

San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society
4134 Judah Street, San Francisco, CA 94122



Join Us in August As We Celebrate 90 Years!

First 3 Weekends in August: See 5 showcases of members' works and collections
See the Jade Clock and Train • Tour the Clubhouse • Become a Member

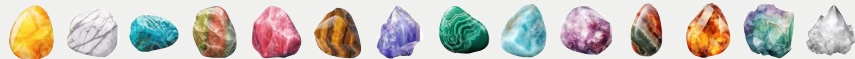
Come to our Friday Night Clubhouse Events: 

Happy Hour at 6 pm – Potluck Food & Drinks • Events start at 7 pm

Friday Aug. 1st • Dance Party

Friday Aug. 8th • Sunset Hike to Ocean Beach (drinks afterward)

Friday Aug. 15th • Karaoke/Sing-Along



Come to our Saturday & Sunday Daytime Clubhouse Events:

Noon - 3 pm both days

Sat. Aug. 2nd

Programs:

- Sharing Club History at Noon
- Activities:*
- Gold Panning Talk & Demonstration 1:30 - 3 pm



Sun. Aug. 3rd

Programs:

- Stone-Work • Rock Hounding in Southern California • Faceting Fun
- Activities:*
- Paint a Rock • Flat Lapidary Demo • Faceting Demo

Sat. Aug. 9th

Programs:

- Healing Power of Stones: A Club Member's Experience
- Photography of minerals
- Activities:*
- Flat Lapidary Demo
- Faceting Demo • Hands-On Lapidary

Sun. Aug. 10th

Programs:

- I won a Gem Cutting Competition
- Quartz • Jade • More planned!
- Activities:*
- Paint a rock • Flat Lapidary Demo • Faceting Demo • Hands-On Lapidary



Sat. Aug. 16th 

Programs:

- Field Trip Talks
- And much more!
- Activities:*
- Paint A Rock • Flat Lapidary Demo • Faceting Demo

Sun. Aug. 17th

Programs:

- Show and Tell Day – You Are the Star of the Show: Bring an item to show and tell, maybe swap, maybe donate to our Raffle Table
- Activities:*
- Buy Tickets for the Raffle Table • 3 pm Drawing For Prizes

Located on the N-Judah Streetcar Line (stops at 46th) • Clubhouse is between 46th & 47th Avenues in San Francisco

NOTE: There's often more detail about club events on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/SFgem.mineral

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Part 158

Masthead by Kevin Anderson



Ninety Years ... WOW!

It's hard to believe, yes our club will be ninety years old this August.

Where have the years gone???

I joined this club when I was twenty? No...thirty? No? Tony, our president at the time looked it up, and it was thirty or something years since I'd joined this club, that was awhile back and now I've lost track again.

When I came to San Francisco in the early seventies I knew no one, so I decided to join a club. I had a roommate and she suggested a fish club. Aquariums, not eating-type fish.

That worked out for a few years, had lots of fun, then the problems started. Not with the fish...the people. Jealousy, bad manners, power grabs...you know, PEOPLE.

I quit the club, joined a flower club. Nice, until the petty bickering, sniping, back stabbing and such started again. PEOPLE! Ahhhhhh!

Later, I took a Gemology class at city college taught by a wonderful woman named Wanda Baczek. She brought us to a club called the San Francisco Gem and Mineral Society!

We were met in the front room by a VERY strange man who could have been the brother of Uncle Fester from the Adams Family. Messy rubber apron, bald head, huge beady eyes, evil grin. The club president.

Theo Steinhauer. He turned out to be a very nice man, and SMART! He showed us the equipment, told us all about the club, OH Boy, I wanted to join. But... I had vowed never to join another club, because of PEOPLE!!! The office politics at work was bad enough, but club politics without a boss to keep people in line was worse.

Still, I really liked this club. It was hard to join back then, you had to go to two general meetings. Then you had to get two members to sponsor you and you brought them with you to a membership meeting. You told them about yourself, and why you'd make a good fit. Then, you filled out the forms. Your bid to be a member went before the next board meeting. If accepted, you were contacted and you paid your fees. Congratulations, you were a MEMBER!

