



# ROCK TALK

White Mountain Gem & Mineral Club  
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Vol. 27, Issue 2  
 February 2023

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

**F**ebruary already? You would think that the 31 days of January would have lasted longer. As usual, it was good to see so many of you at the meeting.

Thank you, Debbie and Cathy for Show, and Tell. Thanks to Bill and Linda, Ursula, and Stan for donations to the door prizes and raffle. Thanks Meg for lending a hand with the potluck. It really takes more than one although the many members who pitch in make for light work. Meg and Cathy are working on a new logo for the club. It will be the centerpiece of our club rebranding. All materials will carry the new logo including show signage, brochures, and anything else rock club. This is a part of our outreach. When people see the logo, our club should come to mind.

March 4 is one of my favorite educational activities - the annual regional STEM Fair. Carol, Debbie, Othello Ayem, and Sandra will be judges representing the club this year.

We are also able to have a table at the event and will need several volunteers to set up/tear down, and staff the table. Let me know if you are interested.

Trivia: Gypsum is a spooky leftover mineral residue when oceans dry up. Milky soft, it is used for mortar for cement, blackboard chalk, and wallboard. It is also known as satin spar, desert rose, and plaster of Paris. White Sands in New Mexico is a huge expanse of gypsum dunes.

Great presentation, Othello Ayem! The curiosity of the Giants Causeway in Northern Ireland made me want to add a visit to my bucket list. Who knew Basalt could be so magical?

And Valentine's Day seems like a good time to remind everyone how much you are appreciated and loved.

Have a great month!  
 Sandra

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### Expenses Last Month

America One storage unit  
 Historian supplies  
 Snowflake/Taylor Chamber of Commerce  
 VFW meeting room rent

### Income Last Month:

Member dues  
 Vendor registration for 2023 Show  
 Silent Auction  
 Fifty/Fifty  
 Donations

## NOTICE:

Members whose last names begin A-N will host the March meeting potluck

# BULLETIN BOARD

## FEBRUARY FIELDTRIP INFO

By Othello Ayem

This month's field trip is slated for Saturday, February 25 to Joseph City to surface collect white and red/orange petrified wood and bog agate. We will meet in Taylor at 9:00 AM in the Basha's parking lot at Silver Creek and North Main near the Basha's marquee before we caravan toward the collection site.


Sturdy shoes and long pants are recommended, as there are many goathead thorns in the area.

Please RSVP via email to [deb\\_xmas@yahoo.com](mailto:deb_xmas@yahoo.com) and indicate if you will be driving a high clearance vehicle.

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## DON'T FORGET

 **"LET'S DO LUNCH CLUB"** will meet Friday, February 24 at 1:30 PM at Mr. Zeke's in Pinetop. We will celebrate February birthdays with cake. All are welcome.

 **NAME BADGES**—Carl has several name badges to be picked up. Is yours one of them?

 **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**  
We urgently need volunteers for:

- ◆ Field Trip Coordinator
- ◆ Assistant Field Trip Coordinator
- ◆ Education Coordinator
- ◆ Assistant for meeting room setup/takedown
- ◆ Temporary assistant for sign-in table

### 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 Officials

Office	Name	Phone	E-Mail
PRESIDENT	Sandra Angelo	(928)537-3726	sandra_angelo@hotmail.com
VICE PRESIDENT	Carol Glick	(928)228 6202	malcarglick@yahoo.com
2ND VICE PRESIDENT	Rick Palmer	(928)333-5019	palmer57@frontiernet.net
SECRETARY	Debbie Christmas	(602)475-4714	Deb_xmas@yahoo.com
TREASURER	Carl Hickman	(928)536-3744	carlhickman8@earthlink.net
EDITOR	B.G. Hogarth	(928)532-3043	hogarths@citlink.net
FIELD TRIPS	Open		
	Open		

### Members at Large

Dick Turpin	(480)240-0995
Terry Pollard	(480)431-0686
Ursula Wilson	(928)532-5703
Shirley Leistikow	(623)261-5752

### Volunteer Positions

Webmaster/Coalition Chair	Aimee Webster	(602)503-8417	afwebster61@gmail.com
Show Chairman	Cathy Viney	(714)348-9162	cathyv08@yahoo.com
Assistant Show Chairman	Carl Hickman	(928)536-3744	carlhickman8@earthlink.net
Sunshine	Donna Pollard	480-600-2714	tdpollard@msn.com
Education, Schools	Open		
Greeter/Door Prizes/ Raffle	Thelma Gray/Diane Moton		
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	Beverly Willmon	(928)220-3535	

### Chamber of Commerce Liaisons

Show Low: Thelma Gray

Springerville/Eager: Rick Palmer

Snowflake/Taylor: Open

Heber/Overgaard: Aimee Webster

# WHITE MOUNTAIN GEM & MINERAL CLUB

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 5, 2023

The meeting was called to order by President Sandra Angelo at 1:30 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present. There were no new members or guests.

