

ROCKDUST NEWSLETTER

Sun City



November 2024

November Guest Speaker

Peter Huegel – Local historian, frequent guest speaker and board member of the S.A.L.T. organization.

Peter has been a favored speaker for a number of years with his presentations on the native American history, and local plants and animals. This year he will be giving two presentations to our club.

- Preserving History and Customs Without A Written Language - Just How Did The Ancient People Do That?"
- A presentation on the Sun City Rockhound Club donation of artifacts to the S.A.L.T. organization earlier this year.

The Sun City Mineral Museum is honored to have a new display in our guest cabinet from the S.A.L.T. organization.

Peter will also join us at the museum on Thursday November 21st for our Show N Tell to discuss and answer questions on the S.A.L.T. display and organization.

CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

7- Board meeting, 10am, Mineral Museum

14- ANNUAL MEETING, ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

Fairway Rec Center, AZ Rooms 1-2, 6:30pm

Speaker, Peter Huegel, SALT

Contest to rename the 'SHED' (see article)

21- FIELD TRIP, to Saddle Mountain Tonopah. Meet at 7:30am Bell Rec Center SE Corner, leave at 8:00AM Collecting chalcedony, fire agates, Tuft. Cheryl Etten & Dan Round leading.

21- Special note! Show & Tell, Noon to 1:00pm at Museum. Refreshments, Peter Huegel of SALT presenting. Yes, we are doing two things that day! (See article)

27- Wednesday SET UP FOR FALL FESTIVAL 8:00am-10:00am (see Festival article)

29- Friday...ARTS AND CRAFTS FESTIVAL 8:00am-4:00pm. Museum and Mezzanine sales table. Volunteers needed. (See Article for sign up information)

30- Saturday FESTIVAL 8:00am-3:00pm (Monitors, and Sales tables need volunteers)

DECEMBER

5-Board meeting, 10:00am-11:00am

12-Member meeting, Fairway, AZ Rooms 1&2

6-6:30pm- social/refreshments

6:30-7pm- business/announcements

7:00-8pm- Speaker, TBD

19-Field trip collecting (to be announced)

26- Show & Tell, museum, noon-1pm. Refreshments/informal sharing.

Slate of the Nominated Board Members for 2025

President (new) Lynn Applebaum hails from Toronto Ontario. Lynn joined Rockhounds in 2023 and coordinated the clubs 60th Anniversary Banquet last spring. She and her husband Phil both serve on the museum committee. Lynn has over 40 years of administrative experience in professional and volunteer settings.

Vice President (continuing) Cheryl Alvord moved to Sun City from Maine. She and husband David have been members for almost 9 years. Cheryl has been club president for the past 5 years . She will support Lynn in her new role and work on welcoming and incorporating new Rockhounds into the club.

Secretary (new) Linda Schonewald moved to Arizona from Washington state in 2015. She and husband Tom joined the club in October 2019. Linda (with Tom's assistance) has served as membership coordinator for the last 3 years. She and Tom also serve on the museum committee and serve in many other capacities.

Treasurer (continuing) Maryse Mercier moved to Sun City from New Jersey. She has been an active member of Rockhounds for the past few years. Maryse monitors frequently and helps with retail concerns. She also is on the Field Trip committee, helping to scout out field trip sites. Maryse has a strong accounting background and is a year-round resident.

Non-Officer Board Members (continuing) Connie Johnson is a Washington State resident, snow bird to Sun City. She and partner Dave Dow have been active club members since 2020. They joined the Rockhounds after seeing the exhibits and meeting club members at the Fall Festival. Connie has been instrumental in lending assistance at the Rock sales Fall Festival and at the Flagg Mineral Show. She joined the Board in 2023

Tom Schonewald also joined the Board last year. He and wife Linda are regular attendees of club events. They are consistent Museum monitors, serve on the Museum Committee, and were especially helpful last summer with museum upgrades and the "shed" move (to Sundial Rec, just down the hall from the Museum). Tom (and Linda) are among the first to arrive at member meetings to set up membership supplies.

