



White Mountain Gem & Mineral Club

P.O. Box 3504

Show Low, Arizona 85902

www.whitemountain-azrockclub.org

whitemtngmc@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S LETTER ∞ JULY 5, 2026

Thank you for attending our July 5 meeting. Considering the busy 4th of July weekend, it was wonderful to see so many members, old, new, and renewed.

Our main focus for this meeting was The White Mountain Gem & Mineral Club 27th Annual Rock, Gem, Mineral, and Fossil Show. The time has moved through this year so fast, it is hard to believe our show is this week, July 10-12, but it is. With the help of many of our members, we are ready. As we all know, our set up for the show is July 9, Thursday. Several members will gather at the storage unit, A7, 650 N Penrod Road, Show Low, at 8:00 AM to pick up the items needed for the show. If you plan to help set up, meet at the venue (Elks Lodge) between 8:30 and 9:00 AM. The doors do not open until 9:00. Set up involves rearranging tables, moving chairs, arranging the front tables, and positioning paraphernalia needed for the entrance space, display cases, and signs. Vendors are scheduled to be allowed entry at 12:00 noon, so we would like to be done by 11:30 AM.

There is a potluck scheduled to begin at 2:30 PM for the vendors and helpers. It is a chance to interact with our vendor guests, many of whom have shown their presence here over several years. If you are bringing food or drink items for the potluck, plan to arrive by 2:00 PM so everything can be in place by 2:30. Any food or drink item is welcome. Be creative or simple, cook or buy. It is all good. We will be exiting the building at 5:00 PM, all ready for our Friday morning opening at 9:00 AM.

It is possible that some members may not get this newsletter until after the show has ended on the 12th. If so, please consider this letter simply a rundown of what has been done to prepare for this great show. Stop by on Thursday. If not possible, come to the show Friday 9-5, Saturday 9-5, or Sunday 10-4. Hope to see you there. If you wish to help in some way, we will gladly provide you with a fashionable turquoise blue vest and find something for you to do. If not, come as a regular guest and enjoy many rock related items for sale by our vendors. Our club will also have a raffle of various items and a separate raffle of baskets full of theme-related items.

Thank you, and remember our next field trip is July 25 to Payson for Shoofly agates. Meet at 7:30 AM at the Chamber of Commerce in Show Low. Our next meeting is August 2 at the VFW, Show Low, 1:00 PM. Also, "Let's Do Lunch Club" is scheduled for Annie's Bistro, Lakeside, at 12:00 noon, Thursday, July 30. Anybody is welcome to come and enjoy the camaraderie.

Donna L. Pollard, President WMGMC

BULLETIN BOARD

HAPPY JULY BIRTHDAYS

Mark Captain Julie Farnsworth Marleigh Freyenhagen
 Lanora Fisher Green Maureen Helm Jeff Hodge
 Regina Hults Mary Johnson Larry Legge
 Cathy McCue Steve Miller Myra Pierce-Rees
 Rick Pietsch Anthony Poiriez Ron Ream
 Kim Reynolds Evva Ripperda William Shipitalo
 Blue Thompson Mark Wagaman Sean Goodman

Monthly Potluck for August:
 Last Names M through Z

LET'S DO LUNCH

The Let's Do Lunch Club will meet at Annie's Bistro, 2849 W White Mountain Blvd, Lakeside, at 12:00 Noon, Thursday, July 30. All are welcome.

CALL FOR ARTICLES

If you have a favorite rock, geologic topic, lapidary technique, or DIY project you would like to share with your fellow club members, we welcome your contributions to our knowledge of the wonderful world of rocks. See page 3 for submission details.

