



# Colorado Mineral Society

# Mineral Minutes



Volume 80, Issue 3

March 2016

## President's Message - Comradery for Safety's Sake

by John W. Smith

Last month I talked a little about what it means to me to be a Rockhound. Well, this month I would like to continue along that thought. Why do we join Rock Clubs? I think we do so for the comradery that they offer us. I am not sure about you but I feel safer out in the “wilderness” where we typically collect when someone is there with me. It does not have to be a big strong person or a large group, just someone to share the experience with. Also, having another person there that can offer immediate opinions about finds, share their experience in similar hunting environments, or just someone to talk to just to fill in the silence while hunting is somehow comforting.

Another very important aspect of having someone else there with you is the “safety” aspect. Sometimes in our zeal to find that single most fabulous specimen, we lose track of what is happening around us. This is where a “hunting buddy” is helpful. When we get caught up in what we are doing we often do things that we should not. For instance, we may find ourselves digging into the side of a hill and have gotten in so far that the hole could collapse on us potentially hurting us in the process. A hunting buddy that is aware of what we are doing and does not have the “tunnel vision” that we do should say something to us about the “position” we have gotten ourselves into.

It is important that we look after and take care of everyone in our hunting group (for that matter anyone that is there that may not even be part of our club) especially when it comes to safety. Speak up when you think something is not right. Just as important, if someone says something to you, do not ignore what they say. Regardless of your feelings about someone pointing out what is happening, stop what you are doing, evaluate the situation, correct the unsafe conditions, and thank the person that alerted you to what was happening.

Remember, this is a two way street – keep an eye out for the safety of others. While we may consider capturing that perfect specimen a solo act, safety is a team effort.

Until next month.....

By the way, I am serious about you all contributing to the “President’s” article. Feel free to share an experience that you have had in hunting for specimens or other rockhounding activities. This is open to everyone – the novice as well as the expert and even our junior rockhounds.

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### CMS March Meeting

The next General Meeting is March 7<sup>th</sup> at our normal meeting place at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 10th and Garrison in Lakewood. Meeting starts at 7:30pm. The guest speaker will be Bob Christy who will talk about Mount Ida Arkansas Quartz. More information on the presentation is located on Page 4.

## COLORADO MINERAL SOCIETY OFFICERS

2016

President: John W. Smith

First VP-Programs: Gary Rowe

Second VP-Education: Debbie Kalschur

Secretary: Sandra Gonzales

Treasurer: Eva Siemonsma

### Appointed Board Members - Committee Chairpersons

Annual Auction: Howie Houk

Door Prizes-Guests: Paul and Cindy Hatfield

Library: Kevin Atwater

Exhibits Chair: *OPEN*

Membership: Cara Reynolds

Membership Assistant: *OPEN*

Field Trip Leader: Gary Rowe

Field Trip Leader Co-Chair: Nels Grevstad

Nominations: Daryl Lamb

Grab Bags: Dale Block

Editor: Amber Brenzikofer

Historian: Amber Brenzikofer

Scrapbook: Jennifer Knies

Junior Rockhound Coordinator: Lewis Reynolds

Junior Rockhound Assistant: *OPEN*

Hospitality: Star Edwards

Donations: Debbie Kalschur

Web Master: Julio Edwards

[coloradomineralsociety@comcast.net](mailto:coloradomineralsociety@comcast.net)



### Representatives (Board Members)

Denver Council Rep: Bruce Sales

Denver Show Rep: Dale Gann

**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 \$7.50.

**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 Contintail, 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 celebration.

