



Wickenburg Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 20375, Wickenburg, Arizona, 85358
E-Mail – wickengburggms@hotmail.com
www.wickenburggms.org

*The purpose of this organization shall be to educate and to provide fellowship for people interested in rocks and minerals; to foster love and appreciation of minerals, rocks, gems, and the Earth..
Membership shall be open to all interested people.*

Gem of the Month

In ancient times, all brown crystals were called Topaz. Historical references to topaz were probably more often to chrysoberyl or peridot. Due to its similarity to topaz (& lower value), a variety of Quartz, Citrine has been included as a birthstone for November.

TOPAZ (aluminum fluorine silicate hydroxide) is often golden brown, although it is found as colorless, yellow, red-orange, gray, yellow, green, pink, or rarely blue crystals (blue topaz stones are almost always irradiated and heat-treated). The name derives from the Greek *topazios*, referring to any yellow stone; and to the Sanskrit *tapas*, meaning heat, and Hebrew *tapooz*, for orange. It is associated with felsic rocks — (granite pegmatites and in vapor cavities of rhyolite).

Crystal System - Orthorhombic
Hardness - 8
Luster - Vitreous
Streak - White
Specific Gravity - 3.49-3.57
Fluorescent - LW cream; SW golden yellow

LORE: Topaz was once thought to cool hot water or anger; to strengthen one's mind and prevent mental illness; to ward off sudden death; to treat asthma and insomnia when added to wine; and to improve vision.



*Beautiful sherry-colored topaz crystals from Topaz Mt., Utah
The crystals formed directly from hot vapors permeating the gas cavities within the light gray 6-7 my old Topaz Mountain Rhyolite. These crystals fade to clear in sunlight.
Photo by Stan Celestian*

Continued on page 3 →

Note the time change for the December meeting — Christmas Party announcement on page 2

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Jason Munger
Daniel Romans
Larry Wilkinson

WGMS GEM & MINERAL SHOW COMING SOON!

Saturday & Sunday, November 30-December 1

PLEASE volunteer to help with this year's show!
Just 2 hours (or any time) you can spare will contribute enormously to the success of our signature event. Consider helping out at any of the following jobs:

- ◆ Assemble Grab Bags (Nov 20-see minutes)
 - ◆ Set up Friday, November 29, 7am
 - ◆ Sell Raffle Tickets
 - ◆ Hand out Door Prize Tickets
 - ◆ Silent auction
 - ◆ Best Rock Table
 - ◆ Kids' Room
 - ◆ Grab bags and Spinning Wheel
 - ◆ Display cases
- ◆ Tear down/cleanup Sunday, December 1

DUES ARE DUE JANUARY 1ST

Please send due \$ to:
WGMS
PO Box 20375
Wickenburg, AZ 85358

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Meeting Minutes—November 8, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Steve Hill. There were 7 guests with a total of 34 people present. New members Jason Munger and Daniel Romans were welcomed. The minutes from the October meeting were read and approved. The treasurer report was given by Debbie Keiser and approved.

Lucille (Show Co-Chair) asked for people interested in club tee shirts to sign up to get them ordered before the show. Advertising is all in place, we just need members to hand out flyers. Show set up will be at 7am Friday Nov 29. Lucille encouraged everyone to sign up for 2 hour shifts working at the front table selling raffle tickets, handing out door prize tickets, working in the kids' room, or the Best Rock Contest. Joyce Ramage made over 100 cloth grab bags to be sold at the show. There will be a get together at Beth's house to fill the bags with rocks on Nov. 20.

Steve reported that the web site is up. (wickenburgms.org) but is still being worked on. The field trips: Dale is putting a calendar together and asking members to each lead a trip. It can be any day or time of the week, just plan outings. Debbie will be leading the first field trip on Friday Nov 15th to the Congress School Rock Walk at 1:30.

There will also be a trip to the Club's Claim near Stanton on November 24th. Meeting at the Stanton flag pole at 10:30. A lunch of hamburgers and hotdogs will be provided by the Stanton club, just bring a dish to share. Bill and Karen Coulter will be leading.

