Thanks to all the volunteers that gave so much of their time and energy to make the 61st Tucson Gem and Mineral Show® another huge success. It is amazing what can be done when a committed group of individuals, with a common cause, put their hearts into a project. Every year this commitment is justification for the best gem and mineral show in the world.

Now as we move on into Spring we have other issues we must address. In May we will be awarding our scholarship to some lucky student. If you qualify, please submit a statement of your eligibility and interest during the next month to the Society Office. The Board of Directors will be meeting and making a decision on the recipient in April. Let us hear from you, and Good Luck!!!

Also, my friends, election is coming up in May and it will be time to elect a few new Board members. A nomination committee will be asked to formulate a slate of officers to present to you at the May meeting. Please give some thought to joining the Board and adding some new and exciting plans for our Society.

So enough business. All of you must get out in this wonderful Arizona weather and experience the desert wildflowers at their best. I am told this is going to be a really good year. We are all so blessed to be here and enjoy the experience of a 70 degree winter, so put down the drudgery of housework and yard work and live a little. Put on your boots, get out there, take a camera and come back with some wonderful memories !!!
PROGRAM:
Speaker: Anthony J. Albini

OLD BUSINESS:
Approval of Minutes: November 3, December 1 minutes approved.

Field Trips:
No club trips to Ray due to management.

January 17, St. David trip to collect selenite. Suitable for all vehicles. Parking is a quarter mile from the collecting site. No need for sledge hammers/chisels; long handled garden tools recommended. Meeting at Denny’s in Benson at 9:30 a.m. to caravan.
Must sign a release form.

Silver Bell Mine, January 31st. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at ASARCO mine office.

Nuevo Coral and Mission in February.

Show: Volunteer list is being sent to individual chairs, who will call volunteers individually.

February meeting is the first Monday, not the second.

DOOR PRIZE WINNERS:
Ortrud Schuh, (refreshments), Stephan Koek, Donna Pugh, Christina Marikos, Andy Herman

Respectfully submitted,
Christina Marikos
Recording Secretary pro tem

Let’s start thinking “BLUE” for 2016!

Grandviewite Cyanotrichite
Photo by: Ken Don
The General Meeting of the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society was called to order by President Diane Braswell at 7:30 p.m. Visitors and new members were recognized and welcomed to the meeting.

**PROGRAM:** Dr. Marcus Origlieri presented “Finding New Minerals at the Mineral Show and in the Laboratory.” In 2011 at the Denver Show, Marcus acquired a pink crystal specimen suggesting Mn\(^{2+}\). Initial powder diffraction showed results similar to ferrobustamite, but were not a match. Raman spectroscopy results were in between pectolite and serandite. Single crystal x-ray diffraction also placed the mineral between pectolite and serandite. The specimen was brought out of the Wessels Mine in the Kalahari manganese field in South Africa by Marshall Sussman. The new mineral has been named marshallussmanite. The mineral has been added to the RRUFF Project website which contains an integrated database of Raman spectra, X-ray diffraction and chemistry data for minerals. Marcus showed numerous new minerals and advised the audience to look for “weird” minerals, often occurring with other rare minerals.

**BREAK:** Thanks to Jo Anne Sam for providing cookies and vegetables for refreshments.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Field Trips:** Jerry Glazman reported that the St. David trip for selenite had 20 participants and everyone found something they really liked. Kerry Towe announced that Donn Cuson will lead a field trip to Ruby (Nuevo Coral) February 21st for geodes and quartz. There is a 15 person limit. So many people signed up on a waiting list that another trip will probably go in April. The Mission Mine trip on February 27th will go to the old mine dumps by Daisy Mine. Participants may collect a five gallon bucket plus backpack. Hard hat and glasses are required. Be at the mine office by 8:50 a.m. to sign mine forms. Transportation to collection site will be in mine vehicles. There is a waiting list for this trip also.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Donations of books are needed by Friends of the Pima County Public Library located at 220 N. Country Club Road in Tucson.

Show Volunteer Packets will be ready Wednesday. If a parking pass is missing, turn in the parking receipt to the office and the $8.00 fee will be reimbursed.

**New TGMS website:** Jerry Glazman commented that the website is spectacular and complimented Pat McClain on the design.