**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 20th of the month prior to publication. All correspondence to Mineral Minutes should be sent to Amber Brenzikofer, Editor, P.O. Box 280755, Lakewood, Colorado 80228-0755 or by email to:

[editor.coloradomineralsociety@gmail.com](mailto:editor.coloradomineralsociety@gmail.com)

CMS Field Trip  
Colorado School of Mines  
Geology Museum  
Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup> 3:30pm

Dr. Bruce Geller, Curator of the School of Mines Geology Museum and esteemed long-time member of CMS has arranged a special tour of the Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum for Saturday, March 19 starting at 3:30 pm. The **Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum**, home to one of the state's two Goodwill moon rocks collected during the Apollo 17 mission, was started in 1874 and displays mineral, fossil, gemstone, meteorite and historic mining artifact exhibits on two floors. The museum serves as the state repository for Colorado's mineral heritage and promotes its importance and understanding to the university community and the public. It aims to inspire scientific curiosity through education and research while encouraging appreciation of the earth and responsibility for its mineral, fossil, meteorite and historic mining treasures.

**Location:** General Research Laboratory (GRL) building, 1310 Maple St., Golden, CO 80401. Parking on the street and in the adjacent parking lots are free on the weekends.

**An alternative snow day will be Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at 3:30pm.** Watch the CMS website and email announcements.

Colorado Science and  
Engineering Fair

**"Time to Judge those Young  
Scientists and Engineers Again!"**

Yes, April is around the corner and we are looking for CMS people to help judge the Colorado Science and Engineering Fair to selection four young minds to give awards to. You can make a difference in a teenager's life, and they may make a change in yours too. Two years ago they helped me to discover that a dino fossil I had on display in my house was releasing radon gas at a rate over 9 times the safe limit!

The exciting event is at CSU in Fort Collins for most of the day on **Thursday April 7th, 2016**. Come help CMS continue our 61 year tradition of participating in this statewide contest of the scientific method, project accomplishment, and communication. Please contact me if you are interested. Thank you!

*Submitted by Craig Hazelton*

## 2016 CMS Education Program Update

by Debbie Kalscheur, Second Vice-President-Education

We had a big year for education for CMS in 2015 and are looking to put together another great program for the CMS membership in 2016! We have a few ideas already in process. Star Edwards has graciously offered to teach a course in Gemology. The highlights are included below. We are still working on the details, but so far the interest appears to be strong. Sign-up is planned to begin at the March meeting. We are targeting the April/May timeframe for this course.

CMS has offered a course in Mineral Identification taught by Ed Raines at the Colorado School of Mines (CSM). We have not confirmed that we will offer this course again this year, but if the interest is high, the Board will strongly consider it. Details are included below. We will have a preliminary sign-up sheet at the March meeting. This a great course for those who have not had the chance to take it yet, may not have had exposure to mineralogy/geology in a formal educational setting or are just getting started in this hobby and are eager to learn.

### **Gemology Course – Spring 2016 (4-5 classes meeting once/week – Mondays, tentative)**

This course will be taught by CMS's very own Star Edwards. Star has earned the Graduate Gemologist credential from the Gemological Institute of America (GIA) and has worked in the industry for many years. This course is designed to be a user friendly and practical course in gemology, concentrating on gem identification of colored stones. Colored gems will be provided, but no diamonds. If you would like to work with diamonds, you will need to bring them.

This will be a hands-on course. Please plan on bringing locking tweezers and a corrected 10X loupe. Also bring a microscope and visors if you have them. Star has limited extra equipment she will bring and microscopes that will be shared. Please note that we will be working in teams throughout this course as the team approach has proven to be most effective for learning how to identify the key characteristics of the popular stones. Above all, Star wants to

*Continued Page on 4*

## 2016 CMS Education Program Update (continued)

emphasize that this course is designed to be FUN and extremely complimentary to what we are all so passionate about. Star is also open to adding topics and/or adjusting course content to address particular student interest. Particular interests/desires will be gauged at the first class. A detailed class topic list will be provided at the March meeting along with the sign-up sheet.

Tentative dates: 4 to 5 Mondays, 2-3 hours per class – tentatively beginning in late April extending through May. Please contact Debbie or Star with any questions.

Number of Participants: Minimum 8, Maximum 12, Minimum age: 16

Per person Cost – Being finalized. Expected to be confirmed by March meeting.

