

Colorado Mineral Society



Volume 76 Issue 3

March 2012



Mineral Minutes

March 2012

President's Message

By Daryl Lamb

Hello everyone. **I want to remind all our club members that the CMS April meeting will be held on Friday, April 6th, at the Clements Community Center located at 1580 Yarrow Street in Lakewood (near Colfax and Wadsworth). The meeting will begin at 7:00 PM instead of our usual time of 7:30 PM.** April's program will feature techniques of cleaning mineral specimens presented by Leonard Himes of Graeber & Himes. This will be an excellent opportunity to learn about simple and safe ways to effectively clean your mineral specimens. Be sure to join us on Friday the 6th at the Clements Center for another enjoyable and informative CMS meeting.

Spring Educational Opportunity-Front Range Geology Course - Note from Gary Rowe

The CMS Board is pleased to announce we have arranged with Ed Raines of the Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum to offer his Front Range Geology course this spring. Ed has previously taught two sessions of his hands-on Introduction to Mineralogy course and participants in both of those classes were very complimentary of Ed and the course materials.

Here is a description of the course provided by Ed:

The course is designed to help the participant improve their understanding of the geology of the Front Range—from the plate tectonics, to the surface processes, to oceans, to deep within the earth; from volcanoes and molten rock, to the crunching together of tectonic plates; and from the uplift of the mountains, to the grinding and sculpting of the landscape by glaciers.

We will deal with the interpretation of the rock record, the formation of pegmatites and precious metal deposits, and the mining of those deposits.

We will start with some basics on plate Tectonics, sedimentology, igneous and metamorphic processes, and structural deformation of the earth. Then we will apply those processes to the Front Range. Through the last 20 years, the course has proven to be a very good introduction to the geology of the Front Range and there have been lots of very satisfied students.

The course will consist of 10 lectures that will run consecutively from Tuesday April 10 through Tuesday June 12, one class per week from 6:00 to 8:30 pm that will be held in the classroom across from the Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum. The class will also feature four all-day field trips that will be held on Sundays (dates to be finalized by class) that will involve visiting local outcrops and geologic features discussed in the class. The class features a large number of handouts and because of the additional expenses involved in reproducing the handouts and running the field trips the cost is \$200 per individual and \$250 per couple or family.

The CMS Board has agreed to offset \$75 of the course fee for each individual, couple, or family who signs up for the course to further CMS's educational mission. Those who sign up will be required to give Ed Raines a check for the balance of the course fee the first meeting of the class on April 10. Depending on who signs up, Ed can accommodate 8-12 class slots.

If you are interested in participating in this class please attend the April 6 CMS general meeting where we will distribute a sign-up sheet for the class. If you can't make the April 6 meeting please contact Gary Rowe by phone (303-236-1461) or e-mail (glrowe@usgs.gov) to get your name on the sign-up list. This is a tremendous opportunity to learn more about Colorado's spectacular geology from a local expert.



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Colorado Mineral Society Board Meeting

March 20, 2012

Attendance: Daryl Lamb, Bruce Sales, Sandra Gonzales,

Eva Siemonsma, Leslie Osgood, Amber Brenzikofer

Meeting called to order by Daryl Lamb

Old Business:

- ♦ CMS Brochures will need to be re-designed, and a committee will be designated to assist with the project.
- ♦ CMS Auction - Volunteers need
- ♦ April Display Case
- ♦ Remind CMS members that the April CMS meeting is at Clements Community Center 1580 Yarrow St. Lakewood at 7PM

New Business:

Cara Reynolds will be coordinating the Dispersing of the Field Trip Guide & Directory - In order to have your name listed in the directory, you need to be current with your membership by April 13th. If any of your information has changed in the last year, please give updated information to Cara Reynolds at the April meeting or email her at cara.reynolds@comcast.net or call her at 303-333-4360. Don't forget to wear your CMS name badge at the May meeting. Board members plan to arrive early for the May meeting to assist with dispersing field trip guide and directory.

Eva Siemonsma is coordinating the purchase of CMS t-shirts. Eva had several samples of colors and styles for the board to review. Eva will make an announcement at the next CMS meeting to update club members.

Sandra Gonzales updated the board on the 75th anniversary activities. Activities will include the on-going project of the 75th anniversary memory book, media release to newspapers, and education to local libraries. Committees will be developed.

April Guest Speaker - Leonard Himes—Specimen Preparation

75th Anniversary Update

The Colorado Mineral Society wants to thank all CMS members for their dedication and commitment for the last 75 years to a mineral club that has contributed to mineral education and encouraging mineral collecting as a hobby for all ages. All current CMS members will receive a free Commemorative 75th Anniversary Rocky Celebration Pin, so please pick up your pin from Viola Padilla, Debra Kalscheur, or Sandra Gonzales at the April and May CMS meetings.