For Show and Tell Debbie Christmas showed items she purchased at the Tucson Gem Show which included sectorian and polished cabochons. She mentioned that the Tucson Gem Show runs through February 12. Cathy Viney shared fluorescent stones that she found in the Concho Valley area.

The January minutes were accepted as written in the newsletter; no corrections or additions were required.

Treasurer's Report was given by Carl Hickman. He went over the income and expenses for January as well as upcoming expenses for February.

Sandra Angelo said that the club has participated as judges for the last eight or nine years for the Navajo County STEM fair. The club also donates \$200 to this event. Sandra suggested that the club continue the same donation for 2023. There were no objections. A booth can be set up at Northland Pioneer College Performing Arts Center for the STEM Fair on Saturday March 4. Volunteers are needed to be judges and also to man the booth. Sandra Angelo, Carol Glick, Debbie Christmas, and Othello Ayem volunteered to be judges. Additional volunteers are still needed to set up, tear down and sit at our booth. Please contact Sandra if you are able to help.

Sandra gave the President's Report. The board met on January 20. We discussed the progress we are making on meeting the club budget goals. We currently have enough tables sold to proceed with our gem show in July. The board still has open positions. A volunteer is needed to take on the role of field trip chairperson. Othello Ayem has agreed to lead the February field trip and possibly the trip in March. We can also try to reach out to Rollo Pool, a member of both our club and the Payson Rimstones, who is willing to help facilitate a trip in the Payson area. Please let Sandra know if you would like to lead a single field trip or if you would like to volunteer for the field trip coordinator position. We also need a volunteer to be the education coordinator. There is also a need for a second person to assist with meeting room set up/clean up. A temporary volunteer is needed to assist Diane with door greeter/raffle ticket sales.

The club also needs to bolster its community outreach. Our goal is to get out into the community to encourage

membership and share our knowledge. Club volunteers are needed so that we can participate in these events:

**STEM FAIR:** March 4

**SHOW LOW DAYS:** Saturday June 10

**MEDIEVAL MAYHEM:** This event will be held Friday July 7 at Show Low Frontier Field. This date is designated as Educational Day. Volunteers will need to be in costume which Medieval Mayhem will provide.

**SNOWFLAKE PIONEER DAYS:** July 20-22

**HARVEST FEST:** Snowflake/Taylor, October 14

The board also discussed incoming revenues from the silent auction. In 2022, the silent auction brought in about one-half of the funds produced in prior years. Donna and Terry Pollard will try to find more attractive items to increase club profits this year.

The board is reviewing the club's by-laws for updates. The changes will circulate to members when the updates are completed.

Megan McDonald is assisting with redesign of a new club logo. We will rebrand the club printed materials when the new logo is completed.

Sandra reported on the January field trip to the Bullion Plaza Cultural Center & Museum in Globe. (See Page 6 in **Rock Talk** for further information.)

The February field trip will be led by Othello Ayem and will be to Joseph City to collect petrified wood, bog agates and jasper. (See Page 2 in **Rock Talk** for further information.)

A show update was provided by Cathy Viney. Cathy suggested themed baskets as additional raffle items, similar to what has been seen at other gem shows. It was generally agreed that this could be done. Mike, Terry, and Greg are helping with signage for the show. We will also make clearer signs at the Elks Club that are directional for the entrance. Vendors continue to sign up, but we now have sold enough tables to have a successful show.

Sandra mentioned that several utensils have been left over from the club's potlucks and are ready to be picked up by their owners. Carl mentioned that he has a sizable collection of member name badges to be claimed. The "Let's Do Lunch Club" will be held Friday, February 24 at 1:30 PM at Mr. Zeke's in Pinetop. We will celebrate February birthdays with cake. All are welcome.

*(Continued on Page 5)*

*(Minutes, continued from Page 4)*

Door prizes included a quartz candleholder, faceted agate beads, an agate slab, petrified wood donated by Ursula and calcite in quartz donated by Stan. The 50/50 raffle in the amount of \$62.50 was won by Mike Soboleske. Loren Wright won the raffle. Door prize drawing winners were Karen Hickman, Mary Johnson and Brookie Embry.

