



JOIN US FOR THE APRIL GENERAL MEETING

**In-Person — Friday April 4th at 5:45 pm at the Clubhouse**

## “California Dreaming: Tales of Treasure Hunting in The Golden State” with Ian Snyder

Ian Snyder is a mineral collector and dealer who has worked in mines around northern San Diego County including the Carmelita, Tourmaline King, Stewart, and Himalaya mines. He is the Director of the Julian Chamber of Commerce and founder of the Julian Natural History Museum and Library.

Ian will bring show & tell specimens to the meeting then host a sale on Saturday April 5th at the clubhouse from 11-3 pm featuring minerals from California.

Ian’s presentation is titled “California Dreaming: Tales of Treasure Hunting in The Golden State.”

After the presentation a general discussion will follow.



### TWO-DAY IN-PERSON EVENT SCHEDULE:

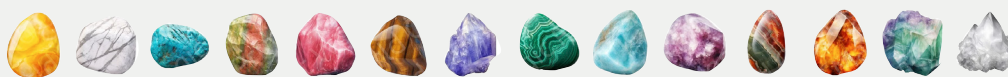
**FRIDAY:** 5:45 pm – Setup - Please bring a beverage to share and enjoy.

6 pm to 7 pm – Happy Hour ... Enjoy Food, Drink, and Conversation!

7 pm – Call to Order - Ian Snyder Presentation.

**SATURDAY:** 11 to 3 pm – Ian Snyder California Minerals Sale.

We need your help to set up and clean after the event. We also have a wish list for finger food such as cupcakes, cookies, finger sandwiches, meatballs, fruit kabobs, cut up veggies, pigs in a blanket, baked pork buns, cheese crackers, deviled eggs, sushi rolls, pizza rolls, chicken nuggets, stuffed mushrooms, egg rolls/lumpia, 7-11 mini tacos ... etc. – you get the idea.



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MINERAL

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Part 158

Masthead by Kevin Anderson

## Raw Earth?

There has been much talk in the news lately about Ukraine's "Raw Earth." Nah, it's "Rare Earth," not RAW EARTH. You-know-who calls those mineral deposits "Raw Earth." Consider the source.

The Rare Earths are actually elements and are all metals. They are elements that many of us use, but don't know anything about. The Raw Earths...I mean RARE EARTHS, consist of yttrium, lanthanum, cerium, praseodymium, neodymium, promethium, samarium, europium, gadolinium, terbium, dysprosium, holmium, erbium, thulium, ytterbium, scandium, and lutetium. Try not to chant these names repeatedly, they might actually be evil magic spells causing horrible things to happen and we've had enough of that!

And, enough of this nonsense. So, what is cerium? When I first came to our club many years ago we used cerium oxide for the final polish of our lapidary stones. Cerium has many applications, including boosting the lightfastness of paint, and is used as a red pigment in oil paint. Finally, many years after art class, I now know why it's called Cerium Oxide paint. Cerium is also used for white light emitting diodes. They last longer, are cheaper, and I love my LED flashlight.

None of these "Rare Earths" are found in pure form in our earth, always in a compound. You can see a picture of these metals on Wikipedia, they are usually bright, shiny, interesting metals that look much alike.

Yttrium is used in the production of a large variety of synthetic garnets, and is another rare earth used to make LED lights. Lanthanum among many other uses is used to make white gas lantern mantles, and also batteries for Toyotas.

People who love and collect antique glassware know the name of the fabulous Moser Glassware from the Czech Republic. Praseodymium was used to give the glass a fabulous yellow-green color called Prasemit. I once collected antique glassware — until the Loma Prieta earthquake. That's another story and a very horrible one. Another rare earth, Neodymium was also used to make glass dyes, and still is. They mine a lot of it in China.

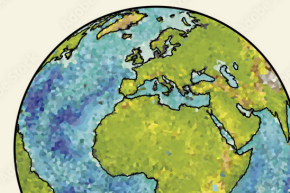
Promethium, first produced at Oak Ridge National Labs in 1945, was named after Prometheus, the Greek Titan who stole fire from Mount Olympus and gave it to humans. If I remember, he paid for that crime by being chained to a rock by Zeus (the head god). Every day a giant eagle came and ate his liver, but being a god himself, Prometheus's liver grew back every day. Hercules (a human) finally came along and set him free.

The main commercial use of samarium is in magnets, really good magnets. But samarium also kills cancer cells in lung cancer, prostate cancer, breast cancer, and osteosarcoma, whatever that is. Samarium is great stuff.

