (909) 790-8677
P.O. Box/Alternate	Lee Grisham	
Field Trip Chairman/Alternate	Fred Richard	H (316) 519-8505
	Tracy Albrecht	C (760) 641-8832
CFMS Director/Alternate	Roger Thompson	H (760) 902-5340
	Judy Thompson	H (760) 902-5340
Fair Chairman	Mike Brauer	H (951) 349-8423

(In charge of programs)

(In charge of picnic)

(In charge of Christmas party)

▶ March 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 General Meeting, 6pm Clubhouse	8	9	10 Stoddard Wells Rock Show	11 Stoddard Wells Rock Show
12 Stoddard Wells Rock Show	13	14	15	16	17 Prime Cut Victorville Rock Show	18 Prime Cut Victorville Rock Show
19 Prime Cut Victorville Rock Show	20	21 Board Meeting, 6pm Clubhouse	22	23	24	25 Cabochon class 9am–12pm and Shop Day
26	27	28	29	30	31	

▶ April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 General Meeting 6pm, Clubhouse	5	6	7	8 Shop Day
9 Easter Sunday	10	11	12	13	14	15 Field Trip to South Cady Mtns.
16 Field Trip optional day 2	17	18 Board Meeting, 6pm, Clubhouse	19	20	21	22 Rock Sale 9am-3pm Volunteers Needed
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

San Geronio Mineral & Gem Society



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Place address label here

Pick & Shovel

See us on the
Web! At
SGMGS.org

Tools to Bring for Collecting

Rock hammer/rock pick – This essential rockhounding tool is used to pry or chip away at small to medium-sized rocks. Not for use on large rocks.

Crack hammer - Weighing around 2 to 4 lbs, this smaller version of a sledge hammer is for breaking rocks. It is used together with a chisel. Make sure to bring one you can handle easily.

Chisel - You can bring one or different sizes of chisel, either pointed or wide-bladed. Use chisels intended for masonry. Wood or metal chisels are not cut out for rockhounding. Chisels with handguards are easier, more comfortable to use, and prevent injuries.

Hand tools - A variety of hand tools like a small knife, picks, a colander, and trowel are useful for precise work.

Pry bar - This tool is for moving large rocks and debris that are too heavy to lift. A pry bar that's 18" to 22" long should be light enough for this.

Cleaning tools - Need to rid your specimens of soil to identify them easily? Bring a paintbrush, whisk broom, and a spray bottle with water.



The essential rockhounding tool.

Shovel - In case you need to remove dirt, rocks, or grass from the surface to retrieve specimens, bring a full-size shovel to do the job.

Sledgehammer/mason's hammer - This tool is for breaking huge rocks. If you need to bring one, make sure you can swing it comfortably as these hammers can be quite heavy to use.

In Next Newsletter!

-What to Use for Carrying Specimens and Equipment