

Colorado
Mineral
Society

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

1936 - 2011

Volume 75 Issue 9

December 2011



Mineral Minutes

December 2011

President's Message

By Daryl Lamb

Hello everyone. A new year has begun for CMS, and it's shaping up to be a good one. We're planning some very interesting programs for the coming months as well as another great summer of field trips. All of this is possible because of our hard working volunteers. CMS is really fortunate to have so many talented and dedicated members who give freely of their time and talents. We always welcome help from our members. If you would like to become more involved in a particular club activity such as field trips, monthly programs, displays, the annual auction or any other activity, just let me or any of the other Board members know.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 6th at 7:30 PM, and will be held at our regular location, St. Paul's Episcopal Church at the corner of Garrison and 10th streets. We have an interesting and unique presentation planned. Our very own Dan Wray will be doing a presentation on "Impactites". Impactites are rocks created or modified by the impact of a meteorite. The term encompasses shock-metamorphosed target rocks, melts, and mixtures of the two, as well as sedimentary rocks with significant impact-derived components (shocked mineral grains, tektites, anomalous geochemical signatures, etc.).

This is a unique opportunity to hear about an unusual and interesting branch of mineralogy and petrology. Those of you that have a particular interest in meteorites and planetary geology will find Dan's presentation very informative. Dan will also have specimens of impactites on display. Please join us for our first meeting of 2012 and help us launch our club's 76th year!

Bob Aussprung, one of our Arizona members, wants to wish us all a very Happy New Year

New Members Second Listing

Jessica & Tony Blackburn
Connor, Emily, Gavin Blackburn
Katherine Brannan
Marlin & Tatiana Burke
Katie Hindman
Sabra & Richard Hoerter
Emma, Ethan Morrow
Don Pihoda
Tom & Rita Sullivan
Nicholas Warren

New Member First Listing

Jeremy L Banks	Donna Sigmond
Joseph & Jeanette Banks	Barton & Elizabeth Stone
Tandra Casserly	Valerie Suydan
Sam Smith Casserly	John Taylor
Robert Ciencin	Rafael & Moirelle Torres
Nadine Cole	Sueheil Sanches, Rafael
Serena Cole	Torres Torres
David Dubas	Mike & Mary Klass Viney
Don & Phyllis Dubas	Philip Virgil
David & Gail Gillard	Richard & Sandra Webb
Leatie, Becca Gillard	Bruce Yoshioka
Alana & Mark Greenberg	Aaron & Kestra Cross
Lisa Hill	Kaiden & Rylan Cross
Elijah, Frederick Hill	Philip & Wendy Gregory
Andrew Jackman	Gina King
Patrick Janes	Dave Pence
Tonnie Lipton	Aiden Pence
Christopher Marsh	
Wes McKinley	
Steve & Monica Mueller	
Daniel Nieto	
Joshua, Mia Nieto	
David & Catherine Grow Packard	
Douglas, Lindsay Packard	
Michael & Aimee Grimsleg Penev	
Eric Pruett	
Ry, Jet Pruett	
Scott & Alisa Rolfe	
Siena Rolfe	
Mark & Catrina Mianecki Rosen	
Joel Schatter	

These names were supposed to be in the October 2011 newsletter, but your editor forgot. My apologies to our new members!



Mineral Minutes

December 2011



CMS Holiday Party 2011

By John Kleber

Many helpers came early and pitched in to set up the hall for the holiday festivities. Soon our food table was laden with much good food and we eagerly awaited the feast. While we waited we had a chance to socialize and purchase tickets for the cake steal and the raffle and to try our hand at both the amateur and pro mineral challenges.

Father Christmas arrived with a bag heavy with gifts for the kids at the meeting. He passed out 17 Christmas gift bags with mineral specimens, crystals, and carved figurines. Gifts were provided by Ian and Susan Duncanson, Gary Rowe, Bruce Sales, Lori and Daryl Lamb and Bill Ramey. A special gift of a mammoth wooden puzzle was anonymously donated and given to 10 of our younger children. There was much to make the kids happy. Thanks to all the donors, the children were all happy faces.