### **Mineral Identification Course – Fall 2016 (10 lectures)**

In this course, you will receive hands-on experience with mineral identification techniques along with gaining an understanding of basic Crystallography and the 6 core crystal systems. Participants will be issued microscopes and flats of minerals for use during the class. This course is designed to establish a working base of knowledge that students will be able to use in the field or at the shows to identify minerals and mineral associations. This is a great course for those who are fairly new to the mineral world or who just want to expand their skills in accurately identifying rocks and minerals.

This class is taught by Ed Raines from CSM. It meets for 10 weeks at the CSM Geology Museum in the classroom across from the Geology Museum entrance and generally is held on a Monday or Wednesday – although the weekday can be flexible depending on the needs of the class. The 2015 cost of course was \$150/person with CMS and the student contributing \$75 each. We still need to confirm that there has been no increase this year. The class can accommodate 10 people, ages 13 and up.

We are gauging interest for potentially holding this class this coming Fall. I will have a sign-up sheet at the March meeting. If you are new to the hobby and/or to CMS and are interested in building your foundational knowledge of mineralogy or have always wanted to take the class, please sign up. If the interest is there, we will try to get it scheduled. Contact Debbie with any questions.

## March Presentation

### Mount Ida World Championship Crystal Dig

At the March CMS general meeting, Bob Christy will be talking about the 2015 World Championship Crystal Dig in Mount Ida, Arkansas. Although he didn't place, Sheryl did. She took third place on her first time entering the competition. Bob and Sheryl are planning on attending the 2016 competition and they have agreed to lead a CMS field trip for those that are interested in collecting quartz crystals.

Here are some links referencing this wonderful event:

[http://www.mtidadachamber.com/yp\\_lodging.htm](http://www.mtidadachamber.com/yp_lodging.htm)

[http://mountidachamber.com/World\\_Championship\\_Quartz\\_Crystal\\_Dig.html](http://mountidachamber.com/World_Championship_Quartz_Crystal_Dig.html)

<http://www.craterofdiamondsstatepark.com/>

[http://geodefest.org/Home\\_Page.php](http://geodefest.org/Home_Page.php)

Quartz is silicon dioxide, the most abundant mineral in the world. Arkansas is known worldwide to rockhounds and collectors for the production of quality quartz crystals. The major deposits of quartz crystals lie in the Ouachita Mountains, in a narrow band about 30-40 miles wide and 170 miles long, from Little Rock, Arkansas to eastern Oklahoma. The crystals themselves were formed some 285 million years ago in cavities, cracks and crevices by deposition of the host mineral while in a hot water solution. Most of the quartz occurring here is literally crystal clear or has a whitish coloring called milky quartz. This coloring is due to the presence of microscopic bubbles. As light enters the quartz, the bubbles cause the light to scatter instead of penetrating and traveling through the quartz causing the milky color appearance.





## New CMS Members

### First Listing

- Susan Freeman and Barry Reher & family
- Rex and Lita Buhrmester

### Second Listing

- Deanna and Jeffrey Mackenna & family
- Jess and Lynn Overby

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

## May 7th Auction

CMS will have its annual silent auction of mineral hobby items on May 7th at the Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church located at 920 Kipling, 3 blocks north of 6th Avenue in Lakewood, from 11:00 AM to 2:45 PM Admission is free. We need volunteers and a sign-up sheet will be available at the upcoming general meetings. 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 ultraviolet powered Fluorescent Room! There are door prizes every half hour, and a special verbal auction at 1:00pm 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.

A special invitation is extended to non-CMS members to participate in this auction as sellers and buyers. All sellers are requested to pre-register by phoning Leslie Osgood. Sellers can get extra copies of bidding slips in the April CMS newsletter or on our club website at [www.coloradomineralsociety.org](http://www.coloradomineralsociety.org)

### **Volunteers Needed:**

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

Contact Howie Houk for more information.

