

ROCK TALK



White Mountain Gem & Mineral Club
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November 2024

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

The winter storm held off long enough to finish our meeting and head home. It was starting to accumulate as I headed up the hill to my house. If I had been 20 minutes later, I wouldn't have been able to make it up that monstrous hill. Time to switch to the yellow Jeep!

What a great turnout! Welcome new members and guests: Maria and Jeff, Mark and Susan, and Artie. Super Show and Tell! Thanks Mike, Judy, Blue, and BG. Thanks for a dynamic presentation, Donna. I appreciate you stepping in with such short notice.

Thank you to board members who will be stepping down at the end of the year and the new ones stepping up. A successful club needs lots of volunteers. We will have a board meeting November 16 at the Tall Pines Club House from 1:30 to 3:30. The main topics will be the budget and the Calendar of Events. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Send healing thoughts to Malcolm and Carol. Also to Debbie C. who has been quite ill lately.

Don't forget our Christmas party, December 8. Get there early if you want to help decorate. Shelly has some fun and games planned. Bring a \$10 rock related gift to exchange. The club will provide turkey and ham. Please bring a side, salad, appetizer, or dessert to share.

Trivia - A smooth dude who can withstand very high temperatures, flakes of Mica in rocks shimmer like scales in a fish's body. Mica comes from the Latin words for "shine" and "glitter".

Thanksgiving is when we take the time to count our blessing and give thanks. I want to thank all of you for the blessing of having you in my life.

Sandra

TREASURER'S REPORT

September Expense

Donation to Samaritan's Purse

Upcoming Expense

Newsletter

Income This Month

Memberships
Silent Auction
50/50 Raffle

BULLETIN BOARD

**November honors veterans
Of every service rank
And then for all God's done for us
We give eternal thanks.**

Happy Birthday To:

**Taylor Hamilton
Meg McDonald
Natalee Nixon
Larry Pederson**

**Why not join our
Let's Do Lunch Club**

**Where: Monica's Cafe
1100 E. Hall
Show Low**

**When: Thursday November 21
12:00 noon**

**Let's Celebrate our
November Birthdays!!**

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EDITOR'S NOTES

It is getting time to renew memberships for 2025. On Page 9 you will find a membership application form for this purpose. It can be printed off and filled in if you wish, and there are also forms available at the meetings as well.

**Congratulations to our new slate
of Board Members at Large for
2025:**

**Carl Hickman
Hope Rubi**

**Terry Pollard
Ursula Wilson**

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 Christmas	(602)475-4714	Deb_xmas@yahoo.com
2ND VICE PRESIDENT	Carol Glick	(928)228-6202	malcarglick@yahoo.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	
	Rick Palmer	(928)333-5019	palmer57@frontiernet.net

Members at Large

Dick Turpin	(480)240-0995
Terry Pollard	(480)431-0686
Ursula Wilson	(928)532-5703

Volunteer Positions

Webmaster/Coalition Chair	Aimee Webster	(602)503-8417	afwebster61@gmail.com
Show Chairman	Cathy Cargile	(714)348-9162	skyranch5734@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: Open

Springerville/Eager: Rick Palmer

Heber/Overgaard: Aimee Webster

WHITE MOUNTAIN GEM & MINERAL CLUB

MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 3, 2024

The meeting was opened at 1:35 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance. New members Maria and Jeff, who found us on the internet, were welcomed. New members Mark and Susan were not able to attend. Hope's brother Artie, a guest, was given an application.

For Show and Tell Mike Soboleske displayed an interesting septarian nodule discovered behind his house. Judy showed a friend's chunk of green petrified wood. Donna had 'watch for rocks' and 'rockhound' decals available for club members. She also reminded members to check out the scrapbook with photos of all our adventures. Blue showed some bytownite, which can be found near the Pueblo Park Campground by Reserve, New Mexico. B.G. received a donation of rocks from a friend's collection for the club.

The October minutes were accepted as presented in Rocktalk.

Treasurer Kim Whitley reported that all show reimbursements have been satisfied. A donation was made to Samaritan Purse for hurricane relief. Income was from new memberships, 50/50 raffle, and silent auction.

Our December 8 meeting will be our holiday party. Please bring a gift for the white elephant gift exchange. Gifts should be no more than \$10, rock related, and if possible, gender neutral (pendants, earrings and other jewelry are considered gender neutral.) The club will provide turkey and ham. Please bring a dish to share.

