

ROCK TALK

Volume 17, Issue 5
May - June

2022 - 2023 Officers & Directors

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**EXPLORE
DISCOVER
SHARE**

TUCSON GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

EXPLORE DISCOVER SHARE



Hello to you all,

As the season comes close to the end, I would like to pause for a moment and reflect on the things that happened this year. I feel that the most important thing about our club is the relationships and friends that we make being a part of this club. I never get tired of coming to the meetings and seeing everyone and talking about minerals. For me, personally, I look forward to every single meeting so I can see all the friendly faces and meet new people. I look forward to getting our community outreach going again in the next fiscal

year so, if you know of any events TGMS should be a part of, please let the office know. To the general membership, again, I want to say serving you has been a great honor, and I thank all of you who voted me in as President. I would like to thank my Board members for their help as well. I have a deep passion for the TGMS and will continue to serve/volunteer in any area I can.

Hopefully you all will have a chance to make it to a Potluck/Rock Swap over the summer months. These events are outstanding with great fellowship. We typically have a great time trading, selling, and enjoying some amazing food which altogether makes for a wonderful afternoon. If you have not been to one of these events, I encourage you to come next time. In advance, I would like to thank all of you that will be hosting the potlucks and for opening your homes to us.

To all our members who travel and return to summer homes, I hope and pray for safe travels and your return once the "HOT" summer ends. Those of us who will stay and enjoy Tucson's summer, keep watching for summertime events, field trips, potlucks, and volunteering opportunities. We have several other fun activities during this time so don't miss out. And if anyone knows of anything that the club would enjoy, please contact us so we can post it on the TGMS website.

Even though this fiscal year is almost over, we are still working and focusing on next year's 2024 Show, so please think about an area that you can volunteer to be a part of the biggest and best Tucson Gem and Mineral Show® in the world. I look forward to seeing all of you at the General Meeting in May, and if you have any comments or suggestions, please find me and we can discuss them.

Michael Hollonbeck
TGMS President



TGMS General Meeting - March 6, 2023

The General Meeting of the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society was called to order by President Mike Hollonbeck at 7:03 p.m. The meeting was held both in person and via Zoom. The President welcomed several new guests, in-person, and online attendees to the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

Because visitors and new members are attending meetings, members were reminded to wear their name badges.

Members were also reminded that sign-up sheets for events are no longer available at the General Meetings. Instead, members are to sign-up for events online, using the link in the announcements. Nonmembers can contact the office (by phone or email) to sign-up for classes.

PROGRAM: Mark Ascher introduced Les Presmyk who presented "*Arizona's Colorful Copper Minerals.*" Les used maps and photographs to explain the geology and colorful histories of Arizona's early copper mines. He then showed photographs of the beautiful copper minerals from mines near Bisbee, Morenci, Ajo, Globe-Miami, and Tiger, Arizona. Featured minerals from the mines included azurite, malachite, native copper, less common minerals, and rare species. Les answered questions from the audience.

BREAK: Mike Hollonbeck and Rose Marques provided and served the snacks.

OLD BUSINESS:

Approval of the January 9, 2023, and January 30, 2023, General Meeting minutes as published in the March/April 2023 issue of Rock Talk: **MOTION:** To approve the January 9, 2023, General Meeting minutes. Seconded and approved. **MOTION:** To approve the January 30, 2023, General Meeting minutes. Seconded and approved.

Micromount Meeting: A Micromount Meeting will be held on Monday, March 13. We will be talking about micros starting with the letter "H" as well as new acquisitions that members picked up from the Show. An announcement has been sent to members.

Educational Class: An Educational Class will be held on Tuesday, March 14. Bill Shelton will lead a class on "IRON - The Most Common Element." An announcement has been sent to members.

Field Trips: Field trips are being organized for this spring and, when finalized, an announcement will be sent to the membership. A volunteer is urgently needed to assume responsibility for organizing field trips.

DRAWING FOR DOOR PRIZES: Mark Ascher conducted the drawing. The winners were Sarah Alberts, Deborah Alderman, John Ebner Dave Evans, Marie Gutierrez, Dave Korzendorfer, Warren Lazar, Ed Madsen, Doug Reif and Zoe Zeszut.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Ross,
Recording Secretary



TGMS General Meeting - April 3, 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 President introduced new guests and welcomed all attendees (both online and in-person) to the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

Members were reminded to wear their name badges and welcome visitors and new members.

Members are emailed announcements about events with a sign-up link to participate. Nonmembers can contact the office (by phone or email) to sign-up for classes.

Members were asked to volunteer for community outreach projects to be scheduled in the future.

