



# BRECCIA

Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society  
Volume 73 Number 3, March 2026

## Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show

March 21 & 22, 2026

10:00 am - 5:00 pm Saturday

10:00 am - 4:00 pm Sunday



Educational Exhibits - Rocks that Glow in the dark  
Kids area – open a geode and see what is inside  
How to make Arrowheads - Other demonstrations

**Santa Clara County Fairgrounds**

[www.scvgms.org](http://www.scvgms.org)

[inbox@scvgms.org](mailto:inbox@scvgms.org)

<https://www.facebook.com/santaclaravalleygemandmineralsociety>

Children under 12 free with adult.

Active Duty - Retired Military - Military Dependents - First Responders

Free with valid ID Card **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE**

Boy & Girl Scouts in uniform admitted free

Adults \$8.00

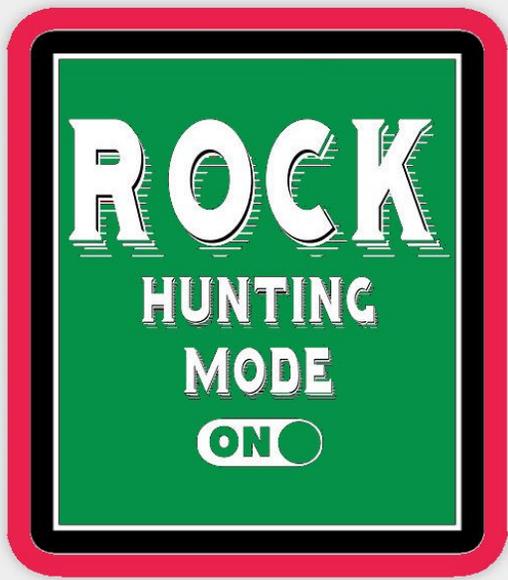
Save \$2.00 when you buy online! [www.scvgms.org](http://www.scvgms.org)

Bring any of our advertising paper or electronic for a \$1.00 off admission

**FREE PARKING**

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## Events

March 21-22

### SCVGMS Annual Show

Santa Clara County Fairgrounds  
344 Tully Rd., San Jose  
Hours: Sat 10–5, Sun 10–4

#### March 24, 6:30 PM: Member Sale

If you have something to sell,  
please contact [Jim Herbold](#).

March 24, 7:30 PM: The General  
Membership Meeting will feature  
Paul Kidman - John Day National  
Fossil Beds trip (without the  
fossils). The Bragging Rights  
theme is "Quartz".

April 7, 7:30 PM: Board Meeting  
on Zoom. All Members are  
welcome to attend. If you do want  
to attend, please contact [Jim  
Herbold](#).

April 28: The General Membership  
Meeting will feature Emilie  
Dunham on Meteorites.

### Annual SCVGMS Picnic

Sunday, June 14, 12–2: at the  
Belwood Cabana Club

## Editor's Message

The big news for March is our Annual Show on March 21 and 22. If you have not yet signed up to help, see Margo's [IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL SHOW!!](#) on page 6. If you help out for at least 4 hours, and [meet the other requirements](#), you can enter the Camp Paradise Drawing.

Our 4 Student Grant Recipients talked about themselves at the February general meeting, and they will be at the Annual Show, as well.

Now that Spring has sprung, [field trips](#) are picking up again. Current trips are as close as Pacines and Jamestown, CA, and as far as the Arizona Petrified Wood National Forest in Arizona.

If you have anything to contribute, the deadline for submissions is the Sunday after each General Meeting.

Do you have anything that other members might enjoy?

Deb Runyan, Breccia Editor

[editor@scvgms.org](mailto:editor@scvgms.org), 408-628-7789

## Rockhound of the Month

Our rockhound of the month is Margo Mosher, for being the Annual Show coordinator!



## Sunshine

Lynn Toschi is scheduled to have elective surgery this month.

We wish him a speedy recovery, and we'll miss him at this year's Show.

If you know of anyone needing some sunshine in their lives, please email Margo Mosher at [margomosher@yahoo.com](mailto:margomosher@yahoo.com).



## Field Trips

Note: Driving times are from Campbell and are approximate.

**March 21–22 (Saturday–Sunday): Jamestown & Bagby CA, 3.5-hours**

Sponsor: Nevada County Gem & Mineral

Materials: Opalite, Magnesite, Mariposite, Quartz crystals, possibly Jade.

