

ROCK TALK



White Mountain Gem & Mineral Club
P.O. Box 3504
Show Low, Arizona 85902
www.whitemountain-azrockclub.org
whitemtngmc@gmail.com

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

So wonderful seeing so many at the meeting! Welcome new members Nico, Natalia, Silas, and Aria. Welcome back Dick and Lynne.

If you came to the meeting wearing green and white earrings and went home with only one, I have the other. It was found in the parking lot.

Show activities are, well, active! Lots of behind the scene stuff going on! Lynne is putting together six baskets that will be raffled, two each day. She has a list of things she needs. Please consider donating something from her list.

DaVinci Day at Medieval Mayhem is coming up July 11. We bring our spinning wheel and lots of raw rocks. I need someone to take the lead in this one-day fun children's event. It is also a good time to advertise our show the following week.

Thank you, Greg and crew, for cleaning out and reorganizing the storage unit. It is a massive job and greatly appreciated. Now we know what we have and where it is. A heroic effort!

Great presentation, Ursula! Your talk brought back memories of our beading society. As well as a reminder of how long you, Blue, and I have been friends. All for the love of beads!

Don't forget the highway clean-up May 17. Meet at the Chamber parking lot at 9:00 AM. We get to wear stylish (?) iridescent yellow vests, carry sky blue bags and afterwards, feast on Brookie's Cookies. It is a fun and service-worthy couple of hours.

Congrats to our drawing winners - Dick, Kayden, Brookie, Greg, Larry, and Debbie!

Trivia: Little Gems are an exclusive club with only 130 members. Even though they are little more than normal minerals, these guys form especially fine looking crystals. When cut and polished, the Little Gems become gemstones. Size does matter with Little Gems - the bigger they are, the more valuable. Examples are diamond, emerald (beryl), corundum, topaz, and jade.

Enjoy the merry, merry month of May!

Sandra

TREASURER'S REPORT

April Expense

Historian Supplies
Show Low Historical Soc. Donation
AZ Corporation Commission
Webmaster Fees
Member Badges

Upcoming Expense

Rock Talk Printing, Postage

Income This Month

Member Dues, Donations
Badge Payments
Show Vendor Contracts
Silent Auction
50/50 Raffle

BULLETIN BOARD

Happy May Birthday to:

Diann Burney
Missa Foy
Karen Hickman
Adriene McClure
Diane Moten
Rick Obermiller
Dan Reynolds
Mike Soboleske
Linda Stalder
Wendy Yang

Why not join our Let's Do Lunch Club

Where: **Bagel Box**
1233 Fawn Brook Drive
(Big Red Building, Door B)

When: Thursday May 29, 12:00PM

Let's Celebrate Our
May Birthdays!!

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DON'T FORGET...

Last names M-Z will supply the potluck table for the June meeting.



IT'S HIGHWAY CLEANUP ONCE AGAIN!

WHEN: Saturday May 17

Meet at the Show Low Chamber of Commerce at 9:00 AM
Wear closed-toed shoes & gloves. Bring water. All else is furnished by the State.
Feast on Brookie's GREAT homemade cookies!

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	E-Mail
PRESIDENT	Sandra Angelo	(928)537-3726	sandra_angelo@hotmail.com
VICE PRESIDENT	Debbie Trimble	(520)400-6527	dltrimble076@aol.com
2ND VICE PRESIDENT	Mike Soboleske	(952)242-6115	Fritso53@gmail.com
SECRETARY	Shelly Applegate	(928)245-4300	shellylynn@gmail.com
TREASURER	Kim Whitley	(928)853-4455	kimwhitley@gmail.com
EDITOR	B.G. Hogarth	(928)532-3043 Cell-(775)397-2312	hogarths@citlink.net
FIELD TRIPS	Dick Turpin	(480)240-0995	dickturpinaz@gmail.com
	Rick Palmer	(928)333-5019	palmer57@frontiernet.net

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

Webmaster/Coalition Chair	Aimee Webster	(602)503-8417	afwebster61@gmail.com
Show Chairman	Cathy Cargile	(714)348-9162	sky ranch5734@yahoo.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

WHITE MOUNTAIN GEM & MINERAL CLUB

MEETING MINUTES MAY 4, 2025

The meeting was opened by Club President Sandra Angelo with the Pledge of Allegiance and a welcome to our guests and new members. Snowbirds Dick and Lynne have returned. Welcome to our guests Nico, his son Silas, and Natalia, and her daughter Aria. For Show and Tell, Dick shared a Cambrian Era trilobite fossil he found in a quarry in Utah 50 miles west of Delta. Ron brought some arsenic as an example of what can be found in some caves in the area. Shelly showed some galena from the Apache Tribe reservation. Dave shared some opals from Ethiopia, northern Nevada, and Australia. Donna shared Wendy's rock, a piece of petrified wood that looks like a chicken.

