



Bob Regner

vp-programs@agmc.info

505-288-8835

V.P. Programs

April 25th Meeting -- Live Presentation! Kelsey McNamara - NM Mineral Museum!

The New Mexico Bureau of Geology & Mineral Resources is your state geologic survey, which includes a world-class Mineral Museum and Publications Bookstore, open 7 days a week and free! Museum curators John Rakovan and Kelsey McNamara care for a handful of collections including: minerals, fossils, gemstones & lapidary, meteorites, and mining artifacts. With approximately 5,000 pieces on display, the museum has something for everyone. The Publications Bookstore houses geologic maps and various Bureau publications, as well as earth science-related gifts, minerals, and jewelry.

Since moving to the new Headen building on the NMT campus in 2015, the museum has undergone expansion and completed various projects (e.g. enhanced lighting, outdoor walking exhibits, additional cases) funded by donor contributions. The museum is fully supported by donations (in the form of minerals or other earth materials, or as direct monetary gifts), and is evolving with such generous support. This talk will serve as an update on the Mineral Museum, some future endeavors, and will include a glimpse into what life is like as a curator.



Kelsey is the Mineral Museum Curator and X-Ray Diffraction (XRD) lab manager at the New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources. Her main responsibilities include the acquisition, organization, and maintenance of the mineral, fossil, artifact, gemstone, meteorite, and teaching collections (and respective databases). She is also responsible for constructing displays, overseeing undergraduate museum assistants, creating museum announcements using social media, and providing mineral identification for patrons. As the XRD lab manager, she is accountable for running samples, interpreting data, generating reports for & billing clients, as well as helping NMT students use XRD for research projects.

Kelsey was raised in Indiana, completed her undergraduate geology degree in Ohio, headed west and never looked back. After completing an MS in Montana, she moved to the “Land of Enchantment” to continue her education. While attending graduate school, she worked a variety of geoscience-related jobs—as an intern in the hydrocarbon and mining industries, a freelance photographer and educational content writer for geoscience textbooks, a geology 101 and field camp instructor, and a sales assistant for mineral/fossil dealers.

Editor's note: many of us know that Kelsey recently returned from a LONG raft trip, so we might hope to get a glimpse of her adventure!



President's Message

Dean Klassy, President
President@agmc.info
262-749-9008

Happy Spring everyone,

We had a great TotE show, I would like to thank everyone who helped. As they say, it takes a village. I usually go around and ask the vendors how they are doing and most of them said that this TotE was better than some of the others. I hope you all had a good time and didn't spend too much money - I did spend too much.

Looks like all of the local Shows are done with for another year. March has been busy with local Gem and Mineral Shows. I hope you all had an opportunity to visit Deming and/or T or C. Now that they are over, I can start saving for the Fall Show.

We can tell that spring has sprung by the winds and the variable temperature, which makes it hard to plan a weekend of Rock hounding.

For those who missed the General Meeting, we had a call for nominations from the floor for the Membership Officer, it got real quiet..... But we do have a new Membership Officer, she has already been working very hard to get up to speed even before she was voted in. Susan Hodges is the new Membership Officer, please say hi to her at the General Meeting. I would like to THANK Denise, our Treasurer, for her help in getting the Membership files up to date. We are still finding some problems with members not getting the News Nuggets, if that is you, please contact Susan at membership@agmc.info.

Paul Hlava mentioned at the March General Meeting that there is going to be a new Show Chair for the TotE this coming year. Roy McKinney was recommended by Paul to be the next Chair for the TotE Show. A vote to confirm his appointment will be forthcoming.

Here is a little bit about Roy McKinney:

Roy has volunteered to serve as the TotE show chairperson, giving Paul a much-needed break after championing the show for the last 25+ years. Roy has been a member of AGMC for the past five years and has supported the TotE show on several occasions during his time with AGMC. Roy was born and raised in Las Cruces. Like many his interest in rocks and minerals started when he was young. Roy received a B.S. from NMSU and a M.S. from the Mackay School of Mines, University of Nevada-Reno, both in Geological Engineering. He retired in 2019 after 40+ years working in the engineering and environmental industry for several large engineering companies. His interests include tennis, travel, genealogy, hiking, family, and, of course, geology and mineral collecting. He is married to Susan, also from Las Cruces, and together they have two daughters and five grandsons who all live in Albuquerque.

Now we can get out and do some rockhounding!

