

ROCK TALK



White Mountain Gem & Mineral Club
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October 2023

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

November is election month! Please feel free to throw your hat into the ring. We will take additional nominations at our November 5 meeting and then vote prior to the break. If you want to vote by mail, send in your ballot and mark "Ballot" on the envelope. Your ballot will be opened and counted November 5. Remember, this is your club and voting for officers or serving as an officer is a way to contribute to the club.

A small but mighty crew of nine helped to celebrate National Highway Clean-up day. Thank you, Brookie and Larry, for coordinating this bi-annual event and also sharing your amazing cookies. Thank you Bill (my personal hero), Dick, Ginger, Donna, Terry, and Shelly for participating in our club's community service project.

Donna's Rock Museum is becoming a 'must see' attraction. Thank you for hosting the field trip and again sharing your treasures.

Trunk or treat left many with grins. Thanks to everyone who provided rock related treats.

In mid-September I received a call from someone who had found our flier at the Nature Center. She was downsizing and looking for good homes for many of her rocks. I assured her that her rocks will be well placed in happy homes. Thank you for your generosity, Marie. Bill and Linda Stalder also made a major rock donation to the club this month. Most of these were shared during Trunk or Treat and the remaining ones will find new homes throughout the year. Thank you, Bill and Linda.

We have another outreach event coming up this month. HarvestFest is October 14 at Pioneer Park in Snowflake. Set up is at 8:40AM and teardown is at 2:00PM. Contact me if you would like to participate.

Trivia - Made of hydrated silica, Opal is not a true mineral, but rather a hardened silica gel. Its luminance colors are caused by tiny see through internal spheres that break up the light making it bend, spread out, and glisten. It was once believed that if wrapped in a fresh bay leaf and held in the hand, the person would become invisible.

Enjoy the magic of fall.

Sandra

TREASURER'S REPORT

Current & Upcoming Expense

Rock Talk printing and postage
Elks Lodge down payment for 2024 Show
Web site hosting renewal

Income This Month:

Silent Auction
Book sales
Rolling Raffle

BULLETIN BOARD

October gave a party
The leaves by hundreds came;
The chestnuts, oaks, and maples
And leaves of every name.
By George Cooper

Happy October Birthday to:

Lynne Erickson
Brenda Hogarth
Sherry Martin
Dick Turpin



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

When: Friday, October 27

Looking for some great
Mexican food? Join us on
October 27 at La Casita,
12:00 noon, located on White
Mountain Road straight across
from the hospital.

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DON'T FORGET

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OCTOBER FIELDTRIP

On Saturday October 21, Ursula will lead the field trip to Centerfire Bog Road in New Mexico. We will meet first at the Dollar Store by the "Y" near Concho at 8:30, then on to Springerville to McDonald's parking lot, where we will leave about 9:15. From there, we will go to Luna and head northeast. We will be collecting crystals and agates. You will see graves decorated with the crystals found in the area.

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	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 Cell-(775)397-2312	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	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/Open		
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		

Chamber of Commerce Liaisons

Show Low: Thelma Gray

Snowflake/Taylor: Open

Springerville/Eager: Rick Palmer

Heber/Overgaard: Aimee Webster

WHITE MOUNTAIN GEM & MINERAL CLUB

MEETING MINUTES OCTOBER 1, 2023

The meeting was called to order by President Sandra Angelo at 1:35PM. After the Pledge of Allegiance, members and guests were welcomed.

For Show and Tell, Dick Turpin displayed some chrysocolla and azurite specimens.

A coral specimen has been added to the Rolling Raffle for November with the drawing in December.

The September meeting minutes were accepted as posted in the September issue of **Rock Talk**.

Treasurer Carl Hickman presented the club's financial report. (See Page 1 in **Rock Talk** for more information.)

Sandra mentioned that the election of club officers for 2024 will proceed at the November meeting. Nominations were made and a slate will be built. Any members who were not present and wish to be added to the ballot should contact Sandra. The ballot will appear on Page Nine in **Rock Talk**. She also reported that the club has received many rock donations which will be used for upcoming kids' events.

Nine club members turned out for the highway clean-up in September and were thanked for their efforts.

The September field trip was to Donna's museum and collecting jaspers and fossils in the Concho area. (See Page Seven in **Rock Talk** for more information.) (For information on the October field trip, see Page Two in **Rock Talk**.)

Show Chairwoman Cathy Cargile reported that the Elks Lodge has been secured for the July 26-28, 2024 show. The Elks Lodge is working to resolve concerns that came up during the 2023 show.

Sandra mentioned that the club will have a booth at the Snowflake HarvestFest on Saturday October 14 at Pioneer Park. Setup starts at 8:30AM and the festival runs from 9:00AM to 2:00PM. Sandra urged members to sign up for shifts to volunteer from either 8:30 until noon, or 11:00AM until

2:30PM. Shelly will assist Sandra with organizing the event.

The December meeting is also the club's Christmas party. A volunteer is needed to help with decorations and organizing the potluck signups and party activities. Club members should bring a side item or dessert. Sandra will provide a ham and Donna will make a turkey.