Eileen Moberg, Karin Schardt and Mary Brown-Martilik, Nominating Committee Members

ARTS AND CRAFTS FESTIVAL AT SUNDIAL

HELP NEEDED IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES: (Sign-up for one or more shifts/role)

DAYS OF FESTIVAL, FRIDAY NOVEMBER 29 AND SATURDAY NOVEMBER 30

- Museum Monitors (Carol Bankert George, Lead)
- Outdoor sales people (Plaza, Cheryl A and Fred Wieck, Leads)
- Egg Carton Project (Connie Johnson, Lead)
- Prize Wheel (Roz Shafer, Lead)
- Door Greeters (Saturday 10:00am-12:00 noon) 4 people, 1 Hour each
- Golf Cart Drivers (RCSC Supplies Carts) Saturday

PREPARATION

- Wednesday November 27nd, set-up 8:00am-10:00am
Rolling carts, need to move rocks to Plaza (Mezzanine) from the “Shed”
- Donate EGG CARTONS 12 eggs 2 x 6 style, leave on table in members section of Museum

- SIGN UP SHEETS WILL BE IN THE MUSEUM BY NOVEMBER 4TH AND AT THE NOVEMBER 14 MEMBER MEETING

Questions or to Sign-Up, stop in the museum, E-mail scrockmuseum@gmail.com

Or Cheryl Alvord chetti2@aol.com or 207-756-1784

Rock Shed Move

I thank our President and the Board for their support in handling the sorting, pricing, and moves of our rock shed. I have had a great time learning about the specimens we have and using my organizational skills to make future rock sales easier to coordinate. **It does take a village and we have one of the best!!** We packed and moved hundreds of pounds of rock, not once, but twice this year. It all would not have been able to be accomplished without the help of so many members.

I would like to thank Dan Round, Dan Kulis, Fred Wieck, Roddy Mac, Cheryl Alvord, Phil Applebaum, Tom and Linda Schonewald, Carol Bankert-George, Ed and Deb Carlone, Connie Johnson, Maryse Mercier, Colin and Linda Morley, Thomas Ritz, Karin Schardt, Suzanne Chamberlain and Roz Shafer. I apologize if I missed anyone. I would also like to thank the RCSC for arranging for Moving Team 6 to handle the recent move. They did all the physical work and were awesome.

With gratitude and appreciation, Cheryl Etten



Volunteers cleaning out the Mt. View shed



The new ‘shed’ space at Sundial

CONTEST TO RENAME THE SUNDIAL SUPPLY ROOM / Shed

Located in shed at Mountain View Rec center for decades

Spring 2024 moved to building adjacent to Lakeview Rec Center

September 2024 moved to room at Sundial Rec Center

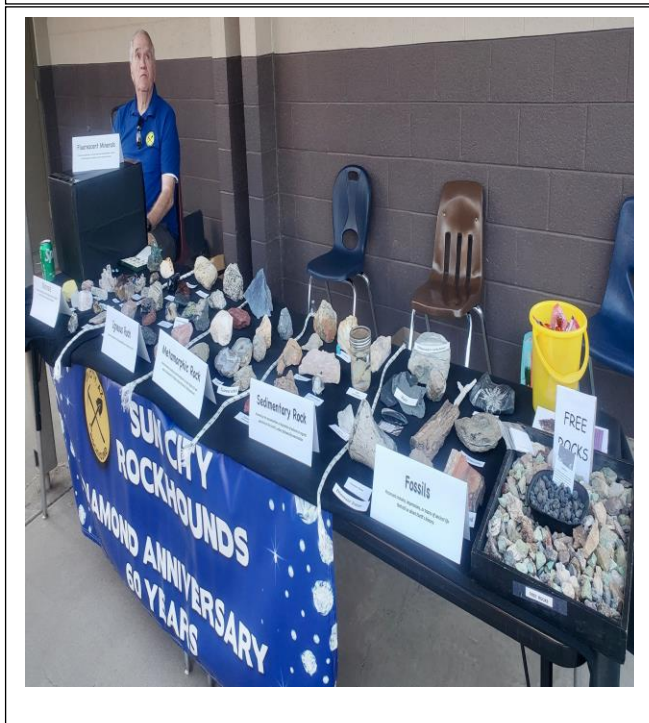
No longer a “Shed” the area needs a new name. Be creative and submit your entry at the Museum beginning November 7th or via e-mail at scrockmuseum@gmail.com

Contest begins November 4th. All entries must be submitted before 6:30pm at the November 14th member meeting and will be announced after the speaker. There will be a prize for the winner.