Contact: John Dolman, [john95670@yahoo.com](mailto:john95670@yahoo.com), 530-802-3946

**May 1–3 (Friday–Sunday): Arizona Petrified National Forest and Adjacent DoBell Ranch, Holbrook AZ, 13.5-hours**

Sponsors: Calaveras Gem and Mineral Society, Co-Op Field Trips

Park tour. Arizona petrified "picture wood". \$60 fee dig at DoBell Ranch

Contact: Dan Coughlin, [drcough@icloud.com](mailto:drcough@icloud.com), 530-957-2677

**May 9 (Saturday): Clear Creek Management Area, Paicines CA, 3-hours**

Materials: Jadeite, Plasma Agate, Petrified Wood, Serpentine, Druzy Quartz, Cinnabar, Spessartite Garnet

**May 31 (Sunday): Pleiades Fluorite Mine, Austin NV, 8-hours**

Pay to Play Fluorite mine. \$200 per bucket of fluorite.

**June 7 (Sunday): Rainbow Ridge, Virgin Valley NV, 10-hours**

Pay to Play Opal, \$900 for up to 3 adults.

**For questions about field trips**

Contact: Stephen May, [Stephenmay0990@gmail.com](mailto:Stephenmay0990@gmail.com)

Phone: 669-248-3993 or 408-306-6782

## Smile

I thought it was my dryer that was making my clothes shrink.

Turns out it's the refrigerator.

## President's Message

Hi folks! I trust that you are having a fantastic March! I just finished up my taxes this morning and I'm glad that is done (sigh).

As you well know, March is an exciting month for the club—our Annual Show is coming up on the 21st and 22nd. Lots of you will be helping with the effort, and that is certainly appreciated! I visited the Newark show last weekend, now put on by the East Bay Lapidary Club. Things seemed much the same with that show and I'm glad to see that it is continuing in the wake of the dissolution of the Contra Costa club last year. I'm sure our show will be a fantastic event for all who attend.



*The "Alma King"—a 14 cm rhodochrosite crystal that has been at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science for decades. From the Sweet Home Mine in Park County, Colorado. I've not seen it in person since the mid 1990s!*

We recently held what I think is the most exciting general meeting of the year, the one when our grant recipients present to us on their areas of study. We learned a lot about plate tectonics and aquifers this year! I will always argue that these grants that we give out are our most impactful thing that we do each year. I do think that we should split the students up across two meetings next year so each has a bit more time to present and that the meetings stay within normal hours.



*A very angular and translucent lepidolite crystal from Minas Gerais, Brazil. Lepidolite is an ore of lithium.*

I don't have any other news for you this month, so be well, and go play with some rocks! And make sure you get your tax return in on time!

Enjoy!

Jim Herbold  
SCVGMS President

## IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL SHOW!!

Last minute preparations are underway, and remember, it's not too late to volunteer. We especially need members to help set-up for the Show on Friday March 20th, starting at 9AM. Help is needed in the Discovery area, where lots of boxes need to be unwrapped and displayed for sale. **Stephen May** also needs help setting up display cases. Don't forget that if you are a member and would like to show off your collection, a case for you would be perfect. Contact Stephen May or me for more information.

Remember that, if you volunteer to work during the Show or for set up, you will be eligible for the Camp Paradise Drawing. Five days of how to Silversmith, wire wrap, make chainmail and more, plus meals & lodging.

With that said there are a few positions still available during the Show. Call me at 408 439-5639 ASAP. Parking and entry are free if you volunteer.

The Show is great fun with lots to see and purchase. Invite your friends and family.

See you there,

**Margo**

### The 2026 Student Grant Recipients

We have four Student Grant Recipients for this year. They are: **Alex Crouse** from Santa Clara University; and **Travis Fischer, Angelika Jones, and Michae Musick** from SJSU. Each will receive a \$3,000 grant from SCVGMS.

The recipients talked about what they are working on at the February General Meeting, and they will be helping us out at the Gem & Mineral Show.

## New Members

We welcome new members to SCVG&MS!

Steve and Mindy Dellicarpini



## Camp Paradise Drawing

It's time to start thinking about Camp Paradise. The drawing will be held during the April general meeting.

I know from personal experience that the camp is great. Our club pays for room and board and the classes for you and a guest/relative. Some of the special classes like Silver Smithing will have an added materials fee.

The requirements for entering the drawings include:

- ◆ You have attended 3 or more general meetings in the last year.
- ◆ You volunteer 4 hours help at the Show, setting up, or taking it down.
- ◆ You have not been a winner and attended Camp Paradise in the last 3 years.

This is a good time to volunteer for the Show—4 hours will take care of one of the requirements.

Applications are available in this month's Breccia. The deadline for submitting your application is the beginning of the March general meeting.

I'll be talking about Camp Paradise in the February general meeting.

If you have any questions about the camp or the drawing please contact **Missy Fox** at [jfox152@comcast.net](mailto:jfox152@comcast.net) or call 408-356-7711.

