

ROCK TALK



White Mountain Gem & Mineral Club
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April 2024

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

What a fun meeting! Thanks for visiting us, Sheryl and Rick. We hope you will join us again.

Show and Tell was quite lively. Thank you for sharing your treasures everyone.

Marta has left the mountain for medical reasons. She was responsible for meeting set up and tear down for many years, later acting as back up. She was responsible for the rock food table display case for the show and was an active participant in the children's activity area. We will miss your energy and your smiling face, Marta. We hope you can come and visit us sometime.

Show plans are progressing. Most of the committees have chairs and volunteers are needed to accomplish the tasks. Everyone can do something. Signup sheets are available at the meetings or contact Cathy to volunteer. There are things to do both before, during, and after the show. This is our big fundraiser, so we need everyone to participate.

We are still looking for a treasurer. Carl has graciously continued to keep the books, but after five-plus years he is ready to step down. He will train and provide support to whomever steps up. Please and thank you.

Super presentation on fossils, Othello! You really kept our attention. I believe we all learned something we hadn't known before.

Trivia: Trace Fossils capture the activities of ancient animals. Worms burrowed, trilobites scuttled, and dinosaurs tramped. Made by creatures moving in soft mud that later hardened, it was the main chance for squishy animals to be preserved. Most traces come from sea creatures.

While Mother Nature is still playing games with us, it is spring. Take some time to enjoy the warming weather and remember, while you are outside, look both up and down. ;-D

Sandra



TREASURER'S REPORT

Expense for March	Upcoming Expense	Income This Month
Meeting supplies Bullion Plaza donation Post Office box rental Rock Talk printing & postage Snowflake/Taylor C of C GoDaddy web hosting Arizona Corporation Comm.	Show Low Historical Society Rock Talk printing & postage	2024 Gem & Mineral Show Member dues Silent Auction Fifty/Fifty

BULLETIN BOARD

Happy April Birthday

Shelly Applegate
 Ginger Donahue
 Judy Harrell
 James Jacobs
 Cheryl Park
 Debbie Trimble
 Kim Whitley

 Ursula Wilson
 Greg Wyman

***Why Not Join our
Let's Do Lunch Club***

WHEN: Friday April 26, be there at 12:00 Noon.

WHERE: Persnikkity's Café, NEW LOCATION shopping center at corner of Deuce of Clubs and Central where Sal & Teresa's was formerly located.

Let's celebrate our April birthday club members!

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Notice:

Last names N-Z will supply the potluck table for the May , 2024 meeting.

There is someone in our club who would make an excellent treasurer. Even if you don't think that you know much about it, Carl will train. It's not that hard!!!

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 (Acting)	Carl Hickman	(928)536-3744	carlhickman8@earthlink.net
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
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	skyranch5734@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	Shelly Applegate	(928)245-4300	shellylynn@gmail.com

Chamber of Commerce Liaisons

Show Low: B.G. Hogarth

Springerville/Eager: Rick Palmer

Snowflake/Taylor: Open

Heber/Overgaard: Aimee Webster

WHITE MOUNTAIN GEM & MINERAL CLUB

MEETING MINUTES APRIL 7, 2024

The April meeting of the White Mountain Gem and Mineral Club was called to order by President Sandra Angelo at 1:35 PM. Guests Rick and Sheryl Pietsch were welcomed.

For Show and Tell, Shelly Applegate shared some of her dad's old Rock and Gem magazines. Rick Palmer attended some rock and mineral shows in New Mexico. He showed an opal he acquired. He also brought some fluorite from the San Juan Mine to share with club members. Rick described sharing excess rocks with the public by placing piles of rock near the parking areas of a trailhead in Springerville and including notes with them. He said that the rocks had been disappearing. Debbie Christmas had a turtle Carl Hickman made that included a mahogany obsidian cabochon. Terry Pollard showed a piece of red and purple chert from the last field trip. Donna shared an epidote specimen that Carl had given to her. Carol Glick indicated that she collected 14 buckets of jasper and other varieties from a site that was being bulldozed. Donna and Carl offered to help her identify some of the rocks. The minutes of the March business meeting were accepted as presented in *Rock Talk*.

