

PLEASE NOTE - THERE WILL BE NO FIRST FRIDAY MEETING IN JANUARY

👉 JOIN US SUNDAY JANUARY 12TH IN PERSON  
AT THE CLUBHOUSE • FROM 4 - 8 PM

## First General Meeting of 2025 Celebrating The Club's 90th Year!

Dear members and friends of the San Francisco Gem and Mineral Society:  
You are cordially invited to our first in-person meeting of the year.

**(Please note that there is no First Friday Program in January.)**

- ✓ Our program features the installation of incoming Club Officers, *and*
- ✓ Presentations by Christopher DeWinter, David Zandman and Bob Kozak



**Christopher DeWinter** shares the club's newly upgraded website - featuring online purchases.



**David Zandman** shares his visit to the Munich, Germany Gem and Mineral show in October 2024.



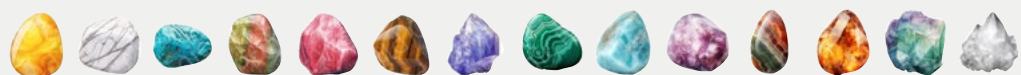
**Bob Kozak** shares his experience and tips for attending the upcoming Tucson, Arizona show.

### EVENT SCHEDULE:

- **4 to 5 pm - Happy Hour** - please bring a beverage to share and enjoy.
- **5 pm Call to Order** - Business Meeting for Club Officer Installations.
- **5:30 pm** - Enjoy food, drink, and conversation.
- **6:15 pm** - Program begins

To make this event successful we need your help to set up and clean up 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.

Come early and of course, parking's hard; but the N Judah street car goes right by the club.



# G



# MINERAL

SAN FRANCISCO GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.

WWW.SF-GMS.ORG

(415) 564-4230



Part 158

*Masthead by Kevin Anderson*

## As I Often Do...

I went over to that cafe in my neighborhood today for tea and a salad. They have good tea over there, and I'm told, good coffee, but I can't drink coffee as it bothers my stomach. When I asked my doctor what I could do about that, he said, "Don't drink the coffee."

It's a nice cheery place, especially appreciated at this dark time of year, and they serve the tea in a large pot with a cup and saucer on an elegant tray. The pot comes with a basket for the tea and, of course, a lid. Well ... it should, but there is a problem which has gone on for many years. They buy new tea pots and then over the next few months the tea holders and the lids disappear.

I've asked the people at the counter what happens to the different parts of the pots and they tell me that the people in the kitchen throw the lids and tea baskets away. Finally, the cafe is forced to buy new tea pots, and the whole process starts over again. One of the older baristas asked me to bring my tea pot up to the front counter after I am finished so that the empty pots don't make it to the kitchen. I have been doing this for several years now and I'm told that I've saved many a tea pot lid. However, it's happening again. I received my tea with a hand-made tea bag, and a saucer on top in place of a lid.

Afterwards, I walked home which took me across Carlson Ave over here in the East Bay where I live. Carlson has several

lanes, the traffic can be bad, and they have a unique system for those of us who have to cross it on foot.

"Crossing Flags." There is a container strapped to a pole on one side of the street full of bright orange flags on sticks. You pick up a flag and wave it in the air as you cross the street. When you get to the other side, you place your flag into the like container on the other side. I've often wondered if I didn't wave a flag as I walked across the street, if the car that hit me would be excused because I wasn't waving an orange flag.

The system seems to work pretty well, the cars for the most part, honor the flags ... but ... the flags gradually disappear. Someone, has the task of adding new flags to the flag holders every few months when it gets down to one or two flags left, after they've been stolen by the &^%\$#\*??? idiots who take them.

This reminds me of my sister. She's not all there and has a mean streak to boot. I hate to admit this, but she blows her nose, and throws the soiled tissue on the floor. Why? Because her care-giver has asked her not to.

Many years ago, when my sister lived in San Francisco, I went over to her apartment with a wonderful little cast-iron grill so several of us could have a cookout on her back porch. Afterwards, I realized I couldn't take the grill home while it was still hot, so I told her I would pick it up next time I visited. No problem, but when I opened the box that she'd packed the grill in, several parts were missing. I called her, of course, and she said, "I didn't think you needed those!" Ruined the whole thing.

