



Colorado Mineral Society

Mineral Minutes



Volume 78, Issue 1

January 2014

HAPPY NEW YEAR

January Speaker Topic

Tourmaline

Speaker: Dr. Peter J. Modreski, U.S. Geological Survey, Denver, Colorado

Tourmaline is treasured for its beautifully crystallized mineral specimens, as well as some of the world's most colorful gemstones. Tourmaline is actually a group of minerals, trigonal boro-silicates which have a ring structure, giving rise to their typically curved, triangular cross section. All have a hardness of about 7. Because its crystal structure does not have a center of symmetry, tourmaline is both piezoelectric and pyroelectric—an electrical charge develops at opposite ends of a crystal when pressure or heat are applied. The name is derived from the Sinhalese “tourmali” or “thuramali”, originally applied to multiple types of colored gemstones found in Sri Lanka (Ceylon). Its chemical formula is complex, and can be written in various ways; John Ruskin wrote of tourmaline in 1890, “the chemistry of it is more like a medieval doctor's prescription than the making of a respectable mineral”. But it is indeed a respectable group of minerals, now subdivided into 32 distinct mineral species. Research on the mineralogy of tourmaline is advancing rapidly; as recently as 2008, only 14 different species were recognized.

Continued on Page 8

President's Message

By Bruce G. Sales

Season's Greetings! I hope that everyone has had a very merry holiday season. We have passed the Winter Solstice and the days are getting longer, it may not seem like it, but soon we will be out collecting again.

I want to thank everyone that braved the cold weather on December 6th to attend the Christmas Party, I especially want to thank all of the members who helped set up and tear down the hall, so that we could seat everyone, have room for the display cases, and have room for the singers from Golden High School.

At the upcoming January 3rd meeting, Pete Modreski will be doing a presentation on tourmaline. In addition, Paul and Cindy Hatfield will be presenting minerals from their many years of collecting; in fact, they have so many minerals to show us that they will be presenting the second half of their collection at the February 7th meeting. At the March 7th meeting, Leslie Osgood is bringing her collection of carved mineral animals and everyone who has carved mineral animals is encouraged to bring them and fill the second display case. At the April 4th meeting, we will have “Something from Paul's case and Something from Bruce's case (not from his Jeep), most of which is from Colorado”.

Once again I must ask for the members to step forward and volunteer; this society operates totally on volunteer participation. We have a few vacant positions to fill. We need someone to become a backup greeter at the meetings, which involves handing out door prize tickets and temporary name tags to people. Gary Rowe is still looking for a field trip co-chair to help plan field trips. We also have vacancies for a Grab Bag Chairperson for the Denver Show and a Hospitality Coordinator, which involves providing of refreshments and setting up before and cleaning up after the meetings. Until we have someone willing to become the Hospitality Coordinator, the CMS Board will only provide coffee, tea, and lemonade at the meetings, but members are welcome to bring refreshments to share with the group if they wish. If you are interested in filling one of these positions, please contact one of the board members at the monthly meeting.

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COLORADO MINERAL SOCIETY OFFICERS 2014

President: Bruce G. Sales
First VP-Programs: Gary Rowe
Second VP-Education: Debbie Kalscheur
Secretary: Sandra Gonzales
Treasurer: Eva Siemonsma

Appointed Board Members - Committee Chairpersons

Annual Auction: Richard Nelson Family
Door Prizes-Guests: Jessica Blackburn and Donna Roberts
Backup Door Prizes-Guests: **OPEN**
Library: Kevin Atwater
Exhibits: **OPEN**
Membership: Cara Reynolds
Field Trip Leader: Gary Rowe
Field Trip Leader Co-Chair: **OPEN**
Nominations: Daryl Lamb
Grab Bags: **OPEN**
Editor: Amber Brenzikofer
Historian: Amber Brenzikofer
Youth Activities: Lewis Reynolds
Hospitality: **OPEN**
Donations: Debbie Kalscheur
Web Master: Julio Edwards
coloradomineralsociety@comcast.net



Representatives (Board Members)

Denver Council Rep: Daryl Lamb
Denver Show Rep: Bill Jones

COLORADO MINERAL SOCIETY (CMS) was founded in 1936 by a group of distinguished individuals within the mineralogical field. The organization was incorporated as a non-profit, educational organization in 1948. The Society is affiliated with the Colorado Federation of Gem and Mineral Societies, Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies, and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, a founding member of each group.