Junior Club News

Kerri Costantino, Junior Club Chairperson
Junior-club@agmc.info
954-245-8245

This month the junior club explored different types of rocks with a focus on sedimentary. Doug Johns shared some really interesting samples from his collection and allowed everyone to exam them while he gave some facts about each sample.

We hope that everyone can join us for our upcoming meeting as we talk about volcanoes. We are going to learn about volcanoes and even have an eruption of our own!

Please let us know if you are interested in joining us for our upcoming field trip on April 27th. We will be visiting Shark Tooth Ridge and the nearby volcanic neck formation. We hope to find some really neat fossils, maybe even some fossilized shark teeth or other marine life, and also volcanic rocks, like basalt and peridotite. To receive text messages about this upcoming trip, please text Kerri Costantino at 954-245-8245.

NEXT AGMC MEETING

THURSDAY, APRIL 25TH, 2024 AT 7:30 P.M.

MONTE VISTA CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

3501 CAMPUS BLVD. NE, ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87123

PUBLIC AND GUESTS ARE WELCOME.

The Albuquerque Gem & Mineral Club meets on the
4th Thursday of the month.

The meeting begins at 7:30 P.M.

There is a short business meeting prior to the evening's presentation.

Junior Club meets at 6:30 P.M..

Door prize drawings begin after the presentation.

Be sure to get a ticket as you enter the room.

Get extra tickets for wearing your name badge and/or club vest!

Attend club meetings for all the latest details.

Have some rocks you want to get rid of? Maybe some lapidary equipment or tools you no longer need? Did you know that as an AGMC member you can place a **rockhound-related classified ad** in the News Nuggets for **free**?

Have a business that deals in rocks, gems, minerals, geology tools, lapidary equipment and the like? You can place a **commercial ad** in the News Nuggets. **Reasonable rates**
Send an email to editor@agmc.info

Next Board Meeting -- Thursday, May 2nd, 6:30 p.m.

Online -- Contact Dean for a link

All members are welcome to attend.



April 20th - Arizona Petrified Wood

Grant Kuck, VP, Field Trips
vp-field-trips@agmc.info
505-323-1520

WHY GO TO ARIZONA TO LOOK FOR PETRIFIED WOOD?

I know what you are thinking, why drive 4 hours to a spot just south of Woodruff, Arizona for some petrified wood? We have some great spots in New Mexico where the wood is abundant and a lot closer. I guess the best answer is color. Referring to the specimens in this region, Rockhounding Arizona says (on page 77) "Wood colors tend to reds, yellows, and whites." Yes, there is wood just like ours back there, but they also have some real beauties with color.

Secondly there are a lot of colorful agates just yours for the picking up. I can't help wondering if some of them are not chips of a piece of petrified wood or not. Maybe it is the Arizona sun but the color seems a little more vivid to me than the material in the Rio Puerco.

Thirdly there are some nearby attractions you may want to enjoy. The Visitor Center in Holbrook is a converted jail. Converted to what you ask? A museum with floors of displays and free to the public. If you like it, you can always drop some money in a slot for donations. Also a little way down the street from the Center is a rock shop on the west side of 77. I believe you will not miss it because of all the dinosaurs on the property. Of course, all the piles of colorful, petrified wood should not go unnoticed and that is just the outside. I think the name is something like the "Indian Rock Shop." At the junction of Highways 77 and 180 is an incredible rock shop named Jim Gray's Petrified Wood Company. You will need your camera for this one. The Walmart sized yard is littered with petrified wood. There are trunks of trees, stumps, massive stumps and all sorts of beautiful wood and that's spread all over the grounds. And then there is the inside of the store. Gray's is open from 8 in the morning until 6 in the evening each day of the week. So, if it is a hot afternoon and you have collected enough for one day, you may want to stop there on the way back to Holbrook.

If you come down earlier on Friday or allow some time on Sunday, you can also visit the Petrified Forest National Park. The North Entrance is located a very short distance north of I-40 at Exit 311. Club member Neal Solomon and I did not visit the Park but we did stop in the Visitor Center and Gift Shop to pick up information and stare at the petrified wood for sale. Both Center and Shop are open and free to the public. "Park Road is 28 miles and takes approximately 45 minutes to drive from gate to gate, making no stops."

DO I NEED A MOTEL? (AND FOR HOW MANY NIGHTS?)

