



ROCK TALK

White Mountain Gem & Mineral Club

Member of RMFMS and AFMS

Volume 14 Issue 1 January 2010

whitemountain-azrockclub.org

Elected Officers

President	<u>Nanz Marshall</u> (928) 537-2524
Vice President	<u>David Bingell</u> (928) 367-4062
Secretary	<u>Tonie MonDragon</u> (859) 338-2296
Treasurer	<u>Larry Legge</u> (928) 537-2524
Editor	<u>Charlene Bingell</u> (928) 367-4062
Field Trip Chairman-	<u>Open</u>

Board Members:

<u>Ursula Wilson</u>	(928) 532-5703
<u>Eunice McQuiston</u>	(928) 536-7209
<u>George Stokes</u>	(928) 229-0328
<u>Jan Stokes</u>	(928) 229-0328

Volunteer Positions:

Show Chair	<u>Larry Legge</u> (928) 537-2524
Advertise & PR	<u>Larry Legge</u> (928) 537-2524
Librarian	<u>Jan Pertruzzi</u> (928) 368-4688
Door Prizes/50-50 Raffle	<u>Kathleen Varhol</u>
Auctioneer	<u>Bill Stalder</u> (928) 368-4496
Highway Clean Up	<u>Nanz Marshall</u> (928) 537-2524
Coalition Trips/Historian/Sunshine	<u>Eunice McQuiston</u> (928) 536-7209
Education (Schools/Libraries)	<u>Open</u>
Web Master	<u>Ron Dale</u> Ron.bunnie@gmail.com

President's Message

January 2010

I really wanted to assure y'all that I was "back in the saddle", but since I missed the January meeting the best I can say is "I've got my foot in the stirrup".

Thank you, David, for leading the shortest meeting on record. I'm told it was packed full of good fellowship. It seems we will be meeting in the small room again next month until the renovations are complete. Thank you everyone for your patience.

Thank you, Jan, for what was a wonderful review of Birthstone Lore. I'm thinking the Club may need to invest in video equipment and a member volunteer to become Our Videographer. Not only could the library circulate these excellent educational segments, but the Annual Show could feature a video lounge area. What do you think about that?

2010 has for me started off at a walk, but I fully expect to trot along soon. There are places to go, things to do, specimens to gather and then transform through craft, lapidary, and imaginative creativity into worthy collectibles. Some of those techniques will be part of our Educational Segments this year and I'm anxiously looking forward to them.

Happy New Year Everyone! See you soon.

Nanz

"Rock Talk" is published monthly by The White Mountain Gem & Mineral Club, Inc. Any comments members wish to have published in "Rock Talk" need to be turned in or called in at the general membership meeting to the Editor.

Membership dues are \$15.00 for single membership and \$20.00 for couple/family. Dues are due the first of January of every year along with a completed application. Meetings are held at J.B.'s Restaurant on the Deuce of Clubs, Show Low, Az., 1st Tuesday of the month, social hour starts at 5:30/meeting at 6:30.

Meeting Minutes

Minutes of General Meeting
White Mountain Gem & Mineral Club
January 5, 2010

Vice President David Bingell called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. President Nanz Marshall was absent due to illness. There were 4 guests present, Robert and Wendy Hall were guests of Robert Stalder, and Nancy and Ernie Hoffman were the guests of the Halls.

A motion to approve the December minutes as published was made by Eunice McQuiston and seconded by Pete Scholten. The motion was approved unanimously.

David announced that the annual membership dues are due and there is a renewal application form with your newsletter.

David then made announcements regarding upcoming shows. See David for coupons on admission discounts.

Vice President, David Bingell reported he had received the What's Hot at the Tucson Show DVD and it was available in the Club Library but it would be part of the February educational presentation. David reported that this evening's program would be presented by Jan Petruzzi. David will make the March presentation on preservation of jewelry and stones.

Treasurer Larry Legge gave his December report. Larry requested a Board meeting to prepare the Budget and a meeting was set for January 17th at noon at JB's Restaurant. All Board Members and any other volunteers or members who have a financial interest are invited to bring their proposed budget figures.