There is a possibility of two field trips this month. We have been invited by Apache Junction Rock and Gem Club to join them in an exploration trip to check out several sites. Our scheduled trip on May 24 will be very local because it is Memorial Day weekend. We will be going to Donna's Rock museum and then to a nearby BLM site. (See Page 7 in **Rock Talk** for more information.)

Volunteers are needed for Medieval Mayhem on DaVinci Day, Friday July 11 at Frontier Field Park in Show Low. We have unpolished rocks to give out with the spinning wheel game. We decorate and set up the pop-up and give out rocks and club information. Period costume is a "must." Costumes can be borrowed from the event organizer.

Linda Stalder has donated Bill's rock collection to the club. Once we have a time and date we need a team of people to collect the rocks.

Highway Cleanup is May 17. (See Page 2 in **Rock Talk** for further information.) If you have never participated before, please reach out to Brookie so she has enough vests.

Greg, Mike, Terry, and Donna emptied out and organized the club's storage unit. The club voted to provide Donna with \$200 to purchase specimens for club sales.

The Rocky Mountain Federation has its annual meeting September 19-21 in Grand Junction, Colorado. Our club may be able to pay the entry fee if you wish to attend.

The "Let's Do Lunch Bunch" will meet at the Bagel Box, Thursday May 29 to celebrate club members' May birthdays. (See Page 2 in **Rock Talk** for further details.)

For the monthly program, Ursula shared her passion for making beads out of rocks and other materials. She gave a history of bead making, showing examples of modern day and older beads and materials used. She explained the steps she takes in bead making, as well as some extra tips that she has picked up along the way.

Lynne asked for donations for raffle baskets for the Show. She has a list of items needed for each day's raffle baskets. Check with Lynne to sign up for specific items which must be brought in by the July meeting so that the baskets can be assembled.

Door prizes of peridot crystals, iron pyrite, and rose quartz went to Dick, Kaden, and Brookie.

Greg won the 50/50 prize of \$45.50. Debbie won the bumblebee agate pendant, and Larry won the Luna Blue tumbled agate.

Show Chair Cathy Cargile gave a Show report. Much volunteer work is welcomed: It is only 11 weeks until our Show. (See Pages 6 and 7 in **Rock Talk** for more information about the Show.)

BG requested that all information for the newsletter each month should be to her by Wednesday.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 3:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Shelly Applegate, Secretary



ROCK OF THE MONTH

FABULOUS FASCINATING

FLUORITE

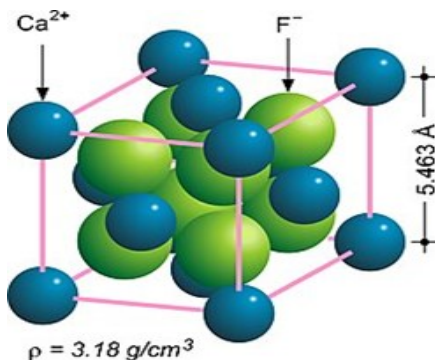


Excerpted from Rock and Gem Magazine by Jeff Starr*

The composition of fluorite is CaF_2 , and it grows within isometric (cubic) crystal system - basically, it tends to grow in cubes. However, tinker with the temperature as it grows and the cubes (made up of molecular unit cells that compose the fluorite), can begin to shift as they grow and repeat. Fluorite crystals look like cubes, octahedrons, dodecahedrons and many crystals combining their shapes. Fascinating and attractive all at the same time, the variations can number in the hundreds. Also, fluorite has the perfect cleavage. Looking at the a, b, and c axes, fluorite will cleave along the (1,1,1) plane. In the isometric system, that means it will cleave in an octahedron.

Fluorite is often referred to as a 'gangue' mineral, which by definition implies it is a waste accessory to ores during mining. Often it grows in hydrothermal veins, but it can grow in many other underground environments, even pegmatites. Fluorite is a low temperature mineral that grows between 60 to 100° C. Many fluoresce. Under either shortwave or longwave UV light, many fluorites will glow brilliantly. Or it could be from the trace elements in the mineral or possibly organic material, but the effect can be amazing. The term 'fluorescence' is actually derived from the English fluorite's mineral name and not the other way around. Fluorite is relatively common and can be found in many locations around the world.

