

Colorado
Mineral
Society



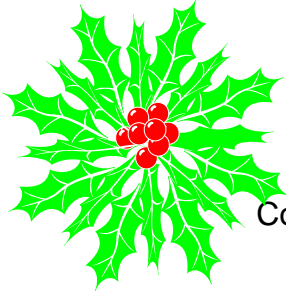
Volume 76 Issue 7

November 2012



Mineral Minutes

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Christmas Holiday Pot Luck Party



Come, celebrate the season with good company, fun things to do,
good food and contests.

We need volunteers to help us make this a successful party.

Here are some of the activities we are planning and need all to pitch in.

* * * * *

Gift Exchange - Bring a rock related gift (approximately \$10), then you will receive a gift.

We have our own "rock tree" to place your packages under.

Cake Steal - we need cakes for our cake table. Tickets will be \$1.00 for a chance to win one.

Mineral Challenges - one challenge for the professional rock hounds and one for the amateurs.

Display cases - bring your red and green rocks, minerals or gems or a combination of both colors for the cases.

A group of young people will be there to sing holiday music for us.

Bring your favorite party Pot Luck food! We will have a plate of meats, cheeses, rolls and condiments for the making of the holiday sandwich.

We could quite possibly have a visitor from the North, farther than Point Barrow.

We always like to say "Thank You" to the Church for hosting us every year by bringing a new hat, mittens, gloves or scarf to hang on the church's mitten tree they set up in the hall. So please bring some to hang on the "tree".

With all of this activity going on, we need everyone who can, come to the church on December 7, at 6:00 PM to set up and decorate the tables, bring your cakes in, help with the food and decorate the tree. **The party will start at 7:00 PM.** Then after the party, we need to get everything back together even better than we found it when we came in.



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Notification of Officer Nominations from the Greater Denver Area Gem & Mineral Council

The by-laws of the Greater Denver Area Gem and Mineral Council require the Council to notify all member organizations of the nominating committee's nominations for Council officers. The nominating committee submitted their slate of nominations for officers in 2013 at the September 26, 2012 Council meeting. The Council by-laws require this information be communicated to all clubs no less than 30 days prior to the election. The election will be held November 14, 2012.

Nominating Committee Report:

President: **Janie Bennett**

Vice President: **Martin Hannu**

Secretary: **Sharon Hannu**

Treasurer: **Bob Berry**

There were no nominations from the floor at the September 26, 2012 Council meeting.

Nominations will be accepted from club members, provided the nominee has accepted the nomination. Club members can give nominations to their organization's Council Trustee no later than November 1, 2012.

Council Trustees:

CMS: **Gary Rowe**

Flatirons: **Carl Bird**

FM: **Jim Hurlbut**

Guild: **Kathy Honda**

Littleton: **Nick North**

North Jeffco: **Judy Knoshaug**

RAMS: **Ron Knoshaug**

WIPS: **Judith Johnson**

Respectfully Submitted,
Sharon Hannu, Secretary

President's Message

By Daryl Lamb

Hello everyone. It's late October and colder weather will soon be upon us. I hope everyone had an enjoyable and successful collecting season because it has probably come to an end for this year, at least in the mountains. Have good cheer however, as the Colorado Mineral Society has plenty of interesting activities planned for the remainder of 2012. We have our monthly meeting coming up and our Christmas party is just over a month away.

Norm Hyndman, our 1st Vice President, has a very interesting program lined up for our November meeting. Be sure to check inside the newsletter for details. If you have a mineral specimen you collected or acquired this year that you particularly like, bring it to the November meeting, and we'll place in the club display case for viewing.

The Club needs your help! Would you like to assist in planning our monthly programs, help arrange the mineral displays for our meetings, or perhaps help with our hospitality snacks? These are just a few of the club activities that we will need help with in 2013. Now is a good time to consider lending a hand. We need chair and co-chair persons for various activities and also have openings on the CMS Board. These positions do not require a great deal of work, afford you the opportunity to plan and direct Club activities and events, and provide a great opportunity to get to know other members. It's a great way to take full advantage of everything CMS has to offer. Give it some thought. We'll be talking about it some more during our monthly meeting.

