



# The Rockette

Summer 2018

A Publication of the Sequoia Gem and Mineral Society (SGMS)

P. O. Box 1245, Redwood City, CA 94064

<http://www.sequoiagemandmineralsociety.org>

## Meeting Schedule: Mark your calendars!

Note that most meetings are the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month unless a holiday takes place. See you at 7! Community Activities Building, 1400 Roosevelt Ave., Redwood City, CA 94062

## Next meeting is THIS COMING MONDAY, June 18

7:00 pm

Community Activities Building located at  
1400 Roosevelt in Redwood City

### EVERYTHING OBSIDIAN

is the subject our presenter, Ben Nagler, will be discussing. He has been working with the material for quite some time and has a lot of specimens in his collection. There will be plenty of samples for you to take home!

### FIELD TRIPS AND PROGRAMS!!!!!!

Please offer your expertise in any of these areas!

### PAST MEETING PRESENTATIONS:

**March:** Valerie Concello did a Turquoise Talk. She showed several of the mines in the Southwest, some of which have been locations for past field trips. Many fine examples of jewelry made from turquoise.

### 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.



**April:** Peter Adams showed two videos on Opals in Nevada. He was fortunate to have met an owners of the Bonanza Opal Mine, who was kind enough to give him a tour. He also showed more about opals from the Virgin Valley area. This could be a field trip!

**May:** Doug Gottschlich gave an interesting talk about **Fossils Found In California**. He brought a lot of samples, had a great slide show and had some tips about where to find some fossils in our

local area. I'm thinking a field trip soon? The picture above is of Doug.

## Annual Show

### Our Show is fast approaching!

Harvest of Gems and Minerals show is Friday and Saturday, September 15 and 16.

This will be a little bit of a different show than what we are used to. There will be a lot more gem and jewelry dealers along with the slabs and specimens that you love to buy. There will also be a lot of activities for the children. Please spread the word and volunteer to help! Will also need setup on Friday as well as tear down on Sunday after the show is over.

Volunteers needed at the front for tickets, for grinding stones, for the kitchen, for the kids area, and for displaying your own collections.

## ERUPTIONS! DANGER!!!

### It's all in a normal day for the Pacific Ring of Fire

In Southern Guatemala, the Fuego volcano suddenly erupted without much warning and has ejected deadly pyroclastic flows and a column of ash as high as 19,700 feet. The devastation is widespread, consuming homes, resorts and infrastructure, while hundreds of people are still missing, and over a hundred confirmed dead. This was the biggest eruption there in four decades.

In Hawaii, Kilauea volcano continues it's flow to the ocean. Entire communities have been consumed by the slow moving lava over the past six weeks. It has been erupting for 35 years with no reason to expect it to stop any time soon. The island has experienced earthquakes daily and volcanic explosions have sent ash high into the air.

The sulfur dioxide emissions from a volcano can mix with the oxygen, water vapor and other gases in the atmosphere to cause a haze called "vog." Another term specific to volcanic eruptions is "laze", the by-product of the lava reaching and reacting with the cool water of the ocean. A large laze plume formed where the lava is continuously entering the ocean Both vog and laze are health risks for those in the area and can cause irritation to the lungs, skin, eyes, nose and throat.

There's nothing unusual about any of this, as these volcanoes are located within the Pacific Ring of Fire. This area of unusually high volcanic and seismic activity is a result of the

subduction of oceanic plates beneath the lighter continental plates. The National Geographic states there are over 50 eruptions on our planet monthly. Volcanologists say there are a few volcanoes they are really keeping an eye on. These include Kirishima in Japan, Merapi and Mt. Agung in Indonesia, Oraefajokull in Iceland, Popocatepetl in Mexico and Villarrica in Chile.

**Apply for the Camp Paradise Earth Science Camp held on the 2 weeks around Labor Day. Applications found on the CFMS site. Dates: August 25-September 1, and September 2-8  
A few of us have already signed up, so join us and carpool!**

## North Bay Field Trip Meeting

Our club hosted the North Bay Field Trips in April. It was well attended and several field trips were discussed. Any of our club members may attend a NBFT event. There was so much food and lots of donuts! (apparently a requirement). Val presented her turquoise presentation to the group.

## Field Trip coming up

June 30-July 1 is a trip to the Spider Mine in Trinity County hosted by SFGMS. Contact Stan Bogosian for more information. [sbogosian@aol.com](mailto:sbogosian@aol.com). Or to reserve your space This mine is a great collection place for Rhodonite. The spidery black patterns in the stone give it the name. Some of the rhodonite is combined with white quartz for a very showy effect.