## SCVGMS Continuing Education Application 2026

Filling out this application and returning it to Missy Fox enters you into the Continuing Education drawing. The winner receives tickets for two people to attend one of two week-long stays at Camp Paradise at the end of August. The drawing will be held at the **April 28th** general meeting. The SCVGMS Board welcomes you all to fill out the application if you have met the eligibility criteria below:

- ◆ **Attended three or more SCVGMS general meetings in the last year.**
- ◆ **Volunteered four or more hours at the annual show or in preparation for the show.**
- ◆ **Have not been a winner and attended this camp in the last three years.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

What is the best way to contact you? Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please tell us what interests you about this opportunity. We like to hear what inspires people in this hobby. If you are a winner, we would like to share your words with the club members via the Breccia Newsletter. Don't worry, we'll edit for spelling and punctuation.

Why would you like to attend Camp Paradise this coming season? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What is your favorite part of our hobby? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### **Things you need to know:**

- ◆ The drawing will be held at the general meeting on April 28. You do not have to be present to win.
- ◆ Up to five names will be drawn. If, for any reason, the winner is unable to attend the camp, the second person will be contacted, and so forth.
- ◆ The winner is responsible for his/her transportation to/from the camp and any additional material fees for special classes. The tickets include accommodations, meals and classes.
- ◆ To assure your accommodations and meals in one of the Paradise camps, you must contact Jill Atkins, CFMS head of Earth Science camps to make arrangements by **July 1**. Contact information for Jill Atkins can be obtained from Missy Fox, Continuing Education Chair.

**The winner will share his/her camp experience with the club by taking photos, doing a show and tell at a meeting, or writing a short article for the Breccia.**

**Mail or turn forms into Missy Fox, 16344 Shady View Lane, Los Gatos, CA 95032**

**The submission deadline for the Camp Paradise drawing for is before 8:15 PM at the April 28th general meeting.**

**The two dates for the Camp Paradise classes are:**

**Week 1: August 16 to 22, 2026**

**Week 2: August 23 to 29, 2026**

**Questions ??? Contact Missy Fox at [jfox152@comcast.net](mailto:jfox152@comcast.net)**

# Bragging Rights

February's Bragging Rights Theme was "Gemmy".



1. Aquamarine with Muscovite, Pakistan - John Hawk



2. Opal, Ethiopia - Simon G.



3. Gem Silica with Druzy Chrysocolla, Arizona - Jim Fox



4. Glass Diamond - Andrew Georgette



5. Boulder Opal, Queensland, Australia - Unknown

The winner is 1. Aquamarine with Muscovite.

March's Bragging Rights theme is "Quartz".

## Rocks and Minerals of Michigan—Part 3

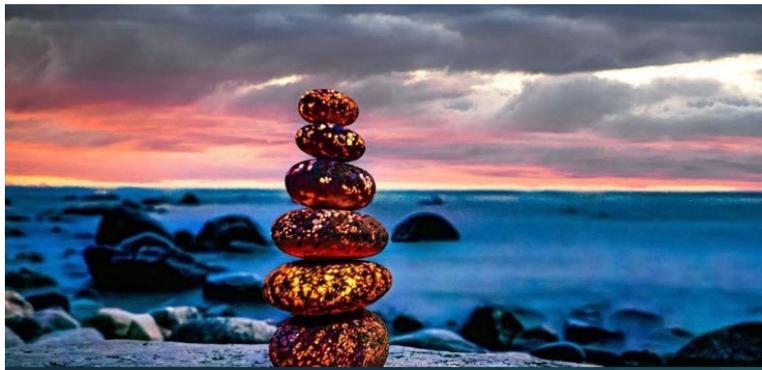
Sonia Dyer, Oct 28, 2025

### Yooperlite (sodalite - rich syenite)



Also sold as emberlite, from UP shore of Lake Superior, mostly north of Newberry.

Sodalite glows at 365nm UV (longwave)



Yooperlite hunting  
Source: michigan.gov

*(Continued on page 11)*

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## Ok, what's a Yooper?

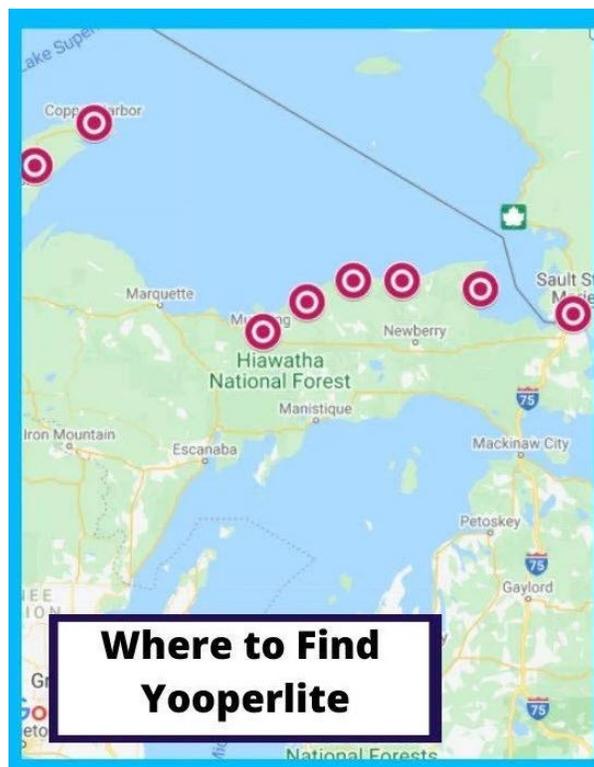
It's slang for a person who lives in the Upper Peninsula (UP) of Michigan. The term Yooperlite is trademarked by the original finder, Erik Rentamaki. So you might see it for sale from other sources as emberlite.



