

ROCK TALK



White Mountain Gem & Mineral Club
P.O. Box 3504
Show Low, Arizona 85902
www.whitemountain-azrockclub.org
whitemtngmc@gmail.com

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

It was amazing to see so many of you at this meeting. 50 members! Welcome to our new members and guests - Dave, Jane, Jeff, David, Nico, Chris, Francie, and Jeff (our visitor from Silver City, New Mexico.) Good to see you at the meeting, Donna!

Terrific Show and tell!

Sending caring thoughts to Tonie MonDragon. We are here for you, Tonie.

Help Wanted!

We need a newsletter editor! BG is retiring! So if you are looking for a way to contribute to the club, this may be a role for you. Share your creative side! BG will teach you everything you need to know. I will continue to do the final edit (a second set of eyes is a must). Please let BG or me know if you are willing to accept this challenge. Thanks.

It's show time! Our annual show is hard work but in a good way. We get to see old friends, meet new friends, promote our club, see amazing treasures, and shop till we drop. Make sure you have secured your volunteer positions for the event. Everyone is needed.

Trivia

Beryl (Emerald) is vivid and glowing with internal fires. An expensive and classy lady, you can get lost in my gorgeous green depths. The original semitic name is "Izmargad". The deep green color comes from chromium in the crystal structure. People once claimed I drove off evil spirits and prevented epileptic seizures. The largest crystal ever found was in Madagascar at 1182 lbs.

See you at the show!

Sandra

TREASURER'S REPORT

June Expense

Meeting Supplies
Picnic Reservation
Member Badges
Year End Prizes
Snowflake-Taylor C of C
Rock & Gem Magazine

Upcoming Expense

Rock Talk Printing, Postage
Show Expenses
Heber/Overgaard C of C
Donation, White Mountain
Dinosaur Exploration Center

Income This Month

Member Dues, Donations
Show Vendor Contracts
Silent Auction
50/50 Raffle

BULLETIN BOARD

Happy July Birthday
To all 19 rock club
members who have
birthdays in July.



Here's
wishing you
all the best!

Kathy Anderson
 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
 Ron Reem
 Kim Reynolds
 Evva Ripperda
 Blue Thompson
 Mark Wagaman

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EDITOR'S NOTE

As you all know, I have been privileged to be the newsletter editor for the club for almost nine years. I have enjoyed every bit of it. I entered into the position not knowing anything about rocks except that they make stunning jewelry. I can't say that I am now an expert, but I do know a lot more than when I started.

But now I feel that it is time to pass the baton to somebody else. With so many new members, I know there must be somebody who is literate, loves to do computer editing and artwork, and yes, who knows something about rocks!

I don't know who you are, but if you could get in touch with Sandra or me, it would be greatly appreciated.

(No, I'm not leaving the club; I'll still be here!) –BG

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 JULY 6, 2025

The meeting began at 1:34 PM with Club President Sandra Angelo leading with the Pledge of Allegiance. Members and guests were welcomed as well as our summer people. Our hearts go out to Tonie MonDragon on the loss of her daughter, Tamara, and also to Bob Fern on the passing of Suzanne, former members.

A note to all members: We are a club fueled by volunteer work; many hands are needed for light work so that the few hands don't have to carry the whole load. Please consider your available time for helping out. We need a newsletter editor. BG is retiring and will gladly share her secrets with you.

For Show and Tell members shared some of their most recent finds on their own rock hounding experiences.

Fran showed some specimens collected in Woodruff that she needed help identifying. Sandra displayed her necklace that she made in a Viking Wire Wrapping class led by Tippy.

Several members took a field trip to Flagstaff. Carol had a surprise box with fossils inside. Dick displayed a ruby zoisite and explained its characteristics and qualities.

Announcements: Medieval Mayhem - we have a booth on DaVinci Day, July 11. There will be no rock-hounding trip this month because of our Rock and Gem Show. Carl monitors our club email. If you are asked to respond to one of the emails, please select "Reply All."

