

ROCK TALK



White Mountain Gem & Mineral Club
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Vol. 30, Issue 2
February 2026

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

February 1, 2026

Our new year is off to a good start. We had a productive, well-attended meeting in January. In regards to events in this coming year, organization is in progress:

- **Mellon Center Show, March 14, 2026, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM, setup March 13 at 4:30**

A list of members who want to take part in the event is almost full. Please get in touch with me if you would like to take part by having a table, perhaps sharing a table, or if you would like to attend to lend a hand for as long as you would like to be there. Any proceeds a member achieves are theirs. This event is to showcase our club to the growing communities of Concho and Concho Valley. Final details will be discussed at the March 1 meeting. Even if you cannot be involved, stop by. It was a special time last year, with many excited children in attendance.

- **Gem and Mineral Show, Show Low Elks Lodge, July 10, 11, 12, 2026**

Organization for our annual show is going smoothly, Contracts have been sent out by Carl Hickman to vendors with many already returned. Sandra Angelo, show chair, is preparing the different parts of the show. Carl is setting up the location for tables so the venue is comfortable for the vendors and guests. The negotiations with the Show Low Elks Club are completed. In the coming few months final preparations will be made. Consider how you, as a member of the club, could contribute to a successful event. We need and expect members' interest, in person, with ideas, with time, or in any way you could contribute to this annual event.

- **Technology Science Engineering and Math (STEM) Regional Science Fair**

This is an annual event in our area. This year it is taking place at the Nikolaus Homestead Elementary School, 761 E McNeil Street, Show Low, AZ. The event is scheduled for February 28 from 2:00-4:00 PM. Prizes are given for individual and group projects in grades 3-12 and classroom displays in grades K-2. Homeschooled students are welcome. Each year we send two judges to help determine the winners and set out a table to promote our club. The venue is open to the public, so if you are able, stop by and see the scientific abilities of our local students.

As always, thank you for being a member of our club. Whether you attend our meetings in person or contribute in other ways, we value and need your participation.

Donna L. Pollard, President, WMGMC



Happy February Birthdays

Martha Begly David Borse
 Ken Burd Joe Devito
 David Edgar David Foster

 Welcome to our new member, Rita Schielke

 Monthly Potluck for March:
 Last Names A through L

LET'S DO LUNCH

The Let's Do Lunch Club will meet at Buffalo Nickel Brewery February 26th 12pm It is on Clark road right off of Old Linden



It's time to renew membership! A membership application form is on Page 9. It can be printed off and filled in if you wish, and forms will also be available at the meetings.

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January Corrections: Page 4, Par 3 Dr. Wolfe should be Doug Wolfe; Par 6 Hope's brother, Artie; Par 6 Tippy should be Sharon.

TREASURER'S REPORT

January Expense

Rock Talk Printing, Postage

Upcoming Expense

Rock Talk Printing, Postage

Member Badges

Tax Preparation

PO Box Renewal

Income This Month

Member Badges and Dues

Show Deposits

50/50 Raffle

Silent Auction

Rock Talk Newsletter

Our newsletter is published monthly by the White Mountain Gem & Mineral Club, Inc. Any information or comments members wish to include in the monthly newsletter must be given to the editor at the general membership meeting or call the editor no later than Tuesday following the meeting.

Membership Dues

Membership dues are \$20 for a single membership and \$25 for a couple/family. (\$5 less if you receive newsletter by email.) Dues are paid in January each year along with a completed application form. Memberships initiated in November or later in a given year are also good for the following year.

Meetings

We meet the first Sunday of the month (unless it falls on a holiday) at the VFW Post 9907, 381 North Central Avenue in Show Low. Turn north off the Deuce of Clubs at Burger King. Social half hour at 1:00 PM, meeting starts at 1:30 PM.

Elected Officers

Office	Name	Phone	Email
PRESIDENT	Donna Pollard	(480)600-2714	tdpollard@msn.com
VICE PRESIDENT	Sandra Angelo	(928)537-3726	sandra_angelo@hotmail.com
2ND VICE PRESIDENT	Debbie Trimble	(520)400-6527	dltrimble076@aol.com
SECRETARY	Shelly Applegate	(928)245-4300	shellylynn@gmail.com
TREASURER	Kim Whitley	(928)853-4455	kimwhitley@gmail.com
EDITOR	Bea Kennedy	(330)391-1916	bea.bullwinkl@gmail.com
FIELD TRIPS	Dick Turpin	(480)240-0995	dickturpinaz@gmail.com
	Ursula Wilson	(928)532-5703	uewilson@yahoo.com

