



ROCK TALK

White Mountain Gem & Mineral Club
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April 2023

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Our show is sold out!!!! We would need a very big shoehorn to add any more tables. Good work, Carl! And thank you Cathy for coordinating all the subcommittees who are working so hard to make our show the best ever.

Welcome back Aimee, Roland, and Marleigh. Good seeing you again. A very 'Happy Birthday' to Bill Stalder who is celebrating 80 years this month. Thank you, Donna for leading the field trip to Diamond Point. Judging by the crystals during 'show and tell', a good time was had by all.

ROLLING RAFFLE! You still have the month of April to purchase raffle tickets for the spectacular amethyst crystal. We will draw the winning ticket at the May meeting and publish the number in the newsletter. [See Page Six for details]

IMPORTANT! We still need a field trip chair! Or, at least members who are willing to pick a month and a place. Please let me know so we can continue our practice of monthly trips. The trip this month will be near either St. John's or Springerville on April 22. Details will be sent out as soon as details are known.

Hopefully, Spring will show up and we will have nice weather.

REMINDER! We still have a number of people who need to renew their membership. We will be updating the roster this month. Please do not risk losing your membership privileges.

Thank you Webmaster Aimee! Aimee researched web options, found one that better meets our needs, including being more cost effective, and then rebuilt the site. She gets the 'Super Hero' award for her efforts.

Trivia - Tourmaline is big, brash, bold and beautiful. Prized by Russian Czars, this boron containing mineral with a complex chemical formula was named for the Sri Lankan word for 'gem pebbles' Most common color is black but can also be pink, red or blue. Green crystals with pink centers are called watermelon. Its piezoelectric properties make it useful in depth sounding devices on ships.

"chag Pesach kasher vesame'ach" and Easter Blessings!

Sandra

TREASURER'S REPORT

Current & Upcoming Expense

Historian supplies
Newsletter printing and postage
Post Office box annual fee
Donation—Show Low Historical Society

Income This Month:

2023 Gem & Mineral Show
Member dues
Silent Auction
Fifty/Fifty
Judy Harrell donation

BULLETIN BOARD

**April Showers Bring
May Flowers---And
Also Birthdays!**



Happy Birthday To:

- Judy Harrell**
- Cheryl Park**
- Bill Stalder**
- Ursula Wilson**



**Just a Reminder---
Highway Cleanup
Time Approaching**

When: Saturday, May 20

You are invited to join other club members to clean up the club's appointed section of US60. Meet at the Chamber of Commerce parking lot at 9:00 AM. The State supplies vests, pickup sticks, and garbage bags. Bring good walking shoes, sun protection, and gloves.

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DON'T FORGET

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

➔ "LET'S DO LUNCH CLUB" meets Friday, April 28 at 1:30 PM at the new Buffalo Bills on Clark Road (HWY 260) in Show Low. We will celebrate April birthdays with cake. Call Hope Rubi at 928-228-8851 if you will attend so that a room can be reserved.

➔ VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
We urgently need volunteers for:

- ♦ Field Trip Coordinator
- ♦ Assistant Field Trip Coordinator
- ♦ Education Coordinator

➔ April Field Trip plans are still being formulated. Look for an E-mail when they are finalized.

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 Cargile	(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 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	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 APRIL 2, 2023

The meeting was called to order by President Sandra Angelo at 1:30 PM. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Sandra welcomed back members Aimee and Roland Webster and Marleigh Freyenhagen. Thanks were extended to Donna Pollard for organizing the March field trip.

For Show and Tell Cathy Cargile brought crystals from the field trip to Diamond Point. Ursula also brought Diamond Point crystals she collected on previous trips to the site.

The minutes of the March meeting were accepted as printed in **Rock Talk** with no corrections or additions.

Treasurer Carl Hickman presented the club's financial report. (See Page One in **Rock Talk**.)

Help is needed for the club to transition from the current website to Go Daddy, as the current site is no longer supported. Sandra mentioned that the rolling auction for the amethyst point continues, with tickets at five dollars each. A field trip chairperson is still needed. In the interim, a volunteer is needed to lead the April field trip. The Apache Junction club is planning a trip in April to the St. John's area. Sandra will contact Dick Turpin to see if our club and the Apache Junction club can do a joint trip.

