

ROCK TALK



White Mountain Gem & Mineral Club
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September 2025

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

It sounds like it was a fun picnic. Here's hoping you all had a good time. Thank you, Debbie, for chairing the meeting. While I was disappointed to miss the picnic, I had an amazing time at our 55th high school reunion. The women looked great. The men mostly looked old. Still, it was wonderful seeing so many long time friends (family, too).

A bunch of stuff coming up! highway clean up is on September 20. It is also National Highway Cleanup day. So we are part of a nationwide celebration. Come join the fun! It will only take about two hours. Meet at the Show Low Chamber lot by 9:00 AM. And of course, we can look forward to Brookie's cookies!

The field trip to the Ice Cave and fluorite site is happening on September 26-27. You can also make it a day trip. Greg told me he had room in his vehicle and others may too. Check with other members. Unfortunately, I will not be able to join in the fun. The orchestra has its fall concert on September 27 at 3:00 PM at Blue Ridge High School.

We can look forward to Trunk or Treat at our October meeting. Bring rocks to share in the parking lot during the break.

Mark your calendar for Harvest Fest, October 11. This is an outreach event with the Snowflake-Taylor Chamber. We set up our spinning wheel in the Kids Zone and give away rocks to kids of all ages.

Trivia - A hard and pitiless rock, flint deserves its name. Very fine quartz with a hardness of 6.5, it can be found in shades of black, gray, and dark brown. When struck, sparks fly! No internal structure allowed it to be knapped into axes, knives, and arrowheads in primitive populations. Gun makers used it to provide the spark in flintlock muskets.

Remember to raise your hand for one of the board or volunteer positions - See Page 3! We will be building the slate in October for the election in November.

Welcome Autumn!

Sandra

TREASURER'S REPORT

August Expense

Member Badges
Gem Show Expenses

Upcoming Expense

Rock Talk Printing, Postage
Meeting Supplies

Income This Month

Member Dues, Donations
Gem Show Income

BULLETIN BOARD

Happy Birthday:

Jane Appel
Carol Glick
Sharon Griswold
Terry Pollard
Sheri Stroh
Aimee Webster
John Ziegenhorn

Highway Cleanup!!!

Sept. 20 meet at Show Low Chamber of Commerce, at 9:00am, leave at 9:15. Water, vests, and snacks provided. Wear good boots and gloves. And as a treat, there are Brookies yummy cookies!!!!

IN THIS ISSUE

ITEM	PAGE
President's Letter/ Treasurer's Report	1
Notes of Interest/Reminders	2
Club Information	3
Meeting Minutes/Peridot Trip	4
Those Dazzling Meteor Showers	5
September's Two-Day Field Trip	6
Rock of the Month	7
August Field Trip Report	8
Around and About, Rock Shows	9
ADDITIONAL PAGES	
Huge Rock Sale in Dewey, AZ	10
Picnic Day in the Park	11

Why not join our Let's Do Lunch Club

Where: Show Low Cafe
480 W. Deuce of Clubs

When: Thursday, Sept. 25, 11:00am

Let's Celebrate Our September Birthdays!!

NOTE: If you would rather your birthday not be publicized, but you would like to celebrate it, phone or text Hope Rubi and let her know your birthday month and favorite cake. (928-228-8851)

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 Trimble	(520)400-6527	dltrimble076@aol.com
2ND VICE PRESIDENT	Mike Soboleske	(952)242-6115	Fritso53@gmail.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	dickturpinaz@gmail.com
	Rick Palmer	(928)333-5019	palmer57@frontiernet.net

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

Webmaster/Coalition Chair	Aimee Webster	(602)503-8417	afwebster61@gmail.com
Show Chairman	Cathy Cargile	(714)348-9162	sky ranch5734@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: Karen Hickman

Springerville/Eager: Rick Palmer

Heber/Overgaard: Aimee Webster

WHITE MOUNTAIN GEM & MINERAL CLUB

MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

In the absence of President Sandra Angelo, Debbie Trimble opened the meeting at 12:50 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance and welcome to guests Carol and Mike and members.

For Show and Tell Greg and Mike shared fluorite specimens that can be found on our next fieldtrip. (More details later). Doug shared several shark teeth with a black light.