School Visit

On the evening of Friday, Oct. 25th five Rockhounds (Dave Balzer, Deb Carlone, Fred Wieck, David Peterson and Roz Shafer) traveled to Sundance Elementary School to participate in their

Family STEAM Festival with the theme of “Glowing Up The Night”. We set up a display of rocks with samples of Igneous, Sedimentary, and Metamorphic Rocks. Kids were dressed in Halloween costumes (like the ‘dinosaur’ holding the fossil dino bone below.) We talked with families that stopped by the table and handed out brochures about our Rock & Mineral Museum encouraging them to visit. Overall, a fun evening for everyone!!



Fun Trip to Deer Value Petroglyph Preserve

Nine Rockhounds and one invited guest made the short trek to the Preserve where there are over 1500 petroglyphs on a quarter- mile trail. Beautiful day with a great group.



Museum Updates

Urgent: Looking for museum monitors for November

- Stop by the museum to sign up
- Sign up at the Members Meeting
- Call or text Gale at 734-731-0065 for availability
- Email for availability scrockmuseum@gmail.com

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ Rewards for Monitoring \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

New Program! The board has approved the monetary reward of a \$15.00 museum gift certificate for anyone who monitors 15 or more times during the season (October – April).

Museum Refresher and New Monitor Training dates for November

- **Friday** November 15th 9am to 10am
- **Saturday** November 23rd 1pm to 2pm

Sign up at the monthly meeting, in the museum or email scrockmuseum@gmail.com

New Displays:

Arizona State Symbols – located in the ‘Map’ Room

Included in this new display are:

- Wulfenite- state mineral
- Turquoise- state gemstone
- Petrified wood – state fossil
- Copper – state metal

Arizona Minerals from the Mining and Mineral Museum’s 1990’s teachers kit – located in the old 50 States Mineral display cabinet.

- On display there are approximately 50 minerals that can be found in Arizona
- Guidebook that accompanied the kit is also available on display

Hazardous Mineral Display - located in the ‘Map’ Room

In progress – would you like to volunteer to help?

Arizona Petrified Wood – located in the main room next to the petrified wood display cabinet. We've separated out Arizona petrified wood for this new display.



Peter Huegel, board member from SALT Organization, working with our intern Krysten Sarkissian on the museum's new guest cabinet display.



Parts of the new SALT, guest cabinet display



New Arizona State symbols display. Included are: turquoise, petrified wood, wulfenite, and copper

What is **obsidian**, also called “**volcanic glass**”? (Deb Carlone)

Obsidian is an igneous rock that forms when lava extruded from a volcano and cooled rapidly without time for noticeable crystals to grow resulting in a naturally occurring glass. **Obsidian** ‘mineral-like’ but is not a mineral because it is not crystalline and has a variable composition. While **obsidian** appears dark in color due to microscopic crystals of dark mineral inclusions, the overall composition is extremely ‘felsic’ (lighter silica, SiO₂, rich minerals.)



from a
crystals to
appears

Obsidian has glassy luster is harder than window glass, brittle, and (conchoidal) fractures with sharp edges. In the past it has been used to manufacture cutting and piercing tools; including arrowheads, In a process called knapping. In fact, **obsidian** can be used to make extremely sharp knives, also used for ornamental purposes and as a gemstone.



fractured to
process

Pure **obsidian** is usually dark black/ gray though the color varies due to impurities. **Obsidian** with the mineral magnetite inclusions giving it a red, brownish color is called *mahogany obsidian*. The inclusion of small white radially clustered (spherulites) of the mineral cristobalite in the black glass produces **snowflake obsidian**.



varies due
hematite or
brownish

Obsidian is found near volcanoes in locations which have undergone rhyolitic eruptions in the past. A large **obsidian** flow can be found at Glass Mountain at Medicine Lake Volcano in California. Yellowstone National Park has a mountainside containing **obsidian**. One of the best sources of **obsidian** in Arizona is Government Mountain in Kaibab National Forest. Other locations include RS Hill (NW of Flagstaff), Presley Wash, and Partridge Creek.