Well, you couldn't just do anything you wanted to do. There was a list of stones you had to cut. Oval cabochons, rectangular, a heart, even a Christian cross. For this you received a certificate and you could learn other lapidary skills. Things were seriously different back then.

As for the people problems...well, they started right up about two weeks after I joined. I had a funeral to go to on the first Saturday club clean-up of my membership. A woman on the board got snippy because I said I couldn't come to the clean-up and I decided, "That's it," I'm quitting.

Obviously I didn't quit. I decided right then that "I" could change. I could learn how to handle these situations. I ignored the snippy comment and later that woman and I became good friends.

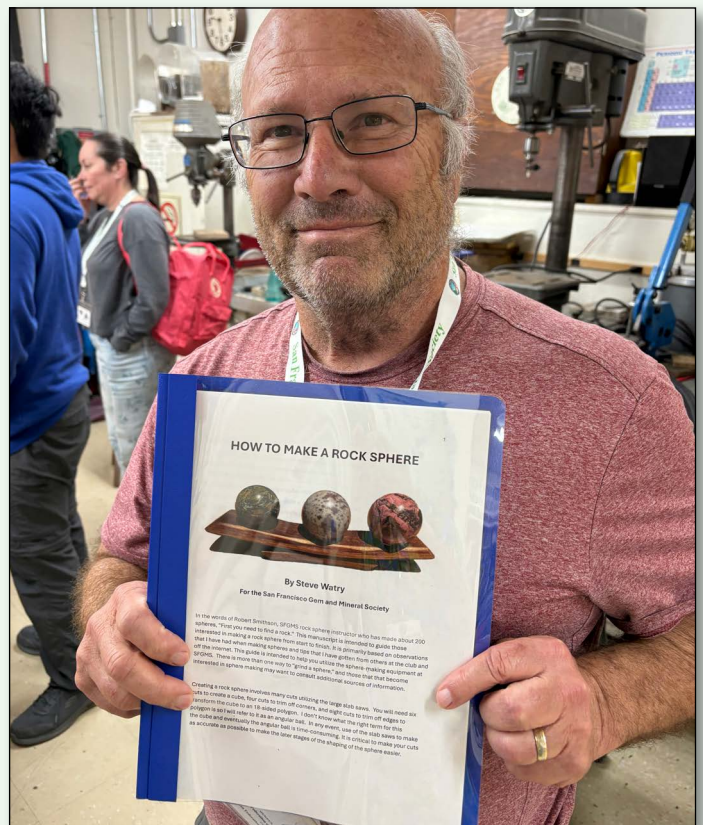
As the years went by there have been many incidents where I clashed with people, many of them funny, some of them awful, but I found ways to handle the problems. I suppose that's what we call growing up.

I participated in all our annual shows. Lots of fun. I became the Entertainment Chairman, lots of fun, really. And, I've been writing this silly column for years. Never meant to, but since the first article I wrote, they said, "Next!" And then, "Next."

Oh, and that flower club I joined... well I gained a lot of weight since I quit, so I rejoined it again, and as I hoped, nobody remembered me. Been having fun with those people for years.

Club Scenes: June's 'Club Introduction 101'

Photos courtesy of Tony DeLeon



Clockwise from above: Silversmithing Instructor Daniel and Club Entertainment Director Dragonfly; Clubmembers John, Kate, and Russell in the silver room watching Daniel at the soldering desk. At Right, Spheremaking Instructor Steve Watry shows off the "How To Make A Rock Sphere" pamphlet he authored for the club. Below Left, Club Instructors Joe, Steve, Daniel, Dragonfly and Club President Kirk Kwiatkowski smile together for the camera. Below Right, attendees at the first "Club Introduction 101" Monday Night Class are eager to be brought up to speed on how we do things here.



SPECIAL ON-GOING CLASS ANNOUNCEMENT:

🌀 *New and Continuing Members are asked to attend* 🌀

**“Club Introduction 101”
Essential Shop Skills & Safety**

4th Monday Every Month; 7-10 pm

***** NEXT CLASS AUGUST 25TH *****

Get a basic introduction. Learn what is required to use the shop and review shop rules.