The minutes of the August meeting were approved, and the treasurer reported our finances are good. Highway Cleanup is set for Saturday, September 20. (See Page 2 in **Rock Talk** for more information.)

Tippy Mueller is organizing a team to work on graphics design for club projects, such as **Rock Talk**, our annual show, and other projects that come up within the year. See Tippy if you are interested in working with graphics design.

Next month a ballot will be prepared for positions in the club. Know that all positions, both elected and volunteer are open.

At our October meeting we will once again have Trunk or Treat during the break. Remember to bring those "extra" rocks you have been planning to get rid of—they might be someone else's treat!

BG announced that the newsletter will be a week later due to personal obligations.

No Silent Auction or ticket drawings occurred; just picnic and meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Applegate, Secretary



A SEARCH FOR PERIDOT

We will be going to the San Carlos Reservation outside of Globe, AZ to "take a tour" of the peridot claim of one of the tribe members.

Where: Meet up at McDonalds at the far SE end of Globe.

When: Saturday November 15 at 9:00 AM

Cost \$50 CASH paid to the mine owner

We will then proceed to the tribal member's home on the reservation. He will show all of the jewelry he has made and buckets of peridot bombs will be available for purchase too. Mr. Joey (the owner) will then ferry us out to his claim a few at a time. We will be allowed to surface collect for at least **two** hours. No digging will be allowed. Bring your five gallon bucket(s) and fill. Parking is limited.

NOTE: ALL parties must download and pay for a \$10 Reservation pass BEFORE you arrive at the owner's home.

Go to: sancarlos.nagfa.net/new-online to purchase your pass. **Reason for visit:** taking a tour.



THOSE DAZZLING METEOR SHOWERS!



Submitted by Donna Pollard

PIECES OF A COMET EXPLODING

That's basically what you would be watching if you caught the famous Perseid meteor shower in August. Every summer, the earth passes through the "tail" of the Swift-Tuttle comet, a ball of rock and ice that sheds bits of itself in a long stream as it travels around the sun. When those bits, or meteoroids, slam into our atmosphere and burn up, they become the meteors that we find so beautiful.

STAR SIGNS

As we cross paths with the debris, the meteors come at us in parallel lines up to 100 miles apart. In a trick of perspective, they appear to converge in the distance at a single spot known as their radiant. Showers are named after this apparent point of origin. The Perseids seem to fall from the constellation Perseus, just as the Geminid Shower in December seems to stream from Gemini.

STORMY WEATHER

It's possible to see meteors every night, several times an hour, as various meteoroids—crumbs of comets, asteroids, even the moon and other planets—hit our atmosphere. We call them "shooting stars," and sometimes we make a wish on them. (That practice, by the way, may stem from an ancient belief that gods periodically open heaven to check in on us, releasing a burst of light.) When dozens fall an hour, we get a "shower," and when a thousand or more fall an hour, that's a "storm." In 1833 there was such a massive storm that people thought the world was ending. The spectacle prompted scientists to study meteors and understand the phenomenon.

FLYING COLORS

Like fireworks, meteors blaze in a rainbow of shades. Their color depends on what the meteoroid is made of—iron gives off a yellow hue when it burns; a calcium-rich meteoroid can look purple; one with lots of magnesium will be teal. A red streak comes from the gases in our atmosphere. The larger and faster the meteor, the brighter it will be.

OUT-OF-THIS-WORLD VISITORS

Sometimes meteoroids don't fully combust, and chunks fall to earth. Called meteorites, these rocks have only once been known to hit a person. (Ann Hodges, in 1954, was struck in the hip while napping. She survived!) Scientists use them to probe the history of our solar system, as some come from meteoroids that are billions of years old. Astonishingly, a few of these contain the building blocks of DNA, suggesting that, just maybe—ready?—life began in outer space and was "delivered" to our planet by a meteor!





By Dick Turpin

SEPTEMBER FIELD TRIP OVERNIGHT TRIP ICE CAVES AND 21 MINE

Field trip leader: Dick Turpin 480-240-0995 dickturpinaz@gmail.com

Date: Friday & Saturday, September 26 - 27, 2025

Location of the Field Trip Site: We will be going to Ice Caves, NM, and 21 Mine, about a three hours drive from Show Low.