PROGRAM: Mark Ascher introduced Jeff Scovil, who presented "A Year in the Life of a Photographer." Jeff shared a year in his life as a professional photographer specializing in minerals, gems, jewelry, and lapidary art. His photographs were taken for clients on his annual international tour of homes, businesses, and mineral shows. He shared his techniques for lighting and staging exquisite specimens to capture their colors and details. Jeff answered questions from the audience about his methods of photographing challenging specimens.

BREAK: Brad and Linda Ross provided and served the dessert.

OLD BUSINESS:

Micromount Meeting: A Micromount Meeting will be held on Monday, April 10th, at 6:30 p.m. We will be looking at micros starting with the letter "I." An announcement with a link to RSVP has been sent to members.

Educational Class: An Educational Class will be held on Monday, April 17th, at 6:30 p.m. Bill Shelton will lead a class on "Crystallography," the first in a 3-part series. An announcement with a link to RSVP has been sent to all members.

Field Trips: A field trip to the Rowley Mine is planned for April 22nd. An announcement with a link to RSVP will be sent to the membership with details.

NEW BUSINESS:

2024 Show: **MOTION** to hold a Show in 2024. Seconded and Approved.

DRAWING FOR DOOR PRIZES: Mark Ascher conducted the drawing. Linda Ross, as meeting host, made the first selection. The winners were Deborah Alderman, John Ebner, Michael Kobzeff, Cathie Logan, Mark Marikos, Bob Melzer, Bob O'Donnell, and Marilyn Reynolds.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Ross,
Recording Secretary



TGMS Board Meeting – October 17, 2022

Board Members Present: Ellen Alexander, Diane Braswell, Mike Hollonbeck, Les Presmyk and Janette Simister

Absent: Mark Ascher, Victoria Fila, Marilyn Reynolds, Linda Ross

Executive Manager: Pat McClain

Parliamentarian: Alrene Hibben

Show Chairs: Peter Megaw, Mark Marikos

Call to Order: The Board Meeting was called to order by President Mike Hollonbeck via Zoom at 5:05p.m.

President's Remarks: The President welcomed the Board members to the meeting.

Minutes Approval: MOTION; To approve the August 9, 2022 Board minutes with a correction: The August 9, 2022 minutes stated: "TGMS will provide \$2,000 in annual support to Mindat for sponsoring one or more website pages on behalf of TGMS." We do not provide annual support. The minutes were amended to take out the words "in annual support." Seconded and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Income: \$105,375.72 – Expenses: \$37,558.21

Old Business:

Update on AGTA: Discussion was held regarding AGTA and Munich organizers advertising retail mineral sales within AGTA. The Executive Manager will seek legal counsel's advice.

New Business:

Update on NFP Insurance: The Executive Manager is exploring the options we have with NFP Property and Casualty Services to provide Society and Show insurance coverage.

Adjourn Meeting: Meeting was adjourned at 6:17p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Michael Hollonbeck, Society President
Recording Secretary pro tem



TGMS Board Meeting – November 22, 2022

Board Members Present: Mark Asher, Ellen Alexander, Diane Braswell, Victoria Fila, Mike Hollonbeck, Les Presmyk, Linda Ross, and Janette Simister

Absent: Marilyn Reynolds

Executive Manager: Pat McClain

Parliamentarian: Alrene Hibben (not present)

Guest: Paul Waters

Call to Order: The Board Meeting was called to order by President Mike Hollonbeck at 4:15 p.m. via Zoom.

President's Remarks: The President welcomed the Board members to the meeting.

New Business:

Insurance Proposal: Paul Waters, a Nonprofit Specialist with NFP Property & Casualty Insurance, reviewed an insurance proposal to provide coverage for the Society. He identified terms specific to TGMS and answered questions from Board members.

MOTION: To approve the presented insurance proposal (excluding the terrorism coverage) for TGMS. Motion Seconded. The budget will be revised to reflect the changes in insurance premium expenses. Motion approved.

Adjourn Meeting: Meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Linda Ross
Recording Secretary



Do you have a hard hat with nothing on it ... does it look a little boring and you thought to yourself ... "If I only had a TGMS logo sticker to put on the front."

Well, we do have them! And they are only \$1.00! Why don't you pick one up at the next General Meeting ... and wear it proudly!

JUST IN CASE YOU DIDN'T KNOW

IN 2014, TGMS CELEBRATED THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TUCSON GEM AND MINERAL SHOW®. AND TO HONOR THAT ACHIEVEMENT, WE WERE HONORED BY BECOMING A SMALL PART OF HISTORY. CONGRESSMAN RON BARBER TOOK TO THE FLOOR OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND READ THE STATEMENT THAT YOU SEE BELOW. IT WAS ENTERED INTO THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, AND HE GAVE CREDIT WHERE CREDIT WAS DUE.

THE DOCUMENT WAS PRESENTED TO PAUL HARTER, SHOW CHAIRMAN AND DIANE BRASWELL, TGMS PRESIDENT AT THE SATURDAY NIGHT BANQUET.



