The ROCKETTE

A publication of
the Sequoia Gem
and Mineral Society

SGMS Mission Statement

The Sequoia Gem & Mineral Society serves the community by providing education in the Earth Sciences and training in the lapidary arts and, in doing so, promotes ethical behavior, sound resource stewardship, and good fellowship. The Society fulfills its mission through year-round offerings of field trips, lapidary workshops, outreach presentations, public mineral displays, and monthly informational meetings open to the public.

Member of:

California Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

North Bay Field Trip Association

Exchange bulletins are welcome. You are free to reprint if credit or citation is noted.

Quote
of the month:

"A gem can not be polished without friction, nor a person perfected without trials."

Chinese Proverb

—

A note from SGMS president

Hello fellow SGMS members! We promise that this year will be more interactive, more field trips, better programs, informative Rockette, and fun for all. Every month we can have one person talk 15 min. about a rock. Ideally have each member step up and get their feet wet in public speaking. Don't know about a certain rock? Do some research and let us all know about it...simple as that! Please sign up! I started the ball rolling and told everyone at our last meeting about Alaskan Garnets. Looking for someone for Oct. and Nov.

As always - if you have a rock/mineral that needs identifying - bring it in!

Please, please, please come to our next meeting and participate fully in SGMS!
--Carol Corden, President

Member Spotlight—Peter Adams

Peter Adams is an active member of SGMS, contributing his talents in many areas. He began cutting and polishing rocks around 2005 making cabs and hearts, and began making marbles and eggs about 2009. They are diverse and beautiful…and many are for sale.

He went to high school in Riverside, CA, undergraduate at the University of California, Riverside, and completed at the University of Maryland, College Park with a major in music history and a minor in history His graduate school was at the University of South Dakota, Vermillion where he studied musical instrument history. Then at the University of Maryland, College Park studying library science. He had a Junior Fellowship at the Library of Congress, Music Division, employed by at the Smithsonian Institution, the U.S. Patent Office, Crystal City, VA, employed by Gale Group in Foster City as an indexer, and currently employed at Gallery M in Half Moon Bay selling studio-built furniture. He spent a lot of time volunteering at the Smithsonian Institution, Music Division, Postal History Museum, Washington, DC, and now the California Academy of Science in S.F. Peter returned to CA in 1994 to begin chemo therapy (yuck) and is celebrating 19 years in remission (yea!). . Oh, and he hs authored books about musical instrument history, and edited music from the 1600s. When not busy, he is a beach comber. Of course, when that is done he goes home and collapses from exhaustion.

art

SHOW HELP NEEDED—IT'S NOT TOO EARLY TO GET BUSY!!!

A dealer chairman is needed for next years' show as this will be Preston's last year in this role. The duties of dealer chair: mail out contracts no later than the end of Feb. Send flyers ASAP. You will also be in charge of table layout. Preston has the contract forms and chart for that. Please someone volunteer!!!!

GRAB BAGS-----If you want grab bags for the show I need material to tumble. I will take anything no larger than an inch in size or any slabs that I can break up. The slabs don't have to be quality material just as long as it will take a polish.

Personally I would like to get out of the tumbling business altogether as I have been doing all the tumbling since we have had grab bags. I will donate one tumbler and the grit and will teach you how to use it. You should have a sound proof room as it is quite noisy. Another way to put this is if no one wants to tumble there will be no grab bags. Unless we want to buy already polished stones. More to be said later.--Preston