Source: [travelironwood.com](http://travelironwood.com)



Source: Tarah Hoffman on Facebook



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## Petoskey and Charlevoix stones (fossilized coral, 400Mya)



Petoskey and Charlevoix

Map

## Unpolished Petoskey & Charlevoix stones



Petoskey Hexagonaria Percarinata

Source: Wikipedia



Source: [visitcharlevoix.com](http://visitcharlevoix.com)

The End

## Mélange—Part 2

By Prof. Philip R. Kesten, Ph.D.

Unlike quartz, crystals of the mineral pyrite are not long and slender... crystals of pyrite are somewhat blocky. These crystals are found, primarily, in one of two different shapes, either in cubic form (see Fig. 4A.) or as twelve-sided dodecahedrons (see Fig. 4B.). (The most common form of pyrite is a cubic crystal.) Because of its exceptionally smooth, uniform sides and also because of its heft—pyrite is rather dense: a specimen of this crystal can weigh twice as much as many rocks of similar size—this form of pyrite is a favorite among collectors. A crystal of pyrite in the form of a dodecahedron, a blocky shape in which there are twelve faces each with five sides, is, however, also an attractive stone.



*Fig. 4A. A cubic crystal of pyrite, on a matrix.*

[https://m.media-amazon.com/images/I/81M8KWFkoML.AC\\_SX300\\_SY300\\_QL70\\_FMwebp\\_.jpg](https://m.media-amazon.com/images/I/81M8KWFkoML.AC_SX300_SY300_QL70_FMwebp_.jpg)



*Fig. 4B. A crystal of pyrite can take the form of a dodecahedron, with twelve five-sided faces.*

<https://www.mindat.org/imagecache/24/56/04324080017271926027216.jpg>

Some crystals are neither long and slender nor block-like. One fine example—and a favorite of mine—is vanadinite. Vanadinite is most often found in clusters of hexagonal blades, that is, clusters of short, stubby, six-sided crystals. A cluster of vanadinite crystals is shown in Fig. 5.



*Fig. 5. A cluster of vanadinite crystals; each separate crystal is a short, stubby, six-sided blade.*

<https://www.mindat.org/photo-76206.html>

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You might notice that the cluster of vanadinite crystals shown in Fig. 5. is different in a significant way from the clusters of crystals shown in, say, Fig. 2A., Fig. 2B., or Fig. 2C. In those other clusters, the separate crystals seem to emanate from a central location. But in this vanadinite cluster, the separate crystals appear to be piled one on top of the other. Another reason to seek out a specimen of a vanadinite cluster.

It is generally true that minerals that form as separate crystals can also form as clusters. Crystals of minerals such as smoky quartz or epidote, can—and often do—form in clusters as well as single crystals. A single crystal of smoky quartz, for example, is shown in Fig. 6A., and a cluster of smoky quartz crystals is shown in Fig. 6B. And compare this cluster to the single crystal. They look rather similar—there are just a whole lot of them in the cluster! The same is true for other crystals, for example, the single crystal of epidote shown in Fig. 6C., looks much like the separate crystals in the epidote cluster shown in Fig. 6D.



*Fig. 6A. A single smoky quartz crystal.*

<https://www.dakotamatrix.com/images/products/quartz49464a.JPG>



*Fig. 6B. A cluster of smoky quartz crystals.*

[https://truthminerals.com/cdn/shop/products/image\\_dd6273d9-caaf-49d1-a72e-2db90128e58f\\_800x.jpg](https://truthminerals.com/cdn/shop/products/image_dd6273d9-caaf-49d1-a72e-2db90128e58f_800x.jpg)



*Fig. 6C. A single epidote crystal, with some embedded quartz crystals.*

<https://cdn.irocks.com/storage/media/440/conversions/rh02-40a-large.jpg>



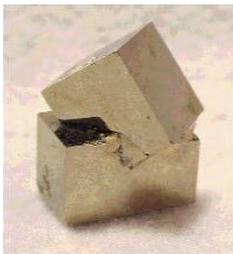
*Fig. 6D. A cluster of epidote crystals.*