Europium is one of the rarest of the rare earth elements. No problem, there aren't many uses for europium.

Gadolinium is toxic, don't mess with this stuff. Terbium is used as a dopant, so if you need a dopant, get some terbium. Dysprosium is used to make lasers. Holmium is used for laser surgery and as a colorant in the manufacture of cubic zirconia. Scandium-aluminum alloys are used for sports equipment and airplanes, and this leaves erbium, thulium, ytterbium, and lutetium. Since I only have so much space here and I'm sure you're thoroughly bored by now, feel free to look them up yourself, but I think you get the picture. As I search through page after page of data, it's plain that most of these "Rare earth metals" are used in vary advanced technology. Besides cell phones, they're used in spy equipment, weapons, take-over-the-world-gadgets, and things that lurk over the earth blasting, destroying, mutating, creating monsters...

Okey, enough of that.



# Club Scenes: March Open House & Our Annual St. Patrick's Celebration

Photos courtesy of Tony DeLeon





## Commemorative 90th Anniversary Enamel Pins Available Now!

Designed by a SFGMS member and produced in a limited quantity of 250, this high-quality soft enamel pin is the perfect addition to your backpack, jean jacket, apron, or just about anything else where you want to show off your SFGMS pride. Buy yours at the clubhouse during the April Open House on April 13, from 11 am – 3 pm.

Pin purchases also come with a sticker of the same design!  
(At this time, we are unable to mail pins/stickers.)

## Local Upcoming Events of Interest to Club Members:

### Roseville Annual Tailgater

04/05/2025 - 04/05/2025

Hours: 9:00 - 3:00

Venue: @the Grounds L Lot

200 Corporation Yard Rd, @the Grounds L Lot,

Roseville, CA 95678

Website: <https://rockrollers.com/>

### Annual Pearblossom Gem & Mineral Show

04/11/2025 - 04/13/2025

Hours: 9am - 5pm

Venue: The Outpost

34141 116th Street East, The Outpost, Pearblossom, CA 93553

Website: <http://facebook.com/138outpost>

### El Dorado County Rock & Gem Show

04/12/2025 - 04/13/2025

Hours: 10:00 - 5:00

Venue: El Dorado County Fairgrounds

100 Placerville Dr., El Dorado County Fairgrounds,

Placerville, CA

Website: <https://edcmgs.org/>

### Mariposa Gem & Mineral Show

04/12/2025 - 04/13/2025

Hours: Sat 10:00-5:00 Sun 10:00-4:00

Venue: Mariposa County Fairgrounds

5007 Fairgrounds Rd., Mariposa County Fairgrounds,

Mariposa, CA 95338

Website: <http://mariposagemclub.org/>

### Contra Costa Crystal Fair

04/26/2025 - 04/27/2025

Venue: Civic Park Community Center

1371 Civic Dr., Civic Park Community Center,

Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Website: <http://www.crystalfair.com/>

### NorCal Unearthed - 2025 Paradise Gem and Mineral Show

04/26/2025 - 04/27/2025

Venue: Gold Nugget Museum

475 Pearson Rd., Gold Nugget Museum, Paradise, CA 95969

Website: <https://paradisegemmineral.squarespace.com/>

### California Federation of Mineralogical Societies 2025 Convention

05/09/2025 - 05/11/2025

This event features exhibits, Cracker Barrel with a Silent Auction

and a banquet for attendees. Sign up to showcase your display,

reserve your spot at the banquet, or secure on-site camping

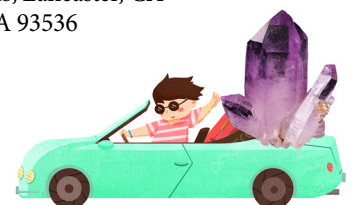
accommodations. Don't miss this chance to connect with fellow

rockhounds and mineral enthusiasts!

Venue: Antelope Valley Fairgrounds, Lancaster, CA

2551 West Avenue H, Lancaster, CA 93536

Website: <https://cfmsinc.org/>



## CLUBHOUSE WEEKLY SCHEDULE

PLEASE BE SURE TO CALL THE CLUBHOUSE (415-564-4230) BEFORE TRAVELING.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
10 AM - 3 PM Lapidary, Silversmithing	10 AM - 1 PM Lapidary	9 AM - 10 PM Lapidary, Silversmithing, Spheremaking	9 AM - Noon Lapidary	10 AM -3 PM Spheremaking	PLEASE CALL FIRST FOR ANY OPEN HOURS	10 AM - 5 PM Lapidary, Silversmithing, Spheremaking
	6 PM - 9 PM Lapidary	7 PM - 10 PM Lapidary	6 PM - 9 PM Lapidary, Faceting	3 PM - 6 PM Goldsmithing		6 PM - 9 PM Gem Carving