Stan Celestian will be taking a group out to Camp Verde on December 15th. Details will be available at the next meeting.

Dale will be leading a trip out to the Dragon Mine (east of Morristown) on January 12th. Mark your calendar of these upcoming trips.

Dave Perry will be having a class on making Gem Trees. The classes will be held prior to the Feb 7th and March 14th meeting starting at 4:30. Please sign up so we can have enough materials ordered for everyone.

The December 6th meeting will be at 6:00. It will be a Christmas Potluck dinner. There will be turkey and ham provided by the club. We will also be having a White Elephant gift exchange. Bring a wrapped gift and a dish of food to share. We will also be having election of officers at this meeting. The secretary is the only officer that will not be serving another year. Chair positions will be filled by the new board of officers.

....minutes continued:

Six people participated in the show and tell, with Bill Coulter winning the drawing.

Door prizes were awarded to John and Leslie Steller, Barbara Hurst, and Joyce Ramage.

Next meeting will be December 6th at 6:00.

Respectively submitted:



Christmas Party December 6, 2013

6:00 pm

- **Ham and turkey
provided by the club**
- **Please bring a side
dish &/or dessert
to share**
- **Bring something for
a White Elephant
gift**

.....Gem of the Month continued

CITRINE (silicon oxide) is a yellow, yellow-orange, greenish yellow, to golden brown variety of quartz. It's name derives from the French word for lemon, *citrin*.

Natural citrine's color is often caused by atomic aluminum and irradiation-induced color centers (offset electrons/disrupted atomic structure that changes the way light interacts with the crystals), similar to and often in association with smoky quartz. However, rarely does citrine occur naturally.

The vast majority of citrine is created by heating amethyst (a purple variety of quartz). In this case, the color is caused by included iron atoms.

Crystal System - Trigonal
Hardness - 7
Luster - Vitreous
Streak - White
Specific Gravity - 2.65-2.66

LORE: Citrine has been called the "Merchant's Stone" for its attributed quality of attracting and maintaining wealth and prosperity. It has also been thought to attract love, happiness and family/interpersonal harmony. Citrine has been also said to protect against plague, skin diseases, snake bite, kidney afflictions, digestive and muscular disorders, and evil thought.

References: *Wikipedia, American Gem Society, Earth-Sky.org, controverscial.com, Mindat, birthstones-bythemoths.net.*

UPCOMING WGMS FIELD TRIPS

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15

WHERE: Congress Elementary School

WHEN: 1:30 pm — meet at the school

WHY: To get a preview of the Congress Rock Walk (see story on page 4)

LEADER: Debra Keiser

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24

WHERE: Club claim near Stanton

WHEN: Meet at Stanton flag pole at 10:30 am

WHY: to become acquainted with the claim

LEADER: Bill and Karen Coulter

POTLUCK: Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided by the Stanton club. Please bring a side dish to share.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 — tentative

WHERE: Camp Verde

WHEN: TBA

WHY: Collect pseudomorphs after glauberite

LEADER: Stan Celestian

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

WHERE: Dragon Mine

WHEN: TBA

WHY: To collect pegmatite minerals (feldspar, lilac muscovite, tourmaline....)

LEADER: Dale Keiser

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7 & MARCH 14

WHERE: Coffinger Park banquet room, Wickenburg

WHEN: 4:30 pm

WHY: To make Gem Trees

LEADER: Dave Perry

SIGN UP TO ENSURE ADEQUATE MATERIALS!

If there is somewhere you would like to go or something you would like to collect, tell your officers — or volunteer to lead a trip!

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Have a geological interest? Been somewhere interesting? Collected some great material? Write a short story (pictures would be great).

Deadline for the newsletter is the 20th of the month

Mail or E mail submissions to:
Susan Celestian, editor
6415 N 183rd Av
Waddell, AZ 85355
azrocklady@gmail.com

Wickenburg Gem and Mineral Society is a member of the following:



ROCK WALK OPENS IN CONGRESS

Dale and Debra Keiser have volunteered their time, toil, and expertise to develop an interactive geological experience for the Congress Elementary School.