Treasurer Carl Hickman reported that March was a busy month. The club is on target to meet its goal of 150 members as well as its financial target for this year.

President Sandra Angelo reported that Marta Rodovska has been moved down to Mesa by her family for medical reasons. Mikki was able to talk to her via phone and she said she misses the mountains and everyone here. Sandra has her phone number and mailing address for those wishing to contact her. We will miss Marta and her energy at our club meetings and the show.

The club's semi-annual highway cleanup is scheduled for May 18. Meet at 9:00 AM by the Show Low Chamber. From there we will travel to our designated milepost 330 to 331. ADOT provides bags, vests, and pickup sticks. Brookie promises to bring her delicious home-made cookies!

Several club members have items for sale that might interest the devoted rockhound. This includes an entire rock collection, a brand-new rock saw including five gallons of oil, and a cabbing machine. (See "Buy, Sell, Trade", Page 10 in *Rock Talk*.)

Two upcoming events include a rock sale by the Payson Rimstones on April 20 and the Mojave County Gem Show on May 4-5. (See Page 11 in *Rock Talk* for more information.)

The next field trip is scheduled for April 27, and we will be going to the Deer Springs fire tower, only about an hour's drive from Show Low. (See Page 6 in *Rock Talk* for further information.)

The March field trip to Robert's Butte was a big success. Material was more abundant than remembered. The weather was perfect too. (See 5 in *Rock Talk* for further information.)

A half-page ad for our show was placed in the April and June White Mountain Symphony Orchestra Concert Program for \$75. More ads will be placed in the September and December programs inviting people to our meetings.

Cathy Cargile gave a report on our July show and had signup sheets for show volunteers. (See Page 9 in *Rock Talk* for information.)

Sandra said that members who do a little extra for the club get an entry into the year-end prizes drawing. Either sign the black and white book or let Sandra know your good deed.

(Continued on Page 5)

(Minutes, continued from Page 4)

Marleigh Freyenhagen brought several bags of oranges courtesy of the Heber-Overgaard Chamber of Commerce. They often give away food to the community. She indicated that they have many banners and posters at their building. We have joined several of the chambers since what we get in return is worth the cost of membership.

Door prizes, 50-50, and raffle winners were Greg Wyman, Mary Johnson, Debbie Christmas, Carol Glick, and Judy Harrell.

Othello Ayem gave a presentation on fossils, what they are and where to find them.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Shelley Applegate, Secretary

CHERT, AGATES AND FOSSILS, OH MY!

Photos
By
Donna Pollard



What a glorious day for an outing!

By
Sandra Angelo

The weather was perfect for rockhounding. Sunshine, moderate temperatures and a light breeze. Nineteen members, including three junior members, joined the adventure. It's great knowing that I am not the only one to miss a turn or two when heading to a field trip site. The road wasn't in too bad of shape most of the way. We did get to challenge our vehicles and driving ability a little. And, Dick showed us a scenic way to get to the site. Robert's Butte produced material that was more abundant than remembered. Everyone got a great haul including chert, agate, and fossils; everything from tumble sized to 142 pounds. The kids were great fossil finders; they discovered the sandy washes had the best stuff. One member was determined to bring the big one home. Another member decided to tell about the one that got away. Vehicles were sagging as we happily headed home.

APRIL FIELD TRIP TO DEER SPRINGS (AKA CLAY SPRINGS)



By Dick Turpin
Phone: 480-240-0885



Petrified Wood Site Field Trip

Location of the Field Trip Site: We will be going to a site south of Route 260 just west of the turn to Clay Springs.

Where and When We Will Meet: The primary meeting point will be the Show Low Chamber of Commerce parking lot on Deuce of Clubs at 9:00 AM.

Recommended Vehicle: Any vehicle can make it to the collecting area. The last five miles are on Forest Service Road 107. It is a well-maintained gravel road.

