

ROCK TALK

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March - April

2022 - 2023
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EXPLORE
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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

EXPLORE DISCOVER SHARE



Hello to you all,

Well, that's a wrap! The 68th Show is done and over with and where do I start. First, I would like to start with a huge thank you to the Show Committee Chairs; without all of your efforts this would not be possible. We love our club and I believe it gives us all great joy to be part of the world's biggest and best Show. This leads into my next thank you to our office staff, Pat McClain, Executive Manager, and Rose Marques,

Executive Assistant, who spent hours coordinating everything and helping keep this monster of a Show on track. These ladies put in so much time for the love of our Show and help make it the best possible. If you have a chance, please let them know. Our volunteer teams are truly what makes the Tucson Gem & Mineral Society so great to be a part of. Starting with case setup/tear down to the lining crew, then the move in/out team to control the exhibit chaos, and all the Docents. What a terrific bunch of people you are, so if you had a part in this give yourself a pat on the back and get ready for next year. Talking to our Dealers this year I received props on just about everything that our Show offers them. The Show was very prosperous to all the Dealers, and I saw lots of transactions happening. As I went and talked to as many of them as possible, they all had one thing in common, they will be back next year.

During the opening ceremony, I was talking to the City Manager, Michael Ortega. It truly is amazing to see what the Tucson Gem & Mineral Show® does for the local economy. We were talking about how more and more mineral and jewelry dealers are buying houses here. He was also talking about how almost every hotel room in town was booked, and the revenue amounts that our city receives in one form or another. The Tucson Gem & Mineral Show® has been the template and envy of all other shows but will never be as good as ours. So, keep your excitement and passion up as we look forward to the 69th TGMS Show, "Pegmatites – Crystals Big and Beautiful".

Moving forward, before the season ends, we still have some great lectures coming in our monthly meetings. Also, please, if anyone can help take over as field trip chair, please contact the office. Finally, as we move into the dreadful summer months, we get relief with the potlucks so if you would like to host one at your place, please contact the office. Please go to our website for upcoming events and field trips. There are a lot of fun and exciting things that will continue making 2023 a special and great year to belong to this club.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the March General Meeting.

Michael Hollonbeck
TGMS President



TGMS General Meeting - January 9, 2023

The General Meeting of the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society was called to order by President Mike Hollonbeck at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held both in person and via Zoom. The President welcomed new guests, in-person and online attendees to the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Members were reminded to place their names in the prize drawing basket.

Costly repairs have been made to the fence in the parking lot caused by drivers who backed too far into the parking spots. Members were advised to not back into any of the parking spots from now on.

Members can pick up publicity flyers and discount coupons for the 2023 Show. Members can post these on community bulletin boards.

Volunteers are needed for the 2023 Show – fill out your form online!

PROGRAM: Mark Ascher introduced Warren Lazar who presented “Organic Carbon Minerals”, He explained that an organic mineral has a specific element bonded to a carbon atom from a living system. Warren shared his expertise about microscopic organic carbon minerals with beautiful photos, samples, and visual prompts/aids. For example, Weddellite is from decayed saguaro cactus. He concluded his talk by advising members to look under plants for these organic carbon minerals. Warren answered interesting questions from the audience.

BREAK: Ortrud Schuh assisted with setting up the tables and serving the refreshments.

OLD BUSINESS:

Approval of the November 7, 2022, and December 5, 2022, General Meeting minutes as published in the January/February 2023 issue of Rock Talk: **MOTION:** To approve the November 7, 2022, General Meeting minutes. Seconded and approved. **MOTION:** To approve the December 5, 2022, General Meeting minutes. Seconded and approved.

Micromount Meeting: A Micromount Meeting will be held on January 16th at 6:30 p.m. We will be looking at micros starting with the letter “G.” An announcement has been sent to members.

Educational Class: An Educational Class will be held on January 19th, at 6:30 p.m. Bill Shelton will lead a class on “Wulfenite, A New Look!” An announcement has been sent to all members.