Entertainment was provided by the large singing group from the Denver Waldorf School, directed by our very own Jeff McClendon. They were very impressive with an eclectic repertoire of holiday music. They even encouraged us to join in singing along in some songs. The audience was held in rapt attention throughout. What a wonderful group of singers! The girls received rock and mineral earrings designed and donated by Leslie Osgood, while the boys had the pick of rock decorated

money clips designed and donated by Joe Maez and Craig Hazelton.

We all proceeded to eat from the bounty set out by Jennifer and Mike Senary. Many thanks to our hospitality chairs for keeping us well fed and very happy! Needless to say, the food was excellent and the variety great.

After the feast, we had the cake steal. What great fun trying to decide on a favorite to pick from the cake table or "steal" from previous picks. Thanks to all who brought such great goodies for us to take home!

Bruce Sales ran the silent auction and the live auction. The live auction brought in \$106 for the club for nice specimens from the Judith Holmes collection, Bruce Sales and an anonymous donor.

The mineral challenges each had 20 specimens with three tie-breakers specimens. The amateur challenge was put together by Dick Tripp with winners Merlin Schreffler (first place), Dan Wray, and Trevor Smith. The pro challenge was put together by Sherman Marsh and won by Bruce Geller (first place), Gary Rowe and Jim Pool.

The evening wrapped up with the gift exchange and the raffle.

As with the setup, many helpers pitched in and the room was soon returned to its regular arrangement and cleaned up. Thanks to all those helpers. It is really great when many people pitch in and things like the cleanup do not just fall to a few. Many hands make short work of tasks and we all get to go home at a decent hour.

Happy holidays to all and a hope that 2012 brings you joy, prosperity and peace!



Mineral Minutes

December 2011

Colorado School of Mines (CSM) Geology Museum Musings

By Bruce Geller

Activity in our Geology Museum continues at a rapid pace. My fourth year at the helm of the Museum has seen great challenges and rewards. I'm proud to announce that we are now the second most visited university geology museum in the U.S. and the first with a lunar rock displayed. This took a lot of help from our Advisory Council, Student Aids, staff, Friends of the CSM Geology Museum (FCSMG), donors, volunteers, specimen loaners, visitors, visiting researchers, CSM faculty, staff, administrators, and students who support us in so many ways.

Here is the year in review. Our Advisory Council has met monthly. They ratified a Research Sampling Request Form, hosted a reception for the Empress of China rhodochrosite specimen last July, and oversaw improvements in our security and insurance. Continuing projects include improving our database and revising our collections protocols.

I have met monthly with our twelve Student Aids to streamline our operation. Seven Aids are currently geology majors, and five are women! I've written several graduate school recommendation letters this past year for those who have graduated from our program.

I held weekly meetings with our Collections managers and volunteers. These are the folks who maintain our collection, prepare new displays, and keep our Gift Shop well stocked. Our volunteer ranks have now risen to roughly 51. Our facebook fans number 478. Attendance in 2010 (the last year we have data for) was up 19% and Gift Shop revenues increased 10% in 2011, despite the national recession. These were possibly related to the reprinting and distributing of 10,000 museum brochures. We are grateful to have received grants from the Mining and Metallurgical Society of America, the Golden Civic Foundation, plus the Greater Denver Area Gem and Mineral Council.

Our "Friends of the CSM Geology Museum" now has over 84 members from around the world. The Friends ratified their by-laws, filed for non-profit status with the Colorado Secretary of State's Office, and were mentioned in a note in *Rocks and Minerals Magazine*. The Friends

ran a very popular field trip to Florissant to do some fossil viewing and collecting. In November, the Friends ran a field trip to the Questa molybdenum mine near Taos, NM. They are planning a trip to the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto next March. Friends members receive 20% discounts in our Gift Shop, and an e-mail newsletter. An application form can be found at: http://issuu.com/csmgeologymuseum/docs/friends_app.

Some other tasks that I was involved with since my last communication included serving on an undergraduate honors committee at CU, processing numerous donations and loans, identifying many specimens, co-sponsoring a Russian Minerals Symposium on campus that was attended by 54 participants in September, having our XRF unit repaired, returned, and re-certified; speaking to CU alumnae in Vail about CO mining history, and having one of our specimens featured on the cover of a new mineralogy textbook.