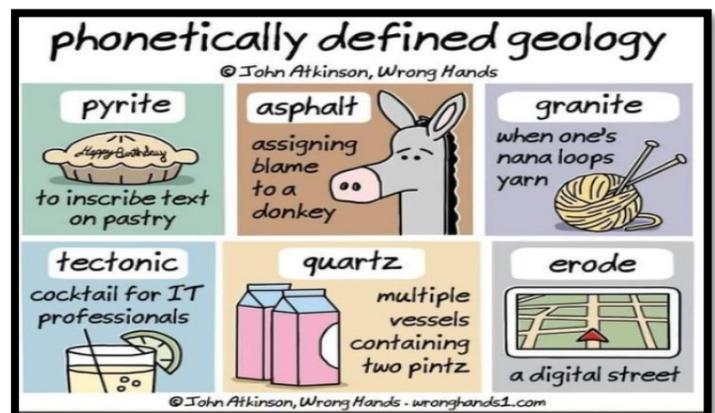
What we will collect: We will be collecting petrified wood. The majority is black, but there are some pieces showing red and white color.

Recommended Things to Take: Bucket, rock hammer, grabber, digging tools, water, lunch, sunscreen.

Cell Phone Service: The site is moderately remote and likely has very weak to no cell service.

Directions to the Site: Drive west from the primary meeting location on Highway 260 about 30 miles. On the right you will see a sign pointing to Clay Springs. Keep going on Route 260 about one mile past this turn. Start looking for a left turn on a dirt road labeled Forest Service Road 107. Turn left on this road. A good landmark for the turn is the large Sundown Ranch RV and Campground on the right side of Route 260. Continue driving on Road 107 for about five miles until the road hits a tee with Forest Service Road 300 (aka Rim Road). Turn left on Road 300 and watch for the Deer Springs fire tower a few hundred yards after the turn. We will gather at the fire tower. Once everyone arrives, we will drive about a quarter mile farther down Road 300 and park.

JUST FOR THE
PUN OF IT





ROCK OF THE MONTH: BARITE



By
Donna Pollard

Some minerals are easy to identify. Light colored minerals such as quartz with its conchoidal fracture, calcite, with its distinct cleavage, and colorful fluorite; all have easily recognized qualities. Darker minerals also have defining characteristics, such as the cubes of iron pyrite, or the brassy color of chalcopyrite. Galena, a lead ore, feels heavier than other common darker minerals. That is called heft and means it has a relatively high specific gravity. One common lighter mineral, barite, also has heft. Pick up a piece of quartz and a like-sized piece of barite and it is obvious that the barite is much heavier. This is a defining characteristic of barite, a light colored, non-metallic mineral, and the Rock of the Month.

Barite (Heavy Spar), $BaSO_4$, is a barium sulfate, and comes from the Greek word, "barys", meaning 'heavy'. The crystals grow in the orthorhombic system, having three unequal axes, all at right angles to each other. Barite may be colorless, or colored by various other minerals, creating white, yellow, grey, brown, and more rarely blue, red, green and even black if bituminous coal, an organic material, is present. Barite has a hardness of 3 - 3.5, the specific gravity is 4.4, almost twice that of quartz. It also has good cleavage and does not react to acid. Some barite fluoresces under ultraviolet light.

Barite is quite varied, with its growth occurring in many locations in various ways. It is found in medium to low-grade hydrothermal ore veins linked with lead, galena, sphalerite, antimony, sulfides, and pyrite. It can form as concretion structures in cracks or voids in sedimentary rock. It can be deposited by hot springs, or as residual deposits in limestone or dolomite, or with fluorite, quartz, or calcite.

Equally distinct are the appearances of the orthorhombic crystal form. Barite may be thin or thick, tabular, prismatic, plate-shaped, fibrous, massive, kidney-shaped, granular, cockscomb (groups of platy crystals forming fans), sand-bearing rosettes (desert roses), stalactites, or concretions and nodules.