Honorable Ron Barber of Arizona

Congressional Recognition for 60th Anniversary Tucson Gem and Mineral Show

Entered into the Congressional Record February 12, 2014

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to salute the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society which will host the 60th annual Gem and Mineral Show.

This show began as a small club gathering and over the past six decades, it has grown to set the standard for other such shows around the world.

This year's show will be held from Feb. 13th through 16th with the theme "60 years of Diamonds, Gems, Silver and Gold."

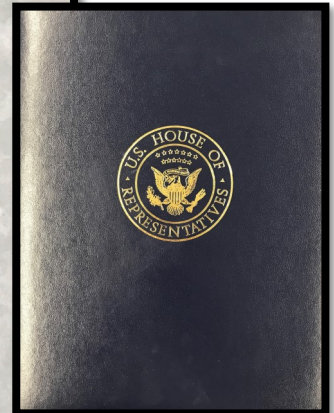
As a result of interest generated by this long-running show, dozens of satellite shows have proliferated throughout the Tucson area.

These shows feature gems, minerals, fossils, meteorites and other items from around the world and are known as the Tucson Gem, Mineral and Fossil Showcase.

None of this would have been possible without the dedicated work of the volunteer members of the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society.

I am proud to recognize this longtime Tucson organization.

Thank you Mister Speaker.



JUST IN CASE YOU DIDN'T KNOW ...

WE HAD REALLY GOOD PUBLICITY COVERAGE THIS YEAR, ESPECIALLY FROM THE TV STATIONS. BUT ONE REPORTER DID A PIECE ON A TRADE SHOW BEFORE OUR SHOW AND STATED THAT THEY BROUGHT THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTE TO TUCSON. AFTER ANSWERING NUMEROUS QUESTIONS REGARDING THAT STATEMENT, I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE SOMETHING ALL OF YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN KNOWING EXACTLY WHEN THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTE STARTED BRINGING EXHIBITS TO OUR SHOW. IT'S A FUN READ!

THE ARTICLE BELOW ALSO GIVES YOU A LITTLE INFORMATION ABOUT SOME OF THE OTHER EXHIBITS AT THE TGMS SHOW IN 1961 ... WOW!



Paul Desautels
Examines Largest Tanzanite

1961

This is the year that really started Tucson on its way to national stature. Chairman Clayton Gibson is credited with the effort. He wrote to several out-of-state museums, including the Smithsonian, and Paul Desautels, at that time Assistant Curator of Mineralogy at that Institution, was the only person who responded positively. (Paul has told us that we were the first Society asking for an exhibit who offered to pay expenses!) Coincidentally the admission fee was raised ten cents (to 35¢) but there is no evidence that Desautels' visit caused this! Paul brought a marvelous display of rough and faceted stones and a second case of single crystals, and gave several lectures during the show (the first time this had been done), and also judged competitive exhibits. He also spoke at the club meeting the Monday night preceding the Show. (He really earned his expense money which was so short that he slept in the Schupp's guest room and used Milly's old car for transportation!) There were also field trips during that show week. Such pre-show activities established a pattern early on, and in later years mineral activities during the week (or two) before the show have reached fever pitch.

There were some remarkable exhibits at this first "national" show. N-Ter-National Gems from Oklahoma City brought along a 19,227 carat corundum crystal from Ceylon. Olive Colhour of Seattle brought in some magnificent carvings and intarsia work which filled several cases, and also lectured on her techniques and tools. Al Haag wowed the crowd with a superb wulfenite display from the Glove Mine (the majority of which was acquired by Mr. Desautels for the Smithsonian collection). And this was the first of many years when Grunewald and Adams Jewelers, thanks to manager Newton Pfeffer, brought in some breathtaking emeralds for display. Seven matrix specimens with deep green crystals were in the display, a remarkable assemblage. Mr. Hugh Leiper, editor of *The Lapidary Journal*, sent rare faceted gemstones. Members Bob and Becky Fordham received the Best Minerals In Show ribbon for their case of calcite specimens.

This year also saw a "Hall of Giants" with huge specimens of quartz and colorful specimens from the University of Arizona Mineralogical Museum and from the collections of several members. There are some members who still groan and rub their backs at mention of moving and setting up this display!