Loren announced that Alpine has their gem and mineral show August 15 and 16.

The Lunch Club will not meet this month but will start up again in August.

Cathy Cargile gave an update on our show, which is just a few days away. (See Page 6 in **Rock Talk** for further information.)

Door prizes included galena, a rose quartz necklace, and polished diorite.

The 50/50 drawing amounted to \$67.50.

The minutes of the June business meeting were accepted.

Treasurer Kim Whitley presented the club's financial report.

Sandra reported that the club's annual picnic will be September 7 at the old pavilion in Show Low City Park. We will have a brief meeting with door prizes, but no silent auction or raffle; just time to enjoy one another's company.

Respectfully submitted:

Shelly Applegate, Secretary

ROCK OF THE MONTH

SEPTARIAN CONCRETION

With thanks to: Rocks and Minerals, Chris Pelland, Smithsonian Handbooks



Septarian Concretion

Septarian concretions can be thought of as petrified mud bog. Current theory is that soft muddy material is converted to rock through heat, pressure and time. As the host material solidifies (concretes) around particles in the matrix the formation solidifies and shrinks, and cracks (septa) form. These septa become filled with solutions of silica, calcite, iron or other materials. Further fill and crystallization cycles form the radiating and concentric patterns. Some cracks can remain unfilled or be partially filled with crystal formations.



Crystal Pocket



17th ANNUAL Gilbert Fine Mineral Gem & Fossil Show

This intimate venue is THE best opportunity for collectors to see Arizona dealers' newest acquisitions.

WHEN:
Saturday, August 9, 2025
10:00AM - 6:00PM

WHERE:
HD SOUTH—Home of the Gilbert Historical Museum
10 S Gilbert Rd.
Gilbert, AZ 85296

PARKING:
Gilbert Elementary School
175 W. Elliot Rd, Gilbert, AZ 85296
** 2nd Driveway on Elliott Road, NOT 1st Driveway.

COST:
Free Admission and Free Parking

TWO FREE PRESENTATIONS:
• 10:30 AM Arizona Fossils Dr. Jeff Langland
• 1:30 PM Arizona Minerals Les Presmyk

SHOW DETAILS:
Featuring a select group of dealers from Arizona offering a wide variety of minerals, gems and fossils. Sodas and soft drinks will be available along with information about dining options in downtown Gilbert, just a few blocks away.

FEATURED DEALERS

- | | |
|---|--|
| De Natura | Les & Paula Presmyk with Hannah Brodhagen |
| ⇒ Featuring the Sue & Al Liebetrau Thunderegg Collection | |
| CWS Fine Minerals | Chris Whitney-Smith with Nathanael Brodhagen |
| ⇒ Featuring New Releases and Thumbnails from Chris Whitney-Smith Collection | |
| Dana Slaughter Fine Minerals & Ores | Dana & Brenda Slaughter |
| Shannon Family Minerals | Michael & Pat Shannon |
| ⇒ Featuring More Rua Collection and New Comdon Collection Specimens | |
| Headframe Minerals | Don Boushelle |
| Blue Sky Minerals | Mike Hollenbeck |
| IC Minerals | Isaias Casanova |
| Made in Pangaea | Jeff & Edie Langland |
| The Collectors Stope | Jim McGlasson |
| El Cucuy Minerals | Dan Fortunato |
| ASE Minerals | Anna Seedhill & Ken Elliott |
| Wonder Rocks & Minerals | Cameron Reichert |

Show Produced by De Natura/Les Presmyk
presmyk@cox.net or (602) 370-0639



GILBERT
FINE
MINERAL
GEM &
FOSSIL
SHOW

17th ANNUAL



AUGUST 9, 2025

HD SOUTH—Home of the Gilbert Historical Museum
10 S. Gilbert Rd, Gilbert, AZ 85296
10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

The New Conference Center is Here!