Consider the fact that the drive will be around 4 hours there and another 4 hours back. That is a lot of driving for one day. You would have to be on the road at 5:00 Saturday morning. So by the time you've been rockhounding for an afternoon you may be tired. It might be better to take in a rock shop or two, or go to the visitor center in Holbrook, have some dinner and head to your motel. Then you have Sunday to do a little rockhounding/sightseeing before heading back to the Land of Enchantment sometime in the afternoon. That way you only need a motel for one night. However if you only have time for just one day, then take along somebody else so you can each keep the other awake and take turns driving if necessary.

For everyone with the time though, I would recommend spending both Friday and Saturday nights in a Holbrook Motel. Leave Friday afternoon or after work and drive just 3 and a half hours to your motel, so you are already there for Saturday morning. Breakfast is usually served until 9am, so you can get up, have breakfast at 8 am and then leave at 8:30 am and drive down to our 9 am meeting spot. After a day of rockhounding you can return to your Holbrook Hotel and check out Sunday. That is the option that Neal and I took as it left time on Sunday to do a little more rockhounding/sightseeing and then head for home at a decent hour.

GETTING A MOTEL IN HOLBROOK, AZ

I would recommend "Googling" BEST MOTELS IN HOLBROOK, AZ. I was able to get a nice motel* for a good rate, which served breakfast. (I think places like Booking, Expedia, Trivago, etc. do save you money on your reservation). A lot of Holbrook's motels can be found along US Business 40. Anyway below is a list of some local accommodations (with breakfast) that you can check out for yourself:

- Best Western Arizona Inn.....928-524-2611
- Days Inn.....928-524-6949
- Green Tree Inn*.....928-297-0916
- Holbrook Super 8.....928-524-2871
- Howard Johnson.....928-524-2566
- La Quinta.....928-852-0797
- Motel 6 (No Breakfast).....928-524-6101
- Quality Inn.....928-524-6131
- Travelodge.....928-524-6815

*There are many restaurants in Holbrook.
Grant did provide a list but to save space, I
suggest you check Google for your options.*

Regina

Continued on next page

AGMC FIELD TRIP FOR APRIL 20th

Where: Woodruff, Arizona (Meet just outside Holbrook at Jim Gray's Petrified Wood Company) Collecting will be on BLM land, which may have some restrictions on how much you can collect. Details at the site.

When: April 20th at 9:00 am Saturday.

What: Petrified Wood (and agates)

Mileage and Time: From Albuquerque to Holman, AZ the 233-mile trip should take about 3½ hours in light traffic. From Exit 286 where you get on 77 and go south to the junction of Highway 180 allow about 30 minutes. Total time should be about 4 hours.

How to get there: Go west on I-40 from Albuquerque to Holbrook, Arizona. The trip should take about 3 ½ hours in light traffic or about 4 hours total to our meeting place. Get off at Exit 286 and go south on Highway 77. You will go through a portion of downtown Holbrook and past the Visitor Center on the left, past the original Train Depot on the left, and then across a bridge still south on 77. (You will also pass a rock shop on the right with a lot of dinosaurs before the bridge.) At the junction of Highways 77 and 180, you will see Jim Gray's Petrified Wood Company . . . all those giant, petrified stumps and logs sort of give it away. You have just discovered our meeting place where we will assemble at 9 am and leave at 9:30 am for the collecting area. Jim Gray's opens at 8 am, so if you want to have more time to browse and perhaps buy a specimen or two, get there before 9 and do bring your camera! You can also allow time for a longer stop on the way back to Holbrook. Be sure to sign in when you arrive at the store.

CLOTHES TO WEAR, SNACKS/WATER AND EQUIPMENT TO TAKE

Always wear a hat with a big brim, a good pair of long pants, a sturdy pair of shoes (cactus needles can go through tennis shoes) and a long sleeve shirt to protect your arms from the sun. A jacket can make a difference in the morning or later in the day if it gets cooler. Take plenty of water (especially if you are going rock hunting Saturday and Sunday). Snacks for energy are always recommended and it never hurts to pack a little first aid kit. Don't forget to bring your camera and did I say bring water?

As for equipment, a rock hammer is recommended for digging up pieces of petrified wood. Personally, I like a screwdriver better for popping up those buried specimens from the soil. (If they are really buried deep though, a hammer would be better to have. That being said though, most of the wood we find will be the result of surface collecting.) Bring something to collect your specimens in and it is always nice to have something to wrap your delicate pieces in.

Regarding your vehicle you really do not need 4WD or even one with high clearance. Neal and I used a 2003 Buick Century and had no problems.