Donna Pollard reported on the March field trip to Diamond Point near Payson. (See Page Five in **Rock Talk** for further information.)

Reporting on the club's July show, Carl stated that 69 tables have been sold for the venue. The vendor list is now full. Based on these numbers, we should have a successful show. The Sign Team continues work on inventory of signs and placement. We will check with the Chamber of Commerce if the week prior to the show is available for a sign to be placed by the chamber building. Donations for raffle baskets are being received. Members should continue to gather and bring in items. Donation letters are available for businesses. Egg cartons are still needed for the Kids' Corner.

Carol and Cathy will be meeting at the storage unit on Wednesday April 12 to inventory Kids' Corner supplies. Contact Cathy if you can help. Please start up your rock tumbler for finished rocks to donate to Kids' Corner. Meg McDonald is still working on a possible new logo which will go on all printed materials for the show. The show setup is set for Thursday July 6 along with a potluck for vendors. Please let Ursula Wilson know if you are making a display box for the show.

Announcements: B.G, Hogarth encouraged members to submit any articles or information to the newsletter. In addition, please let her know if you have any items for the buy/sell/trade page. A request was made for the Rocky Mountain Federation newsletter to be sent to all members via email. Brookie Embry mentioned the May 20 Adopt-A-Highway cleanup. (See Page Two for more information.) Carl mentioned that the 2023 membership renewals and fees are now overdue. Please submit your renewal form and member dues ASAP for 2023. The "Let's do Lunch Club" will have their next luncheon at the new Buffalo Bills Restaurant. (See Page Two for more information.)

Door Prizes were won by Cathy Cargile, Mike Soboleske, and Debbie Christmas.

For the monthly program, Donna Pollard gave an informative presentation about the geology of the Superstition Mountains located in Pinal County.

Debbie Christmas won \$56.50 in the 50/50 drawing. Additional raffle items were won by Carl Hickman and Terry Pollard.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 PM. The next regular meeting is Sunday May 7, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Christmas, Secretary



ARIZONA'S TRAIL OF TEARS



Apache Leap, Superior, AZ

Have you ever wondered about the legend behind those small obsidian disks called "Apache Tears?" Well, here it is, told the Apache way.

<https://bcgoldadventures.com/obsidian-the-legend-of-apache-tears/>

Many years ago the Apache rode free across the valleys and mountains of southwestern United States, including what is now Arizona. The land, like the Apache, was rough but noble. Sunset mountains cut across miles of desert sands. Only the hardiest plants survived in the harsh conditions found on the faces of these towering rocky cliffs. The mountains and surrounding desert landscape kept Apache safe from enemies far longer than other tribes who had settled in more fertile, and far more open areas. In the end, however, encroachers came searching for the precious metals contained within the mountain rock and the Apache way of life was destroyed.

The Apache fought fiercely to defend their homes and families. They maintained their strong fighting spirit even though the odds were against them. Small groups of Apache warriors made life miserable for their enemies, hoping to drive the intruders away. They raided campsites, stealing horses and cattle. They ambushed supply caravans, taking food and weapons for their own use. They attacked when least expected, catching their enemies off guard. For awhile tactics of the Apache warriors worked, but the lure of gold and silver proved too strong. The men, with no regard for the Apache or his land, were determined to establish their settlements and seek their fortunes in the mountains. Finally, a large cavalry unit was sent out to hunt down the Apache warriors.

A warrior party of seventy-five Apache galloped to the top of a pink-hued mountain, chased closely behind by the cavalry. The warriors wheeled their horses around, realizing they were trapped. Behind them, the sheer face of the mountain plummeted hundreds of feet to the desert floor. In front of them, hundreds of cavalry officers circled, guns in hand. At a signal from their leader, the officers fired. In the first round of shots, fifty Apache died. The remaining twenty five warriors were trapped and faced death at the hands of their enemies. These men knew there was no way out. Rather than be killed by the enemy, remaining Apache warriors spun their horses around and leaped over the edge of the mountain.

When the Apache women and children discovered their fathers, husbands, and sons dead at the bottom of the cliff, their tears fell. Each tear drop, as it hit the hard, dry earth, turned to black stone. They mourned the death of their warriors. They mourned the loss of their fighting spirit. They mourned the life they had carved in the Arizona desert. Soon the ground at the bottom of the mountain, once bleached white from the searing sun, was blackened by Apache tears.