Field Trips: As future field trips are scheduled, announcements will be sent to the membership. A volunteer is needed to help organize field trips.

Note: Members can sign up for events online, using the link in the announcements. Nonmembers can contact the office (phone or email) to sign up for classes.

Next General Meeting: The February 2023 TGMS meeting will be held on the 30th of January 2023, due to the TGMS Show.

NEW BUSINESS:

Volunteers sign up: Volunteers need to sign up as soon as possible to facilitate the organization of volunteer benefits. A Committee Member announced that volunteering is a fun and rewarding experience.

DRAWING FOR DOOR PRIZES: Mark Ascher conducted the drawing. Winners were Dave Evans, Art Friedman, Adam Galven, Bob Melzer, Denis Menard, Jean Sarson, Gene Stirm, and Jennifer Weiss.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Ross,
Recording Secretary



TGMS General Meeting - January 30, 2023

The General Meeting of the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society was called to order by President Mike Hollonbeck at 7:02 p.m. The meeting was held both in person and via Zoom. The President welcomed new guests, in-person, and online attendees to the meeting.

This is the last meeting before the 2023 TGMS Show. Instructions were given to members who have volunteered for the Show or who may still want to sign up.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Members were reminded to place their names in the prize drawing basket.

Costly repairs have been made to the fence in the parking lot caused by drivers who backed too far into the parking spots. Members were advised to not back into any of the parking spots from now on.

Members can pick up publicity flyers and discount coupons for the 2023 Show. Members can post these on community bulletin boards.

PROGRAM: Mark Ascher introduced Peter Megaw who presented "Mexican Silica-from Agate to Tridymite-Silicioso", in line with the 2023 Show's theme "Silica – Agates & Opals & Quartz, Oh My!". Peter took us on a tour of the geological environments in Mexico to explain silica minerals. He used beautiful photographs to show how volcanic environments create stunning minerals such as agates, opals, amethyst, and quartz. Peter answered interesting questions from the audience.

BREAK: Cathie Logan provided and served the dessert.

NEW BUSINESS:

Upcoming shows: The Old Pueblo Lapidary Club is holding a Faceter's HobNob Dinner and Sale on February 4. The Apache Junction Jewelry, Gem, and Mineral Show is March 4-5.

DRAWING FOR DOOR PRIZES: Mark Ascher conducted the drawing. Cathie Logan, as meeting hostess made the first selection. The winners were John Ebner, Larry Gilbert, Warren Lazar, Bob Melzer, Kathy O'Donnell, Tom O'Donnell, and David Smith.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Ross,
Recording Secretary



WE HAD THE PLEASURE AND HONOR OF HAVING THE PIMA COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, JAN LESHER AND THE CITY OF TUCSON MANAGER, MICHAEL ORTEGA OPEN THE 2023 TUCSON GEM AND MINERAL SHOW®.

THEY SPOKE VERY HIGHLY OF WHAT THE TUCSON GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY HAS DONE FOR THE CITY OF TUCSON AND HAVING BEEN THE ORGANIZATION THAT HELPED TO MAKE TUCSON THE PLACE TO BE DURING JANUARY AND FEBRUARY.

BECAUSE OF THE QUALITY AND REPUTATION OF OUR SHOW, IT HAS DRAWN NUMEROUS OTHER SATELLITE SHOWS AND GALLERIES TO REALIZE THAT TUCSON IS WHERE YOU WANT TO BE AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH YEAR.

