TURQUOISE – Widely Regarded as America's "National Stone"

Turquoise is one of the world's earliest used gem materials. The four turquoise bracelets of Queen Zar date to the second ruler of Egypt's first dynasty, or approximately 5500 B.C.

Turquoise depends on the whims of nature for its formation. It is not a material that originated deep within the earth as a primary mineral. Rather, it relies on weathering and the ingredients of the earth's crust for its formation.

Turquoise is mined all over the world, but the greatest production is in the Southwest USA – Arizona, New Mexico & Nevada.

CHEMISTRY OF TURQUOISE

The chemistry of turquoise reveals its origins. It is found only in or near copper deposits, as it depends on the presence of copper ions for its formation. Turquoise is a hydrous hydrate of copper, aluminum, and phosphorous.

The color of turquoise can vary from a deep blue to a deep green with every variation of color in between. This is due to the chemical composition of the turquoise. Generally, the more copper in the molecule the bluer the turquoise. The introduction of iron causes the greener cast to the stone. The amount of silica determines the hardness.

MYTHS and LEGENDS

"Where the Sky God lives when on earth"
Native American

Ancient medical practitioners mixed turquoise as a paste to treat hip problems. Egyptians used it for the treatment of cataracts. Turquoise was used for currency in many areas of Tibet.

Native American legend says that if cast into a river along with a prayer, it would bring rain.

Turquoise is known as a master healer and is considered excellent for spiritual attunement, healing emotions, and balancing the aura bodies.

That turquoise is beautiful to wear is neither myth nor legend!

Turquoise Vein
Patagonia, Arizona

Carolyn Shafer and her former partner established mining claims in the Coronado National Forest near Patagonia, AZ. The formation of turquoise resulted from a cataclysmic thermal event melting rocks containing copper, aluminum and phosphorous. These combined materials created turquoise and ran like a molten stream and formed veins in host rocks. It is the host rock material which creates the patterns in turquoise such as "spider."

Carolyn and her former partner mined the turquoise, stabilized the material, and she created the finished jewelry for your wearing pleasure.