Editor Charlene Bingell said to look for the dues renewal form in the newsletter and she was still looking at a theme for the forthcoming year.

Secretary Tonie MonDragon had no report.

No one has volunteered for the Field Trip Coordinator position so a form was circulated for members to sign up to coordinate a trip for each month. Tonie MonDragon will be the January Coordinator. She will lead the car caravan to the Globe Show on Saturday, January 16th. Those interested are to meet at the K-Mart parking lot closest to the street at 8:30 a.m. We will coordinate ride shares.

David called for old and new business. Larry Legge reported on the show site and there are two rooms adequate for our needs, ample parking available and he will look into renting an electronic sign at the intersection on White Mountain Boulevard. There was no new business.

The meeting took a break from 7:00-7:15 pm.

The meeting resumed at 7:15 p.m. with Jan Petruzzi presenting a program on the Folklore of Gemstones and reported on the history of beliefs in curative effects, protection and negative aspects. Her report is detailed in this newsletter.

The drawings were held: The 50/50 drawing winners were: Sandra Angelo won \$15, David Bingell won a calcite stone carving and Bill Stalder won the Moroccan calcite specimen. The night's door prize of a wulfenite specimen was won by Linda Stalder.

A motion to adjourn was made by Sandra Angelo, seconded by Laura Scholten and approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:34 pm with the silent auction running for another 3 minutes.

Respectfully submitted,
Tonie MonDragon, Secretary

Next Meeting

Mark your calendars: Our meetings are always the first Tuesday of the Month- Next month will be February 2, 2010 - at JB's Restaurant on the Deuce of Clubs in Show Low- social hour starts at 5:30 meeting starts promptly at 6:30 PM.



whitemountain-azrockclub.org

Contact Ron Dale if you have any questions about the website.

Board Meeting

Sunday 1/17 at Noon at J. B.'s Restaurant- time to go over the 2010 budget.

Birthdays

Happy Birthday January and February Babies!- We only have today - this moment in time- so CELEBRATE! No matter what your age!

January
Mike Gaspar - 7
Mark Holmstrom - 4
Lyla Mateosky - 23
Jody Overstreet - 14
Tisha Peterson - 19
Marilyn Reynolds - 19

February
Fred McQuiston - 11
Sheila Arguella - 19
Michael Overstreet- 4

FIELD TRIPS

Field Trip Report- No field trip in December

WANTED - Field Trips - 2010

WANTED: Someone to assume the title and responsibilities of the "Field Trip Chairperson"

In the event that this position is not filled, a sign-up sheet will be passed around at the January meeting for any member to choose a month(s) and provide a field trip for the rest of us. This has worked in the past, but it is nice to have a single individual in charge. Out of the 12 months, seven months are untitled and leader-less. Surely we can fill these spaces. Help and suggestions are always available.

Have a happy and healthy 2010.

Remember, we are an EOC (an Equal Opportunity Club).

Eunice

JANUARY FIELD TRIP

The field trip will be to the Annual Globe Gem & Mineral Show at the Fairgrounds just north of Globe. The group will meet at the K-Mart parking lot closest to the Deuce of Clubs at 8:30 am on Saturday, January 16th. Shared rides are available where we meet. Tonic MonDragon will be the trip leader. The Show location is about 90 minutes from Show Low and at the fairgrounds on the left side of Highway 60. There is a new large sign for the Fairgrounds. There is a small admission price and the show runs Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Historically this show hosts many beautiful exhibits, some demonstrations, and at least 15 dealers. The Club has also offered lunch service at

their show. In the event of inclement weather the Club organized trip will be cancelled and any one who wishes to go can go on their own.

Coalition Trip for January

Coalition Rock Trip for January 23, 2010 Saturday.