**Show Publicity:** A thirty minute show about the Tucson Gem & Mineral Show® which appeared Sunday on Tucson TV was reported to be excellent.

**DRAWING FOR DOOR PRIZES:** Jo Anne Sam, as meeting host, made the first choice. Drawing winners were Deborah Alderman, Pete Peterson, Marilyn Reynolds and Rick DeMoss.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Marilyn Reynolds, Recording Secretary
“GRAND PRIZE GIVEAWAY!”

Dipti Tillu, from Oro Valley was the “lucky” young lady that won the “Grand Prize” this year. You can tell by the look on her face that she was pleased as one person could be over her good fortune.

Jack Wixon and Penny Savoie did another great job of selecting the item for the “Grand Prize,” a 14kt. ruby and diamond bracelet.

We think that everyone has a fun time being involved in this … and we can’t wait to see what the “Grand Prize” is going to be for 2016!
What a difference a week makes! The house-guests are gone, specimens are back in place from exhibits in Best of Theme, Breast Cancer Survivors, Quartz Thumbnails and Blue Minerals, and the brain-fog from three weeks of (completely voluntary) sleep deprivation is starting to lift. Sadly, this year’s avatar of the most ephemeral world-class mineral museum in existence is history, but the images of all those great exhibits linger in our (recovering) memories … and Ken Don’s photos!

Our “Minerals of Western Europe” theme was played to by over 50 museum and private exhibitors representing over 14 countries … with 8 from various parts of the UK. Exhibits ranged from some of the oldest mineral specimens known (1500’s belonging to Georges Agricola), some of the best Swiss minerals ever seen (the Jordanite and Anatase were amazing, not to mention all the Gwindels), great suites of Northern England fluorites (Rogerley and Greenbank cases), and German classics (Krugerhaus, Smithsonian and National Museum of Canada). The “Great Quartz Face-Off was also a great success with over 20 cases devoted to quartz in all its forms and colors (Gene’s amethyst “Y” had everyone asking where the MCA was … and did I mention all the Gwindels?). Throw in the bracelets that ushered in Art Deco, a golden Thunderbolt, amazing gem carvings, new-fangled faceted stones and that unbelievable Baveno-Twinned Amazonite, and the buzz never stopped.

As always it is our volunteers who make the exhibits sing! Our set-up crew was hobbled from the get-go with Robert Crowell being flat on his back with the flu, but Elaine Hughes stepped up and pulled double-shift until he got back on his feet for set-up day (albeit a bit shakily). Bob Melzer, Ellen Alexander, Richard Nassi, Dave Witwer, Tim McClain, Marilyn Reynolds, Ruby Munson, Larry Klement and Donna Rae Klement managed to get all of our new cases put together again, which was quite a job given the heft of the panels! (We NEED some younger and stronger members to pitch in for this job next year, so let Robert and Elaine know ASAP if you can help.

Wayne’s lining crew (Bob & Jeannette Barnes, Denise Collins, Don & Sue Feyrer, Jerry & Anneliese Foley, Larry & Donna Rae Klement, Donna Pugh, Janet Reue, Ted & Janet Rupp) again managed to get snappy looking liners not only into the cases that requested them…but managed to save set-up day for the usual pile of guests who “forgot” that they needed liners…or showed up with liners made for our old cases. (Speaking of the old cases, Pat and Linda pulled off a coup and found a good home for all of them…plus the liners … in Mexico! They’ll be distributed to schools for Show and Tell displays!!)

Add to all of the above the great job John and Nancy did coordinating the volunteers; Bob Morgan, Donna Pugh, Bob O’Donnell, Mike Hollonbeck, Dave Cormier, Karyl Lynch, David Clement, Bill Besse, Eric Weiland, Bob Lind, Yvonne Lind, Laura Schauss, Tim McClain, Ortrud Schuh, Ron Pellar, Jeannette Barnes, Marilyn Reynolds who help get all the amazing rocks safely into their cases and keep the exhibitors (most anyway) smiling through the entire process.