Speaking of club meetings, our next meeting is Friday, November 2nd at 7:30 PM at our usual location – St. Paul's Episcopal Church on the corner of Garrison and 10th in Lakewood. Bring a friend, bring the wife (or husband) and kids, bring a family member, bring a specimen, or just bring yourself. See you there!



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Sent Live From Las Vegas!

Board Meeting Notes October 16, 2012

Attendance: Daryl Lamb, Bruce Sales, Eva Siemonsma, Sandra Gonzales, Amber Brenzikofer, Cara Reynolds, Leslie Osgood

Old business:

Board meeting positions needed to be filled:

1. Vice president
2. Field trip assistant
3. Display chair person
4. Door greeter assistant
5. Hospitality

New business:

Daryl Lamb:

1. Talked about board member openings
2. Education Program for CMS & Junior members
3. Needing a volunteer to house the audio equipment and to coordinate with guest speakers.

Cara Reynolds:

1. Total membership-212 (70 single, 86 family, 1 junior, 18 senior single, 12 senior family, 25 life members)
2. She will follow up with families that forgot to list children on applications
3. Electronic receipts are sent out with receipt numbers to new members to easily track memberships and payments.
4. Fiscal year for CMS membership ends September 30th of each year.
5. Revamping membership data base to access information & to generate reports

Bruce Sales:

See page 7 for a list of the display cases and some more information about the cases.

Eva:

1. Raffle needs to have a set time established
2. CMS needs a Games Manager- A class given by the state needs to be taken to qualify for this position. This position is qualified for 4 years. Amber has been voted in by the board for this position

3. Entertainment has been established for the Christmas party

4. Annual Revenue Report was discussed and distributed to board members

Leslie Osgood:

1. Recap of events for the Christmas party
2. Will list events in newsletter
3. Need volunteers to help with party

Sandra Gonzales:

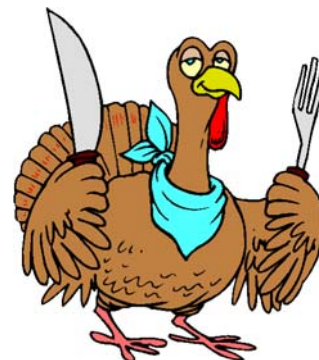
1. Will not be at next meeting or the next board meeting due to trip out of the country.

Debbie will cover secretary duties

Viva Las Vegas!!!!

November 2 Meeting

Pat Tucci and Zeldia Bailey will talk about their "Mineral Safari" to Namibia. They travelled with 8 friends, all geologists and/or rockhounds, on a guided tour around the north-central part of the country. In addition to visiting mine sites (Tsumeb, Okorusu) and mineral dealers, they enjoyed wildlife viewing in Etosha National Park, the Cape Cross seal colony, and a cheetah conservancy, visited the Hoba Meteorite site, the city of Swakopmund on the coast and the capital of Windhoek. The talk will feature photos from these travels, as well as photos of some of the many mineral specimens that they brought back from the trip.





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ON THE ROAD AGAIN

Pat Tucci
GEOdyssey, LLC

It's fall, the Denver Gem & Mineral Show is over, and it's time to hit the road for our annual road trip to visit our daughter in southern Oregon. This year we went via Boise, Idaho to attend a USGS retirees reunion. The drive to Boise was somewhat less scenic than it should have been because of smoke and haze from wildfires in Idaho, Washington and California. We could barely see Longs Peak from I-25. Boise's a good city to visit, with lots to see and do (museums, shops, restaurants, wineries, and rafting). They've got a small mining museum located at the Territorial Prison museum (also worth touring).

