

# HISTORY



FOUNDED - 1936

Denver, Colorado

An educational organization to promote the study of minerals and other geologic materials, to encourage mineral collection as a hobby, and to conduct public meetings, lectures and field trips.

HISTORY of the

COLORADO MINERAL SOCIETY

Founded, September, 24, 1936

Contributing Presidents:

Chester Howard  
Richard Pearl  
Harold Hofer  
James Hurlbut  
C. W. Hayward  
E. M. Gunnell  
Calvin Simmons  
Ralph Ellis  
Richard Flagg  
Tom Addenbrooke

Edited by:

Harvey Markman  
Muriel Colburn

Published 1961:

President - Tom Addenbrooke

Published by:

Sam & Grace Neill

## PREFACE

When Harvey C. Markman was appointed historian of the Colorado Mineral Society in 1959, he found the enormous task of compiling a history of the Society's first 22 years somewhat simplified by the previous writings of Richard M. Pearl. Mr. Pearl, one of the founders of the Society, had assembled the first history in 1942 and a second in 1950, and in 1954 his article in Colorado Magazine brought the history up to that date.

In addition to these three historical sketches, Mr. Markman's painstaking pursuit of reliable and complete information about the first two decades of the Society and its charter members let him into a voluminous correspondence with fellow rockhounds.

Muriel Colburn, present historian, took up the work after Mr. Markman. The "Mineral Minutes", monthly bulletin of the society, and other official records were thoroughly combed to complete the history to 1960. In the interest of brevity and without further credit being indicated, the following history has been divided into three sections.

In the first section Mr. Markman has secured the biographies of as many of the founding fathers and first rockhound disciples as he was able to reach by conversation or correspondence. The second section, early history of the Society, consists almost entirely of direct quotations from Richard M. Pearl with numerous minor changes and condensation. The third section covers activity of the later years and was prepared by the Presidents for their term of office.



THE COLORADO MINERAL SOCIETY  
Harvey C. Markman, Historian  
1959

FOREWARD

The first historical sketch of the Colorado Mineral Society to be distributed among the membership appeared as an eight-page, mimeographed folder, in March 1942. It was neatly done by Richard M. Pearl, who in those days was serving as Secretary-Treasurer-Editor, and fortunately became history minded while the organization was still quite young. In October, 1950, another folder was circulated by the same author, then President of the group; and in the Colorado Magazine of April 1954, he had an article which brought the record into that year.

Having agreed to serve only as a specialist in ancient history, this Historian soon found that Pearl's writings were far the best source of reliable information, though they are practically unknown to members who have joined in recent years. Conversations and correspondence with as many of the founding fathers and the first of their disciples as could be reached, met with unanimous agreement that old-timer memories are not always trustworthy, and not as prolific as might be expected. Incidental to the enjoyment of reminiscing with good friends, there was acquired an accumulation of rockhound biographies which should not be lost. All of the individuals consulted replied graciously to the questions which were asked - - some more easily than others, and space given each of them became largely a matter of "pot luck". It is hoped, therefore, that (in the use of this material) none may be either embarrassed or disappointed.

Aside from the biographical section, the history by the Presidents has been continued



through the years with numerous minor changes, largely in the nature of re-arrangement, occasional additions and a few alterations or deletions necessitated by the passing of time; and, since the use of quotation marks, brackets and other devices usually employed in handling partially quoted matter would result in a lot of needless clutter, they have been avoided here.

The Society's original Constitution stipulated that a Board of Directors "whose duty it shall be to maintain the interests of the society in general, shall consist of elective officers and chairman of each major committee." In practice, however, the earlier officers appointed field trip leaders, contest judges, and committees for special occasions when needed. With the growth of the Society there came a time when the work had to be further organized, classified, and distributed throughout a broader section of the membership.

In 1948, a revision of the by-laws named seven Permanent Committees, including: Membership, Finance, and Juniors, this being a clarification of the division of labor which had arisen through necessity and grown through the years. The Articles of Incorporation, dated November 5, 1948 specified a Board of Trustees consisting of eleven members - and eleven were named to fill the requirements of that situation.

Now a word about "Mineral Minutes". As the "Secretary's Bulletin" it announced the second meeting. Four issues later the present title, a happy combination of purpose and alliteration, was adopted.

The slogan 'Colorado's Only State-Wide Mineral Society' came out shortly before. In April 1939 the monthly bulletin was increased from a single-page sheet to a four-page folder.

The Colorado Mineral Society has become one

of the largest non-technical mineral organizations in the United States and one of the most active. A few years ago it was the largest, but the written applications for membership that are now required have purposely tended to reduce the rate of growth, although all the interested persons are welcome to join. A total of 994 persons have joined to date, of whom about 330 are currently active. Attendance at the meetings has reached 150 much of the time during recent years, and occasionally it has been close to 200.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS  
COLORADO MINERAL SOCIETY  
1936 - 1960

PRESIDENT - -

Chester Howard, 1936 - 1948  
Richard M. Pearl, 1948 - 1950  
Harold T. Hofer, 1950 - 1951  
James Hurlbut, 1951-1953, 1955-1956  
C. W. Hayward, 1953 - 1954  
E. Mitchell Gunnell, 1954 - 1955  
Calvin B. Simmons, 1956 - 1957  
Ralph C. Ellis, 1957 - 1959  
Richard Flagg, 1959 - 1960  
Thomas Addenbrooke, 1960 - 1961

VICE-PRESIDENT - -

Charles W. Reitsch, 1936 - 1938  
Harvey C. Markman, 1938 - 1944  
(2nd Vice-presidents have  
been elected since 1944)

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT - -

Harvey C. Markman, 1944 - 1948  
Ray W. Thaler, 1948 - 1951  
Ernest E. Parshall, 1951 - 1953  
C. R. Williams, 1953 - 1954  
C. W. Hayward, 1954 - 1955  
Algrid Stephan, 1955 - 1956  
Ralph C. Ellis, 1956 - 1957  
Arthur Ermish, 1957 - 1958  
Bernard Bench, 1958 - 1959  
Thomas Addenbrooke, 1959 - 1960  
Gerald Herfurth, 1960 - 1961



SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT - -

Fred F. Shaw, 1944 - 1945  
Louis H. Binderup, 1945 - 1946  
Richard M. Pearl, 1946 - 1948  
Chester C. Howard, 1948 - 1950  
James F. Hurlbut, 1950 - 1951  
Calvin B. Simmons, 1951 - 1953  
Olin Brown, 1953 - 1954  
Muriel Colburn, 1954 - 1955  
Ralph C. Ellis, 1955 - 1956  
Arthur Ermish, 1956 - 1957  
Bernard Bench, 1957 - 1958  
Fern Brown, 1958 - 1959  
Samuel Neill, 1959 - 1960  
Ross Gregory, 1960 - 1961

SECRETARY-TREASURER - -

Richard M. Pearl, 1936 - 1943  
Mignon W. Pearl, 1943 - 1945  
Alice Gathercole, 1945 - 1947  
Mary Piper, 1947 - 1948  
Jane Hayward, 1948 - 1950  
Jeannette Haralson, 1950 - 1951  
Muriel Colburn, 1951 - 1953  
Betty Wilklow, 1953 - 1954  
Betty Jones, 1954 - 1955  
Gladys Cameron, 1955 - 1956  
Jean Walker, 1956 - 1958  
Lotus McCoy, 1958 - 1959  
Helen Owens, 1959 - 1961

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY - -

Mignon W. Pearl, 1948 - 1949  
Jeannette Haralson, 1949 - 1950  
Grace Williams, 1950 - 1953  
Ann Dill, 1953 - 1955  
Betty Jones, 1955 - 1956  
Grace Neill, 1956 - 1958  
Muriel Colburn, 1958 - 1961

The above list of Executive Officers consists of those elected to the positions. In some years resignations were received and others appointed to the vacant positions. The appointees have not been noted in this list, but to all intent and purposes have been listed during the years in which they served.

November 5, 1948 the Colorado Mineral Society became incorporated. The Articles of Incorporation are as follows:

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION  
OF COLORADO MINERAL SOCIETY  
A CORPORATION, NOT FOR PROFIT

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That we, Chester R. Howard, Richard M. Pearl and Guy B. Ellermeier, citizens of the United States and residents of the State of Colorado, having associated ourselves together for the purpose of availing ourselves of the provisions of Article 13, Chapter 41, 1935 Colorado Statutes Annotated and forming a body corporate and politic, not for pecuniary profit, we hereby make, execute and acknowledge this certificate in writing of our intentions so to become a body corporate and politic under and by virtue of said statute.

Article I.

The name of our said corporation shall be "Colorado Mineral Society".

Article II.

The objects and purposes for which this corporation is formed is to acquire and succeed to the name, membership and assets of and to assume the obligations of Colorado Mineral Society, heretofore conducted as an unincorporated society and to continue the objects and purposes thereof which were to establish and conduct a nonprofit educational organization 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, and to engage in all activities which relate to said purposes.



### Article III.

The term of existence of the corporation shall be perpetual.

### Article IV.

The business and affairs of the corporation shall be under the control and management of a Board of Trustees consisting of eleven members in good standing, and the following eleven members are hereby selected and designated to act as trustees until their successors are duly elected as provided by the By-Laws, viz: Richard M. Pearl, Colorado College, Colorado Springs, Colorado; Ray W. Thaler, United States Mint, Denver, Colorado; Chester R. Howard, 1524 High Street, Denver, Colorado; Jane Hayward, 960 Garfield Street, Denver, Colorado; Mignon W. Pearl, 1130 Wood Avenue, Colorado Springs, Colorado; Vera Hofer, 3276 Raleigh Street, Denver 12, Colorado; Guy B. Ellermeier, 1060 South Gilpin Street, Denver, Colorado; Harvey C. Markman, 1332 Cook Street, Denver, Colorado; Marguerite F. Meissner, 1080 South Gilpin Street, Denver, Colorado; Mary A. Piper, 1221 Washington Street, Denver, Colorado; Ross Philips, 1001 Pearl Street, Denver, Colorado.

### Article V.

The meetings of this corporate society shall be held in the city and County of Denver, Colorado, or at such other place in Colorado as may be designated from time to time by the President of Board of Trustees. The office of the company shall be located in the City and County of Denver, Colorado, at such street address as may be designated from time to time by the Secretary-Treasurer or by the Board of Trustees.

### Article VI.

By-Laws for the management of the affairs of this

Corporation shall be approved and adopted by a majority of the members present at the first regular meeting of the society at which meeting these articles of incorporation are adopted; and thereafter amendments to said By-Laws may be proposed for adoption at any regular meeting of the society, and may be voted upon and adopted by a majority of the members present; no previous notice of said proposed amendments shall be required provided said proposed amendment has been approved by a majority of the Board of Trustees.

In testimony whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and seals on this 5th day of November, A. D. 1948.

Chester R. Howard (seal)  
Richard M. Pearl (seal)  
Guy B. Ellermeier (seal)

State of Colorado,                    )  
City and County of Denver)ss

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 5th day of November, A. D. 1948 by Chester R. Howard, Richard M. Pearl and Guy B. Ellermeier.

My commission expires Aug. 14, 1952. Witness my hand and official seal.

Alice Gathercole  
Notary Public

## THE BEGINNING

It all started on September 24, 1936 when seven mineral enthusiasts met in Chester R. Howard's apartment at 1538 High St., Denver and adopted plans for the formation of a popular mineral society. The need for such an organization had occurred to several of them sometime earlier. Mr. Howard, especially owing to his extensive travels in Colorado and his wide acquaintance throughout the state, had realized the advantages in a mineral club. Richard Pearl, on the other hand, had come to Colorado to attend school in Boulder only a year before, and had not thought much about such a group. But that summer Dr. H. C. Dake, editor of the Mineralogist, mentioned in a brief paragraph the growing interest in mineral collecting in Colorado, and suggested that the formation of a mineral society here might be worth considering. The idea appealed at once to Mr. Pearl, who took the first step toward starting the Colorado Mineral Society by writing to Dr. Dake about his intentions, volunteering his services, and asking him for publicity and advice.

"Even before the announcement was published, Mr. Howard had written to the same effect, and he was told of this joint interest and given Mr. Pearl's address. Thus it was that the two chief instigators and their fellow conspirators met there that September evening to discuss organization plans. They adopted a name elected officers and arranged for an opening meeting. Upon the invitation of Harvey C. Markman, they decided to meet at the Colorado Museum of Natural History in City Park."

Director A. M. Bailey of the Denver Museum of Natural History (its present name) generously extended the hospitality of that institution, and until recent years the Museum was the "home" of the Society. But meetings became so well attended and activities so diversified that event-



ually it was necessary to find more commodious assembly places. Special meetings have made use of facilities at the University of Denver, Regis College, Colorado State Museum, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Colorado School of Mines, Charles Parker's Assay Office, and at various times regular meetings have been held in churches, lodge halls, and at the Denver Chamber of Commerce.

The first officers chosen were Chester R. Howard, president, Charles W. Reitsch, vice-president, and Richard M. Pearl, secretary-treasurer. Mr. Markman became vice-president in November 1938, when Mr. Reitsch moved to Texas. There were six or seven "enthusiasts" (only six positively identified) at the original meeting, thirteen at the first public meeting. A total of fourteen joiners are known to have been present at the first two gatherings and these were commonly referred to in early days as the charter members. Membership lists assigned numbers one through fourteen to the combined groups but exactly who became the seventh member and whether he joined at the first or second meeting may never be made known to posterity.