Proposed Field Trips for 2024

Month	Site	Specimen Material
May	Battleship Rock in Jemez Mountains	Marine Fossils
June	Last Chance Mine, Creede, CO	Silver Minerals, Sowbelly Agate, Amethyst
July	Kinney Brick in Tijeras	Fish and Plant Fossils
August	Jones Camp near Bingham	Magnetite, Alabaster, Sphene
September	Nacimiento Mining District	Petrified Wood & Copper minerals
October	Blanchard Mining Claims	Fluorite, Galena, Linarite
November	Apache Mine near Hachita	Malachite, Azurite, Chrysocolla
December	Holiday Party	White Elephants, other minerals



Joan Karrie, Secretary
secretary@agmc.info

AGMC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES — MARCH 28TH, 2024

Albuquerque Gem and Mineral Club General Meeting Minutes March 28th, 2024 7:30 P.M. Monte Vista Christian Church

Dean Klassy, President, opened the meeting at 7:30 pm.

There were ten new or visiting members at this meeting; several had joined after attending the TotE Show. Dean welcomed them and asked that they stand and introduce themselves.

Dean reminded the members that **Susan Hodges** had volunteered to be Membership Chair at the last General Meeting after Dean had reminded the membership that the position was open. Membership Chair is an elected position. The open position was announced in the News Nuggets in February. Dean asked for further nominations; none were presented. Susan was voted into the Membership Chair position by hands-up acclimation from the membership present.

Dean said that **John Renner**, a past AGMC President, is currently in hospice.

Dean also mentioned that **Bob Regner**, VP-Programs, Education Chair, and Inventory Manager, is currently on his way back to Albuquerque after back surgery in Phoenix, AZ. He will be spending some time in rehab before going back home.

Dean said that he is still working on regulating the water temperature at the Lapidary Studio.

Margie Mock, Refreshments Chair, thanked **Diny Capland** for bringing the refreshments to the meeting.

Grant Kuck, VP-Field Trips, said that the April 20th field trip will be to Arizona for colorful and agatized petrified wood. Grant will visit several prospective places this weekend and the decision on which one that the Club will go to will be listed in the upcoming News Nuggets. All the places are about a four (4) hour drive each way from Albuquerque.

Watch for these future field trips in the News Nuggets (note: always subject to change.)

May – Battleship Rock, near Jemez, fossils.

June – Last Chance Mine, near Creed, Colorado. Overnight trip.

July – Kinny Brick Quarry, Tijeras, NM, fossils.

August – Jones Camp, Socorro Co., hematite, magnetite, sphene.

September – Nacimiento, Sandoval County.

October – Blanchard Mine, Bingham, Socorro Co.

November – possibly the Apache Mine, southwestern NM. Overnight trip.

Grant said that he would be glad have company while he checks out various locations that may be possible for future field trips. Please let him know that you'd be interested and when you'd be available. You can contact Grant at vp-field-trips@agmc.info.

Paul Hlava, Chair of the Treasures of the Earth (TotE) Show, thanked the volunteers that helped run the show earlier this month. He also introduced **Roy McKinney** as someone who has volunteered to take over running the next TotE Show.

Mike Sanders has photos of all the mineral displays that were set up at the TotE Show, which he will be glad to show at a future meeting.

Megan Lindstrom, Social Media Chair, said that the Instagram address for the club is “@AGMCNM.” Paul Hlava thanked her for her social media campaign on behalf of the TotE Show and **Joan Karrie** thanked Megan for putting together the club brochure in time for the show. Brochures were available for members to take and pass around to their friends and co-workers.

Caroline Trespel, Special Events Chair, told the group that the annual AGMC picnic will be held on Saturday June 29 at the Carolino Canyon picnic area, which is located 9.5 miles north of Tijeras on NM Highway 337.

Megan Holden, AGMC member and Chair of the Sierra County Rocks and Gem Society (SCRAGS) Show, thanked AGMC members for supporting and attending the show held this past weekend.

Regina Aumente, Editor, said that the News Nuggets is published via email on the Saturday or Sunday after the Board meeting. The Board meeting is held on the first Thursday of every month, so Regina asks that you notify her (editor@agmc.info) if you have not received the News Nuggets by the next week Thursday. She will email you a copy and make sure you're on the list for the next one.

Unfortunately, due to a communication mix up, the Church's audio-visual equipment was not available and the scheduled presentation could not proceed. The speaker, **Mark Ivan Jacobson**, kindly said that he might be willing to present his talk at a future meeting.