**Commemorative 90th Anniversary Enamel Pin
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.

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

Important Notice: *From The Club Treasurer*

Dear SFGMS Members,

I would like to share the results of a recent analysis of our shop's financials. For the 12-month period ending June 30, 2025, the shop generated \$8,203 in revenue, compared to \$12,270 in operating expenses. This shortfall highlights the need to review our current fee structure.

To help move the shop toward a break-even point, the Board is considering an increase to the current \$5 daily shop fee to \$10. Before any decisions are made, we would greatly appreciate your input on this matter.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement.

Sincerely,
Andrew Chan, Treasurer, SFGMS

Field Trip: Sunstone Collecting In Oregon

September 19 to September 21
Steven Yukl will Lead the Trip



- **Number of participants – limited to 15**
- **Overnight Accommodations** - Dry camping for free at the Oregon Public Sunstone Collecting Area. Some camp sites have picnic tables. The campground also has an outhouse but no water or electricity. Some fee-dig mines may have space to rent in a cabin or RV. The Spectrum Mine also has a cold shower. Cabins may be available to rent in Plush, OR (about 40 min away). The nearest motel is in Lakeview, OR (at least 1 hr away).
- **Travel** - Field trip members must arrange their own transportation. 4 wheel drive is not needed, but good tires are important. Will need to drive for about 30 min on gravel /dirt roads.
- **Description** - Camp in an area of spectacular scenery in the Oregon high desert. Hunt for facet-grade and capping-grade Oregon sunstone, a unique American gem feldspar found only in Oregon. Collect for free in the public area (mostly small, yellow sunstones) or hunt for rarer colors (schiller, pink, orange, red, bicolor, green, color change) in several fee-dig mines. Collecting methods could include walking the public area, screening ore from piles, or digging in the walls of a mine.
- **Please email Steven Yukl for more information and to register for the trip: steven.yukl@ucsf.edu**

Subject line: “Sunstone Field Trip”

California Events of Interest to Club Members:



Orcutt Mineral Society Show

Start Date: 08/01/2025 End Date: 08/03/2025
Hours: Fri/Sat 10:00-5:00 Sun 10:00-4:00
Venue: Nipomo High School
Address: 525 N Thompson Ave
Nipomo High School, Nipomo, CA 93444
Website: <https://www.oms-inc.org>

Roseville Gem, Jewelry, Fossil & Mineral Show

Start Date: 08/02/2025 End Date: 08/03/2025
Hours: Sat 10:00-5:00 Sun 10:00-4:00
Venue: @the Grounds Roseville - Roebbelen Event Center
Address: 700 Event Center Dr
@the Grounds Roseville - Roebbelen Event Center, Roseville, CA 95678
Website: <http://www.rockrollers.com/show.html>

Contra Costa Crystal Fair

Start Date: 08/09/2025 End Date: 08/10/2025
Venue: Civic Park Community Center
Address: 1375 Civic Drive
Civic Park Community Center, Walnut Creek, CA
Website: <http://www.crystalfair.com>

Tehachapi Valley Gem and Mineral Society

Start Date: 08/16/2025 End Date: 08/17/2025
Hours: 9:00 - 5:00
Venue: Tehachapi Senior Center
Address: 500 E F St
Tehachapi Senior Center, Tehachapi, CA 93561
Website: <http://tvgems.org>

Feather River Lapidary and Mineral Show

Start Date: 09/20/2025 End Date: 09/21/2025
Hours: Sat 9:00 - 5:00 Sun 9:00 - 4:00
Venue: Silver Dollar Fair Grounds
Address: 2357 Fair St
Silver Dollar Fair Grounds, Chico, CA
Website: <http://www.featherriverrocks.org>

Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Show

Start Date: 09/20/2025 End Date: 09/21/2025
Hours: 10:00 - 5:00
Venue: Monterey County Fairgrounds
Address: 2004 Fairground Rd
Monterey County Fairgrounds, Monterey, CA 93940
Website: <http://www.cvgms.rocks>



2025/26 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

The San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society
4134 Judah Street, San Francisco, CA 94122
415-564-4230 • www.sfgms.org

Dear SFGMS Member,

It's time to renew your membership in the San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society. Our membership year runs from October 1st, through September 30th each year. On receipt of your payment a new membership card reflecting your membership status through September 2026 will be mailed to you.