Where and When We Will Meet: We will meet at the Show Low Chamber of Commerce at 8:00 AM and depart around 8:15 on Friday, September 26.

Recommended Vehicle: Any vehicle can make it to the Ice Cave. Getting to the collecting area requires a high-clearance, four-wheel-drive vehicle, and only drivers with extensive off-road experience should attempt this drive. The road is short, but very steep and extremely rough. We will be organizing car pools to minimize the number of vehicles going to the mine.

What We Will Collect: We will be collecting fluorite and other minerals.

Recommended Things to Take: UV light, bucket, rock hammer, grabber, digging tools, water, lunch, sunscreen.

Cell Phone Service: The site is moderately remote and likely has some cell service.

Activity Plans: On Friday, we will drive to the Ice Caves, arriving about noon. After lunch, we will hike to and tour the ice cave and volcano. The fee for the tour is \$14 per adult. On Saturday, we will travel to 21 Mine, four miles east of the Ice Caves, and collect fluorite until at least noon.

Reference: The Ice Cave website.

Accommodation Options:

Ice Cave - cabins (\$70), RV parking (\$20), tent sites (free). No hookups.

Other Campgrounds are a short drive.

Hotels in Grants, about 20 miles.

Restaurants: The closest restaurants are about 20 miles from the Ice Caves. There is a small snack bar at the Ice Caves.

ROCK OF THE MONTH

AMETHYST

A

methyst is quartz colored purple by trace amounts of iron. Like other forms of quartz, it crystalizes as hexagonal prisms terminated in pyramidal shapes.



When exposed to strong sunlight, amethyst's purple color can fade. Amethyst can be faceted, tumbled, or polished into cabochons.

Amethyst occurs as crystal masses, in geodes and as stalactites.

Siblings in the quartz family include blue and rose quartz, chalcedony, agate and jasper.

Thanks to:

Collecting Rocks, Gems and Minerals, Patty Polk, Krause Publications

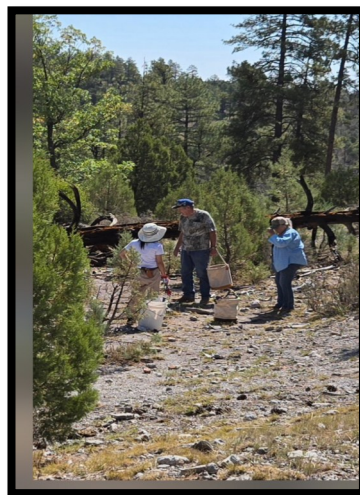
Picture credit - Bing search

FOSSILS AND AGATES AND A COOL PINE FOREST--OH MY!

On Saturday, August 22, about 17 club members and guests gathered at the Show Low Chamber of Commerce and headed to Forest Lakes and a site that the club hasn't visited in years. Earlier in the week, a lightning-caused wildfire two miles south of Forest Lakes had been a concern. However, the federal and local firefighters contained the blaze to 34 acres and canceled a "Set" order for the surrounding area in time for the field trip.

The Permian limestone outcrops provided something for every rockhound because they contained both fossils and agates. The abundant ponderosa pine forest provided comfortable and shady conditions for collecting only a few feet from the parking area. As the day heated up, this became even more welcome. Several days of monsoon rains had made finding high-quality agates easier, although they also left the bottom of the rocks coated in dark mud that made it difficult to pick out the best ones.

Among the guests were a pair of youngsters who loudly expressed their excitement with each fossil they found. This youthful reaction put smiles on the faces of our more sedate senior members. The trip included a demonstration of how the fossils can be safely exposed and cleaned using dilute muriatic acid or strong vinegar. By the noon hour, nearly all the rockhounds had filled their buckets and vehicles with their very best finds. A few folks headed to other collecting sites in the area, but most headed home to clean and sort their treasures. Many members reported that the trip was enjoyable, and a few mentioned that they gained a new appreciation for fossil collecting.