PURPOSE: 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 of the organization.

MEETINGS: General membership meetings start at 7:30 PM on the first Friday of each month, October through May, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, at 10th and Garrison in Lakewood, CO. Displays are set up by members about one-half hour before meetings. Specimens may be available for sale and trade. **VISITORS** and **GUESTS** are welcome.

BOARD MEETINGS: The board members meet once a month to complete the executive business and affairs of the Society. Meetings will start at 7:00 PM usually the third Tuesday of each month. Additional meeting times, if necessary, may be called by the President or any three members of the board and will be announced at the general or board meetings.

MEMBERSHIP: Open to all persons who agree to abide by Society rules and rules of the Federations. Annual fees: \$16.00 for a Family or Newsletter Membership, \$14.00 for a Single Membership, \$12.00 for a Senior Membership (single or family over 65), and \$12.00 for junior members under the age of 18 who are not included in a family. Name badges are

available for a one-time fee of \$5.00.

ANNUAL EVENTS: Yearly activities include a silent auction of minerals, fossils, gems, jewelry, equipment and other items related to our interests; participation in the Colorado Contin-tail, the largest mineral swap show in Colorado; participation as a member of the Greater Denver Area Gem and Mineral Council in sponsoring the largest gem and mineral show in Colorado; and the Founder's Day dinner.

FIELD TRIPS: The Society sponsors several field trips from Spring through Fall for the purpose of collecting minerals, crystals, and fossils. These trips are one-day, two-day, and occasionally several-day adventures. A field trip guide is published each year in May.

NEWSLETTER GUIDELINES: CMS has a proud history of promoting the education and pure enjoyment of the mineralogical world. At the very heart of its existence are the many volunteers and contributors who spend their time and efforts in direct support of the club's mission. The CMS official newsletter **MINERAL MINUTES** is published monthly during the active meeting season (October through May) and a summer edition, and is the primary way the club's activities and mission are communicated to its members and prospective members. On that basis, the Board of Directors would like to offer the following content guidelines for CMS newsletter contributions:

- Formal announcements concerning club business and/or membership
- Information around mineral-related education opportunities or fundraising activities
- Stories or history that concentrate on the edifying aspects of mineral collection and education
- Sharing of personal mineral-related experience from field trips or other related adventures serving an educational purpose
- Announcements of volunteer/leadership opportunities for the club or club representation
- Worthy news events or discoveries related to mineralogy or geology that align to club's core interests
- Appropriate announcements regarding mineral shows, one-time mineral related events, mineral auctions, sale of private collections and/or equipment, etc.
- Information around relevant donations and/or gifts made available to the club or club members

Please note that the editor may correct spelling, syntax, or content to conserve space and is also entitled to bring contributions in compliance with newsletter guidelines

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Deadline for publication is the 24th of the month prior to publication. Correspondence to Mineral Minutes should be sent to Editor, P.O. Box 280755, Lakewood, Colorado 80228-0755 or by email to:

editor.coloradomineralsociety@gmail.com.

Christmas Holiday Party Recap



From the desk of Eva Siemonsma.....

I'm hoping all had a great Christmas and are enjoying a happy and healthy New Year.

The Christmas party began at 6:30pm, one hour earlier than our regular meeting time. The evening was a blur of activities. Starting with a quick election of 2014 officers and then it became a maze of fun and frolic. The food was wonderful thanks to everyone in attendance; some of us got to go back for seconds (oops, that was me). Thanks to **Brenda Wray** and **Viola Padilla** for taking on the hospitality role for the evening. Santa (thanks **K.P.**) arrived and the kids were drawn to the front for their gift bags. Thank you Santa bag helpers for your donations. The 24th Street Singers from Golden High School, directed by Angela Becker sang those great Christmas songs and played the bells, very enjoyable. The singers received rock Christmas ornaments - anonymously donated. The cake ticket holders enjoyed stealing cakes from each other - seven lucky winners and a lot of laughter generated \$36.00 for the general fund. Thanks **Leslie Osgood** for helping with the cake walk. The mineral challenges were completed: thanks go to **Sherman Marsh** for the Amateur challenge - the winners were 1st place Dan Wray, 2nd place Marcus Lieberman, and 3rd place Eva Siemonsma; thanks go to **Gary Rowe** and **Sandra Gonzales** for putting the Expert challenge together - the winner's were 1st place Lesley Sebol, 2nd place Kevin Atwater, 3rd place James Pool. Each winner received a prize from the Judith Holmes collection. The impromptu verbal auction raised \$130 for the general fund, thanks **Dan Wray** for being the Auctioneer. The happy winning bids included: Bill Harrison, Mark Danuser, Steven Whitcomb, and Lesley Sebol. The raffle ended the evening bringing \$135 for the Science Fair Awards and library fund. Thanks **Amber Brenzikofer** for helping with the raffle.