Members At Large

Hope Rubi	(928)228-8851	Terry Pollard	(480)431-0686
Ursula Wilson	(928)532-5703	Carl Hickman	(928)536-3744

Volunteer Positions

Website Maintenance	Donna Pollard	(480)600-2714	tdpollard@msn.com
Show Chairman	Sandra Angelo	(928)537-3726	sandra_angelo@hotmail.com
Assistant Show Chairman	Ursula Wilson	(928)532-5703	
Sunshine	Donna Pollard	480-600-2714	tdpollard@msn.com
Education, Schools	Open		
Greeter/Door Prizes/Raffle	Thelma Gray/Diane Moten		
Auctioneer	Donna and Terry Pollard		
Highway Cleanup	Brookie/ Larry Embry	(928)537-0760	
Bonus Prizes	Sandra Angelo	(928)537-3726	
Historian	Donna Pollard	(480)600-2714	tdpollard@msn.com
Librarian	Rick Palmer	(928)333-5019	palmer57@frontiernet.net
Meeting Room Setup/ cleanup	Shelly Applegate	(928)245-4300	shellylynn@gmail.com

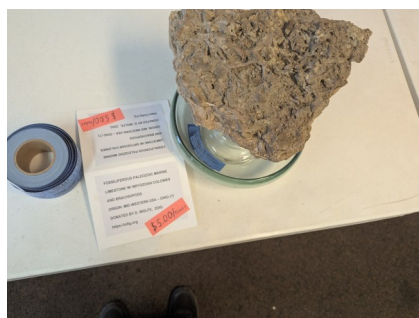
Chamber of Commerce Liaisons

Show Low: B.G. Hogarth

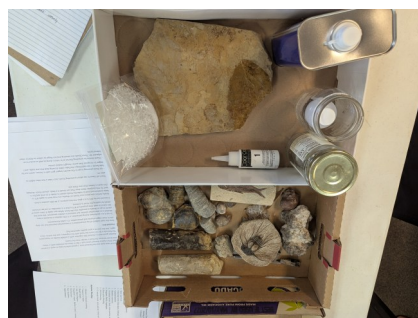
Snowflake/Taylor: Karen Hickman

Springerville/Eager: Rick Palmer

Heber/Overgaard: Aimee Webster



March Meeting Raffle-\$5 entry



Dick Turpin's Fossil Prep Program



Dick Turpin's Fossil Prep Program

WHITE MOUNTAIN GEM & MINERAL CLUB

MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 1, 2026

President Donna Pollard called the meeting to order at 1:40 PM. After the Pledge of Allegiance, new member Rita Schielke introduced herself. Donna provided an update on the March 14 Mellon Center Rock Show. All 13 tables are spoken for; although if you want to share your table with someone else, that is fine. Each table should try to have a child activity. Set up is on March 13 at 4:30 PM, and the show is from 9 AM to 3 PM on Saturday. She is working on getting food trucks at the center for the day. Everyone is welcomed to volunteer.

Our trifold needs to be reprinted. Cost for Black only is 20 cents each; color is 98 cents. The membership decided black was fine. Black on colored paper is an option too. New business cards are available.

The Annual STEM fair will be at Nikolaus Homestead Elementary School on February 28. Carol and Sandra volunteered to be judges. Carl and Donna will man a table. Contact Donna if you want to volunteer.

Show and Tell - Ursula showed a display she had made with her finds from our Blue Hills site. Dick brought in some pumice that was floating in a bowl of water. Dick mentioned that the Payson Rimstones had purchased two parcels in Blue Hills across from our site. We are welcome to collect there, too. That gives us 80 acres to explore since we have permission to rock hound on the property next to ours.

Doug donated a spectacular fossil that will be raffled in March. Tickets are \$5 each.

Dick went on a field trip with the Payson Rimstones to Burro Creek. He brought back pastelite agate quartz specimens for club members. Dick's presentation was on preparing and preserving fossils.

Door prizes - Karen won the volcanic bomb and Evva won the chert coral.

50/50 - Malcolm won \$50, Mike won the Brazilian Agate, and Carol won the Granite Pegmatite.

Business meeting - Minutes were approved with a few minor corrections. We continue to be financially healthy. We are about 80% sold out for the July show vendors. The roster is being updated. The Alpine Show is August 14 and 15. Loren is part of the planning team. Club members will be encouraged to attend.

Meeting adjourned 4:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Angelo, Secretary pro tem



Ursula's collection of fossils found at the Club's Blue Hills property.