Our Annual Open House last September was an overwhelming success. Over 270 guests enjoyed our refreshments, music from the CSM string quartet, and our eleven new exhibits. We are innovatively using LED lighting and a digital photo frame for the first time. The eleven exhibits include: Ethiopian opals from the Tel Yohannes collection, Russian specimens from the Martin Zinn collection, Tsumeb specimens from the Eugene Wilson collection of Sandra Gonzales and Mark Danuser, Stalactites from the Henry and Patsy Schmidt collection, Micromounts from the Lazard Cahn, Dorothy Atlee, and Arnold Hampson collections; Silver specimens from the Cobalt, Ontario area from the Dr. Ed Metz collection, Mexican specimens from the Kerith Graeber collection, Colorado rare-earth minerals on loan from numerous private collections, and Julia Fisk Mine (Leadville) specimens from the Bill Hayward collection. Also, we have a new Apollo 15 Moon Rock on display, as well as meteorites believed to be from the asteroid Vesta.

Another new feature is a sealed bid auction. Our Collections Managers have selected 13 high-end specimens that we are offering for sale through April, 2012 in a sealed-bid auction that is displayed in our basement. We invite dealers, museum curators, and collectors of all kinds to bid on these fine specimens.

Continued on page 6



Mineral Minutes

December 2011

It's Time Again For Another Thrilling Chapter In The Continuing Saga Of A Tow Truck Driving Rock Hound

By Eric Hedricks

Greetings to everyone out there in newsletter land. Well the sun has reached its farthest point south on the ecliptic and started moving ever so slowly north towards the celestial equator again, or in terms everyone can understand, the winter solstice has passed, winter has arrived, and the days are slowly getting longer. Spring and warmer weather is only three months away. It can not get here soon enough for me. I'm already sick of snow, ice and freezing temperatures. How about that party at the last meeting? I was in kind of a daze because of the head injury I sustained the day before, but I had a great time, I hope everyone else did to. I am also hoping everyone had a happy and safe holiday season as well.

I learned earlier this month that it is not only the CMS membership who reads my monthly column. I have had at least five non members tell me that they pull up the newsletter on our web site to read my column so they can keep up with what I have been doing. All I can say about that is they must really be bored if they want to know what I have been up to. I really did not think anyone really cared what I was doing. I have been doing some lapidary work from time to time this last month. I cut three Topaz stones and a Smoky Quartz and set them to donate to the ranch for their fundraiser. They never returned our calls, so I was not able to deliver the goods to them, I guess they did not need to raise funds that bad. I have also been working with Marble and Black Granite tiles, cutting them down for an inlay piece for one of the fireplaces at the ranch. It is actually looking pretty good, I did not know I had it in me. Other than that it has been the same old grind at work. The snow storms the week before Christmas were a living hell. People were getting stuck faster than we could pull them out, and I saw absolutely no holiday cheer, peace on earth good will towards man. In fact I have never been called so many names in one week

in my life. And the tips were nonexistent, but there was plenty of overtime. In my four day workweek I put in about seventy-five hours. Yes, that's three twenty hour days and a fifteen. So that's about it, now you all know what I have been doing this month. Until next time stay safe and warm and keep on rocken!



Continued from page 5

Our geology trail was formally dedicated as the Robert Weimer Geology Trail at a special ceremony 10/1. Bob was instrumental in having Stop #2 of our Geology Trail designated as a National Natural Landmark by Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar. We now have several hundred Geology Trail Guidebooks, available for \$3 each, in our Museum Gift Shop.

As for coming attractions, we hope to have our fifth Museum Book Sale combined with our next Garage Sale February 20-24th, 2012. Prices will decrease throughout the week. We gladly accept your book, journal, and specimen donations. We also welcome your participation in our sealed bid auction through April 20, 2012. Our Annual Open House is scheduled for September 12, 2012 from 6 to 9 P.M.

In conclusion, I encourage your club to schedule a private visit at the CSM Museum. Simply pick three nights or weekends that your club would like to visit the Museum and have a club representative contact me at 303-273-3823. I'll try my best to accommodate your club at one of those times. You're also welcome to visit on your own during our normal hours: Monday – Saturday 9 A.M. to 4 P.M., Sundays 1 P.M. – 4 P.M., except for certain legal and school holidays. Admission to our Museum is free (donations are greatly appreciated), but parking fees are required in our lots and on campus streets Mondays through Fridays before 5 P.M. Further information is available on our website, or by phone.