## BIOGRAPHY

In assembling these rockhound biographies, the writer found it impossible to maintain uniform or equitable proportions, and impracticable to attempt the inclusion of other worthy members who were prominent in the formative days of the organization. Names, at least, of the neglected ones will appear in the lists of officers and trustees, and some of their doings will be recorded in excerpts from our bulletin, "The Mineral Minutes", which will appear at a later date.

According to recollections of those who should know, the numbering of membership cards rather adds to the slight confusion as to exactly who attended each of the first two meet-

ings. For that reason, the arrangement of the biographical sketches is only approximately in agreement with the order in which the cards were issued. The first six of those named, and perhaps one other, are known to have been present at the founders' meeting; the remaining seven or eight, according to our very best research, joined a month later at the first public meeting, on October 9, 1936.

Of these First Fourteen, Ted Syman, Cloyd Woolley, and Harold Rosencrans are no longer living, and only seven are residents of Colorado at the time of this writing.

"And some rin up hill and down dale, knapping the chucky stanes to pieces wi' hammers, like sae mony road-makers run daft. They say 'tis to see how the world was made." - -  
Sir Walter Scott: St. Ronan's Well, 1824

Since these "characters" behave today much as in Sir Walter's time, it seemed entirely fitting to ask some of the original members such snooty questions as: How did you get that way? and Why did you do it? Their replies have been most generous and the answers throw some interesting light on the personalities and circumstances that got our society off its launching pad. The following brief sketches are based on records of activity and service as well as information obtained through correspondence or otherwise.

CHESTER R. HOWARD: Co-founder and first president. With a degree in forestry from Colorado State University and subsequent experience in the field-work of the U.S. Forest Service, he was well prepared for the more arduous and adventurous phases of mineral collecting. He became a collector of agates at an earlier time when living in Oregon, and the hobby developed into a wide acquaintance with minerals.

His meeting with Charles Reitsch (vice-president-to-be) resulted from a display of cut agates entered by Reitsch at a YMCA sponsored Hobby Show in Denver. Fond of getting around, he traveled far and frequently to attend conventions and club shows or to gain first-hand information about mineral localities, both old and new. Diversified interests, vision and application to the job qualified him for leadership. Now a confirmed family man and executive, he heads the Howard Life Insurance Co. in Denver. Despite an acquired liking for western history and archaeology, Chester does not expect to forget the fascination of field trips, conventions and other gatherings of CMS.

CHARLES W. REITSCH: First of the vice-presidents. Chuck, as he was known to his many friends, was employed by the Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Co. as a technician in long distance communications. His interest in minerals began when living in Montana, where he collected the highly prized moss agates of the Yellowstone Valley. In the mid-20's, when amateur lapidary equipment was mostly a "do it yourself" proposition, he met Capt. F. A. Reiner, at that time a resident of Billings, Montana, and sharing ideas with J. Harry Howard whose Handbook for the Amateur Lapidary became a popular guide for the pioneers in this line of handicrafts. Some of Reitsch's agates were sliced on a machine built by Reiner, but in Denver he designed and constructed his own outfit and later became prominent in Society affairs as an instructor in cutting and polishing, and one of the first of our amateurs to combine silver work with the products of his lap shop. At the present time, Charles Reitsch is located in Kansas City, where he has charge of an engineering section for the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. With TV and audio networks, carrier telephone systems, and overseas radio and cable to think



about, he presently is inclined to think of hobbies as something for retirement years.

**RICHARD M. PEARL:** Co-founder, first secretary-treasurer, and first editor. Richard was a student at the University of Colorado when he became one of the rockhound clan. An early interest in gems is indicated by his distinction as one of the first Certified Gemologists in Colorado. In a few years after graduation he married, became prominent as a leader in organizing the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineral Societies, served with the Corps of Engineers, U.S. Army, took a flyer in petroleum geology, and moved to Boston for advanced studies at Harvard. While at that institution of learning he had the rare experience of working under one of the world's great mineralogists, Dr. Clifford Frondel, who was then engaged in the task of revising the classical Dana's System of Mineralogy. A prolific writer, recipient of numerous honors from foreign lands and still "on orbit", Professor Pearl is a Faculty member at Colorado College and lives in Colorado Springs.

**GUY B. ELLERMEIER:** Although not a native of the Rocky Mountain country, Mr. Ellermeier found western lore quite to his liking and, for recreation, often took to the hills in the company of a hard-rock miner and prospector who knew how to find minerals and extricate them from their hiding places. Practicing law in the depressed 30's, he had some leisure periods for the enjoyment of long trips to mineralized areas which in those days were not readily accessible. His preference for a well equipped Ford rather than the conventional burro may be attributed to a city background but, usually alone he frequently ventured into dry and rugged territory to reach desirable collecting grounds. For a time, he maintained a cutting and polishing shop on Arapahoe Street, conveniently located within a few blocks

of his office and in the same building with the Paul Weiss Optical Co. (Weiss was a thoroughly trained craftsman who learned the trade in Switzerland and applied many of the optician's skills to lapidary work, which was one of his hobbies). Ellermeier used the available literature for his own enlightenment and contributed to it with a view to helping the beginner; his many published articles in Rocks and Minerals and The Mineralogist are both interesting and informative. Hundreds of topaz crystals which he collected from the Thomas Range - - as well as Sweetwater Agates and other specimens - - were donated for the encouragement of mineral study among Boy Scouts and similar organizations. Still living in Denver, Mr. Ellermeier has retired from his law practice and strenuous pleasures of other years, but we see him occasionally at meetings and picnics.

**ALLAN CAPLAN:** A graduate of the University of Colorado, and later at the Colorado School of Mines for additional training, Caplan soon made his first trip to Brazil, looking for minerals and business opportunities. Since that time, in 1938, he has made over fifteen trips to Brazil and most of the more important gem producing areas of the world, including Mexico, India, and Ceylon. Except for a few years in the Air Force during World War II, he has been a well established dealer, selling the major stores and manufacturers. His claim that the business "is not boring" surely sets a new record for understatement. He has supplied many museums with rare gem specimens, among them a star sapphire weighing 194 carats, perhaps the finest of its size in the country. Between hops to far-away places, Allan managed to be at some of our meetings and it was not unusual for him to slip somebody a choice crystal by way of a visiting card. Recently returned from Colombia, he is back at his Fifth Ave. establishment in New

York City - - Importer of Precious and Semi-Precious Stones.

CLOYD F. WOOLLEY: At about age ten, he obtained his first specimen when with his mother at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago; a carnelian agate caught his fancy and was purchased for him as a memento of the occasion. Chalcedony and obsidian were added to the collection a few years later in Utah, where he began his field work under the guidance of his grandfather. Mr. Woolley was in the advertising business at the time of the Society's founding, and had already become skilled in cutting and polishing. Largely self-taught in the lapidary arts he consistently worked for improved results and frequently mentioned the helpful hints gathered from fellow member Paul Weiss. Agates from outstanding localities remained his speciality, and his collection of Fairburn agates became one of the best in the country.

THEODORE E. SYMAN: Merchant, gemologist, soldier, artist. Familiarly known as Capt. Ted, he was vice president of the Syman Bros. Jewelry Co. then located at 622 Sixteenth St., Denver. A wide range of interests kept him active in affairs of the Denver Art College, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Gemological Institute of America as well as the Colorado Mineral Society. The Gemological Institute, not much older than our organization, was founded by jewelers as an educational institution for the promotion of scientific training and accuracy in the identification of gem stones - - primarily for the betterment of the jewelry trade. Although its members may be somewhat specialized in that direction, the fact that we had three of them in our original group suggests a close relationship between gem stones and the many phases of rockhounding as a hobby. Syman traveled extensively as a business man and collector. His

collection featured cut and uncut gem-stones but included fine mineral specimens. He was speaker of the evening at our first open meeting. As in the case of several others, his affiliation with CMS was interrupted by wartime commitments during the early '40s, and membership was not resumed afterward.

VERNON H. CATO: In electrical work with the Public Service Company of Colorado in 1936, he has been transferred from Denver to Alamosa, to Leadville, to Sterling, to Salida, where he is now assistant manager and happy to be where the possibilities for mineral and artifact collecting are favorable. His interest in minerals is attributed to a chance acquaintance with a neighbor by name of Ben Howarter, an employee at the Colorado Museum of Natural History. Admiration of Howarter's private collection led to book study and hours of poring over specimen cases at the Museum. Although no longer a member, he has kept abreast of discoveries and developments in the field, and has built up a collection of his own which though not a prize winning affair, as he puts it, has never been shown without eliciting admiration from both educated rockhounds and beginners. While in Denver - through 1939 - he was an enthusiastic member, having led several field trips, participated in photo contests, and contributed specimens for various occasions. Among his recollections is the thrill of finding and exploring an extensive deposit of strangely deformed quartz crystals on Pine Creek, near Deckers.

HAROLD I. ROSENCRANS: Jeweler and Certified Gemologist with business established in Longmont, Colorado. An early graduate and member of the Gemological Institute of America, he was closely identified with the educational work of that institution, attending their conventions and contributing to their quarterly journal, Gems

and Gemology, articles on Integrity as a Business Asset, the Polariscope, and Colorado Lapis Lazuli indicating the versatility of his talents. He made the trip regularly, from Longmont, to attend meetings at the Museum in Denver where he appeared on a number of programs. A highly skilled instrument maker, he closed his store in 1942, and went into war work at the Pensacola Naval Air Station.

HARRY LAWRENCE TOMLIN: "Larry" was one of the first of our original members to leave the fold, and our records provide little information other than that he and Jerry Hurianek were frequent companions in field work, with minerals and artifacts on the immediate agenda. Both of these young men were students at Edgewater High School, and their early success in the field is directly attributed to training and encouragement under the guidance of Principal M. H. Brown. In the case of Tomlin, the attractions of archaeology and a desire to find remunerative employment prevailed over his enthusiasm for minerals, but he still has the "bug" and some day may join us again. At the present time he is employed by the U.S. Post Office in Denver.

HARVEY C. MARKMAN: Museum curator, long-term vice president in early years of the Society, and handy man at headquarters. Natural history and the physical sciences were favored studies and amusements during high school days; at the University of Colorado, sometime later, he waded through most of the biology courses and took on some instruction in geology under Professor R. D. George. In 1919 he landed a job with the Colorado Museum of Natural History, and continued there for thirty-five years. Had a preference for rocks rather than minerals until attracted to crystallography by two big clusters of twinned microcline (one buff, one green) which always seemed to be asking for attention. However, in the summer of 1920, when with a



party of fossil-diggers in northeastern Colorado, a combination of luck and applied geology enabled him to uncover an unusually rich deposit of prehistoric mammal remains. Then followed years of fossil work in field and laboratory until the illness of the Curator of Geology opened an appointment as assistant in that department. The possibilities and need for expanding the study of the earth sciences were obvious, but exhibition space was at a premium and much of the planned educational work had to wait for additions to the building. Although department routine provided an abundance of interesting diversion, the educational angles were never far in the background at any time. Now retired as Curator Emeritus of Geology and Paleontology, he well recalls his rockhounding adventures with Chester Howard and other enthusiasts; the wilder incidents seem to be best remembered -- such as the exploration of a long abandoned section of the old Oregon Trail, looking for a shortcut through the sagebrush, from the Sweetwater Agate locality to Eden Valley.

M. H. BROWN: High school principal from Edgewater (part of the metropolitan Denver Community.) Hobbyist as well as science teacher, Professor Brown let his concern with students reach beyond classrooms performance, helped them direct their talents into wholesome channels and toward useful employment. He and two of his undergraduates were among those who joined at the first open meeting of the Society. He was an active member for a time, naturally concerned with educational values; conducted a class in Rocks and Minerals at the Denver YMCA; was one of the hardy individuals that camped on Mt. Antero in 1938. Last mention of his name in Mineral Minutes appeared in January 1940 -- a reference to his participation in our series of lectures at the "Y". However, a recent letter from Mr. Brown reveals that he gave up his school

work to serve as a Civilian Personnel Officer with the Army Air Corps during World War II. Later he became an Aviation Research Psychologist. As personnel officer on various assignments, he wandered throughout a considerable section of the U.S.A. and got himself involved in the Korean War. Subsequently he was with Veterans Administration for a time, and more recently under Public Health Service in South Dakota. Through it all, he hunted rocks and fossils - - even in Japan. His training in geology was obtained at the University of Iowa where he met the present Mrs. Brown who also was studying geology at the time. A chance meeting with Mr. Ellermeier at the old Whitmore Gem Mine was the beginning of his acquaintance and association with the group of earth study enthusiasts who started the Colorado Mineral Society. Now Hospital Administrator at the Sioux Sanatorium, Rapid City, South Dakota, he has acquired a new polishing outfit and is looking forward to the resumption of some of the more leisurely activities formerly enjoyed when a member of the Society. Mr. Brown seems to have been "that way" since he started collecting agates and artifacts at about age 12, back in Iowa.