I’d especially like to thank Wayne, Eric, Ron, Bill, Mike,
and Steve for trouble-shooting the more serious of my mistakes … and of course, Paul, for finding locks and keys and the right words to keep stressed-out exhibitors cool. Finally, I can’t thank Pat, Rose and Linda enough for all the hours they put in to making not only exhibits, but our entire Show, the highpoint of the year for the thousands of participants in our Show … the amount of time they volunteer on top of their TGMS “day-jobs” is truly incredible.

I can’t count the number of potential exhibitors who wrote me over the last year expressing their appreciation for our renewed focus on exhibits and the great look the new cases gave our 2014 Show. A fair number of them followed that with “It looked so good I just had to see if there was room for me for 2015.” Setting a precedent, this year we had EVERY case we own (plus some of Linda’s) occupied and actually had to turn some folks away. And 2016 “Shades of Blue” looks like it will be worse/better! Requests for exhibits started rolling in during set-up … you could see the wheels turning as folks started thinking about what they’ve got in their collections to play to this novel theme. Given how many wonderful blue minerals come from Arizona I am hoping that more TGMS members will exhibit next year…either individually or perhaps in “group-shoot” cases featuring prizes bagged on TGMS field trips (I have a nice Morenci piece collected with Bill and Millie Schupp to throw into that mix if someone cares to coordinate). Common copper species will probably dominate, but I understand some of our members have found nice blue non-copper species in the area too … like aquamarine and linarite … and there are really good blue rarities from the region … like utahite and mammothite … that the micro-lovers can bring to the table.

Speaking of Bill and Millie … this year we instituted two new trophies for exhibits … one for museum and one for TGMS member exhibits. The first is the Clayton and Betty Gibson Trophy, recognizing the fact that they spearheaded the effort to get museums to exhibit at our Show. Given to the best museum exhibit in the Show, the debut trophy was appropriately awarded to the Smithsonian … the first museum ever to exhibit at our Show. Inviting them (in 1963) was arguably the single most important step leading to the growing success of our Show. The second is the Bill and Millie Schupp Trophy, recognizing their efforts to get TGMS members involved in the Society and Show. Given to the best exhibit (competitive or not) by a TGMS volunteer, the debut trophy was awarded to Jim Bleess for his Terry Ledford Memorial Exhibit. YOU could be next!!!

Please mark your calendars now to exhibit, volunteer (take a look at how many of the same names show up above for doing various jobs … there is room for you too!) and enjoy being part of our continuing success in 2016 and beyond!

Peter Megaw
Special/Guest Exhibits Chair
WOW! What a weekend – a culmination of the past years efforts. It is difficult for me to decompress from the exhilarating high of the 2015 Show. Let’s start back in 2013 when the Show theme was selected. “Minerals of Western Europe” proved to be a fabulous theme for it opened doors to the classics of our great hobby. I am sure Peter Megaw will fully report on the exhibits and their laser-like focus on Western Europe. For me perhaps the most important single specimen was the Jordanite from Switzerland that was shown in the Ashcroft exhibit. Its size and crystal quality was stunning.

But back to the Show. Total attendance exceeded 20,000 guests. Each one of those guests represents an opportunity for each one of the 250 dealers to develop a customer relationship. I challenge every Society member to spend the upcoming year encouraging our friends and neighbors to attend in 2016. If every Society member can bring ten new visitors, that will increase the attendance by over 4000. Let’s commit ourselves to support the dealers who have earned our respect. My personal barometer for a “successful” show is: “Did it appear people were having fun?” Were their smiles on their faces? Were they engaged with the dealers? Were sales being made? Were they taking the time to study the various exhibits? I can report without hesitation the answer to each question was a resounding yes. 2015 was a great Show made possible by each of you, the dealers, the patrons and every business and person who touched the Show.

The success of the Show is dependent upon the total commitment to quality by everyone who has a part in the Show. This commitment to quality was evident in every aspect of the Show, from the selection of a theme, to promotion and publicity for the Show, to staging, to the dealer selection process and their participation, to the food trucks, to financial responsibility, to the tireless commitment of all volunteers, to TPD for safety and security, to the exhibitors and so many more. Space limits me to some degree. So to everyone, and I mean everyone who participated in any way (great or small), please accept my sincere thank you for your personal effort and sacrifice. It is that effort and sacrifice which makes, not only America the greatest country on earth, but our Show the best.