In This Issue

President's Letter	1
Bulletin Board/Treasurer's Report	2
Club Information	3
Meeting Minutes	4
July Field Trip/June Report	5
Rock of the Month	6
Rockin' Shows Coming Up	7
Calendar of Events	8
Rockhounding Adventures	9
Club Photos	10

TREASURER'S REPORT

June Expense

Rock Talk Printing & Postage

Upcoming Expense

Show Expenses, Meeting Supplies,
Rock Talk Printing & Postage

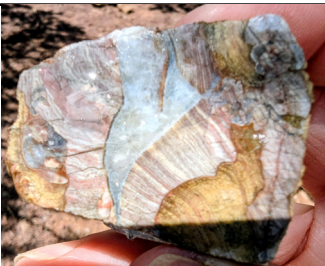
Income This Month

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

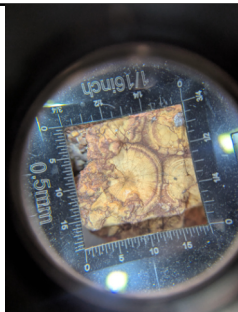
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

SUMMER JAMES
 RICK OLSEN

Every rock is a record of geological
 time, an artist's palette of the
 universe.



A rock from southern California showing multiple geologic processes.



Mystery rock from southern California

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
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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	Jamie Konopacky	(715) 498-7121	konopacky25@gmail.com
Show Chairman	Sandra Angelo	(928)537-3726	sandra_angelo@hotmail.com
Assistant Show Chairman	Ursula Wilson	(928)532-5703	uewilson@yahoo.com
Sunshine	Donna Pollard	480-600-2714	tdpollard@msn.com
Education, Schools	Open		
Greeter/Door Prizes/Raffle	Thelma Gray		
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

<u>Show Low:</u> Donna Pollard	<u>Snowflake/Taylor:</u> Karen Hickman
<u>Springerville/Eager:</u> Open	<u>Heber/Overgaard:</u> Loren Wright

New Facebook Group Page

Did you know we have a new FB page? Our rock club member Jamie Konopacky created a new group page. The name of the group is [White Mountain Gem & Mineral Club WMGMC](#) (no dash). Please don't confuse it with the old group page called White Mountain Gem & Mineral Club – WMGMC (dash) as that group page is no longer active. Use our new FB page to post your club events and reminders. You can also tell us about rock and gem related ideas, places, or projects you have done. Let's make it a nice social communication tool for us all to use.

If you have any questions or concerns or need help accessing the new page, White Mountain Gem & Mineral Club WMGMC, please feel free to reach out to Jamie via text, call 715.498.7121 or email konopacky25@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1729487638237510>

WHITE MOUNTAIN GEM & MINERAL CLUB MEETING MINUTES JULY 5, 2026

Happy Independence Day! Thank you to all of our friends and members who came today! Our Club Meeting began at 1:30 led by our wonderful club leader Donna Pollard! We began the meeting as usual with the Pledge of Allegiance and Greetings to our Guests and New Members. Welcome to our Guests Summer, Alicia, and an old friend Rick Olson!

Presidents Letter: Happy 4th of July. Hope everyone had a good time!

Announcements: White Mountain Independent Article-Doug Wolfe has a page in the White Mountain Independent! Take a look whenever you get the chance to! We have a Facebook page for our Club! Type: wmgmc to find it! We are the page without a dash! (See note on page 3 of the newsletter.) Doug: Rock the Rim- thank you for all the help from club members for helping make the show happen.

Show and Tell- Chooch-Agate Slabs/Samples with pyrite and amethyst in it from Silver city. Carl- Fordite: his last piece!

Rocky Mountain Federation: We have an ad included. Yay!

Announcement: We have Security at the Gem Show!!!

Field Trip- Last trip: June 25 th – 13 people at Woodruff. Windy and hot day. Found some fragile Selenite with Sulfur in it! Next Trip: Payson-Shoofly agate site. Meet 7:30 Chamber of Commerce parking lot, Saturday the 25th.

Gem Show: Show up at America One Storage Unit. Be there by 8:00 AM to help load up necessary supplies into Vehicles. We will head to the Elk's Lodge to offload and start set up, but know that they will not open the door until 9:05. Debbie Christmas has the floor plan. Please stay to set up the tables, display tables, and electrical cords to tape down. Steve's birthday is on the 12th - if you see him, we'll announce some Happy Birthday well wishes!