AGMC SOCIAL MEDIA

Megan Lindstrom,
Social Media Chair
Social-Media@agmc.info
612-810-1096

COMING
SOON



For our April field trip, we will have a Facebook post dedicated to carpooling. If you would have extra room or need a ride, comment on the post and get connected with other folks going on the trip.

Reminder: don't post your personal information (cell phone number, email) in the public chat. Utilize Facebook Messenger to share your contact information with only the intended recipient.

We hope that this feature will be integrated into our website, but are using Facebook as the pilot for now.

Help support our social media by sending your photos to
Social-Media@agmc.info

Include your first name, a description of the photo, general location, and any other information you'd like to share.

You can also send other Gem & Mineral Club events, news stories, events, anything!

Visit us online

Web: www.agmc.info

Facebook: @agmc.info

Instagram: @agmcnm



Caroline Trespel, Special Events
special-events@agmc.info

Save The Date! Annual Picnic

Saturday, June 29th, 2024

11:00 am – 4ish

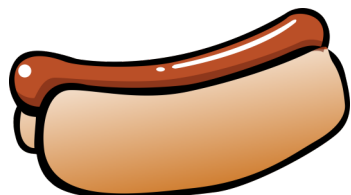
Carolino Canyon Lower Picnic Area

Albuquerque Gem and Mineral Club invites members and their families to our annual picnic.

Food - BBQ and Potluck

Rockhound Tailgate: Buy, Sell, Swap, Give

More details to come



TOTE SHOW RECAP -- Great Success!

Treasures of the Earth 2024 is now history. And it was a good show! This was partly due to the nasty weather which kept folks from staying home digging in their back yards. It is also due to the work all of you folks put in. Thanks a lot, again. We sold tickets to over 3200 folks and that does not count the hundred or so club members who worked the show each day. Jay Penn says that he took a straw poll of the dealers and most of them did well. I did very well. Yes, there were some that did only so so but most did good. I will call a show committee meeting soon to start working on next year's show. Oh yeah! I think a show next year is a given. See you all for that one!

Paul Hlava

Show chairman for TotE2024

TOTE/AGMC SHOW, DISPLAY REPORT

We had 14 displays at our show this year.

Displays were provided by the following:

- Fred Ortega (Taos)
- Sonya D'Ambrosio
- Fred Hurd (Las Cruces)
- Mike Sanders
- Ray DeMark
- Moses Chantellier
- Fred Parker
- NM Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources Mineral Museum
(John Rakovan and Kelsey McNamara), Socorro
- Megan Lindstrom
- NM Facetors Guild/ Andy Andrewdreski
- Allen Perryman, Socorro
- Regina Aumente
- Paul Gilliam, fluorescent display
- Gwen Poe



Mike Sanders



Fred Hurd

We conducted voting for favorite displays by the general public individuals who attended the show. The first 5 winners were: Mike Sanders, Paul Gilliam, Fred Hurd, Ray DeMark and Regina Aumente, in that order. Included are photos of the first 5 voting winners, plus a few other photos of displays that I thought were well done. I cant include photos of all displays that we had due to News Nuggets space limitations, so please don't feel left out if yours isn't included herein!

Our club awards three \$50 cash prizes for the first 3 winners, to encourage folks to put in the effort to come up with displays for our show.

Thanks to all that put together displays for our show this year. It's a very important addition to our show, and I look forward to seeing what comes up for our next show in March 2025.

Mike Sanders



Paul Gilliam

Continued on next page.

More Displays from TotE



Gwen Poe



Ray DeMark



Regina Aumente

Upcoming Shows and Symposia to Visit in the Southwest--

April 13 - 31st Annual Flagg Mineral Symposium, Gilbert, AZ www.flaggmineralfoundation.org

June 1-2 - 4th Phoenix Mineral Heritage Show, Phoenix, AZ www.msaz.org

June 7-9 - Pikes Peak Gem & Mineral Show, Colorado Springs, CO www.PikesPeakGemShow.com

June 13-16 - Friends of Mineralogy Colorado, Symposium on "Mineral Oddities, Golden, CO
www.friendsofmineralogycolorado.org/symposium

October 23-27 - OK Gem & Min. Society hosts Rocky Mountain Federation, Oklahoma City, OK
www.omgs-minerals.org