Thanks to all who helped setup and cleanup the hall, especially **Susan and Ian Duncanson**, it was a great success because there were many hands making a big job seem small. Thanks too for bringing those yummy cakes, cookies, and brownies for the cake steal. It appeared on December 6th that all who participated were wearing smiles and visiting throughout the evening - enjoying the party. We have a great club with great members! I'm glad I am a part of it. Happy New Year!!!



24th Street Singers - Golden High School



Santa and the Kids

*Photos provided by
Amber Brenzikofer
and Leslie Osgood*



Good Food!



Amateur Mineral Challenge

Colorado Mineral Society's Junior Rockhounds Program

By Lewis Reynolds, Coordinator

January Topic: Rocking on the Computer

Overview: The Gutenberg movable-type printing press invented about 1439 revolutionized mass communication and made an unequalled impact on cultural development in the second millennium. Today we are witnessing similar and profound improvements in communication and learning supported by computers! It should be no surprise that computer technology can enhance our abilities and enjoyment in the earth sciences. Tonight we will discuss how we can use computers safely to learn about rocks and minerals, to help us maintain our collections, and to prepare for field trips.

Parents are invited to attend the Junior Rockhounds Program with their children. We need at least one other parent, guardian, or member to help supervise each meeting, so a sign-up sheet will be used to help organize the remaining meetings on the 2013-2014 CMS calendar. Although the youth do not need any supplies for this meeting, a pencil or pen and a notebook may be helpful for taking notes.

This topic motivates the *Rocking on the Computer* badge in the AFMS Future Rockhounds of America program. More information about these *optional* activities outside of our meetings can be found below. Lewis will be available after the Junior Rockhounds meeting to explain the badge requirements and to answer any questions you may have about this program. Also review our goals in the Junior Rockhounds Program in the CMS Newsletter for August 2013, which can be found on pages 7-8 at:

<http://www.coloradomineralsociety.org/newsletters/August2013.pdf>



AFMS Future Rockhounds of America Badge Requirements (Optional):

http://www.amfed.org/fra/AFMS_FRA_Badge_Manual_Revised_2012.pdf

The *Rocking on the Computer* badge is discussed on pages 168-176 of the manual.

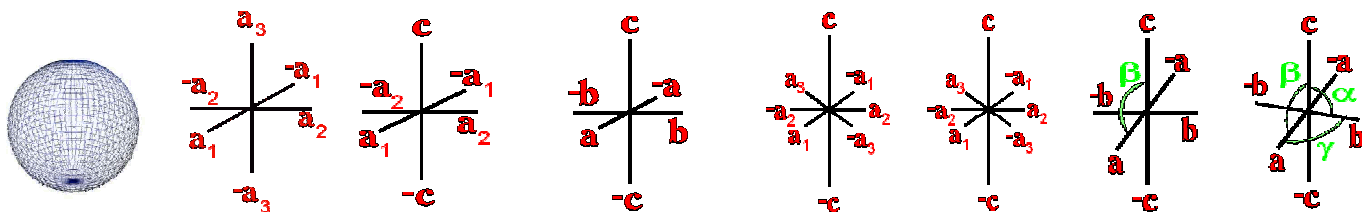
Parents or guardians: please print the sign-off sheet on page 169 and check-off, sign, and date each accomplishment as it is completed. Submit the completed form to Lewis Reynolds to process the badge award.

Looking ahead to February... The badge topic "Reaching across Generations" asks each junior participant to spend some time with a senior member. We have two needs for this badge. (1) At this February meeting when the topic is introduced, we would like a senior member to visit the Junior Rockhounds to discuss her or his rock/mineral/lapidary/fossil passions. (2) For completion of the badge, we need senior members willing to spend about half a day with a junior rockhound (and her or his parents or guardians): perhaps talking about rocks and minerals, perhaps helping to identify fossils, or perhaps going on a club field trip together. Feeling old? These are chances to be reinvigorated by youth! Please let Lewis Reynolds know of your interests in helping with either of these fun service opportunities!