<https://minerals.net/MineralImages/epidote-bourg-d-oisans-france.jpg>

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So, yes, crystals can form in clusters like the ones shown in Fig. 6B. and Fig. 6D. —clusters in which many single crystals have grown together. But what about the crystals of pyrite shown in Fig. 7A., or the crystals of staurolite shown in Fig. 7B.? There is more than one single crystal present in each, yet neither of these clusters of crystals has the look and feel of, say, the cluster of smoky quartz crystals shown in Fig. 6B. No, these last two clusters are examples of twinned crystals, rocks that formed when two (or more) crystals became intertwined as they grew. And by the by, it is worth noting that twinned crystals can be comprised of more than two single crystals, as in, for example, the specimen shown in Fig. 7C., in which three pyrite crystals are twinned. Or check out (oh, my!) the spectacular pyrite specimen shown in Fig. 7D., in which many crystals are twinned.



*Fig. 7A. Twinned pyrite crystals.*

<https://www.minerals.net/mineral/pyrite.aspx>



*Fig. 7B. Twinned staurolite crystals.*

<https://geology.com/minerals/photos/staurolite-crystal-twinned.jpg>



*Fig. 7C. Three twinned pyrite crystals.*

[https://www.crystalwiz.com/cdn/shop/products/3\\_360x.jpg](https://www.crystalwiz.com/cdn/shop/products/3_360x.jpg)



*Fig. 7D. Many twinned pyrite crystals.*

[https://i.etsystatic.com/28272208/r/il/7f1a25/5169810027/il\\_1588xN.5169810027\\_4jdu.jpg](https://i.etsystatic.com/28272208/r/il/7f1a25/5169810027/il_1588xN.5169810027_4jdu.jpg)

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Let us now consider the colors of some crystals. As has been suggested a few times in other essays in this compilation, rocks and crystals can be found in all of the colors of the rainbow. (Yes, all of the colors suggested by the name of the famous (although fictitious) scientist Roy G. Biv, whose initials can stand for Red, orange, yellow, Green, Blue, indigo, and violet. Not convinced? Take a look at the images in Fig. 8A., Fig. 8B., Fig. 8C., Fig. 8D., Fig. 8E., Fig. 8F., and Fig. 8G.! These figures show a specimen of, respectively, ruby, citrine, sulfur, green fluorite, lapis lazuli, amethyst, and purple fluorite. Oh, yes: Roy G. Biv!)



*Fig. 8A. A specimen of ruby.*

<https://thumbs.dreamstime.com/b/transparent-png-image-rough-ruby-crystal-376446608.jpg>



*Fig. 8B. A specimen of citrine.*

[https://i.etsystatic.com/7390884/r/il/8bc9f5/5590013292/il\\_794xN.5590013292\\_gyo0.jpg](https://i.etsystatic.com/7390884/r/il/8bc9f5/5590013292/il_794xN.5590013292_gyo0.jpg)



*Fig. 8C. A specimen of sulfur.*

<https://fossilcartel.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/sulfur-specimen-6-v1.jpg>



*Fig. 8D. A specimen of green fluorite.*

<https://www.crystalage.com/img/products/green-fluorite-healing-crystal.jpg>



*Fig. 8E. A specimen of lapis lazuli.*

<https://tse3.mm.bing.net/th/id/OIP.qIs0ULhergFdkIID1f8HQHaFj>

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*Fig. 8F. A specimen of amethyst.*

<https://geology.com/gemstones/amethyst/amethyst-crystals.jpg>



*Fig. 8G. A specimen of purple fluorite.*

<https://rockchasing.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/fluorite-Spirifer-Minerals-1.jpg>

There are, of course, minerals and crystals that display colors other than the ones shown in these last figures. Amazonite, for example, is blue, but a much lighter blue than the specimen of lapis lazuli shown in Fig. 8E. A specimen of amazonite is shown in Fig. 9A. Fire opal (see Fig. 9B.) is orange, but a deeper, more vibrant orange than the color of the specimen of citrine shown in Fig. 8B. And rocks and crystals can also be multicolored, for example, the aptly named rainbow tourmaline shown in Fig. 9C. If you are a keen-eyed reader, you may notice that the order of the colors in a specimen of rainbow tourmaline does not follow the order of the colors in a rainbow. (Sorry!) But nevertheless, if you are a fan of the colors of crystals, well, there is a specimen, or more likely, many specimens, that are aligned with your interests.



*Fig. 9A. A specimen of light blue amazonite.*

<https://www.crystalvaults.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/220098.jpg>

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*Fig. 9B. A specimen of fire opal, a vibrant orange stone.*

<https://thumbs.dreamstime.com/b/raw-noble-opal-fire-gem-stone-isolated-macro-shooting-natural-mineral-white-background-ural-mountains-118888470.jpg>



*Fig. 9C. A specimen of tricolored rainbow tourmaline.*

<https://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/vbQAAOSw5ixh8Ui5/s-1500.jpg>

(To be Continued.)