They have installed 80 large numbered rock, mineral and fossil specimens, with 47 metal 'labels'. A 24-page written narrative describes each specimen and puts them in geological perspective. In the future, students will be trained to lead tours for their peers, parents and visiting school groups.



Students of Congress Elementary School help install signage along the Rock Walk.



Photos by Debra Keiser



Dale Keiser explains to students the significance of one of the rocks on the Congress Elementary Rock Walk. In the foreground, is a large ventifact from near Palm Springs, California.

UPCOMING AZ MINERAL SHOWS

November 16-17—Payson, AZ

Payson Rimstones Rock Club; Mazatzal Hotel & Casino Event Center; Hwy. 87 Mile Marker 251; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; adults \$2, children (under 12) free; contact Margaret Jones, PO Box 884, Pine, AZ 85544, (928) 970-0857; e-mail: margieaberry@gmail.com

November 30-1 - Wickenburg, AZ

Wickenburg Gem & Mineral Show; Hassayampa Elementary School; 251 S. Tegner St.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; free admission; contact Beth Myerson, 21825 W. Date Creek Rd., Wickenburg, AZ 85390, (480) 540-2318; e-mail: myerbd@gmail.com

January 3-12—Quartzsite, AZ

Tyson Wells Enterprises Inc.; Tyson Wells Show Grounds; 100 W. Kuehn St.; Daily 9-5; free admission; dealers from around the world; contact Kym Scott, PO Box 60, Quartzsite, AZ 85346, (928) 927-6364; e-mail: tysonwells@tds.net; Web site: www.tysonwells.com

January 17-26 - Quartzsite, AZ

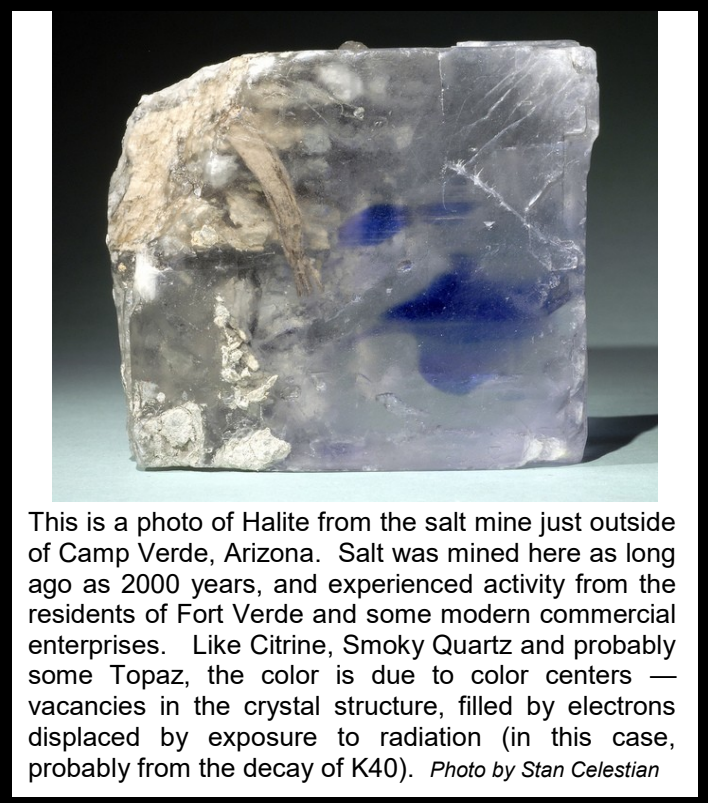
Tyson Wells Enterprises Inc.; Tyson Wells Show Grounds; 100 W. Kuehn St.; Daily 9-5; free admission; dealers from around the world on 25 acres; contact Kym Scott, PO Box 60, Quartzsite, AZ 85346, (928) 927-6364; e-mail: tysonwells@tds.net; Web site: www.tysonwells.com