Free Parking | Free Admission
Free Presentations on Arizona Minerals and Arizona Fossils

SHOW UPDATE

GEM SHOW FRIDAY--SUNDAY

JULY 18, 19, 20

By
Cathy Cargile
Show Chair

We hope to see each of you at our Twenty Sixth Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show. Please invite your friends and family to attend as well.

This will be the largest show we have held at the Elks Lodge with 23 vendors displaying their beautiful, interesting and collectible minerals, rocks, gems, beads, carvings, cabochons, jewelry, fossils and whatever else you can imagine a vendor might offer on 73 tables. Wow!

Club members, if you have not yet volunteered to assist in some capacity at the show or setting up/taking down the show we have only a few, but important, spots left to fill. What is needed and wanted is for you to pick up the phone and call Cathy at 714 348-9162 and let her know what you are willing to do, and she will fill you in on a slot or two. There are many sit down jobs, but we could still use a bit of help with the venue set up on Thursday from 9:00 AM to noon as well as cleanup on Sunday from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM. Our Italian themed potluck on Thursday after setup at about 3:00 or 4:00 PM is our chance to meet and greet our vendors. Of the 23 vendors this year 18 are returning and only five are new! We are very proud of and grateful for our vendors! A few more dishes, salads, desserts or bottled water are still needed. Please offer to contribute something.

Club members who volunteer will be admitted at no charge. Club members who simply wish to attend and shop the show are very welcome; however, you will be asked to pay at the door. Admission is \$4.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children ages two to seventeen. And, as Sandra often says, those who volunteer will be added to our end of year prize drawings! Your help is valuable and appreciated!!!

Show Volunteers are requested to wear club badges and leave all excess "stuff" either locked in your vehicle or at home. Use of pockets or "fanny" pack is recommended in lieu of a purse, bag or box! We have limited storage space and cannot guarantee the safety of your personal items.

WOODRUFF BUTTE – AND A DAY OF GREAT COLLECTING

By
Dick Turpin

Two days before the June field trip, a Red Flag Warning was issued for the White Mountains, stressing that the high winds and dry, high-heat conditions could lead to fires. In spite of this, we decided to go ahead with the trip and hope the early start would get us ahead of the worst winds and heat. By the 7:30 gathering, eleven club members arrived. Only three of these were field-trip regulars, and the other eight were new members - very welcome news. In addition, all five vehicles were high-clearance Jeeps and trucks. Feeling confident that we were well prepared, the gang headed north to the Woodruff Butte and a day of great collecting.

After a short introduction to the Butte geology and the various collecting spots, one of the best being the area where we parked, the rockhounds headed out to the spot of their own choosing. In spite of the group being spread over a large area, the group leader was able to keep track of everyone due to the topography of the Butte and almost no vegetation. For the next two hours, each group rockhounded as they saw fit. Some searched carefully with a bucket and a rock grabber. Others explored a larger range using their off-road vehicles. As noon approached and the wind and heat increased to an uncomfortable level, most folks decided they had had enough rock hunting for one trip. Everyone gathered at the parking area and compared their treasures. Most were petrified wood of various sizes and a rainbow of colors. One sharp-eyed lady spotted some fossil-bearing rock from her Jeep. A closer inspection found at least one bryozoan fossil. What a lucky find. In the Arizona desert, it always pays to slow down and watch the roadside for interesting rocks.

ROCKHOUNDING 101

(Borrowed from Mohave County Gemstoners)

(Editor's Note: This appeared in Rock Talk several years ago, but worth repeating!)

SURVIVAL:

First Aid Kit-Better to have it and not need it than to need it and not have it. Cactus, sharp rocks, stinging or biting bugs are constant.

Spare Tire-Always have a regular spare tire, aired up, and the tools to change it.

Full Tank- Always start the field trip with a full tank of gas.

Food & Water-Always carry at least a gallon of water. Bring something to eat or snack on; you know your needs better than anyone.

Know your Heat Tolerance-Know your limits, do not go by others' abilities or limitations.