While in Boise, a friend arranged for us to visit the Willow Creek jasper mine, owned and operated by Larry Ridley. This was a rare treat, because Larry doesn't often allow visitors to the mine. The mine is a small operation – usually just Larry, his wife Mary, and a couple other helpers. It's located about 15 miles northwest of Boise, and has been in operation for over 40 years. It's accessible by a 2-mile, rough 4-wheel drive road that we walked.

The jasper is found within large nodules that are surrounded by hard rhyolite. Larry has been told by visiting geologists that the nodules were probably formed deep within the earth, then brought to the near surface along volcanic vents. Mining the nodules is difficult hard rock mining. Explosives are used to loosen the nodules and once loose, a backhoe is used to free them. Sledgehammers and wedges are then used to split the nodules to expose the jasper.

Willow Creek jasper is considered to be some of the finest porcelain jasper in the world. It's known for its subtle pastel colors, streamer patterns, and egg or orb patterns. It takes an extremely high polish and is much sought after by collectors. Some examples of polished free-form cabs can be seen on Larry's web site, www.willowcreekjasper.com. You can also purchase

slabs ready for cabbing directly from the web site, or you can look for Larry at the Quartzite show. We were allowed to collect some pieces from an inactive area of the mine, and we came home with a few pieces that we'd like to get cut and polished.



Mine owner Larry Ridley standing next to a nodule containing Willow Creek jasper.



Larry's prize find at the mine on the day that we were there.



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What's on Display

That is the question? What is on display this month? As Display Co-Chairman, it is my pleasure to write this column.

Off the top I would like to extend congratulations to everybody who had a mineral specimen displayed in the Prospectors Case at the Denver Gem and Mineral Show. For the second, and hopefully counting years, The Colorado Mineral Society has won the annual Prospectors Case competition. Thanks to my Co-Chair, Gary Rowe, Paul Crowell, Amber Bernzikofer, and to everybody that helped set up the display. Also I am very proud of the display case at the CMS table, thanks to Sandra Gonzales, Jeff Self and Gary Rowe for the incredible Copper minerals that we displayed.

Last year when I became the Co-Chair of the Display Committee, I asked for the members to please step up and show all of us their collections at the monthly meetings, or I would bring the same ten rocks each month and show you a different side each month. Thank you for bringing out your collections and sharing them with everyone.

At the October meeting, Jerry Kiefer brought his beautiful collection of minerals that he has collected or procured from all of the sites listed in Richard Pearl's book; Colorado Gem Trails, 1951, Mineral Book Company. This display had been scheduled during the 75th Anniversary Year Celebration, but due to the blizzard in February 2012, it was rescheduled for the October meeting.

These are the displays that I have lined up for the remainder of the year:

November: Natalie Briscoe - Personally collected minerals

December: Red & Green - Bring your best Red and Green Minerals

January: Eva Siemonsma & Bill Harrison - Fossil Wood

February: Amber Brenzikofer - DIA Fossils

March: Cara & Lewis Reynolds - Personally collected minerals

April: Sandra Gonzales - African Minerals

Bruce Sales - CMS Auction Minerals

May: Field Trips - (no display)

If you have any ideas for future displays at monthly meetings or for the Denver show, please contact me at (303) 902-5704 or at oscar51686@yahoo.com

Thanks for all of the volunteer help, without your help this would be a huge job.

Bruce G. Sales
Display Co-Chairman

Pete Modreski News

Sat.-Sun., Nov. 3-4, Open House & Mineral Sale, by "Dan's Used Rocks"; Saturday 10-5, Sunday 11-4; 12296 W. Mississippi Ave., Lakewood, CO 80228. "As many of you may have heard, we had to cancel the Denver Area Mineral Dealers annual November show THIS YEAR ONLY owing to a conflict in scheduling at the Jeffco Fairgrounds (election judge training). Consequently, I have decided to have another open house this year at my home on the normal show weekend. The big news for this show is that I have decided to offer for sale my own personal collection of Mexican Minerals. There will be approximately 200 specimens available in miniature to cabinet-size... in addition to many other minerals, fossils, thumbnail size specimens, etc. Becky, Scott, and I hope to see you at the sale!" For more info, please contact Dan for a copy of the complete mineral sale announcement; dansrocks@comcast.net, 303-986-3647.

