



JOIN US FOR THE JUNE GENERAL MEETING

**In-Person — Friday June 6th at 5:45 pm at the Clubhouse**

## “Turquoise Tidbits” with Dayton Simmons

New Mexico silversmith and turquoise connoisseur Dayton Simmons of **Silver Day Trading Co.** presents **Turquoise Tidbits**, featuring photos and information on interesting and rare items in the world of turquoise. Such things as Turquoise Crystals and the famed Lander Blue Turquoise will be discussed.



Dayton will present a full-blown **Turquoise Open House** the following day, Saturday, June 7th. A full array of NATURAL TURQUOISE Jewelry, Cabochons and Rough Material will be available on Saturday. Both events are free and open to the public.

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 - Dayton Simmons Presentation.

**SATURDAY:** 10 am to 4 pm – Turquoise Open House.

Celebrate 90 extraordinary years with us at our June **Apple Pie Potluck Picnic!** Join us for an inspiring ‘happy hour’ before our guest speaker and presentation. Share your favorite dish, snack or a slice of apple pie, and be part of this momentous occasion. We also need your help to set up and clean up after the event. We look forward to seeing you there!

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Part 158

*Masthead by Kevin Anderson*

## Magic ...

For you trivia fans ... there's a species of orchid out there called the Dracula vampira. That's its actual scientific name. The flowers look like faces and have long fang-like tips hanging down. I once read Bram Stoker's original Dracula, written in 1897, it's a Victorian classic which means "wordy" and a bit hard to follow.

The Occult was really HOT in the Victorian age. People were into spiritualism, mesmerism, clairvoyance, crystal-gazing, mind-reading, every form of the supernatural, paranormal, and everything but normal. I would love to have gone to a seance back then, or a phantasmagoria with all the bells and whistles.

The Victorian Age was also an amazing technological era. Electricity was first produced in the early nineteenth hundreds and many people thought it was actually magic, no kidding. The telephone and wireless telegraph was invented. The Titanic, the biggest ship in the world was created. They could even send long range messages through the air from ship to ship. Titanic sunk anyway.

When I was a kid, my family lived just across the American River from the tiny town of Folsom, east of Sacramento. There exists there one of the very first "Alternating Current" electrical power plants in this country, a real historical marvel. It was the brain-child of Nicola Tesla, one of the world's greatest minds. Tesla was brilliant, but also crazy, and he knew it. He had blackouts, hallucinations, and strange urges; he was the original "Mad

Scientist" of later comic books and movies.

Before his invention, they had only "Direct Current," supposedly invented by Thomas Edison. Direct Current power plants had to be located very close to where the power was needed. It was expensive and much weaker than Alternating Current. For a long time there was a rivalry between Edison and Tesla and his partner, George Westinghouse. They called this the "War of the Currents."

Electricity proved to be dangerous and linemen would get zapped and would fall dead to the pavement. So, Edison ran a campaign to make the public believe that Alternating Current was the villain.

I never liked Edison. He spread lots of misinformation, and he ran an "Invention Shop" with lots of brilliant young people doing the actual inventing which he put his name to. There are lots of stories about that.

What was really disgusting was when Edison started electrocuting dogs and then horses in public demonstrations using his rival's Alternating Current. He even had the Edison Film Company shoot a silent film of Alternating Current electrocuting an elephant.

When an enterprising dentist invented an "Electric Chair" to execute people, Edison promoted it using Alternating Current to freak people out. What a @!%\*\$@!!!.

However, Edison lost the "War of the Currents." Later his company, "Edison's General Electric" was also lost to him. Then, they took his name off and it just became General Electric.

A friend took me back to Folsom over a year ago, I hardly recognized the area, but the power plant is still there, they turned it into a museum. But, I couldn't find our old family farm, it's a housing development now. A word of advice, don't go back ... just remember it as it was.