Four-Wheel Drive- Always assume you will need four-wheel drive and good clearance. Most places are off road, through sandy washes, and up rocky inclines. Dealerships do not always outfit your four-wheel vehicle with good off-road tires; check that your tires can bear the weight of a loaded vehicle over pointed rocks.

NOTIFY TRIP LEADER if you are going to leave the group. Do not leave this to others. The trip leader is responsible for everyone on the outing.

TOOLS FOR COLLECTING:

Rock hammer, chisel, small shovel, safety goggles- A hammer is paramount. A regular hammer will work, but the preferred tool is a rock hammer with a striking face on one side and a pick on the other. Estwing is a tried and true brand. A chisel is important, and in a pinch, a sturdy screwdriver will do the job. A small shovel is not necessary, but can come in handy. Depending upon how much effort you want to exert, a full size shovel is good; regular pick is handy; and a good long pry bar, pointed on one end and flattened on the other, can really be useful. Safety goggles can save your eyes from the chips that fly off of the rock you are beating.

Bucket or Bag- A five- or two-gallon bucket will work; a bag or an old backpack is easier to carry. Just know what you can handle and do not rely on others to pack your rocks back to your vehicle.

Spray Bottle-This is very handy to see what you just picked or dug up. It is also good for a quick cool down, clean your hands, etc.

Hat & Gloves-The hat can provide shade for your face and block the sun from your eyes as you search for rocks. A good pair of leather gloves will prevent small cuts and abrasions, cushion the blow of a hammer or chisel, and help eliminate blisters and splinters.

FUN FACTS TO KNOW AND TELL:

- Never lay your hammer (or anything else) down and walk away from it with the thought you will find it again. Painting part of it with a loud neon color will let people know it is yours when they come across it.
- Don't pile "your" rocks and walk away. On the rare chance you locate the spot again; your rocks may not be there. No one is going to take them on purpose, but things look different in nature to others. Someone will think they just "lucked" onto a great find. When your bucket or bag is full, go and empty it and then return to collecting.
- A whistle can be a life saver. It can summon others or help locate a stray.
- Always be at least 10 minutes early to departure time at field trips. If the stated time is 7, be there at 6:45. This is the time to sign in and any last minute changes or info is given at this time. Always be able to recognize the trip leader.



WHAT'S HAPPENING ON OTHER CLUB SHOW CALENDARS?



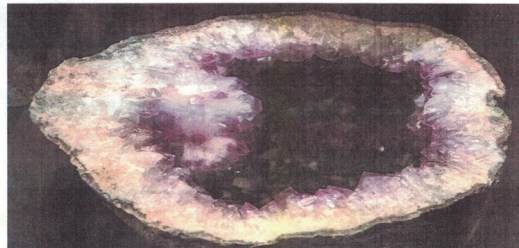
AUGUST 2025

1-3—PRESCOTT VALLEY, ARIZONA: Annual show; Prescott Gem & Mineral Club; Findlay Toyota Event Center, 3201 N Main Street; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; \$5 adults; \$4 seniors, vets, students, kids under 12 with paid adult; 21st Annual Show! Over 75 vendors offering gem & mineral related products including mineral specimens, beads, slabs, cabochons, crystals, fossils, gem rough, meteorites, fine jewelry, lapidary and jewelry making demos and classes, kids' area, fluorescent exhibit, raffle and more; contact Doreen Clark;
Email: doreenphx@gmail.com; Website: prescottgemmineral.org

ALPINE, ARIZONA

Gem, Mineral & Gold Show

*Come and Enjoy Yourself
in the Cool Pines in the Alps of Arizona*



August 15 & 16, 2025

Friday 9 to 4, Saturday 9 to 3

At The

Alpine Community Center

Located Next to the Alpine Library

**Vendors * Gold Panning * Displays
Raffles * Door Prizes * Silent Auctions**

Text Pam at 480-822-0291 for Show Information
Vendors Needed

REMEMBERING SOME OF OUR PAST SHOWS



AROUND AND ABOUT IN THE MEETING ROOM