## CMS Junior Rockhounds March Program

**Topic:** *Earth in Space*

**Overview:** Rocks and minerals are not only found on our planet Earth but also in our solar system (and in others like it). We humans have found rocks called meteorites that have fallen to the earth's surface from somewhere in outer space! Tonight, the Juniors will review models of our solar system before learning about extraterrestrial rocks. We will have a chance to hold small meteorites, and we will look at glass called a tektite formed from a meteorite's impact on the earth's surface.

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. 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 *Earth in Space* 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 at:

<http://www.coloradomineralsociety.org/newsletters/August2013.pdf> on pages 7-8.)

### **AFMS Future Rockhounds of America Badge Requirements (Optional):**

[http://www.amfed.org/fra/AFMS\\_FRA\\_Badge\\_Manual\\_Revised\\_2012.pdf](http://www.amfed.org/fra/AFMS_FRA_Badge_Manual_Revised_2012.pdf)

*Earth in Space* badge is discussed on pages 136-143 of the manual.

Parents or guardians: please print the sign-off sheet on page 137 and check-off, sign, and date each accomplishment as it is completed. Submit the completed form to Lewis Reynolds to process the badge award.

*Submitted by Lewis Reynolds, Coordinator*

# Aquaholics and Outlaws on Antero

by Ray McPadden

Mount Antero is about raw adventure. Out there you expect to see Lewis and Clark in a gully or DeSoto on a high ridgeline. Antero has all the ingredients for an odyssey about treasure hunting: a treacherous road, unstable slopes, outlaws, and physical hardship. There is a nakedness about it — being exposed to the sun and the wind and the storms. Amongst the rocks are otherworldly crystals of aquamarine; little specimens twinkle in the harsh sunlight, while the belly of the mountain hides wheelbarrows full of jewels. These ingredients drew television producers to the area for the show “Prospectors.” They brought with them the trumped up drama that has become standard fodder for consumers of reality shows. But the actual reality is far more intriguing.

Picture it this way: the seven cities of gold was not a myth, it was a metaphor for places like Antero. This empire of gems shines down on the Arkansas River Valley. It could be a space ship from another planet—emitting a tractor beam from its summit—luring in casual and dyed-in-the-wool collectors alike. All the while, roving bands of marmot and pika guard the upper reaches of the mountain. These alpine warriors stand watch over their crystal fortress, scurrying between overlooks, whistling and calling, snacking on the guts of unattended jeeps.

The furry insurgency isn't the only reason this mountain is intimidating. The seasoned prospector has probably seen something go wrong at some point and understands how close you are to the edge up there. Perhaps most alarming is the fact that retreat is not guaranteed— vehicles break, boulders form roadblocks, and a sudden electrical storm can ambush even a career meteorologist. Anyone who has watched lightning dance across alpine ridges understands the terror and the exhilaration of being on a big mountain.

This setting is home to all sorts of characters — pirates, desperadoes, Ph.Ds — who are all drawn to the freedom of it all and the chance to strike it rich. There are good guys and bad guys up there, living by codes of self-reliance and self-policing not seen since the days of beaver trapping in the West. One old timer represented this motley band. He was grizzled but chatty and intelligent, speaking on topics such as magic and the effects of AK-47 rounds on the body. His resume included multiple combat tours in Vietnam, losing a finger to a rattlesnake, making ceremonial wine for the Catholic Church, and spending the summer solo on the mountain. The old timer was the slightly crazy but honorable archetype for a community of prospectors in the sky.

But the presence of precious gems and the absence of the representatives of our nation-state (e.g. the forest service, the sheriff) is a volatile combination. A lord-of-the-flies existence emerges in the void. Those lacking in morale character quickly find themselves engaged in all manner of swindling, robbery, and boondoggling. In other words, prospectors must fend for themselves on the mountain. Give an old prospector a drink or two and you'll hear about fistfights and gun pulling over crystal discoveries and claim disputes.