### SPECIAL DATES IN APRIL :

- First Friday Clubhouse In-Person Meeting**  
featuring Ian Snyder • April 4th, Friday • 7:00 pm

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- Special Sale at the Clubhouse: California Minerals from Ian Snyder • April 5th, Saturday • 11:00 am - 3:00 pm**

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- In-Person Instructors Meeting at the Clubhouse with Zoom Option • April 6th, (Note) Sunday • 11:00 am**

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- SF Gem & Mineral Society Club Fair & Open House**  
April 13th, Sunday • 11:00 am - 3:00 pm  
*Contact Tony to reserve a spot: [tonythetm@aol.com](mailto:tonythetm@aol.com)*

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- Board Meeting on Zoom\***  
April 14th, Monday Night • 7:00 pm  
*\*Zoom -Info: [tonythetm@aol.com](mailto:tonythetm@aol.com)*

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- Mineralog May 2025 Submissions Deadline**  
April 16th, Wednesday • 5:00 pm



### CLUB BIRTHDAYS IN APRIL

*Note: Exact birth "DATES" are not shared to protect privacy.*

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|---|---|
| Grace Cho<br>Christina Stenstrom<br>Janet McCandless<br>Annette Tran<br>Nina Adams<br>Anna Danilova<br>April Koh<br>Ellen Offermann<br>Carly Miller<br>Michael Hoffman<br>Peter Shemonsky<br>Laura O'Donovan<br>Elaine Benoit<br>Jeanne Mai<br>Jose Rocha<br>Yacub Totah<br>Preeti Kelapure<br>Herbert Goldstein<br>Ronnie Goodlund<br>Jim Crim<br>Frederic Poirier<br>Diana Stone<br>Erin Elskes<br>Mariana Photiou<br>Sarah Breivis | Tani Hasegawa<br>Alex Lobascoio<br>Heather Rowbury<br>Robert Darrah<br>Lorraine Ortiz<br>Marlene Olivencia<br>Heather McCormick<br>Joe Sulley<br>Rocky Ferrano<br>Sarah Kirkbride<br>Ellen Nadean<br>Sophia Kpaka<br>Paula Frazer<br>Travis Lang<br>Craig Jones<br>Ian Finley<br>Russell Bloomdale<br>Eleanor Coffelt<br>Suzanne Elliott<br>Samantha Ward<br>Elizabeth Lopez<br>Monroe McCormick<br>Melagrito Pacada<br>Magdalene Chan<br>Lynn Magnet |
|---|---|

### WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS FROM MARCH:



- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Debbie Fang<br>Gabrielle Aldem<br>Martha Vallejo<br>Michelle Pusaiea<br>Samantha Setterbo<br>Lindy Robertson | Nicole Palko<br>Meredith Brion<br>Meghan Farley<br>Justin Linebaugh<br>Gregory Wall<br>William Stepka |
|--|---|

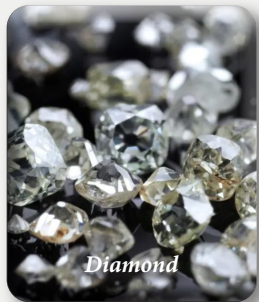


**To add, update or change a calendar event, please contact [mineralog@protonmail.com](mailto:mineralog@protonmail.com)**

## 2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

### OFFICERS

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<i>Librarian</i>	Mariana Photiou	<a href="mailto:parathiraki@gmail.com">parathiraki@gmail.com</a>	415-712-2997



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## THE MINERALOG

We are always grateful for editorial and photographic submissions, especially from our members.

To contribute content, submit story or calendar additions, updates or corrections, please email the Editor:  
[mineralog@protonmail.com](mailto:mineralog@protonmail.com)

Deadline for **May** Mineralog is 5:00 PM **Wednesday, Apr. 16th**

Any submissions or changes received after the deadline will automatically be included in the following month's Mineralog.

Original material published in the Mineralog that is not copyrighted may be reprinted with all due and proper credits.

For Membership Info, contact the Membership Secretary:  
[tonythetm@aol.com](mailto:tonythetm@aol.com)

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Membership Activities Include:

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*An Educational Non-Profit Organization Founded in 1935*

*Member, California Federation of Mineralogical Societies and American Federation of Mineralogical Societies*