



JOIN US FOR THE JANUARY GENERAL MEETING

On ZOOM — Friday January 5th at 7pm

## “Young Mineral Collectors Past, Present, and Future”

*With Matthew Metzler*

Dear members and friends of the San Francisco Gem and Mineral Society: Our January program will feature Matthew Metzler, President of Young Mineral Collectors <https://www.youngmineralcollectors.org>.

YMC is an online, global mineral collecting community, in which over 1,700 members from 50+ countries have come together to celebrate mineralogy, share knowledge, and create a positive environment for the newest generations of collectors. All collectors under 40 years of age are welcomed. Our own **Barron Nguyen** is a member.

Originally from Minnesota, Matthew discovered his passion for minerals at a young age and would later pursue a career in geology. Currently he works for Freeport McMoRan’s Safford Operations as a production geologist.



Wherever you are, settle in with a favorite drink or snack and enjoy! After Matthews presentation a general discussion will follow.

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZluduCsrTltGtE9VwdFA4KnYHfZApHxXtQ>

## *Our Website is Live Again!*

*Visit [WWW.SF-GMS.ORG](http://WWW.SF-GMS.ORG) for important Club History, Educational Articles, Newsletters, Galleries and More!*

# MINERAL G



(415) 564-4230

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SAN FRANCISCO GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.



Part 158

Masthead by Kevin Anderson

## The Falling Leaves...

Are drifting around the big rocks in my yard, red, orange and yellow, beautiful things. My friend Suki and I went over to “American Soil and Stone” today not far from my house, to buy...more rocks. They have stones of all sizes, some bigger than your car. We only bought a few that we could carry, beautiful mossy stones for our gardens.

I just got out of the hospital after a two week stay. They wanted to keep me longer, but it seems I might be corrupting the other patients, so they called an UBER and sent me home. I had challenged a couple of the other inmates, I mean patients, to a little wheel chair racing. Why was I there? Well, I got home from our open-house last month, went downstairs to get something, slipped, cut my lip, mashed my nose, wrenched my back and cut a big gash in my head. The best part was the 911 operator’s reaction. I’ve heard that most of the calls 911 gets are ridiculous or boring, so my 911 operator got really, really excited to get a REAL emergency. Especially when I told her my head was bleeding all over the place. “Take a clean towel and hold it to the wound. Press hard to stop the bleeding, we’re sending EMTs to your location dear. Hang in there, you’re going to be alright!!!”

Seems it’s true, only about twenty percent of 911 calls are real emergencies. People call 911 because their neighbor’s trash can is 6 inches off the curb instead of 4. They call 911 because the neighbor’s sprinkler got their grass wet; there’s a pebble in the street and it might trip a kid on a skateboard. And kids call 911 because their parents make them do homework, or the other kids won’t share the LEGO bricks. This goes on all the time.

My sister up in Oregon calls 911 frequently. Once she called them because her microwave popcorn wasn’t

popping. My sister is a nut. She also called me at the same time to scream at me for sending her the popcorn. I heard the EMTs in the background arriving. Seems they HAVE to answer those calls, no choice.

Well, the EMTs got there and tried to wrap my head up, but the bandage kept popping off, so they had to hold it on while they hauled me out to the ambulance. Curious neighbors watched and shouted, “We love you Mary Sue.” Really, I have great neighbors.

The emergency room was crowded, as it was Sunday night in Richmond. They poured some stuff on my head and put about six staples in my scalp. It hurt, but they told me it would hurt worse when they took them out. A little paranoid, I was afraid they might not get the two sides of my scalp lined up exactly and I would look uneven. They sent me off to a recovery hospital the next day, nice place, but the food was totally non-fat with no salt. My first breakfast was a three inch pancake with sludge-like oatmeal. As I was there over Thanksgiving I found out just how bad reconstituted turkey could be. Luckily for me, fellow SFG&M members brought me a delicious REAL turkey dinner.

I had to share the TV with a roommate who claimed to be deaf, hogged the TV remote, and turned the news on at four am every morning, then kept it on till eight pm. On my last night there, I dared to sneak the controller over to my side of the room when she fell asleep. Two minutes later she woke up, screaming for the nurse. “Where’s the TV thing? Where is it? All she ever watched was news and daytime talk shows, and I was forced to watch the same horrible commercials over and over and over. Now that I am home, I scream when those commercials come on.

