

ROCK TALK

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Jan. - Feb.

2019 - 2020 Officers & Directors

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**EXPLORE
DISCOVER
SHARE**

TUCSON GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

EXPLORE DISCOVER SHARE



By the time you read this the holiday season will be over. I hope everyone had a safe and happy season, whether you celebrate Christmas or Hanukkah or just enjoy the time to get together with friends and family. There is always a different feel to this time of the year. Everyone seems a bit more friendly and outgoing; there are a lot more smiles (unless you were still shopping on Christmas Eve) and one knows how every Hallmark Christmas movie is going to end but we still watch them knowing there will be that happy ending. 2019 was mostly a good year but it had a few low points for my family I hope will not be repeated in 2020. I want to wish everyone a Happy New Year.

We selected not one but two scholarship recipients. Each student will receive \$5000 to help further their educations. Emilie Bowman and Dylan Carlini are both enrolled at the University of Arizona. We hope they will be able to attend a future meeting so they can introduce themselves and tell us a bit about why the scholarship is so important to them. Maybe we will even convince them to join the TGMS!

One more big thanks to Pat, Rose, Kent and Linda Stauffer, Marilyn Reynolds, Linda Ross, Beverly Ross and Tim McClain for everything they did to make the Christmas dinner and get-together a success. A special thanks to Victoria Fila for her desserts, especially for her gluten free cupcakes. If you could not tell the difference that is the highest compliment one can pay a baker who has figured out how to substitute another flour or two or three to imitate wheat flour, both in taste and texture.

With the beginning of 2020 the efforts involved with putting on THE Tucson Gem and Mineral Show® kick into high gear. I know Peter Megaw has been working hard to bring in the very finest of the world's classic specimens, as only he can do. I am always looking for competitive cases, no matter what your age. All members of your Show Committee have been and will be working very hard on the 2020 Tucson Gem and Mineral Show®. This is the time for all TGMS members to get signed up for volunteer duties at the Show. We always need your help and participation and we will find a place for you to help out but you need to sign up.

Eighteen months ago over 700 pounds of silver nuggets were discovered north of Globe in an area known as Richmond Basin. Historically, this is nothing new because large nuggets have been reported from here as early as the 1870s. Until now, however, virtually all of the nuggets were sent to the smelters. We will have what is reported to be the largest silver nugget in the world, at over 400 pounds, on display at our Show, along with the next two largest nuggets from this discovery, each over 100 pounds each. These are Arizona treasures and I hope you enjoy seeing them.

Sometimes it may seem like our Show is getting lost in the plethora of tents, parking lots and hotel shows, at last count 50 of these along with the 12,000 dealers who participate. Recently there was an interview on a Phoenix radio station about the tax revenue paid by Air BNB to the State of Arizona. The company representative cited spring training as the largest sales tax generator by a special event and the "gem shows in Tucson" were number 2. The TGMS started all of this and continues to lead the pack as the only Show put on by a non-profit organization with the largest and finest group of displays anywhere in Tucson. This is what we bring to the citizens of Tucson and Arizona. We should be very proud of this. All other shows throughout the world try to emulate what we are doing. If imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, there is a lot of this going on with our Show as the example.

Presidents' Page CONTINUED

The bylaws have been updated and will be submitted to the attorney for final review. I expect to have these before the general membership in the next couple of months so you are prepared to discuss and vote on them, probably in March or April. The nominating committee for next year's officers and directors has been initiated. Mark Marikos, as past president, will chair this committee of three and if you have interest in serving, please let them know.

The University of Arizona Alfie Norville Gem and Mineral Museum is moving forward. All of the walls are up on both floors and the sheet rock is in place in the basement for the classrooms, community room and storage areas. The gala, grand opening is slated to coincide with the 2021 Tucson Gem & Mineral Show®. There are major changes occurring in the Flandrau basement as well. The mineral museum is shutting down January 1 (although most of the cases are already empty) for painting and other modifications. Gems, minerals, meteorites and fossils will still be the focus downstairs. The museum will reopen on January 15 and I am looking forward to seeing the new displays.

