

Colorado  
Mineral  
Society

A yellow ribbon graphic with a black outline, featuring a central rectangular section and two flared ends. The text "1936 - 2011" is centered within the ribbon.

1936 - 2011

Volume 75 Issue 7

November 2011



# Mineral Minutes

---

November 2011

## President's Message

*By Daryl Lamb*

Hello everyone. It's late October and winter has already given us a calling card. 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. Let not your heart be troubled however, as the Colorado Mineral Society has plenty of interesting activities planned for the remainder of 2011. We have our monthly meeting on Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, and our Christmas party is just over a month away.

Norm Hyndman, our 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, has a very interesting program lined up for our November meeting. Be sure to check 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 it in the club display case for viewing.

Don't forget the 2011 Denver Area Mineral Dealers Annual Gem and Mineral Show will be held at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds exhibit hall from November 4<sup>th</sup> through the 6<sup>th</sup>. The public is welcome and admission is free. If you are interested and would like more information call 303-279-5504, 303-986-3647, or 303-660-9564.

Our next club meeting is Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM at our usual location – St. Paul's Episcopal Church on the corner of Garrison and 10<sup>th</sup> 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!



The November speakers are Beth and Bill Sagstetter, the authors of "Mining Camp Speaks". They will present on the book. They will have some copies of the book available for sale.

Okay everyone, I am sure you have all been waiting for this. Here is the "song" Bruce Geller made up and sang at the CMS banquet. Now if we could get Shirley Self to send us the poem that inspired Jeff to collect rocks . . . . .

### **CMS 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Song** (to the tune of Take Me Out to the Ballgame)

CMS had a founder, Richard Pearl had a dream.  
Whether it's field trips, or Founder's Day  
We know we'll have a great time anyway.  
And in May, we're having an auction  
Everyone knows it's the best.  
Let us thank everyone for the decades of fun  
O'er the past 75 years!

Bruce Geller  
10/1/11



The 75th Anniversary Banquet up at Mount Vernon was spectacular. The view from that balcony was stunning and the food, superb. There, those are all the fancy words I know. For those who could not be there, it was a wonderful party. For those who came, I hope you all enjoyed it. We all got our pictures taken with a "Rocky" cut out, Then there was a whole section of the kid's drawings of rocks and minerals. Then where I was, I kept watching the dessert table and the really wonderful things being added to it. The chocolate mousse was the one that really caught my eye. Then when it was time to eat, the food was all in the hot tables with chicken, eggplant and those little red potatoes. There were vegetables in the same line so I just assumed that was it. But, no! There was a whole table over on the other side just for salads. Then the dessert. Ah the dessert! Oh yes, I did have the chocolate mousse, and a brownie, and a piece of cake and a . . . . .



# Mineral Minutes

---

November 2011



## Christmas Holiday Party

This is our 75th Christmas Party! Come!

Help 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.

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

Silent Mini Auction - bring any rock related gift items that you would like to sell for gift giving for the buyers.

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 people will be there to sing for us with holiday music.

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, and this visitor doesn't need the Ice truckers to drive him down here.

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

With all of this activity going on, we need everyone who can, come to the church on December 2, at 6:00 PM to set up the tables, 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.



# Mineral Minutes

November 2011

## Post-Denver Show Geologic Excursion to Oregon

*By Pat Tucci*

A day after the Denver show, Zelda and I packed the suitcases and rockhounding gear and headed for Oregon to visit our daughter. We planned to take 3 days to drive there, so that we could stop and look for specimens along the way. Our first stop was at Yellowcat, about 30 miles into Utah. There were plenty of nice agates and jasper to find there, in all shapes, sizes, and colors. We also came across a lot of petrified wood. The wood had some good structure, and appeared to be weathering from small stumps. In an hour we collected 3 bags of material. Note that this site was listed in 2 different guidebooks, both with the wrong exit number from I-70 listed. The actual exit number is 193, not 190 or 191.

On our way to our first night stop in Delta, Utah, we made a quick stop in Green River to buy fresh melons. There's a stand (Vetere Farms) at a truck stop at the second Green River exit off of I-70. The melons are always great, and the people who work at the stand can tell you which ones are ripe now, and which ones need a few days more.

The next morning, we headed to the U-Dig Fossils trilobite site, about 50 miles west and north of Delta. The site is owned by the Bug House, who usually set up at the Stock Show complex during the Denver Show. They charge a fee to dig there, and the rate depends on how long you dig. We paid \$28 each for 2 hours, and for the fee they will provide hammers and buckets and show you the most productive places to dig. You're guaranteed to find trilobites, even in a short time. We filled up a bucket with specimens of various sizes and quality. They've also got toilets and picnic tables at the site. We left there a bit after noon, for the long drive to Reno for our second night.

Mount Lassen Peak



One of our better finds at the trilobite dig.

Our next stop on the drive was Lassen Volcanic National Park. It's a relatively small park, but it has great scenery and geothermal features - sort of like a mini Yellowstone. Mt. Lassen last erupted about a hundred years ago, in 1915. It was interesting to see how much the land had and had not recovered in that time. Lassen Peak is one of the world's largest plug volcanoes, and it rises 2000 feet above the surrounding landscape. They've got a great visitors' center, and lots of hiking trails. Unfortunately, we couldn't take in all that there is to see there, so we mostly did a drive through of the park with several stops along the way, before heading up to Oregon that night.