THANK YOU TO THE 2023 TGMS SHOW VOLUNTEERS

AMBER ZAUGG, ANITA NISONGER, ANNA DOMITROVIC, BARB MATZ, BARBARA COOK, BARBARA HASBARGEN, BARBARA MOSTOFF, BARBARA WITWER, BEVERLY LYNCH, BEVERLY ROSS, BOB MELZER, BRAD ROSS, CARLOS DEMATTOS, CARLOS GRISTANI, CECILIA DEMATTOS, CHRIS WHITNEY-SMITH, CHRISTINA LANIER, CHRISTINA MORRISSEY, CHRISTOPHER CAMPION, CINDY EVANS, COLEEN BROWN, CYNTHIA ROEDIG, DAVE CLEMENT, DAVE CRUMLEY, DAVE EVANS, DAVID CORMIER, DAVID GERY, DAVID JOYCE, DAVID KERSTEN, DAVID RICHARDSON, DAVID WITWER, DEBORAH ALDERMAN, DENIS MENARD, DR. ART FRIEDMAN, ED MADSON, EHRIN PITTS, FALEEN WIES, GABRIELLE ACCATINO, GEORGE LOUD, IHOR KUNASZ, JAMES HASBARGEN, JEAN SARSON, JENNIFER WEISS, JERRY GLAZMAN, JIM GERY, JOE PARKER, JOHN COOK, JOHN EBNER, JUANITA KERSTEN, JULIE PARKER, KARYL LYNCH, KATHLEEN HEITZMANN, KERRY TOWE, LAURIE GERY, LAWRENCE GILBERT, LOUIS PILL, MARC YALOM, MARILEE CRUMLEY, MARYANN PENKOVA, MELISSA PERUCCA, MICHAEL COOK, MIKE CARDUCCI, MIKE SANDERS, NEIL HUBBARD, PATRICIA PEARSON, PAUL MENDELL, RILEY DAY, ROBERT ALBERTS, ROBERT JENKINS, ROBERT MORGAN, ROBERT PEARSON, SARA ALBERTS, SHELLEY HANSEN, STEVE HARSY, SUZANNE COLLIER, TIM MCCLAIN, WADE MULLIN, WARREN LAZAR, WAYNE WEBB, WILLIAM BESSE, ZENOVIA KUNASZ

FROM THE 2023 TGMS SHOW COMMITTEE AND BOARD

ELLEN ALEXANDER, MARK ASCHER, DIANE BRASWELL, CONNIE CLARK, SARA DAY, MIKE BRASWELL, KENNETH DON, VICTORIA FILA, RON GIBBS, ALRENE HIBBEN, MICHAEL HOLLONBECK, NANCY HOWARD, JOHN HOWARD, ELAINE HUGHES, BARBARA KORZENDORFER, DAVID KORZENDORFER, MARK MARIKOS, PAT MCCLAIN, PETER MEGAW, BOBO O'DONNELL, LINDA OLIVER, HOLLIE PITTS, BEAR PITTS, LES PRESMYK, MARILYN REYNOLDS, LINDA ROSS, HERB ROSS, PENNY SAVOIE, ORTRUD SCHUH, JANETTE SIMISTER, KENT STAUFFER, ROBERT CROWELL, ROSE MARQUES, ORTRUD SCHUH, KATE VERBEKE



GRAND PRIZE GIVEAWAY

Want to know how to make a FIRST TIME VISITOR happy about coming to the 2023 Tucson Gem & Mineral Show®? Pull her ticket out of the gold barrel at the end of Show, give her a call on the phone and tell her ... SHE WON!!!

Fortunately for us and her (she lives in Wisconsin), she was still in Tucson and was able to stop by and accept the wonderful pendant that she won. You can tell by the photos that we made her day and her husband even benefitted from the win ... you can see by the smiles on both their faces, coming to the Show was good thing.

Congratulations Joan and another job well done Penny! Oh, Joan did say that they would be back next year!



2/21/2023
 Peter, Pat, Rose, Alrene, Kent and
 your kind volunteers,
 Loved, loved, LOVED your show this year. It
 was so good to see so many people back at
 "The Show".
 I received many good comments on both cases.
 My students were very excited to participate
 and see their work on display.
 Thank you for all the work you do to make
 your shows such a high quality Show.
 Now, Relax and have a good year.
 Hilary ♥



2023 TGMS QUIZ CASE

We owe John Callahan a GREAT big THANK YOU for all of the hard work he puts into his "QUIZ CASE" every year.

He has produced a quiz case for several years now, testing the knowledge of everyone who takes on the challenge.