The 4th
PHOENIX HERITAGE
MINERAL SHOW

PHOENIX SHRINE AUDITORIUM
JUNE 1st & 2nd, 2024
552 N 40th STREET
PHOENIX, AZ 85008
Saturday 9am - 5pm
Sunday 10am - 4pm

MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY
OF ARIZONA

FLUORITE with Barite
Phoenix, Arizona, Elizabethville, Arizona, Spain
©2011 - AAA Rockery Collection - Jeff Sward Photo



Margie Mock, Refreshments

refreshments@agmc.info

505-366-7675

REFRESHMENTS COORDINATOR

Happy April everyone,

Thanks for all the volunteers who have been bringing in the snacks and adding to the fun of the meetings. This past meeting Diny Capland brightened up the room with fun snacks even though she was feeling down and we really enjoyed the skittles, veggies, drinks provided. Since I have been thinking more about food lately, I realized I have quite a few minerals that remind me of food. I have the black barites from the Nakaye mine that are very similar to the chocolate chips in ice cream. I have the azurite clusters from Nacimiento mine that trigger Cap n Crunch cravings and unfortunately every time I try making brownies they always turn out like the geothite from the U.S. 60 mine in Socorro. I am not alone either. We have the candy cane rhyolite in T or C which has always reminded me more of ice cream but I can see it. Speaking of ice cream, the guys at Blanchard recently uncovered the ice cream and cotton candy fluorite and I honestly wondered if they were just hungry until I saw it for myself. I'm sure some of you can relate. Please feel free to bring in your food-like specimens if you want to play along with me at the next meeting for a chance at a prize donated by me. Also we still have a few months open for volunteers so please reach out to me if you want to volunteer and choose the snacks.

2024 AGMC Meetings - Refreshment Volunteers

Month	Name	Telephone
January	Jan Burrows	505-828-9878
February	Judy Williams	505-363-4777
March	Diny Capland	917-582-7675
April	Megan Lindstrom	
May	Judy Williams	505-363-4777
June		
July		
August	Caroline Trespel	505-977-6089
September		
October	Margie Mock	
November		

Each volunteer will receive a reminder call approximately one week



Susan Hodges, Membership
membership@agmc.info

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Greetings, fellow AGMC members! As your new Membership Chair, I'm working to bring our roster up to date. Please let me know if you're not getting the newsletter or other AGMC communications, as it may mean your name has "fallen off" the list and needs to be re-added.

Let's give a nice welcome to our newest members:

- * **Paul Andre and Jacklyn Nemunaitis, and Juniors John Andre and Eve Andre**
- * **Edwin and Anya Hansen**
- * **Jonathan Hulse and Ali McDonald**
- * **Julia Klejmont and Julie West**
- * **Ann Levin**
- * **Antoni Montoya**
- * **Derek Nemunaitis**
- * **Thomas and Pamela Parrill**
- * **Dana and Matt Schantz**
- * **Roy Snable**
- * **Jennifer Steinbook and Richard Mariano**
- * **Glenn and Susan von Gonten**

As of this writing, AGMC has 447 members. Please let me know if you're new and I've missed you, and please be patient if you've already been announced as a new member in a previous edition of *News Nuggets*. I look forward to meeting you all!

Susan Hodges
Membership Chair

A Few Important Reminders for All Members, Especially Newcomers

Recurring dates: These dates are subject to change to accommodate holidays and availability.

- General and Junior Club Meetings, 4th Thursday
- Field Trips, 3rd Saturday
- Board Meetings, 1st Thursday
- Micromount Meeting, 3rd Tuesday

The club website is a great source of information. Be sure to log in and create a password to access member-only sections of the site. You can find current and past editions of the News Nuggets here. www.agmc.info

As members of the AGMC, you are expected to adhere to the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies Code of Ethics, and to be familiar with our Field Trip Safety and Collecting Rules. As we are getting into serious collecting season, take the time to review these guidelines for your own safety and for those around you. They are included at the end of this newsletter.

Visitors are welcome at all meetings, but most field trips are for members only. Pets may not be allowed on some field trips -- be sure to read the field trip announcements for critical information.

If you have any related questions or concerns, always feel free to contact any board members.

Regina Aumente



MICROMINERAL CLUB REPORT – MARCH 2024

Greg Parkhurst, MicroMineral Club Reporter

New Mexicans are no strangers to rainbows with wide open vistas allowing ephemeral glances into the interplay of light and water droplets. Those of us with a more earthly bent are even luckier, because we can hold minerals in our hands, exhibiting similar interplays of light from diffraction gratings, reflecting prisms, films, and surface coatings, without donning a rain jacket. Our March micro meeting centered around rainbow minerals, which leaned heavily into beautiful iridescent minerals .