## Membership Dues for 2026 Are Due

SCVGMS membership dues are due for the year 2026. Your dues are essential to the operation of SCVGMS.

Dues are \$5.00 for Junior, \$20.00 for an individual, and \$30.00 for the household.

You can now easily pay online, at <https://www.scvgms.org/product/membership-dues/>

Or

Pay Frank at a meeting

Or

Send your check to Treasurer, Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society, Box 54, San Jose, CA 95103-0054, or to: Frank Mullaney, 5705 Begonia Drive, San Jose, CA 95124

Thank you.

# Curiosity Rover Discovers Opal Gems on Mars with Clues to Watery Past

By Elizabeth Rayne

Water-rich opals may one day provide a source of water on the Martian surface.



*A view of Gale Crater captured by NASA's Curiosity Mars rover. (Image credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech)*

More than just a shimmering stone, opal—which is rich in water—has now been found in Mars' Gale Crater by NASA's Curiosity Rover.

Martian water ice is abundant at the [poles](#), but not so much at the equator (where Gale Crater is located). NASA's [Curiosity Mars rover](#), which is currently exploring the crater, had previously beamed back data from its [DAN \(Dynamic Albedo of Neutrons\)](#) spectrometer, which was then analyzed by a team of researchers. In both older and newer Curiosity images, they noticed fracture halos, rings of light-colored sediment, that stood out because of their color; further tests proved that the light rock was actually opal.

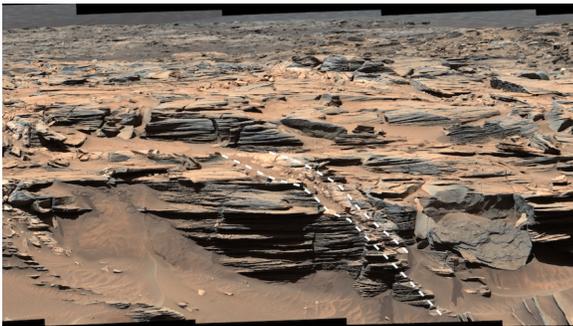
Because opal is predominately composed of water and silica, the presence of this mineral could mean that there was once enough water there to possibly make the depths of these cracks habitable. Furthermore, the opal currently on Mars may one day be able to be harvested for the water stored inside, offering a source of water for any crewed missions to the Red Planet.

Mars is a barren and sun-blasted planet. The amount of [radiation](#) on the planet's surface makes it inhospitable to life as we know it. However, inside subsurface fractures, there is a much darker environment better protected from the intense radiation that is constantly bombarding Gale Carter on the outside. Water-rich opals inside these fractures makes their discovery even more exciting.

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"Seeing that these fracture networks were so widespread and likely chock-full of opal was incredible", research physicist Travis Gabriel, formerly of the University of Arizona, said in a [statement](#). "Given the widespread fracture networks discovered in Gale Crater, it's reasonable to expect that these potentially habitable subsurface conditions extended to many other regions of Gale Crater as well, and perhaps in other regions of Mars. These environments would have formed long after the ancient lakes in Gale Crater dried up."



*Light-toned fracture halos as seen crosscutting the bedrock extend into the subsurface. These fracture networks would have served as safe havens from harsh surface conditions in a modern period on Mars. Photo courtesy Malin Space Science Systems/NASA/JPL-Caltech*

Gabriel and his colleagues think evidence of opal possibly means that the fracture halos on Mars were some of the last places that had an abundance of liquid water, and that Mars may have dried up after they formed.

Opals form from a solution of water and silica. On Earth, solutions like this occur in geysers and hot springs as well as at the bottom of bodies of oceans and other bodies of water. When particles of silica settle at the bottom of the solution, they begin to create an opal. It is possible to harvest water from opals because while they may sparkle, they are not actually minerals.

Minerals have a tightly bound crystalline structure, but the structure of an opal is more loosely bound, meaning water can be extracted from it. Astronauts who explore Mars in the future might have a significant water source in fracture halos if more opal can be found. According to the statement, a fracture halo 1 meter in diameter "could house roughly one to 1.5 gallons of water in the top foot of the surface."

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This find has now given the [Perseverance rover](#) a new focus. If fracture halos containing opal exist on Gale Crater, they may also be somewhere in [Jezero Crater](#), where Perseverance is searching for signs of past life. Jezero Crater is already confirmed to have once been a lake, so there may be more Martian opal waiting to be unearthed.

The research is described in a paper published in the [Journal of Geophysical Research: Planets](#).