Sorry for the late notification, as you know 10% of the people do not get the word, anyway I did not know that the Sun City Rockhound club would lead the January trip until about ten days ago. Since I had visited the Rowley Mine on Nov 11, I have arranged with the owner to visit for our January trip. Bob McDowell is the owner and is currently working the mine for mineral specimens. For fifteen dollars a person, we can visit the mine site. He has been quite upset for a few months about persons unknown visiting and stealing tools, etc while he was down in the mine working. Just from conversation with him there may be a day when this mine will be closed to any rock hunting. If you do not know, this mine dump has some very beautiful Chrysocolla material as well as Wulfenite, Mimetite, Cersussite, Barite and Galena minerals. There could be as many as 35-40 different minerals in this mine site.

We will leave for the mine from McDonalds on the West side of Gila Bend at 9:30 It is almost a two hour trip from the Phoenix depending on your starting point To get to Gila Bend, take I-10 west to exit 112, Route 85 south to Gila Bend. If you get separated when leaving Gila Bend, take I-8 west toward San Diego to exit 102, Painted Rock exit (12-13 miles west of Gila Bend). Go north following the black top road for about 12 miles to the entrance to Painted Rock State Park. From that point continue 1.6 miles toward Painted Rock Dam at which time you will turn right on an ill defined road that takes you about one mile on a dirt trail to the Rowley Mine. There will be a sign at the entrance that says "No Trespassing", Keep Out, etc. Drive around this sign. A passenger car can make this trip with out much trouble. The mine dump is dirty, red and will stain your clothing even if it is not wet. When it is wet, the red will be with you for a long time. Bring shovels, rock hammer, digging tools, a bucket for your finds and a desire to find some really nice minerals. Questions, please call

me at my work at 623-974-6036. Please bring the correct change for the \$15 fee and see you at McDonalds on Jan 23, 2010

Painted Rock State Park has restrooms, outhouse type. It is a very interesting side trip. There is a large pile of rocks that the Indians used as a messenger board hundreds of years ago. The petro glyphs are really interesting and there is info for a self guided tour available at the park.

taxmarktax@aol.com

Roster Updates:

Will be available on our website- password is given to members only. Please Contact Ron Dale our webmaster for your password to access the membership roster. Updates are done monthly so visit the roster online for the most current address and phone number information.

Rock & Gem Shows

January 2010

1-31--LAUGHLIN, NEVADA: Show, "Clouds Jamboree"; Richard Cloud; Avi Resort and Casino - Outdoor RV Park, 10000 Aha Macav Pkwy.; 10-5 every day; contact Richard Cloud, P.O. Box 284, Quartzsite, AZ 85346, (866) 558-7719; e-mail: cloudsjamboree@tds.net; Web site: www.cloudsjamboree.com

15-17--SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA: Show, "Gem Faire"; Gem Faire Inc.; Sonoma County Fairgrounds/Grace Pavilion, 1350 Bennett Valley Rd.; Fri. 12-7, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; \$5 weekend pass; contact Yooy Nelson, (503) 252-8300; e-mail: info@gemfaire.com; Web site: www.gemfaire.com

16-17--EXETER, CALIFORNIA: Show, "Gemboree"; Tule Gem & Mineral Club; Veteran's Memorial Bldg., Hwy. 65; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; free admission; dealers, gems, grab bags, club displays, jewelry, rocks, minerals, lapidary supplies, demonstrations, "Wheel of Fortune", door prizes;

contact Pepper Okada, 5924 W. Iris Ct., Visalia, CA 93277, (559) 733-5842; e-mail: pepperok@clearwire.net

29-31--SAN RAFAEL, CALIFORNIA: Show, "Gem Faire"; Gem Faire Inc.; Marin Center/Exhibit Hall, 10 Avenue of the Flags; Fri. 12-7, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; \$5 weekend pass; contact Yooy Nelson, (503) 252-8300; e-mail: info@gemfaire.com; Web site: www.gemfaire.com

2010 Tucson – Arizona Mineral and Fossil

Show:

Jan 30 - Feb 13 Daily 10 – 6

4 Easy to find Locations:

Quality Inn - Benson Hwy – I-10, Exit 262,
Northeast Corner Of Benson Hwy at Park

InnSuites Hotel – Downtown – 475 N Granada Ave
at St Marys Ramada Ltd – Downtown – 665 N
Freeway at St Marys