The 75th Anniversary Events will continue through the year. Events will include:

- ♦ Updating Memory Book – On-Going
- ♦ Public Education on the history of CMS
- ♦ Media release to local newspapers
- ♦ Mineral education to children at local libraries
- ♦ Special 75th Anniversary Field Trip

If you are interested in joining any of the 75th Anniversary committees, please contact:

Debbie Kalscheur – kalscheur2004@yahoo.com 303-200-0260

Viola Padilla - ViPadilla@comcast.net – 303-757-1531

Sandra Gonzales – rockygems@comcast.net – 720-425-3908



75th anniversary items will be for sale at the next CMS meeting.

Patch \$2.50 Rocky Pin \$3.00 Mineral Bag \$.20 cents



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"MAY 05, 2012"

Is getting closer!

The Colorado Mineral Society (CMS) will have its annual silent auction of mineral hobby items on May 5th at the Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church located at 920 Kipling, 3 blocks north of 6th Avenue in Lakewood, from 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Admission is free. The auction features reasonably priced minerals, fossils, faceted stones, lapidary equipment, books, and jewelry to the general public. A unique aspect of this auction is the ability for visitors to view and bid on fluorescent minerals in a special ultra-violet powered Fluorescent Room! There are door prizes every half hour, and a special verbal auction at 1:00 P.M. of museum quality specimens donated by special dealers. There is abundant parking, refreshments, and easy handicap access without any stairs. As always, the club will have a few auction tables reserved for only children to bid on.

Mark your Calendar!.....

Thanks.....

Rich Nelson

WE NEED AN AUCTION REGISTRAR VOLUNTEER

This person is the holder of the Auction's buyers and sellers list. You will be able to create this list through the pre-registration process. Buyers and sellers will call you with their information and you will give them an ID for the auction. Next on the day of the auction, you will sign up the Buyers and sellers who did not call in. So if you like to know what's happening and being at the front of the line. We need you.

Do you have any questions about Volunteering?

Please call Rich Nelson at (303-697-1574).

WE NEED YOU TO VOLUNTEER FOR THE AUCTION DAY

Please help us run our auction on the auction day, we'd love to have you there.

This is the only fundraiser we have for the CMS.

We need all the help we can get.

Like:

- * A set up team
- * Table clearers & movers
- * Verbal Auction help
- * Cashiers
- * Back room help
- * Raffle helper
- * Check-in help
- * Food service help
- * Clean up
- * General help

Please make sure you sign the volunteer sheet at any of our next meetings or phone me (Rich).

Whether you can help for an hour or the whole auction

We need all the help and FUN we can get

Do you have any questions about Volunteering?

Please call Rich Nelson at (303-697-1574).

March Raffle News:

The raffle was again filled with some great specimens and your continued support of this endeavor allows the proceeds to be spent on CMS education, the purchase of library reading material, and the state science fair awards. The calcite and galena specimen (\$51) donated from the **Judith Holmes collection**, was won by *Lee Brown*. *Susan Duncanson's* ticket was drawn for the azurite on malachite specimen (\$34) and was donated by **Dick Owens**. The dolomite pseudo of galena specimen from the Black Cloud Mine (\$24) donated from the **Judith Holmes collection**, was won by *John Schmidt*. The covellite specimen (\$13) donated from the **Carolyn Johnson collection**, was won by the smiling *Bruce Sales*. The aegirine specimen (\$16) donated by **GEOdyssey** was won by *Karen Heckman*. *Donna Roberts* claimed the dolomite specimen from the Sherman Tunnel (\$4) donated from the **Marge Regel collection**. The retail value of the evenings donations were \$175 bringing a total of \$135 into the raffle account. **Thank you to those who donated these great specimens, it's a treat to watch when a winner realizes his or her ticket is called!!!**

Thanks go to Debbie Kalscheur and Shaleyne Kent for helping with the raffle.

Congratulations to all our lucky winners.

Submitted by Eva Siemonsma, CMS Raffle Manager.

March 2, 2012 CMS Door Price Winners - Congratulations!

Debbie Kalscheur	James Pool
Amber Brenzikofer	Donna Roberts
Brenda Wray	Dale Block
Leslie Osgood	Marcus Lieberman
Cara Reynolds	Antoinette Jackson
Markus B.	