Other minerals may be mistaken for barite, but the heft of barite is diagnostic for the mineral. Selenite roses (gypsum) are one example. Many barite roses have thick "petals" but some are thin and delicate-looking like a selenite rose. The heft and hardness of the barite is an easy way to tell them apart. The selenite rose will scratch with your fingernail and is lightweight, opposite of a barite rose. Feldspar, calcite, quartz, fluorite and aragonite have all been confused with barite, but the heft of the barite is a characteristic all the others lack.

Barite is the main barium ore used as a heavy additive to muds used in drilling, It is also used in the rubber and paper industries, in radiography, (barium milkshakes), mixed with cement mortar as a radiation screen, and used in the painting industry to produce an expensive white pigment.

Fine, clear crystals are found in Cheshire, Connecticut. Blue crystals are found in Sterling, Colorado, and yellow/brown crystal in Elk Creek, South Dakota. Yellow tabular barite crystals on pale green fluorite are found in Grand Forks, British Columbia. Tabular, clear barite is found in Palo Verde Hills, Los Angeles, California, and lovely crystals are found in St. Lawrence County, New York. Barite desert roses are common in Norman, Oklahoma, where barite is the state mineral.

CRAFTY CORNER

By Lidia Duvall



HOW ABOUT MAKING FRAMED ART THIS MONTH?

It is fun to make, simple, quick, and adorable! The possibilities are endless, and if you need inspiration, you can find many ideas online. These art pieces also make great gifts.

Begin with some washed flat rocks. Consider adding sticks, string, black sharpie pen, or other embellishments. Super glue works best as it dries quickly, it's clear, and strong. For frames, a shadow box would be best or a deep frame with glass. I used what was on hand but removed the glass. It worked well but will get dusty over the years. For background paper heavy cardstock, scrapbook paper, multi-media paper, or contact paper can be used. Be creative. I glued the paper to a cereal box type of cardboard for more stability.

Plan ahead as to what you're making. What do you need for your project: an orange triangle rock? Or a stone that looks like a fish? Maybe stones shaped like shoes? Most challenging was finding the arms and legs!

The charm in this project is to keep it simple. Have a vision for that special person. For example, my own friends: the weightlifter and the guitar player. The birds I made for myself. For a couple of friends, I made simple self-portraits hanging from wire rather than framed. I found most of the rocks walking down a dirt road. I found it gratifying to make something so cute. Use your imagination on this one. Enjoy!



2024 SHOW UPDATE

By Cathy Cargile

PLEASE READ--WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are well on the runway toward a terrific Gem Show on July 26, 27 and 28 to be held once again at the Show Low Elks Lodge. Do you have those dates on your calendar?

Our members' help is valued, and it would be GREATLY APPRECIATED if you, each of you, could do something to help the show. Sandra, our club president, has offered each member an annual prize drawing ticket for each two hours volunteered at the show and in preparation for the show.

Even if you have not been able to attend our meetings recently, we need and want your help and support for our show!

Help is needed at the admission table, our club membership table, kids' corner, spinning wheel table, silent auction table, security and more. Stronger individuals are requested to please help with bringing items from our storage unit on Thursday, July 25 and to help packing up at the end of the show and taking our items back to storage. Manpower is also needed to help with putting up our signage at designated spaces in the latter part of June. Our sign committee, led by Greg, has the locations worked out, but manpower is needed for setting them up.

Vendor care is one of our specialties and we need volunteers to help us set up and provide food dishes for our vendor potluck, which is on Thursday July 25 after vendors finish setting up their booths - about 3:00 PM. We really need a volunteer to help coordinate the dishes to see that we have a variety of foods and not all desserts :)) This position may take some phone calls and conversations with other members but is not a physical job. We also need a team leader to ensure that the buffet is set up and that we have all the supplies needed to serve all the vendors, their workers, and our club volunteers.

Donations of items are needed for our basket raffle which will consist of three baskets each day of the show. There will be three rockhound related baskets, three barbeque/picnic party baskets, and three family movie night or date night type baskets. Shirley has a list of donated items needed for each basket. Just a note, every basket will contain at least one lovely rock specimen and also a transferable free club membership that will run from August 1, 2024, through February 1, 2025!