This year we tried using a QR code to take the quiz and, it worked! We had more people use the QR code than fill out the paper quiz form.



Our winner this year is Cynthia Campbell from Kirkland, WA. She only missed one of the 16 questions!

WANTED

We want to thank Anna Domitrovic and Kerry Towe for volunteering their time and talents to better serve our Society for a number of years. But they have both decided that it is time to pass the torch.

If you think that you might be interested in volunteering to head the SARSEF Regional Science and Engineering Fair Committee or take on the responsibility of Field Trip Coordinator, give the TGMS Office a call/email and we will do our best to provide information on both positions.

Call: 520-322-5773/tgms@tgms.org

2023 COMPETITIVE WINNERS

Junior	Nathanael Brodhagen	Fossils
Junior High Score	Nathanael Brodhagen	Fossils
Junior 2nd High Score	Hannah Brodhagen	Miniature Minerals
Junior-Master		No Entry
High Score	Nathanael Brodhagen	1st time exhibitor Junior or Novice
Novice	Steve Knox	Quartz - Personally collected
Advanced	David Tibbits	Personally collected
Master - Best in Show	David Tibbits	Thumbnails
Best of Theme		
Thumbnail	Robert Thacker	Smoky Quartz Japan-Law Twin-New Mexico
Small Miniature (Toe-Nail)	Chris Whitney-Smith	Quartz Japan-Law Twin-Peru
Miniature	Robert Thacker	Quartz - Middleville, New York
Small Cabinet	Johnathon Feigin	Smoky Quartz and Fluorite-Antarctica
Cabinet	Robert Thacker	Quartz var. Amethyst-Uruguay
Lapidary-Jewelry	Allison Megaw	Amethyst Rabbit-Dreher carving
Self-Collected	Wolfgang Mueller	Quartz - Middleville, New York
Special Trophies		
Desautels	Les Presmyk	Best Case of Minerals
Lidstrom (Best Single Specimen)	Tom Zhang	Goshenite - Minas Gerais, Brazil
Bideaux (Best Arizona Specimen)	Chris Whitney-Smith	Azurite and Malachite - Bisbee, Arizona
Yedlin	Matthew Metzler	Micromounts
Romero (Best Mexican Specimen)	Andres Carrillo	Quartz after aragonite
Gibson (Museum)	GIA Library	Mercury Free Mining
Schupp (TGMS Member)	Guenther Neumeier/Terry Huizing	Bronze Mining Statues



2023 TGMS SHOW - COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS

BY LES PRESMYK

This was a year of many firsts. First fossil exhibit by a junior exhibit, multiple first-time exhibitors, some of our youngest trophy winners, both experienced competitors and new exhibitors, and a new cash award. Then, I also started the process of recruiting the next generation of judges from a long-time TGMS competitor (young adult), with the prospect of several more to follow in the next couple of years. The goals for next year are to continue enlisting the newer collectors into both providing competitive exhibits and to train more judges.

There were 15 competitive exhibits at this year's Show, the largest number in over ten years. But, there were only 12 individual competitors. One Junior age (13) entered two exhibits and one young adult (22) entered three exhibits. The really good news is that we had five junior exhibits, three of which were first time competitors. And in the adult categories (Novice, Advanced, and Masters levels) there were five new exhibitors. So, the future looks really good!



Almost twenty years ago, Dr. Rob Lavinsky of The Arkenstone, started providing cash awards for all junior age exhibitors. Then four years ago, Les and Paula Presmyk began contributing to this very worthwhile effort. Every exhibitor receives \$100 cash. The second highest scoring junior age exhibitor receives another \$200 cash and the highest scoring junior receives an additional \$400. This year, a new award was implemented, funded by Dick Morris and Carol Lee Morris. Their award of \$250 went to the highest scoring new exhibitor in either the Junior, Junior-Master or Novice categories. Again, my thanks to Dr. Lavinsky, my wife Paula and the Morris's for their willingness to help spur junior age and new competitive exhibitors.

