



ROCK TALK

White Mountain Gem & Mineral Club
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May 2020

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Greetings all! The question of the month is: do we have a show or not? Your Board will make a decision later this month, but it is not looking good. The VFW remains closed until further notice. Without being able to conduct regular meetings, planning for and putting on a show on short notice is potentially an organizational nightmare. There are too many items to coordinate that can challenge even the most organized person.

To my knowledge, all shows in our region have been cancelled (at least through summer). In speaking with several officers of various clubs, and considering the age and underlying conditions of some of us, the risks connected with sponsoring a show this year are too great. There are many disappointed people, especially those vendors whose only source of income results from displaying their merchandise at shows. All of our vendors have been apprised of our plans and are awaiting final word from us.

Also on the May calendar, after the Board decides whether to have the show, we will be contacting the owner of Country Court (our show venue) to continue negotiations regarding our deposit. Every effort will be made to "roll over" the deposit so that none of the down-payment holding the date will be lost.

This is a tough time for us all. We all miss the social interaction with our rock families. But I believe all of us have previously weathered tough times in the past, and we will do it again.

As for Steve and me, we are using this time to do some home remodeling. After all, doing so much physical work is bound to keep our strength up when we get to go out hounding again.

Thanks to all of you for your understanding as to what we (as a club) need to be doing at this time.

Rose Fowers

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 \$15 for a single membership and \$20 for a couple/family. Dues are paid the first of 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 Officials

Office	Name	Phone	E-Mail
PRESIDENT	Rose Fowers	(928)537-2195	rmfowers0407@gmail.com
VICE PRESIDENT	Sandra Angelo	(928)537-3726	
2ND VICE PRESIDENT	Maureen Helm	(402)660-6149	mreenhelm@gmail.com
SECRETARY	Hope Rubi	(928)228-8851	
TREASURER	Carl Hickman	(928)536-3744	carlhickman8@earthlink.net
EDITOR	B.G. Hogarth	(928)532-3043	hogarths@citlink.net
FIELD TRIPS	Rick Palmer	(928)245-3920	palmer57@frontiernet.net
	Karen Dorsey	(928)536-2360	

Members at Large

Stan Arneklev	(480)213-4187
John Bustraan	(503)312-6429
Suzanne Fern	(928)892-5236
Debbie Trimble	(928)892-5791

Volunteer Positions

Webmaster/Coalition Chair	Aimee Webster	(602)503-8417	afwebster61@gmail.com
Show Chairman	Steve Fowers	(928)537-2195	
Assistant Show Chairman	Carl Hickman	(928)536-3744	
Sunshine	Peggy Lancaster	(623)262-3859	
Education, Schools	Donna Pollard	(480)600-2714	tdpollard@msn.com
Greeter/Door Prizes/Raffle	Bill/Linda Stalder	(928)368-4496	
Auctioneer	Steve Fowers	(928)537-2195	
Highway Cleanup	Brookie/ Larry Embry	(928)537-0760	
Bonus Prizes	Sandra Angelo	(928)537-3726	
Historian	Jeannie/Stan Arneklev	(480)213-4187	
Librarians	Yvonne Garrett/Thomas Castro		
Meeting Room Setup/Cleanup	Debbie Trimble/Suzanne Fern		

Chamber of Commerce Liaisons

Show Low: Thelma Gray

Snowflake/Taylor: Stan/Jeannie Arneklev

Heber/Overgaard: Aimee Webster

Pinetop/Lakeside: Peggy Lancaster

Springerville/Eager: Rick Palmer



TREASURER'S REPORT

By Carl Hickman

APRIL 2020

Income

Two individual and one family membership dues.

Expenses

Annual dues to Snowflake/Taylor Chamber of Commerce
Arizona Corporation Commission Annual Report
Newsletter printing and postage

MAY 2020

Expenses

Annual IRS Report
Annual donation to Holbrook Hidden Cove Park



GEODE 1.01



Many of our members have taken this class long ago, but there may be a few who are new to the game, who love the beauty of geodes, and would like to know a few tricks on how to bring out that beauty. So this is for them. (From <https://blog.goddessprovisions.com/having-fun-with-break-at-home-geodes/>)

How do you break open a geode at home?

1. Put on safety goggles.
2. Grab a rock pick or a screw driver/chisel and hammer.
3. Wrap your geode in a sock or cloth.
4. Set the geode on a concrete surface.
5. Place the chisel/screw driver in the middle of the geode, and tap it very gently a few times with the hammer. Or tap it gently with a rock pick. Watch your fingers!
6. Turn the geode a quarter turn and do this again. Continue to move along the circumference of the geode until you see a crack form all the way around, then pull the two halves apart.



Rock of the Month

STAUROLITE



By Maureen Helm

The name "staurolite" comes from the Greek word "stauros," which means "cross." Staurolite commonly occurs as twinned, six-sided penetrating crystals that intersect, often at 90- or 60-degree angles, but it can also be found as single crystals. Also known as "fairy crosses," the crystals with their cruciform appearance have long stirred spiritual or superstitious feelings and inspired folk lore throughout history. Due to the uniqueness of the twinned crystals, it is highly collectible and desired for souvenirs, jewelry, or ornaments.

Staurolite is most often found in metamorphic rocks like schist, mica, slate, and gneiss, and is formed when shale is strongly altered by metamorphism. Garnets, tourmaline, muscovite, and kyanite; minerals that form under similar temperature and pressure conditions, may be found with staurolite.

It is fairly easy to identify when it occurs as visible grains in metamorphic rock because the grains are typically larger than the grains of

the other minerals and it exhibits the obvious crystal or twinned-crystal structures.

Staurolite is a brittle, hard, reddish brown to black nesosilicate mineral with a generalized chemical composition of $(\text{Fe,Mg})_2\text{Al}_9\text{Si}_4\text{O}_{23}(\text{OH})$. It appears opaque to diaphanous (slightly transparent) with a resinous to vitreous (glassy) luster. On the Mohs hardness scale it rates 7-7.5.

Staurolite can be found in abundance in many areas of the world. It is the state mineral of Georgia. Fairy Stone State Park in Patrick County, Virginia was named after the stone and the legends that surround it. In Arizona it can be found in the Lone Tree Canyon area of the Grand Canyon, the Piestewa Peak area of the Phoenix Mountains in Maricopa County, and in two mining districts in the Bradshaw and Wickenburg Mountains in Yavapai County. For more information on these locations go to: <https://www.mindat.org/min-3753.html>.



The Chicken Bowl Rock!



Submitted By
Suzanne Fern

With all the tension, and in some places, almost hysteria, going on concerning the dastardly Corona Virus, we thought some levity might be in store. Suzanne Fern saw this article and thought it would be a good read in *Rock Talk*. Those rocks show up in the darndest places!

Healthy Choice chicken bowls recalled because of rocks

More than 65 tons of Healthy Choice frozen chicken bowls are being recalled because they may contain small rocks, the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced Friday. The USDA said Conagra Brands is recalling nearly 131,000 pounds of Healthy Choice Power Bowls Chicken Feta & Farro, which were produced Jan. 23. There have been no confirmed reports of adverse reactions, a USDA news release said. Conagra spokesman Dan Hare said the small rocks "likely remained from harvesting ingredients contained in the product."

4-12-2020

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