Annual dues are unchanged this year. When paid before October 31, 2025, dues are as follows:

Regular Members..... \$30.00

Associate Members..... \$20.00 (One member of your family must be a regular member)

Junior Members (under 18 years old)..... **\$12.00** (One member of your family must be a regular member)

Important note: Dues indicated above will be subject to late fees beginning November 1st, 2024 (\$10.00 per member)

THIS NOTICE IS FOR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL ONLY.

(IF YOU HAVE A LOCKER IN THE CLUBHOUSE, YOU WILL RECEIVE SEPARATE NOTIFICATION AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR PAYMENT)

Please update all of your contact information • Fill out the form entirely • Print legibly.

Use an envelope to drop your payment into the "Membership Renewal" box near the front door in the clubhouse, or mail your payment to:

**Membership Renewal
The San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society
4134 Judah Street
San Francisco, CA, 94122**

Thank you so much for your support through membership in our society!

Sincerely,

Tony DeLeon, Club President, SFGMS

SFGMS 2025/2026 Membership Renewal:

		MEMBER TYPE		
		Regular	Associate	Junior
Name _____	Birthday _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Name _____	Birthday _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Name _____	Birthday _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Email Address (REQUIRED !) _____			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

*All email addresses will get the Mineralog in color
Help keep our cost down with email - thank you.*

Address _____ Current Phone # _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Mail your check or money order, payable to SFGMS, to: The San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society • 4134 Judah Street • San Francisco, CA 94122

Membership Renewal - Time to pay your club dues!



BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

- Access to a wide variety of equipment for cutting, shaping, and polishing rocks, and making jewelry.
- emailed monthly newsletter
- Affordable instruction by experienced club members in lapidary, beading, intarsia, faceting, silversmithing, and sphere making
- Field trips
- Opportunities to volunteer at events that further the goals of the Society, and are fun
- Monthly lectures by notable experts on topics pertaining to earth sciences and lapidary arts
- Access to extensive gem, mineral, jewelry making, and earth science resource library
- And much more!

Dear Member,

If you have already paid your club dues thank you very much and move on to enjoy the club newsletter.

If you have not paid please flip over this page and find the 2024/25 membership renewal application. Dues are renewable each September.

Yearly Dues - Regular \$30 - Associate \$20 - Junior \$12

Please fill out the renewal application form and mail it to the clubhouse with your check. **On-line payment option will also be sent out by email using "Square" starting mid-August.**

Membership Renewal

**The San Francisco Gem and Mineral Society
4134 Judah Street
San Francisco, CA 94122**

Application and payment can also be dropped off at the clubhouse into the membership renewal box or club's mailbox. Can't print – send me the information requested using your own form.

New membership cards will be issued by mail as once payment is received.

Thank you in advance for you payment and support.

Tony DeLeon, Club President/Membership Chair - tonythetm@aol.com

WEEKLY CLUBHOUSE 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 AUGUST :

- ▶ **Friday Night - 90th Anniversary Events:**
Happy Hour at 6 pm – Events start at 7 pm
 Friday Aug. 1st • Dance Party
 Friday Aug. 8th • Sunset Hike to Ocean Beach (drinks afterward)
 Friday Aug. 15th • Karaoke/Sing-Along

- ▶ **Saturday & Sunday - 90th Anniversary Events:**
Noon - 3 pm both days
 Sat. Aug. 2nd - Sun. Aug. 3rd
 Sat. Aug. 9th - Sun. Aug. 10th
 Sat. Aug. 16th - Sun. Aug. 17th

▶ **NOTE: NO INSTRUCTORS MEETING IN AUGUST**

- ▶ **Board Meeting on Zoom***
August 11th, Monday Night • 7:00 pm
**Zoom -Info: tonythetm@aol.com*

- ▶ **Mineralog September 2025 Submissions Deadline**
August 13th, Wednesday • 5:00 pm

- ▶ **New Member Orientation “Club Introduction 101”**
August 25th, Monday • 7:00 pm



CLUB BIRTHDAYS IN AUGUST

Note: Exact birth “DATES” are not shared to protect privacy.