One of the new juniors took the best junior trophy along with the highest scoring junior exhibit and the highest scoring new exhibitor. Nathanael Brodhagen really impressed the fossil judge with his exhibit of animal fossils. His sister Hannah was the second highest scoring junior, with her miniature case. She also won a first place with her small miniatures (toe-nails or specimens that are bigger than thumbnails and will fit in a 1-1/2" cube). Zach Pecha was one of the first-time exhibitors and took a first place in the open (specimens of all sizes) class. Mike Hollonbeck's

daughter, Lila, was also a new exhibitor and she placed second in the same class.



Another new exhibitor was Tom Zhang, a student at the University of Arizona. Besides the first place he took with his exhibit, he also was awarded the Lidstrom Trophy, for the best single specimen contained within a competitive case. I was awarded the prestigious Desautels Trophy for the "Best Case of Rocks" in the Show. Another first-time exhibitor was Steve Knox from California, who is a top-notch field collector and brought over a very nice exhibit of personally collected quartz specimens from the southwest, with which he won the best Novice trophy. David Tibbits, the 22 year old

mentioned in the first paragraph, took home both the best Advanced trophy as well as Best Masters/Best in Show trophy. Finally, and for the first time in about 20 years, there was a competitive micromount case by

2023 TGMS SHOW - COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS - BY LES PRESMYK - CONTINUED!

Matthew Metzler. He was awarded the Yedlin Trophy for the best micromount exhibit in the Masters class. For those of you who saw his exhibit, all of his photomicrographs were taken by using his cell phone viewing the specimens through his hand lens. Talk about ingenuity!

The Romero Trophy, for the best Mexican specimen in any of the exhibits in the Show, was awarded to Andres Carrillo for his quartz after aragonite. The Betty and Clayton Gibson Trophy for the Best Museum case went to the GIA's exhibit regarding the effects of mercury on the environment. The exhibit of bronze mining statues displayed by Guenther Neumeier and Terry Huizing received the Millie and Bill Schupp Trophy for the best TGMS member case. The Bideaux Trophy for the best Arizona specimen went to Chris Whitney-Smith for his Bisbee azurite and malachite specimen. My thanks to Bob Kerr and Janet Bideaux for supplying the books and photos that really made the case even more special.



The Best of Theme competition was strong as ever. Robert Thacker, of Houston, Texas, took home the awards for best thumbnail, best miniature and best cabinet. Chris Whitney-Smith won the small miniature category. Johnathon Feigin took the small cabinet plaque with a smoky quartz and fluorite from Antarctica. Wolfgang Mueller took the prize for the best self-collected specimen. Allison Megaw, with her Dreher carved amethyst rabbit (a Birthday/Anniversary/Mother's Day present) walked away with the best Lapidary/Jewelry prize.

All in all, a very good year of competitive exhibits. However, I still remember when I first started judging back in the late 1970s when Pete Knudsen and Stan Keith were in charge of competitive cases, that we had over 30 entries. While it will mean a lot more work for the judges and Paula and me, I would certainly like to get back to that level of competition, or at least consistently see around 20 competition exhibits. To make this happen requires you to enter. If one 13 year old can put in two cases and a 22 year old can put in three cases, then what is stopping a number of you from entering one exhibit?



There is the challenge!!

I hope to see many of you at the 2024 TGMS Show.



ROCK TALK

Encouraging the interest and study in geology, mineralogy, lapidary and allied earth science.

FROM:

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PURPOSE: To encourage interest and study in geology, mineralogy, lapidary, and allied earth sciences.

Meetings: Usually the first Monday of the month, starting at 7:00 p.m., except September (second Monday because of the Labor Day holiday), June-August (potlucks). The TGMS facility address is: 3727 East Blacklidge Drive, Tucson, Arizona 85716

The Tucson Gem and Mineral Show @:

The second full weekend in February, starting with Thursday.

Affiliations: American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. (AFMS), Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies (RMFMS), Visit Tucson, Tucson Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce (TMCC), Greater Oro Valley Chamber of Commerce

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