It is said that a person who finds one of these tears beneath Apache Leap Mountain will never need to cry again, for the Apache women cried tears for all who mourn. These beautiful translucent gemstones are now known as Apache Tears Good Luck Stones.

A REALLY, REALLY GOOD DEAL!

W

ant a chance on a really spectacular specimen or rock-related item? We are having our first rolling raffle.

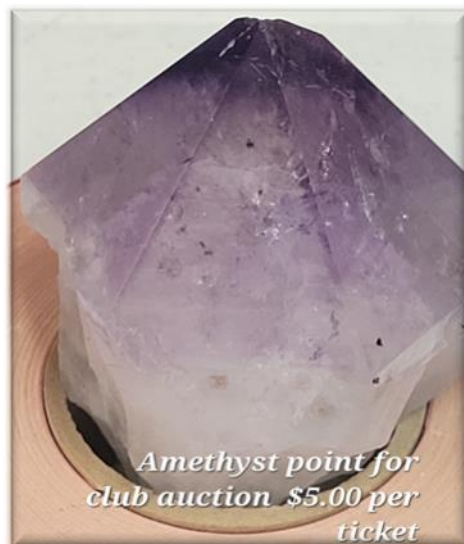
Tickets are \$5 and the raffle will run for two months.

The first item is a very amazing amethyst crystal.

For those of you who do not make it to the meetings but would like a chance to win this specimen, you can send in a check for the number of tickets you want.

The drawing will be held at the May meeting.

Photo By
Donna Pollard



Amethyst point for club auction \$5.00 per ticket



THE SEARCH FOR QUARTZ CRYSTALS AT DIAMOND POINT

By
Donna Pollard

On March 25 the White Mountain Gem & Mineral Club had its monthly field trip to Diamond Point, northeast of Payson. The week leading up to the field trip was a combination of rain, snow, wind, and ice; sometimes individually, sometimes all at once. It was no surprise that only a handful of hearty souls went on the trip. Luckily the first few hours of our day turned out to be bright and beautiful. Payson diamonds, which are really double terminated quartz crystals, sparkled in the sun in the small streams in the area. We all found some crystals and interesting rocks. It was a very nice and fun time!





PROGRESS AND PLANNING UPDATE

GEM & MINERAL SHOW 2023

Show Chair, Cathy (Viney) Cargile (714) 348-9162

Hip Hip Hooray! Thanks to Carl, we have filled our show with 21 awesome vendors and 69 tables! Carl has done an amazing job following up and closing sales. He can now create the table layout. We will keep a "waiting list" just in case of any dropouts.

Our club members have done a great job ramping up preparations for our '23 show and I truly believe this show will greatly surpass recent show production for our vendors and our club. Steps are in progress to make that happen.

Greg did some research on how to upgrade our wire street signs and located materials online to make more as needed. Terry and Donna will locate a map so we can select where banners and signs will be placed starting a month before the show and leading up to the final signs that go up a few days before the show. Sandra will check into the possibility of placing our banner on the corner by the Show Low Chamber of Commerce the week before the show. **Heads up: a work party will be needed in May** to repair, repaint, and remodel the many promotional signs needed for our gem show.

An immediate need is for someone to help ensure that the show is being promoted to the maximum extent possible. Publications and online resources deadlines must be considered. Who could help with that? A committee of three would be ideal.

Ursula has gathered all the materials needed for new signs for the interior of the show, including but not limited to, admission area, kids corner, and our displays. Speaking of displays, please let me know if you wish to create one for our show.

B.G. is going to start the design of our promo, leaving room for our new logo! We will need to distribute flyers and posters starting in early June.

OTHER NEEDS: Shirley did a terrific job on gathering goodies for baskets to raffle. She has a start on four baskets, including pet lovers, family movie night, barbeque, and kids rock hounding. We could use gift certificates for carwash, hair salon, spa, and theater tickets, plus many more themed items. Please call Shirley at (623) 261-5752 to discuss needs and what you may want to offer or bring items to donate to the May 7 meeting. One great need is larger baskets, perhaps with tall handles, plus rock, gem, and mineral specimens or jewelry to add to the baskets. Shirley could also use a team of three people to help her finalize the baskets for raffle as the show date draws closer.