Source: <https://www.space.com/mars-opals-water-habitable>

## Website Links

### Your Window to the World of Important Websites

SCVGMS Website: <https://www.scvgms.org/>

SCVGMS Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/santaclaravalleygemandmineralsociety>

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS): <https://www.amfed.org>

American Lands Access Association (ALAA): [www.amlands.org](http://www.amlands.org)

BLM Rockhounding: <https://www.blm.gov/programs/recreation/rockhounding>

California Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CFMS): <https://www.cfmsinc.org/>

Mindat.org (world's largest open database of minerals, rocks, meteorites): <https://www.mindat.org/>

GemKids: <https://gemkids.gia.edu/>

Smithsonian Science How Webcast Archives: <https://naturalhistory.si.edu/education/school-programs/grades-3-5/smithsonian-science-how/smithsonian-science-how-webcast-archives>

Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History: <https://www.youtube.com/@nationalmuseumofnaturalhistory>

## Information on Shows

2026

**March 13-15 – Apple Valley, CA**

Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club  
7 Miles down Stoddard Wells Rd.

Hours: 9-5

Contact: 760-490-8401

Web: <https://vvgmc.org>

**March 14 – Lake Elsinore, CA**

Lake Elsinore Gem & Mineral Society  
32097 Corydon Rd.

Hours: 10-4

Contact: [berylman50@aol.com](mailto:berylman50@aol.com), 909-208-6956

Web: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/530281757337262/>

**March 14-15 – Turlock, CA**

The Mother Lode Mineral Society  
Stanislaus County Fairgrounds  
900 N Broadway

Hours: Sat & Sun 10-5

Contact: [mgibson\\_76@hotmail.com](mailto:mgibson_76@hotmail.com)

Web: [motherlodemineralsociety.com/](http://motherlodemineralsociety.com/)

**March 15 – Fallbrook, CA**

Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society  
123 W. Alvarado St.

Hours: Sun 12-3

Contact: 760-728-1130,  
[info@fgms.org](mailto:info@fgms.org)

Web: <https://fgms.org/>

**March 20-22 – Clovis, CA**

Fresno Gem and Mineral Society  
Clovis Rodeo, 748 Rodeo Dr

Hours: Fri & Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4

Web: <https://fgms.rocks/>

**March 21-22 – San Jose, CA**

SCVGMS Annual Show  
Santa Clara County Fairgrounds  
344 Tully Rd.

Hours: Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4

Contact: 408-265-1422

Web: <https://www.scvgms.org> or  
<https://www.facebook.com/santaclaravalleygemandmineralsociety>

**March 28-29 – Angel's Camp, CA**

Calaveras Gem & Mineral Society  
Calaveras County Fairgrounds  
2456 Gun Club Rd

Hours: Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4

Web: [calaverasgemandmineral.net/](http://calaverasgemandmineral.net/)

**March 28-29 – Lancaster, CA**

Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral Club  
Antelope Valley Fairgrounds,

*(Continued on page 23)*

2551 W Ave H

Hours: Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4

Contact: [marylandoriele@gmail.com](mailto:marylandoriele@gmail.com)

Web: <https://AVGem.weebly.com>

**March 28-29 – Lemoore, CA**

Lemoore Gem and Mineral Club

Trinity Hall, 470 Champion St.

Hours: Sat 10-6, Sun 10-4

Contact:

[lemooregemandmineralclub@gmail.com](mailto:lemooregemandmineralclub@gmail.com)

Web: [facebook.com/AndLemoore/](https://www.facebook.com/AndLemoore/)

**March 28-29 – Torrance, CA**

South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society

Ken Miller Recreation Center

3341 Torrance Blvd

Hours: Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4

Web: <https://southbaylapidaryandmineralsociety.com>

**April 1-5 – Joshua Tree, CA**

Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral Club

Joshua Tree Lake RV & Campground

2601 Sunfair Rd

Hours: Wed-Sat 9-5, Sun 9-4pm

Web: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1620716395007100>

**April 8-19 – Thousand Oaks, CA**

Conejo Gem and Mineral Club

Borchard Community Center

190 N. Reino Road

Hours: Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4

Web: [www.CGAMC.org](http://www.CGAMC.org)

**April 11-12 – Mariposa, CA**

Mariposa Gem and Mineral Club

Mariposa County Fairgrounds, 5007 Fairgrounds Rd.

Hours: Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4

Contact: [mgmc@sti.net](mailto:mgmc@sti.net)

Web: [mariposagemclub.org/](http://mariposagemclub.org/)

**April 11-12 – Placerville, CA**

El Dorado County Mineral and Gem Society

Placerville Fairgrounds, 100 Placerville Dr.