*Historic River Station B, east of Sacramento, CA*

# Meet Your New Treasurer: *Andrew Chan* ... and a New Way of Doing Things!



*Dear Members,*

I'm honored to introduce myself as your new Treasurer. My name is Andrew Chan, and I'm thrilled to step into this role during such an exciting time for our club. With your support, I'm bringing in a suite of new tools to modernize our financial and membership operations — making everything more secure, more efficient, and more user-friendly for our members.

We've implemented a cloud-based accounting system to improve financial transparency and streamline our internal processes. Alongside this, we've launched a new Customer Relations Management (CRM) membership database that will help us keep better track of membership status, locker rentals, event participation, and more — all in one centralized place.

To make things even easier, we've created new online forms for:

- **New and renewal membership applications**
- **Expense reimbursement requests**
- **Locker rentals and renewals**
- **90th Anniversary Club PIN purchases**

These forms are designed to be mobile-friendly and feed directly into our CRM, ensuring that your information is always up to date.

## **Important Update for Locker Renters**

If you're currently renting a locker, please note that on June 1, 2025, we will be sending out locker renewal invoices via

email. These invoices will include two important links:

- **A secure Square payment link to pay your renewal fee**
- **A link to a locker renewal form, where you'll confirm your information**

Both steps will be necessary to complete your renewal, and the data you submit will be directly entered into our new CRM for accuracy and record-keeping.

I'm excited to bring these changes to life and welcome any feedback as we continue improving our club's operations. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out—I'm here to help.

**With gratitude**

— **Andrew Chan, Treasurer**

## *From: Amanda Ganong*

### **Clubhouse Locker Renewals Rolling Out June 1st**

It's the time of year for clubhouse locker renewals! We want you to have the convenience of what you need at your fingertips, to keep you working on your hobby in lapidary and silversmithing, by utilizing storage at the clubhouse.

For those of you who have lockers, watch for digital invoices rolling into your inbox June 1st – for the 2025-2026 cycle. The email will include a link to secure payments through Square, and a locker renewal form to confirm your locker number and renewal for the year.

Locker fees for this year are \$25 each for the silver room/kitchen, and \$30 each for the larger lockers in the lapidary room. The board voted to raise locker fees at their April meeting for this important clubhouse real estate.

Over the next few months, lockers that have remained unpaid over the last year will be moved into a public storage area. Items that remain unclaimed after a subsequent 3-month period will be donated to the club for sale or auction. If you have a locker that is delinquent in payment, or if you have a locker that you no longer need or would like to share with another club member, please get in touch. Many Thanks!

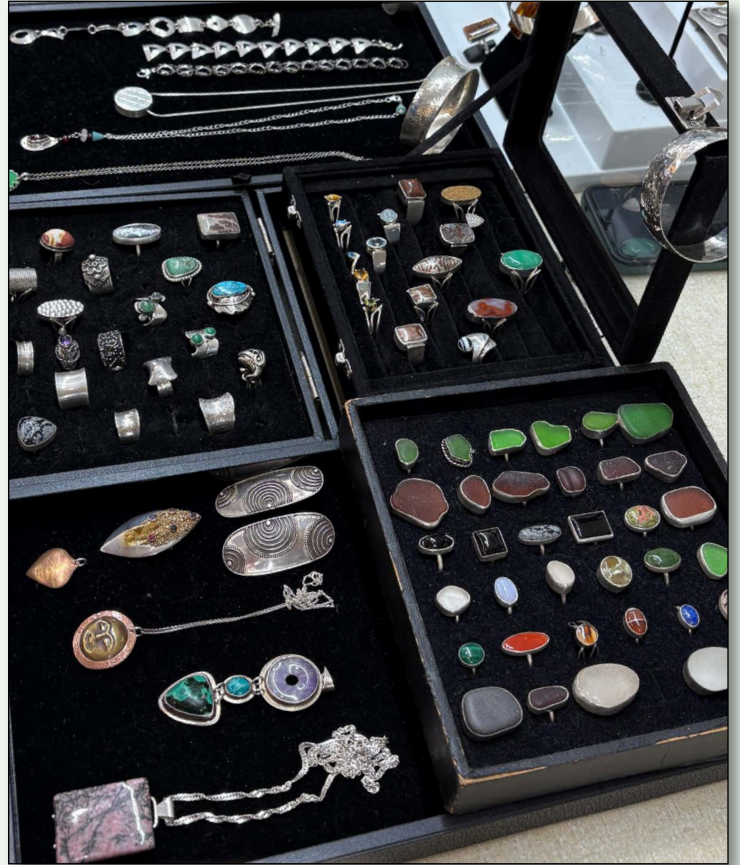
— **Amanda Ganong, SFGS Board Member and Clubhouse Locker Coordinator**