JEROME HURIANEK: Student at Edgewater High School, and one of our original Junior members. The latter distinction is strictly unofficial, since we had not yet established a junior division, and Jerry is better described as a young "work horse", ready at any time to pull or push a project to a successful conclusion. One of his first summertime jobs was at the old Gem Mine near Florissant, early producer of smokey quartz and amazonite for the Pikes Peak tourist trade; while the mine was no longer a paying venture, it was still capable of providing valuable experience in the working of pegmatite deposits. In January of 1938, he assisted Pre-

sident Howard in assembling and exhibiting a collection of minerals for the annual convention of the Colorado Mining Association which was held that year in Pueblo. In the following summer he had charge of the Society's camp on Mt. Antero where he and Chester packed in much of the food, tools and other equipment for five weeks of prospecting and mining in one of the world's most interesting collecting areas. He personally explored many of the better known Colorado mineral localities and served frequently on field trip committees. In 1940, getting an early start in military service, he left for Ft. Sill, Oklahoma, to be with the Medical Detachment of the Colorado National Guard. Soon after graduation from Officers' Candidate School, three years later, Lt. Hurianek was located at Camp Dodge, Iowa, as assistant to the post engineer. Transferred from one assignment to another, and always "rock conscious," he took advantage of local opportunities to indulge in the mineral hobby; while at Scottsbluf, Nebraska, he became president of the newly organized Valley Mineral Society. Out of the Army for a taste of civilian life during the lull between hot and cold wars, he is now back in again, currently stationed at Fitzsimmons Hospital, making his home in Aurora.

**JACK TORDOFF:** One of the young sparkplugs in those early days, Jack was a high school student, living in Longmont and working evenings and Saturdays as apprentice watchmaker at the store of Harold Rosencrans. His initiation into mineralogy began when a piece of petrified wood was explained to him by a not-too-well informed Englishman whose name is not mentioned. A more reliable grade of enlightenment was acquired in following years under instruction from D. W. Spangler, a teacher at Longmont High School. At the Denver Museum in City Park, he was particularly fascinated by the large collection of

azurite and malachite and the huge geode of South American amethyst. As a member of CMS, he built his own lapidary equipment, was active in photography contests, participated in demonstrations of gem and mineral identification, found many ways to make himself useful. Jack was top prize winner in our first and second membership contests, his father, John E. Tordoff, being one of the recruits. Both were regular attendants at meetings despite the distance they had to travel, and they were equally active on many field trips. In 1941, the younger Tordoff, moved to Cheyenne to become an instrument maker for United Air Lines. But built-in personality and enthusiasm soon led to the more congenial vocation of labor relations. Now located at United's central maintenance base in San Francisco, he continues to handle personnel affairs, and quite recently was planning a three day field trip with one of the Air Line mechanics. At nearby Redwood City, he lives on Topaz Street.

## HISTORY

-1936-

**OFFICERS:** 1936-1937 President, Chester R. Howard; Vice-President, Charles Reitsch; Secretary-Treasurer, Richard Pearl

**SEPTEMBER:** The founders' original meeting was held at the apartment of Chester R. Howard, Sept. 24, 1936. Officers were elected, plans and purposes discussed, a name adopted, and the Colorado Mineral Society was off to a good start.

**OCTOBER:** The Colorado Museum of Natural History at City Park, Denver, was host to the first regular meeting on Oct. 9, with attendants from four cities. A Constitution and By-Laws were adopted and short talks were given by members, Caplan, Ellermeier, Reitsch and Howard appearing on the program - - The first field trip, planned for the Golden Gate district with vice president Reitsch acting as leader, had to be cancelled because of very bad weather - - Roy T. Johnson of Sterling, District Attorney for the 13th Judicial District, sent in the first application for membership by mail.

**NOVEMBER:** Capt. Ted Syman assured the success of our meeting on Friday the 6th with a splendid informal talk on "Gems and Gem Minerals," which he illustrated by passing around specimens of rough and cut gemstones from his collection - - Secretary Pearl reminded us that the Exchange Book, to be kept in his office, lists many specimens available to swappers, also asked for contributions to the Mineral Locality Book which is shaping up - - Dr. C. R. Storer of Colby, Kansas, became our first out-of-state member.

**DECEMBER:** Charles Reitsch made lapidary work look easy by outlining the simple steps in the



process of transforming rough material into attractive specimens. He explained what things to get, how to make them or where to buy them, and how much they cost -- I.N. Conness of Saratoga, Wyoming, the first long-term member, joined for two years -- At this point it becomes quite evident that another frustrating mystery must be faced, supporting the argument if not proving that a history-making organization should provide itself with a Keeper of Archives before electing an officer or adopting a constitution. For the first time, the name of a woman appears in the Secretary's minutes; "Miss Carlsten," it seems, read a letter from a correspondent in Seattle, and it is a logical assumption that she performed as a member of the Society. Several months later, Miss Phoebe Jan Carlsten is said to have been one of our original members, but in the meantime the record makes clear that Mrs. Harold Rosencrans of Longmont, and Mrs. Edna M. Scott of Custer, South Dakota, had joined at nearly the same time, and possibly at the same meeting. So the distinction of becoming First Lady may have to be shared by these three nominees, but it is certain that a new trend had been established before the end of the year. No longer a man's club! And who can say it was not the best thing so far to come about?

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OFFICERS: 1937-1938, President, Chester R. Howard; Vice-President, Charles Reitsch; Secretary-Treasurer, Richard Pearl

JANUARY: The regular meeting continued with the subject of gem cutting, and the coldest weather of the season reduced the size of the group attending.

FEBRUARY: Dr. Harvey H. Nininger, the meteorite man, made his first appearance before us, and

added to the enjoyment of his talk by giving everyone a small meteorite - - Jack Tordoff, with six new members to his credit, was declared winner of the first Membership Contest.

MARCH: President Howard got back from Florida barely in time to introduce Secretary Pearl, whose talk on Gems featured the historical aspects of gem trade and current developments in this ancient industry... Dr. Thompson Anderson, one of the most distinguished of Colorado's many mineral collectors and a member of the Society showed specimens from his valuable collection, including some of the first synthetic emerald crystals ever made. Mr. C. S. Dietz, travelling mineralogist for the Bureau of Vocational Guidance, Wyoming State Department of Education, displayed samples of "dakeite," newly described uranium mineral, and gave a typical specimen to the Society.

APRIL: This month saw the three-day public exhibition of minerals from the collections of our members, given at the Denver Art College, then located at 1345 Glenarm Pl. It was our first show, with press and radio publicity, and the several hundred visitors, as well as the members, agreed that it was a conspicuous success. Here, at the regular Friday meeting, was initiated the tradition of holding an occasional auction of donated specimens, for the benefit of our treasury; this experiment developed into a popular institution which has provided featured attractions for many of our more recent gatherings... The Society showed fluorescent minerals at the YMCA in connection with an exhibit by the Denver Home Workshop Club. We are getting around!

MAY: Guest speaker for the May meeting was William A. Waldschmidt, associate professor of geology at the Colorado School of Mines. He closed our first year with his informal talk on

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Crystals, a subject which he made interesting and easy to understand. Continuation of the membership contest was announced, and Editor Pearl put it this way: "Surely every member has a friend who would like to join. Why not ask him - - - or her?"

SUMMER: The field trip program began with an openhouse at the Howard Ranch on May 15 and a trip to Elizabeth the next day, but failure to provide a definite schedule made attendance meager; this error has not been repeated, and well planned printed summer programs are one of our chief sources of pride...The best trip that summer was to the amethyst mine at Redfeather Lakes.

OCTOBER: Emeritus Professor Russell D. George, long-time head of the geology department at the University of Colorado and former State Geologist, spoke on the Contribution of Colorado's Mineral Resources to Industry, a highly informative talk by one who did much for the development of the State's mineral industries.

NOVEMBER: Professor Burton R. Longyear was the principal speaker at our meeting. He told of his early experiences as an amateur lapidary, and showed us the equipment that he had made himself, then gave an interesting introduction to the study of petrified wood...Miss Julia Smead became a member - the fourth from the staff of the Colorado Museum of Natural History.

DECEMBER: Dr. Boodle Lane, prominent dealer from Galena, Kansas, displayed a beautiful assortment of specimens typical of the Tri-State district, sold some choice pieces and donated others to the Society...Jack C. Abbott of Windsor became our 100th member.

OFFICERS: President, Chester Howard; Vice-President, Harvey C. Markman, Secretary-Treasurer, Richard Pearl,

JANUARY: In a quiet and unassuming manner that pleased everybody, Miss E. B. Holmes of the Museum's archaeology department spoke on Folsom and Yuma Artifacts, and gave us a fine account of Early Man in the vicinity of Colorado... The auction was a "great success," giving us \$13.70 for use in our educational work.

FEBRUARY: Speaking on the Adventures of a Gem Collector in South America, Dr. Eugene Payne of Windsor, Colorado, took us on a grand tour of our southern continent, from British Guiana to Chile. We forded tropic streams, covered miles of mountain trails, bargained for gems with the natives, and spent a thrilling evening without leaving the museum building... Local member Roland W. Reed displayed some of the fine silver and lapidary work for which he and his wife are noted.

MARCH: Featured speaker was Dr. Margaret Fuller Boos, chairman of the geology department at Denver University. Her subject - - Geological Aspects of the Search for Interesting Minerals in the Front Range - - was loaded with practical suggestions for amateur collectors... Specimen boxes were prepared for giving to Colorado Boy Scouts who qualified for a Rocks and Minerals Merit Badge. This badge was put into the national Scout program through the influence of one of our Sterling members, District Attorney, Roy T. Johnson, who recently retired after two years of service as president of Longs Peak Council, Boy Scouts of America. Mr. Ellermeier contributed more than two hundred topaz crystals for the project.

APRIL: With topographic, petrographic, and mathematical evidence, Mr. Fred C. Carstarphen, well-known mining and civil engineer, recreated for us the great volcano that once dominated the Cripple Creek district and left the rich ore deposits of that famous mining center...The Society participated in the All City Hobby Show which was sponsored by the Denver YMCA... "Mineral Minutes" the title of our monthly bulletin, was registered as a Trade Mark; Miss Lourine Winkler did the work and personally paid for the protection.

MAY: Our first Spring Variety Meeting: instead of the usual featured speaker, several members gave short talks about their individual interests. An auction was held, and Chester Howard showed colored motion pictures which were made on field trips of the previous summer...Two of our charter members, Ted Syman and Harold Rosenkrans, attended the second annual Conclave of the Central Division of the American Gem Society.

SUMMER: For five weeks the Society maintained a camp in the canyon between Mt. Antero and White Mountain in Chaffee County, at an altitude of 12,000 feet. With Jerry Hurlanek in charge, members were invited to occupy the four tents and collect specimens on Mt. Antero. Miss Winkler, Elwood Neff, M. H. Brown, and Ivan H. Mercer, Jr. spent week ends there. Richard Pearl's reference to the occasion reminded many less fortunate individuals of what they had missed: "Your Secretary stayed there nine days; it nearly killed him, but he would not trade the experience for anything now."

OCTOBER: Camping in Ancient Jungles was the topic of the talk by Dr. John Clark, Acting Director of the University of Colorado Museum, Curator of Vertebrate Paleontology, and Instructor in Geology. He reconstructed a prehistoric jungle in what is now an arid portion of Utah,

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and fascinated his listeners with an account of the routine and thrills in the work of a "bone digger"...As a future attraction, President Howard proposed a prize competition for the most interesting snapshot taken on recent field trips or having other appeal to mineral collectors.

NOVEMBER: Dr. C. E. Dobbin, one of our more erudite geologists, spoke on The Work of the U. S. Geological Survey, its origin and present day activities, and showed us how, as mineral collectors, we can use the services and publications of the Survey in furthering our hobby...The first attendance drawing was held, with the objective of getting more members in the habit of appearing regularly at meetings; the winning number drawn by Dr. Payne, a "regular" from Windsor.

DECEMBER: Major Roy G. Coffin, Associate Professor of Geology at Colorado State College, provided the entertainment for one of the best meetings we have had. His description of a trip up the Yukon River was filled with interest and humor, and the motion pictures were exceptionally fine. A member of one of Colorado's leading scientific families, Major Coffin is best known to many of us as the discoverer (with brother, G. C. Coffin and his son, A. L. Coffin) of the famous Lindermeier site which is frequently visited because of its archaeological significance. This location, in north-eastern Colorado near the Wyoming line, is the first authenticated habitation site of Folsom Man...The photo contest got under way but selection of winners was postponed until January.

## 1939

OFFICERS: 1939-1940, President, Chester Howard; Vice-President, Harvey Markman; Secretary-Treasurer, Richard Pearl

**JANUARY:** Mr. George E. Collins of Denver spoke on Early Day Mining in Colorado, covering forty years of his experience as mining engineer and operator of mines in the principal camps of the state, and told some amusing stories of those days...The low attendance of 28 was only slightly below average for recent months, and renewed efforts to obtain new members was urged...So many splendid pictures were submitted in the snapshot contest that the judges decided to award a prize for the best in each of five classifications. Winners and categories were announced as follows:

(1) Best group picture - "Wayside Interests" by Mrs. A.R. Thompson; (2) Best action shot - "Ward District" by Harvey C. Markman; (3) Best view of a famous mineral locality - "Antero Lode" by Richard Pearl; (4) Best mineral study - "Empire Zinc Mine" by Vernon H. Cato; and (5) Most artistic photograph - "Devil's Tower" by Chester R. Howard. Judges were M.B. Snook, Ivan H. Mercer, Jr. and Jerome Hurianek. Photo contests became an attractive feature at many of our gatherings in later years; the black and white prints, now almost entirely replaced in popularity by color slides, had several advantages - they were readily displayed, easily compared by contest judges, and valued by students who substituted them in part for written field notes.