**Big Thanks to Bruce Geller
for the wonderful tour of the
Colorado Mines Mineral
Museum**



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[illegible]

CMS Silent Auction Buyer's Receipt	
Item Description:	
FINAL BID	\$

Thanks for your contribution. For more information about CMS visit our website: <http://www.coloradomineralsociety.org>

[illegible]

CMS Silent Auction Buyer's Receipt	
<i>Item Description:</i>	
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Rock and Mineral Events

Visitors are welcome to attend.

Tues, Apr. 10, 10:30 a.m., USGS Rocky Mountain Area Seminar Series, **"Conservation Paleobiology: Mining the Past to Plan for the Future,"** by Dr. Paul Koch, University of California, Santa Cruz. Building 25 auditorium, Denver Federal Center. Visitors are welcome to attend.

Thurs., Apr. 12, 7:00 p.m., Flatirons Mineral Club Annual Silent Auction; West Boulder Senior Center, 909 Arapahoe Ave. (Just west of the Boulder Main Public Library, suggested overflow parking is to use the library parking lot)

Fri., Apr. 13, Gem, Jewelry, Mineral Silent Auction, North Jeffco Gem and Mineral Club,
APEX Community Recreation Center, 6842 Wadsworth Blvd, Arvada. Sale begins at 6:45 pm, checkout starts about 9:15 pm. No early checkout. All are welcome; free admission, free parking, and free refreshments will be served. For more information, call Merlene Solis 720 212-5550 or email linumas@gmail.com.

April 20-22, Colorado Mineral and Fossil Spring Show, Ramada Plaza Hotel (formerly the Holiday Inn), 4849 Bannock St, Denver, CO 80216 (frontage road on west side of I-25, north of I-70); free admission and parking; hours 10-6 Fri. & Sat., 10-5 Sun. For more info see http://www.mzexpos.com/colorado_spring.htm

Sun., April 22 is Earth Day! A free public **Geology and Nature Hike** will be led by USGS Geologist, Dr. Pete Modreski. Exact time and location (somewhere in the Lakewood-Golden-Morrison area) not yet determined; for more info, please contact pmodreski@usgs.gov or call 303-202-4766.

Tues, Apr. 24, 10:30 a.m., USGS Rocky Mountain Area Seminar Series, **"Discovery, Science, and Interpretation at the Snowmastodon Site, Snowmass Village, Colorado,"** by Jeff Pigati, USGS, Denver. Building 25 auditorium, Denver Federal Center.

Sat., May 5, "Dinosaur Discovery Day", 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., the first free public tour day of the year at Dinosaur Ridge, Morrison, CO, featuring **Boy Scout Day**; Scouts or Scout groups are encouraged to register in advance; "An opportunity for Scouts at all levels to satisfy their geology requirements and earn pins, belt loops and badges. More than 60 earth scientists and other volunteers, including certified merit badge counselors, assist with the event."; see <http://dinoridge.org/scoutdays.html>. All others are welcome to attend too. "Parking and check-in will be north of the Visitor Center at the Thunder Valley Motocross south entrance off of Rooney Road (for Scout sign-ups on day of event). Parking and check-in will NOT be available at the Dinosaur Ridge Visitor Center. NOTE: please do not drop off any scouts at the Visitor Center prior to parking as the check-in area is at the parking lot. Parking is \$5 per car paid as you enter." [Note, Girl Scout Day at Dino Ridge will be on Oct. 13, 2012!]

Sat., May 5, Silent Auction, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m., held by the Colorado Mineral Society; Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church, 920 Kipling St. (3 blocks north of 6th Ave.), Lakewood; all are invited to attend.

Sat. & Sun., May 5-6, Crystal Specimen Sale, Ray Berry, 7513 Tudor Road (I-25 ext. 149), Colorado Springs; 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; for more info rayber@q.com or call 719-598-7877. Longtime mineral collector Ray Berry has a large collection of smoky quartz, amazonite, and related minerals from the Crystal Peak area.

Sat., May 12, Silent Auction, 12:00-3:00 p.m., sponsored by the Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter; Clements Community Center, 1580 Yarrow St., Lakewood CO (just NW of Colfax & Wadsworth); all are invited to come.

Fri-Sat-Sun, June 22-24, Pikes Peak Gem and Mineral Show and Rock Fair held at the Western Museum of Mining and Industry, Colorado Springs. See <http://www.csms.us/> or



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Rock and Mineral Events (Continue)

Fri-Sat-Sun, June 22-24, Pikes Peak Gem and Mineral Show and Rock Fair held at the Western Museum of Mining and Industry, Colorado Springs. See <http://www.csms.us/> or www.wmmi.org

Sun., June 24, Geology Train Excursion on the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad, as described above under Mar. 15 (last date for Colorado Scientific Society members to sign for the block of tickets reserved for them); all others may sign up as long as places are available; see <http://www.coloscisoc.org/> and <http://www.cumbrestoltec.com/geologytrainexcursion>

Peter J. Modreski

U.S. Geological Survey, Denver, Colorado
Public Relations and Educational Outreach
tel. 303-202-4766, fax 303-202-4742
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It's Time Again For

Another Thrilling Chapter

In The Continuing Saga

Of A Tow Truck Driving Rock Hound

Greetings to all in newsletter land, I hope this finds you all doing well.