The reality is simple - good guys and bad guys alike are addicted to the uncertainty of “the hunt” and the climax of “the find.” The sheer joy of seeing aqua sparkling in your dirty palms can bring you to your knees and fill your eyes with hot tears. The effect on your psyche can make Antero a prison of sorts: you find yourself stuck, unable to leave because the pocket of a lifetime might be one shovel away. And when mundane responsibilities in the valleys below force you off the mountain, you are still there in your mind—dreaming of electric blue crystals and planning your next hole.

For all the crazy brave seeking the treasure of Antero, there are important considerations you should be aware of. Much warning material has already been written about physical factors — stressing the importance of good physical health, drinking water, using sunscreen, keeping an eye on the sky for storms. But little has been said about the psychology of gem hunting on this grand mountain. So here are a few *mental* considerations:

1. The “high” of a good find lasts at least 2 days.
2. The value of a crystal doubles every time you tell someone about it.
3. Success leads to obsession.
4. No one can help you once you're hooked.
5. The longer you stay the more *far out* you get.

I'd love to hear from other members about your experiences on Mount Antero. You can email me at [mcpadden9@yahoo.com](mailto:mcpadden9@yahoo.com).



## February 5th Raffle News

**Thank you to those who donated these great specimens, it is fun to see the grin spread when their number is called to be a winner!!!** February's tickets sold were \$111, with the retail value of \$99. These funds are spent on CMS education, the purchase of library materials, and the state science fair awards. The most popular specimen was the quartz specimen (\$33) donated from the **Charles Spletz Collection** and won by a very happy *John Smith*. *Chris Keilman won two raffle items*, his first ticket was drawn for the amethyst specimen (\$23) that was donated by **John Shepie**, his second ticket was for the fluorite, quartz specimen (\$13) that was donated by **Self-A-Ware Minerals**. The cut agate (\$18) donated by **GEOdyssey** was won by that lucky *Bruce Sales*. *Jess Overby* was all smiles when he won the fossil fish specimen (\$14) donated by **Marcus Lieberman**. Last but not least, *Jack Gray's* ticket won the crazy lace agate slab (\$10) that was donated by **GEOdyssey**.

Thanks Jennifer Knies, and Kuyper Reynolds for helping with the raffle. Congratulations to all our lucky winners!

*Submitted by Eva Siemonsma, CMS Raffle Manager*

**Charles Spletz  
Collection**

**John Shepie**

**Marcus  
Lieberman**

### Self - A - Ware Minerals

Jeff Self  
303.898.7539

Donna Ware  
303.898.4019



[www.SelfAWAREminerals.com](http://www.SelfAWAREminerals.com)

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## New CMS Life Member

by Amber Brenzikofer

Jack Sliemers is a new CMS lifetime member. He was in Tucson for last month's newsletter article, so this is a continuation of the article with an interview I had with Jack when he got back from Tucson,

Jack was convinced to join CMS in the early 1970's by Monroe Jacobs, an early CMS member. Monroe had a 24" saw that Jack used to cut jade. They became friends and Monroe made Jack's wedding rings. Monroe died in 2003 at over 100 years old. Jack was active in CMS for about 15 years and then took a break to run his rock shop business. He rejoined CMS in the early 1980's and has been a member since.

Jack said that he has learned a lot from other individual CMS members through the years. Unfortunately, Jack was not able to go on many CMS field trips because of his business. His college degrees in philosophy, education, and counseling didn't lend much help in his lifelong passion for rocks and mineral, so he learned what he could from CMS members, CMS education classes, and his business customers. Jack appreciates the work that CMS does to provide an educational opportunity for its members and provide opportunities to make life-long friends.





# Lecture Announcement

The "First Thursday" lecture series continues on Thursday, March 3, on the Colorado School of Mines Campus in the **Ben H. Parker Student Center, Ballroom E**, Maple Street, Golden, CO 80401. Socializing begins at 6:30pm and the talk will start at 7:00pm. Admission is free and all are welcome.