**FEBRUARY:** Instead of the usual meeting at the Museum, our program was transferred to the Denver Art College where we had held a highly successful mineral show two years earlier. The evening was devoted to a symposium on gems, with Colorado's three Certified Gemologists - Ted Syman, Harold Rosencrans, and Richard Pearl - demonstrating the use of gem testing equipment. With refractometer, polariscope, dichroscope, and diamondscope, and assisted by Jack Tordoff, who operated a specific gravity balance, they

showed how to determine the correct name and diagnostic properties of any gem stone. Members brought cut stones of their own for examination by the experts...Names of more-recent joiners began to gain prominence at about this time; Raymond E. Lindemann won first prize for recognizing the largest number of unlabeled specimens in a contest display; Ivan H. Mercer Jr. became known as an occasional radio speaker; Mrs. Roland W. Reed, Mr. Reed, and Mr. Elwood Neff completed a fine job in making up mineral boxes for the Boy Scout project; Mr. A. R. Thompson, chairman, and Miss Maude Jackson were named to serve on the newly appointed field trip committee; and Miss Winkler's portrait (along with mention of her accomplishments in music, aviation, and mineral collecting) made the first page of The Mineralogist.

MARCH: The program at the regular meeting, with attendance up to 38, was staged entirely by officers of the Society. President Howard showed forty minutes of motion pictures which included views of field trip activities during 1937 and 1938. Vice President Markman demonstrated the carving of crystal models from potatoes - a method for visualizing the development of crystal forms - with Secretary Pearl assisting as peeler and rougher-outer. Without belittling the merits of the demonstration, Mrs. Reed decided she would rather not have such help in her kitchen...Claude R. Bingaman of Denver became our 150th member, and soon established himself as an industrious collector, dealer, and cooperative friend.

APRIL: Under the subject Fitting Together Fragments, Dr. Louis O. Quam used his own story of Estes Park to show how bits of geologic and physiographic evidence from the past can be made to unravel its mysteries. Dr. Quam, now on the faculty of the University of Colorado,

was for several years Ranger-Naturalist in Rocky Mountain National Park, and the evolution of the prominent scenic features in that region was illustrated with a choice selection of slides... Mr. Clinton A. Pesch added an informal talk on some of his experiences as a collector of arrow points, then won for himself the privilege of donating the next attendance prize... Mineral Minutes acquired a new format - a four page folder instead of the familiar one page sheet; Editor Pearl announced his plan to report the monthly meetings, field trips, new mineral discoveries, current articles and publications, hints to collectors, and other items that seem to be of importance to those interested in the earth sciences. All this was promised, with a request for suggestions and criticisms in order to make the bulletin, "within obvious limits," a clearing house for such information while continuing it as the informal journal of the Colorado Mineral Society.

MAY: The second Spring Variety meeting featured short talks by members: Mr. Ellermeier discussed tools and equipment for collecting minerals; Mr. Reed explained his stone-setting work in silver; and Mr. Mercer described his plan for an extended trip through northern collecting localities; incumbent officers were re-elected; and an auction was held, and the amount received was \$13.70. The Museum's newly installed fluorescent minerals exhibit was inspected and an invitation to visit the seismograph laboratory at Regis College was announced... Best wishes were extended to the Mineralogical Society of Utah, a newcomer to the ranks of state mineral organizations and a good neighbor through subsequent years.

SUMMER: Ten field trips were well attended. At Elizabeth we visited Ted Kleeman's museum, then accompanied him to one of his favorite collecting spots near Kiowa for fine and abun-

ant specimens of petrified wood; another trip that pleased everybody included the famous Lindenmeier site and the marcasite location north of Fort Collins; in the Florissant area we were interested in the fossil-bearing shales and had some of the usual collector's luck at Crystal Peak...Professor Burton O. Longyear, member from Fort Collins and a former speaker, had an article in the June number of *The Mineralogist*. It described the amethyst deposit at Red Feather Lakes, scene of one of our early field trips. Major Roy G. Coffin, another Fort Collins member, discovered the deposit of unusual quartz crystals about 1923...Jerome Hurianek and Lawrence Tomlin made a remarkable find of the skeleton of a female Basket Maker in the vicinity of Pagosa Springs...The *Mineralogist* for September contained an article by our former vice-president, Charles Reitsch. His account of the Smokey Quartz and Amazonstone at Pine Cliff told about his collecting experiences at Pine Cliff with Vernon Cato who led a field trip there during the past summer.

OCTOBER: Miss Marie Wormington, Curator of Archaeology at the Colorado Museum of Natural History, opened our fourth year with an interesting account of her summer field work in western Colorado and eastern Utah near Cisco. A Graduate of Denver University and Radcliffe (Harvard) College, Dr. Wormington has since become internationally distinguished as a leading authority on American archaeology and early man in the Western Hemisphere...Allan Caplan "imported" himself back to the United States after a year in South America where he did some successful collecting of fine gem minerals...Jack Tordoff reported a find of pyrite-filled geodes on Specimen Mountain...The Western Mineral Exchange of Seattle announced publication of a directory of mineral enthusiasts, names and addresses to be listed at a charge of five cents



per entry. Some of us got careless with our money.

NOVEMBER: The meeting for this month was billed as Double Feature Nite. Three reels of excellent motion pictures by Walter Nielsen, appropriate to mineral students and collectors, featured the first part of the program. This was followed by a Big Time Mineral Show, with fine specimens displayed by members...President Howard has made a hit with his colored motion pictures, Collecting Minerals in the West, which have been shown to enthusiastic church and club groups...The Colorado Mineral Society took over and rearranged the course in Rocks and Minerals given annually by the Denver YMCA. A program consisting of ten weekly meetings was opened by Guy B. Ellermeier whose subject was The Lure of Gem Stones. The list of other speakers to appear included Cloyd Woolley, Prof. Paul Keating, Dr. E. H. Stephens, Chester Howard, Prof. M. H. Brown, Dr. H. H. Nininger, Harvey Markman, Richard Pearl, Harold Rosencrans, and Jack Tordoff...Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Pennoyer displayed specimens of amethyst from their mine near Red Feather Lakes, and choice crystals, mostly of the stemmed variety were placed on sale in Denver.

DECEMBER: Turner B. Messick made his debut at our meetings with an eurdite talk correlating crystals, mathematics, and art. A fun-loving and companionable member of the Society as well as versatile genius, Mr. Messick conducted a WPA art project during the Depression years...Dr. A. L. Inglesby, a new member located at Fruita, Utah, was given credit for "the mineral find of the year" by the editor of The Mineralogist. The discovery was described as a forty foot pyramid of clear selenite crystals, perfectly terminated, many of them more than twelve inches wide and weighing as much

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as a hundred pounds. With transportation problems still to be solved, the actual location, somewhere in the high plateau country of southern Utah, was not revealed for fear of vandalism. For the September issue of The Mineralogist, Dr. Inglesby wrote a fascinating narrative covering forty years of his experience as collector and dealer back in the late '90 and early 1900's when opportunities were their best.

## 1940

OFFICERS: 1940-1941, President, Chester Howard; Vice-President, Harvey Markman; Secretary-Treasurer, Richard Pearl

JANUARY: Joined by the Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society and the Englewood Geology Club, we met at the University of Denver, Dr. Boos made us welcome, and her students displayed specimens, maps, and models. Dr. E. M. Stanton of Embudo, New Mexico showed us some remarkable optical calcite and demonstrated how to cleave it.

FEBRUARY: Four reels of motion pictures were run, including "Digging Up the Past," "Let's Study Glacier National Park," and an animated cartoon showing the mining of sulphur.

MARCH: Professor Paul Keating, instructor in geology at the Colorado School of Mines, displayed the magnificent gem collection acquired from Dr. Anderson's estate, which included the world's third largest cut morganite, a pink beauty weighing over 80 carats...Colored motion pictures concluded the program.

APRIL: Leslie Richards showed part of the beautiful wire gold that featured in a recent "highgrading" case...August R. Pohndorf discussed the gem minerals of Colorado and the

West; and showed a choice collection of crystals and cut gems...He became our 200th member.

MAY: Spring Variety meeting...William F. Youngboldt's "mineral collector's lunch"; Mr. Markman showed how to make a nicol prism and dichroscope at home; an auction led by "Prof. Howard, that master of wit and hocus"; and two films "Winter Witchery of Niagara" and "Pigs of Lead".

SUMMER: The micromount exhibit at Colorado Springs...A ride on G.W. Goodman's tram at Montezuma...Examining polished specimens at Leslie and Ruth Richards' ranch...Our biggest caravan, over 50 cars, on the joint outing with the Indian Relic Hobby Club, to the Lindemeier Site.

OCTOBER: Dr. Robert F. Rea, research engineer for the Denver Fire Clay Co. spoke on "Some Industrial Applications of Non-metallic Minerals."

NOVEMBER: In a practically perfect travel talk, enlivened with quaint observations and humorous anecdotes, Mr. Howard told how "I Observed Alaska," and he displayed his trophies, among which were ivory tusks, a fine walrus skull, and exceptionally good mineral specimens.

DECEMBER: Robert S. Palmer, Secretary of the Colorado Mining Association, discussed the question "Why Mine?" and outlined current mining problems and future mining possibilities...Leroy V. Cook suggested learning about a different mineral each month, and so he gave the first Mineral Lesson on Chrysoberyl.

## 1941

OFFICERS: 1941-1942, President, Chester Howard; Vice-President, Harvey Markman; Secretary-Treasurer, Richard Pearl

**JANUARY:** A choice motion picture on copper, "From Mine to Consumer," was shown...The Society was asked to present a mineral display at the convention of the Colorado Mining Association at the Shirley-Savoy Hotel in Denver.

**FEBRUARY:** Dr. Philip G. Worcester, head of the geology department at the University of Colorado, traced "The History of the Colorado Mountains from their beginning in the great Cretaceous seaway, to their present structure and form. His audience numbered 71, our largest at any regular meeting thus far.

**MARCH:** At Berthoud Hall at the Colorado School of Mines, in Golden, Dr. J. Harlan Johnson spoke on "Mineral Collecting in the Terlingua District of West Texas," and showed slides. Specimens were exhibited under fluorescent light by Dr. Johnson and E. Mitchell Gunnell. After the talk the minerals in the new museum were inspected.

**APRIL:** Dr. Boos showed natural color slides to illustrate her talk on "Mineral Collecting in Central America, 1940" at the meeting held in the beautifully appointed library of the University of Denver. In the science building were shown minerals and native handicraft that she had brought back.

**MAY:** Fred Shaw's "effervescent oratory" made the auction at this Spring Variety, meeting the most successful that we have had, with a total of \$23.30...The mineral contest, sponsored by the Pohndorf Company, was judged, and prizes awarded in six classes of competition...After five years at fifty cents, the dues were raised to \$1.00, and a Junior Membership was created to extend through high school age...Two motion pictures concluded the longest meeting at 11:35.

**SUMMER:** The Society sponsored the formation of

the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineral Societies, and was host to the first annual convention, held at the Argonaut Hotel August 9 and 10. Your Secretary was elected the first president. The banquet Saturday evening, at which Dr. Dake was guest speaker, was the highlight of the event. Pictures on the Capitol steps and an all-day collecting trip constituted Sunday's program... Identification cards donated by A. R. Thompson helped to keep the summer caravans together. The best collecting was at the Calumet mine near Salida... Larry Pacl, age 11, became our 250th member and also our youngest one.

OCTOBER: Stephen A. Ionides, Denver mining and chemical engineer, gave a talk on pegmatite minerals and travertine.

NOVEMBER: Dr. Ninninger featured "Moon Minerals," and presented evidence for the origin of tektites from the moon.

DECEMBER: Major Coffin told the story of the Lindemeier Site, and how the mineralogist and geologist were instrumental in dating Indian camps. He and W. A. Pippin of Keensburg, showed finely mounted artifact collections.

Harvey C. Markman

## 1942

OFFICERS: 1942-1943, President, Chester Howard; Vice-President, Harvey Markman; Secretary-Treasurer, Richard Pearl.

Many of our members took leave of the Society for military service... The format of the meetings continued with many excellent speakers. The activities of the society for the years 1942 thru 1948 have been recorded by the President, Chester Howard.



In the early winter months of 1942, the Society featured regular program talks on the first Friday of each month. Many prominent speakers included, Major Roy G. Coffin of Ft. Collins on "Collecting Localities of Northern Colorado", Dr. Charles Henderson of the U.S. Bureau of Mines on "Minerals of the Earth's Crust", LeRoy V. Cook of Arvada on "Geophysical Methods of Locating Minerals", Betty Holmes Huscher of the Colorado Museum of Natural History on "Folsom and Yuma Artifacts", Dr. William A. Waldschmidt, Associate Professor of Geology, Colorado School of Mines on "Minerals of the Black Hills", this meeting was held at Golden, Colorado. In April, Turner B. Messick spoke on "Minerals and Light" and in May, in addition to election of officers, William Youngbladt spoke on "Western Mining Camps of the Nineties".

The Mineral Minutes, reporting on these programs, was written by Secretary-Treasurer Richard M. Pearl. It was noted in the January Mineral Minutes that Paul Weiss, local optician, specializes in making eye examinations for mineral collectors who can't see how they can attend meetings regularly. Also, in this issue, reference was made to airplane views of a newly discovered meteorite crater in the San Luis Valley. During the year Harold I. Rosencrans of Longmont sold his store and moved to Florida. Mr. Rosencrans had cut and sold considerable lapis lazuli in Colorado.