Potluck: If you are bringing food for the Potluck, bring food to any open door you find and please bring food before 2:00.

When you volunteer, we'll wear a blue vest (club provides), and bring your name badge. We will have bright orange caps for those walking around, as well, for additional security.

Dick and Donna will be doing announcements. This year we have wrist bands for everyone, including kids. Kids will get a ticket at the entry way for a free spin on the wheel.

There are a lot of Volunteer opportunities for the Gem Show. Please come by and volunteer some time to help! It does not need to be a lot. You can even just volunteer an hour or so and then leave. Bring any tumbled rocks you have they will be greatly appreciated, and if you have anything you'd like to donate to the door prizes.

Raffles tickets sold for the Baskets! And the Wristband number is for the Door prize every hour.

Break!

Let's Do Lunch: Annies' Bistro July 30 th 12:00. Door Prize Winners: Bea, Lynn, Kim. 50/50-Winners: Brookie x 2, Summer.

Business Meeting

Minutes approved!

Treasurer Business: Spent some on postage and accepted some dues with Club business, like memberships and door prizes. Some money was spent to promote the Gem show. Loren and Thelma made the motion to approve the Budget.

Terry. Banners are in dire need of repair. Carl proposed we no longer have banners. Dick Seconded. Next year Club will buy more plywood and make more plywood signs. From now on will only use banners for special events.

Donna has a plan and sign for the Silent Auction

Bea- will be showing Donna how to do newsletter because she will be unavailable for the month of August. So if you need information sent out- send it asap if you want it in the newsletter.

Loren motioned that we pay \$300.00 for security, Carl Seconded

Adjourn Time: 3:44

Dick 1st , Bea 2nd.

Respectfully Submitted, Shelly Applegate, Secretary

ROCK OF THE MONTH ∞ CHALCEDONY

Submitted by Donna Pollard

Chalcedony is a variety of quartz (silica, SiO₂) that is micro or crypto crystalline. That means that the crystals making up the specimens are too small to see with the naked eye and may be packed as tiny crystals in an open arrangement or in layers forming a fibrous array. Either way, the crystal faces cannot be seen without a microscope.

With a hardness of 7, specific gravity of 2.65, and with a complete resistance to acid, it is resilient to damage, only breaking down to smaller pieces (quartz sand grains) over vast periods of time. For this reason, it is abundant and common. Most chalcedony forms from precipitate that results from mineral-laden, mild-temperature, aqueous solutions of silica entering cavities of existing rocks, often lavas at or near the earth's surface.

Varieties include our beautiful petrified wood, in which the carbon (C) in the wood is replaced by the invading aqueous silica. Others include fortification agates (fibrous which form bands of color, moss agates with inclusions that look like vegetation growth, and silica roses that form from "puddles" of cooling silica at the desert surface. While pure chalcedony is white, various inclusions of iron, chromium, nickel, limonite, copper, and more, color its varieties green, blue, orange, pink, and other colors. The more colorful it is, the more popular the specimen. If buying, a caution is that abnormally bright colors are suspect and may have been enhanced to raise the price of the specimen.

Since quartz is the most common mineral in the earth's crust, chalcedony is extremely common. Many of our club rock-hunting trips involve chalcedony, mostly as the agate variety. While people are familiar with specimens online or in rock and mineral books, most specimens found on these trips are not museum quality. Our best finds may go on a shelf, but the vast majority pile up outside to be sorted (several times) and enjoyed by the finder.

I noticed, after any precipitation, my many piles of chalcedony glow with the vivid colors they possess. Sadly, even in our cooler, mountainous region of Arizona, "wet" does not last. I found that if I sprayed my favorites with a clear satin enamel, the mineral took on a shine that lasts. Still, there was a reason these specimens never made it to an inside cabinet; even a shine did not elevate their value to me. That is when I discovered a special glue that is great to attach two or more rocks together before spraying with enamel. I found my sense of design combined with basic throw-away rocks created a product I enjoy making and adore. I plan to obtain a special cabinet for my favorites, perhaps a China cabinet our mothers all seemed to have at one time. The rest will go to our upcoming Rock, Gem, Mineral, and Fossil Show this July 10-12 at the Elks Lodge in Show Low, Arizona.