Crystallography 101

All minerals fall within one of the crystal systems depicted below. This month, we will examine some of the properties of the Orthorhombic System.

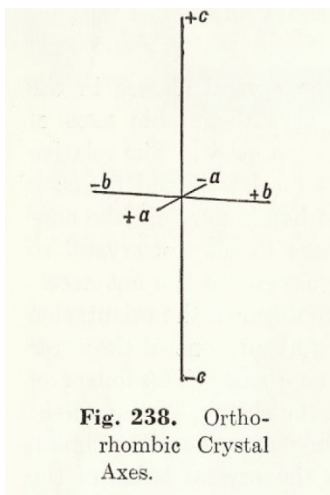
[Amorphous](#) [Isometric](#) [Tetragonal](#) [Orthorhombic](#) [Hexagonal](#) [Trigonal](#) [Monoclinic](#) [Triclinic](#)



(1)

THE ORTHORHOMBIC SYSTEM

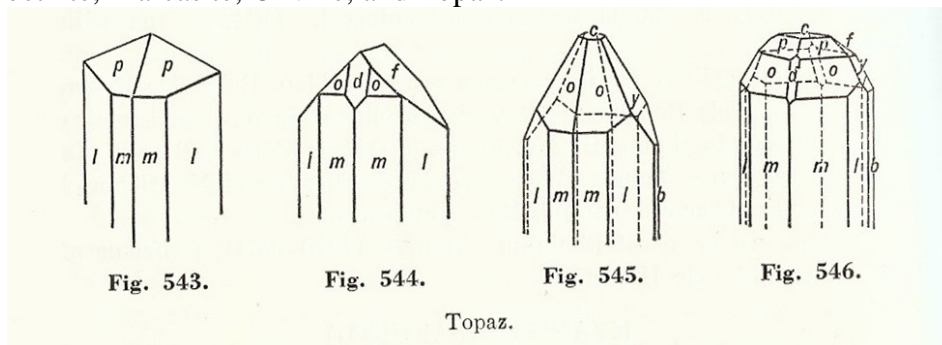
The crystals of all of the classes of the Orthorhombic System are referenced by three axes of unequal length that are at right angles to each other. The relative lengths of the axes, or the axial ratios, must be determined for each orthorhombic mineral. The convention adopted by crystallographers is that when properly oriented, the c axis has greater length than the a , axis which has greater length than the b axis, all three axes having positive and negative designations respective of the aforementioned orientations.



(1)

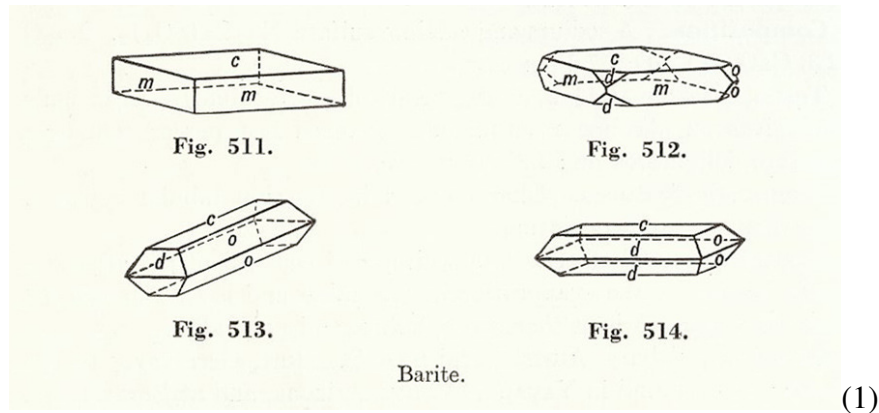
Crystals of the Orthorhombic System possess various elements of symmetry, dependent on the mineral's class.

The minerals of the Rhombic-Dipyramidal Class have a center of rotation, the three crystallographic axes are axes of two-fold symmetry, and perpendicular to each of the crystallographic axes is a plane of symmetry. Minerals in this class of the Orthorhombic System that can be found in Colorado included: Aragonite, Barite, Cerussite, Goethite, Marcasite, Olivine, and Topaz.