Mineral and Fossil Marketplace – 1333 n Oracle at
Drachman

Martin Zinn Expositions, I.L.C. PO Box 665,
Bernalillo, NM 87004 Fax (303) 223-3478
mzexpos@aol.com, www.mzexpos.com

To see the rest of the scheduled shows go to -
<http://www.rockngem.com/showdates.asp>

**Please visit the website listed under Web Site
Information in this newsletter to see if you can access
the newsletter via the website- lets go
PAPERLESS AND BE GREEN!**

January's Education Presentation

Presented by Jan Pertruzzi

Gemstones have been treasured from prehistoric times to now. Gemstones were carved into animal

and magical images. For instance, some people think the Hope Diamond is cursed, and that wearing your birthstone is lucky.

Agate – worn on the arm or carried while gardening, increases plant fertility and ensures a bountiful crop. In ancient Britain, agate was used to guard against skin diseases. Agate is the oldest stone in recorded history.

Agates have been used in jewelry since Biblical Babylonian times. They were used to ward off storms. They were prized gems in antiquity. They agates with banded colors were placed at the head of a sleeper to give rich and varied dreams.

Agate is considered a protection stone. It is believed to attract strength and offer protection from bad dreams, stress and the draining of energy.

Amethyst – it used to be moistened with saliva and rubbed on the face to get rid of pimples and rough skin. In Graeco-Roman times, amethysts set in rings were worn as charms to guard against evil. Also, amethyst was worn to guard against drunkenness and to instill a sober mind. It was also believed to quicken the wit, protect soldiers in battle, guard against contagious disease and generally bring about peace of mind. It has been a popular religious stone, believed to control evil thoughts and increase one's spiritual development.

Coral – in ancient Egypt and Greece, powdered coral was mixed with seed and scattered over newly planted fields. This protected the crops from inclement weather and insects. Coral was also hung on fruit trees to increase their yield. Coral earrings were worn by women in ancient Rome to attract men.

Diamonds – in ancient Rome, diamonds were set in rings to produce bravery, daring and victory. In India, diamonds set in rings were worn for victory in battles and conflicts. It's also been said to relieve nightmares and encourages sleep at bedtime.

Fossils – ammonites, during the Middle Ages were called "draconites" and were thought to be stones removed from a dragon's head. In more recent times in Britain, they were known as snake stones.

Geodes – used to attract love, increase fertility and promote conception.

Jade – in China, jade has been carved into butterflies to draw love toward the wearer. The ancient Mayans wore jade amulets to guard against kidney disease and bladder problems. The Chinese carved images into jade, such as bats, bears, and storks to help prolong life.

Jasper – American Indians used jasper in rain attracting ceremonies. Early inhabitants of the US used jasper in divination. Red jasper was carved with images of lions or archers and carried to guard against poison and to cure fevers.

Obsidian – ancient Aztecs made square mirrors from obsidian for divination. This stone was also used to making stone knives, spear points and arrowheads.

Opal – Medieval Europeans dreaded the opal because of its resemblance to the "Evil Eye," and its superficial likeness to the optical organs of cats, toads, snakes, and other common creatures with hellish affiliations.

To this day, the odd prejudice against opals remains alive and well in some corners of the world, especially in the backwaters of southern Europe and the Middle East, where jewelers won't carry opals and customers won't buy them.

Opals are supposed to be bad luck. They are also thought to have teleportation powers.

Lapidaries and gem-setters, to whom opals were entrusted, were sometimes so unfortunate as to fracture them in the process of cutting or setting.

This was frequently due to no fault on the part of the cutters or setters, but was owing to the natural brittleness of the opal. As such workmen are responsible to the owners for any injury to the gems they would soon acquire a prejudice against opals, and would come to regard them as unlucky stones.

Fear of the Evil Eye, common to cultures the world over, was and remains especially acute in the Mediterranean. The Evil Eye's association with the

opal probably originated in Elizabethan England. There the stones were called "ophals," a shortening of the word "ophthalmos," which referred to the human eye.