The yearly election for club officers was held. (See page 3 in **Rock Talk** for next year's board.) A board meeting will be held on Saturday November 16 from 1:30-3:30 at the Tall Pine Clubhouse. This meeting is open to whoever wants to attend.

The November 23 fieldtrip will be to our property at Blue Hills Environmental in St. John's. Please let Sandra know by November 20 if you will be attending. (See Page 5 in **Rock Talk** for further information.)

Contact Sandra if you are not getting the newsletters.

Sandra mentioned that the White Mountain Orchestra Holiday Concert will be held December 14 at Snowflake High School. This will be followed by a chili and cornbread fundraiser.

Hope Rubi reported that the "Let's Do Lunch Club" will meet Thursday November 21 at 12:00 at Monica's.

Door prize drawings were won by B.G., Greg, and Cathy.

For the monthly program, Donna gave a presentation on tectonic plates.

50/50 Drawing winners were Mary, Hope, and Ron.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 2:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted

Shelly Applegate, Secretary



NOVEMBER FIELD TRIP A PREHISTORIC HUNT



By Sandra Angelo

On November 23 we will venture out to our 20 acres at Blue Hills Environmental. Expect to find fossils, petrified wood, and some interesting specimens. Meet at the Dollar General at the 'Y' by 9:00 AM. We will head out to St. Johns at 9:15 AM where we will meet the rest of our fellow rockhounds by Ace Hardware at 10:00 AM. For insurance reasons, Blue Hills requires us to fill out a form to use their private road. The original form must be submitted to the Saint John's BHE office no later than November 21. If you are planning to attend, please let Sandra know no later than November 19. Thanks.



ROCKS THAT MADE THEIR OWN PLACE IN HISTORY

(Taken from: <https://www.treehugger.com/famous-rocks-around-world-4869245>)

Based on the legends, many assume that Plymouth Rock is an imposing cliff where the passengers of the Mayflower first set foot on North American soil in 1620. In reality, the rock is rather small and of uncertain historical importance. The Mayflower first landed not in Plymouth, Massachusetts, but in Provincetown, and Plymouth Rock was only identified as a significant landmark decades after the pilgrims settled in North America. Nevertheless, Plymouth Rock remains a symbol for the birth of the United States. It has been broken apart and chipped away over the years as it moved from place to place as a tourist attraction. Today, it is housed in a monument at Pilgrim Memorial State Park, in Plymouth, Massachusetts. Two large pieces of the rock that were broken off can also be found in the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History.



The Blarney Stone is a block of limestone embedded in the walls of Blarney Castle, near Cork, Ireland. According to legend, kissing the stone imparts the gift of eloquence, a reward taken to heart by millions of tourists who have traveled to the castle to perform the act. In earlier days, accomplishing this was a real test of courage, since the stone is set back from the parapet by several feet, requiring kissers to dangle headfirst over the gap. Today, iron railings provide handholds and prevent anyone from falling through the gap.

By
Dick Turpin

THE TREASURES OF CHILITO-- A ROCK HOUND'S DREAM

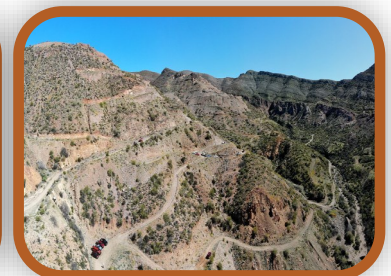
Photos by
Donna Pollard



On October 21 five White Mountain Club members assembled at the Chamber of Commerce before driving to Superior for a full day of rock hunting at the historic Chilito Mine. The weather was perfect for the trip. After picking up one last straggler in Superior, the enthusiastic group made the tough five-mile drive up the old and very rocky road to the mined-out pit. The condition of the road was better than it had been during some past trips but not as good as some others.

The group quickly split up and hunted for green and blue treasures in various spots that had proved productive during past field trips. Despite the heavy collecting pressure this site gets from many rock clubs, it never fails to deliver an abundance of beautiful copper specimens. Each collector searched for specific types of material from tumble-sized pieces up to yard rocks limited only by what they could lift into their truck. Still others sought out blocky pieces that could be slabbed and cut into jewelry.