My room shared a tiny bathroom with the room next door and had doors on both sides of the toilet, with a contraption made of PCV pipe covering the john...weird and too small. So...I took my walker and snuck down the hall to use the nice big staff bathroom when no one was watching.

Every day I was taken to physical therapy for torture. No pain, no healing I was told...and no going home. So I peddled the weird bicycle-wheelchair machine, limped up and down the stair thingy, and made circuit after circuit around the hospital with my walker.

Finally, a nurse took the staples out while demonstrating the procedure for other staff members. It hurt as promised, and didn’t go so well. My head started to bleed again, so they taped me back together and called it good.

Finally...the next day as the UBER driver started to leave, he stopped the car suddenly and said, “Is that a wolf sitting there? Next to the car?”

“No,” I replied, “It’s a coyote, just here to say goodbye.”



# Club Scenes: Year-End Holiday Party Dec. 16th



Photos by Elizabeth Lopez



*You*



*Lola*



*Kevin*



*Jerry*



*Bob*



*Wanda and Tony*



*Barb, Stacey, Loretta and Joseph*



*Bodo and Cassandra*

## 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	9 AM - Noon Lapidary, Silversmithing	10 AM - 5 PM Lapidary	10 AM - 5 PM Lapidary, Silversmithing, Spheremaking
	7 PM - 10 PM Lapidary	7 PM - 10 PM Lapidary	6 PM - 9 PM Lapidary	6 PM - 9 PM Gem Carving		

## SPECIAL DATES IN JANUARY

January 2, Tuesday • 9:00 am  
Clubhouse Reopens after holiday break

January 5, Friday • 7:00 pm  
General Meeting on Zoom

January 6, Saturday • 11:00 am  
Instructors Meeting In-Person at the clubhouse  
*\*Zoom option - Info: [tonythetm@aol.com](mailto:tonythetm@aol.com)*

January 13, Saturday • 10:00 am  
Board Meeting on Zoom  
*\*Zoom Meeting - Info: [tonythetm@aol.com](mailto:tonythetm@aol.com)*

January 17, Sunday • 5:00 pm  
*Mineralog February 2024 Submission Deadline*

January 21, Sunday • 11:00 am - 3:00 pm  
*SF Gem and Mineral Society Fair and Open House*



## BIRTHDAYS IN JANUARY

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

Linda Herbert  
Ron Goodlund  
Wanda Simpson-Baczek  
Ocean Edgar  
Nicole Platania  
Barnabus Tieahun  
Bruce Bartholomew  
Terese Bartholomew  
April Campos  
Chris Johansen  
Robin Crabill  
Alan Felker  
Quoc Vo  
Nicholas Clarke  
Noah Baxter  
Robin Albachten  
Robin Albachten  
Justine Withers  
Nicholas Aiello

Becky Hawk  
Jessica Beavers  
Matthew Giesen  
Kevin Parker  
Andrea Taylor  
Liz Demakos  
Elizabeth Giorgis  
Landis Huffman  
Sandra Soklin  
Jeffery Molno  
Maresha Robinson  
Sandra Talbott  
Amanda Ganong  
Devin Roch  
Mohamed Razik  
Hannah Daniel-Beck  
Judith Hoff  
Peter Tam  
Michael Tan

## NEW MEMBERS FROM DECEMBER

*A warm welcome to the following new members!*



*Helen Chen  
Harsh Patel  
Melissa Scoppa*

## UPCOMING SHOWS

**Antioch Lapidary Club's Jewelry, Gem and Rock Show**  
2/17/2024 - 2/18/2024  
Hours: 10:00-5:00  
Contra Costa County Fairgrounds, 1201 West 10th St.,  
Contra Costa County Fairgrounds, Antioch, CA 94509  
Website: <https://www.antiochlapidaryclub.com>

**Vallejo Gem Show 2023**  
2/24/2024 - 2/25/2024  
Hours: 10:00 - 5:00  
Solano County Fairgrounds, McCormack Hall, 900  
Fairgrounds Dr., Solano County Fairgrounds, McCormack  
Hall, Vallejo, CA 94589  
Website: <https://www.vjgems.org>



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

## 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

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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 **February** Mineralog is 5:00 PM **Sunday, January 17**

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:  
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Membership Activities Include:

**Earth Sciences, Lapidary, Field Trips, Collecting, Jewelry Making, Shows**

*An Educational Non-Profit Organization Founded in 1935*

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