Speaker is **Ron Hranac**, President, Denver Astronomical Society

Ron's talk title is: **Meteorites: A Collector's Perspective"**

The Ben H. Parker Student Center is about four buildings, South of the Geology Museum, on the West side of the pedestrian mall extension that runs South from Maple Street. Ballroom E is on the 2nd floor in the NE corner. The closest parking for the Student Center is in Lot D, west of the Student Center and is **FREE** in the evening.

**ABSTRACT:** The study of meteorites combines aspects of astronomy, chemistry, geology, and other branches of science. What are meteorites, and where do they come from? How do scientists classify them? What kinds of evidence exist for impacts on Earth? In March 3rd's "First Thursday" lecture, Ron Hranac, President, Denver Astronomical Society, will answer these and other questions about the sometimes very strange rocks from space. Attendees will have a chance to see and handle a variety of meteorites – including some rare lunar and Martian specimens. A collection of meteor-wrongs will challenge you to tell the difference between terrestrial rocks that are commonly mistaken for meteorites and the real thing. Highlights of the February 2013 Chelyabinsk, Russia event will be discussed, and tips about collecting meteorites will be provided.

**Friends of the Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum** Organized 2009

**THE FRIENDS' "FIRST THURSDAY" LECTURE SERIES PRESENTS**

**"Meteorites: A Collector's Perspective"**

**By Ron Hranac, President, Denver Astronomical Society**

Thursday, March 3, 2016, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
 Colorado School of Mines Campus  
 Ben H. Parker Student Center, Ballroom E  
 Maple Street, Golden, Colorado

Gibeon meteorite from Namibia  
 Barringer impact crater east of Flagstaff, Arizona  
 Pallasite (olivine xls in metal matrix), Esquel, Argentina

**55th Annual 2016 Fort Collins Rockhounds Gem & Mineral Show**

Thomas M. McKee 4-H, Youth & Community Building, Larimer County Fairgrounds

**Friday April 1 4pm-8pm**  
**Saturday April 2 9am-6pm**  
**Sunday April 3 10am-5pm**

**Featuring Jade and Jasper**

Show Chairman: 970.493.6168  
 (No dealer space available) showchairman@fortcollinsrockhounds.org

Details at [www.fortcollinsrockhounds.org](http://www.fortcollinsrockhounds.org)

Fort Collins Rockhounds  
 P.O. Box 272777  
 Fort Collins, CO 80527

**Admission:**  
 Adults (18+): \$4 daily or \$7 for 3-day pass  
 Students (12-18 yrs) with ID: \$1  
 Children under 12 FREE with adult

**FREE PARKING**

Like Us On **facebook**

Exhibits • Door Prizes • Grab Bags • Silent Auction • Demonstrations • Gem & Mineral Dealers





Show Theme  
 “How has mining  
 influenced your  
 life?”

Rhodochrosite, Sunnyside Mine  
 San Juan Co, Colorado \* Jeff Scovil Photo

## Rocky Mountain Gem and Mineral Spring Show

April 15,16,17, 2016

9AM - 6PM Friday & Saturday

9AM - 5PM Sunday

Crown Plaza Hotel Convention Center D

15500 E 40th Ave Denver, CO 80239

Over 50 Gem, Mineral, Fossil, Lapidary,  
 Jewelry, and Meteorite Dealers (Wholesale / Retail)



For more information visit  
[www.rockygems.com](http://www.rockygems.com)



## Rocky Mountain Federation News

The Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies (RMFMS) is made up of 82 clubs representing 13 Western states. CMS is a member of RMFMS. The Rocky Mountain Federation News is published monthly and is located at [www.rmfmts.org](http://www.rmfmts.org).

In the **February issue**, RMFMS is looking for a new secretary for the 2016-2017 year to be elected at the April Convention in Wichita. The Secretary takes notes for the minutes of the two major meeting at the annual conference and distributes them to all the clubs. The Secretary also gets reports from all the officers and committee chairs together and send out to the clubs before the conventions meet. If interested, contact DeLane Cox at 479-254-0894 or [delanec3@earthlink.net](mailto:delanec3@earthlink.net).