So where does the mineral name 'fluorite' come from if not from its characteristic fluorescence? It comes from the Latin word 'Fluere,' which means 'to flow'. One of the first uses of fluorite was as a flux in making steel, aiding the process by helping the molten material flow, and helping purify it at the same time. Fluorite is also used to make glass, enamels, and hydrofluoric acid. Colors of this mineral are determined by minerals, trace elements, and even hydrocarbons. Colors include green, yellow, purple, and blue, among others. UV light can fade colors so it is best to keep specimens in an UV free environment.



*Starr, J. (2025) Fascinating Fluorite: A Beginner & Collector's Favorite. *Rock & Gem*, 55 (8), 12-20.

By
Cathy Cargile
Show Chair

SHOW UPDATE

Now is the time to let us know how you, as a member of our club, will help us make our Show a huge success. The show is our primary fundraiser of the year, and the purpose of the funds earned is to support our educational goals in the field of geology and related natural earth sciences. Show details are included as newsletter attachments.

Our goal is to make the Show a huge success for the club and for our amazing vendors! Many vendors return to our Show year after year, which is greatly appreciated. This happens because of you and all we do as a team to make the show successful.

The primary steps to a successful Show include promotion and marketing! BG has created a two-on-a-page flyer plus a full sheet poster that we can each handout, post, and send by email. A volunteer to be in charge of promo and marketing for the Show is needed! Please see the promo attached to our newsletter.

Our sign team (Greg, Terry, and Mike) is getting signs and banners updated and ready to display in mid-June, another vital way we remind the public of our Show. This year we need strong people (perhaps sons, daughters, grandchildren or other volunteers whether members of the club or not) to help put the signs up. Our sign team will oversee and have everything ready, but they cannot physically do all the installations.

Lynn, our raffle basket volunteer, is planning for two baskets to be raffled each of the three days of the show. This includes three rock-related and three with barbeque motif. Please consider donating items to help make these baskets awesome. Lynn would love to have you bring your donations to our June meeting. Here is what is needed:

ROCK RELATED BASKET:

Rock hounding identification books (3)	Rock hounding hats (3)
Water bottles (3)	Rock picks (3)
Eye catching rock specimens (6)	

BBQ/PICNIC BASKET:

Grocery store certificate \$25 (3)	Picnic dishes (3 sets)
BBQ specialty sauces (3) or more	Plastic juice pitchers (3)
Frisbee or BBQ-type games (3)	

MORE Volunteers and Opportunities:

- Ursula is planning member-created awesome displays to be set atop the bar in our venue.
- Natalie is creating a menu for the vendor potluck on Thursday. Please plan on signing up to bring a dish from the menu. She needs two or three volunteers to help with set-up and clean-up of the potluck area.
- Hope has been planning all year arranging for gift certificates to be raffled.
- Carl has created a terrific venue layout.
- Many Show vendors are donating items to be raffled.
- Sandra is scheduling food trucks for the three days of the Show.

(Continued on Page 7)

(Show Update, Continued)

- Kids' Corner is a big attraction for our younger guests. We need adult volunteers to run the area as Carol is not able to be in charge this year while Malcolm is recovering. A little birdie told me that Garrett and Katie, two of our awesome junior members, will be there and have some terrific ideas to contribute. Lynn will be at Kids' Corner on Friday, so we need others to step up for Saturday and Sunday. Many bags of tumbled rocks are still needed for Kids' Corner and also to use at the membership table. If possible bring your donations to the June meeting, but July meeting also works.
- Sign-up sheets for time slots and volunteer opportunities will be available at the June club meeting. Help needed includes admissions, membership set-up on Thursday, clean-up on Sunday, security during the Show, morning coffee and donut service, and more!

Whatever help you can offer will be greatly appreciated!



TWO FIELD TRIPS FOR MAY-- A ROCKIN' BONUS!

By Dick Turpin

Field Trip Leader: Dick Turpin 480-240-0995

Date: Wednesday May 14 and Saturday May 24

The May field trip is scheduled for **Saturday May 24** during Memorial Day weekend. Because our members may have planned other activities that weekend, the board members planned a field trip to Donna and Terry Pollard's magnificent rock and mineral museum. We decided to stick with this plan and schedule the Woodruff trip for petrified wood for the June field trip. Details for the June trip will be included in the June newsletter.

The meeting place for this trip will be the Dollar General Store at the "Y" intersection of Highways 60 and 61. We will meet at 9:00 AM. From there, Terry or Donna will lead the group to their home. After the tour of the museum, Donna will take the group to a nearby location to collect agates, jasper, and petrified wood.