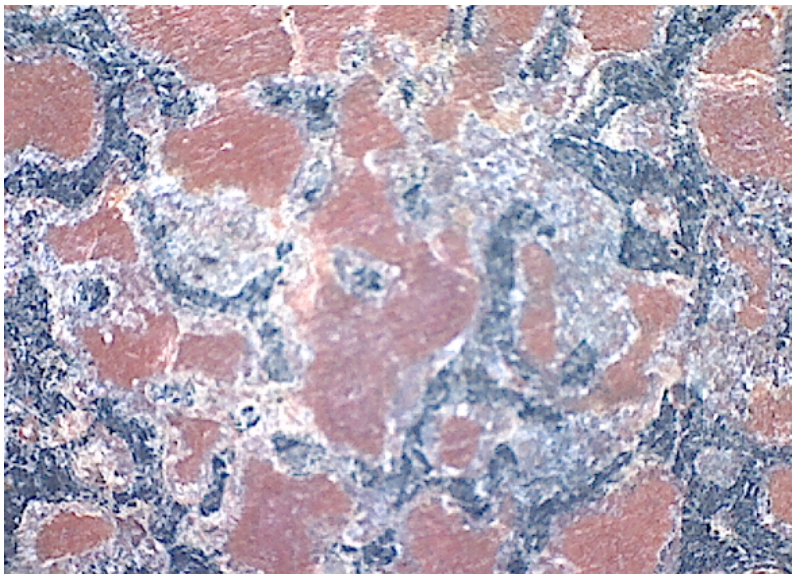
HONORING BIRTHDAYS

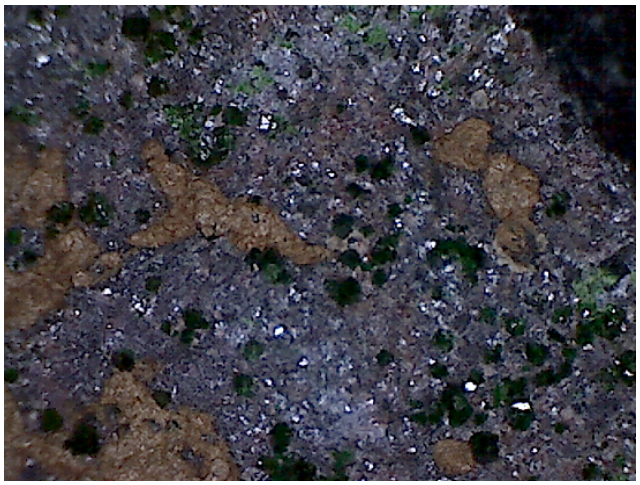
Please email the editor with your birthday and we'll post it for all to see. Nobody has shared a February Birthday, so we mention February 14. St. Valentine's Day. Hope you expressed our appreciation and shared all of your love with friends and family.

If you would like to email the editor with your birthday it will be posted right here!

Next Meeting: Monday, February 23, 7 pm at the Community Activities Building in Redwood City (the usual place!)

What's under the Microscope? Here are some photos taken of the specimens brought to the meeting. Can you identify them?





More information on our January meeting

Little is new in the world except for technology. So, the idea of combining computers, microscopes, and rocks is great fun. For the January meeting of the Sequoia Gem and Mineral Society, Peter Adams showed off a new digital microscope. The microscope is 2 megapixel and can be hooked up to a PC or a MAC with a USB cable. The microscope can take video or pictures on the PC. Peter claims he is still learning how to take video on the MAC. Images taken during his talk appear in this issue of the newsletter on the previous page. Club members were invited to have rocks examined with the microscope, and everyone had great fun listening to the members talk about their rocks—where they were found, how the minerals were formed into the rocks you see today. Peter is trying to get a discount order together for these microscopes and a stand. Please let him know if you are interested in purchasing one.

Paul and Joanne

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Mark your Calendars!

2015 schedule of SGMS meetings and events

GENERAL MEETINGS—

FEB.23, MARCH 16, APRIL 20, MAY 18, JUNE 15, JULY 20, AUGUST 17, SEPT. 21, OCT. 19, NOV. 16.

TIME---7-9 P M. ROOMS 2,3,OR 4. NOT ROOM 5.

The Sequoia Gem and Mineral Society holds its General Meetings from 7-9pm on the third Monday of the month (with exceptions for holidays, or during July and December). Each meeting features a presentation, raffle drawings for specimens, a member Show & Tell, and access to the club library. Guests are welcome to join us!

Community Activities Building

1400 Roosevelt Ave., Redwood City, CA 94062

Mark your calendars for the next SHOW-- SEPT. 18-20.

Sat. 8-5P M , Sun. 8 AM- 9 P M .

We will need volunteers for everything! Set up will be Friday, SEPT. 18, 8 A M- 9 PM.

CLUB PICNIC-----BBQ AREA at CAB SAT. JULY 11 10 A M TO 4 P M .

CHRISTMAS PARTY at CAB ----- FRIDAY DEC. 11. 4- 9 P M

MEMBERSHIP

If you haven't paid your dues yet, please do so ASAP. Bring someone new to our next meeting!

Yearly Membership Dues:

$20 for a single membership, $30 for two members, or $40 for 3 or more members.

CLASSIFIED ADS

New to you! If you have ever been interested in placing an ad to sell your products or services to the club, now you can! Your ad will appear in the newsletter and on our web site with an introductory rate of $20 for 3 months. No larger than 2"x3". Please contact the editor for more information.

SEEKING TRAILER SPACE!

The SGMS trailer holds all of the display cases and supplies we need. Right now we can't find a reasonable place to keep it so hoping you might help out. 27' long, we need a safe, level place to store it for as long as you will allow. Please contact Preston Bingham ASAP.

Lapidary Shop

Our lapidary shop is located at: Little House

800 Middle Avenue, Menlo Park, CA 94025

Beginners welcome! Must be at least 10 yrs. of age. The shop schedule is generally as follows

Wednesday	6-9pm	Preston Bingham & Cathy Phalen, Asst.
Thursday	9-noon	Preston Bingham, Mary Lou & Larmie Froese, Assts.
Thursday	6-9pm	Paul Rose (& Asst. to be named)

Please contact Preston Bingham, Shop Foreman, for currents schedule and prices at 650/368-6351 or preston.bingham@att.net.

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Sequoia Gem and Mineral Society

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http://www.sequoiagemandmineralsociety.org