RMFMS along with AFMS, and the other 6 member federation in AFMS work hard to maintain public access to public lands for the purposes of rock collecting. This is a constant battle. Just being a member of RMFMS helps because numbers count when they talk to governmental agencies. The RMFMS Public Lands Advisory Committee (PLAC) reported in the February newsletter concerns with new collecting rules on U.S. Forest Service-managed lands.

Wichita Gem & Mineral Society  
 62nd Annual Gem and Mineral  
 Show and the 2016 RMFMS  
 Convention

April 22-24, 2016

## A.F.M.S Newsletter

The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) serves seven regional federations, including RMFMS. The A.F.M.S Newsletter is published monthly and is located at <http://www.amfed.org/news/default.htm>.



In the **March issue**, details are given on how to purchase raffle tickets for the AFMS Endowment Fund that will occur at the July 2016 conference. The tickets are \$5.00 a piece or \$20.00 for five. Contact DeLane Cox at [delanec3@earthlink.net](mailto:delanec3@earthlink.net) or Richard Jaeger at [rjgrsci@aol.com](mailto:rjgrsci@aol.com) to purchase tickets. Pictures of the raffle donations are on the AFMS website and in the March newsletter.

Jim Hurlbut, a CMS past president, has been inducted into the National Rockhound and Lapidary Hall of Fame, which is currently located in the Pioneer Auto Museum in Murdo, SD. Jim was nominated in the Mineral category. The Hall of Fame was established by June Culp Zeitner in 1987 to recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions.

## CMS Membership Dues Reminder

CMS memberships run from January 1st to December 31st. You can pay your dues in three ways:

1. Pay with cash or check at the general meetings the first Friday of each month from October through May. 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. Cards will be mailed to you.
3. Fill out a membership form and bring cash or check to a field trip to receive a temporary membership card.

### **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. A new membership form is located on the CMS website at [www.coloradomineralsociety.com](http://www.coloradomineralsociety.com).

If you ordered a name badge, they will be available at the general meetings to pick up. Alternative methods of delivery for name badges may be available, so contact Cara Reynolds to coordinate.

## CMS General Meeting on February 5, 2016

John Smith, the CMS President, opened with introductions and asked if there were any new members or visitors to introduce themselves. Attendance - 70

John asked for volunteers to step up and contribute to the CMS Board, there are several vacancies available. There is no age limit, we need good strong people.

Gary Rowe reported on the upcoming field trip season. A committee has met to start setting dates.

Debra Kalscheur is currently working on the education program and she gauged the interest of members in offering a gemology course taught by Star Edward. Numerous hands went up of those who would be interested in the class. More details to follow in the newsletter.

Eva Siemonsma gave the Treasurer's report. Also made a request for Science Fair judges, more information in the newsletter. Introduced the raffle prizes and who donated the specimens. She reminded all the members that the raffle tickets that are sold benefit the CMS education programs.

Howie Houk, the auction chair reported on the CMS auction on May 7<sup>th</sup> and a sign up sheet for volunteers is going around. Contact Leslie Osgood for bidder numbers and seller letters. Limit of sales is three flats. A volunteer meeting will be set up before the April general meeting to give out assignments and go over the layout set-up.

Cara Reynolds read new member names and reported the CMS membership at 253 member units, a family is considered one unit. If you ordered a name badge, pick them up from Cara at the general meeting.

Amber Brenzikofer reported that she put together a calendar of meetings and events for the year, located on the back table. She will also email the calendar out to the club. She will add field trip once the dates are set.

Bruce Sales, the CMS Trustee for the Denver Council, reported on the Denver Gem and Mineral Show. A volunteer sign-up list was sent around the room.

Leslie Osgood reported that Dale Block needs 600 grab bags for the Denver Show. John Smith offered to give away a new sewing machine for anyone who wants to sew bags.