Thurs., Nov. 8, 4:00 p.m., weekly Van Tuyl Lecture Series at Colorado School of Mines, Dr. Robert Ewing, Iowa State, "Infinity in a Grain of Sand: A Soil Physicist's Struggle with Rocks", Joint Lecture with Hydrologic Science and Engineering (HSE). Berthoud Hall room 241; all are welcome to attend. See <http://www.colorado.edu/GeolSci/> for the complete colloquium schedule.

Fri., Nov. 16, for science educators, the annual **Colorado Science Conference for Professional Development** will be held at the Denver Merchandise Mart. Workshop sessions, exhibitors, and featured speaker, **Dr. Kirk Johnson**, who will give a talk about the Snowmass "Snowmastodon" site and other things; see <http://www.coloradoscience.org/> for full information.

Sat., Nov. 17, annual **Silent Auction** of minerals, rocks, books, gems, jewelry, etc., held by the **Littleton Gem and Mineral Club**. All are welcome to attend; always a fun event, lots of interesting item at (perhaps?) bargain prices, and always great refreshments too! 12 noon to 5 p.m., at Columbine Hills Church, 9700 Old Coal Mine Ave., Littleton (near Coal Mine & Kipling).

Fri.-Sat.-Sun., Dec. 7-9, Flatirons Gem and Mineral Show, at the Boulder County Fairgrounds, Exhibits Building; 9595 Nelson Rd. (Nelson & Hover), Longmont, CO; 10-6 Friday, 9-5 Saturday, 10-5 Sunday.



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Announcing another infrequent Garage Sale (& book sale)



CSM Museum

1310 Maple Street, Golden, CO

November 3, 2012

9 A.M. - 4 P.M.



Hundreds of specimens, books, journals, professional and hobbyist magazines, U.S.G.S. folios, maps, some brochures, equipment, etc.

Prices individually marked. Most prices will be cut throughout the day.

Information: 303-273-3815

It's Time Again For Another Thrilling Chapter Of The Life And Times Of A Tow Truck Driving Rockhound

In our last chapter I let everyone know about what was going on with the claim jumping and absolute rape of the ground down at MY Topaz claim. Since then things have been kind of strange. It would seem that the person or people who pulled this off, read the CMS newsletter. Now, before everyone goes flying off the handle saying that I am accusing members of our club, I am not. There are a few ways someone could read the newsletter, and you do not have to be a member to do so. I say they read our news because I was saying that the holes were left open, and that I was being held responsible for filling them, and strangely enough, two days after my last column came out, someone went there and made a feeble effort to "fill" the holes. Since last May I have put up 24 new corner markers and posted my papers 6 times. Every time I go back there, my posts are gone and my papers are torn down. The remote cameras I put in at the request of the Sheriffs' department, have been stolen. People who I have known for years have been calling me and probing me for what information I know and beating around the bush about this thing. One dealer I know, called out of the blue one day. When I asked if he had acquired any Colorado Topaz lately, he said, "I did, but they were not stolen, they were dug up". I found that statement quite strange, since all mineral specimens were dug up at one time. What I do know is, whoever did this, they were total morons. I found a pile of Quartz crystals out there with all the Topaz broken off of them. They either did not know what they were doing, or they wanted nothing more than the gem rough. So to sum it all up, once again I got robbed, and somehow, according to more than a few people, I am the jerk in the whole thing.