Contact: 530-676-2472,  
[office@edcmgs.org](mailto:office@edcmgs.org)

Web: <https://edcmgs.org>

**April 18 - Lodi, CA**

Lodi Gem & Mineral Society

Tailgate and Rock Swap

Grape Festival Fairgrounds

Hours: 8:30-3:30

Contact: [ambersmithlmft@proton.me](mailto:ambersmithlmft@proton.me),  
209-329-6217

MOTHER LODE MINERAL SOCIETY

*Presents the*

60<sup>th</sup> Annual

# TURLOCK ROCK & GEM SHOW

March 14-15, 2026 | Sat.- Sun., 10AM-5PM

60<sup>th</sup>  
Annual



\*Family Event

\*Children's Activities

ROCKS | MINERALS | FOSSILS

Big Fluorescent Room | Demonstrations

Rock Sales | Geode Cutting | Gold Panning

Touch and See Table | Jewelry, Beads & Tools

ISIS the Velociraptor | Food Court | Lapidary

Admission \$8 -12 and under free wih paid adult

Stanislaus County Fairrounds, 900 North Broadway, Turlock

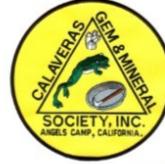
[www.turlockgemshow.com](http://www.turlockgemshow.com)

*Calaveras Gem & Mineral Society's*

# 2026 GEM & JEWELRY



# SHOW & SALE



## MARCH 28 & 29

**Adults \$ 7**

**Kids FREE**

**12 & under with Paid Adult**

**SAT 10 - 5**

**SUN 10 - 4**

**FREE Parking**

**FREE Shuttle**

**From Gate to Show**

**EXPANDED VENUE  
THREE  
BUILDINGS!!!**

**FOOD & BEVERAGES ONSITE!**



## GREAT FAMILY FUN!

Calaveras County Fairgrounds • 2456 Gun Club Rd • Angels Camp, CA

**OVER 20 DEALERS**

SILENT AUCTION

PRIZE DRAWING

DEMONSTRATIONS

KIDS' ZONE

JEWELRY

GEMS

MINERALS

BEADS

EXHIBITS

SNACK BAR

**...AND MORE!!!**

Calaveras Gem and Mineral Society is a 501c3 Non-profit Organization

[www.calaverasgemandmineral.net](http://www.calaverasgemandmineral.net)

## SCVGMS ELECTED OFFICERS

President: Jim Herbold, 650-743-3254  
Vice President: Stephen May, 408-306-6782  
Secretary: Cynthia Porter, 408-978-5848  
Treasurer: Frank Mullaney, 408-691-2656

## Board Members at Large

Jim Fox, 408-356-7711  
Missy Fox, 408-356-7711  
Paul Kidman, 408-356-4995 (Alternate Federation Director)  
Cathy May, 408-248-3993  
Deb Runyan, 408-628-7789  
Michele Smith, 408-374-1897

## SCVGMS COMMITTEE HEADS

Bragging Rights Chair: Cesar Nuñez  
Breccia Editor: Deb Runyan  
Donation Receiving Committee Chair: Michele Smith  
Fairgrounds Booth Chair: Michele Smith  
Fairgrounds Liaison: Frank Mullaney  
Fairgrounds Volunteer Coordinator: Margo Mosher  
Field Trip Coordinator: Stephen May  
Founder's Day Bingo: Sonia Dyer  
Founder's Day Picnic Chair: Jim Herbold  
Founder's Day Raffle: TBD  
Hospitality: Margo Mosher  
Installation Dinner: TBD  
Member Displays: TBD  
Refreshments: TBD  
Show Chair: Margo Mosher  
Silent Auction: TBD  
Sunshine: Margo Mosher  
Trophies: Frank Mullaney

## Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society

P.O. Box 54, San Jose, CA 95103-0054

Website: [www.scvgms.org](http://www.scvgms.org)

Email: [inbox@scvgms.org](mailto:inbox@scvgms.org)

Phone Number [408-265-1422](tel:408-265-1422)

Like us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/santaclaravalleygemandmineralsociety>

## An Invitation

This society is pleased to invite guests to attend general meetings, study groups, and field trips. **General meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of every month with meet and greet time beginning at 7:00 followed by the meeting at 7:30 PM at 100 Belwood Gateway (the Cabana Club), Los Gatos, CA 95032.** Belwood Gateway is just south of Blossom Hill Road between Leigh Avenue and Harwood Road.

**Our Society's Purpose:** The inculcation of a love of rocks and minerals by the furtherance of members' interests in the earth sciences and by education in all facets of related educational activities with the promotion of good fellowship, proper ethics, and conduct.

**Our Membership Requirements:** Attendance at two general meetings within twelve months.

This society is a member of the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CFMS) and is affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS).

**Our Newsletter, the Breccia,** is published 11 times annually. The deadline for all articles is the Sunday after each general meeting. The Breccia editor is **Deb Runyan** who may be contacted by email at [editor@scvgms.org](mailto:editor@scvgms.org) and by phone at 408-628-7789. The Breccia is proofread by **Pat Speece** and **Sonia Dyer**.

**Exchange bulletins** may be emailed to [editor@scvgms.org](mailto:editor@scvgms.org). Permission to copy is freely granted to American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) affiliated clubs when proper credit is given.