Les Presmyk
TGMS President



TUCSON
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GEM & MINERAL SHOW

HELEN KEELING SCHOOL 435 East Glenn

Saturday, March 19, 10:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M.

Sunday, March 20, 12 Noon to 6:30 P.M.

EVERYBODY WELCOME

ADMISSION FREE

Sponsored by Tucson Gem & Mineral Society

This is a picture of the VERY first poster on the
Tucson Gem and Mineral Show® - March 19 -20, 1955

TGMS General Meeting - November 4, 2019

The General Meeting of the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society was called to order by President Les Presmyk at 7:03 p.m. Visitors and new members were recognized and welcomed to the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: TGMS has books for sale, "The 100 – A Practical Guide to Mineral Collecting in Today's World" by Bill Shelton for \$15.00 each. Proceeds go to the TGMS Library Fund.

PROGRAM: Les Presmyk introduced the guest speaker, Dr. Chris Stefano, who has recently joined the staff of The Mineralogical Record as an editor. Dr. Stefano presented "Lucius L. Hubbard: One of the Copper Country's Greatest Mineral Collectors." Dr. Stefano provided an interesting biological narrative, illustrated with photos and letters from Hubbard's life. We were introduced to Hubbard as a young man, and how he eventually became a highly successful geologist and mineral collector. Mr. Hubbard generously donated his collection of minerals from Michigan and Europe to the Michigan College of Mines, now known as the Michigan Technological University.

BREAK: Thanks to Ortrud Schuh for providing refreshments. Volunteers are needed for November through May. The club pays up to \$100 for refreshments. Members need to sign up, shop and set the food out.

OLD BUSINESS:

Field trip: Kerry Towe will reschedule the field trip to the Silver Bell Mine cancelled due to a mine strike. Future field trips will be scheduled through May.

Educational Class: Bill Shelton will lead "Crystal Forms – Pyrite or Gold" on November 13, from 7:00 to 8:30 P.M.

Micromount Meeting: Monday, November 11 at 7:00, featuring brochinities.

Community Outreach: Four outreach programs have been scheduled for November and December.

Library Book Sale: The library book sale is scheduled for November 24, from Noon to 3:00 P.M.

Christmas Party: The Christmas Party is scheduled for December 11, Costs will be \$10.00 per member, \$15.00 per guest. Sign up and pay on or before the December general meeting.

Open House: Brad and Linda Ross have invited members to their residence. January 4, 1:00 to 4:30 P.M.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Show Committee recommended that Dallas Symposium Funds be used to cover the rentals of the virtual film "Naica - Cave of the Giants", ancillary exhibit materials and the Leo Rich Theater, as well as associated costs. The Naica Cave experience would be presented during the Friday, Saturday and Sunday of the TGMS Show to promote mineral collecting and attendance at the TGMS Show. This would be a separate event from the Show. **MOTION:** To approve spending up to \$40,000 from the Dallas Symposium Fund for the Naica Cave experience. Motion seconded and approved.

DRAWING FOR DOOR PRIZES: Ortrud Schuh, as meeting host, made the first selection. Winners were Scott Brockenbrough, Jim Kennedy, Alrene Hibben, Donna Pugh, Herb Ross, Tim Hicks, Ray Boyer, and Mary Ann Penkova.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Ross
Recording Secretary



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TGMS General Meeting - December 2, 2019

The General Meeting of the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society was called to order by Les Presmyk at 7:00 p.m. Visitors and new members were recognized and welcomed to the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

TGMS has Bill Shelton's book for sale, "The 100 – A Practical Guide to Mineral Collecting in Today's World" for \$15.00 each. Proceeds go to the TGMS Library Fund.

Pat McClain announced the 73rd TGMS anniversary is December 3rd. Long time members were recognized.

PROGRAM: Mike Hollonbeck introduced Mark Marikos, the guest speaker and his program: "How Much is a Diamond Worth?" Mark explained that diamonds may be a "girl's best friend", but to geoscientists, flaws in diamonds capture important information about earth's history. The diamond's crystal structure makes it a "time capsule" and with advances in technology, scientists can learn more about plate tectonics, earthquakes and volcanos. Indeed, flaws that decrease a diamond's value in the gem industry are priceless to the scientists who study earth's history.