Hope is working on her plans for gathering donations of gifts and certificates from her line-up of business owners. Several people took the donations letters and receipts to bring in even more contributions. Let me know if you want copies.

Carol has started a collection of necessities for the kids corner, including tumbled rocks, rock specimens, egg cartons, etc. Greg donated a large bag of beautifully tumbled rocks. I (Cathy) have grit available for anybody who might need it for show purposes. Just ask!

We are all looking forward to our seasonal members returning! We could really use your input and expertise in making our 2023 Gem and Mineral Show a spectacular success! We hope ALL members will participate in some way. We will have sign-up sheets for volunteer slots at the May meeting.

So much has been happening; I hope I have not omitted anything! If you wish to help or have an idea, please feel free to text or call me at any time! Cathy: 714 348-9162

ROCK OF THE MONTH



STEPHANITE



By Donna Pollard

Stephanite is a rather rare but interesting mineral. The name "stephanite" derives from Archduke Stephan who died in 1867. He was an early mine director of Austria.

Stephanite, Ag_5SbS_4 , is a silver antimony sulfide, an ore of silver. If it was more available, it would be a very important ore because the mineral is more than 50% silver. The crystals of stephanite are short, striated, prismatic to tabular. Less common are twinned or elongated crystals, rosettes, or compact forms. The mineral's orthorhombic crystal system is the most identifying feature.

With a hardness (H) of 2 -2 $\frac{1}{2}$, it is a soft mineral but quite heavy, with a specific gravity (S.G.) of 6.2-6.5. The streak is a shiny iron-black, fracture is uneven, and the nature is brittle. Stephanite is opaque with a metallic luster.

As a rare mineral, stephanite is not often found in large masses. It is found in epithermal veins formed from circulating mineral-filled, warm waters at shallow depths. In those veins, stephanite is associated with galena, quartz, and pyrite. It is also found in low-temperature hydrothermal veins with native silver, tetrahedrite, argentite, acanthite, and proustite.

Excellent collecting localities are not found in most of North America. Crystals up to seven inches across have come from Zacatecas and the Pedrazzini Mine, Arizpe, Sonora, Mexico. It occurs as small, well-formed crystals in gold-bearing quartz veins in Bodie, Mono County, California. Stephanite is currently mined in Cobalt, Ontario, Canada.

Stephanite was the important silver ore found in the Comstock Lode, Virginia City, Nevada. The Comstock Lode, named after an American miner named Henry Comstock, was a lode of silver ore located on the eastern slope of Mount Davidson. This peak is in the Virginia Range in Virginia City, Nevada. This was the first discovery of silver ore in the USA. The date was June 1859. Although Nevada didn't officially become a state until 1864, the silver bullion from the Comstock Lode paid for the Union's part in the Civil War and was instrumental in its victory.



From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia "Mining on the Comstock", depicting the headframes and mills of the various mines, and mining technology used at Comstock, most prominently the method of square-set timbering developed there to work the veins.

Mohave County Gemstoners

WWW.GEMSTONERS.ORG



GEM & MINERAL SHOW

Join us for a weekend of fun, family and shopping!

MAY 6th and 7th 2023

Saturday 9am-5pm

Sunday 9am-4pm

Location:

MOHAVE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

2600 Fairgrounds Blvd.

Kingman, AZ. 86401

[2600 Fairgrounds Blvd - Google Maps.html](https://www.google.com/maps/place/2600+Fairgrounds+Bldv,+Kingman,+AZ-86401)

FREE ADMISSION

(Donations are Appreciated)

EDUCATIONAL DISPLAYS & EXHIBITS:

- Gemstones
- Minerals
- Fossils
- Rocks
- Jewelry
- Woodwork
- Clothing

GREAT SHOPPING:

- Mineral Specimens
- Petrified Wood
- Fossils
- Handmade Jewelry
- Gems
- Rock Art & Carvings

ALSO FEATURING:

- Kids Activities
- Raffles
- Hourly Door Prize Drawings
- Food Vendors



Donna's Presentation of the Geology of the Superstition Mountains