So, what’s in store for the future? The business of selling minerals is evolving. The business is different than it was five years ago, not to mention sixty years ago. This means TGMS must also evolve, change and adapt the way it conducts its business. These changes will be difficult but are essential if TGMS wants to retain its position as the finest gem and mineral show. I encourage everyone to be open minded and focused on our great hobby. By doing so, TGMS will be able to retain its position of not only national but also international prominence.

So for now, so long and thank you for a great 2015 Show. I cannot wait for February 11, 2016 and the opening of the 62nd edition of the greatest gem and mineral show.

Paul Harter
2015 Show Chair

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**Tucson Gem and Mineral Show® COMPETITIVE AWARDS**

- **Best Master/Best in Show**: Jim and Charelle Webb
- **Best Advanced**: Angela Cannon
- **Best Junior-Master**: Harris Kaminski
- **Best Junior**: Kaleigh Brown
- **Best of Theme**
  - Thumbnail - Jaye Smith/Bill Lawrence Collection
  - Toenail - Tim Sherburn
  - Miniature - Sue Liebetrau
  - Small Cabinet - Robert Thacker
  - Cabinet - Brent Lockhart
  - Lapidary/Jewelry - Ed & Aleta Huskinson
- **Special Trophies**
  - Bideaux (Best Arizona Specimen) - Irv Brown
  - Lidstrom (Best Single Specimen) - Barry Kitt
  - Desautels (Best Case) - Barry Kitt
  - Romero (Best Mexican Mineral) - Gail Spann
  - Clayton & Betty Gibson Memorial - Smithsonian Institute
  - Bill & Millie Schupp Memorial - Jim Bless (Terry Leadford Memorial Exhibit)
Friday, March 27, Saturday, March 28, and Sunday, March 29, 2015

Friday Program: Micromineral Symposium
2:00 Welcome by Ron Gibbs
Trade / give-away session - Microscopes available or bring your own. Please bring minerals to share, trade, and/or brag about.
4:00 Presentation: to be announced
5:00 Dealers selling in rooms

Saturday Program: Continental Breakfast 8 AM, talks from 9 AM to 4:40 PM followed by a Dinner at 6 PM with a speaker and an auction of donated items.
8:00 - 8:45 - Coffee Hour
8:45 - 9:00 - Welcoming Remarks and Introductions
9:00 - 9:40 - Crystallized Gypsum Deposits of the San Pedro River Basin - Barbara Muntyan
10:20 - 10:50 - Break
10:50 - 11:30 - Notable Native Silver Specimen Producing Localities in Arizona and New Mexico – Tony Potucek
11:30 - 12:10 - The Apex Mine, Utah -- A Colorado Plateau-type Solution-Collapse Breccia Pipe and a Tsumeb, Namibia Analogue – Karen Wenrich
12:10 - 1:30 - Lunch
1:30 - 2:10 - Mine Reclamation and Mineral Specimen Recovery Operation at the Blanchard Mine, Socorro County, New Mexico - Mike Sanders
2:10 - 2:50 - Origins of Azurite and Malachite - Erik Melchiorre
2:50 - 3:20 - Break
3:20 - 4:00 - History of the Freeport-McMoRan Minerals Mineral Collection - Will Wilkinson
4:00 - 4:40 - Emus, 'Roos and Minerals and Mines at Broken Hill, NSW, Australia - Anna Domitrovic
4:40 – 6:00 - Happy hour, visit dealers
6:00 Dinner and evening speaker - Evening speaker to be announced. There will also be an auction of donated items. Cost is $20 per person.

Sunday Program
9:00 to 11:00 - Portable XRF demonstration of analyzing gold and other minerals for their chemistry. Participant can bring one unknown sample to be analyzed.

Form:
Please mail this form with the $45.00 registration fee (Foundation and Mineralogical Society of Arizona members pay $40.00) before March 23, 2015 so lunch and other food can be ordered. Banquet cost is $20 per person.