Toward the end of the day, the temperature reached 100 degrees. While this slowed down the speed of the collecting the enthusiasm never diminished. All in all, it was a great day of friendship and collecting in spite of one minor challenge. One adventuresome member got their truck high-centered on a berm. The lack of cell phone coverage left them to get unstuck on their own. That's one good reason for going to these kinds of locations as a group.



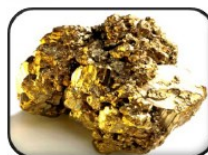


Rock of the Month

IRON PYRITE

By

Donna L. Pollard



Iron Pyrite is iron disulfide, meaning it has one iron and two sulfur, or a formula

of FeS_2 . Pyrite, as it is usually called, comes from the Greek word, 'pyr,' meaning fire. It is sometimes called 'fool's gold,' having stirred the hopes of many foolish gold seekers who did not know that pyrite is much harder, more brittle, and much more abundant than real gold. Pyrite has a greenish-black streak, a hardness of 6-6.5, a specific gravity (SG) of 5, meaning it is twice as heavy as a same-size piece of quartz, no cleavage, and breaks with a conchoidal (rounded) fracture. One of the most common iron minerals, pyrite color is brassy to pale yellow, often with a brown film of iron oxide. Opaque, and with a metallic luster, pyrite will spark when hit with a metal object.

Pyrite crystals form in the isometric system. They are often cubic, but sometimes octahedron (eight-sided) in shape. These individual crystals may be 'twinned', forming what is called an 'iron cross'. An interesting form of pyrite crystal is called 'pyritohedrons', soccer ball-like crystals composed of 12 pentagonal (five-sided) faces. Pyrite can also be botryoidal or stalactitical nodule shape, flakes or chunks, or flattened, radiating disks called 'pyrite suns' that are often found in specific coal seams. The many forms of the crystal faces of pyrite usually have growth lines, called striations on them.

Pyrite occurs in high and low temperature environments and can be present in all types of rocks; igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary (often as concretions). Pyrite is often found with quartz and is called auriferous pyrite if there is gold present. It is also common with feldspar and mica in granite pegmatites, calcite, and sphalerite and galena in hydrothermal veins. Pyrite is found and sometimes confused with chalcopyrite, but pyrite is harder and lacks the chalcopyrite play of colors from the oxidation of copper in its formula. Another mineral, limonite, can coat and eventually replace pyrite, leaving the pyrite crystal structure as a 'pseudomorph' of the original pyrite.

Another mineral, marcasite, has the same formula as pyrite but its different crystal system and external features make it less stable, and it decays when exposed to air. Both minerals replace (pyritize) shell or bone fossil, underwater, but when exposed in air, the marcasite fossil rapidly turns to 'dust,' while the pyrite fossil survives.

The best locations in the USA to collect pyrite are Bingham, American Mine (Salt Lake County); Park City (Summit County) in Utah; French Creek, Pennsylvania (Chester County); Leadville, Rico, and Gilman, Colorado; Jerome, Arizona; and Sparta, Illinois (pyrite suns). Commercially, pyrite is used to produce sulfuric acid, but its beauty and abundance in various crystal forms makes it a sought-after collectible.

Snowflake Taylor

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

113 North Main Street, Snowflake, AZ 85937 | (928) 536-4331
admin@snowflaketaylorchamber.org | SnowflakeTaylorChamber.org

Thank You

The Snowflake Taylor Chamber of Commerce board and staff would like to Thank You for participating in this year's Harvest Fest Game Zone. You helped make the Game Zone bigger and better. We appreciate your support, time and creativity in helping to make the Game Zone a fun place for kids.

We hope you can join us again next year.

Sincerely,

Charlotte Hatch

Charlotte Hatch, IOM
Executive Director





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 IN THE MEETING ROOM



Photos By
Donna Pollard



***In case you need directions to the Tall Pines Clubhouse for the
Board meeting on Saturday November 16***

By Cathy Cargile

Between Summit Hospital and Walmart in Show Low, take Show Low Lake Road to South 28th Street and turn left. Follow 28th Street until you pass Waltners RV and the road ends at a church. Turn right on Tall Pine Road.

On the left you will see the Tall Pines RV Resort Sign at the mailboxes—turn left. Continue down the gravel road a short way and you will see the clubhouse on the right. Park considerately so that other cars will have space.

On Saturday November 16 the meeting will begin at 1:30 PM so please arrive at 1:15. Bring your own snacks and drinks if you wish.