Fear of the Eye crossed the Atlantic with European settlers. In Puritan New England, colonists wore heart-shaped pendants with prayers inside to protect themselves from the godless gaze of Satan's servants.

Opal also has unfortunate ties to the Black Plague.

Fear and loathing of the opal did not discourage the development of a counter folklore which cast the stone as a symbol of hope, innocence, and purity.

Poets of the Middle Ages also sang the opal's praises, claiming it had curative effect on bad eyes, protected children from predatory animals, banished evil, and made entertainments, friendships, and romances much more intense and enjoyable.

(Information on the opal comes from:
www.colored-stone.com/stories/sep01/opal.cfm)

Peridot – was used to guard against night terrors. Also used to promote healing of insect bites and to help in liver ailments. Peridot is used to attract love and calm anger. The stone can also promote sleep, and if worn to bed and if placed in a ring, could help relieve depression. This type of usage dates back to ancient Roman times.

Turquoise – the Navajo used ground turquoise and coral to create sand paintings to bring rain to the land. The Navajo also carved horses and sheep from turquoise as guardians against negative magic.

Pueblo Indians laid turquoise under the floor as an offering to the deities when a house or Kiva was built.

Others attached turquoise to bows to ensure accurate shots. A turquoise ring was used to guard against disease, poison, violence and accidents. When worn, it promotes courage.

Copper – though not a gemstone, but since we live in the "Copper State" ...

It's used to relieve rheumatism, arthritis, and any general sickness. To be effective in health-related applications, copper is worn on the left side of the body by those who are right-handed, and reverse if left-handed. Copper is worn to attract love.

Useful take home message: Copper is used to attract money. You need to use old pennies actually made from copper (pre-1984), that were minted in a leap year (the Olympics, prior to 1984 were held on leap years, so that can be a quick guide ... they didn't split into each even year until 1996/8) and then place the penny in the kitchen to attract money to the household. You never know!

Gem Artist of the Month



Gem Artist - Verma Nequatewa

"My life and my jewelry have been greatly influenced by two things. The first is by my good fortune to have grown up and to continue to live on the Hopi Reservation. This enables me to witness the grandeur of the landscape on a daily basis and to be involved constantly in the ceremonial activities that are constantly taking place here. The second major influence is that of my uncle, Charles Loloma.

When Charles came back to Hotevilla, I was still in high school. As I watched and listened to him, I

became interested in helping him and learning art. I was most fortunate to be able to work with him, and listen to his conversations with other artists of various kinds for those years of apprenticeship. His insight is a major factor in my life.

Charles taught that beauty is all around us on Hopi, in the environment, in the culture, in ceremony. By combining elements from what is a part of my everyday life, the finest of ideas, with the finest of materials, I can interpret a part of Hopi for people to see and wear.

Each piece of jewelry is hand-shaped. As with a child, each one is different and requires individual attention. What begins as a flat sheet of metal or a piece of sandcast, is shaped gradually to its final form, allowing for its individual strengths and development.

Charles spoiled himself and me by purchasing and using only the finest of stones. I continue to enjoy inlaying with only the finest of materials, looking for the inner secrets of each. Sometimes the idea for a piece comes from a stone - the way it is shaped or the feeling it gives. From the stones comes the shape and structure of the inlay. My role is to allow the stones to become what they can, in the way that they need to be. When a piece is completed, it can then go on its own to create joy and happiness in others".



More pictures and information:

<http://www.americanmastersofstone.com/Biographies/Verma%20Nequatewa.htm>

Exploring Minerals

Lepidolite

Lepidolite is an uncommon mica and has only in the past decade become available on the mineral market in large quantities. Lepidolite is an ore of lithium and forms in granitic masses that contain a substantial amount of lithium. The lithium content in lepidolite does vary greatly however and low lithium lepidolite is nearly useless as an ore of lithium. The typical violet to pink color of lepidolite is characteristic and is the only field test available to identify lepidolite from other micas. Pink muscovite or very pale lepidolite may confuse identification.