BREAK: Thanks to Marilyn Reynolds for providing refreshments and to Kathy Heitzmann for helping to set up the snacks. Volunteers are needed for the remainder of the year. Please contact the office to sign up.

OLD BUSINESS:

Field trips: Sign-up sheet is available for the December 5th field trip to the Tiger Mine. Merritt last reported that the Red Cloud Mine should provide an excellent collecting experience on January 18th.

Micromount Meeting: December 9th at 7:00 p.m.

Community Outreach: Pat McClain announced that Community Outreach sign-up sheets are available for visits to Rio Vista Elementary School on December 4th; Innovation Academy on December 5th and Pusch Ridge Christian Academy on December 6th. Volunteers have stepped up to share information on the hobby.

Book Sales: Pat McClain announced that \$366.50 has been generated from the book sale on November 24th. All funds go into the Library Fund.

Mineral, Fossil, Jewelry Art & Craft Sale: Annual sale will be held on Saturday, December 7th from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Christmas Party: Annual event will be on December 11th, doors open at 5:30 and dinner will be served at 6:30. The cost is \$10.00 per member and \$15 per guest. Deadline to sign up is Friday December 6th.

Open House: Linda and Brad Ross have invited members to enjoy holiday dinosaurs on January 4th, from 1:00 -4:30 p.m. The Ross family will provide light refreshments; members are welcome to bring a dish to share. Sign-up sheet is available.

NEW BUSINESS:

Scholarship award winners: The Board awarded two scholarships this year. Of the nine applicants, Emilie Bowman and Dylan Carlini were awarded scholarships. Members can meet them at the January meeting. Thank you notes from the award winners were read to the audience.

DRAWING FOR DOOR PRIZES: Marilyn Reynolds, as meeting host, made the first selection. Winners were Flo Gores, Dennis Menard, Jenny Shook, Jennifer Isbell, Scott Brockenbrough, Paula Sherrick, Kim Filips, Raymond Boyer and Ed Madson.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Ross
Recording Secretary



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TGMS Board Meeting - October 29, 2019

Board Members Present: Ellen Alexander, Mark Candee, Michael Hollonbeck, Mark Marikos, Les Presmyk, Marilyn Reynolds, Linda Ross, and Bill Shelton.

Absent: Diane Braswell

Executive Manager: Pat McClain

Parliamentarian: Alrene Hibben

Audience: Tim McClain, Dick Gottfried, Brad Ross

Call to Order: The Board Meeting was called to order by President Les Presmyk at 6:02 pm in the TGMS meeting room.

Call for Orders of the Day: No changes were made to the agenda.

Minutes Approval: **MOTION:** To accept the July 23, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes as written. Seconded and approved.

President's Remarks: President Les Presmyk stated his goal to address the agenda in a reasonable amount of time and table those items that cannot be addressed in this meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Ellen Alexander reported on current income and expenses. Financial examination: The accountants were satisfied with the report submitted by the Treasurer. Board will review the report, and revisit at next Board meeting if needed.

Executive Manager's Report: No report at this time.

Show Committee Report: A Show Committee member reported that the committee works year-round on the TGMS show. Major changes include discontinuing the use of the Arena and continuing to place jewelry dealers in the ballroom. Pricing tiers are being reviewed and updated. Invitations and contracts have been or will soon be mailed out for dealers. The 2020 Show poster will soon be selected.

Board Discussion: A show committee member initiated a discussion on the communication between the President and the Executive Manager and the Board. The Board concurred that the purpose of TGMS is to bring club members together to share and enjoy educational and informal activities. Board members feel the President should include the Board and staff in discussions about changes in appointments. Board members agreed that leadership for this organization is "servant" based. The President stated that he appreciated the openness of the Board and respected that the concerns were brought forward.