AROUND AND ABOUT ON THE ROCK SHOW SCENE

SEPTEMBER 2025

19-21—PAYSON, ARIZONA: Annual show; Payson Rimstones Rock Club; Mazatzal Hotel and Casino Event Center, MM 261 Hwy 87; Fri. 1-6, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; Friday \$3, Sat & Sun \$5, Children under 13 free; Gems, minerals, fossils, opals, jewelry, slabs, cabs, geodes, or rough material plus more. An education center for children and adults with a geologist to answer questions, a Spinning Wheel, a rock hunt, a magnificent fluorescent display, demonstrations, and silent auction area; contact Becky Bagshaw, (928) 476-3419; Email: paysonrimstones@aol.com; Website: rimstonesrockclub.org

OCTOBER 2025

10-12—BUCKEYE, ARIZONA: Annual show; West Valley Rock and Mineral Club; Buckeye Equestrian Center, 10300 S Miller Rd; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; Adults \$3, Kids 10 and under free; Kids rock treasure hunt, Live geode cracking. Jewelry, Lapidary equipment, Beads, Buy a ticket, win a prize, face painting, jewelry wrapping, too much to list; contact West Valley Rock and Mineral Club; Website: <https://westvalleyrockandmineralclub.com/>

**Clarkdale Rocks
Gem & Mineral Show**
"55th Show"
Show & Sale



September 26-28, 2025
Clark Memorial Clubhouse Auditorium
19 N. Ninth Street, Clarkdale, AZ 86324
FRI & SAT 9am - 5pm, SUN 9am - 4pm

Free Admission
Mingus Gem & Mineral Club
mingusgmclub.com

Crystals • Minerals • Gems • Jewelry • Fossils
Cabochons • Findings • Rock Slabs
Geode Splitting • Daily Raffles
Jr. Rockhound Room Activities
and much more!

16-19—TUCSON, ARIZONA: Wholesale and retail show; Dealers Tucson Fall Gem Show; The Rock Yard (and 30+ more), 615 W Lester St; Thu. 9-5, Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-5; **Note:** This is a show put on by some of the largest Tucson dealers with over 30 participating in various locations across Tucson. Some are wholesale only-some are open to the public. Please see the website for a list of dealers; contact Bruce Barlow, (602) 571-9287; Email: Barlowsgems@msn.com; Website: <https://therockyardtucsongemshow.com/tucsonfallgemandmineralshow.html>

18-19—SEDONA, ARIZONA: Annual show; Sedona Gem and Mineral Club; Sedona Red Rock HS, Hwy 89A at Upper Red Rock Loop Rd; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; Adults \$5, Children 12 & Under Free; Annual Rock, Gem and Jewelry Show. 45 vendors with specimens, rough and finished rock and many types of jewelry and supplies. Kids adventure to collect 12 different rock specimens throughout the show; contact Mark Moorehead, (928) 274-4450; Email: fifthestate23@gmail.com; Website: sedonagemandmineral.org

~ HUGE Rock Sale – Dewey, AZ ~

**Saturday, Sept. 20 &
Sunday, Sept. 21, 2025**

Revised: No Appointment Needed

Gate will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days. Come browse through quality rough from Arizona, California, Nevada, and New Mexico, personally collected 60+ years. Rough from other states also is included.

Most of the rough is priced \$1 to \$6 per pound, with individual pieces priced per piece. Plenty of slabs are available at \$1 and up.

We will also have yard sale items.

Everyone will be required to sign a Release of Liability before entering the property.

What you will see here:

Various Petrified Wood (including AZ Rainbow Wood, NV Opal Wood, NV Pink Limb Casts, etc.)

Chapenite

Rhodonite

Halite & Hanksite

Tacopa Precious Opal

Ulexite

Colemanite

Tick Canyon Howlite

Onyx & Travertine

Geodes & Nodules

Various Fossils

Various Agate (including
Fire, Moss, Luna Blue,
Chalcedony)

Various Jasper

Obsidian

Fossil Whale Bone

Fossil Dino Bone

Various Minerals

... ..SO MUCH MORE!

~ Please, Adults only ~ No dogs ~ Bring gloves & buckets ~

~ CASH ONLY ~

Contact naframpton4623@gmail.com

for address and directions.

PICNIC DAY IN THE PARK!

