

**Pandemic Protocol Relaxed - Come Healthy - Sign In - No Temp Checks - Masks Are Optional**



**JOIN US FOR THE JUNE GENERAL MEETING**

**On ZOOM — Friday June 7th at 7pm**

***“Meteorites: A Hobbyist’s Perspective”  
with Jim Baxter***



**Dear members and friends of the San Francisco Gem and Mineral Society:**  
Our June 2024 First Friday Zoom Program will feature **Jim Baxter**.

Jim will present an introduction to Meteorites—the various types, locations, and history, including ways to identify them. He will attempt to answer all our questions.

Jim is a retired physician who has been collecting minerals since he was 11 years old; he developed an interest in meteorites 20 years ago. He will speak about his adventures chasing and hunting these “rocks from space”.

Jim’s presentation is titled **“Meteorites: A Hobbyist’s Perspective.”**

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

**Register in advance for this meeting:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMuc-CupzIoHN2iRyyoVVzLkbcY2Iqg0ojK>

**SPECIAL DATES IN JUNE 2024:**

**June 7th @ 7 pm - First Friday General Meeting on Zoom**

**June 8th @ 11 am - In person Instructors meeting with Zoom option**

**June 9th @ 11 am to 3 pm - Club Open House**

**June 15th @ 10 am - SFGMS Board Meeting on Zoom**

**MINERAL GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.**



(415) 564-4230

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Part 158

*Masthead by Kevin Anderson*

## Art?

I went to my favorite neighborhood cafe one afternoon and was surprised to see an art opening! The white wine flowed, the tables bore white tablecloths, cool jazz played on the sound system, and the featured “artist” strutted around with a bouquet of flowers in her arms, her face in a rapt expression as she accepted congratulations from her admirers; it was her finest moment. She had created a photo of an egg in the jaws of a plumber’s wrench. A woman kneeled before the photo, explaining to a small child by her side why there was a plumber’s wrench with an egg in its jaws. The piece was entitled “Tension.”

Another one of the featured “artists” at the opening had taken photos of people doing some kind of graffiti on a fence that looked like crude cartoon wolves. And... there were also cafe chairs on the walls hanging upside down with rocks glued to the seats. Upturned vases had more rocks glued to their bottoms that looked like fungus growths. Everything was sooooo HIP!

They change the art at this place every few weeks, each time having an “opening” with new art on the walls. At least it’s not sickening, like “Transgressive Art:” something crude and tasteless that’s intended to shock. Years ago, in college, I remember a poster advertising a showing called, “Yesterday’s Onion.” It was a photo of a naked man’s rear end bent over so you could plainly see the “product” coming out. Ewwww... And remember the

famous San Francisco showing of, “Piss Christ?” It was a crucifix in a jar of...yeah, that other human product. Naturally, they can’t show that kind of art at a cafe. People eat there.

Ever wonder, how much contemporary art actually sells? What happens to all that unsold stuff? Does it end up in a landfill? Does it go to some unfortunate relative? Consider the future...garbage dumps all over the world, brimming with old art that nobody wants. It’s worse than plastic water bottles. And what if the Aliens finally land? What will Mr. Spock and the other extraterrestrials think? They’ll take one look at that stuff and use their neutralizers on us.

I see a dystopian future piled with abstract canvases and photos of eggs being squeezed by plumber’s wrenches. It’s a horrible future.

As I stared at the junk on the walls for a few seconds, I put expensive salad on my plate. (I bought a raw chicken there at their attached grocery store for over twenty dollars) Then it occurred to me—how is it that someone can declare himself to be an “Artist” and that makes him one? Well, I ask you, if I suddenly proclaimed myself to be a plumber, would you let me work on your pipes? But, if I call myself an “Artist,” does that make me an artist? Go figure. Who else can do the same thing? Well...psychics can, many popular singers can, and confidence people of all types do it.

So why do we fall for this stuff??? Is our mass gullibility like mass hysteria? Do we just fall in line and accept the herd opinion no matter how silly it is? Have we no minds of our own??? I credit the need to conform, a need that seems so strong that it cancels out good judgement. If we’re told to admire and accept something, we do so.

I did a bunch of online research. It seems that a great many people DO question the relevancy of contemporary art. People who haven’t figured it out will ask the art pundits to explain WHY something that any child or baboon can make should be called ART?

Wanta know? Read an old story by Hans Christian Anderson called “The Emperor’s New Clothes.” Good sense has always existed, but only in the few.

# Club Scenes: *California Academy of Sciences Tour*

On May 20th Club Member and Instructor Steve Browning treated SFGMS members to a behind the scenes tour of the Geology & Paleontology collections in the California Academy of Sciences. Many thanks to Steve Browning for arranging the tours!