How are these different from normal colored minerals? A simple explanation is they have a structure which allows light waves to be reinforced by each other giving vividness and sometimes shifting colors not normally seen. Roby shared a wonderful bornite example he found near Mountainair, NM. This dark rock shows glistening blue reflections when turned in the light. Scott brought a tiny columbite from Oxford Co, ME, as well as a showy hematite from Lincoln Co, GA. Each member was able to take home a Maricopaite with Opal from the type location of the Moon Anchor mine in Maricopa, AZ, as well as sanidine from the Blue Moon Claim in Grant Co, NM. These mine names fire up the wanderlust, and the opaline crystals reinforce the imagination! Thanks, Ray, for sharing the sanidine.

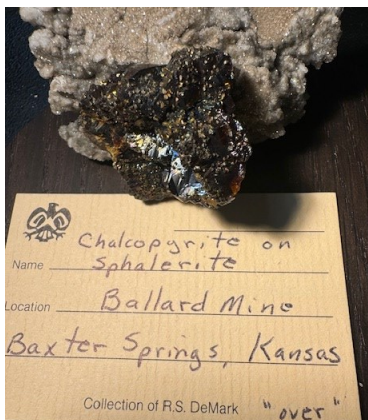
Let's recognize an interesting piece of chalcopyrite on sphalerite shared with us by Ray. Tiny iridescent golden pyramids fight for attention with larger shards of silvery blue in this striking specimen, but the most interesting part might be the label. Believe it or not, this Baxter Springs, Kansas specimen was purchased at an antique fair in Chicago around 1950! Label your specimens with interesting info, cause you never know where they may turn up one day! For you faceters out there, one last specimen from Ray was shared. A singular, 12 ct. bytownite, from Pueblo Park, NM exhibited some wonderful golden shimmer from inclusions. Speaking of inclusions, join us next month, April 16, at Monte Vista Church when we will have another get together to share and discuss inclusions. Micros, macros, thumbnails, or off topic new finds; just



Bytownite



Columbite



Hematite

The Albuquerque Gem & Mineral Club was organized on January 22, 1944. The club is a 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated to the advancement and enjoyment of the Earth Sciences and associated subjects.

Its primary purpose is the exchange of information and the furtherance of knowledge of Mineralogy, Fossils, Geology, Rock Cutting and Gem Faceting and to stimulate interest in the development of these studies.

The general meeting is held at [Monte Vista Christian Church, 3501 Campus Blvd. NE, ABQ, NM 87123](#) on the 4th

Thursday of the month (unless otherwise noted) at 7:30 p.m. The Junior Club meets at 6:30 p.m. prior to the general meeting.


The public is welcome at both meetings.

Board of Directors meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month via Zoom. All club members are welcome.

Annual dues are \$30.00 per household.


New members joining after July 1 pay dues of \$15.00 for the rest of the year. All household members must reside at the same address. Only 2 adult members per family. Additional adults must have their own membership. All junior members MUST be under 18.

Send checks to:
 AGMC, P.O. Box 13718, Albuquerque, NM 87192
 or pay the Membership Chair at the monthly meeting.
 All memberships expire on December 31st.



Albuquerque Gem & Mineral Club
 P.O. Box 13718
 Albuquerque, NM 87192

www.agmc.info



AGMC BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND CONTACTS

Position	Name	Email	Phone
President	Dean Klassy	president@agmc.info	262-749-9008
VP/Programs	Bob Regner	vp-programs@agmc.info	505-288-8835
VP/Field Trips	Grant Kuck	vp-field-trips@agmc.info	505-323-1520
Secretary	Joan Karrie	secretary@agmc.info	571-438-2833
Treasurer	Denise Barrett	treasurer@agmc.info	602-909-2049
Membership	Susan Hodges	membership@agmc.info	312-351-2373
TotE Show Chair	Paul Hlava	show-chair@agmc.info	505-850-7524
Editor	Regina Aumente	editor@agmc.info	505-604-9585
Junior Club Chair	Kerri Costantino	junior-club@agmc.info	954-245-8245
Lapidary Chair	Dean Klassy	lapidary@agmc.info	262-749-9008
Historian	Tom Katonak	historian@agmc.info	505-933-0297
Director At Large	Helen Wolfe	ad-hoc@agmc.info	505-242-9029
Web Manager	Greg Peretti	webmanager@agmc.info	505-333-8228
Education/Outreach	Bob Regner	education@agmc.info	505-288-8835
Inventory Manager	Bob Regner	inventory-manager@agmc.info	505-288-8835
Refreshments Coordinator	Margie Mock	refreshments@agmc.info	505-366-7675
Special Events:	Caroline Trespel	special-events@agmc.info	505-977-6089
Social Media Coordinator	Megan Lindstrom	social-media@agmc.info	612-810-1096