Donna reported that the owner of the land by the St. John's dump may be willing to donate land to our club. Carl made a motion to pursue acquiring this land and Debra seconded the motion. All members agreed that Donna should get more information concerning the club's ability to acquire this parcel of land.

Lynne Erickson advised the club that she will be in Phoenix for approximately the next six months and would be willing to lead a trip to the Chilito Mine. This mine has chrysocolla, azurite, quartz, and some wulfenite. It is located 20 miles south of Superior, near Winkelman.

Rick Palmer reported on a new rock shop in Eager, run by Heidi Holt. Digging Danes Mining Company has rocks from Arizona and Arkansas. The owner may be opening up the mine to the public for a pay-to-dig fee next year.

Sandra announced that Rick Olson is planning a November 17-19 trip to Round Mountain to explore the Carlisle and Pollyanna mines. Lodging is available in Duncan and Lordsburg. It is limited to 20 people. Contact Rick by phone or email if interested.

For door prizes, an Apache Tear in Matrix was won by Lynne Erickson and an agate with crystal was won by Hope Rubi.

The 50/50 raffle of \$38 was won by Mary Johnson. A fossil specimen donated by Bill Stalder was won by our new member, Dave.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Christmas, Secretary

EDITOR'S QUICK NOTES:

I just thought I would bring you all up to speed on a couple of changes in this edition of **Rock Talk**. Number One, the report on the September fieldtrip has been incorporated into Lidia Duvall's "Crafty Corner" article. She wrote a really beautiful piece about the artistry that we all saw at the Pollard homestead.

Number Two, notice the ballot on Page Nine. Don't forget to print it, fill it out and bring it with you or else mail it in before October 30. Ballots will also be available at the meeting.

And don't forget — Before you write someone's name in for a position, **TALK TO THEM FIRST!**

And before I forget—Last names A-L will supply November's potluck tables.

ROAD CLEANUP CREW SEPTEMBER 16, 2023

Photos By
Donna Pollard



Come on everybody, let's get this picture taken!



Well, sorta, kinda, anyway!

SCENES FROM THE OCTOBER 1 MEETING ROOM



Photos By
Donna Pollard



AROUND AND ABOUT ON THE GEM SHOW CIRCUIT LOCAL



October 2023

13-15—BUCKEYE, ARIZONA: Annual show; West Valley Rock & Mineral Club; Buckeye Arena, 802 N 1st Street; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-2; Adults \$3 kids under 13 free; rocks, gems, jewelry, minerals, fossils, beads, slabs, cabs, gold panning, scavenger hunt and rock painting; contact Kim Orizaga, (503) 739-1635; Email: kporizaga@yahoo.com; Website: www.westvalleyrockandmineralclub.com/

14-15—SIERRA VISTA, ARIZONA: Annual show; Huachuca Mineral and Gem Club; Sierra Vista Mall, 2200 El Mercado Loop; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; Free Admission & Parking; 49th annual show. Handicapped accessible. Multiple vendors, inside and outside. Jewelry, mineral specimens, rock art, kid's activities. Small show, but well worth the visit; contact Maudie E. Bailey, (520) 249-1541; Email: gmbailey@msn.com; Website: www.hmgc.site

21-22—SEDONA, ARIZONA: Annual show; Sedona Gem and Mineral Club; Sedona Red Rock High School, Hwy 89A at Upper Red Rock Loop Rd; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; Adults \$5 Children 12 and under free; contact Marge Schwartz; Email: bschwar13@msn.com; Website: www.sedonagemandmineral.org



November 2023

11-12—LAKE HAVASU CITY, ARIZONA: Annual show; Lake Havasu Gem & Mineral Society; Aquatic Center, 100 Park Avenue; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; \$2, children 12 and under free; 53rd annual Lake Havasu Gem & Mineral Show. Minerals, fossils, rock collections and demonstrations. Vendors offer jewelry, faceted and cabochon jewels, fossils, tools, slabs etc. Door prizes. Raffle baskets for scholarships. Food available. Fun and educational for all the family; contact Sandi Willis, (928) 733-6270; Email: willissandie318@gmail.com; Website: www.lakehavasugms.com

January 2024

5-7—MESA, ARIZONA: Annual show; Flagg Mineral Foundation; Mesa Community College, 1833 W. Southern Avenue, NE Corner of Dobson Road and US 60; daily 9-5; Free admission and free parking; Over 125 vendors with ATM, club booths, displays, food trucks, restroom facilities. Outdoor event with free activities for kids; contact Dana Slaughter; Email: dsminerals@aol.com; Website: www.flaggshow.info

CRAFTY CORNER

By Lidia Duvall

After visiting Donna and Terry's Rock House I knew that this month's article must be about the art of displaying rocks. Donna has turned an entire house into a wonderfully crafted work of art! Not just inside but outside as well with meandering rock lined paths leading to an exciting display of repurposed items to hold specimens such as a tire cut into a flower, a tractor bucket and bathtub housing different types of stones. Outside she let us pick a few rocks to take home. Everything was organized and interesting inside and out. The composition inside and out was thoughtfully and artistically put together.