Lepidolite, like other micas, has a layered structure of lithium aluminum silicate sheets weakly bonded together by layers of potassium ions. These potassium ion layers produce the perfect cleavage. Lepidolite crystals accompany such other lithium bearing minerals such as tourmaline, amblygonite and spodumene and can add greatly to the value of these specimens. A rock made of granular pink lepidolite and red to pink tourmaline is used as an ornamental stone for carving. Single large plates or "books" of lepidolite can have appealing violet color and make attractive mineral specimens.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS:

- Color is violet to pale pink or white and rarely gray or yellow.
- Luster is vitreous to pearly.
- Transparency crystals are transparent to translucent.
- Crystal System is monoclinic; 2/m
- Crystal Habits include tabular to prismatic crystals with a prominent pinacoid termination. Lepidolite's four prism faces and two pinacoid faces form pseudo-hexagonal crystal "books". The sides of the crystal often tend to taper. Also as micaceous, lamellar or granular rock forming masses.
- Cleavage is perfect in one direction producing thin sheets or flakes.
- Fracture is not readily observed due to cleavage but is uneven.
- Hardness is 2.5.

- Specific Gravity is approximately 2.8+ (average)
- Streak is white.
- Associated Minerals are [quartz](#), [feldspars](#), [spodumene](#), [amblygonite](#) and [tourmaline](#) especially [elbaite](#).
- Other Characteristics: cleavage sheets are flexible and elastic, meaning they can be bent and will flex back to original shape. Also some specimens may show [triboluminescence](#).
- Notable Occurrences include Brazil; Ural Mountains, Russia; several African localities and California, USA.
- Best Field Indicators are crystal habit, color, cleavage, elastic sheets and associations.

<http://www.galleries.com/minerals/silicate/lepidolite/lepidolite.htm>

Where to find Lepidolite:

LOCALITIES:

Only found in regions where dikes of this type are exposed, as in New England, particularly in Maine, and at Portland, Connecticut, and San Diego County, California. Well-formed crystals up to an inch or more across are found at Auburn, Maine. Fine-grained aggregates are common in many Maine localities, and are associated with microlite at Dixon, New Mexico. The coarsest crystals form bladed aggregates at Ohio City, Colorado. Foreign localities include: Minas Gerais, Brazil; Madagascar; VarUtrask, Sweden; Southwest Africa; Western Australia; Ural Mountains, Russia and Germany.

webmineral.com/data/Lepidolite.shtml



Lithium pharmacology refers to use of the [lithium ion](#), Li^+ , as a drug. A number of chemical [salts](#) of lithium are used medically as a [mood stabilizing drug](#), primarily in the treatment of [bipolar disorder](#), where they have a role in the treatment of [depression](#) and particularly of [mania](#), both acutely and in the long term.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lithium_pharmacology

(Give to Treasurer) Membership Cards _____ Name Badges _____

Date: _____

WHITE MOUNTAIN GEM & MINERAL CLUB - Membership Application: New _____ Renewal _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Type of Membership: Single (\$15.00) _____ Couple (\$20.00) _____

(Give to Editor)

WHITE MOUNTAIN GEM & MINERAL CLUB

P.O. Box 3504 Show
Low, AZ 85902

Membership Application

Yes, I wish to become a member!

Type of Membership (please choose one):

Single (\$15.00) _____ Couple (\$20.00) _____ New _____ Renewal _____

Name _____ Phone _____

(Please Print)

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

(Please Print)

E-Mail Address _____

Would you like to receive the club bulletin via the internet? Please check here if you do _____

Would you still want a hard copy by U.S. Post? Check here _____

Date of Birth: _____ (Year not Necessary)

(Name & Date)

(Name & Date)

List any junior member names, as a club member, you would like to sponsor:

1. _____ Age _____

(Please Print)

2. _____ Age _____

(Please Print)

Signature _____ **Date** _____

Seasonal Members please list alternate address and months of residency

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Months _____ Phone _____

White Mountain Gem & Mineral Club
P.O. Box 3504
Show Low, AZ 85902-3504

Member:
Rocky Mountain Federation
Of Mineralogical Societies



American Federation of
Mineralogical Societies



Items will be auctioned at the next meeting- please come if you are interested!