We're starting a new year at our wonderful rock club and I've agreed to join the Board Of Directors again. As always, I expect to hear some complaints, like uh ... people abusing the machines. I've heard that one for years. If you catch anyone obviously doing something untoward, tell me. I just turned seventy-six years old, more than three-quarters of a century, and I tell you ... I'm SICK of all the idiots in this world. They've taken over, multiplied, spread out and are creating more idiots.

Okay ... politics aside, Happy New Year, and try to survive with all the teapot lid tossers, crossing flag grabbers, machine abusers and other \$#@!!!\*&^%#! out there.



## **Club Notice: 2024 Club Office Election Results**

Club Officers were elected during the December 14th 2024 Year End Celebration. Officers will be installed during the January 12th 2025 General Meeting. Officers serve a two year term, starting January 1st 2025 and ending December 31st 2026.

✓ **President Kirk Kwiatkowski**

The club's chief executive officer and is expected to preside at all club meetings and at all regular and special meetings of your Executive Committee. To insure the club carries its mission to promote the knowledge of mineralogy, the earth science and the lapidary arts.

✓ **Vice President Bob Kozak**

In charge of our educational program and bringing speakers to our first Friday monthly meetings and any other special event and take charge is the club President is unavailable.

✓ **Recording Secretary Mary Sue Bucher**

Performs the duties by taking minutes and recording action items at all regular and special meetings as needed.

✓ **Corresponding Secretary David Zandman**

Manages correspondence to and from the club at the direction of the board.

✓ **Membership Secretary Tony DeLeon**

Actively recruit new members and renew members and maintains records.

✓ **Treasurer Andrew Chan**

Manage the funds of the club under the directions of the board. With the general funds you will help budget, pay bills and set up special funds that may be required for the club and provide reports to the board.

✓ **Librarian Mariana Photiou**

In charge of all club books, magazines, media, pamphlets and other publications.

✓ **Museum Curator Geno De Hostos**

Make our club a beautiful place to see mineral specimens and work with the public to evaluate gem, rock and mineral donations to the club.

✓ **Entertainment Director Robert Courtney**

Coordinate club events featuring food and drink at club functions.

✓ **Six Directors of the Board:**

**Bill Kaplow, Joe Dempsey, Trevor McLaughlin, Elizabeth Lopez, Robert Courtney, (one open position to be appointed by the club president.)**

Six representatives of the club, who will attend and participate in the monthly meetings and bring ideas to continuously maintain and improve the club.



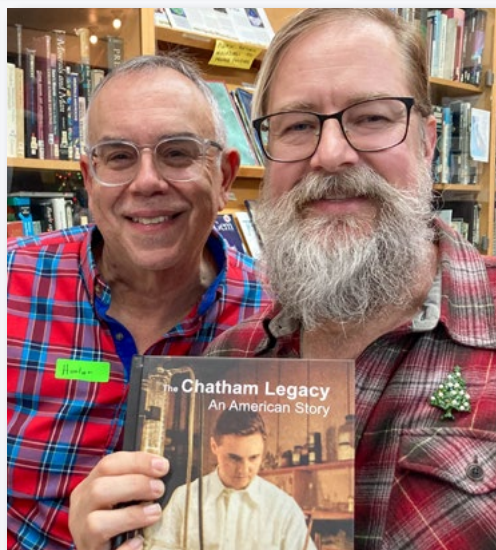
## **Notice: Clubhouse Availability and Scheduling**

*by Tony DeLeon*

The clubhouse is available for open houses, club sales, special classes, and programs to benefit the club and its members. To avoid any conflict with dates or usage, please bring your request for use and date (or dates) to the Board's monthly meeting – the date and time is posted in each Mineralog. Unable to make the meeting? Please contact me or any Board Member with your request. The Board will review your request and notify you of its decision.

# Club Scenes: *Year-End Celebration & December Open House*

Photos courtesy of Tony DeLeon and Liz Lopez



# Year-End Celebration & December Open House

Photos courtesy of Tony DeLeon and Liz Lopez



# A Request From Cassandra Adams Front Room Committee Chair

by Tony DeLeon

In December of 2023, the club approved funds to update the west wall display cabinets. The goal is to match the cabinets on the east side.