# Mineral Minutes

November 2011

Continued from page 5

While in Oregon, we spent a weekend along the beautiful southern coast, where we searched for agates on the beaches (without much luck). We returned to the Crater Rock museum in Central Point, which I wrote about last year, and enjoyed seeing their world class specimens. Besides specimens for sale in the gift shop, they have piles of cutting material and petrified wood that is for sale by the pound behind the museum. We also spent time visiting vineyards and picking blackberries to make preserves, and took a tour of the Harry and David factory and packing plant.



A scene along the southern Oregon coast

## Colorado Mineral Society Historical Facts

It all started on September 24, 1936 when seven mineral enthusiasts met in Chester Howard's Apartment in Denver. The mission was to promote the study of minerals and other geologic materials, to encourage mineral collecting as a hobby and to conduct public meetings, lectures and field trips.

The first regular meeting was October 9, 1936 with 14 founding members from four cities. A Constitution and by-laws were adopted.

By June 1937, there were 83 members and by June 1938, there were 123 members. Membership peaked in 1948 with over 500 members. Currently we have over 265 members.

Annual dues in 1936 were \$0.50. They are now \$16.00 for a family.

Starting with the October 1936 meeting, regular meetings have always been on the first Friday of each month from October through May at 7:30 PM. That tradition continues today.

The first silent auction was started January 5, 1951, which received \$109.25. It has been continued annually since.

CMS sponsored the first annual Denver Gem and Mineral Fair in August 1960 at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds (the forerunner to today's Denver Gem and Mineral Show.) Over 200 people attended during the two-day run. Approximately 100 displays and ten dealer booths were at the show.

The first field trip program began in the summer of 1937 with an open house at the Howard Ranch.

In the summer of 1938, the Colorado Mineral Society embarked on an ambitious project of establishing and maintaining a 5-week field-collecting base camp at an elevation of 12,000 feet on Mt. Antero.

Pack horses hauled in four tents, food, and digging equipment for the base camp, which was located on the east side of the canyon between Mount Antero and White Mountain. They built a supply house and hand-built the equipment.

Jerome Hurianek was in charge of the camp and president Howard carried food and supplies. People stayed for a few days to two weeks.

From the 75th Anniversary committee



# Mineral Minutes

November 2011

## October Raffle News

The raffle was again filled with some great specimens and your continued support of this endeavor allows the proceeds to be spent on CMS education, the purchase of library reading material, and the state science fair awards. The opal slab from Mt. Shasta, CA (\$28) donated by **Dave Bunk Minerals**, was won by *Sue Lemieux*. *Susan Duncanson's* ticket was drawn for the coveted polished quartz nodule (\$27) and was donated by **GEOdyssey**. The faceted 1 ct. smokey quartz (\$26) donated by **John Kleber** was won by *Don Bray*. *Jim Dennis* was all smiles when he won the hemimorphite specimen (\$16) donated by **Prospector's Choice Minerals**. *Donna Ware* claimed the barite on goethite specimen (\$13) donated by **GEOdyssey**. That lucky *Bruce Sales* won the phenakites on feldspar specimen donated from the **Marge Regel collection**. The retail value of the evenings donations were \$138 bringing a total of \$120 into the raffle account. **Thank you to those who donated these great specimens, it is fun to see the happy smiles when their number is called to be a winner!!!**

Thanks go to Bob Burroughs, John Kleber, and Kuyper Reynolds for helping with the raffle.

Congratulations to all our lucky winners.


Submitted by Eva,  
CMS Raffle Manager.

Our paper is a little slim this month. People are busy and some are running around in Las Vegas and other places. But I am sure it is all rock related!!


**Prospector's Choice Minerals**

Ron Anderson  
Colorado and Worldwide Minerals

By Appointment Only  
Littleton, CO  
303-790-9280



**GEOdyssey LLC**  
Minerals, Fossils, Jewelry



**Zelda Bailey**  
**Pat Tucci**

---

P.O. Box 16339  
Golden, CO 80402  
[www.geodyssey-rocks.com](http://www.geodyssey-rocks.com)

Tel:(303) 279-5504  
Cell:(303) 898-9674  
[pattucci@comcast.net](mailto:pattucci@comcast.net)

**John Kleber**

**Marge Regel**

**Dave Bunk**



# Mineral Minutes

November 2011

## Up Coming Events:

November 4, 2011 regular CMS meeting @ St. Paul's church 7:30 PM

November 4-6, 2011 Denver Area Mineral Dealers Annual Gem & Mineral Show @ Jeffco Fairgrounds

November 19, 2011 Littleton Gem & Mineral Club Auction @ Columbine Hills Church; 9700 Old Coal Mine Ave

November 19-20, 2011 Payson Arizona Rimstones Rock Club Gem & Mineral Show @ Mazatzal Hotel & Casino

December 2, 2011 CMS Christmas Holiday Party @ St. Paul's church at 7:00 PM note time change

**DUES ARE DUE! DUES ARE REALLY DUE! DUES ARE DUE NOW!**

<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 cancelled.

First Class Mail