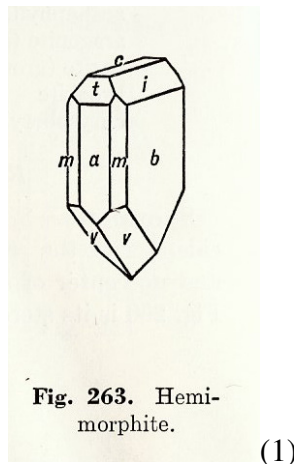
(1)

Crystallography 101 (continued)



The minerals of the Rhombic-Disphenoidal Class have three axes of two fold symmetry that are coincidental with the crystallographic axes, there are no planes of symmetry and there is no center of symmetry. Minerals in this class are very rare and are probably not found in Colorado.

The minerals of the Rhombic-Pyramidal Class have an axis of two fold symmetry that is coincidental with the *c* axis, there are two planes of symmetry that are oriented at right angles to each other and intersect in the two fold axis of symmetry. Due to the lack of a horizontal symmetry plane, the forms at the top of the crystal are different than those at the bottom of the crystal. The most common mineral found in Colorado that belongs in this class of minerals is Hemimorphite. (2)



Sources:

(1) Illustrations borrowed from: Dana's Manual of Mineralogy, Seventeenth Edition, Revised by Cornelius S. Hurlbut, Jr., January, 1965

(2) Paraphrased and condensed from: Dana's Manual of Mineralogy, Seventeenth Edition, Revised by Cornelius S. Hurlbut, Jr., January, 1965

Online Resources:

<http://webmineral.com>

<http://www.mindat.org>

<http://www.minsocam.org>

Harding Pegmatite Mine and Desert Rose Claim, New Mexico Trip Report

By Sherman Marsh, Gary Rowe, and Amber Brenzikofer

On Thursday, November 7, 2013, the Friends of the Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum (FCSMGM) went on a jointly sponsored Field trip with the Colorado Mineral Society (CMS) to the Harding Pegmatite Mine. This was in conjunction with the 34th Annual New Mexico Mineral Symposium held in Socorro, New Mexico on November 9-10, 2013. The trip was organized by Gary Rowe (CMS) and Sherman Marsh (FCSMGM). Prior arrangements must be made to visit the Harding mine with the University of New Mexico (UNM), which was deeded the mine by Dr. Arthur Montgomery, a famous mineralogist who did his Ph.D. on the geology of northern New Mexico.

A group of about 15 people met in Taos on Wednesday evening and the following morning we all met at the gate to the mine. By prior arrangement, we were met by Gilbert Griego the present caretaker of the mine. Gilbert is a second generation miner and knows the mine history and geology in detail as his father operated the mine in the early 1940s and 1950s. We were given a detailed tour of the mine stopping at many locations to collect samples of lepidolite, rose mica, spodumene, and beryl. Several people found samples of microlite, a rare tantalum bearing mineral that is radioactive because of uranium impurities. To preserve the locality for future visitors, the University allows collection of about 5 pounds of specimen material per person. Mr. Griego spent the whole day with us showing us the entire mine, helping to identify the many minerals found, and telling stories of the early mining days.

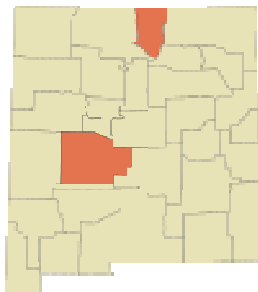
Members were free to leave at any time in order to make their way down to Socorro for the symposium. On Friday before the Symposium, the group split up with some headed to Bingham, New Mexico to visit the Desert Rose claim in the Hansonberg District. The mine is operated by Allison Nilsen, who also owns the Blanchard Rock Shop in Bingham. Unfortunately, the finds there limited to quartz, barite, galena, sphalerite, and mostly colorless fluorite; although some “Bingham blue” and purple fluorite with its characteristic sensitivity to sunlight was discovered at the end of the day. Others in the group headed up to Magdalena to try their luck at the Kelly and Graphic mines. These trips gave a nice introduction to those of us who hadn’t been collecting in New Mexico before and a remembrance of collecting trips years ago for some of our older participants. However, based on a great experience had on this trip, we anticipate CMS will do another trip to New Mexico next year.



Some of the Harding Mine field trip members. UNM caretaker, Gilbert Griego (on the far right).



Gilbert Griego giving the historical background of the Harding Mine to the group.



Climbing to Iceland spar (optical-grade calcite) location at Harding Mine.