The photo contest, in five sections, concluded in March saw as winners, Otis E. Gardner, Robert D. Roots, Raymond L. Baty, Alice Gathercole and Thomas R. Pacl. Judges were Mrs. W. F. Youngbladt, Mrs. William R. Cass, Mrs. Leslie Richards, Ress Phillips and Raymond Lindemann. Dr. H. C. Dake of the Mineralogist agreed to publish the winning snapshots. Secretary Pearl prepared a special issue of Mineral Minutes

marking its fiftieth appearance with a resume of events from September 24, 1936 to March 1942.

Paul M. Bunzell of Gold Hill wrote an interesting article on the subject "War Brings Life to Ghost Town". He described the revival of tungsten around Nederland, Colorado and told of his dog, Sheelite, a true "rock-hound". During the year Harvey C. Markman served as Vice-President, and in May, under his direction the Society journeyed to Colorado Springs for a joint meeting with the Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society and the special feature was the Sunday afternoon spent at Lennox Hall, viewing numerous large micromount collections.

On Memorial Day, the Society enjoyed a fine joint trip with the Grand Junction Mineralogical Society, viewing the dinosaur tracks in the Thomas Mine and a chuck wagon dinner later in the evening in town. President Richard Fischer of Grand Junction, made all the arrangements, with the assistance of Chairman Bush. At the May CMS meeting, preceding the trip to Grand Junction, Mignon W. Pearl, was elected to serve as Secretary-Treasurer and Editor of the Mineral Minutes to replace Richard Pearl who had gone into the Army. At this meeting, attention was called to an article in The Mineralogist concerning our member Edna Scott of Custer, South Dakota, explaining how she and her husband had discovered the famous Rose Quartz Mine while out gathering wild strawberries. Also, at this meeting, C. Ruegg of LaJunta, presented to the Society red, gem dinosaur bone, from the Purgatory badlands. Chester Howard was appointed Vice-President of the Rocky Mountain Federation to succeed Arthur L. Flagg of Phoenix, Arizona.

The first Sloan's Lake picnic outing was scheduled by Thelma Bailey and Alice Gathercole for June 28, 1942. Following this picnic the

only other meetings held, prior to the regular October meeting, was that of the Second Annual Rocky Mountain Federation Convention in Salt Lake City, Utah, on the 29th and 30th of August. Due to war time transportation shortages, the only attending CMS member was G. Ruegg, who travelled to Salt Lake City by train. The field trips during the summer were limited and of short distance from Denver. One fine and well attended trip was to Devil's Head. Mr. Ruegg reported later that the Utah group led two interesting short trips to the Bingham Pit Copper Mine and to Pelican Point, for limonite pseudomorphs.

In October, a new Denver University night course - "Gems and Gem Material" to be taught by E. Mitchell Gunnell, was announced. Bob Ackerley was thanked for the work he had done on the field trip committee in view of shortages and rationing of gasoline. H. C. Markman exhibited his remarkable instrument for studying crystals and determining their angles. It was announced that the July issue of Desert Magazine carried an interesting article by member H. H. Nininger, entitled: "Visitor from a Distant Planet" and the illustrations of beautiful meteorite necklaces worn by Mrs. Nininger.

The principal speaker at the November 1942 meeting was E. Mitchell Gunnell, and his subject was Fluorescence. This was a very interesting program topic since many mineral enthusiasts were beginning to assemble a collection for public display. A new location for fine pyrite crystals was announced as being a good one on the dumps of the old Pasa Flora mine, one and one half miles from Westcliffe, Colorado. Herbert Winchester gave the first mineral lesson on "Preparation of Thin Sections". He also reported that he had been informed that Richard Pearl, former Secretary, had recently been transferred to the Engineer School at Lexington, Kentucky, to study geodetic

computing.

In an article on Jamestown, Colorado, Fluorite, Joseph M. Bray observed the spectrographic analysis of fluorite from four well known mines reveals that the finest grained fluorite, also the oldest in respect to geologic time, was found to be the most impure, and the youngest fluorite from a pyrite - gold vein was the purest. It was also determined that the samples do not fluoresce.

From facts about quartz appears this: Helium can be passed, under pressure, through heavy quartz glass.

1943

OFFICERS: 1943-1944, President, Chester Howard; Vice-President, Harvey Markman; Secretary-Treasurer, Mignon Pearl.

JANUARY: The meeting of CMS was held in the assaying offices of Charles O. Parker and Mr. Parker spoke on "Analysis of Rocks and Minerals". Frank Morse of Gem Village, Bayfield, Colorado wrote to CMS that his recently expanded mineral business under the name of the Colorado Gem Company was doing quite well. Mineral Minutes, "Do You Know" stated that Colorado was the most important source of phenakite in North America. Minor Wasson added a Canyon Diablo meteorite with diamond inclusions to his collection. The February birthstone, Amethyst is a symbol of sincerity, and when worn, it is said to preserve affections, prevent robbery and attract pleasant companions.

During the winter season, Alfred M. Bailey gave an illustrated lecture on the "Museum Expedition to Arctic Alaska". Professor Burton O. Longyear of Ft. Collins reported completion of the grinding and polishing of telescopic mirrors with which he observed several of Jupiter's moons.

An important feature of the April 1943 meeting was the Mineral Collection Contest. This was conducted under five classifications and the winners were L. H. Binderup, T. H. Kleeman, Betty Burwell, Owen Murphy and R. L. Akerley. Lieutenant Jerome Hurianek, charter member, had recently graduated from O.C.S. at Fargo, North Dakota, and was now stationed at Camp Dodge, Iowa, as assistant to the post engineer.

At the May meeting, James R. Harvey spoke on the "Early History of Colorado". It was announced that Dr. Margaret Fuller Boos, formerly Professor of Geology at the University of Denver, had transferred to Bureau of Mines, Eastern Division, College Park, Washington, D. C. In May, two field trips were conducted to North Table Mountain for zeolites and to Castlewood Dam for petrified wood. Two other trips during the summer were to the Malachite Mine on Genesee Mountain and to the Bigger's Mine near Tiny Town for bismuthinite and columbite.

During the fall of 1943, the massive skeleton of Barylambda from western Colorado, one of the most heavily built animals of all time, was placed on exhibition in Chicago. This was reported to the Society on the occasion of its November meeting, at which time, James C. Johnston, Superintendent of Production for the Continental Oil Company, spoke on the production of oil in the Rocky Mountain area. Due to war time travel inconveniences in 1943, no meetings of the Rocky Mountain Federation were held, and Arthur Flagg of Phoenix, Arizona was elected president as a result of mail balloting.

#### 1944

OFFICERS: 1944-1945, President, Chester Howard; First Vice-President, Harvey Markman; Second Vice-President, Fred Shaw; Secretary-Treasurer, Mignon Pearl.



The January 1944 program was given by Richard M. Pearl on "Recent Developments in Gemology". Mr. Pearl was the second person in the United States to receive the title "Certified Gemologist" from the Gemological Institute of America. H.W. Endner and Carl Anderson of Gunnison wrote to the Society about finding vesuvianite attached to hessonite garnet in connection with other minerals on Italian Mountain. Ralph M. Mingues, a geologist for the U.S. Forest Service and living in Arvada, became a member of CMS. At the February meeting Fred Jones, Commissioner of Mines spoke on the activities of the Bureau. Mr. Jones was with the Portland Gold Mines in Cripple Creek for 25 years.

To illustrate the richness of the lead-silver carbonate ore in the early days at Leadville, Colorado, \$10,000.00 was offered for permission to work one man, one hour, upon an area four feet square.

In addition to the regular January meeting and program, there was held at the State Museum Building, on the night of the 24th, the first meeting of the CMS sponsored Round Table Mineral Study. It was the purpose of this group to give attention to the detailed study of the common minerals with round table discussion and no speakers. The March meeting featured colored pictures by Albert Haanstad, including his famous Chipmunk Circus. The photo contest chairman announced the names of the winners of the recent contest including, H. C. Markman, E. Mitchell Gunnell, W. R. Bailey, Tom Pacl and Betty Burwell. The April meeting at Golden, Colorado featured Professor Paul Keating on "Living Room Methods of Gem Identification". Two weeks later, J. Harlan Johnson of the Mines staff, arranged a field trip for the Society to Trout Creek Pass to collect silicified algae. It was also during this month that an In Memoriam

was written for A. R. Thompson and appeared in the Mineral Minutes. Mr. Thompson was an early member of the Society and contributed much in its first growing years.

The May annual meeting featured the swapper's exchange, election of officers, display contest and musical rocks by T. H. Kleeman, concert artist. Field collecting trips for the summer were limited because of rationing. In October, the Mineral Minutes, issue No. 71, was prepared by Alice Gathercole, the newly elected Secretary. Speaker for that month was John W. Vanderwilt on Molybdenum. At that time Mr. Vanderwilt was consulting geologist for the Climax Molybdenum Co. Grace Binderup announced the find of a large smoky quartz crystal in the Devil's Head area. The giant crystal weighed 44 pounds and was 19 inches long. Harvey C. Markman announced the recently completed collection of twenty Colorado minerals properly housed in divided container, under glass, for the purpose of providing a circulating CMS mineral collection useful in shipping to other societies for convention purposes.

During the winter months of 1944-45, programs were provided by Carl Blaurock, with pictures on the "Ascent of the East Face of Long's Peak" and Guy B. Ellermeier on "Field Experiences and Collecting Techniques". Pictographs and Petroglyphs of the Southwest was the subject of a talk by V. O. Peterson. "Garnets" by Dr. Duncan McConnell and a conducted tour of the Bureau of Reclamation's petrographic and hydraulic laboratories by H. S. Meissner were two other interesting programs. At one of the winter month meetings recognition was afforded E. Mitchell Gunnell for his efforts in serving as chairman of the Round Table Study group. It was announced that Dana's System Vol. No. 1, a new book, was available at \$10.00; also it became known that H. N. McConnell of Boulder, Colorado had located petrified bird tracks in

the Dakota sandstone near Golden and that in his honor the tracks had been given the scientific name of "Ignortornis mcconnelli."

---Colorado was born with a gold spoon in its mouth and first settlers brought gold pans with their baking pans---

## 1945

OFFICERS: 1945-1946, President, Chester Howard; First Vice-President, Harvey Markman; Second Vice-President, Louis Binderup; Secretary-Treasurer, Alice Gathercole.

On January 26, 1945, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Bingham conducted an open house to show CMS members their extensive collection. In April of this year, Allan Branham of Lander, announced the first finds of good black jade. Alice Gathercole, Editor of Mineral Minutes, reported that the May Annual meeting consisted of a display contest, mineral auction, election of officers and a showing of color pictures of Colorado by Russell Bailey. Among the summer field trip committee were W. Youngblott, E. N. Neff, and H. I. Rahn.

For the year 1945-46 Louis Binderup was elected vice president to replace Fred Shaw who had served for the previous year. H. C. Markman remained as first vice president. One outstanding field trip in the summer of 1945 was to the Central City area. However, again because of the war, rationing was necessary and field trips were of a limited nature.

Harvey C. Markman presented the October 1945 program with the subject "Colorado Fossils and Field Work in Fossil Collecting". The Mineralogical Museum of the University of Liege, Belgium destroyed by fire was assisted by CMS in replacing their mineral collection. John Magnuson,

operating the Western Feldspar Milling Co. for 23 years, spoke to the Society December 7th on "Feldspar, Its Source, Preparation and Distribution". Dave Marinoff prepared the Mineral Naming Contest for this meeting with displays of materials from his own collection. CMS sent a mineral exhibit to Dallas, Texas to the Texas State Show. A note in Mineral Minutes referred to a bulletin of the Marquette Geologists Association telling of Colorado "seven banded jasper" from Gunnison County that was burro packed to Mexico by Spaniard's Indian slave labor for use in a cathedral altar, according to local legend.

The 1945-46 winter meetings featured several fine talks and other interesting programs. C. J. Pease spoke on "Atomic Energy", Carl Blaurock showed Kodachromes on the Elk River region. E. Mitchell Gunnell gave a talk on "Considering the Unusual in Mineral Specimens". "Mormon Land" was the title of an illustrated lecture by Alfred M. Bailey. On March 7-9, 1946, H. C. Markman and Chester Howard journeyed to Phoenix to attend the Rocky Mountain Federation meetings where they were being resumed again for the first time following the war years. At this meeting, J. J. Hayes of Salt Lake City was elected president of the Federation and Chester Howard vice-president. Utah was selected as the site for the 1947 convention. An interesting talk, illustrated by colored pictures on the area of the Grand Canyon, was given by Barry Goldwater.

During the winter months Mineral Minutes carried a series of names of minerals discovered in Colorado for some connection with the mining history of the state, such as: Coloradoite, hinsdalite, empressite, lillianite, pearcite, beegerite, richardite, creedite, weissite, etc. An interesting article on fluorite

appeared in Mineral Minutes #86, telling of figurines, vessels of various shapes carved from this mineral. The Chinese have produced many beautiful effects in working with this material. Correspondence to CMS in May, 1946, came from Jack Tordoff, regarding his three year old "pyrite king", and Ivan Mercer, concerning his offer to show his jade collection from Peiping, made during the war years while he was overseas.

In November 1946, Richard Pearl again became editor of the Mineral Minutes and Mary Piper became secretary to the Society. It was reported to the membership that Claude R. Bingaman and Major Theodore E. Syman, both active members, had passed on within recent weeks. Elwood Neff rated the national press in an article concerning his big game hunting season the prior October in which he killed one each of bear, deer, and elk, in one small mountain park, all within twenty four hours. The State of Colorado contributed a slab of pink travertine to the church of Saint Bebe at Williamsburg, Virginia as a war memorial in the "Path of Memory and Union". Commissioner Fred Jones of the Bureau of Mines made the selection.