Othello Ayem gave a fascinating slideshow titled "The Giants' Causeway in Northern Ireland." Those interested in obtaining a copy of the slideshow can email Debbie Christmas at [deb\\_xmas@yahoo.com](mailto:deb_xmas@yahoo.com)

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Christmas, Secretary

**ON THE GEM SHOW CIRCUIT AROUND AND ABOUT LOCAL**

The Tucson Gem and Mineral Society Proudly Presents:

**THE 68TH ANNUAL TUCSON GEM & MINERAL SHOW\***

**SILICA**  
Agates & Opals & Quartz  
*Oh My!*

Tucson Convention Center  
February 9-12, 2023

for more information, visit: [www.tgms.org](http://www.tgms.org)

**Clarkdale Rocks Gem & Mineral Show**  
50<sup>th</sup> Show

**Show & Sale**

**February 24-26, 2023**  
Clark Memorial Clubhouse Auditorium  
19th N. Ninth Street, Clarkdale, AZ 86324  
FRI & SAT 9am-5pm, SUN 9am-4pm  
**Free Admission**  
Mingus Gem & Mineral Club  
[www.mingusgem.club](http://www.mingusgem.club)

Crystals Minerals Gems Jewelry  
Fossils Cabachons Findings  
Rock Slabs Geode Splitting  
Daily Raffles and much more!

**MARCH 4-5**  
**MESA, AZ**

Show and sale; Apache Junction Rock & Gem Club; Mesa Community College, 1401 S Dobson Rd; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; Adults \$3, children 18 and under free; Over 100 vendors of rocks, gems, minerals, and other vendors connected with this great hobby. Educational value for children. Dog-friendly event. Food vendors. Come find some great deals and meet some cool people who love rocks; contact:  
Linda Huss, Secretary, (480) 319-1960;  
Email: [secretary@ajrockclub.com](mailto:secretary@ajrockclub.com); Website: [ajrockclub.com/](http://ajrockclub.com/)



**B**oullion Plaza Cultural Center and Museum was our focus for our January field trip. Once a grammar school for Mexican American and Apache children, this neoclassic building has been repurposed to again become a community icon. Eight of us left a freezing Show Low for Miami where we could take off our heavy coats and enjoy the sunshine. The museum shows the culturally diversity of the history of an Arizona mining community. The only way to describe the mineral exhibit is AWESOME! The docent, a member of the Gila County Gem & Mineral Society, showed us a new display under construction. This diorama depicts the mining process. WOW! It will be open to the public in about three months. Another reason to return to this amazing gem. Lunch followed at Guayo's El Rey and then a visit to Copper City Rock Shop. Tired, well fed, and happy, we headed home. The Pickle Barrel Trading Post will have to wait until next time.



# PROGRESS AND PLANNING UPDATE

## GEM & MINERAL SHOW 2023

By Cathy Viney, Show Chair

**W**e are off to a terrific start with 12 vendors and 44 tables contracted. Our goal is 66 tables and 18 vendors; specifics will be determined by Carl as more tables are sold and the layout is established.

Terry Pollard, Mike Soboleske, and Greg Wyman have agreed to make sure we have banners up a month before the show and well-placed signs before the show. Carl and Karen Hickman and Debbie Christmas have invited us to post banners along their properties that border Concho Road and Highway 260. If any other members have property bordering busy streets and are willing to have signs or banners posted, please let us know. (**NOTE:** The signs **MUST** be placed entirely on private property.)

Megan McDonald is working on the design for our new club logo which will be put into use with all show promo pieces and be the foundation for a grand rebranding of our White Mountain Gem and Mineral Club. Brenda Hogarth is eager to get started on our promo pieces! Ursula Wilson has volunteered to create new indoor signage for our show such as the display cabinets, entry and admissions area, kids' corner, etc.

**A new income source**, added to all our usual sources for the show, is being initiated this year. We will have **six themed baskets**, each with a number attached, that will be on display for our guests to potentially win by buying raffle tickets and depositing them into the container matching the numbered basket they wish to win. Baskets will be such themes as pet owner, barbeque party, automotive, sportsman, rockhound, and anything else you may wish to help us create! The raffle baskets will contain not only gift items but also gift certificates or cards and some added rock specimens. Shirley Leistikow has volunteered to lead the wrapping of the baskets, Debbie Christmas has offered a barbeque set, and I have donated some pet owner items. What do you have?

As usual we'll have hourly drawings for rock specimens and gifts donated by local businesses. Hoping that Hope Rubi will be working on that again. Dick Turpin has offered to be "the voice" of the show and will also help us make sure the equipment is effective so everyone in the room can hear our announcements.

Carol Glick is making plans for the Kids' Corner. She will be needing more rock specimens and tumbled rocks for the various Kids' Corner activities. Feel free to reach out to her if you have something to offer.