Harding Pegmatite Mine and Desert Rose Claim, New Mexico Trip Report

(Continued)



Looking at rare earth minerals at the Harding Mine.



Desert Rose claim.

*Photos provided by Amber
Brenzikofer*



Dan Wray working hard to crack open a large rock at the Desert Rose claim.

Tourmaline (continued from Page 1)

In simplest terms, three of the mineral species account for most tourmaline specimens: **schorl** (black, iron-rich tourmaline); **dravite** (brown, magnesium-rich tourmaline, found mostly in metamorphic rocks); and **elbaite**, the colored, lithium-bearing tourmaline that represents most of the gem occurrences, and forms in granitic pegmatites.

Worldwide, Brazil is the most prolific source of gem and specimen tourmaline; but much fine tourmaline also comes from Madagascar, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Namibia, Nigeria, Mozambique, Russia, and in fact, tourmaline is found on every continent. The species name, elbaite, comes from the island of Elba, Italy, a classic pegmatite area. Large crystals of complexly zoned, multicolored tourmaline from Madagascar resemble elbaite visually, but instead are a related species, liddicoatite (which more recently has been clarified to be the species fluor-liddicoatite; indeed, the chemistry of the tourmaline group remains *very* complicated!)

Many varietal names have been applied to gem tourmalines, including rubellite (pink or red), verdelite (green), indicolite (blue), and achroite (colorless).

Within the U.S., gem tourmaline (elbaite) is most abundant in the Pala and adjacent pegmatite districts of San Diego County, California, and from Oxford and Androscoggin Counties, Maine; it is the state gemstone of Maine. California is best known for pink tourmaline; some crystals, especially prized, have blue-cap terminations. Maine is more noted for green tourmaline, including spectacular “watermelon tourmaline” with red centers with green rims. Colorado is not the most outstanding state for tourmaline; most of its occurrences are of black schorl, though sometimes in good, lustrous crystals. A few Colorado pegmatite localities are lithium-bearing and contain small amounts of dark green to pink elbaite, though not of gem quality, associated with lepidolite; the most notable of these is the Brown Derby pegmatite, Gunnison County, with pale pink to green to yellowish tourmaline, partly altered to waxy-appearing clay minerals.

Denver Gem & Mineral Show Mini Report

January 2014

Planning for the Denver Gem & Mineral Show goes on all year long. The 2014 Denver Show will take place September 12-14. The theme is Agate, a theme that some have zealously desired for some time. So now is your big chance to bring out all that beautiful agate. Agate occurs in so many different colors, patterns, and types with a myriad of names to describe it. Put the Denver Show on your schedule for next September. If you are an agate collector, study your collection. Maybe you will want to put together an exhibit or help your club put together an exhibit. There will be no species competition of agates, but there will be competition as lapidary items of agate.

As everyone knows, the show is sponsored by the Greater Denver Area Gem & Mineral Council, which consists of the one paleontology and seven gem & mineral clubs in the area. The Show Committee is composed of volunteer members from these clubs and is the group which plans and operates the show. The committee is about 50 members strong, but as with any volunteer group there is constant change in the membership. The committee continually needs to bring on new members to learn about the show and assume responsibilities of some of the persons who drop off for various reasons, including age. Many of us "old timers" are no longer "spring chickens".

The show is the premier event for rock, mineral, gem and fossil hobbyists in the Denver area. To keep the show such a wonderful event, your help is needed. So when you are asked to volunteer for the show, please say "yes, I would be glad to". Right now a person is needed to be in charge of Take Down of the show on Sunday evening, and someone to be in charge of Set Up on Wednesday. All of the jobs have operation procedures to explain the responsibilities. Others on the committee will help you to get started in working for the show. Any club member is always welcome to attend a committee meeting to find out what it is all about. A new member may be "At Large" for awhile before deciding on an area of responsibility to assume or assist with. Committee meetings are the first Tuesday of each month, except February, July, and December. The meetings commence at 7:30 p.m. at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science. Talk to another member of your club who is already on the committee and come with them to a meeting. We will be glad to see you there.

Respectfully submitted, Judy Knoshaug, Show Secretary

NOTICE - AVAILABLE USGS MAPS

I am writing on behalf of the Denver Museum of Nature and Science (DMNS) to see if you or any of your members might be interested in a donation of USGS topographic maps. Over the decades our Museum has acquired a large collection of topographic maps and map cabinets, but with the imminent move to our new collections facility, we are seeking to downsize our collections. We will begin downsizing these collections in January 2014.