#### 1947

OFFICERS: 1946-1947, President, Chester Howard; First Vice-President, Harvey Markman; Second Vice-President, Richard Pearl; Secretary-Treasurer, Alice Gathercole; Editor, Richard Pearl.

Programs thru the years 1946-47 included talks by Richard M. Pearl, Marie Wormington, Dr. Don Gould and Dr. C. E. Dobbin. In November Alvina N. Pohndorf displayed rare gems and mounted jewels including carved lapis lazuli and amazonstone, pink tourmaline necklace and other beautiful items. Guy B. Ellermeier reported finding shiny black augite crystals in a dike in



Grand County near Willow Creek. S. R. Sheldon reported the installation of a stock of Mineralite Lamps at his store at 1321 Bannock St. Warren R. Heberling and James B. Greenfield both gave book-ends of petrified wood to the Society for use in future auctions. The president appointed Mr. R. Carmack, Mrs. H. Rahn and Secretary Mary Piper to serve as judges on the recently announced Emblem Design Contest. Frank Morse announced the sale of his Gem Village business after the death of his wife. It was announced that M. J. Stickles of Loveland was operating his lapidary art and jewelry making school under the name of Science Park Lapidary and Metalcraft. The Junior Member Identification Contest, in January, saw Wendell Mohr in first place, Gordon Schindel second and John Meissner third.

In April 1947, a huge nugget of Turquoise was on display at the Bureau of Mines weighing 10 pounds. This nugget came from Manassa and was dug by Horace King. A note, in the March Mineral Minutes, reminded CMS members of a trip to Redfeather Lakes for amethyst crystals, 10 years previously and acknowledged the courtesy of the mine owners, Mr. & Mrs. A. A. Pennoyer, whose present address was Windsor, Colorado. Donors to the permanent CMS travelling mineral display collection were Robert D. Roots, G. Ruegg and Harvey H. Nininger. Judges for the March Junior Identification Contest were Harold T. Hofer and C. J. Pease and they named Fred Meissner as the winner.

The summer (1947) field trip schedule included trips to Sterling, Colorado for blue barite; Thomas Range, Utah for topaz in connection with the Rocky Mountain Federation meetings, Gunnison, Colorado in July for tourmaline and garnet, Gold Hill in August and on September 1st to Nathrop, Colorado for garnet, perlite, etc. Ray Thaler, Ress Phillips, Howard

Rahn, H. S. Meissner served on the committee. At the Rocky Mountain Federation Convention in Salt Lake City, Chester R. Howard was elected president of the Rocky Mountain Federation. Denver was selected as the site for the first national convention in June 1948.

1948

OFFICERS: 1947-1948; President, Chester Howard; First Vice-President, Harvey Markman; Second Vice-President, Richard Pearl; Secretary-Treasurer, Mary Piper; Editor, Richard Pearl.

Paul D. Harrison, CMS member in October 1947, was elected first president of the Denver Chapter of the Colorado Archaeological Society.

Some interesting dates appearing in Mineral Minutes No. 96 of interest to mineral enthusiasts are:

- 1864 - First Silver discovered in Colorado
- 1868 - Leaf gold in nests of lead carbonate mined at Leadville
- 1869 - Silver recognized at Caribou, Boulder, County.
- 1872 - Petzite discovered at Gold Hill
- 1885 - Zinc discovered in Colorado ores
- 1891 - Gold discovered at Cripple Creek
- 1897 - Uranium minerals discovered in LaSalle Mountains

Guy Ellermeier reports discovering a small gold nugget in the gizzard of a chicken served for dinner. The locality of the nugget is appropriately labeled "Chicken Gizzard, Colorado".

C. W. Hayward donated 520 crystals of barite from Hartzel, Colorado for use in connection with the coming convention of the Federation. Robert Roots volunteered to gather Sterling barite for

the same purpose. Ethel F. McCarthy and Mary A. Piper were appointed Colorado correspondents to the monthly journal "Mining World." The following were appointed by General Chairman Pearl to head committees for the coming convention:

Ress Philips	Non-Commercial Display Com.
Guy B. Ellermeier	Field Trip Com.
Vera Hofer	Registration Com.
H. S. Meissner	Junior Com.
C. J. Pease	Local Tours Com.
Mary E. Burwell	Favors Com.
Paul D. Harrison	Banquet Com.
Minor F. Wasson	Dealers Exhibit Com.
Emma Greenfield	Housing Com.

At the April 1948 meeting considerable time was given Chairman Richard Pearl for pre-convention instruction and activities, and additional assignments were made. At the May 1948 spring variety meeting colored slides were shown by R. C. McIver of Dallas, Texas. Richard Pearl was elected president and Jane Hayward Secretary-Treasurer. Vera and Harold Hofer were selected Editors of the Mineral Minutes. C. W. Hayward was appointed chairman of the field trip committee. Hazel E. Brown was recorded as the 500th member of the society. C. R. Williams was appointed to consult with the Denver Public Library and advise in the matter of the selection of national mineral magazines.

The National Convention of the American Federation and Rocky Mountain Federation, combined and sponsored by the Colorado Mineral Society, was an outstanding event at the Shirley Savoy Hotel, Denver, Colorado, June 12-16, 1948. Many fine exhibits were arranged by both private collector and dealer. The programs and banquet and field trips were done precisely and in good form and were outstanding and entertainingly handled by the many committee chairman and other workers. The Buffalo Barbecue at Red Rocks Park was out-

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standing. There were many prominent persons in attendance, among whom were Leland Quick, Ben Hur Wilson, Paul VanderEike, H. H. Nininger, Dr. H. C. Dake, Dr. Philip G. Worcester and Dr. Ben Parker. Richard Pearl was elected the first president of the American Federation, a fitting honor for a man who had given of himself so unselfishly for so many years in the furtherance of the activities of the mineral hobby fraternity.

Chester Howard

Certificates of Recognition were awarded by the Colorado Mineral Society on behalf of the Rocky Mountain Federation to: Dr. J. Harlan Johnson, Dr. Harvey H. Nininger, Dr. Russell G. George, Harvey Markman, Frank Morse, Alice Gathercole, Guy Ellermeier, Mrs. Ethel McCarthy, Mrs. Mary Allen, Chester Howard and Richard Pearl.

Tokens of appreciation were given to the retiring officers, as well as "Life Membership" to Chester Howard.

1948 - 1949

**OFFICERS:** President, Richard Pearl; First Vice-President, Ray Thaler; Second Vice-President, Chester Howard; Secretary-Treasurer, Jane Hayward; Corresponding Secretary, Mignon Pearl; Editor, Richard Pearl

The fall season started out with an interesting talk by Professor Paul Keating of the Colorado School of Mines accompanied by a splendid collection of gems.

At the suggestion of Mrs. Mignon Pearl it was decided that the Colorado Mineral Society should take some action toward recognition of a State Mineral, Rock, Metal and Gem. A committee was appointed and was instructed to

send ballots to all societies in the State, so that they might have a vote in determining the metal, mineral, rock and State Gem. The results were: Mineral - Molybdenite; Metal - Silver; Rock - Granite; Gem - Aquamarine.

The first gadget night was May 6th. It was greatly enjoyed by all rockhounds, the gadgets were novel, useful and ingenious.

The 500th person to become a member of CMS was Mrs. Hazel Brown of LaJunta, Colorado.

A worthwhile field trip over the Memorial Day weekend was spent in the Canon City area with the Canon City Geology Club as host. Tourmaline and Beryl crystals were found; a commercial travertine quarry was visited and samples taken. In the evening of the first day the group was treated to home movies of the area and a most educational talk on the Sangre De Cristo range by Mr. Kessler. A campfire and toasted marshmallows completed an enjoyable evening. Sunday, a trip was made to the Bull Domingo Mine at Westcliffe, previously collected specimens of ore were given to each visitor. The ladies of the Canon City Geology Club prepared a delicious picnic dinner. A trip was also made to Specimen Ridge for agate.

Member Bob Roots carried off the chief honors as champion Gold Panner, winning the gold cup and blue ribbon at the American Federation convention in Sacramento, California.

President Pearl appointed a committee to study a proposal for commemorating Mt. Antero as a famous mineral collecting area. With permission of the U.S. Forest Service a group of hardy members made the tortuous trip to the top of Mt. Antero on Colorado Day, August 1, 1949, placed a bronze plaque, weighing 35 pounds, near

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the top, reading, "Mount Antero Mineral Park-  
World Famous Locality for Aquamarine, Phenacite,  
Bertrandite, Colorado Mineral Society 1949".

#### 1949 - 1950

OFFICERS: President, Richard Pearl; 1st Vice-president, Ray Thaler; 2nd Vice-president, Chester Howard; Secretary-Treasurer, Jane Hayward; Corresponding Secretary, Jeannette Harralson; Trustees: Guy Ellermeyer, Ress Phillips, Mary Piper, Muriel Colburn, Harvey Markman, Vera Hofer. Editors - Vera and Harold Hofer

During this year the Society was recipient of several display lamps donated by Robert Roots and Earl Martelon.

The society presented Mrs. Alvina Pohndorf and Bob Roots with Certificates of Recognition.

Some of the summer field trips were to Stoneham, Colorado for Barite as well as Hartsel, Colorado, for Barite and to the Brown Derby Mine for Tourmaline.

The first meeting of the fall season had a special feature of beautiful colored transparencies of mineral specimens and geological wonders by member Dr. M. O. Dart.

Life membership was extended to Richard Pearl.

#### 1950 - 1951

OFFICERS: President, Harold T. Hofer; 1st Vice-president, Ray Thaler; 2nd Vice-president, Chester Howard; Secretary-Treasurer, Jeannette Harralson; Corresponding Secretary, Grace Williams; Trustees: Chester Howard, Harvey  
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Markman, Muriel Colburn, Richard Pearl, Harmon Meissner, Ress Phillips, Editors - Olin and Fern Brown

At this time we had a membership of about 366. This was the beginning of the 15th year for the Colorado Mineral Society.

Many interesting field trips took place during the summer of 1951 and included such locations and minerals as follows:

- North Table Mountain - Zeolite
- Fort Collins - Marcasite
- Squaw Pass - Martite
- Villa Grove - Fluorite, Jasper,  
Pyrite
- Owl Canyon - Calcite, Calcite  
geodes and Aragonite
- St. Peter's Dome - Zircon, Astro-  
phyllite and Riebekite
- Jamestown - Fluorspar
- Wyoming - Cordierite, Amphibole,  
Asbestos, Agate

Silent auctions were inaugurated during this year. The first one was held on January 5, 1951, from which \$109.25 was received. This was considered so successful for the times that it has been continued annually since.

A mineralogy class was conducted during the year under the auspices of the Opportunity School with Mr. James Hurlbut as instructor.

Car stickers distributed by the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies were designed by Society member Betty Wilklow.

On September 16, 1951 the annual picnic was held at Sloans Lake. Mr. C. R. Williams was general Chairman. The outstanding event was a garnet panning contest.

1951 - 1952

OFFICERS: President, James Hurlbut; 1st Vice-president, Ernest E. Parshall; 2nd Vice-president, Calvin Simmons; Secretary-Treasurer, Muriel Colburn; Corresponding Secretary, Grace Williams; Trustees: Harold Hofer, Richard Pearl, Harvey Markman, Muriel Colburn, Ress Phillips, Harmon Meissner. Editors - Olin and Fern Brown

I began my first term as President in October 1951. My committee chairman were: Mr. Parshall - Field Trips, Mr. Simmons - Exhibits, Mr. Pearl - Membership, Mr. Meissner - Finance, Mr. Williams - Lapidary, Mrs. Black - Hospitality, Mrs. Wilklow - Juniors.

One of the highlights of the year occurred at the November meeting when the first increase in dues was passed. The second outstanding event of the year was our second silent auction held at the January meeting. This year the Juniors had their own section separate from the adults. The February meeting was a talk by Professor Keating which is always an outstanding event. Also, the field trip committee passed out questionnaires on where the group would like to go on field trips that summer. The March meeting was held at the School of Mines in Golden. For April and May meetings I was out of town and the meetings were conducted by our able vice-president, Mr. Parshall. The May meeting was our first banquet and fun night held at the Washington Park Community Church. The highlight of the evening, following the election of officers, was the Hat contest. Each member was invited to decorate a hat with minerals. The parade of hats was a sight to behold and several members were seen holding their sides.

The field trips that year included trips to Kiowa for selenite, Point of Rocks for Jasper,

Calumet Mine for epidote and magnetite, Mt. Antero for aquamarine.

My only set back of the year was the failure of the Board and the Membership to set up a lapidary division per the recommendation of our lapidary committee. As a result of this lack of action the Gem Guild was formed as a separate club.

James Hurlbut

1952 - 1953

OFFICERS: President, James Hurlbut; 1st Vice-president, Ernest Parshall; 2nd Vice-president, Calvin Simmons; Secretary-Treasurer, Muriel Colburn; Corresponding Secretary, Grace Williams; Trustees: Harold Hofer, Richard Pearl, Harvey Markman, Muriel Colburn, Ress Phillips, Harmon Weissner, Editors - Fern and Olin Brown

My second term in office was started in October, with only two changes in supporting workers. Doris Short replaced Mrs. Haralson and Bob Roots replaced Harold Hofer. Committee chairmen were: Mrs. Short - Field Trips, Mr. Weissner - Finance, Bob Roots - Juniors, Fern Brown - Hospitality, Olin Brown - Library, Emily Simmons - Exhibits. Bob Roots with his generous contributions to the Juniors helped many of them get their collections going.