SOUTHERN ARIZONA SCIENCE ENGINEERING FOUNDATION

Since the pandemic, Anna Domitrovic has been judging the science projects virtually. She did so again in March and she found four science projects worthy of awards. We thought that it might be interesting for all of you to read about those projects - pretty impressive work - and it looks like we might have a few budding geologists. TGMS has been sponsoring SARSEF for at least 50 years (donations to their organization) and we also give each student lots of TGMS goodies; and, last but not least, we invite them to display their project at our Show. So when our 2024 Show rolls around, be sure to check out their projects.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROJECTS:

4-FDN19 TASTE OF WATER - Connor Tumlinson, Castlehill Country Day School

Connor wondered if the minerals added to drinking water had any effects on the water's taste. Connor determined that water, basically, had 4 minerals/mineraloids that might affect taste – Ca calcium, Mg magnesium, Na sodium and bicarbonate. He tested 4 types – Smart Water, Evian, Liquid Death, and Tucson tap water, using a water testing kit to determine the dissolved minerals. Then he went to his classmates who ranked each one according to taste. Some observations of certain minerals included chlorine – the water smelled like a swimming pool; Fe iron left a metallic taste; and Pb lead which proves to be toxic. Evian came out on top followed by Liquid Death with Smart water and Tucson tap being an equal third.

4-ENR08 EVERYTHING IS FOSSIL-BLE IF YOU BELIEVE: AN EXPERIMENT IN WEATHERING'S EFFECTS ON BONES - Liam Grimaldo, Copper Ridge Elementary

The question posed with this project was – How do bones change over time and buried to become fossils? Simulating a natural environment where climate changes and using 4 cleaned, identical chicken bones, he buried one in soil in direct sun and another in shade. One was buried in equal amounts of sun and shade and watered regularly while the 4th was put in the freezer. Liam determined that bones are damaged through climate change when they will either expand or contract. After a 14 week period, the bones were dug up and analyzed. The original hypothesis was that the bones would get smaller, heavier and weaker. While all dropped in weight only 2 shrunk and all became stronger rather than weaker.

5-PLE15 SIMULATING EROSION - Caeden Trevino, Sycamore Elementary School

This was an experiment in freezing and thawing, something that happens to rocks naturally as climates change. Caeden used 5 rocks – sandstone, fossiliferous limestone, mudstone, granite and turetella agate - that were submerged in water then put in a freezer for several days to allow the water to freeze around the rocks. The rocks were then set in the sun to thaw. Rocks were measured, weighed and described before freezing and after thawing to note changes. Limestone and sandstone showed erosional effects while the mudstone, agate and granite showed none. This experiment showed that effects of erosion on rocks can be simulated on a small scale but geologically it would take a lot more time and multiple cycles of freezing and thawing.



MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT:

6-ENR22 MYSTERIES OF THE MALLEABLE METALS - Ari Araiza, Tucson Hebrew Academy

Ari's interest was in jewelry making and which metal, copper or brass (copper & zinc), could be most easily fashioned into jewelry. A rather intricate "box" was built and coiled copper and brass wires of equal lengths were suspended in the box. Then washer weights were attached to the wires' ends, one at a time, increasing to 27. The length of stretching (or strength) was measured after each weight was added to determine which was best suited for the type of jewelry to be made.

SOME OTHER THINGS TO DO THIS SUMMER

Here are some questions for you please answers the questions by clicking on the email address at the end of each question. What will pop up is an email that you can send back to the Office.

TGMS Summers usually involve potlucks ... and they can be hosted at an individual's home or if someone would like, here at the TGMS building. Click on the email address after the end of the month that you are interested in Hosting ... it is a hyperlink ... write anything else that you want in the body of the email and hit "send."

Please let us know if you are interested in Hosting a summer potluck for:

1. JUNE - YES, I/we would like to Host a summer potluck for June - tgms@tgms.org
2. JULY - YES, I/we would like to Host a summer potluck for July - tgms@tgms.org
3. AUGUST - YES, I/we would like to Host a summer potluck for August - tgms@tgms.org

Beside the summer potlucks, would you like to have a Potluck- Rock Swap during the summer at the TGMS building?

1. YES, I/we would like for TGMS to have a Potluck- Rock Swap at the TGMS facility - tgms@tgms.org

In the body of the email, let us know which month you like to have it held and your preferred time of day.

This involves you bringing a dish to share with everyone and your own minerals, fossils, cabochons, cutting material, rock collecting equipment, etc. that you would like to swap for something else or "make a deal" with another member. These are always fun!

Last but by no means the least ... we need volunteers! Now that we have your attention, we need volunteers for Community Outreach programs. Right now we have three schools that are asking if TGMS could come out and talk about ... earth science!

1. YES, I/we would like to volunteer for Community Outreach Programs in the month of May - tgms@tgms.org
2. YES, I/we would like to volunteer for Community Outreach Programs - during the summer - tgms@tgms.org
3. YES, I/we would like to volunteer for Community Outreach Programs - starting in the fall - tgms@tgms.org
4. YES, I/we would like to volunteer for Community Outreach Programs - anytime of the year - tgms@tgms.org



ROCK TALK

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

FROM:

**T.G.M.S.
3727 E. BLACKLIDGE DRIVE
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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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