Naica Cave Expenditure: Board discussed using funds from the Dallas Mineral Symposium to invest in renting the 20-minute "Virtual Tour Through the Naica Cave" and the Leo Rich Theater for Friday, Saturday and Sunday of the 2020 TGMS Show. Board discussed balancing the costs involved with the additional revenues it could generate and increased attendance of the Show. It is not expected that the additional revenues will cover the expenses. **MOTION:** To approve the "Virtual Tour Through the Naica Cave" film with a budget of up to \$40,000. Seconded and approved.

Old Business:

By-Laws revisions: The By-Laws have been revised, and copies of the new draft were provided to Board members for review. The Board will review the revisions and discuss in the next Board Meeting.

TGMS Board Meeting - October 29, 2019 ... CONTINUED

Family Fun Day: A Board member reported it was a success due to the work of TGMS staff. We had 30 volunteers, and close to 100 visitors. Family Fun Day is a successful way to reach youths interested in the mineral world. Attendance was down, possibly due to several other local events scheduled for the same day. Donors of prizes were thanked.

2020 Goals: Tabled.

Committees: Tabled.

New Business:

Scholarship Applicants: Board members reviewed applicants, discussed amount and number of awards to grant. **MOTION:** To award two \$5,000 awards, one to Emily Bowman and the second to Dylan Carlini. Seconded and approved.

Call to the Audience: Brad Ross, regarding the Naica Cave expenditure, suggested a budget for advertising and to have a premiere showing.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p. m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Linda Ross
Recording Secretary



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THE TUCSON GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY
PROUDLY PRESENTS:

THE 66TH ANNUAL TUCSON GEM AND MINERAL SHOW®

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- SATURDAY NIGHT
PROGRAM

Tucson Convention Center
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World Class Minerals...Our Upcoming 2020 TGMS Show

Much has been written about our 2020 Show Theme ***World Class Minerals*** (WCM) starting with what are they...and ending with *sez who?* It's not that complicated, we each have images in our minds of the world's best for us and ultimately, we are the ones who choose for ourselves. But it is more complicated than "I'll know it when I see it"...none of us can see it all and aesthetics are subjective to some degree, so broader consensus on what makes a WCM brings in "experts"...aka folks who have seen more good rocks for longer than we have, folks who publish on the subject and folks who hold themselves out as experts (caveat emptor, some of whom sometimes have a vested interest in our believing that). I'm all for experts, delighted that most of them come to OUR Show every year and am happy to see what they call the best...and then I'll compare that with what attracts me and either adjust my criteria or not...depending on what I've seen!

TGMS Show Volunteers are lucky...they get to have the best the world has to offer brought to them every year, so their experience may be approaching that of those experts who travel the world's museums! (But don't hold off on traveling, some of these museums have more great rocks than they could bring to us in many lifetimes!). This is more than a cheap plug for volunteering...it's making folks aware that the opportunities for learning and interacting with the experts come along with your volunteer job and more than outweigh whatever the "work" aspect of your particular job might be!

As hoped, the WCM theme seems to be attracting some outstanding exhibits! The Smithsonian is bringing superb specimens selected from the Bement and Roebling collections...both acquired in 1928 and which together made the Smithsonian a World Class Mineral Museum! Harvard is bringing the Groundhog Mine Gold Rope that made news last year via National Geographic...probably the world's finest gold wire! We're getting applications for specific "Best of" cases for localities (Tsumeb), countries (Mexico), species (Beryl, Tourmalines and Silver)...and just plain knock-your-socks-off killers from around the world! And that big hunk of gold-bearing quartz is returning...after a serious make over!

Two special exhibits warrant signal attention...

First is our "co-theme" celebrating the 50th Anniversary of The Mineralogical Record. MR is the world's foremost collector mineral publication and has been largely responsible for advancing the appreciation of minerals and focusing on the aesthetics of minerals. Their success is seen not only on the pages of MR, but in every other mineral magazine in the world...all of whom have upped their game over the same period of time. In case you're not aware, MR moved to Tucson over 30 years ago to be closer to the action *WE* started! Also, in case you haven't noticed, the subscription price for MR is quite modest...especially in comparison to some of the WCMs we covet but lack the wherewithal to own ourselves. So, like volunteering at our Show, subscribing to MR and related magazines can greatly expand our exposure to the world's great minerals!