FEBRUARY FIELD TRIP

FEBRUARY 21, 2026

February 2026 Field Trip: Shoo Fly Agate and Ruins

Field Trip Leader: Dick Turpin 480-240-0995 dickturpinaz@gmail.com Dick will be travelling from Gilbert and will meet the group at the Jack in the Box in Payson. Please let him know if you plan to attend either by text, email, or phone.

Date: Saturday, February 21, 2026.

Location of the Field Trip Site: The site is a 5-mile drive north of Payson on FR 1163.

Where and When We Will Meet: We will meet at the Show Low Chamber of Commerce at 8:00 AM and depart around 8:15. The group will also meet at the Jack in the Box parking lot in Payson. This is in the Safeway shopping center. The Show Low group should arrive in Payson between 9:45 and 10:00. Club members may travel directly to the Payson meeting site.

Recommended Vehicle: Any vehicle can reach the collecting site. However, the last half mile gets a bit rocky, although it is level.

What we will collect: We will collect Shoo Fly agate.

Recommended Things to Take: Rock hammer, buckets, rock grabber, lunch, water.

Cell Phone Service: The site likely has good cell service.

Directions: From Show Low, take Highway 260 to Payson., about 90 miles.

Future Field Trips (subject to change):

March - Ice Cave and fluorite mine in New Mexico

April - Shane Pollard property for fossils and other rocks - near Concho



Shoo Fly Agate

ROCK OF THE MONTH

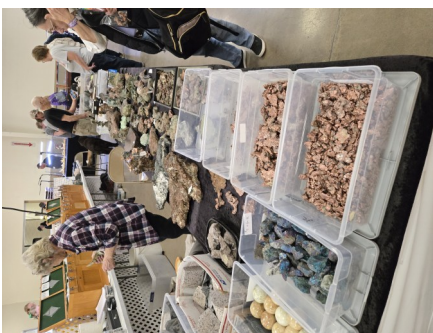
SUGALITE

Submitted by Carl Hickman

Sugilite was introduced to the lapidary market in the late 1970s. It is composed of sodium lithium iron manganese aluminum silicate. It is massive and tough, translucent to opaque, and has a hardness of 6.5. Sugilite is prized for its striking purple to red-violet color, and it is ideal for cabochon cutting. Sugilite was first discovered in 1944 on Iwaga Islet, Japan, but the most significant deposits are in the Northern Cape Province of South Africa. Synthesized sugilite has recently been introduced to the market.



PICTURES FROM THE GILA COUNTY GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY ANNUAL SHOW



ROCKIN' SHOWS COMING UP!

RMGM Tucson Mineral & Fossil Show
January 30 - February 14, 2026
 1920 N. Oracle Road, Tucson, Arizona
 Tent Show: January 30 - February 14, 2026
 Wholesale (3 Dealers): January 23 - February 7, 2026 (metal building)
 Jeanne's Rock Shop (Hortcroft Branch Bldg): January 23 - February 14, 2026

Hours:
 Everyday: 10 am - 5 pm
 weekend: 10 am - 4 pm
Saturday, February 14, 2026:
 10 am - 4 pm

THIS EXHIBITION WILL INCLUDE:
 MINERAL SPECIMENS




Fossils
 Minerals
 Cabochons
 Cutting Rough
 Metals-Gold/Silver
 Meteorites & Textiles
 Earrings & Decorative Items
 Gems, Minerals, Jewelry & More...

RETAIL AND WHOLESALE
 Retail sales tax license required for wholesale purchases

Prizes from:
 Cotacuzco (50000)
 El Estrella (10000)
 by Mike Powers LLC (Event 54)

www.rmgmshow.com

Treasures of the Earth
 Gem, Mineral, Jewelry Expo




Albuquerque, New Mexico
 March 20-22, 2026

Hosted by Quartz
 Exchange Club
 Socorro, Co. NM

Tucson Miners Co-op Rock Show


**Rough Rock
 Mineral Specimens
 Jewelry
 Fossils
 Rock Art
 Fluorescents
 Components**



**Jan 30-Feb 15
 Daily 9-5
 I-10 & Ina Road
 FREE Parking**

MIKE JACOBS SPORTS PARK
 BUY DIRECT FROM MINERS,
 ARTISTS AND ROCKHOBBIES
 MAKE EVERY DAY
 A ROCKY DAY

PROCEEDS SUPPORT LOCAL MINERS
 (MAYBE YOU'RE ONE OF THEM)
 THEROCKMINERS.COM




IELDS COMPANY NEW MEXICO

Join for gold and Montana sapphires
 Demonstrations Kids activities door prizes fossil dig
FREE Admission FREE parking
 Saturday & Sunday 9am-2pm
Truth or Consequences NM
 2222 S Broadway St
 IELDA COMPANY Fairgrounds
 March 7 & 8, 2026
Rock & Gem Show
 2026 Truth or Consequences