Andrew Cantino
 Anne MacRae
 Audrey Esquivel
 Catherine Gilbert
 Charles I. Trantham
 Courtney Stack
 Danielle Stephens
 Darlene Diaz
 Doriene Lopez
 Ellie Strube
 Emily Nusbaum
 Emily Free
 Evelyn Cunningham
 Gregory Wall
 Hazel Goforth
 Jacquelyn Paull
 Jalal Clemens
 Janice Whaley
 Jeffrey Katz
 Jen Hung
 Jerry Bales
 Jo Ann Kidwell
 Joel Graham
 John LeBourgeois
 Jon Harman
 Jonathan Smith
 Karen Landry
 Karina Saekow
 Ken Iza Hartman

Kristine DeLeon
 Kyle Denton
 Larry Cannon
 Lauren Frisch
 Lisa Mazuca
 Luke Jaskowski
 Madeline Snyder
 Mario Morales
 May Makubuya
 Megan Farley
 Meredith Brion
 Michael Payne
 Michael Friedman
 Mike Athanasotos
 Nicole Palko
 Peggy Bechtell
 Rani Monoharan
 Robert Stadtmiller
 Robert Shaw
 Sabina Alistar
 Savanna Kunz
 Sebastian Merril-Langen
 Sharon Ghigliazza
 Stella Cook
 Steve Alves
 Tony DeLeon
 YP Lily
 Mok Yuenyee
 Marie Cheng

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS FROM JULY:

Hank Louie
 Kamee Rose Tong
 Laurel Hausslein
 Michelle Moir



To add, update or change a calendar event, please contact mineralog@protonmail.com

2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

OFFICERS

<i>President</i>	Kirk Kwiatkowski	handsofglass33@gmail.com	
<i>Vice President</i>	Bob Kozak	topaz00805@comcast.net	650-554-0251
<i>Treasurer</i>	Andrew Chan	achan123@yahoo.com	
<i>Recording Secretary</i>	Mary Sue Bucher	midnightcloud@hotmail.com	
<i>Corresponding Secretary</i>	David Zandman	davidzandman@gmail.com	
<i>Membership Secretary</i>	Tony DeLeon	tonythetm@aol.com	415-624-7576
<i>Museum Curator</i>	Geno De Hostos	hostos@pacbell.net	415-244-1965
<i>Entertainment Director</i>	Robert Courtney	exlibrys13@yahoo.com	
<i>Librarian</i>	Mariana Photiou	parathiraki@gmail.com	415-712-2997



DIRECTORS ON THE BOARD

Joe Dempsey	dempseygategems@live.com	415-731-2701
Mike Welsh	easyestimate@gmail.com	
Trevor McLaughlin	trevormclaughlin9@gmail.com	
Elizabeth Lopez	lopezelsf@gmail.com	
Robert Courtney	exlibrys13@yahoo.com	
Amanda Ganong	amandaganong@gmail.com	

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<i>Donations</i>	Joe Dempsey	dempseygategems@live.com	415-731-2701
<i>Donations</i>	Bob Kozak	topaz00805@comcast.net	650-554-0251
<i>Federation Liaison</i>	Dylan Mooney	djmooney@sfsu.edu	415-308-8271
<i>Field Trip Chair</i>	Stan Bogosian	sbogosian@aol.com	408-568-2489
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<i>Mineralog Editor</i>	Christopher DeWinter	mineralog@protonmail.com	
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<i>Purchasing</i>	Steve Watry	swatry@comcast.net	
<i>Safety</i>	Bob Kozak	topaz00805@comcast.net	650-554-0251
<i>Shop Foreman</i>	Open		
<i>Show Committee Chair</i>	Tony DeLeon	tonythetm@aol.com	415-624-7576
<i>Website</i>	Christopher DeWinter	mineralog@protonmail.com	

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<i>Editing/Calendar</i>	Christopher DeWinter	mineralog@protonmail.com	

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

Deadline for **September** Mineralog is 5:00 PM **Wednesday, Aug. 13th**

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

SAN FRANCISCO GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.

4134 Judah Street, San Francisco, CA 94122-1125

415-564-4230 • WWW.SF-GMS.ORG

Membership Activities Include:

Earth Sciences, Lapidary, Field Trips, Collecting, Jewelry Making, Classes

An Educational Non-Profit Organization Founded in 1935

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