At the May meeting information letters will be available to be presented to business owners when donations are requested.

If you are unsure as to what you can do or how you can help, please call, or text me and I will help you select something that you can do and would enjoy doing.

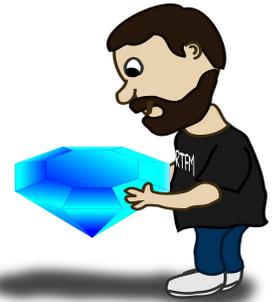
Cathy Cargile

714-348-9162

skyranch5734@yahoo.com



Buy, Sell & Trade



Looking 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 w/description, photos contact info. (Your free ad here for all club members to see and respond to.)

GREAT ROCK COLLECTION SALE!!!

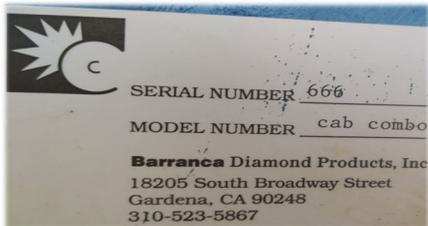
Club members Jimbo and Sandy Jacobs are selling their rock collection at the very low market price of \$1.00/pound. Members are invited to bring buckets and pick through the treasures at their home in Springerville.

Phone: 928-242-2260
E-Mail: azrockhound3261@yahoo.com

LIKE-NEW CABGING MACHINE FOR SALE!!!

Blue Thompson is selling a cabging machine bought several years ago and never used. It comes with belt and water pump. In the photos below, the price she paid for it is shown, and any reasonable offer will be considered.

Phone: 928-550-1523
Bluesilver1950@gmail.com



ON THE GEM SHOW CIRCUIT AROUND AND ABOUT LOCAL



MAY 4-5—KINGMAN, ARIZONA: Annual show; Mohave County Gemstoners; Mohave County Fairgrounds, 2600 Fairgrounds Blvd; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; Free Admission & Parking; 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 • Door Prize Drawings • Food Vendors; contact Daina Sandhop, (425) 268-9983; Email: MCgemstoners@outlook.com; Website: www.gemstoners.org/

APRIL 20 — The Payson Rimstones will host a one-day rock sale in the Big Lots shopping center parking lot. There will be a number of interesting booths set up with all kinds of different items to please the most ardent rockhound!



The 4th
**PHOENIX HERITAGE
MINERAL SHOW**

Largest, Quality
Mineral Show in
the Phoenix Area!



FLUORITE with Barite
Ana Mine, Berbes, Ribadesella, Asturias, Spain
6.5cm – Nick McClure Collection – Jeff Scovill Photo

Café & Bar: Open - 4pm
Admission:
CASH ONLY – ATM Available
• \$5.00 Adults
• \$3.00 MSA Members
• FREE 12 years & younger
with paying adult
• FREE Parking during show
msaaz.org

JUNE 1st & 2nd 2024
PHOENIX SHRINE AUDITORIUM
552 N 40th STREET • PHOENIX, AZ 85008
Saturday 9am - 5pm | Sunday 10am - 4pm
Featuring: Minerals, Competitive and Guest Exhibits
Saturday Night: Dinner, Talk, Awards and Auctions!



**PHOENIX HERITAGE
MINERAL SHOW
JUNE 1-2, 2024**

**PHOENIX SHRINE AUDITORIUM
552 N. 40th Street
Phoenix, AZ**

SHOW HOURS:

**Saturday: 9:00AM to 5:00PM
Sunday: 10:00AM to 4:00PM**

ADMISSION:

CASH ONLY — ATM AVAILABLE
\$5.00 Adults/\$3.00 12 years and younger,
with paying adult free

**FREE PARKING DURING THE
SHOW—Enter through the Shrine
Auditorium's South Entrance**

**Café and Cash Bar Hours:
Saturday: 9:00AM—4:00PM
Sunday: 10:00AM—4:00PM**

AROUND AND ABOUT IN THE MEETING ROOM