Look through your rock piles. Is there something in there that calls out to you?

IT'S SHOW TIME!

A lot of planning and hard work behind the scenes by many members means this will be another stellar show. That's not to say we aren't scrambling to make sure all last minute details are covered.

The fun begins Thursday, 8 AM at the Storage unit – America One. Terry is the team lead, so take direction from him. We will load up everything we need for the show and head over to the Elks Lodge. The doors at the Elks Lodge will not be open until 9 AM. We can unload our stuff at the south ramp double doors or the east side doors. That way we will be ready to move in at 9 AM. Debbie Christmas takes over from there. She is the team lead for set up and tear down. Tables and chairs need to be positioned, display cases assembled, and electric to the vendors plugged in. The next wave of activity is to make sure the club areas are set up. This includes the Kids Corner under the direction of Carol Glick, the entrance area which includes admission, door prizes, raffle sales (two baskets per day), membership and rock sales. At approximately noon, the vendors start to arrive. Please be available to assist if you are able and needed. Cathy Cargile is in charge of the potluck. The plan is to serve food beginning at 2:30. Please bring your contribution before then. Plan to stay for the meal. This is a great time to reacquaint ourselves with the vendors. Many of them have been participating for years. We want them to feel welcome and cared for. We will need to exit the building by 6 PM.

Doors on Friday morning open at 8. We will have donuts and coffee available. The public will join us at 9 AM. Workers will wear teal vests and name badges. While we will have professional security on site, we also need to be present. If vendors need a break, we can stand by their tables and keep an eye on things. Food Trucks will be available from 11 AM to 2 PM. Door prizes happen every hour, and the baskets are raffled at 3 PM. People don't need to be present to win the baskets, but they need to pick them up before the end on the show. By the way, no dogs permitted on site (other than service dogs). Saturday is a repeat performance of Friday. Sunday starts an hour later and ends an hour earlier. Vendors may not pack up their tables before the end of the show. At 4 PM Sunday, the show closes. Our target for everyone out the door is 6 PM. It's like Thursday only in reverse. Again, some vendors may need a little assistance in getting everything loaded and out the door. Look around and see what is needed to be done. If you are unsure, ask one of the team leads (or me). Donna, Carl, and I will be available throughout the show for questions or assistance. The goal is for everyone to have a good time. Meet new people, see cool stuff, make new friends. You may even want to shop a little. Thank you for being a vital part of our 27 th Annual Show.

Sandra Angelo, Show Chair

ROCKIN' SHOWS COMING UP!

JULY 2026

JULY 10-12—SHOW LOW, ARIZONA:

We are thrilled to announce that White Mountain Gem and Mineral Club (WMGMC) has scheduled its 27th Gem Show for Friday, Saturday and Sunday, July 10 through 12 at the Elks Lodge located at 805 E Whipple Street, Show Low, Arizona 85901. Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; Adults \$5, Kids free with an adult; contact Sandra Angelo, Show Chair, sandra_angelo@hotmail.com. Website: <https://whitemountain-azrockclub.org/>



THE WHITE MOUNTAIN GEM AND MINERAL CLUB PRESENTS OUR 27TH ROCK, GEM, MINERAL AND FOSSIL SHOW
JULY 10-12, 2026
FRIDAY 9 AM -- 5 PM
SATURDAY 9 AM -- 5 PM
SUNDAY 10 AM -- 4 PM

Admission
Adults \$5, Kids Free With Adult
Location: Show Low Elks Lodge
805 E Whipple Street
Show Low, Arizona

MEMBERSHIP
We welcome new members! Please visit our website below for meeting times and location.