The sun has reached the Celestial Equator on it's path through the sky, meaning it has reached The First Point of Aries, The Vernal Equinox, the first day of Spring!!!

That means that at noon at the Equator on March 20th the sun will be directly overhead. This also means that day and night are exactly the same length, the meaning of the word Equinox. At The First point of Aries the sun is actually in Pieces now due to the Procession of the equinoxes, or the 26,000 year wobble in the earths rotation. In the near future, (a couple hundred years or so) the First Point Of Aries will be in Aquarius, the whole meaning of that old Fifth Dimension song from back in the 1970's. As the Sun continues on it's path on the Ecliptic North of the Celestial

Equator, the days will continue to get longer, until it reaches 23 degrees North of the Celestial Equator on the first day of Summer, the Summer Solutes, the longest day of the year for those of us in the Northern Hemisphere. So much for this months Astronomy lesson. And what, you might ask, dose this mean to all of us rock hounds in the CMS? It means that the weather is warming up and we will all be out digging again very soon. I know I will be, if I can find the time. I still have a stone wall to finish at the ranch, as soon as it warms up enough to not freeze my mortar. I have been working on this project for almost three years now, and finally the end is in sight. Agatehead Mike and I have been working on plans to put some serious work into the Lake George claim this Summer, before this California deal comes around. With the help of some folks like Paul Lavere, Scott Kline, and my sister Julie, we have located a few promising spots to dig up.

Who knows, maybe we will finally pull something good out this year, if things work out. I work with a guy who knows Mike's brother, and has been stirring the pot with his family trying to "put a stop to this rock collecting nonsense." There is always someone who just don't get it.

I could go on and on about things but better stop for now, I hope to see you all at the next meeting, I know I have been saying that for the last few months but the weather and my job have kept me from attending. So until next time, stay safe out there and keep on rocken!!

FREE TO A GOOD HOME – plastic mineral display boxes. There are 19 boxes that are 2.25" x 3.25" x 2.5" tall, and 35 boxes that are 2" x 2" x 2.25" tall. They all have a white base, and are in pretty good shape with relatively few scratches.

Contact Pat Tucci at pattucci@comcast.net, or call at 303-279-5504.

CMS sends their condolences to Cynthia L Cooper and the Cooper Family.

Scott Cooper died in 2010 (81) Denver, CO

Scott Cooper was a Life member of the club.



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Colorado Mineral Society Supports Mineral Education for Teachers

CMS was recently approached by Ms. Davida Buehler of the Geological Society of America (GSA) to donate minerals specimens to support educational workshops for teachers sponsored by GSA's Teacher Advocate Program. The goal of this program is to increase appreciation of the Earth's history, processes, and resources through Earth science education. The program provides resources, lesson plans, learning workshops, and other educational resources to support earth science education. I was able to provide Ms. Buehler 20-plus specimens of clear and smoky quartz crystals, microcline, topaz, common beryl, goethite after limonite pseudomorphs, calcite, barite, amethyst, and pyrite, most of the material collected on CMS field trips. In addition Bill and Cheryl Harrison were able to provide a set of very nice quality galena and sphalerite specimens from the Commodore mine in Creede Colorado that were highly appreciated. Ms. Buehler sent the following thank you note and photo:

Dear CMS,

Once again I would like to thank you for the generous donation on behalf of the Colorado Mineral Society. The minerals were wonderful! Teachers made several comments about the minerals and they were so grateful to use them as they were studying their properties. The workshop was a huge success due to your club's donations! Thank you very much!

Sincerely,

Davida Buehler

Photo showing recent GSA Teacher Advocate Program workshop on mineral properties held in Boulder, Colorado featuring mineral specimens donated by CMS members.





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Up Coming Events:

April 6, 2012 Regular CMS meeting at Clements Community Center.

May 4, 2012 Regular CMS meeting at St. Paul's church - Distribution of Field Trip Guide and Membership Directory

May 25-28, 2012 Panhandle Nebraska Rock Swap @Riverside Zoo Campground, Scottbluff, NE

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

Colorado Mineral Society
PO Box 280755
Lakewood, CO 80228

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

First Class Mail