On the other hand, things have not been going too badly lately, aside from the untimely deaths of two of my oldest friends. I have moved in at Agatehead Mike's place and set up my cutting equipment. I have been cutting a bunch of Arizona Fire Agate. The twins came down from Montana last July and worked my Amazonite claim for a week or two. They brought out some nice pieces. The collecting program with the kids at the ranch went great this year and we have plans to expand the program even more next year. I even sold a few stones and made a few bucks. It even feels good to sit down to zip off this column because quite frankly, working with Julie, and living at Mike's, I have not been able to finish a sentence for about three months. I can't say for sure if I will make it to the next meeting, but you all stay safe out there, and until next time.....keep on rocken.



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New Members to CMS to be Listed for the First Time

Lee Covington
Alicia Lochary
Catherine Neie
Linda Quattrochi

New Members to CMS to be Listed for the Second Time

Kathy & Dennis Bhl
Marek & Bozena Chorazewicz
Igi & Kai Chorazewicz
Rick Dalrymple
Bryce, Colby & Connor Dalrymple
Russ & Fran Delseni
Miguel DeOllos
John P. & Maureen Dillie
Kayla, Lauren, Jessie, Jack & Megan Dillie
Chris Franklin
Linda Gaede
Amy Hatfield
Laura Johnston
Jennifer & Bruce Ladley
Regan & Kyle Ladley
Larry LaDuke
Lyndsey Long
Diane Malk & Ron Jensen
Elizabeth & Michael Marcheschi
Diane Masker
D.C. Masker
Laurey Mattox & Zach Wilmeth
Suzette Morman
Andrea & James Nagy
Cristina, Paul & Adrian Nagy
Neil Pearson
Lesley Sebol
Benjamin Waltzer Sebol
Cheryl Smith
Darel & Serenity Stephenson
Anna Wells

Eva's Treasury report will be in next month's newsletter. My program for the letter, does not get along with some of the report's formatting.

A Thank You from the
Denver Gem and Mineral Show Chairman

Another Denver Gem and Mineral Show has come and gone – a year of careful planning and a frenzied 5 days in September. This year's show was yet another great success. Our special and museum exhibits glowed with the brilliant colors of our theme - copper minerals. The Show Committee is gratified by the many compliments we received from patrons and dealers alike.

The Committee may bask briefly in a job well done before it's time to start on next year's show that will feature "tourmaline" as its theme. This is also the appropriate time to acknowledge the generous contribution of that all too often unsung group of volunteers without whom the show could not go on every year. In addition to those members of your club who serve on the Show Committee, there are many more of you who volunteer your time and talents during the show.

On behalf of the Show Committee, I extend heartfelt thanks to the many of you who were our face to the community of visitors to the show. You rolled posters, sold grab bags, worked in your club booth, walked the floor in an orange security vest, sold tickets, helped set up or tear down the show. Some of you pitched in wherever you were needed or worked two or more jobs. The Committee hopes you are as proud of your contributions as we are.

The Committee wishes to encourage even more of you to consider pitching in during the show. The more of you there are, the less the burden on each, freeing you up to have more time as spectator as well as worker. Please approach your club show representative with any questions about volunteering you may have. We look forward to seeing many new faces next year along with our friends from past shows.

Larry Havens



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Up Coming Events:

November 2, 2012 Regular CMS meeting 7:30 PM at St. Paul's Church, 10th and Garrison
November 3, 2012 Garage Sale at Colorado School of Mines, 9AM to 4PM, see page 8 for details
November 3 & 4, 012 Dan's Used Rocks sale at his home, see page 7 for details
November 10-11, 2012 33rd annual New Mexico Mineral Symposium, held at New Mexico Tech, Socorro, NM
November 17, 2012 annual Silent Auction of minerals, rocks, books, gems, jewelry, etc., Littleton Gem and Mineral Club
December 7, 2012 Christmas Party, see details on page 3
December 7-9, 2012 Flatirons Gem and Mineral Show, at the Boulder County Fairgrounds

<http://www.coloradomineralsociety.org/>

Colorado Mineral Society
PO Box 280755
Lakewood, CO 80228

If the Metro Denver area declares the roads on accident alert during a snowfall on meeting night, consider the CMS meeting canceled.

First Class Mail