◀ Cassandra in front of museum display cases on the east wall of the clubhouse.

This is a big project and Cassandra needs our help. She would like to get any member recommendations for local cabinet-makers, electricians, small residential wood-framing/insulation contractors, and air quality testing companies.

If you have a recommendation, please contact Cassandra Adams by email: [cassadams7@gmail.com](mailto:cassadams7@gmail.com)

## Our Club's Website is Reborn!

Visit <http://www.sf-gms.org>

For many moons the club's website has been in a state of transition. First, it was hijacked by greedy dot.com resellers. Then, we had to change the web address to SF-GMS.ORG to regain ownership control. Then, we began a year-long process of recoding and re-engineering the site, to make it more modern. Finally, we added "store" functionality to our online home, so you can securely purchase membership and day passes (and more!) using a credit card. There will be a short introduction to the site at our January Club Meeting. Join us on Sunday January 12th to learn more.



## Local Upcoming Events of Interest to Club Members:

### January Gemboree! 1/18 - 1/19/2025

Hours: Sat 10:00 am - 6:00 pm Sun 10:00 am - 5:00 pm  
Vendors will have a variety of gems, jewelry, rocks, fossils, beads, books, and lapidary supplies.  
Ongoing demonstrations include faceting, beading, and rock polishing. Showcases and displays from Tule Gem and Mineral Society club members.  
Grab Bags, Treasure Hunt, Wheel of Fortune, Drawings every half hour. Silent Auction.  
Venue: Exeter Veterans Memorial Building  
Address: 324 N Kaweah Ave., Exeter Veterans Memorial Building, Exeter, CA  
Website: <http://www.tulegem.com>



### Antioch Lapidary Club's Jewelry, Gem and Rock Show 2/15 - 2/16/2025

Hours: Sat 10:00 am - 5:00 pm Sun 10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
Venue: Contra Costa County Fairgrounds  
Address: 1201 West 10th Street, Contra Costa County Fairgrounds, Antioch, CA  
Website: <http://www.antiochlapidaryclub.com>

### Vallejo Gem and Mineral Show 2/22 - 2/23/2025

Hours: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm  
Venue: McCormack Hall  
Address: 900 Fairgrounds Dr., McCormack Hall, Vallejo, CA  
Website: <http://www.vjgems.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	Noon- 3 PM Lapidary, Silversmithing,	<b>CLOSED</b>	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 - 9 PM Lapidary, Faceting		

### SPECIAL DATES IN JANUARY AND BEYOND:

- ▶ **NO FIRST FRIDAY MEETING IN JANUARY**
- ▶ **In Person Instructors Meeting with Zoom Option**  
 January 4th, Saturday • 11:00 am
- ▶ **In-Person General Clubhouse Meeting & Potluck**  
**January 12th, Sunday • 4:00 - 8:00 pm**  
**Special Presentations and Officers Installation**
- ▶ **SF Gem & Mineral Society Club Fair & Open House**  
 January 18th, Saturday • 10:00 am - 3:00 pm  
*Contact Tony to reserve a spot: [tonythetm@aol.com](mailto:tonythetm@aol.com)*
- ▶ **Board Meeting on Zoom\***  
 January 20th, Monday Night • 7:00 pm  
*\*Zoom -Info: [tonythetm@aol.com](mailto:tonythetm@aol.com)*
- ▶ **Mineralog January 2025 Submission Deadline**  
 January 22nd, Wednesday • 5:00 pm
- ▶ **In-Person First Friday Clubhouse Meeting & Potluck**  
**“Sea Glass” Presentation and Sale by Jo Fry**  
**February 7th, Friday • 4:00 - 8:00 pm**