Mail to:
Flagg Mineral Foundation, P.O. Box 41834, Mesa, Arizona 85274

Make checks payable to: Flagg Mineral Foundation

Enclosed is $ ______________ for ______________ registrations and ______ x $20 for Saturday Dinner.
Name(s): ___________________________________________________________________________________________
Address: ___________________________________________________________________________________________
E-mail: ___________________________________________________________________________________________

Clarion Hotel at Phoenix Tech Center - 5121 E. La Puente Ave. (NW corner of Elliot Rd. and I 10) in Phoenix.
The Clarion has a special rate for rooms during the symposium. They are $99.00 per night plus tax and include breakfast, happy hour and a light evening meal (salad bar and one hot item). If you want a selling room you need to request a first floor, courtyard (poolside) room, these rooms are also $99 plus tax this year. We have asked that those rooms be saved for dealers. If you do not want a selling room, just specify that you are with the mineral symposium to get the quoted rate. The Clarion telephone number is 480-893-3900.

Directions: Take Interstate 10 N or S to Elliot Road exit. Go west on Elliot Road to the first light (a short block), turn north on 51st Street to La Puente Ave. Turn right into the Clarion.

Go to www.flagmineralfoundation.org for the latest information.
OTHER SHOW DATES & CALENDAR

MARCH:

12-15 - DEMING, NEW MEXICO: 50th Annual Rockhound Roundup Gem & Mineral Show; Deming Gem & Mineral Society, SWNM State Fairgrounds; 4100 Raymond Reed Blvd.; Thu. 9-5, Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-5; free admission; more than 100 dealers, rough rock, slabs, cabs, handcrafted jewelry, rock-related items, lapidary tools, supplies and equipment, educational demonstrations, children’s activities, displays, silent auctions, live auction, drawings, Spinning Wheel, guided field trips; contact Marilyn Page, PO Box 1459, Deming, NM 88031, (575) 544-9019; e-mail: thedgms@gmail.com; Web site: www.thedgms.com

14-15 - COTTONWOOD, ARIZONA: Show and sale; CKM Productions, LLC, Mingus Union High School; 1801 East Fir Street; Sat. 10:00 am-5:00 pm, Sun. 10:00 AM-4:00 PM; Adults $3.00; Vendors from around the region will be offering crystals, mineral specimens, jewelry, gemstones, rough rock, fossils, and beads. Food and raffles will be available during the show.; contact Greg Capatch, (928) 554-4615; e-mail: gregcapatch@yahoo.com

20-22 - ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO: Annual show; Albuquerque Gem & Mineral Club, NM State Fairgrounds, Expo NM; 300 San Pedro NE; Fri. 10 am-6 pm, Sat. 10 am -6 pm, Sun. 10 am -5 pm ; 3.00, Free under 13; 46th Annual Gem, Mineral, Jewelry Expo. Admission $3, Friday is Dollar Day, Kids under 13 are free. Enter gate 3 at 300 San Pedro NE and Copper, Creative Arts Center at the NM State Fairgrounds (Expo NM). 50 dealers, door prizes, raffle, silent auction, junior table, live wolf, display cases, mineral ID, gemstones, minerals, jewelry, beads, cabochons, fossils, tools, equipment. Contact: Paul Hlava, 505-265-4178, Web site: agmc.info; contact Paul Hlava, PO Box 13718, Albuquerque, NM 87192, 505-265-4178; e-mail: paulhlava@q.com; Web site: agmc.info.

28 - ANTHEM, ARIZONA: 2nd Annual Gem and Mineral Show, Diamond Canyon School, 40004 North Liberty Bell way, Anthem, Arizona, 85086; Saturday, March 28, Sunday, March 29, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm; Adults $3:00, Seniors & students $2.00, children free; for more information call 978-460-1528.

TGMS General Meetings are open to the general public. All other meetings/events are for TGMS Members only.

TGMS Calendar

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<td>TGMS General Meeting 7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>TGMS Educational Class 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>TGMS Show Cntr Meeting 6:30 p.m.</td>
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Unless otherwise stated ... all meetings are held at the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society facility.
Located at: 3727 E. Blacklidge, Tucson, Arizona 85716
PURPOSE: To encourage interest and study in geology, mineralogy, lapidary, and allied earth sciences.

Meetings: Usually the first Monday of the month, starting at 7:30 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), International Federation of Micromount Societies (IFMS), Visit Tucson, Tucson Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce (TMCC), Greater Oro Valley Chamber of Commerce

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