Walking into this display, one is overwhelmed by the collection and how well it was put together. Attached are photos to get an idea of the "museum" or "gallery" she has created. Insides of kitchen cupboards were painted black to display fluorescent rocks. Walls are lined with organized display cases and shelves in each room. Various rock displays are set up on tables in the aisles of the bigger rooms. Donna has wonderfully repurposed items full of stones, such as a punch bowl with cups, with various rock specimens inside. The exhibit included candy dishes, wonderful jars, crystal bowls, and even a few fishbowls, all containing specimens of her incredible collection. We saw several themed rooms, such as the "native room," and the "crystal room." Most collections were labeled and categorized.

The wonderful crafting using rocks was inspiring. Donna took rocks that looked like an animal or object, for example, Tigger the Tiger. She glued on eyes, ears, noses, and mouths and designed amazing whimsical creatures contained on numerous shelves. Statues, such as a brass elk or a cactus, were glued to rock specimens. Rock specimens were also glued around the base of store-bought cement statues; in one case a bunny. She even did some collaging on a rockface! We also saw a miniature house covered in rock.

I imagine myself getting a bird house and gluing stones or rock chips to make one. Very clever and imaginative Donna! Thanks for having us out and sharing your incredible work of art! WOW



ROCK OF THE MONTH



EPIDOTE

By Donna Pollard

Epidote is a hydrous calcium aluminum iron silicate, $\text{Ca}_2(\text{Fe,Al})_3(\text{SiO}_4)_3(\text{OH})$, a complex silicate which is part of a number of minerals in the Epidote Group. The crystals of epidote are usually slender prisms grading into needle-like forms. The crystals have striated (grooved) sides and often terminate in two sloping sides. Epidotes could also display thick, tabular crystals, granular masses, and fibrous or radiating aggregates. Epidote may fill gas created voids in rock and pack so tightly that the crystal structure cannot be seen, resembling a chalcedony jasper.

The epidote color is usually a very distinctive pistachio green, though it may be yellow-green, brown, or black. The hardness (H) is 6-7, specific gravity (S.G.) is 3.3-3.6 and streak color clear to light grey. Most epidotes have a vitreous (glassy) appearance, an uneven fracture, cleavage in one direction lengthwise, translucent to almost opaque, and is insoluble in most mediums.

Identified by the unique pistachio green color and hardness, epidote is rarely confused with another mineral. It is often associated with calcite, chlorite, actinolite, diopside, feldspar, and apatite. In granite pegmatites the feldspars often associate with epidote. A pink feldspar and green epidote, which is a form of granite known as unakite, is common. In basaltic volcanic rock, epidotes may fill gas pockets called amygdules. The crystal structure may not be seen but the pistachio green color is diagnostic.

Epidotes are found in most any type of metamorphic rock. It is common in both contact metamorphic rocks such as where igneous contacts limestone, or in regional metamorphics that are the result of heat and pressure over large areas.

While epidote can be found worldwide, such as Austria and Mexico, there are places in the United States where collector specimens are found. They include spectacular crystals found in Alaska at Sulzer on Prince of Wales Island; the Greenhorn Mountains in Kern County, California; Calumet Mine, Chaffee County, Colorado; Seven Devils District, Adams County, Idaho; Woburn, Massachusetts; and Haddam, Connecticut.

Some fine translucent crystals of epidote are used as a gemstone. The variety of minerals in the Epidote Group create the most interest to Scientists. These minerals include zoisite, clinozoisite, pink piedmontite, rose-red thulite, blue/green tanzanite, and slightly radioactive allanite. While very close to epidote, twinning of the crystals, two different crystal structures, and the replacement of the iron and/or aluminum of the original epidote formula, make these other minerals subject to experimentation of their properties. Finally, fine specimens of epidote make a nice addition to any collection.



WHITE MOUNTAIN GEM & MINERAL CLUB

NOVEMBER 2023 BALLOT

OFFICERS AND BOARD FOR YEAR 2023

Members may bring the completed ballot to the November meeting. If mailing your ballot, please do so in time to be received **NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 30, 2023**. Please mark "Ballot" on the face of your envelope. Mail-ins will be opened during the November meeting by an ad hoc committee appointed by the president. Mail to: PO Box 3504, Show Low, AZ 85902. If you want to write a candidate's name in, please make sure you have received their permission to do so.

Please remember that write-ins are most welcome, but as stated above, make sure you have the permission of the person nominated.

Circle the name of the candidate of our choice and USE ONE BALLOT PER ADULT MEMBER.

ELECTED POSITIONS		WRITE-INS
PRESIDENT	Sandra Angelo	
VICE-PRESIDENT	Carol Glick Debbie Christmas Carl Hickman	
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT	Rick Palmer	
SECRETARY	Shelly Applegate	
TREASURER	Mike Leistikow	
EDITOR	B.G. Hogarth	
MEMBERS AT LARGE (VOTE FOR FOUR)	Dick Turpin Terry Pollard Ursula Wilson Shirley Leistikow	
FIELD TRIP CO-CHAIRS (VOTE FOR TWO)	Dick Turpin Rick Palmer Ursula Wilson	

**White Mountain
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