For questions about locker rentals/renewals or to be added to the waiting list for lockers, contact Amanda Ganong at: [amandaganong@gmail.com](mailto:amandaganong@gmail.com).

For information about billing, or to pay your locker dues, contact Andrew Chan at: [achan123@yahoo.com](mailto:achan123@yahoo.com).

# Club Scenes: *May 11th Open House*

Photos courtesy of Tony DeLeon





*From page 4 (left), silversmithing instructor Robin Brandt displays the many beautiful results of her time at the club. Other metal and stone works by club member Gayton Arrigotti are shown (upper right), with Magdalena Chan's multiple craft mediums shown (below left). On this page (above left), renewing member Chelsea Tucker and (above right) Instructor Daniel Black are shown working in the Silver Room, with fine gem and pearl works by Will Ahoy shown (below left). Some refined Agates are displayed on a light box (below right).*



# Clubhouse 90th Year Celebration – Time to put on a show!

by Tony DeLeon, Show Committee Chair



To celebrate the club's ninetieth year, it's the board's vision to have an extended celebration during the first 3 weeks of August with special events during the first 3 weekends. This is a chance to show off our club and raise awareness of what we do for the community.

We are planning to dust off 6 to 8 show cases from previous shows and invite members to populate them with their best work. We would love to see class projects from the lapidary and metalsmithing sessions.

We also invite pieces to be donated to the club so that members and the public can bid on these items with the funds raised benefitting the club. As a reminder, our club is a 501c3 non-profit.

The scheduled dates are August 1-3, 8-10, and 15-17. Be a part of this celebration by joining the show committee. Please contact me at [tonythetm@aol.com](mailto:tonythetm@aol.com) if you want to be part of the planning committee or want to have items displayed.

## 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 during the June Open House on

Sunday June 22nd, 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.)

## NEW CLASS ANNOUNCEMENT

*New and Continuing Members are asked to attend:*

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

**4th Monday Every Month; 7-10 pm**

**\*\*\* BEGINS JUNE 23RD, 2025 \*\*\***

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



## **California Events of Interest to Club Members:**

### **Monterey Bay Jade Festival**

**06/13/2025 - 06/15/2025**

Hours: Fri 12 – 6 Sat 10 – 6 Sun 10-4

Venue: Custom House Plaza, Monterey State Historic Park, Monterey, CA. Free admission. 45+ dealers. See also the 3rd Jade Carving Exhibition & International Jade Summit (Sat. 9-6) with world experts on jade in British Columbia, Guatemala, jadeite gemology & market, and the geology of jade, adjacent to the festival.

**Website:** <https://montereybayjadefestival.org>

### **2025 International Jade Summit at the Monterey Bay Jade Festival**

Saturday, June 14th inside Stanton Center • 10 – 6

The IJS 2025 will feature renowned jade professionals with the goal of educating jade customers and sellers on the science, history and value of jade, therefore drawing in more buyers, and educating jade customers on the science, history and value of both jadeite jade and nephrite jade.

The inaugural 2025 International Jade Summit, presented by Mason-Kay Jade, will be an all-day event for jade sellers, gemologists and appraisers looking to expand their knowledge of jade and the international jade market.