Photo left to right: Steve, Linda, Tani, Crystal, Jose, Kirk, Marie, Dragon Fly, Tony, Mark, Cassandra and Ariel.

## Field Trip: *Tonopah Nevada*

Memorial Day Weekend Club Members had a great time hunting for Turquoise and Variscite.



## 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<br>Lapidary,<br>Silversmithing | 10 AM - 1 PM<br>Lapidary | 9 AM - 10 PM<br>Lapidary,<br>Silversmithing,<br>Spheremaking | 9 AM - Noon<br>Lapidary              | 9 AM - Noon<br>Lapidary,<br>Silversmithing<br>3 - 6 PM<br>Gold/<br>Silversmithing<br>6 PM - 9 PM<br>Gem Carving | 10 AM - 5 PM<br>Lapidary | 10 AM- 5 PM<br>Lapidary,<br>Silversmithing,<br>Spheremaking |
|   | 7 PM - 10 PM<br>Lapidary | 7 PM - 10 PM<br>Lapidary                                     | 6 PM - 9 PM<br>Lapidary,<br>Faceting |   |                          |   |

### SPECIAL DATES IN JUNE

**General Meeting on Zoom**  
June 7th, Friday • 7:00 pm

**Instructors Meeting**  
June 8th, Saturday • 11:00 am

*In-Person at the clubhouse*

*\*Zoom option - Info: [tonythetm@aol.com](mailto:tonythetm@aol.com)*

**SFGMS Club Fair & Open House**  
June 9th, Saturday • 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

*Contact Tony to reserve a spot: [tonythetm@aol.com](mailto:tonythetm@aol.com)*

**Board Meeting**  
June 15th, Saturday • 10:00 am

*In-Person at the clubhouse*

*\*Zoom option - Info: [tonythetm@aol.com](mailto:tonythetm@aol.com)*

**Mineralog July 2024 Submission Deadline**  
June 17th, Monday • 5:00 pm

**Turquoise Sale with Dayton Simmons**  
June 22nd, Saturday • 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

*In-Person at the clubhouse*

**\*\*NOTE: TRAFFIC AND PARKING ADVISORY\*\***

- June 29 to 30th - SF LGBTQ Pride Weekend
- August 9 to 11th - Outside Lands Music Festival
- October 4 to 6th - Hardly Strictly Bluegrass

### CLUB BIRTHDAYS IN JUNE

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

Debra Gilmore  
Sarah Pikal  
Kathy Jane Tull  
Mohammad Rasool  
Anne Salcido  
Daniel Black  
Karki Prameswor  
Barry Pearl  
Yu Chun Cheng  
Chery Lau  
Charlene Puccini  
Robert Smithton  
Tim Darnell  
Kathy Hovland

Paulette Allen  
Anastasia Micheals  
Hugo Torres  
Bill Whetstone  
Roy Leggett  
David Olson  
Jeliza Colorado  
Zoey Weaver  
Carleen Mont-Eton  
Harry White  
Shoshanna Rosenzweig  
Baily Salisbury  
Carmen Finlev  
Leanna Bultema

### UPCOMING SHOWS

#### San Francisco Crystal Fair

6/1 - 6/2/2024. Hours: Sat 10:00-6:00, Sun 10:00-4:00  
SF County Fair Building, 1199 9th Ave., SF.  
50+ vendors. Admission \$14 (12 and under free)  
Website: <http://www.crystalfair.com>

#### Monterey Bay Jade Festival

6/7-6/9/2024. Hours: Fri 12:00-6:00, Sat 10:00-6:00, Sun 10:00-4:00  
Monterey State Historic Park  
Custom House Plaza, Monterey, CA 93940  
Website: <https://www.montereybayjedefestival.org/>

#### Palomar Gem and Mineral Show

6/8-6/9/2024. Hours: Sat 10:00-5:00, Sun 10:00-4:00  
Convention Center at the California Center for the Arts,  
340 N Escondido Blvd, Escondido, CA 92025  
Website: <http://www.palomargem.org/>

### NEW MEMBERS FROM MAY

*A warm welcome to the following new members:*

**Steven Kakiyara**  
**Shivani Pandey**




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



*Dayton Simmons  
Special Turquoise Sale  
At The Clubhouse*

**Saturday, June 22**

 **10 am to 4 pm**

Dayton will be happy to answer your questions about turquoise, and he'll have stones other than turquoise for sale, too!



## 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

### OFFICERS

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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 **July** Mineralog is 5:00 PM **Monday, June 17**

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

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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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