Apache tears are also the name of volcanic glass nodules made of black obsidian that are



smoother, more rounded, and translucent when held up to the light. They are often embedded with grayish-white perlite. The name “*Apache tears*” comes from a legend about Apache warriors who rode their horses off a mountain to their deaths rather than be captured by the US Cavalry in the 1870s. The legend says that the warriors’ families cried so much that their tears turned to stone upon hitting the ground. They can be found in several places around the AZ desert and including the Apache Tears mine near Superior, Arizona.

How To Identify Obsidian, Onyx, and Black Tourmaline!!



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qmcU22iVLU>

Club Contact Information

Museum Telephone 623-428-6442

Club Email scrockmuseum@gmail.com

Club Contacts		
President	Cheryl Alvord	207-797-0619
Vice President	Carol Bankert George	623-688-6364
Board Secretary	Deb Carlone	607-423-1390
Treasurer	Maryse Mercier	732-673-5567
Board Member	Connie Johnson	425-879-0874
Board Member	Tom Schonewald	425-308-4310
Membership	Tom & Linda Schonewald	425-308-4310
Monitor Coordinators	Gale Willett	734-731-0065
Refreshments	Marty Martin	847-406-6489
	Beth Mead	307-262-6715
	Karin Schardt	602-402-0506
	Lynn Applebaum	
Rockdust Editor	Dave Noll	253-905-6274
Fluorescent Room	Dave Balzer	626-375-8086
Retail Committee	Phil Applebaum	
	Roz Shafer	
	Krysten Sarkissian (intern)	
Museum Advisory Committee	Phil & Lynn Applebaum	Eliz & Joe Chan
	Cliff DeVig	Carol Bankert George
	Mary Brown Martilik	Roz Shafer
	Karin Schardt	Linda & Tom
	Priscilla Davis	Schonewald

Arizona Rock and Mineral Shows - November-March

Wickenburg Gem and Mineral Show
Nov 30 Dec 1, 2024

Free Admission
gemclub.info

Jewelry
Fossils
Minerals

Over 40 Vendors Best Rock Contest Raffle
 Door Prizes Kid's Area Silent Auction

Hassayampa Elementary School
 251 South Tegner Street Wickenburg, AZ
 9am - 5pm Saturday • 10am - 4pm Sunday

General Admission \$5-
 under 12 FREE
 Sat. November 9th 9am-5pm
 Sun. November 10th 9am-4pm

SAVE THE DATE
54TH ANNUAL

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 LINC, Arizona

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 86403

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52ND ANNUAL
FLAGG GEM & MINERAL SHOW

A Tribute to the Life and Collection of Bob Jones.

FREE ADMISSION **FREE PARKING** **FREE SAMPLES FOR KIDS**

JANUARY, 3 to 5 | 2025

MEGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE NE CORNER
 4100 N. FLAGG AVENUE
 FLAGG, ARIZONA

Daisy Mountain Rock and Mineral Show - 03/01/2025

Start Date: 03/01/2025
 End Date: 03/02/2025
 Hours: Sat 9:00-5:00 Sun 10:00-4:00
 Venue: The Anthem School
 Address:
 41020 N Freedom Way
 Anthem, AZ 85086
 Website: <http://www.dmrmc.com/>
 Types: Rock & Mineral Shows



FACEBOOK & PINTEREST

As a reminder, our club has both Facebook & Pinterest Pages. Both can be found by searching Sun City Rock Hounds in these applications.

Facebook: includes pictures of rock and mineral specimens that are posted weekly along with occasional news stories on topics club members may find of interest. Meeting and field trip information will also be posted.

Pinterest: includes hundreds of pictures of rock and mineral specimens in and the Nazca Lines in Peru, home collections and even a few pictures of club activities.



YouTube Channels

Mars Guy Channel– Our favorite ASU professor Steve Ruff (our February 2024 guest speaker) has over 142 videos now on Mars he has created and has 34 thousand followers.

Elley Knows Rocks Channel – Our one-time guest speaker Elley Ringo has over 500 videos on rocks, minerals, Arizona mines and her adventures in Greenland.

Sidetrack Adventures- Not rock hound related, but, the host of the channel, Steve, takes you weekly on the highways and byways of southern California and Arizona. Many could be potential day trips from Sun City.

Rock Hounding Channels

- AZ Rockhound Expeditions
- Currently Rock hounding
- Native Arizona Adventures (local group also on Facebook, sponsors monthly field trips)
- Rockhounding the West

New Business Cards