Open to customers and enthusiasts as well, this will be the first jade-centric conference in the United States and is set to take place during the Monterey Bay Jade Festival.

The event will open with a Welcome Breakfast featuring pastries and beverages, and continue with intermittent 50-minute lectures throughout the day. Attendees are encouraged to take breaks between seminars to browse the Georg Schmerholz Jade Carving Exhibition, and shop at the Monterey Bay Jade Festival just steps outside of the conference room.

**<https://montereybayjadefestival.org/2025-international-jade-summit-at-the-mbjf>**

### **Jade Beneath the Sea**

The Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History's newest exhibit tells the story of Big Sur jade, a distinctive local stone that has emerged on the global fine art scene in recent decades. Jade Cove in Big Sur, California, is home to the only known concentrated deposit of quality nephrite jade found underwater.

From its early use by Native peoples to the daring dives for massive boulders and modern conservation efforts, Big Sur jade's journey reflects a deep connection between nature, culture, and art.

Opening in June 2025, the Big Sur Jade exhibition will delve into both our local jade history and, eventually, the jade traditions of other cultures. Jade Beneath the Sea is a partnership with Monterey County jade artists and historians, whose contributions are deeply appreciated. A series of programs related to this five year exhibit will be announced in the future. The exhibit will offer a deeper understanding of how jade has been revered as a sacred mineral throughout time. <https://www.pgmuseum.org/jade>

**Opening Reception: Thu. June 12, 5-7 pm. Free.** Experience the new jade exhibit & meet jade artists! Light refreshments.

**Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History**  
165 Forest Ave, Pacific Grove, CA, 93950  
<https://www.pgmuseum.org>  
Phone: (831) 648-5716



## 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 JUNE :

- First Friday In-Person Clubhouse Meeting**  
Featuring Dayton Simmons • June 6th, Friday • 6:00 pm

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- Dayton Simmons Turquoise Sale at the Clubhouse**  
June 7th, Saturday • 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

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- In-Person Instructors Meeting at the Clubhouse with Zoom Option • June 8th, (Note) Sunday • 11:00 am**  
**\*\*Followed by Shop Cleanup\*\***

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- Board Meeting on Zoom\***  
June 9th, Monday Night • 7:00 pm  
*\*Zoom -Info: [tonythetm@aol.com](mailto:tonythetm@aol.com)*

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- Mineralog July 2025 Submissions Deadline**  
June 18th, Wednesday • 5:00 pm

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- New Member Orientation**  
June 23rd, Monday • 7:00 pm

NOTE: July 4, Wednesday - Clubhouse Closed



### CLUB BIRTHDAYS IN JUNE

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

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Amanda Brixius<br>Anastasia Micheals<br>Anne Salcido<br>Baily Salisbury<br>Barbara Conde<br>Barry Pearl<br>Bill Whetstone<br>Carleen Mont-Eton<br>Carmen Finlev<br>Charlene Puccini<br>Chery Lau<br>Daniel Black<br>David Olson<br>Debra Gilmore<br>Harry White<br>Hugo Torres<br>Jeliza Colorado Jr. | Karki Prameswor<br>Kathy Hovland<br>Kathy Jane Tull<br>Leanna Bultema<br>Lindsay Robertson<br>Mohammad Rasool<br>Nicholas Lerch<br>Nicholas Morante<br>Paulette Allen<br>Robert Smithton<br>Roy Leggitt<br>Sarah Pikal<br>Shoshanna Rosenzweig<br>Tim Darnell<br>Yu Chun Cheng<br>Zoey Weaver |
|---|---|

### WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS FROM MAY:

- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Catherine Fraizer |                    |
| Elisa Borrero     |                    |
| Kehan Chen        | Najibullah Habibi  |
| Larry Tuft        | Nick Dong          |
| Leslie Wasserman  | Rachael Chichester |



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

## 2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

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<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



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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 **Wednesday, Jun. 14th**

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:

**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*