Ernest Parshall worked up our first field trip manual as a guide for collectors on field trips. The Society accepted an invitation to participate in the All Hobby Show that year. It was the Society's first chance to show their hobby to the general public. We had many interesting speakers during the year as well as the Silent Auction and our Fun Night at the Washington Park Community Church.

Our Field Trip committee tried a new way of preventing pre-field tripping by some members. It consisted of not listing the location in the Mineral Minutes but only giving out clues to the collecting area to those who registered the week of the trip. The field trips were very successful trips to the Alice Mine, Sedalia Mine, Jamestown, Mt. Antero and a Labor Day trip to Custer, South Dakota.

James Hurlbut

1953 - 1954

OFFICERS: President, C. W. Hayward; 1st Vice-president, C. R. Williams; 2nd Vice-president, Olin Brown; Secretary-Treasurer, Betty Wilklow; Corresponding Secretary, Ann Dill; Trustees: James Hurlbut, Muriel Colburn, Richard Pearl, George Harvey, Calvin Simmons, E. Mitchell Gunnell. Editors - Kay and Mike Gunnell

During the year two advancements of note were made. Previously few minerals were present at the meetings. To stimulate active participation at the meetings a member was required to show a mineral he brought to the meeting before he could accept the door prize.

Exhibits were encouraged. Identification contests for juniors were held each meeting and several times during the year for adults.

A program of short talks was begun along with the main speaker. These were only for about five minutes on a single mineral and its occurrence. An exceptionally fine talk, illustrated with slides was given by Barnie Bench, on "People and Places of India".

GMS was represented at the World Flesta, sponsored by All Hobbies Club, by having "Rocks of the World" on display.



Several members attended the Rocky Mountain Federation convention and show in Houston, Texas May 2 - 5. An exhibit prepared by Mr. & Mrs. Calvin Simmons for the society won first prize.

Two of the outstanding trips of the summer were to LaJunta, Colorado and the Fairburn Agate fields of South Dakota.

Due to the two programs, short talks and exhibits, the attendance grew to the point where the Denver Museum Bird Hall was no longer adequate. As a result the meetings were moved to the Denver Chamber of Commerce Hall, 13th and Welton Streets.

A new by-law was enacted to permit selling and trading of minerals so that all persons could see and have access to fine mineral specimens. Two to four dealers could sell at the monthly meetings paying a specified percentage to the society treasurer.

During the summer of 1954 a fine schedule of field trips was conducted by Chick Williams. Among them was a field trip (3 days) to the agate and dinosaur beds of Western Utah, the Casper, Wyoming show in June; Del Norte, Colorado and Creede regions for agate and amethyst in July.

C. W. Hayward

1954 - 1955

OFFICERS: President E. Mitchell Gunnell; 1st Vice-president, C. W. Hayward; 2nd Vice-president, Muriel Colburn; Secretary-Treasurer, Ann Dill; Trustees: Jack Britton, George Harvey, James Litton, Cecil Louthan, Betty Wilklow. Editors - Verna and Ernest Parshall

The year 1954-1955 was one of progress

and growth for the Colorado Mineral Society despite many problems that beset it. Some of these latter were old well-known ones like inadequate finances, impermanency of a meeting place, and apathy on the part of members generally to serve the organization in responsible capacities. Others stemmed from Denver's building and population boom, as rapid membership turn-over that hampered efforts to make a more stable, cohesive organization. Still others were of special kind that had to be handled as best we could at the time. Despite these problems, most of which doubtless plague other similar organizations, the society did have a successful, progressive year in many ways.

Most of the monthly meetings were held in the unusually adequate, then-new Chamber of Commerce Building's main banquet room, located at 13th and Welton Streets, downtown. During the year previous we had been successful in securing this extra large, well-lighted, air-conditioned room for Society meetings once a month, and as it was still available to us most months at a reasonable cost, we continued to utilize it. It's hub location with easy access by car or bus from all parts of the city, and availability of parking space nearby, made it as fine for our meetings as any place we've ever had.

Program-wise the unquestionable high spot of the year was the excellent lecture entitled "The Layman Collector's Mineral Cabinet," given by Dr. Frederick H. Pough of New York City, at a special meeting the night of October 22, 1954, held in the Chamber of Commerce Building. Dr. Pough, internationally famous mineralogist, gemologist, lecturer and author of the unexcelled "Field Guide to Rocks and Minerals," was a personal friend and fellow graduate student in geology of President Gunnell, at whose invitation he visited Denver to present a talk while on his

way to California. This he illustrated with a beautiful series of Kodachrome color pictures of typical and unusually fine specimens of those particular minerals he considered should be in the cabinet of or sought by every layman mineral collector. His highly informative, spirited extempore talk was of great inspiration to all those lucky enough to have heard it.

During the year a formerly regularly presented educational feature, the Mineralesson-a brief talk on some mineral topic chosen by a member for its particular personal interest - was again revived since your President deemed it worthwhile. Unfortunately our hopes for a fine coordinated exhibits program during this year did not fully jell, due to both membership apathy to display their own material and to other factors. However, because certain individual members did respond here to an unusual degree, we did have very excellent exhibits at certain meetings. One of these was the April, 1955, Members' Demonstration Night when nearly a dozen of our most faithful members gave unstintingly of their time and talents to display, demonstrate and describe such diverse matters as crystal forms as applied to the identification of minerals in the field, the use of the petrographic microscope, fluorescence determination of the presence of uranium in minerals, blowpipe tests of minerals, the determination of minerals by their physical properties, the art of lapidary, and others. These demonstrations, which went on simultaneously at various "stations" throughout the large Chamber of Commerce hall, again proved what the members of our society could do when given the opportunity to present educational features in line with the avowed major purpose of the organization.

Another high spot of the year was the then annual banquet at Golden, Colorado, followed by

a visit to the fine Geology Museum of the Colorado School of Mines there, as the invited guests of the Department of Geology staff. As he had in previous years, Dr. J. Harlan Johnson tendered the invitation and, with his lovely wife, Molly, graced the dinner at the Holland House. Following that, he welcomed the Society to the Museum and with the aid of some of his students pointed out the noteworthy and new displays. Thereafter Dr. John Hays of the staff gave a talk on mineral identification by means suitable for laymen. The dinner was attended by some 75 members and guests, while probably thrice that many heard Dr. Hay's fine talk.

During 1954-55 a number of concrete things were accomplished within our Society. These included certain changes that appeared needful as well as the inauguration of some new ideas. These seem worthy of mention, the raising of annual dues so we'd not lose further ground financially, with the continuance of inflation, substitution of signed, ornamental 'Certificates of Merit' for service to the Society replacing the traditional but sadly unstandardized personal gifts given to outgoing officers, certain changes made in the by-laws to particularize the procedure of granting membership in the Society, the formulating of a long-needed set of rules of conduct for the guidance of members both in meetings and on field trips, and the compilation and publication of the first complete 'Directory of Members of the Colorado Mineral Society' in booklet form. Interestingly enough, this contained 182 name entries while the latest such directory that for 1961, includes less than 40 more, thus indicating the continuance of rapid membership turnover mentioned earlier.

The usual field trips program was held during the summer months, ending on Sunday,

September 11, 1955, with the then-annual outdoor 'Trading Post and Picnic' held, at Washington Park in southeast Denver. A large number of members and friends enjoyed their own good picnic fare, the wonderful autumn weather, the displays, contests, games and swapping session that formerly made this a fine get-acquainted social affair.

Summing up 1954-1955 critically as President then, I would say it was a good year by and large. While many problems were not solved, and we remained poor financially speaking, membership enthusiasm was high and many individual members contributed their services to an admirable degree in discharging the essential business of the organization. We remained solvent and even improved the Society's finances temporarily, put on some unusually worthwhile and interesting programs, carried through on various social functions then in vogue - as the annual Christmas Party, banquet at Golden, and fall Picnic - yet remained true to the concept that this Society was primarily an educational one. And if we disgruntled some members in muddling through special situations that arose as best we could, we can only hope we made many new friends for CMS.

E. Mitchell Gunnell

1955 - 1956

OFFICERS: President, James Hurlbut; 1st Vice-president, Algrid Stephan; 2nd Vice-president, Ralph Ellis; Secretary-Treasurer, Gladys Cameron; Corresponding Secretary, Jeannette Clark; Trustees: Jack Britton, Muriel Colburn, George Harvey, Bill Hayward, Lawrence Oliver, Helen Owens. Editors - Verna and Ernest Parshall.

My third term as President, during the year 1955-56 was to be used to bring the Rocky



Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies and American Federation of Mineralogical Societies conventions to Denver in 1957.

My committee chairmen were: Jack Britton, Sales, Finance, Muriel Colburn, Membership, George Harvey, Juniors, Bill Hayward, Hospitality, Helen Owens, Directory, Mike Gunnell, Exhibits, Arthur Ermish, Convention, Jim Hurlbut.

The first event of the year was the issuance of our first directory, a project spearheaded by Mike Gunnell. The second event of the year was changing of the payment of dues to coincide with the societies fiscal year. The speakers were varied and talked on many interesting subjects.

In January our secretary moved to Rifle, Colorado and the position was taken over by Jeannette Clark. Calvin Simmons had the duties of corresponding secretary.

The highlight of this term for me was the trips I made to Minneapolis to the American Federation Convention and to Rapid City for the Rocky Mountain Federation convention. At both of these shows I set up displays of Colorado Minerals loaned by Robert Roots and lobbied for the conventions to come to Denver in 1957. My efforts to bring the glory of the convention to Denver was successful only through the efforts of several associates, Mr. Sheldon in Minneapolis and all those who helped in Rapid City.

James Hurlbut

1956 - 1957

OFFICERS: President, Calvin Simmons; 1st Vice-president, Ralph Ellis; 2nd Vice-president, Arthur Ermish; Secretary-Treasurer, Jean Walker; Corresponding Secretary, Grace Neill; Trustees: June Young (membership)

James Hurlbut (Field Trips), Jack Britton (Finance) Jim Litton (Exhibits), Lawrence Oliver (Nominations), William Wilklow (Hospitality). Editor - Rose Neilsen.

The two outstanding events in the life of the Colorado Mineral Society during this period were the 1957 National Gem and Mineral Show and the fact that we finally and completely outgrew the "Birdroom" as a meeting place. On December 2, 1955, my family and I arrived in Denver, fresh from a two year tour of military duty in Germany, just in time to attend the annual Christmas Party and auction which was held this year, at the Washington Park Community Church. There, we found that Jim Hurlbut was president. Due to Gladys Cameron moving out of town there was a vacancy as Corresponding Secretary. Jim appointed me to the job. Thus, I was present at a meeting of 30 members of the society at Jim's house on March 20, 1956, when after long and heavy discussion, it was decided that we would go "all out" for a National Show in 1957 if we could get it. Following that date, to a great extent all of the long range planning and activities of the society were slanted toward the accomplishment of the show.

Work to obtain the show for 1957 was begun in earnest. Jim and I wrote to all the member societies of the Rocky Mountain Federation for their proxies in the event they failed to have a representative at the annual convention of the Federation at Rapid City, S. D. on June 14-17, 1956. A solid front, the proxies, votes from other societies, and a prepared "package deal" got us the Rocky Mountain show and convention for 1957 and got Jim Hurlbut elected President of the Federation, Charles Horvath, Vice-President, and Muriel Colburn, Secretary-Treasurer. At the July 12-15, 1956 National Convention and show in St. Paul, Minnesota, Jim

Hurlbut and S. R. Sheldon out-talked the California gang, out-politicked several other factions, played the ends against the middle, and got the national convention and show for Denver for 1957.

There were some excellent field trips during the summer of 1956; Devil's Head, Crystal Peak, Hartsel, Waverly, and Climax followed by a grand picnic at Sloan's Lake in September. The 165th meeting of the Colorado Mineral Society was held on October 5, 1956 in the Birdroom of the City Park Museum. The new officers and board were installed. Mary Allen gave a talk on the cleaning and preservation of mineral specimens. During the summer we had all been shocked and grieved by the passing-away of Bill Wilklow, and at this meeting Betty Wilklow was appointed to the Board of Trustees to fill Bill's unexpired term. Certificates of appreciation were awarded to outgoing officers and board members. The Birdroom was crowded. At the board meeting on October 9th it was decided to use the Colorado National Guard Armory for the show. Committee chairmen for the convention and show were selected and appointed: James F. Hurlbut, general chairman; Ralph C. Ellis, secretary-treasurer; Calvin B. Simmons, commercial space; Arthur J. Ermish, non-commercial exhibits; Ernest E. Parshall, publicity; Philip M. Earhart, buildings and grounds; Bette Hurlbut, program; N. H. Walker, field trips; Taffy Bimson, junior activities; and Charles Horvath, administration. Harold and Vera Hofer were elected to life membership in the society.