◆ Jewelry ◆ Fluorescents ◆ Gold
◆ Displays ◆ Demonstrations ◆ Fossils ◆ Kid's Corner
◆ Door Prizes ◆ Vendors ◆ Food Service Daily

Contact us at www.whitemountain-azrockclub.org

JULY-AUGUST 2026

July 31-August 2—PRESCOTT VALLEY, ARIZONA: Annual show; Prescott Gem & Mineral Club; Findlay Toyota Center, 3201 N Main St; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; \$5 General Admission, \$4 Seniors, Vets and Students, Children Under 12, Free; 22nd Annual Prescott Gem & Mineral Show. Largest indoor gem & mineral show in Northern Arizona! Over 75 vendors offering mineral specimens, beads, slabs, cabochons, crystals, fossils, meteorites, fine jewelry, classes, kids area and more; contact Dan Hunt, Show Chair; Email: pgmcshowchairperson@gmail.com; Website: <https://www.prescottgemmineral.org/>



AUGUST 2026

August 8—GILBERT, ARIZONA: Gilbert Fine Mineral, Gem, and Fossil Show. Produced by Les Presmyk/De Natura, HD SOUTH welcomes the 18th Annual Gilbert Fine Mineral, Gem, and Fossil Show to the Severson Center on Saturday, August 8th from 9:00am-5:00pm. The annual "can't miss" event for rockhounds and mineral lovers of all ages includes free admission and free parking. With nearly 15 featured vendors, there will be something for everyone!



August 14-15—ALPINE, ARIZONA: Gem, Mineral & Gold Show. Alpine Community Center, located next to the Alpine Library. Friday 9 to 4, Saturday 9 to 3. Come and enjoy yourself in the Cool Pines in the Alps of Alpine Arizona. Free Admission. Vendors, Gold Panning, Displays, Raffles, Door Prizes, Silent Auctions, Great Food. Text Pam at 480-822-0291 for show information.



VARIOUS DATES 2026

GEOLOGY IN THE CHAMBER: A hands-on interactive exploration of Earth History and geologic processes in a casual seminar setting led by Paleontologist Doug Wolfe. The classes will focus on the amazing geologic features of the Colorado Plateau regions. Recommended for ages 12 years and up. Classes at Show Low Chamber of Commerce, 81 East Deuce of Clubs, second Sunday of month starting June 14, 2026, 2:00-4:00 pm. Cost \$30 per class. Class limit 15. Contact Doug Wolfe, 480-201-0665, douglasgwolfe@gmail.com. June 14 - How the Planet Works. July 12 - Our Place in the Galaxy. August 9 - Water World with Dinosaurs. September 13 - Geology and Water in the Southwest. October 11 - Geology and Natural Resources in the 21st Century.

"Beneath the surface of a great rock lies the history of the earth." (John Green)

WHITE MOUNTAIN GEM
& MINERAL CLUB
CALENDAR OF EVENTS



FIELD TRIPS WANTED!!

PLEASE LET US KNOW OF ANY

GREAT PLACES FOR OUR OUTINGS!

MONTH	MEETING DATE	FIELD 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	

PETRIFIED WOOD AT JALAMA BEACH

Submitted by Carl Hickman

What do you do if you come up on a large black rock while beachcombing? You could ignore it, step over it, or if you are a “rock person,” you dig it out of the sand and maybe pick it up. Three “rock people,” Jerry, Gretchen and Bill, found such a rock on Jalama Beach in Santa Barbara, California, and took it to the rock shop and began cutting slabs. The interior of the rock showed white banding and rings, indicating petrified wood, which was later confirmed by a geologist.



Rock exterior after slab cutting

Rock face during slabbing
and one of the resulting
pendants

The road cut to the beach park revealed a band of black petrified wood. The cliffs behind the beach could yield additional “very interesting rocks,” proving the point that you never know what is inside a rock until you saw it or break it.

Black and white rock vein
exposed by road cut

Jalama Beach is an isolated county park, good for rockhounding and beach camping. You can find more information at: <https://www.countyofsb.org/parks/jalama.sbc>

Story source and picture credit: Gretchen Trumbull

AROUND AND ABOUT

Field Trip and Meeting Photos



July 5 Meeting Room



June Field Trip Participants



Woodruff Rock Formations



More Woodruff Scenes



Selenite from Woodruff - June Field Trip