Our maps are catalogued and inventoried. The maps span the 50 U.S. states, and include 7.5' (1:24,000), 15' (1:62,500), 30' (1:125,000), 30'x60' (1:100,000) and 1°x2° (1:250,000) maps. We also have a limited number of national park, Canadian and Antarctica maps. Many of the 15' and 30' maps are antiques in of themselves, dating back to pre-1920. We have detailed listings of U.S. maps (by map name, latitude/longitude and publication years).

If you or one of your colleagues is interested in these maps, please let me know which states you may have interest in and an index can be provided. The Museum will prioritize giving maps to its own personnel, then to other libraries and museums and then to civic organizations or their members.

Thank you for your consideration.

Dan Winester
Department of Earth Sciences
Denver Museum of Nature and Science
dwinester@dmns.org



New CMS Members

First Listing

- Miriam Clark and Dave O'Boyle
- Tim Jackson
- Pete and Stacey Leach Family
- Bergen Leach
- Susan Lupinski
- Heath and Satsuko Schmidt Family
- Michael Heckman

Second Listing

- David Bier
- Mark Jacobson and Ruth Yeager
- Randall and Laura Kokkinen Family
- Donald Niemczyk

Per CMS Bylaws, comments concerning new, first listing members should be formally submitted to the President.

CMS Membership Reminders

A friendly reminder that your annual membership dues are due for 2014. Your current membership ended December 31, 2013. We are preparing a new membership application that should be ready soon and put on the CMS website. The new updated form will ask additional questions on your interests, allow for multiple email contacts if more than one person in a household would like the newsletter or notices, and include a list of volunteer opportunities. Current and renewing members may wish to fill out the new form to provide this additional information.

You can pay your dues in two ways:

1. Pay with cash or check at the general meetings the first Friday of each month. Look for the Membership Chairperson to obtain a receipt and membership card.
2. Send a check made out to "Colorado Mineral Society" or "CMS" to P.O. Box 280755, Lakewood, Colorado 80228-0755. Please do not send cash through the mail. Pick up your membership card at the next general meeting. Cards not picked up will be mailed to you.



CMS Membership Fees:

- Family: \$16 per year
- Single: \$14 per year
- Senior 65+ (single or family): \$12 per year
- Junior (<12 years old): \$12 per year

Also, due to RMFMS insurance and liability purposes, we need to know the month and year of your children's birthdays, so please provide this information when you renew your membership. The children's information will not be published.

Remember you can receive color electronic and/or black and white hardcopies of Mineral Minutes. However, CMS is trying to be "green" and cut back on paper copies, so please indicate if it is OK to send you an electronic copy only of the newsletter. Also, make sure to give us your updated email address and street address so you can continue to get the newsletter and other important CMS updates.

December 6th Raffle News

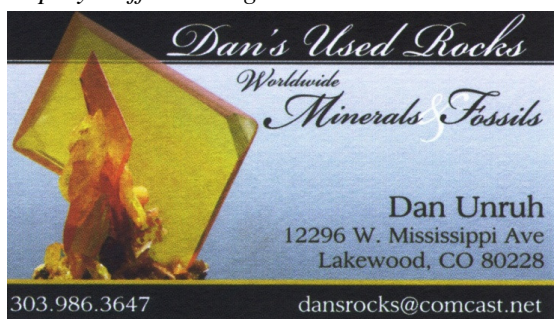
The raffle was again filled with some great specimens and your continued support of this endeavor allows the proceeds to be spent on CMS education, the purchase of library materials, and the state science fair awards. The retail value of the evenings donations were \$239, bringing a total of \$135 into the raffle account. The nice Spessartine Garnet/Smokey Quartz specimen (\$15) donated by **Dan's Used Rocks** was won by Bob Heckman. The Pyrite, Quartz, and Calcite specimen (\$25) donated by **Judith Holmes** was won by Cindy Hatfield. Steve Major won the large Almondine Garnet specimen (\$50), Shari Delros won the Aragonite specimen (\$65), and Aaron Cross won the Tennantite on Quartz specimen (\$60) - all from anonymous donations. Finally, Jerry Davidson won a nice pyrite specimen (\$24) donated by **Sandra Gonzales**. Thank you to my great helper Dameon.

Thank you to those who donated these great specimens, it is fun to see the happy smiles when their number is called to be a winner!!!