Mineral Minutes

December 2011

Pete Modreski News:

If you are able to consider volunteering to be a judge at one or more middle school science fairs, there are 4 such fairs coming up in January. If you can help, please contact: Jill, Jill_Peterson@dpsk12.org or Debbie Debbie_Turner@dpsk12.org at Community Resources, Inc. Some of you receiving this email may already be signed up to help at these events! Thank you, all,

Pete

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John and I had some free time the Wednesday after Christmas, so we went to Golden and had lunch at the Old Capitol Grill. They make BIG sandwiches, so we split one. After lunch, we drove around Golden near the School of Mines as John likes to reminisce about his early days reading meters near where we were. We drove to the Geology Museum and found a spot right in front. We thought since we were here, we might as well wander in and see the museum. The first thing that hit me when I walked in, was a beautiful large emerald specimen in a case by itself. Then we asked the people at the desk if Bruce Geller was there and they said "No, he had the week off".

I had to check to see if the beautiful Rhodochrosite necklace was still there, and yes it was. I am not really a big fan of wearing necklaces, but I think I could manage to wear that beauty. It always amazes me the amount of stunning mineral pieces on display. John wanted to go downstairs because there is the meteor display with a meteor from his hometown of Estherville, Iowa. He was a little taken aback when he saw how small it was. Estherville had a larger piece in their library, at least it looked bigger to someone 15 years old, 60 years ago. I loved the mineral color displays downstairs too. It is a great place to spend some time, and I am glad we had a little time to do just that.

December Raffle News

What a fun night the holiday party turned out to be. Part of the fun was the raffle with great specimens to vie for. It is your continued support of this endeavor that makes the event and the winning of the prize that allows the proceeds to be spent on CMS education, the purchase of library reading material, and the state science fair awards. The chalcopyrite, quartz from the Ground Hog Mine, NM. (\$29) donated from the **Judith Holmes collection** was won by *Dale Block*. That lucky *Bruce Sales* won the Brazil agate slab (\$28) that was donated by **Dick Owens**. The witherite from the Cave-in-Rock, IL (\$18) donated from the **Carolyn Johnson collection** was won by *Sandra Gonzales*. **Joe Maez and Bob Jordan** donated the Turtilla agate (\$14) and was won by Marlin Burke. There was a tie in popularity (\$11) for the Phencites on feldspar specimen donated from the **Marge Regel collection**, won by Viola Padilla and the siderite specimen donated from the **Judith Holmes collection**, won by the lucky Dale Block. The retail value of the evenings donations were \$206 bringing a total of \$111 into the raffle account. **Thank you to those who donated the great specimens, it is fun to see the happy smiles when their number is called to be a winner!!!**

Thanks go to John Kleber, and Dee Horak for helping with the raffle.
Congratulations to all our lucky winners.

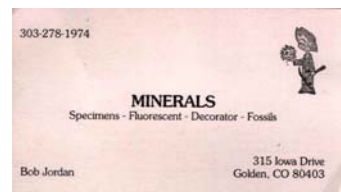
Submitted by Eva
CMS Raffle Manager.

Judith Holmes

Dick Owens

Marge Regel

Carolyn Johnson



Joe Maez



Mineral Minutes

December 2011

Colorado Mineral Society Board Meeting

December 20, 2011

Attendance: Daryl Lamb, Bruce Sales, Sandra Gonzales, Leslie Osgood, Cara Reynolds, Eva, Gary Rowe

Meeting called order by Daryl Lamb

Daryl Lamb congratulated Eva, Leslie, Susan and Ian Duncanson, and everyone who helped set up chairs and tables, prepare the food, and clean up for the Christmas Party. The party was well attended and everyone enjoyed all the festivities. Special thanks to "Father Christmas" and the carolers who filled the church with beautiful music. Daryl made a motion to cancel the silent auction during the Christmas parties in the future because of very little participation which is probably due to all the events at the party. Bruce seconded the motion, and all board members voted to not have the silent auction during the next Christmas party.

Old Business:

Daryl secured reservation for Clements Community Center for the April CMS meeting. Eva will be mailing Clement Center the money for use of their facility.

It was brought up by the board the need to check into possibly moving CMS club meeting to another location due to the membership continues to grow and the need for more space. Gary and Daryl have been scouting out potential facilities that can accommodate our members.