On **Wednesday May 14** club members have an opportunity to attend a **bonus field trip** with the Apache Junction Rock and Gem Club. They are planning to stop at four to five locations between Payson and Show Low to evaluate these sites for future field trips. The general locations are along the Colcord Road, the Young Road, and Pinedale. The meeting spot for this trip will be the Chamber of Commerce parking lot on the Deuce of Clubs in Show Low. We will meet at 6:45 AM and depart at 7:00 AM. Because there will be multiple stops, the time at each site will be shorter than normal, probably an hour or less.

Starting this month, we are adding a **NEW RULE FOR FIELD TRIPS**. If you plan to attend a field trip we are asking you to notify the field trip leader either by text, email, or phone and include how many folks will be in your group. If there is more than one meeting place, also indicate which one you plan to use. We hope this process will help us plan and manage field trips. For most field trips the leader will be Dick Turpin.

PHONE: 480-240-0995 or

E-MAIL: dickturpinaz@gmail.com.

JUST SO'S YOU KNOW

(Information From Around and About)

If you remember from last month's **Rock Talk**, Mary Alice Vertz was planning a big family-wide rock sale at her ranch home. However, the weather didn't agree and she was faced with rain and hail, so she had to shut everything down. But she is trying again and this is what she has to say:

"I still have three lifetimes of rock collecting and jewelry making supplies left at Vertz Ranch that I would like to see be acquired by those who love such stuff. The jewelry-making supplies includes, but is not limited to, rings, bracelets, earrings, chains, bowtie clips and ends, and belt buckles; all priced to go, hopefully."

"The numerous agate slabs are priced at ten dollars each for large slabs and five dollars each for smaller slabs. The agate "bone yard" includes petrified wood, fire agate material, fortification agate, moss agate, jasper, and lots more. Fill a paper bowl for five dollars."

"I'm not going to plan a sale day. I would rather just show by appointment to those seriously interested. Because of planned surgery for May 5, I probably won't be available until after May 9. Call me after May 8 at **928-358-6026**."



AND A NOTE FROM: JODI BREWSTER, RMFMS AZ/NV STATE DIRECTOR

Have you heard of the Sun City Mineral Museum? Well, Lynne Wheeler would like to invite everyone to come and check out their museum. I'm thinking this could be a great place for a club trip. Check out their website:

<https://www.scrockmuseum.com/>.

Please share this with your membership. If you have any questions please contact them at scrockmuseum@gmail.com





WHAT'S HAPPENING ON OTHER CLUB SHOW CALENDARS?

(Taken from Rock & Gem Magazine)



JUNE 2025

6-8—PHOENIX, ARIZONA: Annual show; Mineralogical Society of Arizona; Phoenix Shrine Auditorium, 552 N. 40th St; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; \$10 Adults / \$5 veterans, seniors & students / Children 12 and under free with paid adult; Show Theme: Copper. The only quality mineral show in the Phoenix area, bringing exceptional minerals to the discerning mineral collector! Show also includes high quality gemstones, jewelry, and fossils! Museum, guest and competitive mineral exhibits with awards. Contact Cameron Reichert, (602) 334-7599; Email: marketing@msaaz.org; Website: www.msaaz.org/phx-heritage-show

AUGUST 2025

1-3—PRESCOTT VALLEY, ARIZONA: Annual show; Prescott Gem & Mineral Club; Findlay Toyota Event Center, 3201 N Main Street; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; \$5 adults; \$4 seniors, vets, students, kids under 12 with paid adult; 21st Annual Show! Over 75 vendors offering gem & mineral related products including mineral specimens, beads, slabs, cabochons, crystals, fossils, gem rough, meteorites, fine jewelry, lapidary and jewelry making demos and classes, kids' area, fluorescent exhibit, raffle and more; contact Doreen Clark; Email: doreenphx@gmail.com; Website: prescottgemmineral.org

8-9—ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO: Show and sale; Turquoise United; Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, 2401 12th Street NW; Fri. 10-4, Sat. 10-4; The Turquoise Gem Show is Free; All other events require registration; contact John Ancona, (602) 320-1601; Email: johnancona@pm.me; Website: <https://turquoiseunited.com>

29-31—SILVER CITY, NEW MEXICO: Annual show; Grant County Rolling Stones; Grant County Veterans' Memorial Business and Conference Center, 3130 Highway 180 East; Fri. 11-5, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; Free; 40th Annual Rock and Mineral Show, vendors, displays and kids activities; contact Anita Williams, (907) 830-0631; Email: jaspermerlin4@gmail.com

AROUND AND ABOUT IN THE MEETING ROOM