### CLUB BIRTHDAYS IN JANUARY

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

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Linda Herbert<br>Ron Goodlund<br>Wanda Simpson-Baczek<br>Ocean Edgar<br>Nicole Platania<br>Barnabus Tieahun<br>Bruce Bartholomew<br>Terese Bartholomew<br>April Campos<br>Chris Johansen<br>Robin Crabill<br>Alan Felker<br>Quoc Vo<br>Nicholas Clarke<br>Noah Baxter<br>Robin Albachten<br>Justine Withers<br>Nicholas Aiello<br>Becky Hawk | Jessica Beavers<br>Matthew Giesen<br>Kevin Parker<br>Andrea Taylor<br>Liz Demakos<br>Elizabeth Giorgis<br>Landis Huffman<br>Sandra Soklin<br>Jeffery Molno<br>Nick Hughes<br>Maresha Robinson<br>Sandra Talbott<br>Amanda Ganong<br>Devin Roch<br>Mohamed Razik<br>Hannah Daniel-Beck<br>Judith Hoff<br>Peter Tam<br>Michael Tan |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

### WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS FROM DECEMBER:

Helen Tran  
 Bo Lu  
 Eugene Lu  
 Geoff Watson  
 Ciel Barbal  
 Amadeo Barbal



**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

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



### DIRECTORS ON THE BOARD

Joe Dempsey	<a href="mailto:dempseygategems@live.com">dempseygategems@live.com</a>	415-731-2701
Bill Kaplow	<a href="mailto:wkaplow@gmail.com">wkaplow@gmail.com</a>	415-722-4939
Trevor McLaughlin	<a href="mailto:trevormclaughlin9@gmail.com">trevormclaughlin9@gmail.com</a>	
Elizabeth Lopez	<a href="mailto:lopezelsf@gmail.com">lopezelsf@gmail.com</a>	
Robert Courtney	<a href="mailto:exlibrys13@yahoo.com">exlibrys13@yahoo.com</a>	

### OPERATIONAL COMMITTEES

<i>Donations</i>	Joe Dempsey	<a href="mailto:dempseygategems@live.com">dempseygategems@live.com</a>	415-731-2701
<i>Donations</i>	Bob Kozak	<a href="mailto:topaz00805@comcast.net">topaz00805@comcast.net</a>	650-554-0251
<i>Federation Liaison</i>	Dylan Mooney	<a href="mailto:djmooney@sfsu.edu">djmooney@sfsu.edu</a>	415-308-8271
<i>Field Trip Chair</i>	Stan Bogosian	<a href="mailto:sbogosian@aol.com">sbogosian@aol.com</a>	408-568-2489
<i>Faceting Instructor</i>	Kirk Kwiatkowski	<a href="mailto:handsofglass33@gmail.com">handsofglass33@gmail.com</a>	
<i>Mineralog Editor</i>	Christopher DeWinter	<a href="mailto:mineralog@protonmail.com">mineralog@protonmail.com</a>	
<i>Mining Property</i>	Stan Bogosian	<a href="mailto:sbogosian@aol.com">sbogosian@aol.com</a>	408-568-2489
<i>Purchasing</i>	Ron Hall	<a href="mailto:ronaldkhall@gmail.com">ronaldkhall@gmail.com</a>	415-531-3595
<i>Safety</i>	Ron Hall	<a href="mailto:ronaldkhall@gmail.com">ronaldkhall@gmail.com</a>	415-531-3595
<i>Shop Foreman</i>	Ron Hall	<a href="mailto:ronaldkhall@gmail.com">ronaldkhall@gmail.com</a>	415-531-3595
<i>Show Committee Chair</i>	Tony DeLeon	<a href="mailto:tonythetm@aol.com">tonythetm@aol.com</a>	415-624-7576
<i>Web Site</i>	Christopher DeWinter	<a href="mailto:mineralog@protonmail.com">mineralog@protonmail.com</a>	

### THE MINERALOG STAFF

<i>Copy Editor/Proofreader</i>	Robin Crabill	<a href="mailto:recses@comcast.net">recses@comcast.net</a>	415-233-1860
<i>Editing/Calendar</i>	Christopher DeWinter	<a href="mailto:mineralog@protonmail.com">mineralog@protonmail.com</a>	

## 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 **Wednesday, Jan. 22nd**

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)

## SAN FRANCISCO GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.

4134 Judah Street, San Francisco, CA 94122-1125

415-564-4230 • [WWW.SF-GMS.ORG](http://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*