To sum this up, we are off to an amazing start, our team is coming together exceptionally well, and we would love **your help** and contributions.

Show Chair, Cathy Viney 714 348-9162

*Editor's Note: Cathy brought a sample gift basket that she made with a theme of pet goodies. The baskets are easy to put together and don't need to be elaborate.*



# ROCK OF THE MONTH



## CHALCOCITE

By Donna Pollard



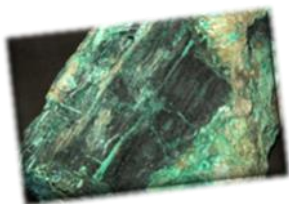
**C**halcocite is copper sulfide, ( $\text{Cu}_2\text{S}$ ). Chalcocite is a major ore of copper that few collectors know about because it is not green like malachite, or blue like azurite. It is a basic black. While it does, on occasion, form in short prismatic or tabular crystals, and very rarely as pseudohexagonal prisms that form from the twinning of crystals, it's basic nature is massive or as a powdery coating. That is not the choice of most collectors.

Chalcocite is a soft mineral with a hardness (H.) of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  - 3, rather heavy with a specific gravity (S.G.) of 5.5 - 5.8. indistinct cleavage, conchoidal fracture, and a shiny black streak. The mineral tarnishes to a dull black or greenish black. The name comes from the Greek 'chalkos', for copper. Originally chalcocite was called chalcosine, and some today call it copper glance.

Chalcocite forms in hydrothermal veins with other minerals such as bornite, quartz, covellite, chalcopyrite, galena, and sphalerite. Small grains are found in disseminated hydrothermal replacement deposits like those in Arizona. In secondary zones of sulfide enrichment, massive amounts of chalcocite is found, which is the source and reason for chalcocite considered to be a major ore of copper. Unlike other copper minerals, it is often associated with pure native copper.

Almost malleable, the tenacity of chalcocite is what separates it from other copper minerals. Chalcocite is soluble in nitric acid. It also fuses in a flame, turning the flame green and releasing sulfur dioxide fumes. Another copper sulfide, digenite ( $\text{Cu}_9\text{S}_5$ ) is often confused with chalcocite. But it is more blue than black. Both chalcocite and digenite are important in the material science of solar panel couple construction with CdS (cadmium sulfide). Galena, ( $\text{PbS}$ ) is sometimes confused with chalcocite also, but galena has perfect cleavage and contains no copper.

The most interesting version of chalcocite, the pseudo hexagonal twinned prisms are found in an old mine in Bristol, Connecticut, in Cornwall, England, and in the Transvaal, South Africa. Sizeable masses are found in the copper areas of Superior, Miami, Morenci, Bisbee, and Ray, Arizona; Tooele County, Utah; Santa Rita, New Mexico; Kennecott, Alaska; and in Butte, Montana. Namibia, Chile, USSR, Mexico and Italy also have deposits. An interesting mineral indeed.







# White Mountain Gem & Mineral Club Calendar of Events for 2023

## *Meetings:*

**Our meeting hours are:**

**1:00 PM for social gathering and potluck**

**The meeting begins at 1:30 PM.**

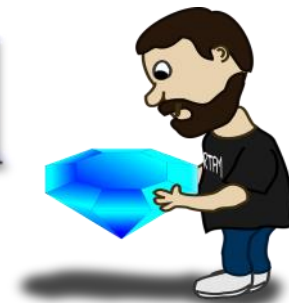
## *Field Trips:*

**We need volunteers to plan field trips!**

<b>MONTH</b>	<b>MEETING</b>	<b>FIELD TRIP</b>	<b>HIGHWAY CLEANUP</b>
<b>January</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>21</b>	
<b>February</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>25</b>	
<b>March</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>25</b>	
<b>April</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>22</b>	
<b>May</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>June</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>24</b>	
<b>July</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>22</b>	
<b>ANNUAL SHOW: July 14-16</b> <b>Show Low Elks Lodge</b>			
<b>August</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>26</b>	
<b>September</b>	<b>3 (picnic)</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>October</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>21</b>	
<b>November</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>18</b>	
<b>December</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>16</b>	



# Buy, Sell & Trade



**L**ooking for a specimen or  
piece of equipment  
to complete your  
collection?

Or maybe you would  
prefer to sell or trade

Some “extras” that  
are taking up space?

Then **THIS** is your opportunity!

**CONTACT**

**B.G. Hogarth**

**hogarths@citlink.net**

# AROUND AND ABOUT IN THE MEETING ROOM

Photos by Judy Harrell