QUARTZSITE, AZ Second Weekend in February

GOLD SHOW


Treasures & Crafts
**DAILY DRAWINGS
 METAL DETECTORS
 GOLD NUGGETS**

Sponsored by:
 Minelab Metal Detectors
 Quartzsite Metal Detecting Club
 Quartzsite Improvement Association

**DEMONSTRATIONS
 SPEAKERS
 EQUIPMENT
 JEWELRY**

Metal Detector Hunt by PLP
**\$5 Entrance
 Good For All 3 Days!**

QUARTZSITEGOLDSHOW.COM
 Fri 9-4 • Sat 9-4 • Sun 9-3



DESERT GARDENS ROCK, GEM & MINERAL SHOW
 January 1 - February 28

DESERT GARDENS ROCK, GEM & MINERAL SHOW
 Hours 9 AM - 5 PM Daily

**I'M TAKING MY ROCKS
 AND MY ASS
 TO QUARTZSITE!**

Time to get your rocks and \$\$\$ in gear and head to Quartzsite! Drag your camper or pack a tent. Get ready to hang out with like-minded and fun people for the largest outdoor rock show you'll ever experience. There are ATMs and a food court on site so you can spend the day. You'll find rough rock, polished rocks, rock decor, rocks in jewelry, rocks on tables and rocks on the ground. Find some new mineral specimens and make a few friends. The experience of a lifetime is just waiting for you in Quartzsite!


THE ROCK YARD
 615 W Lester
 Tucson, AZ
 January 14 - February 15, 2026 9 am - 5 pm





Designer Cabochons **Gemstone Animal Carvings** **Polished Rocks and Slabs**

Bary Gems
 Designer Jewelry - Gemstones



Find us in Tucson:
 January 29 - February 15, 2026
 22nd Street Show - Booth E30

February 12 - 15, 2026
 Tucson Gem & Mineral Show
 Booths H410-H412

February 2026
20-22—CLARKDALE, ARIZONA: Annual show; Mingus Gem and Mineral club; Clark Memorial Clubhouse Auditorium, 19 N. Ninth Street; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; Free; Dealers, wire-wrapping and geode-splitting demonstrations, agates, fossils, gems, beads, findings, cabochons, crystals, geodes, rock slabs, tumble-polished minerals, handcrafted jewelry, carvings and unique gift items; Kids' Corner offers free mineral specimens for children 12 and under; contact Bill Hedglin, (928) 634-0269; Email: billkarin3@q.com; Website: <http://www.mingusgmclub.com/>

WHITE MOUNTAIN GEM & MINERAL CLUB

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2026



FIELD TRIPS WANTED!!



PLEASE LET US KNOW OF ANY GREAT PLACES FOR OUR OUTINGS!

MONTH	MEETING DATE	TRIP DATE	NOTES
JANUARY	4	17	Gila County Show
FEBRUARY	1	21	
MARCH	1	21	Mellon Center Show—14th
APRIL	12	25	
MAY	3	23	Highway Cleanup—16th
JUNE	7	27	
JULY	5	25	ANNUAL SHOW 10-11-12
AUGUST	2	22	
SEPTEMBER	6 (Picnic)	26	Highway Cleanup—19th
OCTOBER	4	24	Harvest Fest
NOVEMBER	1	21	
DECEMBER	6		Christmas Party



WHITE MOUNTAIN GEM AND MINERAL CLUB
SHOW LOW, ARIZONA

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PO BOX 3504
SHOW LOW, AZ 85902

DATE: _____ **NEW** _____ **RENEWAL** _____

Printed Name(s): _____

Phone(s): _____ **Brass Name Badges (\$5 each)** _____

Mailing Address: _____ **City:** _____ **Zip:** _____

E-mail Address(s): _____

Type of Membership: Single (\$20) _____ Couple/Family (\$25) _____
(\$5 deduction if getting newsletter by E-mail)

Please send club newsletter by: E-mail _____ US Mail _____

May we have birthdays? (Month Only) _____

List any junior members you would like to sponsor (No added fee):

1. _____ Age: _____ 2. _____ Age: _____

3. _____ Age: _____ 4. _____ Age: _____

Signatures: _____ **Date:** _____

Seasonal members, please list alternate address and months of residency:

Address: _____ **City:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Months: _____ **Phone:** _____

Around and About at the February 2026 Monthly Meeting