Video Presentation: "Milpillas Mine, Sonora Mexico-A Modern Bonanza" by noted Arizona collector Evan Jones.

Raffle drawing held.

Congratulations to the door prize winners:

Dennis Boyer

Barbara Eahehart

Bruce Geller

Bill Harrison

Laura Kokkinen

Jennifer Knies

Jennifer Moss

Derrick Moss

Lesley Sebol

*Notes taken by Mark Danuser and Star Edwards*

## CMS Board Meeting on February 16, 2016

Attendees: John W. Smith, Gary Rowe, Debbie Kalscheur, Bruce Sales, Sandra Gonzales, Amber Brenzikofer, Howie Houk, and Leslie Osgood

### Old News:

- Defining family for membership - Put on next month's agenda – John Smith will review Federal Law guidelines and present to board at March board meeting.
- Co-Chair positions opened , make an announcement at next general meeting:  
Membership, Junior Rockhound, and Display Committee
- CMS Life Members - Members were recognized at the February meeting but the Certificates will be currently being redone, and the redone certificates will be given at the next meeting.
- John and Howie will be assisting Cara with organizing Life Membership files - Howie assisted Cara and completed the files, closed.
- Education - Possible educational classes were presented:  
GIA - Star Edwards is currently writing up a draft for a proposal for the class and will submit to the board for approval.
- Denver Show Updates - John Smith received show forms that need to be completed and filled out and turned into the show committee. A sign-up will be sent out at the next meeting to sign up volunteers for the show.
- Next meeting will be at Saint Paul's Church.
- May Auction will be on May 7, 2016, church is open at 9am for setup. We need to be out of the facility by 4:30pm. Flyer to be distributed at Rocky Mountain Gem and Mineral April Show.  
CMS will start recruiting volunteers - sign up at next meeting.  
Call Leslie Osgood to obtain a bidder's and seller's number.  
Daryl and Lori Lamb will organize and provide the food.
- Field Trips: Field trip committee meeting was held and trips are being planned. A March field trip is being scheduled for a tour of the Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum.
- Guest Speakers :  
March – Arkansas Quartz - Bob Christy and Sheryl  
April – Burgess Shale Fossils in British Columbia - Harold Taylor  
May – No presentation, field trip meeting
- John Smith requested a calendar for all CMS events, board meetings, etc. Amber put together a calendar of meetings and events for the year, she will distribute calendar at the general meeting.
- A motion was made to purchase more business cards if our stock was low. An inventory was taken and we have enough for this year.
- Rocky Mountain Gem and Mineral Spring show is April 15, 16, 17, 2016 at the Crowne Plaza DIA Hotel Convention Center 15500 E40th Ave, Denver, CO 80239. Over 60 vendors will be selling at the show.

### New Business:

Deadline for newsletter is January 26<sup>th</sup>

Eva Siemonsma submitted business tax forms 990N to the State Treasury.

Leslie Osgood- Dale Block requested 600 bags. Sue

Duncanson has sewed over 300 bags, great job Sue!

Debbie Kalscheur – Made a motion to give a CMS Rocky Pin to anyone who donates to the silent auction. Approved.

No new members to announce.

Meeting Adjourned.

*Submitted by Sandra Gonzales, Secretary*

#### As of January 31, 2016 Treasurer Report

CMS Income 10/1/15-1/31/16:	\$1,872.54
CMS Raffle income:	\$472.02
CMS Expenses 10/1/14-9/22/15:	\$3,043.41
Net Diff:	(\$698.85)
See treasurers detail at the next meeting	





Colorado Mineral Society  
PO Box 280755  
Lakewood, CO 80228

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**



### Calendar of Events

**March 4th, CMS March Meeting** at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Lakewood, 7:30pm

**April 1st, CMS April Meeting** at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Lakewood, 7:30pm

**May 6th, CMS May Meeting** at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Lakewood, 7:30pm

**May 7th, CMS Annual Auction** at Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church, Lakewood, 11am-2:45pm



<http://www.coloradomineralsociety.org>