All official club communications are sent from communications@agmc.info, including newsletters. If you are not receiving your newsletter, check your spam/junk folder and make certain communications@agmc.info is in your contacts / safe senders list. Messages to a board member not being delivered? **Make sure you are sending to @agmc.info and not to @agmc.com** and that everything is spelled correctly.

AGMC Field Trip Safety and Collecting Rules

- 1. Proper footwear is required, such as work boots, hiking boots, and the like. Crocs, flip flops, slippers, or ANY open-toed or soft sole shoes are prohibited. Sneakers with good tread may be permitted at dump collecting areas unless specified, but never underground.**
- 2. Full length long pants such as wicking hiking pants, denim jeans, work pants, etc. are required where there is rock breaking, rock climbing, or underground collecting.**
- 3. Proper safety eyewear with side shielding is required which has sufficient impact strength to prevent injury from flying rock chips, metal fragments, sand, etc. These may be clear goggles or face shields. Plastic or glass eye glasses are not suitable. Safety eyewear should be worn when breaking rock, or when in proximity of someone breaking rock, especially with a sledge hammer.**
- 4. Hand protection: suitable gloves such as leather gloves are required to prevent injury from sharp rocks, metal, cactus, blisters etc.**
- 5. If you are entering any underground site (cave, adit, tunnel, etc.) you must have a suitable hardhat (bike or sports helmets, soft hats, and the like are not permissible), at least TWO light sources (one on the helmet and one hand held lighting unit) , proper footwear, eye and hand protection, and long pants as described above. Extra batteries for light sources is strongly recommended.**
- 6. Where venomous snakes are reported or a potential hazard, snake guards or long leather boots / gaiters may be required or strongly suggested.**
- 7. Dogs and other pets: effective immediately, dogs/ pets are prohibited from running loose/ freely on any field trip. All dogs/pets must be leashed or kept in a suitable backpack type holder, or similar means. Several responsible pet owners already use such means on field trips. Pets left in vehicles during field trips must be suitably and humanely treated by providing water and ventilation. The field trip leader has final say.**
- 8. Collectors utilizing sledge hammers must be aware of nearby collectors to prevent injury. People around the sledge user should be told that sledge hammering is about to begin both to give sufficiently wide berth, and to put on protective eyewear against flying rock chips.**
- 9. Members must comply with all requirements and instructions of land owners/claim owners/corporate owners.**
- 10. All mandated collecting limits must be followed on collecting sites which are on BLM, National Forest, or State administered lands.**
- 11. Anyone refusing to abide by the rules above or instructions related to the above by a field trip or Board official shall be subject to expulsion from the field trip and/or exclusion from all field trips for a period of time as determined by the Board.**
- 12. It is the responsibility of each collector, or parent/guardian of each non-adult collector, to know and follow the above rules. Failure to follow these rules may result in loss of collecting privileges at the site. Failure to follow the directions of any field trip committee or board member may result in loss of additional field trip or other privileges, as decided by the Board.**
- 13. Questions or concerns about these safety and collecting rules should be directed to Grant Kuck, the club's 2024 Field Trip Coordinator at vp-field-trips@agmc.info or the AGMC Board of Directors at board@agmc.info.**

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

Code of Ethics

The Albuquerque Gem & Mineral Club falls under the umbrella of the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies, which falls under the umbrella of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. As such our members are expected to abide by the following code of ethics.



- I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without permission from the owner.
- I will keep informed on all laws, regulations or rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
- I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
- I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
- I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind such as fences, signs, buildings, etc.
- I will leave all gates as found.
- I will build fires only in designated or safe places and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
- I will discard no burning material - matches, cigarettes, etc.
- I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.
- I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supplies.
- I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
- I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.
- I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
- I will cooperate with field-trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.
- I will report to my club or federation officers, Bureau of Land Management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.
- I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
- I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use Good Outdoor Manners and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and Public Image of Rockhounds everywhere.