It has been brought to the attention of the board that the CMS brochures need to be redesigned and brought up to date. A committee will be formed to help with the design and presented to the board at a later date.

Leslie and Cara will be talking to Julio to see if it is possible to put back issues of the newsletter on the website

There have been a few complaints that have been directed towards the CMS membership process. Cara has worked diligently with Eva to help resolve

some of these issues. Eva asked if there was a process in place to address how we contact members to let them know that they have passed the age level and now are considered an adult. To be discussed further.

New Business:

Eva filed a corporate annual report, re-filed for Trade Name, Colorado Mineral Society, and filed for the new raffle license – Eva received her certification and will be the raffle manager for the next 4 years.

Reconciliation from 75th anniversary banquet will be done by Sandra Gonzales and turned into Eva.

Cara suggested that we consider taking electronic payments on line for memberships. Topic will be discussed again at a later date.

Cara will purchase an external drive for membership for a back-up system. Board approved \$75 to purchase external drive.

Cara Reynolds reported Membership List by Status and Type.

2011 – Single (53)
Family (82)
Junior (3)
Senior – Single (17)
Senior – Family (13)
2012 – Single (11)
Family (12)
Senior – Single (6)
Senior – Family (2)
Life Member (29)
Total Members (228)

Show Brochures – Recruit volunteers to redo CMS brochures

Board Meeting notes continued on page 9



Mineral Minutes

December 2011

Board Meeting notes continued from page 8

Sherman Marsh, CMS Auditor, attended the board meeting to report on CMS audit for 2009-2010. Sherman reported that the CMS financials are in order and did not find any discrepancies. Sherman complimented Eva for being meticulous, and keeping the records in good order.

Recommendations –

Pay Lakewood City taxes yearly instead of quarterly

The Board appreciates Eva and Sherman for taking care and auditing CMS Books

CMS has changed the Lakewood taxes to yearly

The board has asked the 75th anniversary committee to review time line on events for 2012.

A motion was made to have an ongoing agenda to discuss the need to have a contingency plan for the future of CMS. Eva seconded the motion and the board members all agree to work toward a strategic plan for CMS

Sandra presented a report on all costs associated with purchasing a 75th anniversary patch, a 75th anniversary rocky pin, and a regular Rocky pin. All costs were approved by the board, and Sandra will place the order.

Daryl made a motion to approve the order, and Eva seconded the motion, and all board members approved the purchase

75th anniversary patch – 200 will be ordered

75th anniversary rocky pin – 300 will be ordered

Rocky pin – 300 will be ordered

The board approved that all current members will receive a 75th anniversary rocky pin free of charge. CMS want to thank all members for their dedication to making CMS one of the best clubs in Colorado.

The patch and the rocky pin will be sold for cost only

The patches and pins will take approximately 6 weeks for delivery

Newsletter – Turn in on 27th of December to Leslie

Eva purchased mail stamps for \$437.50 for 1,000 stamps – Eva suggested that we purchase more Forever stamps before the price goes up. The Board approved to buy 1,000 more stamps.

Gary reported on the Council Meeting-

The Council members want to honor past volunteers from each club by giving them a life time pass to the Denver Show. The Council has asked that each club nominate a few members to receive this honor.

The CMS board has nominated Paul & Martha Ralston and Ray & Dorothy Horton.

Meeting Adjourned

Personal thanks to everyone & Happy Holidays

Sent to Julio via e-mail. He placed a link of their's on our club website. I could only print part of the letter.

Hi there!

I just wanted to drop you a quick note to let you know that your page <http://www.coloradomineralsociety.org/links.html> has great info on it! The kids in my science class completely agree! Two girls in my class found your page while researching for their group project. They wanted to share another page that they really loved: <http://krilloil.com/oil-not-exactly-dead-dinosaurs.html> It's a really fantastic article on how fossil fuels were created (and not from dinosaurs)!

Sincerely, Audrey Plasse



Mineral Minutes

December 2011

Up Coming Events:

January 6, 2012 Regular meeting at St. Paul's church, 10th and Garrison, 7:30 PM

February 2, 2012 Regular meeting at St. Paul's church, 10th and Garrison, 7:30 PM

February 9-12, 2012 58th Annual Tucson Gem and Mineral Show, Tucson, Arizona

Various other shows associated with the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show . See <http://www.tgms.org/> for more information

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



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

First Class Mail