Second is a full pod of cases being put in by the Young Mineral Collectors* group. They will include head to head "self-collected" cases, "best of cases", superb mineral art by Leah Luten and a case of "look what we found for under \$100" showstoppers! These young people set out 18 months ago to prove that there is a thriving population of up and coming collectors who have evolved through mineral interactions on the internet...and that the doom and gloom predictions for the death of our hobby are greatly exaggerated! They have grown to nearly 1000 strong and are finding the physical mineral community at shows, museums and symposia to be richly rewarding...so rest easy, your favorite rocks will have a good home when it's time to find new hands for them. [*Lifelong TGMS member Lauren Megaw (yes, my daughter, the only person to win Desautels under 30 years of age) is co-founder of YMC...criteria for membership include being 40 or younger, having a mineral collection, and agreeing to keep things YMC non-commercial. If this fits you...contact them on Facebook]

So...a lot to look forward to in terms of rocks, people and community!! But we need your help to pull it off. Two things set our Show apart from all the others...the exhibits and the TGMS Volunteers who make folks comfortable bringing their precious specimens here to show to the world. Our exhibitors are all volunteers and they all take risks to bring things here...so smiling and helpful faces help a LOT! Not all the jobs are glamorous (they range from sit-down jobs to hands-on physical work), but they are all important and they all help bring the TGMS community together. So sign up for something...or something more...and ALWAYS, if you have some time on your hands and are looking for something to do...ask Rose or Pat what you can do to help them...the hardest working team in history!

Catch up on your sleep while you can...Tucson's coming!!!

Peter Megaw, Exhibits Chair and TGMS Show Co-Chair

TGMS Volunteers ... enough can not be said about them! We had a very busy month in December, we went to three schools all in one week. We visited Rio Vista Elementary, Innovation Academy and Pusch Ridge Christian Academy. All of us who volunteered to go to these schools had a GREAT time! To Mark Marikos, Ed Madson, Carlos DeMattos, Cecilia DeMattos, Kathy Heitzmann, Mike Hollonbeck, Jennifer Isbell, Bill Hefferon, Doug Reif, Deb Reif, Marilyn Reynolds, Tim McClain ... and me, Pat McClain. THANK YOU!! Your enthusiasm, your love of knowledge and minerals brought a smile to a lot of children and adults ... and it truly is what our Society is made up of, very giving people.

A "BIG THANK YOU" to Mark Marikos and Jennifer Isbell for actually putting a special program presentation together for a couple of the schools ... an added extra effort and time was involved!



"WORLD CLASS" applies to more than just the theme of the 2020 Tucson Gem and Mineral Show®.

Thought that you might like to see what Mr. Paul Desautels wrote about our Show in October of 1972, just 13 Show's after the very first Show that was held in 1955. The very first sentence and the very last sentence that he wrote ... is still true today!



National Museum of Natural History • Smithsonian Institution

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October 26, 1972

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

The Tucson Gem and Mineral show held each year in February is, without question, the most important gathering of its type held anywhere in the world. Large attendance, hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of exhibits and dealer stocks and a general air of enthusiasm always attest to its appeal and its success. However, its importance goes much beyond that. It has become the annual event around which National organizations plan their programs. These include, Friends of Mineralogy, Mineral Museum Curators Council, Mineralogical Record etc. and the list keeps expanding.

Curators, collectors and mineralogists are attracted to the show from around the world with some European dignitaries actually participating as lecturers etc.

It is here too that price trends for specimens are established and the finest specimens available are reserved by collectors and dealers for turnover during the days of the show. In the mineral collecting hobby - which has become a big business - anyone of any stature finds attendance a requirement.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Paul E. Desautels". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'P' and 'D'.

Paul E. Desautels
Curator
Division of Mineralogy

FROM:

**T.G.M.S.
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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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