February - Tucson, AZ shows



If you are travelling, a good source for out-of-state gem and mineral shows is

<http://www.the-vug.com/vug/vugshows.html>



This is a photo of Halite from the salt mine just outside of Camp Verde, Arizona. Salt was mined here as long ago as 2000 years, and experienced activity from the residents of Fort Verde and some modern commercial enterprises. Like Citrine, Smoky Quartz and probably some Topaz, the color is due to color centers — vacancies in the crystal structure, filled by electrons displaced by exposure to radiation (in this case, probably from the decay of K40). *Photo by Stan Celestian*

Officers and Chairpersons

- President:** Steve Hill928-533-3825
- Vice President:** Martin Hagan 602-469-7770
- Secretary:** Dianne Stefanini 928-231-7866
- Treasurer:** Debra Keiser 928-684-1013
- Program Director:** Dale Keiser 928-684-1013
- Publicity:** Diane Stefanini 928-231-7866
- Membership:** Roma Hagan 602-469-7662
- Editor:** Susan Celestian 602-361-0739
- Field Trip:** Jim Jacobs 928-242-2260
- Show Chair:** Beth Meyerson 480-540-2318
- Scholarship Chair:** Steve Hill 928-533-3825
- Historian:** Jeanine Brown 928-684-0489

Meetings are held the **2nd Friday ea. Month** at **Coffinger Park banquet room**. Potluck dessert at 6:30 pm. Business meeting at 7:00 pm. **Exceptions: February and December** meetings are held on the **first Friday of the month**. We don't meet in the summer — **no meetings in June, July or August**.

**Membership Dues: \$15.00 Adults per Person
\$ 5.00 Juniors and Students**

Meeting Dates for 2013/14

Wickenburg: Dec 6, Jan 10, Feb 7, Mar 14, Apr 11, May 9
Wickenburg field trips are usually the Sun. after the meeting.

Stanton meets 1st and 3rd Tuesday, Field Trips are 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month.



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<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Wickenburg-Gem-and-Mineral-Society/111216602326438>

Wickenburg Gem and Mineral Show

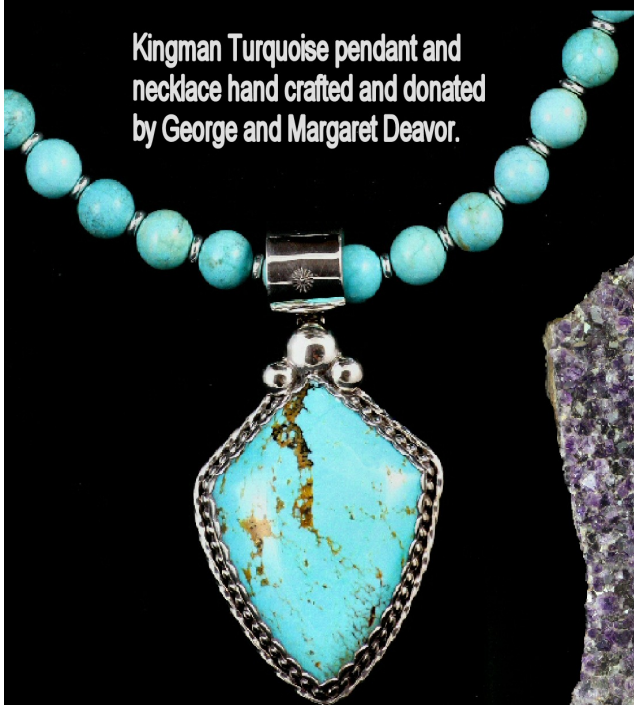
Nov 30 & Dec 1

Hassayampa Elementary
School

Free Admission

Jewelry
Fossils
Minerals

Kingman Turquoise pendant and necklace hand crafted and donated by George and Margaret Deavor.



Amethyst crystal slab

Labradorite



Over 40 Vendors
Best Rock Contest
Raffle, Door Prizes, Kids Room

251 South Tegner Street
9am - 5pm Saturday • 10am - 4pm Sunday

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Waddell, AZ 85355