## History Lesson

James Dwight Dana was born February 12, 1813 in Utica, New York. He was a geologist, mineralogist, volcanologist and zoologist. While in High School he discovered an interest in science. In 1830 he went to college at Yale in New Haven, Connecticut. He later taught mathematics at Yale and also worked with Dr. Benjamin Silliman in his chemistry laboratory. For four years he sailed with Captain Charles Wilkes in the Pacific Ocean as part of an official exploration expedition planned and paid for by the United States government. During this expedition he served as the official geologist and mineralogist. It was then that Dana gathered much information for his book on volcanoes. In 1837 he published his famous, *A System of Mineralogy*. This mineralogy book is the basis for mineralogy classes in colleges and universities throughout the world even today (and he wrote it when he was only 24 years old). Today this classic book is in its 23rd Edition (!). Of course it has been updated to the most up-to-date information about mineralogy. He also wrote *A Manual of Mineralogy*, *Manual of Geology*, *Corals and Coral Islands*. The Mineralogical Record Biographical Archive states, "Dana devoted his life to the expansion of scientific knowledge. Dana held membership in every important scientific throughout the world." His son, Edward Salisbury Dana, was also a very accomplished and influential mineralogist. In honor of his many scientific accomplishments, a crater on Mars was named after Dana (and it is called Dana). James Dwight Dana died on April 14, 1895.

From *Mini Miners Monthly*, February 2018 from Diamond Dan Publications and website is [www.diamonddanpublications.net](http://www.diamonddanpublications.net)

**LIFE IS  
ALWAYS  
ROCKY  
WHEN  
YOU'RE A  
GEM**

## **USING GIS OR MOBILE MAPPING APPS**

Ruth Hidalgo From the American Lands Access Association Newsletter, October-December 2017 Via the Minnesota Mineral Club's Rock Rustler News

There are numerous apps for mobile phones that will allow you track your routes and favorite collecting spots. You need not have a separate GPS unit to create maps anymore. These apps work even when you do not have cell service.

My app of choice is Avenza. I started using an iPhone app called Terra Nova well over 15 years ago, and it has evolved into Avenza. I have used the data stored in that app to make several National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) comments. Basically, this is how it works:

You download the app. You select the maps you want to download. Some are free, some you have to purchase. There are now thousands of maps to choose from. You can even download a geological map that will show you where you are and what the geology is around you. I prefer the BLM maps and USGS Topo maps for trail tracking. You have to have internet service to download a map, but not to use the app once the map is downloaded.

When in the field, you open the app and you will be able to see where you are on the map.

You can then choose to record your track or trail as you drive or hike. Save the trail and the next time you go out in the field, just follow the trail on your map and you will know how to get back to that collecting spot. Gone are the days of trying to remember what fork you took or wondering if you're on the right path. You can then export that information to Google Earth or other GIS programs. You can even email it to your friends.

You can also choose to place markers on the map showing collecting areas and use that data the same way.

You can insert a GPS coordinate a friend gave you and see where it is on the map relative to where you are.

You can use the data to easily create maps to attach to your formal NEPA comments. This gives the agency the exact trail you use and shows it to them on their own map. Alternatively, you can export the data to Google Earth or other GIS mapping programs and create maps to attach from there. I used a trail exported to Google Earth to create a map I attached to a formal comment on the West Mojave (WEMO) Travel Management Plan, where the Bureau of Land Management had not included a road that rockhounds use in their inventory. In this way they could see that the road clearly existed, as you could see it on the satellite image in the map I attached.

Nowadays, making formal comments is much easier, thanks to apps like Avenza. If you are not taking advantage of this technology to make your formal comments, give a try. If you are not speaking up because you think it is too complicated, try using this kind of technology. You may find it is easier and less time consuming than you think.

*MWF Newsletter*, March 2018

The Cincinnati Mineral Society

**SGMS:** Unless specified, the meetings will be held at the usual place, 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

New to the Club?

If you would like to have a large or small patch with the logo from the first page, let me know. We have one for you!

If you would like to contact any of our officers, please see our website for their information.

## **OFFICERS**

**President & Web Mistress: Valerie Concello**

**Vice President, NBFT Director & Rockette Editor: Catherine Fraser**

**Treasurer: Doug Gottschlich**

**Secretary: Susan Abellera**

**CFMS- Paul Rose**

**Show Chair: Bill Spence and Bob Simms**

**Programs and Classes: Open**

**Field Trips: Ben Nagler, Doug G, Chuck Trantham**

**Membership, Sunshine and more: Cathy Phalen**

**Library & Historian: Preston Bingham and Cathy Phalen**