Congratulations to all our lucky winners!

*Submitted by Amber Brenzikofer
CMS Deputy Raffle Manager*

Judith Holmes



You Might Be a Rockhound If.....

- You describe your vacations by the rocks you brought home.
- The rockpile in your garage is over your head.
- Your PC screen saver features pictures of rocks.
- You find rocks when you empty your pockets at night.
- You went to a rock festival and you hate music.
- You gave rocks, tumblers, or rock tools for Christmas.
- When friends say they're going to Tucson, you assume it'll be in February.
- You can find Quartzsite on a map in less than 5 seconds.
- When someone mentions "Franklin" you think of New Jersey rather than Ben.
- You can pronounce "molybdenite" correctly on the first try.
- The polished slab on your bola tie is six inches in diameter
- The bookshelves in your home hold more rocks than books; and the books that are there are about rocks.
- You think you KNOW how to pronounce "chalcedony."
- You planted flowers in your rock garden.
- You purchase things like drywall compound just to have another nice bucket to carry rocks in.
- The first thing you pack for your vacation is a chisel and a hammer.



THIS LIST WAS WRITTEN BY MEMBERS OF THE GMEDITORS E-MAIL SWAP GROUP.
Contributors included Mel Albright, Richard Busch, Betty Commean, Dan Imel, Bob Keller, Paul Kline.
<http://www.amfed.org/rockhoun.htm>

CMS General Meeting Notes for December 7, 2013

CMS meeting notes:

The current Board Members were re-elected and approved for the 2014 year by the CMS members.

Meeting concluded; Christmas Party activities followed.

Submitted by Sandra Gonzales

CMS Board Meeting Notes for December 17, 2013

Attendees: Bruce Sales, Debbie Kalscheur, Eva Siemonsma, Sandra Gonzales, Cara Reynolds, Daryl Lamb, Leslie Osgood, Amber Brenzikofer, and Bill Jones

Old Business:

1. CMS board members asked for volunteers to head up the Display Committee
Dan Wray, Harold Taylor, and Leslie Seibel have agreed to head up the Display Committee
Bruce will introduce all the activities that need a display for 2014
2. Recognition to past volunteers
The Board will recognize these volunteers at the January meeting
3. Recognition of Life Time Members
New Life time members will be recognized in January
4. Hospitality volunteer position is still opened
The board is calling for volunteers to take over Hospitality
Coffee, Tea, & Lemonade will be provided at the January CMS meeting. Members can bring in refreshments to share if they wish
5. Re-wording of the CMS By-Laws
This will be addressed in January
6. Jr. Rockhounding Educational program
January program will be on "The use of computers for rockhounding"

New Business:

Bruce Sales: Open discussion for new business:

- Bruce wants to thank everyone who participated in making this year's Christmas Party a success
- The Colorado Science & Engineering Fair had ask for funds from CMS
- Bruce will make recommendations on the organizations that currently have funds for education, such as The Denver Gem & Mineral Council
- Guest Speakers confirmed for 2014:
January: Pete Modreski – Tourmaline
February: Richard Cook – Photographing Minerals

Cara Reynolds: Reported on CMS memberships at 228

- Membership form was re-designed / Asked for feedback from the board / Minor changes were requested

Eva Siemonsma – Closed books for 2013

- Sherman Marsh will be conducting an audit on the 2013 financials
- Announced that the club is need of a new volunteer to head up the grab bags

Amber Brenzikofer – Newsletter submission deadline is Saturday, December 28, 2013

Sandra Gonzales – Rocky Pins and Patches from the 75th & 50th anniversary will be available for purchase at the January meeting

Meeting Adjourned

Next CMS Board meeting is January 21, 2014.

Submitted by Sandra Gonzales



Colorado Mineral Society
PO Box 280755
Lakewood, CO 80228

FIRST CLASS MAIL



Upcoming Meetings

Regular CMS Meeting - January

Date: January 3, 2014 Time: 7:30pm
Place: St. Paul's Church, Lakewood

Regular CMS Meeting - February

Date: February 7, 2014 Time: 7:30pm
Place: St. Paul's Church, Lakewood

CMS is part of the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies and American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. The RMFMS Newsletter can be found at www.rmfmts.org and the AFMS Newsletter can be found at www.amfed.org. Check them out!!!!!!



<http://www.coloradomineralsociety.org>