At the November meeting Louise Hedricks gave a talk on "thin sections" and illustrated it with slides prepared by Mr. Henry Aarnes. Taffy Bimson was appointed leader of the Juniors. The Birdroom was crowded. We had been searching continually for a more suitable meeting place, but with very little success. The

program for the December 7th meeting was the annual Christmas party and Silent auction. Sue Horvath played the harmonica, Tommy Addenbrooke sang "Silent Night", and Santa arrived with a sack full of goodies and was accompanied by seven dwarfs. The auction was a great success but the Birdroom and the Artroom were both crowded. At the January meeting the Birdroom just would not hold us, so we moved to the Ellen M. Stanley Hall. Carolyn Fix gave an illustrated talk of her 1954 trip to Australia on a Fulbright scholarship. Richard M. Pearl discussed Colorado minerals and how to use the topographic map at the February meeting before a record attendance of 154 members and guests. The Ellen M. Stanley Hall was crowded - we even ran out of chairs. The March meeting was held at the Colorado School of Mines at Golden at the invitation of Dr. J. Harlan Johnson. There was an interesting talk and tour of the mineral museum. Dr. Johnson was awarded a certificate of appreciation. The April meeting was gadget night with Sam Neill in charge. Rose Nielson showed slides of the picnic last September. At the April board meeting Betty Wilklow was appointed historian for the society. May meeting was a dinner, a fun program, election of officers for the following year, and a mineral display. Emily Simmons arranged for the meeting place and the dinner at the Trinity Methodist Church. She was assisted in the program by Taffy Bimson, Jean Walker and Vida Eastin. Fern Brown supervised the hat contest. A certificate of appreciation was given to Mr. Henry Aarnes.

Meanwhile, back at the ranch, the show committee chairmen had not been sitting around. They had appointed committee members to help them establish policy and do some of the leg work. The Armory was reserved, dealers were contacted and contracts were let. Money started rolling in - - and rolling right back out! The

biggest overall handicap that we faced could be generalized in a statement by Bob Roots, "The trouble with most mineral shows is that they are put on by amateurs. I mean people who are putting on their first show." It is easy to see now why no one would voluntarily put on a second show. Denver had not had a show of any kind since the First National Show and Convention in 1948. Neither the City nor the Society was really prepared for a show of this type without some build-up, but everybody worked hard and it was a good show.

A new directory of the society membership was mimeographed, tables were rented, saw-horses and cases were built, exhibits were set up, insurance was taken out, 47 dealers arrived. Lotus McCoy made a million grab bags and sold them all. Ed Draper put on his uniform and furnished police protection during the show. There were gold panning contests, movies, lectures, meetings, and field trips. Walt and Mary Pilkington displayed their set of onyx table ware. Three national trophies were awarded: The Woodruff Trophy for the best qualifying mineral display to Mr. and Mrs. Harold Whiting of Rochester, Minn., the A. G. Parser Trophy for best individual lapidary achievement to George A. Ashley of Pala, Calif., and the Henry B. Graves Plaque for the best qualifying faceted gemstones to James M. Stoinoff of Miami Springs, Florida. A plaque for "Best of Show" went to Olive M. Colhour of Seattle, Washington. When the dust had settled and the floor was swept, (we paid the Armory half of the \$400.00 required to refinish the floor) it was found that financially we were just a little on the safe side of breaking even, and in addition, the society now owned many display cases and saw-horses. Jim's car sat out all winter because his garage was full of cases.

We finally sold most of the cases and all



of the horses. This helped the society treasury considerably.

Summer of 1957 featured field trips to Mr. Wamsley's amazonite claim, Long Hollow for smokey quartz; Mt. Antero for aquamarine, Bayfield for gem show, Dillon for bi-pyramidal quartz crystals, and to the Floy and San Rafael regions of Utah for rain and mud - - oops! I mean red jasper and agate. September 22 was a little late for the picnic, but it was its usual success. Verna Parshall won the mineral guessing contest for the seniors and Phil Gregory for the juniors. Tod New was out looking fit and new again after a long siege of tick fever.

The 173rd meeting of the CMS was held in the Artroom of the City Park Museum. New officers and board members were installed and certificates of appreciation were given to the outgoing officials. A color film "Detour through Wonderland" featuring southern Utah country was shown. As I turned the gavel over to the new President, I said, "Please Ralph, see if this year you can find us a larger hall to meet in. The Birdroom will never again be able to hold the Colorado Mineral Society."

Calvin B. Simmons

#### 1957 - 1958

OFFICERS: President, Ralph Ellis; 1st Vice-President, Art Ermish; 2nd Vice-President, Bernard M. Bench; Secretary-Treasurer, Jean Walker; Corresponding Secretary, Grace Neill; Trustees: June Young (Membership) Taffita Bimson (Hospitality) Tod New (Exhibits) Charles Horvath (Finance) Ross Gregory (Field Trips) James Hurlbut (Nominations). Appointments: Editor, Rose Neilson; Junior Chairman, Mildred Leahy; Historian, Betty Wilklow

After installation of the new officers and board in October 1957, three major objectives were pursued throughout the fiscal year; they were; increased meeting interest, exhibiting, and education.

In November, Bernard Bench moved up to the office of 1st Vice-president, due to the resignation of Arthur Ermish. Fern Brown was subsequently appointed 2nd Vice-president.

In order to increase meeting interest, a start was made by transferring all minor business affairs and discussion from the meetings to the board sessions, providing much more time in meetings for interesting programs and for the promotion of the second objective - exhibiting. Although the Colorado Mineral Society had put on two successful national shows, it had shown almost no interest in exhibiting by its own members. Through the medium of the Mineral Minutes and much personal exhortation by interested members, exhibiting was begun seriously at the February 1958 meeting and soon became a major feature. Education also profited from the increased program time. Barney Bench, Vice-President, gave a series of geology talks and conducted a bus tour of Front Range geological features in November 1957. Lectures and how-to-do-it talks increased in number.

The Mineral Minutes increased in size from its usual four pages to eight. Active attendance at meetings increased, and it became obvious that the City Park Museum, with its space limitations, could no longer serve as a meeting place. Exhibits required more and more room. The West 38th Avenue Potenza Lodge Hall was tried for several months, but a more satisfactory location was found by the housing committee, headed by Doc Walker. The Masonic Lodge at 34th and Albion had a large basement area

that seemed almost ideal, and it was rented for the entire 1958-59 season.

Fern Brown arranged two excellent picnics, in the spring and again in the fall. Tom Addenbrooke, who was appointed Field Trip Chairman after the resignation of Ross Gregory, provided top-notch field trips, some even during winter "open" weekends. Field trip attendance was heavy, especially on local trips. The Board decided to levy a 25-cent fee upon those attending field trips, the money to be used to help defray the expense of arranging field trips and also to purchase small gifts for landowners upon whose land we hunted. Although going out of office, the Board was considering the possibility of starting annual shows, beginning in the spring of 1959. Harvey Markman started work on the Society history, with a view to bringing it up to date.

#### 1958 - 1959

OFFICERS: President, Ralph Ellis; 1st Vice-President, Bernard Bench; 2nd Vice-President, Fern Brown; Secretary-Treasurer, Lotus McCoy; Corresponding Secretary, Muriel Colburn; Trustees: Jean Hamilton (Membership) Thomas Addenbrooke (Field Trips) Taffita Bimson (Hospitality) Sam Neill (Exhibits) Charles Horvath (Finance) Newport Walker (Nominations) Appointments - Editor, Rose Neilson; Juniors, Midge Leahy; Historian, Harvey Markman

The re-election of most of the officers and trustees who served in 1957-58 caused the administration of the Society's affairs to continue in much the same vein during the 1958 -59 fiscal year. The Masonic Lodge at 34th and Albion proved to be a good location, but there were indications that even it would be outgrown in another year or two. Meeting attendances of

175 became common instead of exceptional, with exhibits and dealer space requiring more and more space.

Plans were made for the Society's first annual show to be held in the spring of 1959; however, due to lack of experience and preparation, the show was postponed until late summer. The Silent Auction in December cleared \$193.00. In pursuance of educational promotion, an attempt was made to stir up interest in classes to be held in various subjects. Many plans were made but only a few put into effect during the fiscal year. However, in order to present more informational material at meetings a 16mm sound movie projector and a slide projector were purchased and promptly put to use.

In conjunction with the "Rush to the Rockies" centennial, and the Denver Mining Club, a rotating exhibit was maintained at the Mining Exchange Building. The exhibit, consisting of four cases, displayed minerals loaned by our members. As a deviation from the customary annual dinner a "Rush to the Rockies" fun night was held in April, with hilarious results. Another wonderful season of field trips was arranged by Tom Addenbrooke. Harvey Markman did a wonderful job in writing up the early history, but since the late history had not yet been completed, publication was delayed.

Interest in the Society's first formal show was building up in the Spring and much work was done by members to prepare for it. There is a discrepancy in regard to the serial numbering of the "Annual" shows. The intention was to start annual shows. In 1936 or thereabouts the Colorado Mineral Society held a show called an Annual Show (it was not followed up the next year or subsequently, therefore, not a true annual show). The official notification in Gems and Minerals

lists the 1961 show as the second. All this makes writing up the history, a little confusing.

Our first annual show (the forerunner to our present Denver Gem and Mineral Fair) was held at Cheeseman Park, in conjunction with the annual Trading Post Picnic, under the chairmanship of Al Carollo, on September 13, 1959, in the pavilion. It was open to the public and rockhounds from the region were invited to visit it. Since the City would not permit commercial sales, dealers were not permitted. Although exhibits were restricted to members, an excellent turn-out of 68 entries were on display. Ribbon awards were given winners of competitive displays. The Society's forerunner to the Denver Gem and Mineral Fairs, although small, was considered a real success. Possibilities were immediately considered for a larger show the following year with expanded activities subject, however, to the succeeding administration's judgement.

Ralph C. Ellis

#### 1959 - 1960

OFFICERS: President, Richard Flagg; 1st Vice-President, Tom Addenbrooke; 2nd Vice-President, Sam Neill; Secretary-Treasurer, Helen Owens; Corresponding Secretary, Muriel Colburn.  
Trustees: Jean Hamilton (Membership) Fern Brown (Hospitality) Albert Carollo (Exhibits) Charles Horvath (Finance) Monroe Jacobs (Field Trips) Tod New (Nominations). Appointments, Editors, Rose Neilson and Dencie Denier; Juniors, Patsy Cushman

Regular meetings of the Colorado Mineral Society for the year 1959-60 were held as usual on the first Friday of every month from October through May. Although not fully adequate for a large and growing attendance, the Society again

-65-



met in the basement of the Masonic Hall at 3400 Albion Street in Denver.

In line with its basic purpose as an educational organization, regular Society meetings were devoted principally to the presentation of lectures, demonstrations and movies on subjects of general interest. The policy started in the immediately preceding years of exhibiting competitive and non-competitive displays at regular meetings was continued. Meeting attendance ranged from a low of about 150 to a high of nearly 200 individuals.

Social activities for the year began with the Annual Christmas Party, Silent Auction and Bazaar which was held on December 4, 1959. Proceeds from the Silent Auction and Bazaar amounted to \$266.40. Following this event was the Annual Fun Night held on April 9, 1960, in the basement of the Masonic Hall at 3400 Albion St. Last of the social functions for the year was the Annual Trading Post Picnic held at Sloan's Lake on October 9, 1960.

The Society continued to sponsor a small but active Junior group which met regularly during the winter and spring months in the homes of members. In addition to their regular meetings, the Juniors also took several field trips to nearby collecting localities.

Starting in January the Society sponsored a class in elementary geology which was taught by Charles O. Parker, local Denver assayer. This was held in the Lakeside Branch of the Industrial Federal Savings and consisted of ten two-hour weekly sessions. About 35 individuals attended these classes.

Field trips held during the year commenced in October with a visit to the Petrified Forest

near Florissant in conjunction with a stop at Hartsel for barite. Other one-day field trips held during the spring and summer months included visits to Table Mountain near Golden for zeolites, Kiowa for selenite, Stoneham for barite, Devil's Head for topaz, Calumet Mine near Salida, San Luis Valley, (Bonanza) for rhodochrosite, Dillon for quartz crystals and Bulah for marble. Three day field trips were held to Utah for agate, Shirley Basin, Wyoming for petrified wood and Gurnsey, Wyoming, for cutting material.

Significant actions taken by the Board during the year included a decision to purchase a property damage and liability insurance policy as protection against the possibility of legal judgements which might be rendered against the Society. Also, in view of the rather sizeable amount of funds which had accumulated in the treasury the Board decided to transfer \$500.00 of this money from the Society's non-interest bearing checking account into an interest bearing Federally insured savings account. As in previous years the subject of the possibility of the Society acquiring its own building came up for discussion. It was concluded, however, that larger financial assets than were presently available should be on hand before giving serious consideration to such a project.

Perhaps the outstanding event of the year was the Denver Gem and Mineral Fair held on August 13th and 14th at the Jefferson County Fair-grounds. This was the first annual Denver Gem and Mineral Fair sponsored by the Society. Public response to this event was unusually good with over 2000 persons attending during the two day run. Approximately 100 competitive and non-competitive gem, mineral, lapidary and jewelry displays of very high overall quality were exhibited. Ten dealers had booths at the show. Admissions and the rental of dealers space from

this show netted the Society in excess of \$530.00 in profits.

Society membership during the year 1959-60 amounted to about 450 adults and children. This figure was not significantly different from that of the immediately preceeding years, thus indicating the apparent tendency for the Society to be fairly well stabilized in regard to its total membership.

Richard Flagg

NOTICE - - -

The full twenty fifth year of our Society will not be completed until October 1961.

Members will automatically receive a record prepared by our President, Thomas Addenbrooke, with their Mineral Minutes, at a future date.

Non-members desiring this additional history are requested to fill out the following information and mail this page to -

Sam & Grace Neill  
1760 Valentia Street  
Denver 8, Colorado

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(NOTE) This page must be returned  
not later than October 31, 1961.